

Draft Resolutions - 12/15/2011 Town Board Meeting

- 1. Adopt employee manual:** Whereas the Ancram Highway Superintendent has recommended that there be an employee manual which outlines policies and procedures related to town employees, and whereas the Town Board has determined it would be in the interests of the Town to have such an employee manual, and whereas the Town Board and the Highway Superintendent has reviewed and revised the draft employee manual prepared by Public Sector HR Consultants, and whereas this manual meets the needs of the Town of Ancram, therefore it is resolved, that the Ancram Town Board adopts the employee manual prepared Public Sector HR consultants.
- 2. Adopt financial policy/process manual:** Whereas the determined it would be in the interests of the Town to have a manual which outlines the financial policies and procedures to be followed by the Town Supervisor, Town Clerk and Town Accountant in managing the town's financial affairs, and whereas the Town Supervisor has prepared a draft of such manual, the Town supervisor a such an employee manual, and whereas the Town Board and the Financial Advisory Council has reviewed and revised the draft financial policy/process manual, and whereas the draft financial policy/process manual meets the needs of the Town of Ancram, therefore it is resolved, that the Ancram Town Board adopts the proposed financial policy/process manual.
- 3. Support of Town Home Rule Lawsuit: RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN BOARD OF THE TOWN OF ANCRAM TO APPROVE BECOMING AN AMICUS CURIAE IN ACTIONS INVOLVING MUNICIPAL HOME RULE PENDING BEFORE NEW YORK STATE APPELLATE COURTS**

WHEREAS, the Towns of Middlefield and Dryden have recently revised their zoning laws to prohibit heavy industrial uses (including natural gas drilling) in their communities and such laws have been challenged in court by opponents claiming that the Towns do not have the power to regulate natural gas drilling as a land use; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Ulysses has filed an amicus curiae or "friend of the court" brief in both lawsuits in support of its sister Towns in order to reassert the right of municipalities throughout New York State to determine what land uses are appropriate through the municipal home rule powers granted by the New York State Constitution and the New York Municipal Home Rule Law; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Ulysses will file another amicus brief when these lawsuits are appealed to New York appellate courts and has requested that other municipalities in New York State consider joining the Town of Ulysses' brief as a powerful statement to the appellate courts, the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation, and the New York State Legislature about the importance of protecting municipal home rule in New York State and a municipality's right to decide, for itself, whether natural gas drilling—or any other land use for that matter—is appropriate for its citizens.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that:

1. The Ancram Town Board hereby determines that it is in the public interest of the citizens of the Town to support municipal home rule by joining in the Town of Ulysses' amicus brief to the appellate courts.

2. The Ancram Town Board does hereby authorize and direct the Town Supervisor to complete or cause to be completed any and all such further documents and papers in the name and on behalf of the Town as the Supervisor deems necessary or appropriate to carry into effect the foregoing resolution.

3. The Town Clerk will send a certified copy of this adopted resolution to the Town of Ulysses, 10 Elm St., Trumansburg, NY 14886.