

WARREN COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

COMMITTEE: ECONOMIC GROWTH & DEVELOPMENT

DATE: APRIL 25, 2016

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:

SUPERVISORS: MCDEVITT
WOOD
BEATY
STROUGH
SIMPSON
DICKINSON
MACDONALD
MONTESI
LEGGETT

OTHERS PRESENT:

REPRESENTING ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION:
ED BARTHOLOMEW, PRESIDENT
KEVIN B. GERAGHTY, CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD
AMY BARTLETT, ASSISTANT COUNTY ATTORNEY
SARAH MCLENITHAN, DEPUTY CLERK OF THE BOARD
FRANK E. THOMAS, BUDGET OFFICER
SUPERVISOR MERLINO
MOLLY GANOTES, LEGISLATIVE OFFICE SPECIALIST

Please note, the following contains a summarization of the April 25, 2016 meeting of the Economic Growth & Development Committee; the meeting in its entirety can be viewed on the Warren County website using the following link:
<http://www.warrencountyny.gov/gov/comm/Archive/2016/economic/>

Mr. McDevitt called the meeting of the Economic Growth & Development Committee to order at 11:32 a.m.

Mr. McDevitt informed there were no previous minutes to approve.

Privilege of the floor was extended to Ed Bartholomew, President of the Economic Development Corporation (EDC), who discussed Broadband in Warren County. He said in the following weeks there would be a Broadband Summit that would bring various parties together to discuss broadband in detail. He informed the Public Service Commission (PSC) required Time Warner Cable and Charters Spectrum to install 147 units for residential and commercial customers in rural areas throughout New York State. He indicated the western part of Warren County would be eligible to receive service next year.

Continuing, Mr. Bartholomew discussed the E-Rate program commissioned under the Federal Communication Commission. He indicated the E-Rate program was a new program that would connect schools and libraries with the internet. He said the program would provide reimbursement up to 75% and be paid back in one year. He mentioned from there the internet connection could extend into the community at a lower reimbursement rate.

Mr. Bartholomew noted two new towers were going to be erected in Warren County. He remarked broadband would still be an issue in some areas do to demographics, population and terrain.

Mr. Bartholomew added there would have to be a Local Development Company interested in funding the libraries because many small libraries in rural areas would not have funds available to participate in the program.

Mr. Leggett mentioned mapping and stated Warren County did not have sufficient maps. Mr. Bartholomew informed there were sufficient maps for Warren County created by The Gateway Council for Warren, Washington and Northern Saratoga County. Mr. Bartholomew provided a wall size map for the Supervisors to examine and a brief discussion ensued.

Mr. Bartholomew indicated in the future there would be representatives from the Governor's Office and the Federal Communication Commission available to provide a better understanding of the programs and there benefits.

There being no further business to come before the Economic Growth & Development Committee, on motion made by Mr. Simpson and seconded by Ms. Wood, Mr. McDevitt adjourned the meeting at 11:55 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Molly Ganotes, Legislative Office Specialist