

Trails & Open Space Committee Minutes
May 3, 2023 – 4:00 p.m.

Present: Chairman Joe Grasso; Committee Members Eric Connolly, Tara Gaston, Ed Kinowski.
Absent: Matthew Veitch.

Supervisors; Steve Bulger, Audra Hedden, Matt Rose, Christine Rush, County Administrator; Michelle Granger, County Attorney; Jason Kemper, Kim Lambert, Planning & Economic Development.

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

On a motion made by Mr. Kinowski, seconded by Mr. Connolly, the minutes of the April 5, 2023 meeting were approved unanimously.

A motion was made by Mr. Kinowski, seconded by Ms. Gaston, to authorize the transfer of funds from the County Open Space Reserve and amending the 2023 County budget in relation thereto. Unanimous.

Mr. Kemper reported that the transfer amount is \$32,220.50, reimbursement for a 2019 Town of Clifton Park project.

A motion was made by Ms. Gaston, seconded by Mr. Connolly, to authorize the implementation and funding in the first instance 100% of the Federal Aid and State “Marchiselli” program-aid eligible costs of a Transportation Federal Aid Project, appropriating funds therefore, and amending the 2023 County budget in relation thereto. Unanimous.

Mr. Kemper reported that this is for the design work portion of the Zim Smith Trail. Grant is 80% Federal, 15% State and 5% local. Reducing the County share from \$100K to \$25K.

Mr. Kemper provided an update on Farmland Protection projects, Trail projects, Graphite Range Community Forest, Zim Smith North design project, County Fish Stocking, Timber harvest for 2023, the Saratoga County Regional Envirothon, and 4H Environmental Field Day. Discussion ensued.

Mr. Kinowski questioned if ARPA funding can be used toward Open Space project. Brief discussion ensued.

Mr. Bulger reported that the County is looking at upgrading the marketing of County Trails and Open Space, including creating a standalone webpage featuring County trails.

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

Respectfully submitted,
Therese M. Connolly
Clerk of the Board