

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

November 26, 2012

PRESENT:

**Richard Keaveney, Chairman
Robin Andrews
Elizabeth Young
Art Bassin
Jeff Braley
Ellen Thurston
Sarah Sterling
John Porreca
Ronald Knott
Richard Scalera
Michael Benson
Matt Murell**

ABSENT:

**Arthur Baer, notified
William Hughes, Jr., notified**

ALSO PRESENT:

**Becky Vinchiarello, Dep. Clerk
Ronald Caponera
Kenneth Flood
Linda Tripp
Chuck Brooks**

PRESS: 1

Chairman Keaveney called the meeting to order at 5:00 PM

The Economic Development Budget was reviewed first. All line items have remained the same. The option of selling the Soil and Water Building was discussed. The Soil and Water budget remains the same at \$370K. Cornell, CEDC and Fair Housing have all remained the same as well.

Agriculture:

Cornell Cooperative Extension – Linda K. Tripp, Issue Leader, 4-H Youth Development. Chuck Brooks announced that he planned to attend all of the Committee meetings and Board Meetings and introduced Linda Tripp, who gave an update on Cornell’s 4-H Program. There are about 35 4H clubs. She explained the skills the participants learn by attending these programs. Flyers were passed around that are used to encourage people to become 4H leaders. She explained the process of hiring 4H leaders. Two of the 4H members, Rachel Fay and Jesse Bonin, have received National Recognition. Scalera questioned if there were any children of color involved in the program. L. Tripp could not think of any but plans to spend more time on outreach this year.

Farmland Protection Plan – The plan will be available for public review in the near future. They will leave copies at many locations including the Soil and Water Building, 401 State St. and the County Clerk’s office. The public forums will start next month and will go into February. They will then hold a public hearing and will be seeking passage at the March Full Board meeting. The history of the Farmland Protection Plan and its goals were discussed. K. Flood will go through the plan with the Committee at the January meeting. A. Basin requested a copy of the early draft. K. Flood will email this to all supervisors.

303 Applications – These requests for addition to Agricultural Districts are accepted yearly between October 1st and October 30th. They are not compiled and mapped at this point, but they have had discussions with Agriculture and Markets and will plan to present this information at the January committee meeting. A public hearing will then take place. The differences between an Agricultural District and an Agricultural Exemption were discussed.

Economic Development:

Airport Development and its Future:

K. Flood has had two meetings with CNS engineers. The first meeting was primarily for introductions. At the second meeting CNS bought in an expert on airport management. K. Flood said that he was encouraging. This meeting was the next step in preparation for K. Flood and staff to go down to NYC to meet with the FFA. They will focus on development of the airport. The primary actions the expert recommended the County take are to rename the airport, compile a website and the runway safety zone. Marketing is lacking.

Ron Caponera will begin an audit on the airport to be completed in the first quarter of next year.

Extending the runway was discussed.

A statistical chart comparing airports on the Article that was sent to Supervisors was passed around.

http://poststar.com/news/local/questions-raised-over-airport-s-costs/article_684f1da6-312e-11e2-89e7-001a4bcf887a.html

K. Flood explained his idea of success for the airport would be the addition of more hangers with more airlines which would lead to more people coming into the County, as well as Richmore acquiring more jets. Each jet provides around four jobs.

CEDC CEO Roundtable Briefing:

Forty people participated in this briefing that took place at Catamount. Mr. Friedman from the developer's company gave a presentation. It described the share interest, condominiums, new base resort, and hotel. They are still waiting for the grant for the sewage plant.

Result of Business Outreach Survey:

CEDC worked with the chamber to send out these surveys. They received fifty-nine responses. Most responses included the need for assistance with financing and the request for an advocate for them where state government is concerned. The results will be sent to the Supervisors when compiled.

Love's Travel Center Update

K. Flood spoke with the company's engineer who is pleased with the process thus far. They will attend a zoning board meeting sometime within the next two weeks.

Greenport Crossings Update

The final coat of road lining has been applied. The owner had been rejected from putting a liquor store at the location as there are already too many concentrated in that area. There is no opening date yet but they will be moving product into the convenient store. He hopes to start construction on the hotel in the spring.

Rail Trans-Loading Facility – they continue to work with the State on issues as they arise. K. Flood does not suspect construction on this will start any time soon.

E. Thurston invited everyone to attend Hudson's Annual Winter Walk this Saturday night. There are thirty-two new businesses in the business district since last year.

With no further business there was a motion to adjourn at 6:17PM by R. Keaveney, seconded by E. Young, motion carried.

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