

Economic Development, Tourism, Housing, Planning & Transit Committee

Regular Meeting Minutes

DATE & TIME: July 7, 2015, 6:00 PM

LOCATION: Karen L. Binder Library, 6th Floor, COB, Kingston, NY

PRESIDING OFFICER: Chairman Thomas J. Brigg (Arrived at 6:10, departed 6:45), and Vice Chairman James Maloney

LEGISLATIVE STAFF: Fawn Tantillo, Senior Legislative Employee

PRESENT: Legislators Chris Allen, Lynn Archer, Herbert Litts, III and Mary Beth Maio

ABSENT: Legislator Tracey Bartels

EXCUSED: None

QUORUM PRESENT: Yes

OTHER ATTENDEES: Deputy Executive Kenneth Crannell; Director of Planning Dennis Doyle; Director of Economic Development Susanne Holt; John Adams, Colony Farm Project; Steven Guerin; Vic Melville, LWV Observer; Kathy Nolan

Vice Chairman Maloney called the meeting to order at 6:02 PM.

Presentation by Deputy Executive Kenneth Crannell and Suzanne Holt, President & CEO, Economic Development Alliance

Vice Chairman Maloney introduced Deputy Executive Kenneth Crannell who spoke about Ulster County's success in attracting many cutting edge technology businesses. These business entrepreneurs indicated the "quality of life" is what attracted them to and keeps them in Ulster County.

Mr. Crannell then turned the presentation over to Suzanne Holt, Director of Economic Development. Ms. Holt distributed a brochure "Do Business Differently" and unveiled the new Ulster for Business web site (<http://ulstercountyny.gov/ulsterforbusiness>) that became live a few minutes before the meeting started. The committee watched a YouTube video (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gTJcyYVui6M#t=129>) linked to that web site in which various business people described their experiences living and working in Ulster County. There are other video testimonials designed to attract new businesses and geared to tech businesses.

Mr. Crannell and Ms. Holt then discussed several other outreach opportunities underway to attract new businesses to Ulster County, upcoming Red Carpet Bus tour of Ulster County.

Legislator Archer asked how success of these efforts would be tracked.

Ms. Holt described how Google analytics track social media campaigns and the tangible success of people signing up for the Red Carpet Bus Tour and discussed a Technology Meetup group that has 500 members locally. Ms. Holt reported other efforts online, in the metropolitan area through the Chronograph and examples of meetings with local residents and business owners looking to relocate or expand operations in Ulster County.

Legislator Archer applauded these efforts but restated her concerns about broadband availability in other parts of the county. She feels it is critical to do the basic groundwork to be able to take advantage as financial resources become available to insure broadband and these opportunities are available throughout Ulster County.

Legislator Allen, referring to a wage structure chart in the “Do Business Differently” brochure noted the fact that Ulster County has a lower average wages in many industries compared to other areas in the state. He noted that while this makes Ulster County attractive to business moving here it is also important that we attract businesses that can afford to pay a living wage. He wanted to “brain storm” about ideas he had to attract a particular industry to Saugerties.

Ms. Holt discussed an upcoming event on Wednesday, July 15, 2015 she hoped committee members would attend. (Information sent to committee members on July 8, 2015 - <http://ulstercountyny.gov/news/economic-development/building-ulster-county-together-arc-ulster-greene>).

Presentation by John Adams, Colony Farm Project

Chairman Briggs introduced John Adams to discuss the Colony Farm Project. Chairman Briggs described the efforts and approvals this project has received.

Mr. Adams described the Colony Farm Project in great detail including the proposed links to various trails and roads, the potential for attracting tourist and developing this resource for the local community and residents.

Motion No. 1 Resolution No. 263 – July 21, 2015

Motion Made By: Legislator Briggs

Motion Seconded By: Legislator Maloney

Text of Motion: **Resolved to approve Resolution No. 263** - Supporting The
Town Of Wawarsing’s Consolidated Funding Application
Regarding The Colony Farm Agri-Tourism Project

Resolution No. 263 Summary: This Resolution supports the Town of Wawarsing’s Consolidated Funding Application to provide for a comprehensive strategic plan designed to research, assess, and define implementation strategies for the re-use of the Colony Farm property and four subject parcels, encourages the Mid Hudson Regional Economic Development Council to award this project funding as part of the 2015 regional investment, and directs the Clerk of the Ulster County Legislature shall forward copies of this resolution to Mid Hudson Regional Economic Development Council Co-Chairs Dennis Murray and Leonard S. Schleifer, Regional Council Director Meghan Taylor, Ulster County Economic Development Alliance Director Susanne Holt, Town of Wawarsing Supervisor Leonard Distel, and the Friends of Colony Farm Steering Committee.

Discussion: None

Roll Call Vote: No
Voting In Favor: Legislators Briggs, Maloney, Allen, Archer, Litts and Maio
Voting Against: None
No. of Votes in Favor: 6
No. of Votes Against: 0
Disposition: Passed

Motion No. 2 **RESOLVED to Approve the Minutes of June 2, 2015**

Motion Made By: Legislator Allen
Motion Seconded By: Legislator Maloney
Discussion: None

Roll Call Vote: No
Voting In Favor: Legislators Briggs, Maloney, Allen, Archer, Litts and Maio
Voting Against: None
No. of Votes in Favor: 6
No. of Votes Against: 0
Disposition: Passed

Resolution No. 136 – July 21, 2015 – WITHDRAWN BY SPONSOR

Resolution Title: Supporting The Placement Of Video Lottery Terminals At The Nevele Grande Hotel And Country Club In The Town Of Wawarsing

Resolution No. 136 Summary: This Resolution supports the placement of Video Lottery Terminals at the Nevele Grande Hotel and Country Club in the Town of Wawarsing and encourages the advancement of legislation in the New York Legislature that would approve Video Lottery Terminals at the Nevele Grande Hotel and Country Club. The Resolution requests that the New York State Division of the Lottery place Video Lottery Terminals at the Nevele Grande Hotel and Country Club, in the Town of Wawarsing and directs the Clerk of the Ulster County Legislature to forward copies of this resolution to Governor Andrew M. Cuomo, Senate Majority Leader Dean Skelos, New York State Assembly Speaker Carl Heastie, New York State Senator John Bonacic, Assemblywoman Claudia Tenney, the Town of Wawarsing Town Board and the New York State Division of the Lottery.

Discussion: TJ announced that was withdrawn. (Note: Co-Sponsor Craig Lopez agreed)

Motion No. 3 Resolution No. 264 – July 21, 2015

Motion Made By: Legislator Archer

Motion Seconded By: Legislator Allen

Text of Motion: **Resolved to approve Resolution No. 264-** Appointing Member To The Ulster County Planning Board – Village Of Saugerties

Resolution No. 264 Summary: This Resolution supports the appointment of Vincent McLaughlin from Village of Saugerties to the Ulster County Planning Board for a term from the Present thru December 31, 2018

Discussion: None

Roll Call Vote: No

Voting In Favor: Legislators Maloney, Allen, Archer, Litts and Maio

Voting Against: None

No. of Votes in Favor: 5

No. of Votes Against: 0

Disposition: Passed

Motion No. 4 Resolution No. 265 – July 21, 2015

Motion Made By: Legislator Litts
Motion Seconded By: Legislator Allen

Text of Motion: **Resolved to approve Resolution No. 265** - Adopting The Inclusion Of Additional Lands In Agricultural Districts Within Ulster County As Recommended By The Ulster County Agricultural And Farmland Protection Board - Department Of Planning

Resolution No. 265 Summary: This Resolution states the Ulster County Legislature Ulster County Legislature finds, after review of the Environmental Assessment Form and the recommendations of the Agricultural Farmland Protection Board, for the inclusion of lands within agricultural districts, as filed with the Clerk of the Legislature, that no significant adverse environmental impacts will occur as a result of this action and a Negative Declaration is adopted under NYCRR Part 617.7 (SEQRA), adopts the recommendations of the Agricultural and Farmland Protection Board, as filed with the Clerk of the Ulster County Legislature, which includes the placement of additional lands within existing agricultural districts in Ulster County totaling 16 parcels and approximately 646 acres, noting this action will result in the inclusion of all lands submitted to the County Legislature with the exception of the Woodstock Animal Sanctuary located in the Town of Rochester that was not recommended for inclusion, directs the Clerk of the Ulster County Legislature to submit this resolution, a copy of the Agricultural and Farmland Protection Board report and other material as required under Agriculture and Markets Law Article 25-AA – Agricultural Districts, to the Commissioner of Agriculture, and request that the Commissioner certify the inclusion of these lands in an agriculture district if feasible and in the public interest.

Discussion: None
Roll Call Vote: No
Voting In Favor: Legislators Maloney, Allen, Archer, Litts and Maio
Voting Against: None
No. of Votes in Favor: 5
No. of Votes Against: 0
Disposition: Passed

Motion No. 5 Resolution No. 266 – July 21, 2015

Motion Made By: Legislator Maio

Motion Seconded By: Legislator Allen

Text of Motion: **Resolved to approve Resolution No. 266** - Authorizing The Chair Of The Ulster County Legislature To Enter Into An Agreement With The City Of Kingston To Implement Shared Tourism Services – Department Of Tourism

Resolution No. 266 Summary: This Resolution authorizes the Chair of the Ulster County Legislature to sign an agreement with the City of Kingston, and any amendments thereto, for a shared services agreement in which the County operates, staffs, and provides volunteer coordination services at the Center, in exchange for the City providing office space at the Center, for an initial term of twelve months with two separate one year automatic renewals, in the form as filed with the Clerk of the Ulster County Legislature or as modified with the approval of the County Attorney, a copy of which is annexed hereto.

Discussion: Legislator Archer asked if this was an annual agreement.

Legislator Maloney said yes it was for the building Ulster County Tourism occupies on Lower Broadway in Kingston.

Roll Call Vote: No

Voting In Favor: Legislators Maloney, Allen, Archer, Litts and Maio

Voting Against: None

No. of Votes in Favor: 5

No. of Votes Against: 0

Disposition: Passed

Motion No. 6 Resolution No. 292 – July 21, 2015

Motion Made By: Legislator Maio

Motion Seconded By: Legislator Allen

Text of Motion: **Resolved to approve Resolution No. 292** - Approving The Execution Of A Contract In Excess Of \$50,000.00 Entered Into By The County – BAE Systems Controls Inc. – UCAT

Resolution No. 292 Summary: This Resolution notes the Ulster County Legislature has examined the contract, and hereby approves the contract in the form as filed with the Clerk of the Ulster County Legislature or as modified with the approval of the County Attorney and Legislative Counsel.

Discussion: Legislator Litts clarified this is to rebuild 6 UCAT Busses

Roll Call Vote: No
Voting In Favor: Legislators Maloney, Allen, Archer, Litts and Maio
Voting Against: None
No. of Votes in Favor: 5
No. of Votes Against: 0
Disposition: Passed

Motion No. 7 Resolution No. 293 – July 21, 2015

Motion Made By: Legislator Litts
Motion Seconded By: Legislator Maio

Text of Motion: **Resolved to approve Resolution No. 293** - Approving The Execution Of A Contract In Excess Of \$50,000.00 Entered Into By The County – HVEA Engineers – Department Of Planning

Resolution No. 293 Summary: This Resolution notes the Ulster County Legislature has examined the contract, and hereby approves the contract in the form as filed with the Clerk of the Ulster County Legislature or as modified with the approval of the County Attorney and Legislative Counsel.

Discussion: Planning Director Doyle explained that this is for the Rail Trail project along NYS Route 299 between New Paltz Road and South Street in Highland.

Legislator Allen asked about details in the contract in respect to delays and what situations might cause a delay.

Roll Call Vote: No
Voting In Favor: Legislators Maloney, Allen, Archer, Litts and Maio
Voting Against: None
No. of Votes in Favor: 5
No. of Votes Against: 0
Disposition: Passed

New Business: None

Old Business: Legislator Archer asked if the committee received any response to inquiries to Deputy Executive Sudlow about progress on broadband. She felt it is important that the committee receive an update and wanted to re-issue the invitation to Mr. Sudlow for next month.

Adjournment

Motion Made By: Legislator Litts
Motion Seconded By: Legislator Allen
No. of Votes in Favor: 5
No. of Votes Against: 0

TIME: 6:48 PM

Dated the 8th day of July, 2015
Fawn Tantillo, Senior Legislative Employee
Minutes Approved on: August 4, 2015