

Economic Development Committee Minutes  
January 9, 2017 – 4:00 p.m.

Present: Chairman Tim Szczepaniak; Supervisors Vince DeLucia, Alan Grattidge, Art Johnson, Jack Lawler, Dick Lucia and Chairman of the Board Ed Kinowski; Chad Cooke, County Administrator; Andrew Jarosh, County Treasurer; Jason Kemper, Planning; Alyssa McClenning, Saratoga County Prosperity Partnership.

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

**On a motion made by Mr. DeLucia, seconded by Mr. Johnson, the minutes of the December 7, 2016 meeting were approved unanimously.**

Mr. Szczepaniak announced the appointment of Supervisor Johnson as the Committee Vice-Chair.

**A motion was made by Mr. Lawler, seconded by Mr. Lucia, to authorize a renewal agreement with Cornell Cooperative Extension Association to manage the MS4 Stormwater Management Program for 2017 in the amount of \$55,000. Unanimous.**

Mr. Kemper said that this annual contract is used as the local match for the Stormwater Grant monies received. The amount is the same as 2016. Mr. Lawler complimented on Mr. Kemper and Mr. Neils on a job well done.

Mr. Kemper said that the Annual Planning Conference is scheduled for January 25, 2017. Registration packets have been placed in the Supervisors mailboxes. They expect approximately 500 attendees.

Mr. Kemper said that the harvest on Taylor Road in the Town of Moreau has begun. Mr. Kemper reminded the committee that full funding has been received for the Zim Smith Trail. They anticipate breaking ground in early 2018 with 16-18 months of construction. One portion goes through the Fairways of Halfmoon so they need to work with the property owner not to impact the golf season.

Ms. McClenning said that Mr. Vanags is traveling in California this week on a new business attraction trip. Ms. McClenning distributed a flyer and announced a new small business workshop series for 2017. The first five series will be held from 5:30pm to 7pm in Mechanicville at the Mechanicville Elks Lodge on February 9, Corinth at the Corinth Emergency Squad Community Room on February 16, Saratoga Springs at the Embassy Suites on March 2, South Glens Falls at the Village of South Glens Falls Meeting Room on March 16 and Town of Saratoga on March 30. They will bring in outside resources to help people who are thinking about starting their own business or are ready to move their startup business to the next level.

Mr. Kinowski said that he will be redesigning the main County webpage to promote the Saratoga County Prosperity Partnership.

Mr. DeLucia said that Governor Cuomo vetoed Clifton Park's proposal for hotel tax. In the statement the Governor also said that decisions like this should be done at the County level. A discussion was had regarding hotel tax throughout the County. Mr. DeLucia proposed raising the occupancy tax to distribute to other municipalities with less hotels. Mr. Jarosh said that the County is required to spend all occupancy tax on industry and tourism promotion. Mr. Johnson suggested discussing the issue with the County Attorney on how to move forward.

Mr. Szczepaniak said that the next meeting of the Economic Development Committee will be on February 8, 2017 at 4pm.

**On a motion was made by Mr. DeLucia, seconded by Mr. Johnson, to the meeting was adjourned unanimously.**

Respectfully submitted,  
Therese Connolly  
Deputy Clerk of the Board