

## **Resolution regarding Tompkins Residential Energy Score Program and Implementation Plan**

July 5, 2016

WHEREAS the Town of Caroline is an Energy Smart Community and is concerned about reducing energy use and greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions, and according to the March 2016 *Tompkins County Energy Roadmap*, in order to meet the goal of reducing GHG emissions 80% by the year 2050, the community will need to achieve at least a 35% reduction in energy use in existing buildings through retrofits and upgrades; and

WHEREAS the NYS *Reforming the Energy Vision* initiative has a goal of helping consumers make better and more informed energy choices; and

WHEREAS the residential energy score program is a voluntary program that will provide residents and home-buyers with numerous benefits, including the ability to better understand and reduce energy-related living costs and GHG emissions; and

WHEREAS a project team, composed of representatives of the Towns of Caroline, Danby, Ithaca, Ulysses and the City of Ithaca, with consultation from Cornell Cooperative Extension of Tompkins County and the Tompkins County Planning Department, was formed in 2013 to work on a residential energy score project; and

WHEREAS the Town of Ithaca, working on behalf of the project team, submitted and was awarded grant funding from NYSERDA's Cleaner, Greener Communities program, and contracted with subject matter experts Performance Systems Development to develop deliverables for the project; and

WHEREAS extensive public outreach guided the creation of the first draft report of the program and implementation plan, completed on February 24, 2016. The second draft was informed by more than 250 comments collected from additional public outreach, and was presented to the governing boards of the five partner municipalities between May 23 and June 15, 2016, with a comment period ending on June 17, 2016, and comments on the second draft were incorporated into a final report, titled "Tompkins Residential Energy Score Program and Implementation Plan;" and

WHEREAS the grant contract with NYSERDA requires the project team to present the final report to the governing boards of each of the five partner municipalities for consideration of adoption, including a formal vote; now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Town of Caroline Town Board endorses the Tompkins Residential Energy Score Program and Implementation Plan.