

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND PLANNING COMMITTEE

March 22, 2006

2:00 P.M.

MINUTES

1. ROLL CALL: Chairman Beardsley called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m.

PRESENT: Legs. Fred Beardsley, Chair., Kevin Gardner, Barbara Brown, Dan Chalifoux, Shawn Doyle, Paul Natoli, Jack Beckwith

GUESTS: Chairman R. Johnson, Legs. Len Ponzi, Art Gearsbeck and Paul Santore, Mike Treadwell, Deb McAndrew

STAFF: Steve Lyman, Chris Gray, Deb Wise

Approval of Minutes March 1, 2006

Leg. Brown motioned to approve the meeting minutes of March 1, 2006, seconded by Leg. Chalifoux. All in favor.

2. Tourism Advisory Council Appointments

Christine Gray stated that the appointments to the Tourism Advisory Council were made by the Chairman of the Legislature. Ms. Gray stated that these appointments don't need to be voted on by this Committee. Chairman Johnson stated that he would like any Legislator that knows of anyone that would be interested in an appointment to the TAC, to let him know so that people can be added to the council as needed.

Ms. Gray also spoke relating to a grant application to re-print the Canaling brochure. The NYS Canal Corp. has statewide grant funding for \$30,000. Ms. Gray stated that they are applying for a grant for \$2500. Promotion & Tourism will provide the match of funds from their budget, for the brochure on Canaling. Motion by Leg. Chalifoux, seconded by Leg. Brown, all were in favor.

3. CNY Regional Transportation Authority Appointments

Chairman Beardsley asked for a motion to recommend David H. Hawthorne and Robert Raby for consideration for appointment to the Board of Directors of the CNY Regional Transportation Authority. Motion made by Leg. Chalifoux, seconded by Leg. Gardner. All in favor.

4. Operation Oswego County

a. County of Oswego IDA PILOT RLF (Revolving Loan Fund)

Mr. Treadwell submitted IDA RLF ratification request for Oswego Recycling, LLC. Mr. Treadwell then introduced Deb McAndrews of Oswego Recycling. Ms. McAndrews gave an overview of the proposed business, they will employ 18 people. She stated that there will be 6

from Oswego Industries and they will hire through ARISE. Ms. McAndrews stated that they will have health benefits and a retirement package. Oswego Recycling will recycle for the nuclear plants and the city. Ms. McAndrews stated that since 2003, recyclables have gone to Onondaga County. There was much discussion. Motion by Leg. Chalifoux, seconded by Leg. Doyle to fund Oswego Recycling, LLC. All were in favor.

b. Project Updates

1. New York Chocolate & Confections Company - Mr. Treadwell stated that there are changing issues, since Monday. Control has switched gears, there is a new group AARC, they have no authority to release funds. The administrator of the Agriculture & Finance in the Ivory Coast, is being hampered by the opposition party on the Ivory Coast. Mr. Treadwell stated that the Ivorian government will be sending over a group, their mission will be to put money into it or to walk away from it. Mr. Treadwell stated that as far as he knows, they have been able to meet payroll up until this point. He also stated that if the funds aren't released, lenders could force bankruptcy.
2. Northeast Biofuels – Mr. Treadwell stated that they are working with CitiGroup. Construction should start in late spring, early summer. SUNY ESF is working with them with the corn base. Another line of bio-mass products, they will use Willow and get ethanol from it. They have State support, NYS DOT will work on the rail infrastructure.
3. Oswego Empire Zone – Mr. Treadwell stated that the boundaries need further review. He stated that the Oswego Empire Zone is a little on the fat side with 28 – 30 acres too many. It will require amending to Local Law, requirement of the State is 2 sq. miles for a zone. Mr. Treadwell stated that there is no acreage in the Fulton Empire Zone.

Leg. Beckwith asked if Ormsby Ironworks in Hannibal will be getting funded? Mr. Treadwell stated he is working on a funding schedule for them.

5. Resolution

Snowmobile Trail Funding

Chairman Beardsley brought before the committee the resolution regarding the snowmobile trail grant funding for 2006-07. Leg. Brown stated that 2.5 million in state funding from the snowmobile trail grant funding will go into the general fund. Motion by Leg. Brown, seconded by Leg. Beckwith to approve the resolution, that this Legislature opposes the Executive Budget proposal to divert funds from the dedicated snowmobile trail fund for other uses. All in favor.

6. Adjournment

Leg. Chalifoux made the motion to adjourn, seconded by Leg. Gardner. The meeting adjourned at 2:54 p.m.