

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & PLANNING TOURISM/AGRICULTURE LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE MEETING December 6, 2022

ATTENDEES:

Legislators: Barbara Roberts, Dennis Mullen, Dale Weston, Ron Ciotoli, Marte Sauerbrey

Staff: LeeAnn Tinney, Linda Sampson, Cathy Haskell, Megan Schnabl, Peter DeWind

Guests: T Hansen, CCE Executive Director

Committee Chair, Legislator Barbara Roberts, called the meeting to order at 1:00 P.M.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & PLANNING (ED&P): LeeAnn Tinney – Agenda and attachments previously emailed.

I. MINUTES

A. Approval of minutes of November 8, 2022

Committee Chair, Barbara Roberts, asked for approval of the minutes from the November 8, 2022 committee meeting. Legislator Mullen made a motion to accept the November 8, 2022 minutes, seconded by Legislator Ciotoli. All were in favor.

II. FINANCIAL

The 2022 Year-to-Date Budget Reports were in the committee packets. Ms. Tinney reported the following:

A. Economic Development

- Year-to-Date Budget is tracking and will be close to zero by the end of the year.

B. Planning

- Year-to-Date Budget is tracking and will be close to zero by the end of the year.

C. Sustainability Management

- Year-to-Date Budget is tracking and was not able to take it down as low as anticipated.

III. OLD BUSINESS

A. Reports

1. Cornell Cooperative Extension, T Hanson – Monthly report previously emailed. Ms. Hanson began by expressing gratitude for the renewal of the County appropriation and continued support. Ms. Hanson went on to review her monthly report highlighting; Cornell University Food & Agriculture Research, Hilltop Community Farm Beginning Farmer Incubator RFP and 4-H Youth Development.

Not on the monthly report, Ms. Hanson announced Barb Neal will be retiring in August and her replacement has been hired, Jean Kosky. Also, another employee has been hired, Chelsey Dodge, Livestock Agriculture Educator.

2. Tioga County Soil & Water Conservation District – Monthly report previously emailed and is in the committee packet.
3. Tioga County Tourism – Monthly report previously emailed and is in the committee packet.
4. Economic Development, Megan Schnabl - In keeping with staff reporting; Ms. Tinney introduced Ms. Schnabl, Economic Development Specialist. Ms. Schnabl highlighted the following projects she is working on:
 - NY Main Street, Village of Candor; grant for \$500,000.00 – Working on three buildings on Main Street, Exterior and interior renovations almost complete. When complete there will be 8 renovated apartments. On 82 Main Street there will be a new market and restaurant. Project is moving along.
 - DRI Projects - The Cellar Restaurant and Shear Paradise in Owego are nearing completion. Working with the owner of The Gallery 41 on Lake Street; selecting a contractor for exterior renovations.
 - NY Main Street, North Avenue – Assisted the Village of Owego on the Streetscape Enhancement Project. The project is complete and has been reimbursed. Working with Ms. Woodburn on a project at 53-55 North Ave.; project should be complete by the end of December.
 - Assisted on Restore New York applications for Tioga Trails and the Riverhouse Confectionery Mercantile, the rebranding of Fuddy Duddy's. Hope to hear a response on these grants in a couple of weeks.
 - Will be working on the Ag District Inclusions the beginning of January. It is a time when properties can be added to the Ag Districts. A press release will be sent at the end of December.

B. Grants

1. Status

- a. Potential (10)
- b. Pending (22)
- c. Active (42)
- d. Completed (1)

C. Economic/Community Development

1. Village of Owego

- a. Downtown Revitalization Initiative (DRI) administration – Ms. Schnabl reported on.
- b. NY Main Street (North Ave.) administration – Ms. Schable reported on.
- c. OPRHP EPF Grant- OPD Station assistance – RFP has been sent and results have been received. It has been narrowed down to two engineering firms to interview; decision will be made soon.

2. Village of Waverly

- a. NY Forward application – Village of Waverly made the short list; funding selection to be announced the end of the year.

3. Village of Candor
 - a. NY Main Street administration, by way of the Land Bank – Ms. Schnabl reported on.
4. Town of Nichols
 - a. Broadband – Project is moving forward. Fiber installed on all of River Road; east and west. Started installing fiber within the village and will continue into outlying areas. 50 people signed up for service so far. A press release event is coming soon.
5. Town of Owego
 - a. Broadband – Ms. Tinney and Ms. Jardine are meeting with the Town of Owego tonight to propose working with Southern Tier Network to extend broadband fiber to the southside of Owego. This will be an opportunity to use the rest of the ARPA funding that was designated specifically for broadband. After the Nichols project there will be approximately \$315,000.00 left.
6. Municipalities
 - a. Snowmobile Grants – Project continues.
 - b. Sweeper/Vacuum truck status – The USDA grant is closed, the equipment supplier has been paid in full and the Village of Nichols paid the remaining invoice of approximately \$2,800.00.
 1. Shared Services Agreement pending - The Village of Owego provided grant match money to participate in the Shared Services Agreement, however they are now showing reluctance leaving us with a challenge to come up with another plan. The suggested proposal follows:
 - The Town of Owego and the County could take the Village of Owego out of the equation by paying back the grant match money that they provided, releasing them from the agreement.
 - This makes the agreement between Town of Owego, Village of Nichols and the County.
 - Additionally, the Village of Owego would not have access to the sweeper/vacuum truck except by request and a fee would be charged for time used.
 - The amount to be paid back to the Village is \$26,314.00 from both Town of Owego and the County less the cost of time that the Village has already used the truck.
 - The Town of Owego and the County both have the money in their budget to pay the Village of Owego.

After some discussion, it was decided to waive the cost for time that the Village of Owego had already used and request in writing from the Village of Owego, their decision to be included in the Shared Services Agreement or not. Everyone was in agreement.
7. REAP – Ongoing.
8. Leadership Tioga – Started accepting applications for 2023.

D. Land Bank

1. Providence Housing- Continue looking at Temple/Liberty Street location for a housing project; an updated appraisal has been requested. Negotiations on the purchase price have begun.
2. OACSD House Rehabilitation Project- This project is ongoing.

E. Workforce Development – Mr. Lanning is working on the following:

1. Business List – Working with the Career Center creating a business list.
2. Program Coordinator Sub Committee meeting on November 30th.
3. Talent Supply Table meeting.
4. Education Workforce Report- Has been distributed and is posted on the ED&P website.
5. BOCES – Mr. Lanning is trying to bring 3 BOCES together for a meeting to discuss having a Tioga County Satellite Campus.

F. Planning

G. Sustainability Management – Ellen continues to work on the following:

1. December E-Bulletin to Tioga County Employees
2. Hazardous Waste Program
 - a. Electronics/Hazardous Waste Pd to Broome Co- \$24,693.15
 - b. Electronics/Tioga County Towns Pd- \$1,641.60

H. IDA

1. Owego Gardens- Water main has been tested and approved. Continue to work on filling the tank.

Not on the agenda, Ms. Tinney reported on the status of Belva Lockwood Lane. As previously planned, Belva Lockwood Lane has been extended from Owego Gardens I to the top of the hill. While it is owned by Home Leasing now, ultimately the road would be dedicated over to the Village of Owego. While there is still a process to go through, there is an indication that the Village is not on board with taking ownership of Belva Lockwood Lane. The road is located within the Village. Home Leasing has made the request of the Village to start the road dedication process; to set a public hearing. This has been done and we are waiting to hear when it is. Ms. Tinney will continue to work through this challenge and keep this committee informed.

IV. NEW BUSINESS

A. Reports

B. Grants

C. Economic/Community Development

D. Presentations – No presentations this month.

E. Land Bank

F. Workforce Development

G. Planning – Ms. Jardine is working on the following:

1. 239 Reviews (1)
 - a. County Case 2022-031: Town of Owego, Site Plan Review and Special Use Permit (Harry's Expressway)- recommendation for approval.
2. Town of Richford- Provide assistance with development of Solar Energy Law.
3. NYS Association of County Planning Directors meeting attended.

4. Upper Susquehanna Conservation Alliance meeting attended.
5. ST8 Climate Smart Communities meeting attended.

H. Sustainability Management

I. IDA

J. Misc.

1. State Lead Responses- None this month.

V. PERSONNEL – On behalf of the ED&P staff, Ms. Tinney thanked the Legislature for the bonus we are getting this year.

VI. RESOLUTIONS

- L07-Resolution to Renew SWCD Hazard Mitigation Plan Coordination Services 2023
- L27-Authorize Transfer of Funds for Purchase of Laptop in Solid Waste Dept.
- L28-Authorize Agreement with Broome County for Hazardous Waste Disposal

After reviewing the above resolutions, Ms. Tinney asked this committee for support to move the resolutions forward; vote on the resolutions follows:

Legislator Roberts - yes
Legislator Mullen - yes
Legislator Ciotoli - yes
Legislator Weston – yes

Ms. Tinney reported Christine Curtis will be bringing forward to Worksession the Cost Benefit Analysis for the Best Bev Project in Waverly. This is the packaging facility intended for the Waverly Trade Center bringing in 60-65 new employees. They are looking for a PILOT starting at 50% of property taxes and increasing to 100% over 10 years. Ms. Tinney will email the Cost Benefit Analysis to the committee for review.

VII. PROCLAMATIONS- N/A

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

With no further topics of discussion or questions, the meeting was adjourned at 2:00 P.M.

Respectfully Submitted,
Linda Sampson
Administrative Assistant Economic Development