

Economic Development Committee Minutes

December 6, 2007 – 4:00 p.m.

Present: Chairman A. Johnson; Supervisors Daly, Gutheil, Janik, Peck, Richardson, and Sausville; Spencer Hellwig, Mgmt. Analyst; Mark Rider, County Attorney; Shelby Schneider, SEDC; Chris Huntsinger, Jason Kemper, Planning; Blue Neils, Cooperative Extension; League of Women Voters; Press.

Chairman A. Johnson called the meeting to order and welcomed all in attendance.

On a motion made by Mr. Peck, seconded by Mr. Richardson the minutes of the November 20, 2007 meeting were approved unanimously.

Mr. Johnson said at the last meeting all committee members were given a draft copy of the Zim Smith Trail Use Policy and were asked to submit their comments to Mr. Kemper. There were no negative comments received.

Mr. Johnson suggested that the Executive Summary be omitted from the Use Policy. The committee agreed.

A motion was made by Ms. Daly, seconded by Mr. Richardson to approve the Zim Smith Trail Use Policy as written and eliminating attaching the Executive Summary. Unanimous.

Mr. Johnson said at the last meeting everyone was given a copy of a letter from Greenman Pederson, looking for an amendment to the original engineering contract for the Zim Smith Trail. Greenman Pederson is requesting approximately \$90,000 in additional fees. The original contract amount, which was based on an hourly rate, has been depleted, and there is additional engineering work that needs to be done.

Mr. Kemper said he would be talking with other firms about the additional work that needs to be done in order to get a better idea of actual costs.

Mr. Gutheil said he would like to have a complete analysis done of the original contract.

Mr. Johnson said the trail is halfway done. Greenman Pedersen estimated that an additional \$90,000 would be needed to take the project to completion with the additional inspection fees and the re-bidding process that is necessary for the next phase. We are halfway through the project, but it is not double the fees, \$90,000 would cover the rest of the project.

Mr. Kemper said time has been spent doing the right of way on Oak Street, meeting with DOT and preparing contracts that would only have had to have been done once. We now

have to go back to DOT again and get approval to advertise a new set of contracts, and obtain new bids.

Mr. Johnson said in the original contract it was expected that the projects completion would be September 2006. It is thought that it will now be closer to 2009 as a lot of it hinges on the water lines.

Mr. Kemper said he would try to have information handed out to all committee members before the Law and Finance Committee meeting on December 12th.

Mr. Kemper asked if the committee would be interested in billing hourly for the next couple of weeks. Mr. Peck said he would like to refer that to the County Administrator for approval.

Mr. Huntsinger, Senior Economic Developer with the State Office of Small Cities, gave a brief presentation on grant funding opportunities and distributed handouts explaining the process.

He said there are approximately 1,272 eligible communities for the program across New York State. The only local community that would not be eligible for this program would be Saratoga Springs. Any project outside the city or the county could take advantage of the program. Grant regulations require the following be met.

1. Benefits to low and moderate income people
2. Evidence of financial need

In 2008 it is expected that \$48 million will be received, with approximately 1/3 set aside for economic development. Typically up to 40% of a project will be financed. Typical participation is between 100,000 and \$750,000 per year.

In all cases the community replies on behalf of the business. Initially an inquiry will be done requiring a brief project description, draft source and use of funds, and jobs information.

The application is a two step process beginning with a preliminary evaluation questionnaire, which would include a brief narrative, job details and financing details. A complete business/financial plan, including three years' financial statements, current financial statement and three years of projected financial statements.

Mr. Johnson said recently AMD was approved by SEDC as a regionally significant project, gaining empire zone approval. This will also need the approval of the County Board of Supervisors and the approval of Malta and Stillwater.

Mrs. Schneider distributed a copy of a map outlining the AMD Empire Zone Regionally Significant Project and a copy of the proposed Local Law.

A motion was made by Mr. Richardson, seconded by Mr. Sausville to introduce a local law and schedule a public hearing at the December 12th Special Board Meeting. Unanimous.

Mr. Neils requested the scheduling of a public hearing date and introduction of the Internal Construction Policy at the December Board Meeting.

The following is an outline of the Saratoga County MS4 Illicit Discharge Law and Construction Activities Policy:

Illicit Discharge Law

- Prohibits illicit (non-stormwater) connections at the County's MS4
- Provides for the right of inspection
- Provides for the right to impose remediation measures on the violator
- Is consistent with Local (T/C/V) IDDE Laws
- Is required by the Saratoga County's MS4 Permit (SPDES #NYR20A 209)

Construction Activities Policy

- Provides procedure for all Saratoga County construction project (with some allowable exceptions and exemptions)
- Is incorporated into the Request for Proposal (RFP) process seeking professional design/engineering assistance with a County construction or redevelopment project.
- Provides for the preparation of a "Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan" (SWPPP) as part of the total project design
- Provides for the obtaining of coverage under the Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) SPDES Construction Permit as part of the project
- Provides for a third-party "SWPPP Administrator" to ensure County compliance with the DEC SPDES Construction Permit
- Provides for the SWPPP Administrator oversight of the Contractor for the Project
- Provides the "equivalent regulatory mechanism" required by the Saratoga County's MS4 Permit (SPDES # NYR20A 209)

A motion was made by Mr. Peck, seconded by Mr. Janik to approve the Internal Construction Policy as presented by Mr. Neils. Ayes – A. Johnson, Janik, Peck Noes – Sausville – Abstained – Gutheil.

Mr. Gutheil said this is another State unfunded mandate, which is going to cost more, with more enforcement and more studies needed.

Mr. Sausville said he would like more time to read and understand the proposed Construction policy.

Mr. Peck withdrew his motion to approve the Internal Construction Policy in order to review and better understand the document. The motion was tabled.

A motion was made by Mr. Peck, seconded by Mr. Sausville to adjourned the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,
Chris Sansom