

COMMITTEE ON PLANNING, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, ENVIRONMENTAL
AND INTERGOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS
MEETING MINUTES

September 23, 2021– 11:00 A.M. Supervisors' Chambers

Supervisor	Present	Absent	Late	Time In
MOSES	X			
Ostrander		X		
Jones	Z			
Magliocca	X			
Stokes	Z			

PRESENT:

Committee: **Cliff Moses**, Dave Jones (zoom), Joe Magliocca, and TJ Stokes (zoom)

Absent: Joe Ostrander

County Staff: Ellen Bowe, Cindy Edick, Melissa Martel Felton, Samantha Field, Scott Flaherty (zoom), Kipp Hicks, Scott Ingmire, Jamie Kowalczk, Becky Marsala, Mark Scimone, Jim Petreszyn, Larkin Podsiedlik (zoom), Pete Walrod, and Gwen Williamson.

Meeting was called to order at 11:02 A.M. by Moses.

A-1: The August 19, 2021 minutes were approved on a **MOTION** by Magliocca and seconded by Jones at 11:02 A.M. 3/0/0

A-2: Cindy Edick presented the Sales Tax Update. The County continues to show an increase in sales tax distributions, now at 25.49% above 2020. The rise could be partly due to internet sales tax receipts, while car sales tax receipts are expected to decrease. The towns and villages will see an increase reflected in their distributions.

A-3: Becky Marsala presented the Treasurer / Real Property Update. Marsala reported that the online property auction went amazingly well. The process is extremely efficient, the workload is much easier for the county workers, and the return this year is a very good number at approximately \$402,000. Marsala noted that there are several departments that work together to make the auction come to fruition and it is a team effort.

RESOLUTION: The Planning Committee authorized moving forward the resolution ratifying and accepting bids received at public auction and former owner repurchases and directing the conveyance of county owned premises (with the understanding that there is the potential for some changes or updates up until the last minute – and – Marsala will distribute the final copy to the Committee upon completion) on a **MOTION** by Magliocca and seconded by Jones at 11:11 A.M. 4/0/0

A-4: Ellen Bowe presented the Career Center Update. The unemployment rate for Madison County is 4.7%. Ellen mentioned various grant opportunities, one through Mohawk Valley Community College regarding CDLB training, one for blueprint and drafting training through GD&T, and a third regarding help for companies impacted by foreign trade. Bowe thanked Samantha Field for setting up the Working Solutions Job Board link to the county website. (<https://www.madisoncounty.ny.gov/1/Home>) Workforce Development is considering an in-person job fair soon and is asking Public Health for Covid-related guidelines. NYS released a report yesterday (by region) of all who have stopped receiving unemployment benefits due to the pandemic and regular unemployment benefits. There are 12,000 people in Herkimer, Madison, Oneida region.

Jim Petreszyn updated the Committee regarding a DEC regulation for the holiday extended hunting season. This Committee passed a resolution last year (20-369) in opposition of this extended season because of the negative impact on local businesses that support and are economically dependent upon the snowmobile season. Jim advised Madison County must be ready in the event that the law is passed; and since it is presented as a regulation, we will need a local law to opt out.

RESOLUTION: The Committee authorized a resolution to introduce a local law allowing Madison County to opt out of the DEC regulation for holiday extended hunting season and call for a public hearing on a **MOTION** by Stokes and seconded by Jones at 11:24 A.M. 4/0/0

A-4 additional comments: Scott Ingmire reported that Staffworks has not returned to the Career Center and has not paid past due rent of \$2,695.88. Scott will reach out to them one more time and if they do not agree to pay, the County will break the lease. The Committee supports that plan.

A-5: Kipp Hicks provided the IDA Update. ESD lead for yogurt manufacturer did not pan out. Hartman Enterprises may be interested in land adjacent to the Oneida Business Park on Route 46. CanTech/SEPAC took over the Lakeside Innovative Technology business at the Harbor Lights Business Park. The IDA has incentivized their expansion project. The housing reuse for the S&W/GHD building in Cazenovia approached the IDA for incentives, but the board decided that tax breaks were not necessary to make the project happen, so they were denied. The regional agriculture competition Grow-NY announced their 20 finalists. Kipp will work on trying to recruit these businesses. Downtown Revitalization Initiative application period has closed – Cazenovia, Hamilton and Oneida have all submitted applications. SUNY Morrisville is pursuing Upstate Revitalization Initiative funding for a proposed Ag & Technical Innovation center.

A-6: Larkin Podsiedlik presented the CCE Update. The search for the AED position has been narrowed down to 11 candidates. A local search committee was formed and the search for the new executive director will be posted very soon with the intention to fill the position by January. The Chobani economic development project launches in December. Ag. staff continues to work with producers and workshops / trainings. There will be a workshop on October 26 regarding Navigating Solar Lease Agreements and Solar Development Process.

A-7: Scott Flaherty presented the Tourism Update. Flaherty is very happy with the increased tax collection which is still below the 2019 amount but rebounding. He is working on the budget for next year. Fall travel is still in the plans for most people with approximately one-third postponing plans for the next 6 months due to concern over the Delta CoVid variant. Advertising is running strong from several marketing pathways. There will be six new lodging packages available to help bring people here from outside Madison County. Antique week faced many challenges but had a successful week. The marketing contract with Romanelli is being extended on a year-to-year basis. Tourism is working on a Southern Tier Water Trail in coordination with several other counties and New York State. Flaherty is grateful for the one-time funding from the county, and will use it in a way that has a long-term positive effect.

A-8: Scott Ingmire presented the Planning Update. Ingmire deferred to Jessica Geary for the Wind and Solar Ordinance Presentation. Jessica presented a PowerPoint summary of a solar and wind ordinance inventory to understand which towns and villages within the county have them. She provided to the Planning Committee an excel sheet with the detailed inventory information as well. A few villages have solar ordinances in place, while most towns have solar and wind ordinances. Ingmire commented he will be waiting to see what the state impact will be, but Madison County is doing well.

Samantha Field presented a report on the status of the Fall Campaign of the Madison Local Eats Project. The press release was discussed and will go out by the end of the day or tomorrow at the latest. Some changes from the last campaign to this one include: running the program through the Madison County Buy Madison website; adding a \$20.00 gift card amount to the options; streamlining the voucher process; adding in a delay of approximately one week between voucher reservation and redemption to allow time for posting the transaction; and providing venues with one-sheet instruction guides to post at their redemption location.

A-9: The resolution authorizing the Modification of the 2021 Adopted County Budget (Occupancy Tax) was approved on a **MOTION** by Magliocca and seconded by Stokes at 12:01 P.M. 4/0/0

A-10: The resolution authorizing the Write-Off of the Balance of an Agricultural Economic Development Loan (Empire Farmstead Brewery, LLC) was approved on a **MOTION** by Jones and seconded by Magliocca at 12:03 P.M. 4/0/0

A-11: All of the above resolutions are to be included in the preferred agenda on a **MOTION** by Magliocca and seconded by Stokes at 12:04 P.M. 4/0/0

A-12: New Business: There was no new business.

A-13 Next meeting date. The next scheduled meeting will be October 21 2021 at 11:00 AM in the Supervisors' Chambers.

The Committee was requested to enter into executive session by Melissa Martel Felton for the purpose of Advice of Council. Executive session was entered per **MOTION** by Moses and seconded by Magliocca at 12:05 P.M. 4/0/0

Executive Session was concluded by **MOTION** of Magliocca and seconded by Moses. (per MMF)

A-14: Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned on a **MOTION** by Magliocca and seconded by Jones. (per MMF)

Respectfully submitted: Gwen
Williamson

Sign in Sheet

Planning, Eco. Dev., Environ. & Intergov. Affairs	
Date of Meeting:	9/23/2021
Cliff Moses	<i>Cliff Moses</i>
Joe Ostrander	-
Dave Jones	ZOOM
Joe Magliocca	<i>Joe Magliocca</i>
TJ Stokes	ZOOM

Others Present:

NAME AND AFFILIATION

W. Lyni
Samantha Field
Mark Simone
Sam Seung
Tom Ross
Mike Walsh
Jamie Kowalczyk
Ellen Bower
Cindy Edica
Rebecca S. Marshall
Imajean Campbell Fulton - County Attorney's
James Williamson - Planning