

Minutes
Planning & Economic Development Committee
April 19, 2023, 6:00 pm, Legislative Chambers
Livestreamed on YouTube
Gerace Office Building, Mayville, NY

Members Present: Muldowney, Harmon, Penhollow, Gustafson, Wilfong

Members Absent: Rankin

Others: Lee, Chagnon, Wendel, Slagle, Dennison, Sharp, Wurster, Kimball, McCoy, Toda, Kelly (via zoom), Hill (via zoom), Jablonski and Perry

Complete video of meeting can be viewed on YouTube

Chairman Muldowney called the meeting to order at (6:05 p.m.)

Approval of Minutes (3/15/23)

MOVED by Legislator Wilfong, SECONDED by Legislator Penhollow.

Unanimously Carried

Presentation – Chautauqua Jefferson Project – Dr. John Kelly and Michael Hill

Privilege of the Floor

Mr. Toda: Is that based on anything, sir? Or is it based on the subject matter that you just talked about?

Chairman Muldowney: Yes, based on the agenda (*inaudible*)

Mr. Toda: (*Inaudible*) George Borrello. A few years ago I asked him questions. There was a committee for the lake and I asked him if they were aware of any statistical information about how many leech beds were actually leaking in the lake? They couldn't answer that. I asked them if there was a situation where they were aware of if there was any more raw sewage going into the lake. They couldn't answer that. I asked him what considering (*inaudible*) conditions of waterways going into the lake as far as what they were contributing? They couldn't answer that. And now from what I am hearing, (*inaudible*) and they're not sure what's causing growth whether it's phosphorus or not so where are we after you have all these people coming in (*inaudible*) the lake and you still don't know – looking for DNA compatibility would (*inaudible*) going into the lake. You haven't answered that question. Now, I got a few other issues that need to be examined. Now 20 years ago we had carp that died all over the lake and prior to that (*inaudible*) drink water out of this lake. So we have a history of pollution here from (*inaudible*) to other containments. Now, on top of this you have (*inaudible*) entering and leaving the lake so how do you know this bacteria isn't being affect by the stagnation of the lake and the (*inaudible*)

by the sun on a hot summer day. A temperature that could cause a propagation of this bacteria because the lake isn't flowing from north to south (*inaudible*) that it should be. So, the physical issues of the lake need to be examined before it's even tried to (*inaudible*) a basis for factual information on what kind of chemicals are affecting the bacteria in the lake. (*Inaudible*) have to make sure there is water flowing and you have to try and stop the pollutants from (*inaudible*). (*Inaudible*) nobody knows what (*inaudible*) to the bacteria from what I have gotten from this meeting and you got people spraying their (*inaudible*). Have you studied that? No, let's get down to the basics here, dredge the lake, get it free flowing, remove the beaver dam and start getting some fresh water flow so we can get a basis for an experimentation so we can get proper forms of scientific evidence to have a basis to go by because (*inaudible*) all these factors that haven't been addressed, how do you know what's caught? You're never going to know. As you stated today, you are starting to get (*inaudible*) that's going to take another year or two. You are going to see the same algae (*inaudible*) the same conditions and this is just nothing but wasting money and nothing is happening here.

Chairman Muldowney: I'll have to stop you there and you have to wrap it up.

Mr. Toda: Okay. So, physically, I think the best thing to do is (*inaudible*) get some free flowing water and then you'll get a basis for your information. Thank you.

John Jablonski, 213 Spruce Street Lakewood, NY. I think this research is fundamental to better understanding where the sources of pollution are to the lake and how the currents move in the lake and how the storm conditions and the runoff from the watershed versus the internal loading is determined in the lake and I think it's essential to know this information going forward so I would encourage you, the Legislature, to support this investment and I hope that we can somehow get the State to match it. Thank you.

Proposed Resolution – Confirm Appointment- Chautauqua County Food Policy Council –
Presented by Rebecca Wurster, Planning Coordinator

Unanimously Carried

Proposed Resolution – Accept Grant Funding from the New York State Department of State for Phase III of the Northern Chautauqua Local Waterfront Revitalization Program and Amend Capital Budget Fund – *Presented by Rebecca Wurster, Planning Coordinator*

Unanimously Carried

Proposed Resolution – Designate Chautauqua County as Lead Agency Responsible for State Environmental Quality Review (SEQR) of State Funded Snowmobile Trail Modifications for 2023 – *Presented by Lauren Sharp, Planning Technician*

Unanimously Carried

Proposed Resolution – Authorizing Public Hearing Regarding 8-Year Review of Chautauqua County Agricultural District 7 – *Presented by Lauren Sharp, Planning Technician*

Unanimously Carried

Proposed Resolution – Amend 2023 Budget to Contribute Local Share for the Northern Chautauqua County Local Waterfront Revitalization Plans, Using Funding from the 2% Occupancy Tax Program Reserve – *Presented by Dave McCoy, Chautauqua County Watershed Coordinator*

Unanimously Carried

Proposed Resolution – Amend 2023 Budget to Implement the Acquisition of Lake Maintenance Equipment, Using Funding from the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) – *Presented by Dave McCoy, Chautauqua County Watershed Coordinator and Randall Perry, Executive Director of the Chautauqua Lake and Watershed Management Alliance*

Unanimously Carried

Other

Late Proposed Resolution – Amend 2023 Budget to Increase Funding for the Jefferson Project County Contribution within the Chautauqua County American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Spending Plan – *Presented by Paul M. Wendel, Jr., County Executive*

Carried with Legislator Wilfong voting “No”

Late Proposed Resolution – Amend Spending Plan and 2023 Budget for Chautauqua County Projects funded by the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) – *Presented by Kathleen Dennison, Budget Director*

Unanimously Carried

MOVED by Legislator Wilfong, SECONDED by Legislator Penhollow to adjourn.

Unanimously Carried (7:19 p.m.)

Respectfully submitted and transcribed,
Olivia Lee, Clerk of the Legislature/Kristi R. Zink, Deputy Clerk