

Economic Development Committee Minutes
August 12, 2020 – 3:00 p.m.

Present: Chairman Jack Lawler; Committee Members Ed Kinowski, Dan Pemrick, Jean Raymond, Jon Schopf, Kevin Tollisen; Supervisors Tara Gaston, Todd Kusnierz, Tom Wood, Mo Wright and Chairman of the Board Preston Allen; Spencer Hellwig, Matt Rose, County Administrator; Steve Dorsey, County Attorney; Jason Kemper, Planning; Andrew Jarosh, Treasurer.

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

On a motion made by Mr. Kinowski, seconded by Mr. Tollisen, the minutes of the July 15, 2020 meeting were approved unanimously.

Mr. Kemper distributed a copy of his memo which was also distributed via email.

A motion was made by Mr. Tollisen, seconded by Mr. Pemrick, to authorize the chair to enter into the necessary agreements to apply for, accept and administer a New York State snowmobile grant-in-aid program grant. Unanimous.

Mr. Kemper said that these are pass through funds that are received by the County and in turn distributed to the Saratoga County Association of Snowmobile Clubs to be distributed to the Clubs in the County. There are currently approximately 172 miles of snowmobile trails in Saratoga County over 17 different municipalities. This grant is a max of \$89K, however in the past the grants awarded have ranged from \$46K to \$59K. There are no new trail miles this year therefore no SEQR is required.

A motion was made by Mr. Pemrick, seconded by Mr. Tollisen, to amend the Zim Smith Trail Capital Account to indicate proper grant funding awarded from NYS Parks Recreation and Historic Preservation. Unanimous.

Mr. Kemper said that originally when he was notified of the grant by NYS Parks, he was under the impression it was a \$250K grant with a \$250K match for a total of \$500K. After the original resolution accepting the funds was approved, the written notification from NYS Parks indicated that it was a \$500K grant. This authorization will recognize the additional \$250K in the Zim Smith Capital Account.

A motion was made by Mr. Kinowski, seconded by Mr. Pemrick, to set a Public Hearing for Agricultural District #1 8 year review per Ag. and Markets Law 25-AA section 303a. Unanimous.

Mr. Kemper said that the draft report was reviewed by the Saratoga Planning Board as well as the Saratoga County Agriculture and Farmland Protection Board. It was approved by the Saratoga County Agriculture and Farmland Protection Board. The public hearing will be set for September 9th at 4:20pm. A public notice was sent on May 20th to each Supervisor in the corresponding Towns. The public notice was posted in Towns as well as several public locations within the

Agricultural District. The only comment received was from one Supervisor and they are working on addressing that issue with a map. Once the public hearing is set, a notice will be sent out to approximately 3,500 parcels that are in the district. An email address has been set up for the public hearing. The report will be finalized immediately after the public hearing and sent to Ag. and Markets for adoption. Supervisor Kinowski questioned how the public hearing would be conducted. Mr. Kemper said that an email address has been set up to receive public comments. The notice will list the email address. Mr. Kemper said that in the notice to landowners they will give them the opportunity to contact the Planning Office with any additional questions as it will all be via email. Mr. Kemper said that they usually receive comments during the public notice period. Mr. Kemper said that he looked back since before he was hired and no one has ever shown up at these public hearings. Mr. Kinowski said that in one instance in his Town they held the public hearing and kept it open to receive additional comments and then closed it the following month. Mr. Kemper said that he can check with Ag and Markets to see if they have the ability to come back in October in need be and still meet the deadline to submit the final certified map and report. If comments were received, they can pull it for September, give a summary for October and adopt it at that time. Mr. Lawler suggested going forward with the public hearing, if there are no comments, then adhere to the schedule as proposed. If there are material comments, a decision to keep the public hearing open can be made. A special meeting of the Economic Development committee can be scheduled if necessary.

A motion was made by Mr. Tollisen, seconded by Mr. Kinowski, committee approval for the 2020 County Economic Development Grant applications received since 6/10/2020. Unanimous.

Copies of a status report on the 2020 County Economic Development Grant program from Shelby Schneider were distributed to the committee. Copies were also placed in each Supervisors mailbox. Mr. Lawler said that the report contains an update on the \$7,100 grant. Grants previously approved, approved for today, and those municipalities that have not yet submitted their grant requests.

Mr. Kinowski said that he received an email at 2:15pm today from ESD looking for input to the Capital Region portion of Economic Development. Mr. Kinowski said that they are looking for responses by August 25th.

A motion was made by Mr. Pemrick, seconded by Mrs. Raymond, the meeting was adjourned unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Therese Connolly
Deputy Clerk of the Board