

May 11, 2021

Schultzville, NY

The public hearing on proposed local law 4 of 2021 regarding Conference Centers was held on this day, May 11, 2021 via teleconference using Zoom with a You Tube livestream to the public. This is due to COVID-19, Emergency State and Federal bans on large meetings or gatherings, and pursuant to Governor Cuomo's Executive Order 202.1 issued on March 12, 2020 suspending the Open Meetings Law.

Audience participation is allowed. Zoom codes are published on the Town's website, [www.townofclinton.com](http://www.townofclinton.com). Members of the public may also view the Board meeting as it is livestreamed on Town Board Videos page of the Town of Clinton Website.

Supervisor Oberly called the public hearing to order at 6:25 PM.

**NO PLEDGE/ NO FLAG PRESENT**

### **ATTENDANCE**

Supervisor Oberly took attendance to establish a quorum:

Supervisor Oberly	here
Councilwoman Cunningham	here
Councilman Juliano	here
Councilman Dean Michael	here
Councilman Whitton	here
Town Clerk Mackin	here

The Notice of Public Hearing was read aloud by Town Clerk Mackin.

Supervisor Oberly opened the floor via ZOOM for comments and turned the meeting over to Councilman Michael.

Eric Mushel- team member at the Dutchess, appreciates the work on the law. Spoke to Jeff Neumann of the Dutchess to be sure the definition of event is the same in this Conference Center law that would be in the Ag Events law. Dean said the intent was to align the two laws as well as define how they are different. Main concern is the outdoor event language to Eric. The pandemic is still in effect and the law says no outdoor events allowed. Being outdoors is the safest at this point. Why is this? Dean said the biggest concern is that ag events could be outside because of agriculture activities. The conference center events typically take place in the center itself. Most complaints are for noise from ag events so to allow for conference centers to have outside events is a concern. Eric commented that right now it is safer to be outdoors, yoga outside and eating under the pavilion. Whitton asks if they qualify as an ag events center, Eric wondered that too, and said any structure operating on a farm falls under the ag laws. Dean discussed the Dutchess' specific situation. Chris Juliano said they also have overnight stays at the Dutchess. How does that fall in the ag events law? Do they fall under both laws? Dean said it is an anomaly. Jeff Neumann said the definition of event includes outdoor activities like the conference center law allows for a golf course which is an

outdoor event, also horses are allowed at a conference. The noise ordinance is in place to manage that complaint. Jeff discussed several issues including that he agrees with restricting the noise to the property. We plan to do agricultural conferences. The primary difference in the laws seems to be farming. Jeff suggests that the question of whether an establishment falls under the conference center law or the ag events law fall to the Planning Board. The Planning Board can make this determination at the preliminary sketch meeting. Also asks if this law eliminates the dude ranch as he feels that environment seems to fit with the nature of the town. Dean will consider these comments. Part of the intent was to help large properties make a living to sustain themselves.

At 6:48 PM, There being no further comments, MM Supervisor Oberly, 2<sup>nd</sup> Councilman Whitton to keep the public hearing open until 6:25 PM on June 8, 2021.

**ROLL CALL VOTE:**

Oberly            AYE  
Cunningham    AYE  
Juliano           AYE  
Dean Michael   AYE  
Whitton          AYE

**Motion carried.**

**ADJOURNMENT**

At 6:50 PM, MM Supervisor Oberly, 2<sup>nd</sup> Councilman Michael to adjourn the public hearing.

**ROLL CALL VOTE:**

Oberly            AYE  
Cunningham    AYE  
Juliano           AYE  
Dean Michael   AYE  
Whitton          AYE

**Motion carried.**

Respectfully submitted,



Carol-Jean Mackin,  
Town Clerk