

Minutes

Planning & Economic Development Committee

**June 17, 2020, 6:00 pm, Virtual Meeting via Zoom
And Live Streamed for Public Viewing**

Gerace Office Building, Mayville, NY

Members Present: Odell, Starks, Harmon, Ward

Member Absent: Muldowney

Others: Tampio, Ames, Dennison, Aldrich, McCord, Geise, McCoy, Chagnon

Chairman Odell called the meeting to order at 6:01 p.m.

Approval of Minutes (5/20/20)

MOVED by Legislator Harmon, SECONDED by Legislator Starks.

Unanimously Carried

Privilege of the Floor

Chairman Odell: Madam Clerk, is there anything to be read this evening?

Clerk Tampio: No, there is nothing received.

Chairman Odell: Anyone else? If not, moving onto resolutions.

Proposed Resolution – Authorizing SEQRA Review of Waterways Panel 2021 2%
Occupancy Tax Recommendations

Mr. McCoy: This is what is becoming an annual resolution. We do this every year. What we do is take the recommendations from the Waterway Panel on the grant program for 2021. They have been prioritized and ranked and we have them ranked in numerical order by score. We typically approach the Legislature to do SEQRA, environmental review for those. So what you have before you this year, we're recommending \$244,000 worth of projects. We got an outstanding number of applications this year, thirty one, for around \$821,000 which is a pile of money but it shows the amount of need that we have here in the County.

Chairman Odell: Glad to see that we had this to spite the COVID situation right now and the budget fluidness that we're in and we'll be discussing that later this evening. So we're still

targeting and earmarking about quarter of a million dollars of projects, kind of hoping that is what the revenue is. We'll have to adjust on the fly should things change but the actual (*inaudible*), right Dave?

Mr. McCoy: I think that it is worthwhile to mention that in order to provide the cost savings (*inaudible*) requested, we deferred the projects that was scheduled to be constructed this summer, nine of them, for about the same dollar amount to next year. So as the money comes in, whether it comes through the occupancy tax collections late in the year or the beginning of next year, our intention is to tackle the 2020 projects first in the order they were ranked and then move onto the 2021 projects in the hope that over the course of a year or two, we'll be able to get back to even again.

Chairman Odell: Normalize but making the adjustments on the fly. Dave, I appreciate that. Can you tell us anything notable about these projects, anything that's standing out?

Mr. McCoy: They are all really good projects. (*Inaudible*), but the Waterways Panel, this was the first experience of scoring these remotely and worked really hard. We had (*inaudible*) phone calls trying to work our way through the scoring and rankings, but I think we did it very fairly and I think the best projects came through.

Chairman Odell: Any questions, comments, or concerns?

Legislator Starks: No, thank you for explaining the adjustments as the budget changes.

Legislator Harmon: Yes, thanks for that.

Chairman Odell: If there are no other questions, all those in favor?

Unanimously Carried

Proposed Resolution - Authorize Extension of Lease Agreement for the Department of Planning, Division of Planning and Community Development at Welch Foods Building in Westfield, New York

Mr. McCord: In 2018 we established a north County office in the Welch Building. The purpose of that was to support smaller communities as well as support the Town and a potential developer at that particular property. At the time we were taking over a lease that was held by Welch Foods. That lease expires at the end of July. July 31st of this year. We are asking to be allowed to extend that lease but only on a month by month basis as we move forward. It doesn't commit us to a long term process as we work through things in the budget cycle and as we organize (*inaudible*).

Chairman Odell: The rate is the same as we had two years ago, was it?

Mr. McCord: It is. That is one thing about this particular property, it's a very attractive rate. The heat and electric and plowing and so on are all included within the rate. It is at a rate of \$7.65 per square foot which is one of the lower rates we pay in the County.

Legislator Starks: Who's offices are housed there or is it, available as needed type of space?

Mr. McCord: Right now there is permanent staff there from the full Division of Planning and Community Development. It's based there. There is also an IDA satellite office there.

Chairman Odell: Next trip into Westfield, (*inaudible*) take a fieldtrip there anyways so nice job and fully staffed up there. Some of the attractiveness for his team was and a lot of them coming out of a Planning School in Buffalo, not a problem to jump the 90 to Westfield and get off. It helped with staffing issues but thank you for asking the question on behalf of the Chairman and the County Executive asking the question of accommodating month to month lease considering the budget fluidity that we're in here. We have that ability in case things change in the ensuing year. Thanks for asking the question Don, you don't get what you don't ask for so we appreciate that very much.

Mr. McCord: You're welcome.

Chairman Odell: Any questions from the Committee?

Unanimously Carried

Other

Chairman Odell: O.k..., that concludes our resolutions and now moving into discussions.

Discussion – Review of Departments and Services – Re: Preliminary 2021 Budget –
Department Heads under Planning & Economic Development

MOVED by Legislator Starks, SECONDED by Legislator Ward to adjourn.

Unanimously Carried (7:03 p.m.)

Respectfully submitted and transcribed,
Olivia Ames, Deputy Clerk/Lori J. Foster, Sr. Stenographer