

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & PLANNING TOURISM/AGRICULTURE LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE MEETING April 2, 2024

ATTENDEES:

Legislators: Barb Roberts, Dennis Mullen, Marte Sauerbrey

Staff: LeeAnn Tinney, Linda Sampson, Cathy Haskell, Pete DeWind

Guests: Wendy Walsh, Tioga County Soil & Water

Legislators Ron Ciotoli and Keith Flesher were not in attendance; therefore, approval of the minutes will be carried over to the May meeting and resolutions will move to Worksession on Thursday, April 4th. Ms. Tinney will attend Worksession.

Committee Chair, 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 March 5, 2024 – Moved to May 7th committee meeting due to no quorum.

II. FINANCIAL

- A. 2024 Budget – Ms. Tinney reported the following:
 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 Soil & Water Conservation District – Wendy Walsh, District Manager, reviewed her monthly report previously emailed; highlighting the Agriculture Program, Dean Creek Watershed Protection Project, Hazard Mitigation, Engineering Support, Stream Program, Stormwater Plan Review, Upper Susquehanna Coalition and WQCC.

Not on her monthly report, Ms. Walsh reported:

- Attending an Ag Resource Group meeting in March; the group is planning on putting together a quarterly newsletter.
- Received approval notice for the grant applied for with American Farmland Trust to help with outreach and education on protection of agriculture and opportunities for landowners.
- Announced that Sundaes on the Farm will be held on July 21st, 12:00PM – 3:00PM, at the Frisbie Brothers Farm in Halsey Valley and invited the committee to attend.

Ms. Tinney continued to report the following:

2. Tioga County Tourism – Monthly report previously emailed and is in the committee packet.
3. Cornell Cooperative Extension (CCE) – The new Executive Director, Dr. Kristi Snyder, previously emailed her monthly report and is in the committee packet. The CCE annual report was also provided.
4. Economic Development – In keeping with staff reporting, Ms. Tinney reported Brittany Woodburn was on the schedule to report this month, however, was out ill and was unable to make it.

B. Grants

1. Active Grants – Tioga County as applicant:

- a. CDBG- Racker Neighborhood Depot – Continue assisting with paperwork and making monthly site visits. Drone footage was out on social media showing the building progress. This project is on track with their construction schedule.
- b. Restore NY- River House Confectionery and Mercantile – Continue to assist with paperwork. This project is moving very slowly.
- c. NYS Snowmobile- Countywide Phase 1 & Phase III – This project is ongoing and is being managed by Sean Lanning, Community Development Specialist.
- d. NYPA- EV charging stations- This project is slowly moving forward; waiting for a response from the State.
- e. Solid Waste Management plan is still under review by DEC, no response yet.
- f. Restore NY- Tioga Trails- Continue assisting with paperwork.
- h. FEMA- Hazard Mitigation Plan update – Ms. Walsh spoke about in her report.

2. Active Grants- (Tioga County is not applicant)- None at this time.

C. Economic/Community Development

1. Village of Owego- DRI projects are ongoing. Ms. Woodburn and Ms. Schnabl continue to push these projects forward, some are close to being completed.
2. Village of Waverly
 - a. NY Forward – Still waiting to hear from the State on which projects will be funded.
3. Broadband- Southern Tier Network is exploring additional ConnectAll funding and applied on March 4th for the next round of funding for continuing broadband expansion in Tioga County including Newark Valley and Nichols. Ms. Tinney distributed a map of anticipated coverage. It will be all ConnectAll or Southern Tier monies to complete this project. No match from the County. They will continue to make applications to complete coverage in Tioga County.

a. Application announcement anticipated April 22nd.

D. Land Bank

1. Ms. Woodburn attended the NY Rural Land Bank Board Meeting and held Property Development Committee meetings this month.
2. The 81 North Avenue building has been cleaned out and the Land Bank is in discussion for plans for this property.

E. Sustainability Management

1. Private Hauler Permits- All four haulers have applied and been approved. This project started with 5 haulers, but one dropped out due to going out of business.

F. Municipal Electronic Waste Program- The Town and Village of Candor have responded and are interested in partnering in 2024. Owego and Nichols are already on board. Dr. Pratt continues to work toward getting agreements in place. This has proved to be a successful program.

IV. NEW BUSINESS

A. Grants

1. CDBG Micro Enterprise Grant application – This is an application for a grant that would assist small businesses with 5 employees or less to have access to grant funds to start or expand an existing business. Thoma Development Consultants is assisting through the process of getting interest from the community to move forward. Because of the positive interest received so far, a resolution asking to make application is listed below.
2. Restore NY- Village of Newark Valley is looking to make an application for two properties in Newark Valley. Ms. Woodburn and Ms. Schnabl are providing assistance.
3. Restore NY- County to apply on behalf of the Land Bank for a project on Temple and Liberty Street properties in the Village of Owego. Resolution to set the public hearing is listed below.

B. Economic/Community Development

1. Presentations – No presentations this month.
2. Pro-Housing Community Program- Mr. Lanning attended a STREDC webinar regarding this program and sent it on to municipalities to encourage participation. Mr. Lanning is creating a PowerPoint for presentations, as well as for information sharing purposes.

C. Land Bank- Ms. Woodburn has completed the following within the required timeframe:

1. 2023 audit completed.
2. PARIS report submitted.

D. Workforce Development- Mr. Lanning continues to work on:

1. Talent Supply Table
 - a. Facilitated Best Buy site visit with BOCES, Candor and Waverly Schools.
2. School/Career Center Pilot Program- This program continues in Spencer and Waverly.
3. EDP Intern- Proper forms have been filled out and are in the committee packet. The MOU with Binghamton University has been sent to Mr. DeWind, County

Attorney, for review and the resolution to authorize an unpaid intern in the EDP Department is listed below.

4. Business Leads Fellowship Program- Continuing participation; attending online seminars.
5. Twin Tiers Regional Job Fair- Waverly Central School put this event together; 90 businesses attended, 8 + schools attended, estimated 400 students and 200 community members were in attendance. A successful event.

E. Planning

1. 239 Reviews (5)

- a. 2024-005 Town of Owego; Special Use Permit, (Honeysuckle Labs); recommended approval- TCPB voted to recommend approval with condition (1 abstention)
- b. 2024-006 Town of Owego; Amended Special Use Permit (Bothar Construction, LLC); recommended approval- TCPB voted to recommend approval with conditions (1 abstention)
- c. 2024-007 Town of Owego; Special Use Permit (Upstate Shredding); recommended approval- TCPB voted to recommend approval with condition (1 abstention)
 - It was determined after the meeting that this was supposed to be for a Site Plan Review not Special Use Permit. Therefore, there was a No Action issued because of the incorrect review. The Town of Owego was okay with this action.
- d. 2024-008 Town of Owego; Special Use Permit (Southern Tier Hotel); recommended approval- TCPB voted to recommend approval with condition (1 abstention)
- e. 2024-009 Town of Owego: Rezone (Little Creek Farm); recommended disapproval- TCPB voted not to recommend (No Action) (1 abstention)

F. Sustainability Management

1. 2024 YTD

| | | |
|--------------------------|------|-------------|
| a. Paid to Broome County | 2024 | 2023 |
| i. HHW= | \$0 | \$12,925.50 |
| ii. E-Waste= | \$0 | \$6,000.05 |
| b. Towns/County(EWaste)= | \$0 | \$ 679.68 |

G. IDA – Ms. Curtis has completed the following within the required timeframe:

1. 2023 audit completed.
2. PARIS report submitted.

H. Misc.

1. 2023 EDP Annual Report- A copy of the report was available at the meeting and Ms. Tinney reported it has been placed on the website.

V. PERSONNEL

- a. Director appointment- Resolution listed below.
- b. Deputy Director appointment- Resolution listed below.
- c. Economic Development Specialist interviews- Ms. Tinney reported the interview process has begun to fill the vacant Economic Development Specialist position. Two

strong candidates have been found. Hopefully we will be bringing a resolution forward in May to fill the vacancy.

VI. RESOLUTIONS (6)

D14-Appoint Member (Evanek) to the Tioga Co IDA

D15-Authorize EDP to Apply for NYS CDBG Microenterprise Assistance Program Grant Funds

D16-Authorize Appointment (Schnabl) to Deputy Director of EDP Department

D17-Authorize Appointment (Woodburn) to Director of EDP Department

D18-Authorize Unpaid Intern in EDP Department

D27-Set Public Hearing Temple Liberty Reconstruction and North Ave Rehab

The above resolutions were reviewed; however, they will move to Worksession, Thursday, April 4th, due to no quorum. Ms. Tinney will attend Worksession in case there are any questions.

VII. PROCLAMATIONS- N/A

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

With no further topics of discussion or questions, the meeting was adjourned at 1:38 P.M.

Respectfully Submitted,

Linda Sampson

Administrative Assistant Economic Development & Planning