

**TOWN OF COVERT, SENECA COUNTY
REGULAR TOWN BOARD MEETING
November 8, 2021**

The regular meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Covert was held Monday, November 8th, 2021 at 7:00 p.m. at the Town of Covert Municipal Building, 8469 South Main Street, Interlaken, New York.

Roll Call:	Supervisor Michael Reynolds	Present
	Councilwoman Deborah Nottke	Present
	Councilman Bill Bishop	Present
	Councilman Brayton Foster	Present
	Councilman Todd Wyckoff	Present

Resolution #10-2021

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

For Cooperation Among Municipalities For The Preservation Of Camp Barton

THIS MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING (“Memo”) is made effective the ____ day of November, 2021 by and among the Town of Covert in the County of Seneca, the Town of Ulysses in the County of Tompkins, and the Village of Trumansburg in the County of Tompkins, each being a municipal corporation under the laws of the State of New York, each being a “Participating Municipality” and collectively the “Municipalities”.

This Memo is intended to foster and facilitate cooperation among the Municipalities with the purpose of finding means to preserve for public use and enjoyment all or a portion of the Boy Scout Camp Barton (“Barton”), located in the Town of Covert and County of Seneca, which is owned by Baden-Powell Council, Boy Scouts of America.

Barton consists of approximately 129 acres of largely undeveloped land, including extensive waterfront on Cayuga Lake, at Frontenac Point. Barton is considered critical to providing public access to Cayuga Lake, particularly to youth organizations, and to the environment and watershed of Cayuga Lake.

Baden-Powell Council is considering or has proposed to sell Barton to raise funds to pay the council’s share of a survivors’ trust consented to by the Boy Scouts of America (“BSA”) in settlement of claims made against BSA in a proceeding pending in United States Bankruptcy Court. The Municipalities believe that the sale of Barton to private parties would be a grievous loss to the public, and wish to find alternatives to its sale.

It would be the intention of the Municipalities to reach out to State and Local government agencies and other viable partnerships that can assist in our continued effort in the preservation of Camp Barton, including, but not limited to, the NYS Department of Environmental Conservation, the Finger Lakes Land Trust, Cayuga Lake Watershed Intermunicipal Organization, local and regional youth and recreation programs, environmental advocates, inter-municipal officials, and elected officials.

Accordingly, the Municipalities agree as follows:

1. They shall work together to explore, identify and effect alternative plans for Barton with the aim of preserving it for public use and enjoyment in some form.

2. Each of the Municipalities shall nominate two responsible persons to join in a working group to conduct the necessary exploration.
3. On consent of each of the Municipalities, other persons and organizations including but not limited to other municipal corporations, public interest groups, not-for-profit organizations, may join the working group.
4. All communications by and among members of the working group shall be reduced to writing and shall be made available to each of the Municipalities.
5. The working group does not constitute a legal entity or intermunicipal organization of any nature.
6. The working group has no authority to bind in any fashion the participating Municipalities.
7. No Municipality participating shall be required or expected to make any financial contribution to the costs, if any, of the working group.
8. No Municipality shall attract or be subject to any liability, in contract, tort or under any other cause or legal theory, for the actions of any other Municipality participating in the working group.
9. Any Municipality may withdraw from this Memo at any time and for any reason by written notice given to the other Municipalities.
10. This Memo is executed by the persons signing below, each of whom has been authorized to do so by the governing body of the Municipality joining in this Memo.

Town of Ulysses
Town of Covert
Village of Trumansburg

Motion: Foster, Second: Nottke. Aye-Foster, Aye-Bishop, Aye-Nottke and Aye-Wyckoff.