

**ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND PLANNING COMMITTEE
MINUTES**

February 26, 2008

2:00 p.m.

Conf. Rm. E, 4th Floor, Legislative Office Building, Oswego, NY

I. Roll Call: The meeting was called to order at 2:03 p.m.

PRESENT: Legs. Shawn Doyle, Chairman, Jack Beckwith, Arthur Gearsbeck, Douglas Malone

EXCUSED: Legs. Morris Sorbello, V. Chair, Louella LeClair, Kimberly Seager

GUESTS: Joe Chairvolotti, John DeHollander, Austin Wheelock, Leg. Margaret Kastler

STAFF: Phil Church, Dave Turner, Ted Jerrett, Deb Wise

II. Approval of Minutes – January 22, 2008

Chairman Doyle asked for a motion to accept the meeting minutes of January 22, 2008.

Motion to accept by Leg. Malone second by Leg. Gearsbeck. All were in favor.

III. Resolutions

a. Resolution – Section 5311 Public Transportation Capital Assistance Grant

Resolution to accept and disburse local, state and federal funds, this funding to be used to purchase new buses. Motion by Leg. Malone second by Leg. Gearsbeck to accept and set up capital project for the replacement of four OCO buses. All were in favor.

b. Budget Modification – LiDAR Revenue

Resolution - Chairman Doyle stated the next agenda item is the budget modification for the LiDAR. Mr. Turner stated last year we applied for NYS DEC funds through SUNY ESF. We had asked for \$10,000 to help offset the cost of the LiDAR mapping data. We were notified recently that we were approved for \$5,000, this is action to accept and put those funds into that project. Motion by Leg. Malone second by Leg. Gearsbeck to accept the funding for LiDAR. All were in favor.

c. SEQRA Lead Agency – County Comprehensive Plan

Dave Turner stated that we are requesting that the Legislature with assistance of the planning department become the Lead Agency for the environmental review of the updates to the County's Comprehensive Plan. This is only on the three sections that were updated. Our anticipation is that because this is a planning document that we will find no significant county impact and then the legislature will make that official on the floor of the Legislature. Mr. Turner stated that because this process is required under state law for this undertaking as a Type I action. Motion by Leg. Malone to move the Lead Agency status for the SEQR process seconded by Leg. Gearsbeck. All were in favor.

d. Public Hearing – Agricultural District

Chairman Doyle stated next we have a public hearing for the Agricultural District. Mr. Turner stated that these are property owners who have applied for inclusion into the Agricultural District, this is

done once each year. These have been reviewed by the County Real Property Tax Department and by the Farmland Protection Board, at their last meeting they approved each of these, after review and discussion. Ted Jerrett explained that this inclusion process is open for a month in a years time. Motion to approve the resolution for a public hearing on April 10, 2008 at 7:00 p.m. by Leg. Malone second by Leg. Gearsbeck. All were in favor.

IV. Department Updates

a. Electronic Media Funding

Dave Turner gave an update for your information, I had previously mentioned that I have been working with the chair of the State Tourism Committee, to try to change the state law, so that there would be funding available for outdoor programming and not just major motion pictures and television. Mr. Turner stated that he had met with the chair in her office she had the director of the state tourism committee on the phone, we talked about outdoor programming and how it could draw more people to New York. She had requested that the senate tourism committee try to get \$200,000 in the Governor's budget for these types of activities. Mr. Turner stated that she is very excited about the idea, we are hoping that it will move forward there is no guarantee at this point, we are looking forward to using some of those funds.

b. County Website

Dave Turner stated that we are still anticipating review and soft release in April. Mr. Turner passed around the architecture of the site and explained that this alone has been a 4 month process. Mr. Turner also provided examples of some of the pages that have been created. Mr. Turner stated that he remains confident that they will be more than satisfied when the website is complete.

c. Snowmobile Club Request

Dave Turner stated that this is really a request this has to go to Infrastructure and Facilities Committee. Mr. Turner stated that we apply for funding on behalf of all the snowmobile clubs in the County. When we met with them recently they had a change in leadership, one thing that was talked about was authorized use of County property, there have been some concerns from certain landowners about trails that were going through county lands that were close to their houses and they wanted to know if that had been approved. Mr. Turner stated that we looked at a few of them, there had been no formal requests to use the county property. So, we would like to request that anyone going on county property should be making an official request. There are several properties in the Towns of Palermo, New Haven, Scriba, and Mexico most of those are part of the county trail that had been used for quite some time as snowmobile trails. Mr. Turner stated that there are a couple of other properties, one is a reforestation property, the other is current or future gravel sites. We don't have a department staff over seeing these trails, whether they be snowmobile, hiking trails, or ATV. Mr. Turner stated that the County needs one person to be a head of all the trails in the county. Phil Church stated that this is something that should be discussed with the county attorney. Mr. Turner stated that he had met with the county attorney and he asked me to create maps showing the adjoining parcels, which we did. Identify the parcels that they are requesting to use, which we did do and also verify what is still titled to the county. Each of these cases the real property database shows that the county still has title to these parcels. Mr. Turner stated he brings this to the committee as his department is responsible for the snowmobile grant funds to maintain the trails. Mr. Turner stated, my suggestion is that this committee make the recommendation to the County Attorney and the Infrastructure Committee. There may be some reforestation properties that are or can be used, but the snowmobile clubs need to

get together with the county forester, so that the trails can be kept safe from such things as fallen trees, etc. that could be going across the trail. There was more discussion regarding the snowmobile trails.

V. Presentations

a. Operation Oswego County – Competition

Austin Wheelock from Operation Oswego County gave an overview of a competition that OOC has going, called The Next Great Idea Oswego County Business Plan Competition is underway. Mr. Wheelock stated that this is to encourage and motivate creative business minded people in the county to develop a business plan that would be located in Oswego County. The winning idea or plan will be awarded \$25,000 in seed money towards implementing their plan. There was much discussion regarding this competition.

b. Soil and Water – Overview

John DeHollander gave an overview of Oswego County Soil & Water Conservation District. Mr. DeHollander handed out some information and briefly explained to the committee how this agency came about and what this agency does. Mr. DeHollander stated highlights of 2007 lists what this agency was involved with last year. He also stated that they have a Stormwater person from DEC in Syracuse, not sure how long they will have her but it's a great asset to the District. Mr. DeHollander also stated that there is a new invasive species called swallow-wort, there is information on this also.

Chairman Doyle stated that we have one more resolution, this is for reappointment of two members to the Region 7 Fish and Wildlife Management Board. Chairman Doyle stated the reappointments are Leg. Barbara Brown as the Legislative Representative and James Petreszyn as the Sportsman Representative. Motion by Leg. Gearsbeck second by Leg. Beckwith for the reappointments to this board. All were in favor.

VI. Adjournment

Chairman Doyle called for adjournment, the meeting was adjourned at 3:04 p.m. Motion by Leg. Malone second by Leg. Beckwith. All were in favor of adjournment.