

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & PLANNING TOURISM/AGRICULTURE LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE MEETING December 8, 2020

ATTENDEES:

Legislators: Dale Weston, Ed Hollenbeck, Mike Roberts, Dennis Mullen, Marte Sauerbrey

Staff: LeeAnn Tinney, Linda Sampson

Guests: T Hanson, CCE Director, call-in

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

MINUTES

- Approval of minutes from November 3, 2020 – Legislator Weston asked for approval of minutes from the November 3, 2020 committee meeting. Legislator Hollenbeck made a motion to accept the November 3, 2020 minutes, seconded by Legislator Mullen. All were in favor.

CORNELL COOPERATIVE EXTENSION: T Hanson – Ms. Hanson was unable to attend, so she called in to review her monthly report previously emailed.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & PLANNING (ED&P): LeeAnn Tinney – Agenda, attachments and highlights previously emailed. Following are the Director's Highlights:

Meetings Attended – Ms. Tinney reported attending the following meetings:

- Southern Tier Network Broadband Study – In the final stages; Ms. Tinney will share the following once completed:
 - Business model identified
 - Minimal Viable Network identified
 - Executive Summary requested
- ST8- Opportunity Zone mapping and marketing in the Town of Nichols and Village of Spencer.
- Finger Lakes Wine Country Tourism Marketing Association – Attended the regular meeting.
- CCE- Attended the annual meeting.
- Tioga County Local Development Corporation- Attended the monthly meeting.
- Municipal Visits
 - Village of Nichols - County/Village shared services grant for equipment purchase. Due to budget constraints Mr. Hammond cannot make his planned equipment purchases;

however a USDA grant may be possible. With a vacuum truck identified and the Village of Nichols being the best community to access the funds for this grant, they agreed to be the applicant. ED&P staff is going to assist the Village of Nichols in putting the application together for the purchase of the vacuum truck to be used throughout the County.

- Prospects- Ms. Tinney has hosted the following visits for potential businesses:
 - Waverly Warehouse- 2 visits
 - Hidden Valley- 1 visit

State leads:

- Project Charge- 1 visit
- Project N95

Ms. Tinney reported receiving many inquiries from businesses from the metro area, New York and New Jersey, looking to come to rural areas.

- Presentations- none

Department Highlights

- COVID-19
 - Tioga County Economic Recovery Advisory Council (TCERAC)
 - Economic Recovery Strategy Plan- Continues to move forward. The 8 committees are meeting regularly; tackling the identified objectives.
 - COVID Emergency Loan Status – Summary distributed. The 3 year, 2.5% repayment plan recommended by the IDA Loan Committee has been implemented. Two of the loans have been paid in full, others have started to make payments.
Ms. Tinney reported that she will be visiting one of the loan recipients. It has come to her attention that one of the recipients may have used the funds for something other than what was outlined in their application request. Ms. Tinney has asked Mr. DeWind, the County Attorney, for advice and is scheduling a visit with the loan recipient next week. Ms. Tinney will keep the committee informed.
- Hotel/Motel Tax Local Law
 - Reso to Adopt Local Law- Adopted November 10th.
 - Filed with the State on November 17th.
- 2020 Census
 - Census work is complete
 - Grant documents submitted to the State on November 23rd and the reimbursement funds have been received.
- Village of Owego
 - DRI- 18 projects are ongoing.
 - Lt. Governor Kathy Hochul visit/tour on December 1st; good visit, nice photo opportunities.
 - NY Main Street- 6 projects ongoing.
 - Owego Gardens 2
 - Financing and PILOT closed on December 4th.
 - Release of funds on December 17th.
 - Site work begins on December 21st.
 - DOH water system approval is pending; IDA will be sending out the Water Tower bid packets. Anticipated start date mid-January.

- Land Bank
 - Budget summary – Ms. Saraceno previously emailed a summary to the committee. Ms. Tinney reported that the initial funding for the Land Bank was by way of the Attorney General's office and will be funded through 2021. Ms. Saraceno has begun the search for other sources to continue the work of the Land Bank.
 - AG funding notification.
- RESTORE NY
 - Owego project is moving forward.
 - Waverly project is almost complete; final walk through will be this week.
- Housing
 - Home Leasing- Owego Gardens II project is moving forward.
 - Ithaca Neighborhood Housing Services– Interested in a project in the Village of Owego.
 - SEPP – Housing organization out of Broome County is looking for a project in the Owego or Waverly area.
- Community Development – Ms. Hendrickson is working on the following:
 - Tioga County Non-Profit Network
 - Child Care Task Force
 - REAP
 - Tioga County Foundations Coalition
 - Year End Report has been put together; Ms. Tinney will share with the committee.
- Workforce
 - Broome Tioga Talent Task Force
 - Greater Binghamton Chamber/The Agency
 - Workforce Pipeline Development Study
 - Looking to create a Recruitment Tool- Met with Three Rivers, an Economic Development Agency that covers Schuyler, Steuben, and Chemung Counties; they are doing something similar. Starting to reach out to major employers; Lockheed Martin is very interested in this program.
- Ag
 - 8 Year District Review (2 districts)- Received confirmation the District Reviews have been finalized with Ag & Markets.

Ms. Griffiths met with and is working on the following:

 - Agricultural Resource Group
 - Rural Food Retail Project Planning Committee
 - Rural Health Network Food Networks
 - Solar mapping; Impact to Farmland
 - Ag Value Chain Study
 - Steering Committee meeting with Consultant

- Planning – Ms. Jardine continues to work on the following:
 - 239 Reviews (1)
 - County Case 2020-015- Town of Owego, Special Use Permit, SunEast Valley Solar, LLC solar project (20MW)- recommendation to disapprove due to the use of prime Ag property for this project. This goes back to the Town and will require a super majority to pass; ZBA moved to suspend.
 - State Mandated County Pandemic Operations Plan
 - Active Plans
 - REAP- Tioga County Workforce Pipeline- Implementation
 - Tioga County Economic Recovery Strategic Plan (COVID)
 - Village of Waverly Comprehensive Plan
- Grants
 - Potential (13)
 - USDA RDBG- Tioga County Recruitment Tool
 - USDA RDBG- Technical Assistance to Business
 - Town of Richford- USDA Community Facilities, (equipment)
 - Town of Berkshire (TBD)- rec trail
 - Village of Newark Valley- USDA Community Facilities (equipment)
 - Town of Berkshire- DOT TAP funding (sidewalk extension)
 - Northern Tioga Chamber- Community Foundation (facilities improvements)
 - Midwestern Pet Foods- NYS HCR CDBG
 - Ithaca Neighborhood Housing Services
 - Shared Services- USDA Community Facilities (equipment)
 - Shared Services- local foundations (equipment)
 - REAP- Community Foundation (Code Enforcement Plan Implementation Tasks)
 - Village of Nichols- Shared Services USDA Community Facilities (vacuum truck)
 - Pending (5)
 - Owego Apalachin Central School District- WDI (workforce)
 - REAP- Mildred Faulkner Truman (Code Enforcement Plan Implementation Tasks)
 - Early Owego Antique Center- NYSCA Mural Restoration
 - Tioga County – 2020/2021 Snowmobile Trails (Phase I)
 - Tioga County- 2020/2021 Snowmobile Trails (Phase II)
 - Active (19)
 - Village of Owego- RESTORE NY, Briggs/Award
 - Village of Owego- Downtown Revitalization Initiative
 - Village of Spencer- Nichols Park (grandstand restoration)
 - Village of Waverly- NYS Parks, Waverly Glen Park
 - Village of Waverly- RESTORE NY, Twigg
 - REAP- USDA REDI, Strategic Planning (extended 1 year)
 - ❖ Cottage Industry Study (TOI/REAP/TEAM Tioga)

- REAP- USDA, Public Well (equipment)
- REAP- Tioga Downs, Workforce Pipeline Implementation
- TCPDC- Enterprise Community Partners (land bank funds)- X2
- Village of Owego- Main Street (CFA)
- Midwestern Pet Foods (CFA)
- Racker (CFA)
- IDA- USDA RBDG, Multi-county Broadband Study
- IDA- USDA RBDG, Ag Value Chain Study
- Waverly Glen Park- Mildred Faulkner Truman
- Town of Richford- SAM, Assemblyman Friend (highway equipment)
- Village of Spencer- Nichols Park – Historic register approval; Ms. Hendrickson worked on this project.
- Village of Owego- CU, Design Connect (Art Park)
- Completed (1)
 - Tioga County- 2019/2020 Snowmobile Trails(Phase III)

2020 Budget

- Economic Development- Tracking
- Planning- Tracking

Other

- Institute for Advancement Training- Graduation postponed; department graduates include:
 - Abbey Hendrickson
 - Megan Griffiths

Resolutions - The following resolutions was presented and agreement was made to move them forward:

L15 Reappoint member (Eckley) to the Tioga County Planning Board

L16 Reappoint member (Cacciola) to the Tioga County Planning Board

L17 Appoint new member (Tomazin) to the Tioga County Planning Board

L18 Renew SWCD Hazard Mitigation Coordination Services Contract for 2021

L27-Authorize Transfer of Funds for Purchase of Storage Cabinet in the EDP Department

Ms. Tinney made a change to the following resolution; with a short discussion, it was agreed to move forward:

L20-Tioga Co Legislative Support to Terminate CNYOG PILOT and Establish Stagecoach Gas Services PILOT

ADJOURNMENT – With no further topics of discussion or questions, the meeting was adjourned at 2:00 P.M.

Respectfully Submitted,

Linda Sampson

Administrative Assistant to Economic Development & Planning