

## **ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE MEETING**

**March 10, 2009 – 4:00 p.m.**

PRESENT: Chairman Daly; Supervisors Jenkins, Lawler, Richardson, Veitch; Rowland; Peck; Spencer Hellwig, Mgmt. Analyst; Jason Kemper, Planning; George Hodgson, EMC; Mark Rider, Co. Attorney; Dennis Brobston, Jim Angus, Shelby Schneider, SEDC; Ken Green, Logistics One; League of Women Voters Rep.; Steve Williams, Daily Gazette

Chairman Daly called the meeting to order.

Mr. Veitch moved to approve the minutes of the February 3<sup>rd</sup> meeting. Mr. Richardson seconded. Unanimous.

Mr. Kemper said in this year's adopted budget, there is a \$50,000 line item under the Planning Department to contract with Cornell Cooperative Extension to handle the MS4 Storm water program for all municipalities. He requested a **resolution to formalize that agreement and approve that contract. Mr. Lawler moved to approve this resolution. Mr. Veitch seconded.** Mr. Veitch said in the past, there was some sort of municipal contribution to this, and he wondered how that would work. Mr. Kemper said some municipalities did contribute, and some did not agree to do that, so the County will fit the bill for the whole program, he said. Mr. Lawler said it is a good program, and he believes his town just received an invoice for this. Mr. Kemper said he would check that out. **The resolution was adopted by a unanimous vote.**

Mr. Kemper discussed reappropriating Open Space funding. He said when we were audited, we have a couple of projects that have been open for a few years, and we need to reappropriate the funds for those projects. He said there is one in Clifton Park for this year, and one in Malta from four years ago. We are working to wrap those up, he said. Mr. Lawler said he would like to see something in writing that describes the projects and what we are doing. Chairman Daly mentioned they have gone through the Land Preservation Committee. Mr. Kemper said this is something that is done every year as far as reappropriating monies for those projects that did not close. Mr. Lawler said there is always more demand than there is money, and at some point, this stuff needs the trigger pulled or move on. Mr. Kemper said the project in Clifton Park is for this year, and we funded \$100,000. It is a total project of \$529,000 – 429,000 from the town and State. Some of the State money has not come through, and there has been some difficulty with the purchase rights with the landowner, he said. Mr. Peck stated the

Town of Clifton Park is in charge, and it is their job to make the deal come to fruition. In the past, some of these projects didn't come to fruition. He stated the position Land Preservation takes is if the projects do not come to fruition, the money does not roll back but it goes to where it originally came from which is the general fund. We need certainty for the fiscal sense of the County, he stated. He said we need some sense of urgency on these projects and put a three-year cap on them. **Mr. Lawler moved to authorize the reappropriation of the funds for both of these projects. Mr. Veitch seconded. Unanimous.**

Mr. Hodgson stated Joe Ritchey received a request from the Highway Superintendent of the Town of Moreau regarding a County parcel which borders a town road that is causing difficulty in plowing. We have had several of these requests in the past, and we cut the edge of the forest back 100 to 200 feet. I put a request in for a minor contract, and an agreement will be made with Lumac Company to do the harvesting on that parcel, he said. He stated he wanted to let the Committee know this will occur in the next three to four weeks, and a letter will be going out to affected landowners. He said this will be a transition cut. The first 100 ft. will take down larger pines, and the second 100 feet will take down decaying trees. Mr. Jenkins stated the road involved has been terribly icy. Chairman Daly thanked Mr. Hodgson for taking the time to speak on this issue.

Mr. Brobston displayed the website for Global Foundries, [www.globalfoundries.com](http://www.globalfoundries.com). He said they are starting to get more calls with relation to Luther Forest and Global Foundries. He said there are pages that explain Global Foundries' philosophies for what they do. They are located in Dresden, Germany and now in Saratoga County at the LFTC. He mentioned for Fab 1 in Dresden, they started in 2003 and came on line in 2005. Here with Fab 2, we break ground this summer and hope to be in production in 2012. If you get any questions about this, please forward them to us, he stated. He said there is a lot of information on this website. He mentioned the building they are building in Luther Forest is cutting edge technology. There are probably a half dozen companies waiting for the shovel to go into the ground before they commit, he said. He stated a battery manufacturer (cars, landscaping equipment, etc.) is looking for a site.

Mr. Brobston mentioned they are starting to get more businesses calling them who need working capital and some that have seen small downturns (i.e., Quad/Graphics, SCA in Glens Falls). People are still looking for a good bank that will lend them money, he said.

Mr. Lawler asked Mr. Brobston at what point will Zander be able to present this Committee and the Board with a construction timetable. I

would like the Board to see a plan from AMD of what their schedule looks like, he said. Mr. Brobston said the design of the facility is done, and there are always little legal issues to be tied up. The State has been working with the company to finalize all of their documentation, he said. Tonight they get their final approval for site disturbance and clearing of the site in Malta, he added. Mr. Lawler said he is sure Zander and Global Foundries are working on the assumption those pieces will come together, and somebody should have some schedules. A lot of people in the area are in a difficult situation, and they want to see what may be available not only from the foundry but from other businesses locating there, he said. We are at a position the sooner we start some scheduling, we can start showing the region some tangible benefit to this project, he stated. Mr. Brobston stated Global Foundries has the responsibility to do that with the IDA also before they close. He mentioned you can sign up to be kept in the loop at [LutherForest.org](http://LutherForest.org).

Chairman Daly said at the beginning of the year, she set a goal for this Committee. That goal was to be able to educate all communities in the County not only with AMD but also to bring in experts regarding the economic development perspective who went through this process in Texas, she said. I have drafted a letter of invitation to them, and we hope to move ahead with this economic summit, she stated. She said we want communities in Saratoga County to actually see visuals of what was done in Texas that will be happening here in this County. We have people identified to invite, and we have a target time of May. Communities need to look at their planning and zoning so that they will be able to manage the growth, she stated. Hopefully, at our next meeting, I will bring more information on this idea, she said. She said she will inform LFTC to include this Committee on their e-mails.

Mr. Richardson said about three years ago, they started revitalization of downtown Mechanicville. He distributed copies of information on a proposed mixed use development on the Hudson River in Mechanicville called "The Esplanade." He said he met with Bill McNeary, Sr. and Jr. who own the property, and we will be changing the planning and zoning on this 10-acre site. It is currently zoned heavy industrial, and we are going to change that to mixed use. There will be 7 major buildings; 1 minor building; 6 4-story buildings; 1 3-story building; 1 outdoor swim club; and 1 maintenance building. The Total project is 284,338 square feet. 175 residential units, 241,128 square feet and 42,346 square feet of commercial (office/restaurant/retail). Construction start date is spring, 2010. He said he has been in several meetings with Ken Green of Logistics One about this project.

Chairman Daly said it will be nice to see that natural showcase. I wish the best of luck to Mr. Green and Mr. Richardson, and this will be a big

feather in their cap, she stated. Mr. Richardson said they are thankful for the \$100,000 grant that the Board helped them with a couple of years ago along with Senator McDonald.

On a motion by Mr. Richardson, seconded by Mr. Jenkins, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Elaine M. Sodemann