

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & PLANNING TOURISM/AGRICULTURE LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE MEETING November 7, 2023

ATTENDEES:

Legislators: Barb Roberts, Dale Weston, Keith Flesher, Dennis Mullen, Marte Sauerbrey

Staff: LeeAnn Tinney, Linda Sampson, Ellen Pratt, Brittany Woodburn, Cathy Haskell, Peter DeWind

Guests: Becca Maffei, Tourism Director

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

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & PLANNING (ED&P): Agenda and attachments previously emailed. Ms. Tinney reported the following:

I. MINUTES

A. Approval of minutes of October 3, 2023

Legislator Roberts asked for approval of the minutes from the October 3, 2023 committee meeting. Legislator Weston made a motion to accept the October 3, 2023 minutes, seconded by Legislator Mullen. All were in favor.

II. FINANCIAL

The 2023 Year-to-Date Budget Reports were in the committee packets. Ms. Tinney reported the following:

A. 2023

1. Economic Development
 - Year-to-Date Budget is tracking.
2. Planning
 - Year-to-Date Budget is tracking.
3. Sustainability Management
 - Year-to-Date Budget is tracking.

III. OLD BUSINESS

A. Reports

1. Tioga County Tourism- Becca Maffei, Tourism Director- Monthly report previously emailed. Ms. Maffei distributed and reviewed an updated report; highlighting the

DRI Wayfinding Sign Project, Southern Tier Paddle Trail, NY Forward, Light Up Tioga, Holiday Advertising, Tioga County Antique Trail, and 2024 Marketing Plan.

2. Cornell Cooperative Extension– Monthly report previously emailed.
Ms. Tinney reported CCE has an Interim Executive Director, Kevin Jordan, who managed CCE in Western NY. He will remain until a new Executive Director is in place. Ms. Tinney is serving on the selection committee for the new Executive Director.
3. Tioga County Soil & Water Conservation District– No monthly report.
4. Economic Development- Ellen Pratt, Sustainability Manager. In keeping with staff reporting, Ms. Tinney introduced Dr. Pratt. Dr. Pratt reported on the following:
 - Met with New York Power Authority (NYPA) and NYSEG on October 3rd to discuss getting power to the Fast-Charging Hub in the Courthouse parking lot.
 - Met with a contractor from Syracuse on October 24th about putting level 2 EV charging stations in the parking lot at 56 Main Street. It was only an information gathering meeting. Will continue to follow up.
 - Conversation with ICF contractor for NYSEG; NYSEG has a heat pump program. Found Tioga County eligible for funding. Information has been forwarded to Gary Hammond.
 - Held public meeting for Local Solid Waste Management Draft Plan; 3 people showed including Ms. Tinney. Next step is compiling all information and sending to the NYSDEC for review. Once NYSDEC signs off on it, a resolution will be brought forward to approve the plan.
 - Grant is complete for Education & Outreach Coordinator position.
 - Received a lot of feedback on educational videos that are on the website.
 - Two resolutions are in the committee packet:
 - K35-Transfer Funds Solid Waste Budget- Budget transfer for Buildings and Grounds for lights in the HHS parking lot.
 - K36-Authorizing Legislative Chair Signature on Memo of Understanding with Tioga Co Soil and Water– Dr. Pratt will purchase the compost bins, Soil and Water will store the bins for distribution to residents that have paid for them.
 - Household Hazardous Waste and Electronic Waste numbers listed later in the agenda previously emailed.
 - Received an email from NYPA stating NYSEG wants verbal permission for NYSEG to use the Courthouse parking lot to replace poles and bring power to the Fast-Charging Hub. All were in favor.

B. Grants

1. Active Grants – Tioga County as applicant
 - a. CDBG- Racker Neighborhood Depot
 - i. Continue to assist with paperwork.
 - ii. Groundbreaking event on Friday, November 10th at 11:00AM. Ms. Tinney invited the committee. Legislative Chair Sauerbrey will be speaking. Senator O'Mara will be in attendance as well as someone from Senator Schumer's office.
 - b. Restore NY- River House Confectionery and Mercantile

- i. Continue to assist with paperwork.
 - c. NYS Snowmobile- Countywide Phase 1 & Phase III
 - i. Updated agreement continues to go from one club to another trying to get signatures.
 - d. NYPA- EV charging stations – Dr. Pratt spoke about earlier.
 - i. October 3rd meeting held, plans ongoing.
 - e. DEC- HHW Program – Dr. Pratt spoke about earlier.
 - i. Application submitted
 - f. Restore NY- Tioga Trails
 - i. Continue to assist with paperwork.
 - g. FEMA- Hazard Mitigation Plan update- Ms. Jardine is working on:
 - i. Setting up the 2 public meetings that are required.
 - ii. Draft plan anticipated date is mid-December.
 - 2. Active Grants- (Tioga County is not applicant)- N/A
- C. Economic/Community Development
 - 1. Village of Owego
 - a. Downtown Revitalization Initiative (DRI) administration- Ms. Woodburn, Ms. Schnabl and Ms. Jardine continue to move these projects forward.
 - 2. Village of Waverly
 - a. NY Forward- Local Planning Committee Meeting #5 met on October 11th.
 - b. NY Forward- Local Planning Committee Meeting #6 met on November 2nd.
The next meeting will be the slate projects that will be voted on. The plan will be finalized and sent to the state; \$6.2M – \$6.5M in projects will be submitted and \$4.5M will be awarded by the state. Possible January announcement of projects going forward.
- D. Land Bank
 - 1. Owego Apalachin Central School District building renovation project is ongoing.
 - 2. Candor NY Main Street project complete.
 - 3. Reapprove Agreement for Administrative Services between the County and the Land Bank– Resolution will be brought forward next month. The Land Bank contributes to the County \$25,000.00 annually for administrative services related to the Land Bank.
- E. Workforce Development
 - 1. Talent Supply Table – Mr. Lanning continues to work on the following:
 - a. Scheduling individual school meetings is ongoing.
 - b. Career Center Partnerships in negotiations between Waverly and Spencer.
- F. Planning- Ms. Jardine continues to work on the following:
 - 1. Providing DRI assistance.
 - 2. NYS DEC Transportation Listening Session/CCE Tompkins- A question and answer document was emailed to the committee.
 - a. Community meeting was held on November 2nd at the Village of Waverly Hall
 - 3. Countywide Strategic Plan – Legislator Roberts has taken ownership of this project; working with the consultants to move this project forward.
- G. Sustainability Management- Dr. Pratt reported on earlier:
 - 1. Continuing assistance with municipalities on EWaste & Clean-Up events.

- i. Town of Nichols October 13th and October 14th.
- ii. Village of Waverly/Town of Barton- Looking to set up an event in November.
- 2. Compost bins/Soil & Water MOU- Resolution listed below.
- 3. Local Solid Waste Management Plan
 - i. Draft plan provided to EDP Legislative Committee September 9th- No comments have been received.
 - ii. Public Meeting was held November 6th.

H. Misc.

- 1. Farmer Brown Solar PILOT – Ms. Tinney gave some background information:
 - The towns are negotiating Solar PILOTs.
 - Only two incidents where the IDA took the lead; one was in the beginning and the other was the town went to the IDA and asked them to take the lead.
 - All other solar projects in Tioga County are negotiated by whatever township they are in.
 - The Farmer Brown Solar PILOT/project is in the Town of Owego. The Town of Owego negotiated with the solar company using the model we used previously. That the lump sum payments should be distributed equally, divided into thirds, between the Town, County and School. That is how the Farmer Brown PILOT was set up.
 - After being reviewed by the County Attorney, Mr. DeWind, a resolution was passed in February agreeing to equal thirds.
 - The school is refusing to sign the agreement and thinks they should receive their prorated share of taxes which amounts to roughly 60%. The difference, 40%, can be divided between the Town and County.

After some discussion, it was decided to take this to the full Legislature for review and discussion on how to move forward.

IV. NEW BUSINESS

A. Reports

B. Grants

C. Economic/Community Development

- 1. Looking Ahead to 2024- Due to Ms. Tinney's retirement in May 2024, she has asked Ms. Woodburn to put together a plan of how she sees the future of the department.
- 2. Back fill Community Development Specialist position- Part of Ms. Woodburn's plan is to back fill the Community Development Specialist position. Ms. Tinney would like to start the process and spoke to Ms. Parke in Personnel. There is a form to fill out and if this committee is agreeable, the form needs to be signed by Committee Chair Roberts and Legislative Chair Sauerbrey. This committee was in favor. Ms. Tinney asked for this form to be signed.

Ms. Woodburn gave a brief summary of her plan for the future of the Economic Development and Planning department; however, she is planning to attend the next committee meeting with a more detailed vision for the future.

D. Presentations (1)

1. Leadership Tioga- Presented at Tioga Hardwoods.

Ms. Tinney reported the Leadership Tioga graduation ceremony is tomorrow morning at Waterman's Distillery.

E. Land Bank – Ms. Woodburn continues to work on the following projects:

1. 437 Front Street

2. 247 Main Street

F. Workforce Development- Mr. Lanning is working on the following:

1. Lockheed Martin- Fall Engineering Event coordination.

2. Healthcare Careers Expo- Information sent to all Tioga County schools.

G. Planning

1. 239 Reviews (1)

a. 2023-021 Town of Newark Valley; Site Plan Review (Roadside Custom Sawing); recommended approval.

H. Sustainability Management- Dr. Pratt reported on earlier:

1. 2023 YTD

a. Paid to Broome County

i. HHW= \$9,946.50

ii. E-Waste= \$4,637.85

b. Towns/County(EWaste)= \$345.60

c. Exploring Level 2 EV charging in 56 Main lot

d. Exploring NYSEG Heat Pump program for 56 Main

I. IDA

a. Social Media content proposal- Ms. Tinney reported the ED&P department presently has a Facebook and Instagram account that is managed by way of the IDA.

b. Deluge Media Plan (\$17,145)- This is a plan to provide content for both platforms.

i. MOU needed between IDA/County/Land Bank – This will be a partnership with IDA, Planning, Economic Development, Sustainability and Land Bank. The understanding is that we can only pay for 2023 services out of 2023 budget and 2024 services out of 2024 budget. The contract is divided to meet that requirement. The IDA will front the full amount, \$17,145.00, and invoice each entity appropriately for their portion of the agreement. The County Attorney, Mr. DeWind, has reviewed and approved the MOU. The resolution for Legislative Chair Sauerbrey to sign the MOU is listed below.

c. Southern Tier Clean Tech Corridor Initiative- Due to a time issue, Ms. Tinney will bring this back to the committee next month.

V. **PERSONNEL** – Nothing to report.

VI. **RESOLUTIONS** (9)

K35-Transfer Funds Solid Waste Budget

K36-Authorizing Legislative Chair Signature on Memo of Understanding with Tioga Co Soil and Water

K37-Authorizing Legislative Chair Signature on Memo of Understanding with Tioga Co IDA

K38-Reappoint Member (Powers) to the Broome-Tioga Workforce Development Board
K39-Reappoint Member (Scanlon) to the Broome-Tioga Workforce Development Board
K40-Reappoint Member (Shelp) to the Broome-Tioga Workforce Development Board
K46-Reappoint Member (Bloodnick) to Ag and Farmland Protection Board
K47-Reappoint Member (Lawton) to Ag and Farmland Protection Board
K48-Reappoint Member (Whittemore) to Ag and Farmland Protection Board

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

Legislator Roberts - yes
Legislator Weston – yes
Legislator Flesher – yes
Legislator Mullen – yes

VII. PROCLAMATIONS- N/A

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

With no further topics of discussion or questions, the meeting was adjourned at 2:20 P.M.

Respectfully Submitted,
Linda Sampson
Administrative Assistant Economic Development & Planning