

MINUTES

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT/PLANNING COMMITTEE

Wednesday, September 4, 2019 10:00 a.m.

Present: Supervisors Spickerman, Pagano, Groat, Miller and LeRoy, County Administrator Rick House, Fiscal Assistant Ken Blake, Tourism Director Christine Worth, Economic Development/Planning Department Director Brian Pincelli, County Attorney Dan Connors and Treasurer Patrick Schmitt. Supervisor Robusto was not present for the meeting.

Minutes from the August 6th Committee meeting were approved as written.

The following transmittals were presented for the Tourism Office:

--Authorization to designate Christine Worth as the Tourism Promotion Agent. Approved 4-0.

--Authorization for the Tourism Director, as Promotion Agent, to submit an application for State Tourism Matching Grant Funds in the amount of \$220,400. Mrs. Worth said she is anticipating \$76,500 will actually be received through this grant. The County is responsible to match this amount. Approved 4-0.

The monthly progress report for the Tourism Office was distributed with the agenda and reviewed. The report included a list of meetings and events attended by Mrs. Worth during August. GuestQuest advertising for 2020 was finalized, work continues on the Apple Tasting Tour and the calendar of events has been updated on the website. The grant estimation for I Love NY should be known sometime in September. Mrs. Worth is working with two media contacts interested in sampling products from Rootstock Cider and Sprits and Embark Craft Ciderworks. The Outdoor Recreation Coordinator continues to update the fishing website weekly, participated in the Wayne Youth Derby awards ceremony and County Fair, and is preparing for two outdoor writer visits this fall.

Tourisms 2020 budget proposal was presented. Mrs. Worth noted the Office's Outdoor Recreation Coordinator would be retiring in June 2020. There have been several changes in the operation of the Office since this individual was put on staff; with that in mind, Mrs. Worth is in the process of reviewing Office needs and the best use of Office staff. She is looking into making the part-time Account Clerk in the Office full-time after the Outdoor Recreation Coordinator retires; there would be no additional cost to the budget for doing this. The budget, as presented, was approved.

Sara Smiley, from PACE Financing, came into the meeting to review a property assessed clean energy financing program for commercial and not for profit buildings offered through Energize NY. This financing mechanism was formed to increase clean energy adoption across the State. The program will pay up to 100% of the cost of renewable and energy efficiency projects. Repayments of financing would transfer to the new owner if the property is sold, otherwise it is secured through a municipal based assessment lien. The loan is not made through a bank, but through a PACE approved capital provider at competitive interest rates. Wayne County would have to certify a local law and sign a municipal agreement to have this program established locally; the County has no additional financial exposure except for repayment of the loan if the

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property should go through tax foreclosure. All municipalities in the County could participate in the program if the County approves the agreement. Mr. Connors voiced concern the lien would remain with the property during the tax foreclosure process leaving the County financially responsible to pay off any remaining loan amount the property owner failed to pay. Mr. Schmitt said a property up for tax foreclosure with this type of lien against it would never sell at the tax auction because of the amount of financial responsibility the new owner would have. Ms. Smiley reviewed the specific type of energy conservation projects that are available for financing under this program. At this time there are six counties in the State participating in this program, with many more taking participation under consideration. Mr. Pincelli said one business has made an inquiry about the program. No decision on approval of a municipal agreement to have PACE projects allowed in Wayne County was made. The PowerPoint presentation made today will be e-mailed to Committee members.

The following transmittals were presented for the Economic Development/Planning Department:

--Authorization for the Chairman of the Board to sign an agreement with Lakeshore Riders to provide volunteer improvements to the Erie Canal Trail for the use of snowmobiles. Approved 4-0.

--Authorization to amend Board Resolution No. 112-12 in relation to a policy for the appointment of Board members to the Wayne County Industrial Development Agency. The change would allow non-county IDA Board members to serve an unlimited number of consecutive three-year terms, subject to re-appointment by the Board of Supervisors. Approved 4-0.

--Authorization for the Chairman of the Board to sign a sub recipient agreement with Wayne Economic Development Corporation for administration of Community Development Block Grant Funds. This request will also terminate the existing agreement with IDA on the same issue. Approved 4-0.

Mr. Pincelli reviewed activities in his Office since the last meeting. The First Wayne County Start-Up Business Pitch Event is scheduled to take place at BOCES in Newark on November 20th. The winner will be provided with matching loan funds for their new start-up business. Supervisors were invited to a Future of Food Event at DeFisher Fruit Farm in Williamson on September 26th from 12 noon until 6 p.m. Lakeshore Supervisors and Mr. Pincelli have been attending Lake Ontario Resiliency and Economic Development Initiative (REDI) meetings to determine how up to \$300 million in State funding can be utilize on projects that will help with recent lakeshore flooding catastrophes. The Broadband Committee continues to meet and discuss issues. Senator Helming will be attending a Senate Committee Meeting to relay her concerns on the importance of rural broadband. Career videos that highlight County businesses are being finalized and will be available through free access; schools will be made aware of the website once it is up. The 3rd Annual Real Estate Breakfast is planned for September 18th at Greystone in Walworth; the County's Land Bank Director will make a presentation at this meeting.

Supervisors were informed, effective January 1st, all Industrial Development Agency Board meetings must be livestreamed. Mr. Pincelli has already been in discussions with the Information Technology Office regarding what will be needed to do this.

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Mr. Groat questioned if the Land Bank would be asking for the second \$250,000 County appropriation in 2020. (The commitment from the County was for a total of \$750,000 over three years, \$250,000 each year to be used as seed money for Land Bank projects.) Mr. Pincelli said he believes the Land Bank is in the process of requesting these funds from the County.

The meeting adjourned at 11:14 a.m. The next meeting of the Planning/Economic Development Committee is scheduled for Friday, September 13th at 9:00 a.m. for budget review.