

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & PLANNING TOURISM/AGRICULTURE LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE MEETING May 2, 2023

ATTENDEES:

Legislators: Dennis Mullen, Keith Flesher, Marte Sauerbrey

Staff: LeeAnn Tinney, Linda Sampson, Abbey Ortu, Cathy Haskell, Peter DeWind

Guests: Becca Maffei, Tourism Director

Legislator Barb Roberts and Legislator Dale Weston were not in attendance. Because of these absences there was no quorum, making it so minutes and resolutions could not be approved.

Legislator Dennis Mullen called the meeting to order at 1:00 P.M.

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

I. MINUTES

- A. Approval of minutes of April 4, 2023 – Unable to approve at this meeting; will approve at the June 6th committee meeting.

II. FINANCIAL

The 2023 Year-to-Date Budget Reports were in the committee packets. Ms. Tinney 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 Tourism- Becca Maffei, Tourism Director – Monthly report previously emailed. Ms. Maffei distributed an updated report and reviewed her report, highlighting: DRI Wayfinding Sign Project, Recruitment Website, Travel Guide, ITI

Digital Event Calendar, Event Cooperative Marketing Program, Finger Lakes Projects, and I Love My Park Day/Friends Group Revival.

2. Cornell Cooperative Extension – Monthly report previously emailed.
3. Tioga County Soil & Water Conservation District – No monthly report sent.
4. Economic Development- Abbey Ortu, Community Development Specialist - In keeping with staff reporting, Ms. Tinney introduced Ms. Ortu. Ms. Ortu reported on current projects she is working on:
 - Waverly Waterfront Access and Trail Connectivity Project; continue to work with Carantouan Greenway, Tourism, the school, and the Village. Preparing the project for potential funding.
 - I Love My Park Day – Participating in the project is Two Rivers, Carantouan, Village of Waverly Parks Department and Soil and Water for stream clean up.
 - Janna Rudler from Preservation League of NYS runs a historic buildings group. Ms. Ortu connected her with Paul Kunik from the Community Center; the next meeting will be hosted at the Berkshire Community Center.
 - Providing technical assistance for two projects initiated by Legislators:
 - ✓ Nichols Park Pond Trail restoration brought forward by Legislator Weston; almost complete.
 - ✓ Tioga County Anglers project brought forward by Legislator Brown; trying to keep students in Newark Valley School District and Waverly School District involved and invested in the community.
 - Municipal outreach – Working with the Council of Government and connecting municipalities with USDA funding sources. Recently made connections for Nichols and Newark Valley.
 - Assist in facilitating Tioga County Nonprofit Network speaker series.
 - Tioga County Boys & Girls Club- Provided technical assistance for the teen center; ribbon cutting next week.
 - Working with Sustainability Manager, Dr. Pratt, to research potential partners for Tioga County food recovery initiative.

B. Grants – Ms. Tinney reported the following:

1. Active Grants – Tioga County as the applicant
 - a. CDBG- Racker Neighborhood Depot
 - Total Project Amount- \$7,933,000
 - Grant Amount- \$3,000,000
 - Tioga County Match- \$0
 - Match (other)- Racker
 - Admin Fee Collected-N/A
 - Demolition should begin soon; construction August/September timeframe.
 - Legislator Mullen recommended the Knights of Columbus as a source.
 - b. NY Main Street- Village of Owego, North Ave. – Final paperwork is being completed; due to the State on May 23rd.
 - Total Project Amount- TBD
 - Grant Amount- \$250,000
 - Tioga County Match- \$0
 - Match (other)- Property Owners

- Admin Fee Collected- \$18,750
 - c. Restore NY- Fuddy Duddy's – Preparing paperwork; project to begin late summer, early fall. They have applied for an additional grant through Empire State Development.
 - Total Project Amount- \$2,400,000
 - Grant Amount- \$1,800,000
 - Tioga County Match- \$0
 - Match (other)- Property Owner
 - Admin Fee Collected- N/A
 - d. NYS Snowmobile- Countywide (ongoing)
 - Total Project Amount- \$62,160
 - Grant Amount- \$62,160
 - Tioga County Match- \$0
 - Match (other)- \$0
 - Admin Fee Collected- \$3,269.52
 - e. FEMA Hazard Mitigation Grant Program – Plan update; consulting firm has been selected.
 - Total Project Amount- \$100,000
 - Grant Amount- \$90,000
 - Tioga County Match- \$10,000 from Emergency Mngt Services
 - Match (other)- N/A
 - Admin Fee Collected- N/A
 - f. ARC- Update Countywide Strategic Plan – Resolution for hiring consulting firm listed below.
 - Total Project Amount- \$50,000
 - Grant Amount- \$25,000
 - Tioga County Match- \$25,000 through County Contingency
 - Match (other)- N/A
 - Admin Fee Collected- N/A
 - g. NYPA- EV charging stations – Final agreement has been signed; construction anticipated to begin in the spring of 2024.
 - Total Project Amount- \$1,000,000
 - Grant Amount- \$1,000,000
 - Tioga County Match- \$0
 - Match (other)- \$0
 - Admin Fee Collected- N/A
 - h. DEC- Household Hazardous Waste Program; annual grant.
 - Total Project Amount- \$22,962.38
 - Grant Amount- \$11,481.19
 - Tioga County Match- \$11,481.19 out of Sustainability budget
 - Match (other)- \$0
 - Admin Fee Collected- N/A
2. Grants- Tioga County is not the applicant.

Ms. Tinney distributed a spreadsheet of grants where technical assistance was given and where they are in the approval process. Ms. Tinney reviewed the new county policy regarding grants and reported the following:

- a. Campville Fire Department – Resolution for approval listed below.
Grant Amount- \$500
Benefit to County- Reduce tax burden for residents.
- b. Candor Emergency Squad– Resolution for approval listed below.
Grant Amount- \$4,000
Benefit to County- Reduce tax burden for residents.
- c. Joshua House (1) – Resolution for approval listed below.
Grant Amount- \$5,400
Benefit to County- Reduce tax burden for residents.
- d. Joshua House (2) – Resolution for approval listed below.
Grant Amount- \$4,800
Benefit to County- Reduce tax burden for residents.
- e. INSPIRE-SVE– Resolution for approval listed below.
Grant Amount- \$13,222
Benefit to County- Improve quality of life for residents.

Listed below, technical assistance was given, but remain in the approval process; resolutions will be brought forward in June:

- f. Candor Emergency Squad- No approval from Committee Chair
- g. Nichols Presbyterian Church- No approval from Committee Chair
- h. REAP- No approval from Committee Chair
- i. Tioga County Boys and Girls Club (1)- No approval from Legal Department
- j. Tioga County Boys and Girls Club (2)- No approval from Legal Department
- k. Town of Owego- No approval from Legal Department
- l. Fuddy Duddy's- No approval from Legal Department

The following are grant applications in process:

- m. Campville Fire Department
- n. Newark Valley High School

There was a discussion regarding the new policy and the process. Everyone was in agreement to follow the policy as is, with the understanding that it is open for review with the possibility of amendment in the future.

Mr. DeWind, County Attorney, verbally approved the 4 grants listed with no approval from the Legal Department. He will send the approval through email.

C. Economic/Community Development

1. Village of Owego
 - a. Downtown Revitalization Initiative (DRI) administration – Projects are ongoing.
2. Village of Waverly
 - a. NY Forward- Local Planning Committee has been established, kickoff meeting with the State tomorrow.
3. Town of Nichols
 - a. Broadband Project; details follow:
 - \$7.5 M
 - 800 homes with fiber access.

- 200+ signed up; increasing every day.
- Project anticipated to wrap up by end of May, beginning of June.

Ms. Tinney reported this was a very successful project.

4. Municipalities
 - a. Town of Owego- Discussions on exploring a Southern Tier Network partnership for the expansion of broadband in the south side of Owego using what's left of the ARPA funds.
5. Leadership Tioga- Classes are ongoing.

D. Land Bank

1. Liberty Street appraisal came in and the Land Bank will be meeting to discuss. This is regarding the housing development on Temple and Liberty Street properties.

E. Workforce Development – Mr. Lanning continues to work on the following:

1. Continuing coordinated business tours:
 - a. Cornell Diner
 - b. State Line Auto
 - c. Best Buy
2. Work Based Learning Job Board available to school districts- Best Buy recently posted jobs.
3. Encouraging all schools to use the Career Pathways document.
4. School to Work Manufacturing Program – Facilitated tours at Raymond Hadley and Crown, Cork, and Seal.
5. Transportation- Connecting schools with DMV for student driving tests.
6. Home Central Trades Day
 - a. Candor, Tioga, and Newark Valley schools have confirmed participation.
 - b. For the trades - Laborers Local 785, Painters Local 4, and Carpenters Local 277 have confirmed participation.
7. Homeless High School population- Gathering data process has begun.

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

1. Countywide Strategic Plan- A consultant has been selected; resolution listed below.
2. Hazard Mitigation Plan- Hired consultants have begun.

G. Sustainability Management- Dr. Pratt continues to work on the following:

1. April E-Bulletin to Tioga County Employees
2. NYPA Site Host Agreement for EV charging stations is complete.
3. Continuing work with municipalities on EWaste events. Recently the Village of Waverly and Town of Barton to work in partnership in an EWaste event.
4. Reducing waste educational videos.
5. Borrow a Bin Program - The Candor Daffodil Festival took advantage of this program; borrowing a bin for recycling at their event.
6. Updating Solid Waste Management Plan
7. Food recovery program

IV. NEW BUSINESS

- A. Presentations (0)
- B. Land Bank

1. Land Bank Initiative- Phase 2 funding awarded. Ms. Woodburn applied for \$1M; \$900,000 awarded.

C. Planning

1. 239 Reviews presented to the County Planning Board:
 - a. County Case 2023-008: Town of Berkshire, Creation of Solar Law, recommended approval with conditions.
 - b. County Case 2023-009: Town of Nichols, Area Variance, Talcott, residential- staff waived comment; no action.
 - c. County Case 2023-010: Town of Owego, Special Use Permit, Bothar, recommended approval with conditions.
 - d. County Case 2023-011: Village of Owego, Site Plan Review, Kathy Cakes, recommended approval.

D. Sustainability Management

1. 2023 YTD
 - a. Paid to Broome County
 - i. HHW= \$0
 - ii. E-Waste= \$0
 - b. Towns (EWaste)= \$0

V. PERSONNEL

- A. Anniversaries in April- Ms. Tinney reported the following anniversary dates in the ED&P TEAM:

1. Elaine Jardine- 28 years as County Planning Director.
2. Becca Maffei- 9 years as Director of Tourism.

Not on the agenda, Ms. Tinney reported that time has been requested at the May 18th Legislative Worksession to talk about the roles and responsibilities of the County Planning Board, as well as offer possible options on filling planning board member positions that are getting difficult to fill.

VI. RESOLUTIONS

E02-Award Contract Strategic Operations Plan

E06-Renew E-Waste Agreement with Towns

E11-Transfer Funds 2022 Solid Waste Budget

E23-Approve Technical Assistance Provided to Campville Fire Department

E25-Approve Technical Assistance Provided to Joshua House By Way of Tioga Co Youth Bureau

E26-Approve Technical Assistance Provided to Joshua House By Way of Tioga Co United Way

E27-Approve Technical Assistance Provided to Candor Emergency Squad

E28-Approve Technical Assistance Provided to INSPIRE-SVE

After reviewing the above resolutions, Ms. Tinney asked those present at this committee meeting for support to move the resolutions forward for vote at the Legislative Worksession on May 4th. The vote to support this follows:

Legislator Mullen - yes

Legislator Flesher – 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