

Economic Development Committee Minutes
September 4, 2013 – 4:00 p.m.

Present: Chairman Lawler; Supervisors Daly, A. Johnson, Kinowski, Peck, Richardson, Sausville and Grattidge; Spencer Hellwig, Administrator; Ryan Moore, Mgmt. Analyst; Steven Dorsey, County Attorney; Jason Kemper, Planning; Lisa Scaccia, Employment and Training; Press.

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

On a motion made by Mr. Sausville, seconded by Mr. Kinowski the minutes of the August 12, 2013 meeting were approved unanimously.

Mr. Kemper said the NYS Snowmobile Grant is 100% State money that is based on the number of snowmobile registrations issued State wide. The full amount of \$89,000 has been applied for, but Mr. Kemper said they have never received the full amount. Last year \$55,810 was received. With this money the six snowmobile clubs in the county maintain approximately 165 of snowmobile trails in the county, crossing seventeen municipalities.

A motion was made by Mr. Richardson, seconded by Mr. Peck to authorize the chairman to enter into an agreement to apply for, accept, and administer a New York State Snowmobile Trail Development Fund Grant in an amount not to exceed \$89,000. Unanimous.

Mr. Kemper requested a resolution for the NYS Champlain Canal way Trail System.

Mr. Richardson said many people have worked on the Champlain Canal Way Trail system for many years. This is a resolution of support so that in the future when they are applying for grants or funds through the Government, they will have support from the County.

A motion was made by Mr. Richardson, seconded by Mr. Johnson to endorse the Champlain Canal Way Trail and supporting continued collaborative planning and implementation efforts between communities in completing the trail. Unanimous.

Ms. Daly commended Mr. Kemper for his extensive work with the Zim Smith Trail. Through the Regional Economic Development Council, it is being highly encouraged to be regarded as a priority project, she said.

Ms. Daly said on October 30th and 31st there will be Summit held locally with National Grid to discuss energy issues. A draft plan has been submitted and is in the process of being reviewed. More information will be forthcoming.

Mr. Richardson said there will be an Economic Summit held on October 3rd in Mechanicville with speakers Peter Bardunias, from the Southern Saratoga County Chamber, Mike Russo, Global Foundries, Jack Salmon, from Mechanicville, and Senator Kathy Marchione.

A motion was made by Mr. Kinowski, seconded by Mr. Richardson to adjourn to Executive Session for the purpose of discussing Contracts. Unanimous.

Mr. Lawler stated that earlier in 2013 the Economic Development Committee embarked to create an RFP and analyze the responses to that request and to select a consultant to assist the county in creating the first county Economic Development Strategic Plan. A big part of this committee's charge this year was to move this project forward and complete the plan.

Mr. Lawler said an RFP was submitted with fourteen responses, and from those fourteen, nine followed through submitting formal responses. After extensive review four were invited to meet with the committee for interviews. Each of the respondents was given two hours to discuss their plan and answer questions. After meeting with the four final consultants it was unanimously decided that one was singularly the best of the group.

Mr. Lawler requested a resolution to authorize the Chairman to enter into an agreement with TIP Strategies, Inc. of Austin, Texas for the completion of an Economic Development Strategic Plan at a total cost not to exceed \$95,000.

A motion was made by Ms. Daly, seconded by Mr. Lawler to approve a resolution authorizing the Chairman to enter into an agreement with TIP Strategies, Inc., of Austin, Texas for the completion of an Economic Development Strategic Plan at a cost not to exceed \$95,000. Unanimous.

On a motion made by Mr. Richardson, seconded by Mr. Kinowski the meeting was adjourned unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,
Chris Sansom