

Economic Development Committee Minutes  
April 7, 2021 – 4:00 p.m.

Present: Chairman Phil Barrett; Supervisors Tara Gaston, Joe Grasso, Sandra Winney, Tom Wood; Chairman of the Board Todd Kusnierz; Steve Bulger, Matt Rose, County Administrator; Michael Hartnett, County Attorney; Jason Kemper, Planning; Jenniffer McCloskey, Employment & Training; Dennis Brobston, Tori Riley, SEDC.

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

**On a motion made by Mr. Grasso, seconded by Mr. Wood, the minutes of the March 3, 2020 meeting were approved unanimously.**

Mr. Brobston and Ms. Riley distributed a handout regarding the 2021 SEDC Economic Development Virtual summit. The handout is attached to these minutes. The virtual summit will be held on May 18<sup>th</sup> from 1pm – 3:30pm to discuss new development, the process and timeline. Topics covered during the summit will include water and sewer, electric and gas, sites, buildings, zooming, 5G technology and transportation. Mr. Brobston discussed areas of concern such as capacities of services such as National Grid, NYSEG, water and sewer and how it could affect potential new development. Ms. Riley said that they will have different presenters on each topic, all well versed in each topic. A question and answer period will be available, along with an opportunity for follow up questions afterward. Ms. Riley said that they are inviting site selectors, regional investors and many businesses to participate. They will also cover the green initiatives being put out by the Governor. Mr. Barrett said that discussing the status of the grid in certain commercial areas of the County would be helpful. Analyzing the areas of the County that are heavily commercial to show where National Grid could strengthen the electrical delivery system to make it more dependable.

A handout detailing SEDC YTD March 31, 2021 prospects was distributed and Mr. Brobston and Ms. Riley gave an overview of the details. The handout is attached to these minutes. Ms. Riley said that they have had great success partnering with the Irish Business Organization. Select USA have a program in DC and anticipate many international business being there.

Mr. Bulger thanked Mr. Brobston and SEDC for their recent referral of a local company DiRAD for the County's incoming and outgoing Public Health call center needs.

Mr. Kemper gave an update on fish stocking. Mr. Kemper said that each year the County invests in \$20K - \$25K in stocking efforts. This supplements DEC's fish stocking. The program was not done last year due to Covid. This year bids have been put out, received, and PO's generated. 10 to 12 inch brook trout will be stocked in the trout streams, 12 to 14 inch rainbow trout in Stewards Pond, and 13 to 20 inch large rainbow trout in Sacandaga Lake. They are currently working with Public Health to see if a children's fish stocking event can be held this year as in past years. Mr. Kemper said that the Towns of Wilton and Milton also purchase stock off the County bid.

Mr. Barrett asked Mr. Kemper about new regulations. Mr. Kemper said that across NYS, specifically inland streams, there were approximately 25 to 30 different special regs related to trout fishing in streams. DEC has consolidated these special regs down to four different classifications, reflecting how many fish can be caught in particular streams. 6 streams in Saratoga County were impacted, the Dwaas Kill, Geysers, Glowegee, Kayaderosseras, Sand Creek, and the Snook Kill. The season usually closes October 15 but now in these streams it will be open from October 16-March 16 for catch and release, artificial only, trout fishing. Mr. Kemper said that in general, the new regs does not have anything to do with buffers or work in streams. A summary will be emailed from Mr. Kemper to all Supervisors. Mr. Barrett said that they have had a difficult time working with DEC trying to get permits for limited work such as sediment removal in culverts, in designated trout streams, to ensure water is flowing freely.

Ms. McCloskey said that the 33<sup>rd</sup> annual job discovery job fair will be held virtually this year on April 22<sup>nd</sup>. They already have approximately 90 businesses signed up to participate. Registration is free for businesses and jobseekers. Ms. McCloskey said that she will have the flyer distributed to all Supervisors.

**A motion was made by Mr. Grasso, seconded by Ms. Winney, the meeting was adjourned unanimously.**

Respectfully submitted,

Therese Connolly  
Deputy Clerk of the Board