

PLANNING AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
June 19, 2019

Members Present: D. Root, G. Barnes, J. Burdick, P. Curran, W. Dibble, D. Healy, J. Hopkins, J. Ricci

Others Present: L. Ballengee, D. Bigelow, D. Decker, K. Dirlam, D. Fanton, K. Graves, B. Harris, S. Havey, G. James, C. Knapp, R. Lynch, D. McDonnell, B. Riehle, T. Ross, T. Shaw, P. Stockin, M. Washer

Media Present: C. Potter – *The Spectator*, C. Dutton – *Cuba Patriot*

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 2:06 p.m. by Planning & Economic Development Committee Chair Debra Root.

Approval of Minutes

A motion was made by Legislator Dibble, seconded by Legislator Curran, and carried to approve the Planning & Economic Development Committee minutes of May 15, 2019.

A motion was made by Legislator Curran, seconded by Legislator Barnes, and carried to approve the Planning & Economic Development Committee minutes of June 10, 2019.

EMPLOYMENT & TRAINING DEPARTMENT

Employment and Training Director Reita Sobeck-Lynch attended the meeting and submitted her monthly report to the committee for review. Ms. Lynch stated it has been a quiet month, and they are preparing for the Summer Youth and Employment Program. They received over 140 applications and plan to place 69 youth throughout the County who will work 28 hours per week for 6 weeks. Ms. Lynch noted that these youths need to be County residents and meet the 200 percent below poverty level.

Veterans

Legislator Healy asked if they see one age group more than others for Veterans utilizing services. Ms. Lynch stated they are typically younger and have been recently discharged and looking for work, adding that some do have disabilities and come in for benefits and counseling.

TANF Summer Youth Funds

Ms. Lynch requested a resolution to increase budget appropriations for the acceptance of an additional \$19,373 in TANF Summer Youth funding. Employment and Training originally budgeted \$175,547 in 2019; however, they have received \$188,920 in TANF Summer Youth funding in addition to \$6,000 carried over from last year's grant which is sitting in their Fund Balance. The funds should be appropriated as follows:

<u>Appropriations:</u>	<u>Amount:</u>
CD16794.101 (TANF Staff Regular Pay)	(\$ 3)
CD16794.401 (TANF Postage)	\$ 50
CD16794.402 (TANF Mileage/Transportation)	\$ 170
CD16794.413 (TANF Rentals: Personal Prop)	\$ 10
CD16794.414 (TANF Rentals: Real Property)	\$ 75
CD16794.416 (TANF Telephone)	\$ 50
CD16794.424 (TANF Legal Advertising)	\$ 10
CD16794.474 (TANF Youth-Stipend)	\$ 600
CD16795.101 (TANF Part. Regular Pay)	\$17,875
CD16795.802 (TANF Part. Retirement)	(\$2,500)
CD16795.803 (TANF Part. FICA)	\$ 1,500

CD16795.804 (TANF Part. Workers Comp)	<u>\$ 1,536</u>
	Total: \$19,373

<u>Revenues:</u>	<u>Amount:</u>
CD16794.4701.12 (TANF Federal Aid)	\$13,373
CD115.599.00 (Appropriated Fund Balance)	<u>\$ 6,000</u>
	Total: \$19,373

This request was approved on a motion made by Legislator Hopkins, seconded by Legislator Burdick, and carried. **Refer to Ways and Means**

TOURISM DEPARTMENT

Greater Allegany County Chamber of Commerce Executive Director Gretchen Hanchett was unable to attend the meeting but submitted her monthly report to the committee for review. Ms. Hanchett is attending the Regulatory Small Business Forum at JCC.

Tourism Trailer

Committee Chair Root stated the new Tourism trailer looks great. Legislator Havey stated they have used it at the Celtic Festival as well as the baseball season opener at Houghton, and it was very well received. Committee Chair Root asked if they have any issues hauling it. Legislator Havey stated it is his understanding that the trailer pulls very well. Legislator Stockin stated he had the privilege of seeing the trailer inside and out, noting that it's beautiful.

Top Priorities

Committee Chair Root referenced Ms. Hanchett's top two priorities and asked how they are coming along. Legislator Havey stated the biggest difficulty they are having with the 25 Must Do's is that there are far more than 25, so they may have to revamp the program so they can add more. Legislator Havey indicated that Visitor Engagement Academy would have been released by now; however, the individuals who developed it did a midstream update, and they are waiting for the new software before releasing it.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT/INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AGENCY

Allegany County Economic and Industrial Development Agency Executive Director Craig Clark attended the meeting and submitted his monthly report to the committee for review.

Fueling Station

Legislator Ricci asked for an update on the fueling station. Dr. Clark stated he received a proposal but hasn't reviewed it; however, understands they would like to begin construction this summer. Legislator Dibble asked when they are demolishing the old truck stop. Dr. Clark stated they are not going to tear it down until they review the proposal in case they have the demolition included in it.

Waterline Project

Committee Chair Root asked for an update on the Waterline Project. Dr. Clark stated construction is set to begin in July, adding that having the water under construction with a fueling station on the ground will make a huge difference in attracting a hotel and restaurant because it's no longer an empty site. Committee Chair Root referenced Dr. Clark's needs that are listed in his monthly report and stated that permits are one thing they need to work on as it shouldn't take two

years to obtain one. They need to be more successful in doing these things to help bring economic development to our area.

Curtis Wright/Siemens

Legislator Healy asked if there are continued discussions with Curtis Wright and Siemens. Dr. Clark stated that Curtis Wright has found a building in Wellsville to repurpose, and they are ready to sign a contract. As for Siemens, conversations are still ongoing to find a new facility for the remaining employees.

PLANNING DEPARTMENT

Planning Director Kier Dirlam attended the meeting and submitted his monthly report to the committee for review.

Land Bank

The next Land Bank meeting will be held on Tuesday, June 25, at the Crossroads Center. They are working on wrapping up the \$360,000 of Local Initiatives Support Corporation (LISC) funds administered and are moving on to the next phase of work on the Enterprise funds. Mr. Dirlam indicated that they need to spend the entire \$500,000 of this program by the end of 2020.

Waterfront Revitalization

Mr. Dirlam stated he has attended some meetings regarding the proposed Local Waterfront Revitalization Project, adding that of the three he has attended, two have been successful. The meeting in Belmont received some tough questions, such as concern about a County match and what the long term benefit is to the County in sales tax revenue. Mr. Dirlam indicated they are anticipating a \$50,000 match which equates to \$5,000 per municipality from the Pennsylvania border to the northern border of the County. Legislator Harris asked what the purpose of the grant is. County Administrator Deborah McDonnell stated that it's a state program that allows a community to put together a plan, adding that we don't want to limit it to just waterfront development. Downtown revitalization and bringing people into the community are also important things and create opportunities for businesses to visit in the summer for canoeing and kayaking as well as creating a money pot that can be put towards infrastructure, waterlines, sewer lines, sidewalks, facades, signage, parking lots, etc. Ms. McDonnell continued that it's exciting and amazing how strong the recreation community is, and the only way to access the money is to have the plan in place. The state will pay 80 percent, and the County puts in 20 percent, and the benefit to us in the long run is astronomical.

Request to Set Public Hearing Date

Mr. Dirlam requested a resolution setting a date for a Public Hearing on the latest update to the County Comprehensive Plan: "Our Vision, Our Mission: Outlook for 2030 Allegany County Comprehensive Plan." Mr. Dirlam indicated the Public Hearing will fall on the first Board meeting in August. This request was approved on a motion made by Legislator Dibble, seconded by Legislator Curran, and carried. **Prepare Resolution**

Allegany County Land Bank Appointments

The Chairman of the Board plans to appoint Deborah A. McDonnell as a member of the Allegany County Land Bank Corporation Board of Directors for the remainder of Timothy T. Boyde's two-year term commencing June 24, 2019, and expiring September 30, 2019, subject to confirmation by the Board of Legislators. In addition, the Chairman plan to appoint Ms. McDonnell to a new two-year term commencing October 1, 2019, and expiring September 30, 2021, subject

to confirmation by the Board of Legislators. These appointments were approved on a motion made by Legislator Dibble, seconded by Legislator Curran, and carried. **Prepare Resolution**

Southern Tier Extension Railroad Authority Board Re-Appointment

Chairman Crandall plans to re-appoint Jerry Scott of Cuba, NY, to fill a three-year term on the Chautauqua, Cattaraugus, Allegany, and Steuben Southern Tier Extension Railroad Authority commencing August 28, 2019, and expiring August 27, 2022. This re-appointment was approved on a motion made by Legislator Healy, seconded by Legislator Dibble, and carried. **Prepare Resolution**

Broadband Update

Legislator Curran stated they are very close to turning a corner; however, the one hindrance against them is that they do not have a contract with CONNX or any provider to repair the system should it go down. Currently, if they have to repair a radio, they need to hire climbers, get permissions, etc. as opposed to having a ready force that responds to those emergencies. Legislator Curran continued that it's critical at this point for both 911 and Broadband to have this \$8-million-dollars' worth of machinery protected. Committee Chair Root asked for confirmation that this also includes 911 equipment, and Legislator Curran stated, yes. Mr. Dirlam stated that former County Administrator Timothy Boyde had a meeting in April with 911 and CONNX, and there is a draft maintenance agreement that he was planning to bring before the Board. Recently, Mr. Dirlam's office ran into a problem where the system went down, and they had no phones or internet, and it became rapidly obvious that they needed access to a maintenance agreement. Mr. Dirlam stated they called IT who tried to remedy the problem, adding that CONNX was also willing to help, but it would be at an hourly rate. CONNX reminded Mr. Dirlam that the contract was sent to us in April. Legislator Decker stated this was something that was discussed back when Facilities and Communications was in place and asked why it hasn't been taken care of. Legislator Curran indicated it's in very slow motion. Committee Chair Root asked for a timeline that this will be completed. County Attorney Carissa Knapp stated that Mr. Boyde is still having conversations with the Sheriff's Office. Legislator Healy indicated that the 911 infrastructure on a tower is different from Broadband. Legislator Curran reiterated that the County owns the system, the towers, and radios, adding that everything on the towers needs to be in a service contract. ACTDC is a corporation to provide internet signal between the mechanics and the last mile providers. Legislator Curran continued that this is all Allegany County's product and we're responsible for the equipment and what happens to it. County Administrator McDonnell stated that she has an upcoming meeting with Mr. Boyde, and she plans to bring this up and get answers. Committee Chair Root requested that this issue be included on the July agenda for an update.

Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the committee, the meeting was adjourned at 2:56 p.m. following a motion by Legislator Curran, seconded by Legislator Dibble, and carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Meghan Washer, Confidential Secretary to Clerk of the Board
Allegany County Board of Legislators