

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & PLANNING TOURISM/AGRICULTURE LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE MEETING January 3, 2023

ATTENDEES:

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

Staff: Brittany Woodburn, Linda Sampson, Cathy Haskell, Peter DeWind

Guests: Wendy Walsh, Tioga County Soil & Water Conservation, Christine Curtis, IDA Executive Director

Committee Chair, Barbara Roberts, and LeeAnn Tinney were not in attendance.

Legislator Dale Weston called the meeting to order at 2:00 P.M.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & PLANNING (ED&P): Brittany Woodburn presented in Ms. Tinney's absence – Agenda and attachments previously emailed.

I. MINUTES

A. Approval of minutes of December 6, 2022

Legislator Weston asked for approval of the minutes from the December 6, 2022 committee meeting. Legislator Ciotoli made a motion to accept the December 6, 2022 minutes, seconded by Legislator Mullen. All were in favor.

II. FINANCIAL

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

A. Economic Development

- Year-to-Date Budget is tracking.

B. Planning

- Year-to-Date Budget is tracking.

C. Sustainability Management

- Year-to-Date Budget is tracking.

III. OLD BUSINESS

A. Reports

1. Tioga County Soil and Water Conservation, Wendy Walsh – Ms. Walsh reviewed her monthly report, highlighting Agricultural Environmental Management Program, Dean Creek Watershed Protection Project, Hazard Mitigation, and the Statewide Manager's Meeting.

2. Tioga County Tourism – Monthly report previously emailed and is in the committee packet.
 3. Cornell Cooperative Extension – No monthly report this month.
 4. Industrial Development Agency (IDA), Chrisine Curtis - In keeping with staff reporting; Ms. Woodburn introduced Ms. Curtis, IDA Executive Director. Ms. Curtis highlighted the following projects she is working on:
 - Owego Gardens II Housing Project is ongoing. Water tank construction is complete, filled with water, tested and DOH approved. Anticipating Veolia to take over the water tank next week. Leasing of 93 units to begin soon. Home Leasing has a waitlist of 140.
 - A new IDA Board Member is to be appointed, Mari Townsend. Resolution below.
 - Invoicing companies and disbursing PILOT funds to municipalities.
 - Annual year-end audit starts January 9th. Copy of final report given to Legislative Office for filing.
 - Annual NYS Comptroller Report; includes confirmation of employee numbers from companies that received incentives through PILOT agreements.
 - General oversight reporting due by end of March.
 - Montrose Turnpike/SunEast Valley Solar has not started construction yet or formally entered into the PILOT Agreement. They are still finalizing their financial package.
 - IDA has received outreach from another Solar company that already has two projects approved in Apalachin; asking for instruction on how to pursue mortgage tax abatement.
 - Continue to track sales tax exemption.
 - Best Bev public hearing will be held at the end of January, anticipating IDA board to vote in February and will ask full Legislature to provide letter of support.
 - IDA has been approved for a FEMA grant to repair a portion of the railroad in Richford that causes residual flooding on Railroad Avenue.
 - Approval of ESD Grant for preliminary engineering plans and cost estimates to assist Raymond Hadley in Spencer with their water capacity not meeting their needs.
 - IDA anticipating reimbursement through the ESD Grant for a portion of expenses for construction of the water tank.
- B. Grants – Ms. Woodburn reported the following grants ED&P are involved in:
1. Status
 - a. Potential (13)
 - b. Pending (22)
 - c. Active (41)
 - d. Completed (3)- Two grants related to Evergreen Cemetery, the other is related to the Cornell Design Connect/Waverly Trail Project through the Carantouan Greenway.
- C. Economic/Community Development
1. Village of Owego
 - a. Downtown Revitalization Initiative (DRI) administration –
 - Home Central Project is complete and fully reimbursed.

- Shear Paradise Spa addition project anticipated completion date is the end of February.
 - Interior renovations of three residential units for The Cellar Project are complete. Exterior renovations to begin in the spring. Progress payments for both projects have been received.
 - Progress payment anticipated for a façade project at 194 Front Street.
 - Six multi-site DRI projects are ongoing and have anticipated completion dates between August – December 2023.
 - Received additional funds from the State to reallocate because the Museum Project is not moving forward; will be issuing a call for new projects this month.
 - Contract extended through December 2023, with an opportunity to extend it to December 2024 for the new projects.
- b. NY Main Street (North Ave.) administration – Project at 53-55 North Avenue is nearing completion; one progress payment is pending. Certificate of occupancy expected this month. Project anticipated to be complete by the end of January.
 - c. OPRHP EPF Grant- Historic Preservation Grant for the OPD Station restoration. Ms. Jardine continues to provide assistance; Hunt Engineering has been chosen as their design team. They will also provide construction and supervisor services.
 - d. Fuddy Duddy's also known as River House Confectionary – \$1.8M Restore NY Grant awarded. The Cruty's pass on a thank you to the Legislature for your support. A press release will go out soon.
2. Village of Waverly
 - a. NY Forward application (short list) – Anticipated award announcement this month.
 3. Village of Candor
 - a. NY Main Street administration by way of the Land Bank – This project is ongoing. Received one progress payment. Exterior of buildings are nearly finished. Interior work continues; anticipated project completion is for spring of 2023.
 4. Town of Nichols
 - a. Broadband – NYPA video for the ConnectAll Program. Ms. Tinney was interviewed by the state and the link was sent out to this committee.
 5. Municipalities
 - a. Snowmobile Grants – Ongoing.
 - b. Sweeper/Vacuum truck status
 1. Shared Services Agreement – The Village of Owego has opted out of the Sweeper/Vacuum Truck Services Agreement. The Town of Owego and the County will be reimbursing the Village their share of the match they put in. The agreement is being revised to include the County and the Town of Owego only.
 6. REAP – Ongoing.
 7. Leadership Tioga – No longer taking applications for 2023; class begins next week.

D. Land Bank

1. OACSD House Rehabilitation Project- This project is ongoing; students continue to make progress. Ms. Woodburn had a conversation with Newark Valley and Candor School Districts; they have an interest in partnering for a similar project in the future.
2. Properties
 - Two in Newark Valley- Demolition is planned for 58 Whig Street in the spring.
 - Four in Owego – Recently finished foundation repairs on 437 Front Street; will now be fully renovated by a local developer to turn back into a two-family home. Will be sending out an RFP for 3 demolitions in the Village of Owego.
 - Continue to work with Providence Housing- Working on an updated appraisal and negotiating a purchase price for the Temple/Liberty Street properties. Continue to work on a redevelopment plan.
- E. Workforce Development – Mr. Lanning is working on the following:
 1. Business List – Working with the Career Center creating a business list of Tioga County businesses interested in internships, co-ops, job-shadowing and career fairs. This list will be shared with the school districts to show what local businesses are interested in.
 2. Working with specific businesses regarding internships.
 3. OACSD Project – Community Foundation SCNY grant awarded.
- F. Planning- Ms. Jardine continues with ongoing Planning activities.
- G. Sustainability Management – Ellen continues to work on the following:
 1. January E-Bulletin to Tioga County Employees.
 2. Hazardous Waste Program
 - a. Electronics/Hazardous Waste Paid to Broome County- \$33,527.85
 - b. Electronics/Tioga County Towns Paid- \$2,184.03
- H. IDA – Ms. Curtis reported earlier.
 1. Owego Gardens- Water main has been tested and approved. Continue to work on filling the tank.
 - a. Home Leasing construction completion anticipated 12/30
 - b. Turn over of water system- IDA to Veolia
 - c. Occupants to move in end of January/first of February
 2. Best Bev was awarded the \$3.2M ESD Capital Grant request that ED&P assisted them with. It was the highest awarded capital grant for the Southern Tier Region this round.
 - a. PILOT – Ms. Curtis reported earlier.

IV. NEW BUSINESS

- A. Reports- Previously reported.
- B. Grants- Previously reported.
- C. Economic/Community Development
 1. Several retail leads have come in and ED&P is providing assistance.
- D. Presentations – No presentations this month.
- E. Land Bank- Previously reported.
- F. Workforce Development- Ms. Woodburn and Mr. Lanning assisted the Owego Apalachin Central School District with submitting a \$850,000.00 Capital Grant request to the Office of Strategic Workforce Development to assist with capital improvements

to their Career and Technical Education Center. They are looking to expand the space, add equipment and possibly build a new structure. Offering more hands-on programming; possibly add adult education as well. Ms. Woodburn reported speaking to other school districts about this funding opportunity. Candor School District showed an interest in submitting an application in the future.

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

1. 239 Reviews (1)

a. County Case 2022-032: Town of Owego, Site Plan Review and Floodplain Special Use Permit (Dunkin Donuts)- recommendation for approval.

H. Sustainability Management

I. IDA

J. Misc.

1. State Lead Responses- No leads this month.

V. PERSONNEL- Nothing to report this month.

VI. RESOLUTIONS

- A13-Recommend Members to the Susquehanna Heritage Area Commission
- A14-Recognizing Aaron Gowan's 30 Years of Dedicated Service to Tioga County
- A15-Acceptance of Hazardous Mitigation Planning Grant and Appropriation of Funds
- A16-Appoint Mari Townsend to TCIDA Board of Directors

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

Legislator Mullen - yes

Legislator Ciotoli - yes

Legislator Weston – yes

VII. PROCLAMATIONS- N/A

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

With no further topics of discussion or questions, the meeting was adjourned at 2:45 P.M.

Respectfully Submitted,

Linda Sampson

Administrative Assistant Economic Development