



MINUTES
PLANNING & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE
Wednesday, January 8, 2020, Chambers – 5:30PM

CALL TO ORDER: By Hon. Keith Batman, Chairman opened the meeting at 5:30 p.m.

MEMBERS: Legislators Christopher Petrus, Paul Pinckney, Charlie Ripley, Heidi Nightengale, Trish Kerr

EXCUSED: Legislator Michael Didio

OTHERS: Legislators Andrew Dennison, Aileen McNabb-Coleman, Hans Pecher, Elane Daly, Ryan Foley, County Attorney Christopher Palermo, Director Youth Bureau and Assigned Counsel, Lloyd Hoskins, Sheriff Brian Schenck, Cayuga Economic Development Director, Tracy Verrier, Soil and Water Conservation District Director, Doug Kierst, Cayuga Cooperative Extension Associate Director Dan Welch, 9-1-1 Administrator Denise Spingler, Probation Director, Jay DeWispelaere, Emergency Management Director, Amy Russett, Employment and Training Director, Maureen Riester, Planning and Economic Development Stephen Lynch, Director, Suzanne Gauthier, Administrative Assistant, Mary Catalfamo, The Citizen, David McKeon

MINUTES TO APPROVE: December 4, 2019

Christopher Petrus motioned to approve the minutes of December 4, 2019, 2nd by Charlie Ripley. All members present voted in favor, passed. January 8, 2020.

APPOINTMENTS:

Cayuga County Industrial Development Agency:

Gina Speno, 16 Hidden Greens Road, Weedsport, NY 13166; Term 1/1/2020-12/31/2021; Reappointment

- Retail and Mall General Management

Herb Marshall, 8016 Powers Rd., Port Byron, NY 13140; Term 1/1/2020-12/31/2021; Reappointment

- Farmer, previous Chairman of County Legislature

Ben Vitale, 7397 N Division Rd, Auburn, NY 13021; Term 1/1/2020-12/31/2021; Reappointment

- Regional market director, County Legislator

Christopher Petrus motioned to bundle and approve the appointments and move to the Legislature for approval, 2nd by Charlie Ripley. All members present voted in favor, passed. January 8, 2020.

DEPARTMENT UPDATES FOR COMMITTEE:

Steve Lynch (Planning & Economic Development) – no updates

- Additional Updates:

Steve Lynch distributed to the committee a list of the current department projects; along with a map of the locations of these projects. Also circulated was a list of upcoming resolutions to be presented in February and a listing of the new grant funding announced in December 2019. A department organizational chart was distributed depicting the upcoming retirements and new hires. Lynch announced the new Senior Planner/GIS Analyst has started on December 30th and will be training with Nick Colas prior to his retirement. Bruce Natale, Environmental Engineer has announced he will be retiring as well in 2020. The Planner announcement has been recirculated and staff is waiting on any approved applications to review for the open position.

Legislator Petrus inquired about the status of the Cato/Brutus trail project. Lynch explained the administration of the project will be handled through the Parks Department. Doug Kierst explained the specifications for the two bridge have been completed and upon receipt of the contract from the State, installation should be in the fall of this year. Legislator Petrus also inquired about the newly announced an additional \$300 M for the Erie Canal Projects. Steve Lynch stated the new funds could be available to continue on with the Erie Canal Rewatering Project.

Legislature Kerr inquired about the status of the Emerson Park Programming. Lynch stated staff will be giving an evening presentation of the programming plan at Emerson Park in early February.

Legislator Pinckney inquired about the amount of FL-LOWPA funds. Lynch stated the funds have remained steady in the last few years.

Maureen Riester (Employment & Training) – no updates

- **Additional Updates**

Maureen Riester circulated a January update.

The Senior Employment and Training Specialist approved in December has been filled. Staff has implemented a new sign-in/out sheet to better track the customers use of Cayuga Works.

Tracy Verrier (CEDA) –

GRANT / LOAN / IDA ACTIVITY

- AIDA: AIDA approved a mortgage modification for Currier Plastics, a next step toward their expansion.
- New York State grant funding was announced on Thursday, December 19. Central New York was awarded \$86.2m, a top award winner again. Only \$45.2m of that has been designated to specific projects at this time, the rest is available in bonds and tax credits to be used by projects throughout the year. Nearly \$9.3m of the designated funding is awarded to 14 projects located solely in Cayuga County, which is over 20% of the designated funding. Cayuga County is roughly 10% of the region's population. Cayuga Milk Ingredients and Currier Plastics were major recipients of grants and tax credits. Additional funding was awarded to multi-county projects that include Cayuga County.

PROJECT UPDATES: Brief updates on current and past NYS Consolidated Funding Application and IDA Incentive Recipients. Brief notes below, more detail to be presented at meeting.

- 2018:
 - Volpi Manufacturing: Underway
 - Page Transportation (Keith Titus): Underway
 - ACMT (DBA K&S Carwash) acquisition and renovation of new locations: Complete
 - Cayuga Vet Services new building construction: Underway
 - Inns of Aurora Zabriskie House renovation: Complete
- 2017:
 - Auburn Public Theater Renovation & Expansion: Underway
 - Schine Theater Renovation: Awaiting certain funding contracts
 - Copper John equipment and renovations: Ongoing
 - Currier Plastics expansion: In planning
 - DuMond Farms soybean processing spin off: Completed
 - CCIDA Industrial Park Sewer upgrade: In planning
 - Prison City Brewing expansion: Underway
 - Auto wash new location: Complete
 - Holiday Inn renovation: Complete
 - Nolan Block rehabilitation and renovation: Underway
- 2016:
 - SB Lattimore boutique lakeside hotel: In planning, should break ground soon
 - Gavras Center preschool expansion: Complete
- 2015:
 - Inns of Aurora expansion (spa, event center, and support facility): Spa underway, event center in planning

OTHER EVENTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Tracy Verrier attended and tabled at NYALT's Ag Resource Fair: Turning Planning into Action at CCC on November 23.
- Derek Simmonds is continuing to engage with a regional committee that is planning for next year's Grow-NY competition, which will be hosted in Central New York.

- **Additional Updates**

Economic Forecast Luncheon is scheduled for January 16th. The Regional Economic Development Council projects were announced in December.

Legislator Kerr inquired whether announcements have been made regarding the Alliance for Economic Inclusion Funding. Verrier stated has not heard at this time

Legislator Foley inquired whether any updates on the status of the TRW plant. Verrier stated looking for a decision at the end of 1st quarter.

Doug Kierst (Soil & Water Conservation District) – no updates

- **Additional Updates**

Doug Kierst explained that the Conservation District has been granted three projects in the recent CFA awards: a \$500,000 streambank stabilization project in Summerhill, \$30,000 to evaluate stream culverts in the Owasco Lake Watershed and a \$200,000 salt storage project for the Town of Ledyard. The required four hour Erosion Control training sessions will be held over the next few months.

Legislator Vitale inquired whether any news was reported regarding orders along the Maiden Lane. Doug reported staff visits which some visits included DEC representatives did not find any issues.

Chair Batman inquired about the status of the County House Road Digester. Director Kierst stated staff is waiting on the reports from the insurance company to determine how to proceed with repairs.

Dan Welch (Director Cornell Cooperative Extension) –

A few highlights from CCE in 2019:

- Over 1,300 farmers, farm employees, and agricultural professionals participated in extension agriculture programs in the past year.
- More than 1,000 elementary students in every school district in the county learned about farming through a story and activities during Agricultural Literacy Week in March.
- 1,900 adults and youth in the county were reached through nutrition programs and demonstrations.
- Meetings and planning continue with the County and Cayuga Community College regarding the necessary agreements for the building transfer.

RESOLUTION:

1-20-PL-1 A Resolution to increase State Support for Cornell Cooperative Extension County Associations in the State of New York

Charlie Ripley motioned to approve and move resolution 1-20-PL-1, 2nd by Christopher Petrus. Discussion: Dan Welch stated the resolution call for an increase in State funding for Cornell Cooperative Associations from the current \$3.9 M to the proposed \$8M. All members present voted in favor of the motion, passed.

Legislator Kerr inquired about the Annual Agricultural Literacy Week to be held in March. Director Welch stated the program involves farming presentations and activities to third and fourth graders in the County.

Karen Kuhl (Tourism) – no updates

ADJOURNMENT: Wednesday, February 12, 2020 at 5:30PM

Christopher Petrus motioned to adjourn the Planning and Economic Development Meeting at 6:08 p.m., 2nd by Charlie Ripley. All members present voted in favor of the motion, passed.