

Minutes
Planning & Economic Development Committee
April 16, 2025, 6:00 pm, Legislative Chambers
Livestreamed on YouTube
Gerace Office Building, Mayville, NY

Members Present: Harmon, Dickey, Larson, Penhollow

Absent: Gustafson, Johnson

Others: Chagnon, N. Quattrone, Zafuto, Sharp, Strandburg, Geise, Aldrich, McCoy, Nick

Complete video of meeting can be viewed on YouTube

Chairman Harmon called the meeting to order at (6:00 p.m.)

Approval of Minutes (3/19/25)

MOVED by Legislator Larson, SECONDED by Legislator Penhollow.

Unanimously Carried

Privilege of the Floor

Legislator Larson: Yes, Mr. Chairman. As I indicated to you before the meeting, tonight I'd like to use Privilege of the Floor to point out that in the County Executive's State of the County message, a major statement on his part was opening the door to micro nuclear or small modular nuclear power generation being invited into Chautauqua County – potentially – for all kinds of reasons. I would request that the chairman ask our Planning Department to provide us with a basic report at our May or June meeting on what the current state of knowledge is in development of these projects. I just Googled and found a really good story on NBC News and I think the other was on CNN. Google, whatever company that is, is investing in one of these small modular nuclear companies, and two other major companies are investing in these things, and they appear to range anywhere from as little as 25 megawatts to 350 megawatts. And to put that into perspective, for those of us that have never dealt with megawatts, the Dunkirk coal fire Plant was roughly a 550-megawatt plant. So, the nuclear potential that the Executive was talking about whatever it would be, would be much smaller than the coal fire generation was at Dunkirk. But if we could get just kind of a review of the literature on these, where they stand, the different companies that are working on them, when they might even have a demonstration project and so forth, before I would be willing to consider voting in this body to in some way inform New York, inform these companies specifically, inform the Federal energy nuclear regulatory commission, the Chautauqua County was willing to at least explore one of these small nuclear plants, I'd want to have a good working document to back up for my constituents why I was open to that idea. So, that would be a good project I think for our Planning Department. Thank you.

Proposed Resolution – Confirm Appointment – County of Chautauqua Industrial Development Agency Board of Directors – *Presented by Mark Geise, Deputy County Executive for Economic Development*

Unanimously Carried

Proposed Resolution – Appointment to the Chautauqua County Agricultural & Farmland Protection Board – *Presented by Lauren Sharp, Junior Planner with the Department of Planning & Development*

Unanimously Carried

Proposed Resolution – Authorizing Submission of Application for 2025 Community Development Block Grant Funding through the New York State Office of Community Renewal – *Presented by Mark Geise, Deputy County Executive for Economic Development, Stephanie Nick, Special Projects Coordinator with the Department of Planning & Economic Development, Rosemarie Strandburg, Project Manager for the County of Chautauqua Industrial Development Agency*

Unanimously Carried

Proposed Resolution – Approves New York State Environmental Quality Review Act (SEQRA) Findings for the North Chautauqua Lake Sewer District Wastewater Treatment Plant Expansion Project – *Presented by Mark Geise, Deputy County Executive for Economic Development, Dave McCoy, Chautauqua County Watershed Coordinator*

Unanimously Carried

Proposed Resolution – Amend 2025 Budget to Implement Waterway Hazard Removal Using Interest Earnings from American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) and 3% Occupancy Tax Reserve – *Presented by Mark Geise, Deputy County Executive for Economic Development, Nathan Aldrich, Economic Development Coordinator*

Unanimously Carried

Proposed Resolution – Accept State Environmental Quality Review of Proposed 2025 Agricultural District Inclusions – *Presented by Lauren Sharp, Junior Planner with the Department of Planning & Development*

Unanimously Carried

Proposed Resolution – Determination of Chautauqua County Legislature on Proposed 2025 Agricultural District Inclusions – *Presented by Lauren Sharp, Junior Planner with the Department of Planning & Development*

Unanimously Carried

Proposed Resolution – Accept State Environmental Quality Review (SEQR) Determinations for the New York State Snowmobile Trail Grant-in-Aid Program for 2025-2026 Snowmobile Season – *Presented by Lauren Sharp, Junior Planner with the Department of Planning & Development*

Unanimously Carried

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

Unanimously Carried (6:37 p.m.)

Respectfully submitted and transcribed,
Kristi Zink, Deputy Clerk of the Legislature/ Nancy Quattrone, Senior Stenographer