

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

July 22, 2021– 11:00 A.M. Supervisors' Chambers

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

PRESENT:

Committee: **Cliff Moses**, Joe Ostrander, Dave Jones, and Joe Magliocca.

Absent: TJ Stokes

County Staff: Ellen Bowe, Noah Devaney, Cindy Edick, ,Melissa Martel Felton, Samantha Field, Scott Flaherty(Z), Jessica Geary, Scott Ingmire, Becky Marsala, Mark Scimone, Tina Wayland-Smith,Tess Southern, and Gwen Williamson.

Moses called meeting to order at 11:07_A.M.

A-1: The June 17, 2021 minutes were approved on a **MOTION** by Jones and seconded by Ostrander at 11:08 A.M. 4/0/0

A-2: Cindy Edick presented the Sales Tax Update. Madison County sales tax distributions are doing great with the largest quarterly distribution to date.

A-3: Becky Marsala presented the Treasurer / Real Property Update. Work on preparing for the auction is ongoing with 5 parcels from 2018 overdue taxes, and 91 from 2019. The phones have been “off the hook” with interested potential buyers. Marsala reported that Joe Wisinski of the Highway Department arranged to have digging done at the quarry and found there to be good usable stone. It was decided that the County will retain title to the quarry for highway use.

A-4: Ellen Bowe presented the Career Center Update. The State Labor Department Release of Preliminary May 2021 Area Unemployment Rates was distributed as well as the rates by county. The unemployment rate as of May 2021 was 4.3%. The Career Center is now posting jobs on the TV in the waiting area of DSS. There will be a job fair on August 11th. Workforce Development received a very nice thank-you letter from the Town of Sullivan praising the Summer Youth Employment Program and the excellent job done by all. The DOL workers have returned full time to the center this week.

A-5: Kipp Hicks provided the IDA Update, presented by Scott Ingmire. Updates included the expansion for All Seasonings, a transfer of land possible to benefit the International Boxing Hall of Fame next year, CFA deadline approached on 7/30/21 at 4 PM., loan application in process for Erie Canal Brewing Co. and potential CDBG for CanTech.

A-6: Tess Southern provided the CCE Update. Open Farm day will be July 31st from 10-4. Passports will arrive at the county office building tomorrow. Tess asked everyone to help spread the word. CCE is working to fill the position previously held by Myron Thurston. Larkin Podsiedlik has been chosen as the interim director; Tess will send bio out to the Committee.

A-7: Scott Flaherty presented the Tourism Update. According to the June survey data for the Syracuse region, occupancy and daily rates continue to increase. Tourism is currently running a commercial with the message of “Get Here Now” which is getting good response. A fall commercial is planned. The pay-per-click ads are performing well, in addition to the four local media ads. Flaherty offered congratulations to Scott Ingmire, Sam Field, and the Board on the Local Eats Program. He said it was an amazing success with overwhelming positive feedback.

A-8: Scott Ingmire presented the Planning Update. Scott welcomed and introduced the new Planner Jessica Geary, who started working for the county this last Monday.

Cliff Moses asked to move the resolutions for vote before the bullet topics under the Planning Update.

A-9: The resolution authorizing Chairman to sign contract for a New York State Economic Development Community Development Block Grant for a Madison County Microenterprise Program was approved on a **MOTION** by Jones and seconded by Magliocca at 11:28 A.M. 4/0/0

A-10: The resolution authorizing Chairman of the Board to enter into an agreement with the New York State Office of Parks Recreation and Historic Preservation was approved on a **MOTION** by Magliocca and seconded by Jones at 11:29 A.M. 4/0/0

A-11: The resolution authorizing the modification of the 2021 adopted county budget (Aquatic Vegetation) was approved on a **MOTION** by Jones and seconded by Ostrander at 11:30 A.M. 4/0/0

Planning Update continued:

- a) Tina Wayland-Smith presented an overview of the Stockbridge PILOT agreement in process. She will be presenting it to the Government Operations Committee for vote. Tina will keep the Planning Committee upraised on this and future solar PILOT agreement requests because it is pertinent and there are a lot of them. Tina commented that the school district, town and county have not yet met to determine a plan for distribution percentages. It was further noted that property owners have the potential to lose Ag. exemptions depending on the agreement they sign and it would be in their best interest to have legal advice before signing anything.
- b) An overview was distributed of Real Property Tax Law 487. There was discussion regarding the potential of using 487b as a mechanism to dissuade huge or less desirable projects. Dave Jones said the issue is economic impact on the town level, and the towns can opt in, or out. Tina recommended municipalities talk to her, Scott Ingmire, or John Langey to become aware of the intricacies and consequences of these agreements.

Tina shared information of a lawsuit filed against one specific project in Albany County. She informed the committee that we cannot join in this lawsuit (because of SEQRA and because it is not our project), but she suggests that we watch to see what happens. Jones asked if the focus changes to “Home Rule” would we be able to join? Tina replied that if home rule becomes the issue of focus, we might want to consider a new action through NYSAC.

Edick out 11:54

- c) Scott Ingmire distributed a copy of “The Accelerated Renewable Energy Growth & Community Benefits Act”. The Committee ascertains that this act does not support, respect or take into account established NYS “Home Rule”. Following discussion and review of the resolution, the Committee authorized the resolution Opposing New York State 94-C “Accelerated Renewable Energy Growth & Community Benefits Act” on a **MOTION** by Jones and seconded by Magliocca at 11:57 A.M. 4/0/0

A-12: The above resolutions (with the exception of the 94-C resolution) are to be included in the preferred agenda; determined through a **MOTION** by Moses and seconded by Jones at 11:58 A.M. 4/0/0

A-13: New Business: None

A-14: The next scheduled meeting will be August 19th at the Delphi Falls County Park at 11:30 AM and will include a picnic.

A-15: The meeting was adjourned on a **MOTION** by Jones and seconded by Magliocca at 12:01 P.M.

Respectfully submitted: Gwen Williamson