

## ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & PLANNING TOURISM/AGRICULTURE LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE MEETING December 5, 2023

### **ATTENDEES:**

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

**Staff:** LeeAnn Tinney, Linda Sampson, Elaine Jardine, Cathy Haskell, Peter DeWind

**Guests:** Kevin Jordan, CCE, Wendy Walsh, Soil & Water

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 November 7, 2023

Legislator Roberts asked for approval of the minutes from the November 7, 2023 committee meeting. Legislator Mullen made a motion to accept the November 7, 2023 minutes, seconded by Legislator Flesher. 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 Budget – Ms. Tinney has found that there is some money available as we approach the end of the year. After a discussion with Legislative Chair Sauerbrey, it decided that it was okay for Economic Development to assist the Land Bank with a couple of projects. After that, we may be giving-back from all budgets this year.

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- Monthly report previously sent.

2. Tioga County Soil & Water Conservation District– No monthly report.
3. Cornell Cooperative Extension–Interim Executive Director, Kevin Jordan. Monthly report previously emailed. Mr. Jordan gave a quick overview of himself and reported there is a search committee in place to fill the CCE Executive Director position. Mr. Jordan reviewed his report, highlighting Organizational Updates, Hilltop Community Farm, 4-H, Beginning Farmer Incubator Program and Campus Connections.
4. Economic Development- Elaine Jardine, Planning Director. In keeping with staff reporting, Ms. Tinney introduced Ms. Jardine. Ms. Jardine reported the following:
  - Played a big role in the 2023 Business Expo; arranged, scheduled, facilitated, and moderated the break-out sessions which included Digital Marketing, Electric Vehicles, Doing Business with the Government, Business Funding Resources, and Diversity, Equity and Inclusion, Minority Business Resources. Attendance was good and the sessions went very well. Also attended the Economic Forecast Update and found the whole event to be successful. Legislative Chair Sauerbrey commented that Ms. Jardine did a great job.Ms. Jardine distributed the Critical Facilities part of the Tioga County Hazard Mitigation Plan and reported the following:
  - While going through the normal process of putting together the updated Tioga County Hazard Mitigation Plan, Ms. Jardine received a memo from the NYS Division of Homeland Security Emergency Services (DHSES) about new standards from FEMA and some current standards that need to be included in mitigation plans regarding critical facilities.
  - Tioga County's critical facilities, buildings and communication towers, are listed in the packet distributed.
  - The memo said that counties and municipalities must identify all critical facilities and their locations and the actions they would take to protect these facilities in the 500-year flood plain.
  - Ms. Jardine felt this would take a lot of money to retrofit these facilities to protect them from the 500-year flood level.
  - Ms. Jardine had a virtual meeting with DHSES and asked for more information. They said what's necessary is documentation in the plan. These actions will not be policed, but they would like to see something more in the plan.
  - Looking at 2018 Hazard Mitigation Plan, Ms. Jardine saw that we had a paragraph in the plan regarding critical facilities stating the county will pursue funding if available from FEMA, or other sources, only if the value of what we are protecting will be greater than the fix.
  - Ms. Jardine wanted to carry this over into the updated plan, but DHSES wanted a step further. They want some kind of vulnerability assessment on our critical facilities. This could be an internal assessment. Ms. Jardine talked to Mr. Simmons and found out the communication towers are all out of the flood plain. However, when talking to Mr. Hammond, he agreed to a DPW staff assessment of what the building vulnerabilities are and putting that in the plan.

- Ms. Jardine has not heard back from DHSES to find out if this was enough. But wanted the committee to be aware, adding that the municipalities will have to do the same.
- The last flood we had was just under the 500-year flood level.
- Digitizing all documents is a good mitigation effort. We are in the process of doing that now in the Clerk's office.
- Ms. Jardine asked if this should go before the full legislature or is presenting to this committee enough. It was decided that presenting to this committee should be enough.
- Ms. Jardine reported the draft plan was delayed because of this, but if we move forward now we will be looking at the beginning of January to complete.
- A 2<sup>nd</sup> public meeting for public input on the final draft must be held. Then it goes through both FEMA and NY DHSES for review. Looking for approval by summer 2024. Then County Legislature adoption and municipal adoption by all 15 municipalities.
- Ms. Jardine will supply the draft plan to this committee once it is complete. Due to the size of the plan, Ms. Jardine will limit it to the County section.
- The draft plan will also get posted to the website.

#### B. Grants

1. Active Grants – Tioga County as applicant
  - a. CDBG- Racker Neighborhood Depot
    - i. Assisting with paperwork continues.
    - ii. Ground-breaking held November 10<sup>th</sup>; well attended.
  - b. Restore NY- River House Confectionery and Mercantile
    - i. Assisting with paperwork continues.
  - c. NYS Snowmobile- Countywide Phase I & Phase III
    - i. Updated agreement status – Mr. Lanning continues to work on this.
  - d. NYPA- EV charging stations – Recently learned there is a zoning issue. Ms. Tinney will update the committee when more information is received.
  - e. DEC- Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) Program is ongoing.
  - f. Restore NY- Tioga Trails
    - i. Assisting with paperwork continues.
  - g. FEMA- Hazard Mitigation Plan update- Ms. Jardine reported on earlier.
2. Active Grants (Tioga County is not applicant)- Provided no assistance to municipalities or Not-for-Profits this month.

#### C. Economic/Community Development

1. Village of Owego
  - a. Downtown Revitalization Initiative (DRI) administration – Projects are ongoing.
    - i. Owego Donuts and Beer tour- Ms. Tinney toured this new business owned by Ike and Julie Lovelass; anticipated grand opening on December 17<sup>th</sup>.
2. Village of Waverly
  - a. NY Forward – The Strategic Investment Plan is almost complete; must be submitted to the State by December 15<sup>th</sup>. The State will make an announcement in the near future.

- D. Land Bank
  - 1. OACSD Liberty Street potential project discussion continues.
  - 2. 81 North Ave. - NY Main Street Grant not awarded; Ms. Woodburn continues to look at rehabilitation possibilities. The Land Bank will be closing on this property this week.
- E. Workforce Development – Mr. Lanning continues to work on the following:
  - 1. Talent Supply Table
    - a. Youth Council meeting attended.
    - b. Program Coordinator meeting at Stateline Auto; posted on social media.
    - c. BT BOCES Tour- Assisting on outreach between BT BOCES and Tioga County businesses.
    - d. Working on 2023-2024 Education Workforce Report
  - 2. Participating in Youth Opportunity Now (Y-ON) Strategic Planning.
  - 3. Leadership Tioga Commencement held at the Waterman Distillery; nice event.
- F. Planning – Ms. Jardine continues to work on the following:
  - 1. Hazard Mitigation Plan Update – Ms. Jardine reported earlier.
    - a. Outreach made to Mr. Hammond and Mr. Simmons.
    - b. Advancing Plan to Legislative Committee.
- G. Sustainability Management – Dr. Pratt continues to work on the following:
  - 1. Local Solid Waste Management Plan
    - a. Draft Plan with DEC- Waiting for public comment to close on Friday, December 8<sup>th</sup>, to incorporate in the final plan. Will then send to DEC, once returned, will share with the Legislature.
    - b. Private Waste Hauler Permit Fee – Resolution listed below.
- H. Misc.
  - 1. Farmer Brown Solar PILOT – Challenge continues on what the disbursement breakdown should be; discussion is ongoing.  
Ms. Tinney reported the Town of Owego is looking at separating the need for a PILOT in place for the issuance of the building permit. Now, they can't get the building permit until the PILOT is in place. The Town wanted that in place to ensure a decommissioning plan was in place. But the town is now agreeing to the issuance of a building permit only with the caveat the decommissioning plan is in place. Once resolved, construction can begin.

#### **IV. NEW BUSINESS**

- A. Economic/Community Development
  - 1. Presentations (1)
    - a. Racker Neighborhood Depot- Ms. Tinney presented at the ground-breaking event on November 10<sup>th</sup>.
    - b. Council on Government
      - i. Land Bank – Ms. Woodburn presented.
      - ii. IDA – Ms. Curtis presented.
- B. Workforce Development
  - 1. Business Leads Fellowship Program- Congratulations to Mr. Lanning, he has been accepted in this year-long program. There will be one visit to Washington D.C. to

participate in group discussions. The rest of the meetings will be virtual. Ms. Tinney stated that this is an honor.

2. Healthcare Careers Expo- Three Tioga County schools attended. Mr. Lanning continues to encourage partnerships.

C. Planning

1. 239 Reviews (1)
  - a. 2023-022 Town of Newark Valley; Site Plan Review (Creek Site Structures); recommended approval.

D. Sustainability Management

1. 2023 YTD
  - a. Paid to Broome County
    - i. HHW= \$11,297.25
    - ii. E-Waste= \$5,445.65
  - b. Towns/County (EWaste)= \$679.68

E. IDA

1. Southern Tier Clean Tech Corridor Initiative – The IDA Board agreed to contribute toward the region-wide implementation plan for clean tech innovation at SUNY Binghamton. This may allow us to participate in any spin off that might come from that.
2. Deluge Media Social Media content- MOU has been signed by all parties and project videos have begun for social media use.

**V. PERSONNEL**

- a. Community Development Specialist backfill process has begun – Ms. Tinney and Ms. Woodburn will be meeting with Ms. Parke in personnel.

**VI. RESOLUTIONS (11)**

L09-Reappoint Michael Baratta to the TCPDC for Two Year Term

L10-Reappoint Hannah Murray to the TCPDC for Two Year Term

L11-Appoint Member (B Woodburn) to the Broome-Tioga Workforce Development Board

L12-Reappoint Member (Art Cacciola) to the Tioga County Planning Board

L13 -Reappoint Member (Georgeanne Eckley) to the Tioga County Planning Board

L14-Resolution to Renew SWCD Hazard Mitigation Plan Coordination Services 2024

L15-Appoint Member (James Marzen) to the Tioga County Planning Board

L16-Renew Administrative Services Agreement with Tioga County Property Development Corporation

L22-Private Waste Hauler Permit Fee

L24-Appoint JWhitmore to the TCPDC Board

L52-Authorize Transfer of Funds for Purchase of Laptop and Docking Station for EDP Dept

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 2:05 P.M.

Respectfully Submitted,

Linda Sampson

Administrative Assistant Economic Development & Planning