

WARREN COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

COMMITTEE: ECONOMIC GROWTH & DEVELOPMENT

DATE: NOVEMBER 28, 2016

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:

SUPERVISORS: MCDEVITT
STROUGH
SIMPSON
MACDONALD
MONTESI
LEGGETT

OTHERS PRESENT:

REPRESENTING ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION:
ED BARTHOLOMEW, PRESIDENT
WAYNE LAMOTHE, COUNTY PLANNER
KEVIN B. GERAGHTY, CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD
MARY ELIZABETH KISSANE, ASSISTANT COUNTY ATTORNEY
AMANDA ALLEN, CLERK OF THE BOARD
FRANK E. THOMAS, BUDGET OFFICER
SUPERVISOR BRAYMER
JENNIFER SWITZER, CFO WARREN COUNTY LOCAL DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION
DON LEHMAN, *THE POST STAR*
MOLLY GANOTES, LEGISLATIVE OFFICE SPECIALIST

COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT:

SUPERVISORS: WOOD
BEATY
DICKINSON

Please note, the following contains a summarization of the November 28, 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 9:00 a.m.

Motion was made by Mr. Strough, seconded by Mr. Simpson and carried unanimously to approve the minutes of the previous Committee meeting, subject to correction by the Clerk of the Board.

Privilege of the floor was extended to Ed Bartholomew, President of the Economic Development Corporation (EDC), who informed the EDC was an advocate for broadband internet service in rural areas of Warren County. He stated they were moving in a positive direction with the help of Senator Kristen Gillibrand and Congresswoman Elise Stefanik to increase the available funding for broadband.

Next, Mr. Bartholomew spoke regarding a 40-45% production and post-production film tax credit that was available for television and movies that were budgeted at a minimum of \$500,000 and filmed in Warren County. He informed the EDC was looking to create a Warren County Film Commission in 2017.

Mr. Bartholomew notified the EDC received great support from Angio Dynamics, informing that the former CEO was Chairman of the Medical Device Committee who led the abolition of the 2.3% excise tax on all manufactured products in the Country. He said Angio Dynamics paid more than \$11 million into Obama Care over a two and a half year period. He notified that Senator Chuck Schumer and Congresswoman Elise Stefanik were able to get a two year suspension of the 2.3% excise tax.

Mr. Bartholomew indicated the Capital Region Economic Development Council visited with municipalities and companies in Glens Falls looking for support for their CFA (Consolidated Funding Application) project. He noted Finch Pruyun provided a presentation, which he said outlined a new project that would create twelve new jobs and keep 50,000 tons of paper residual out of landfills, along with Hudson Headwaters who were looking to open a Woman's Health Center on South Street in downtown Glens Falls. Mr. Bartholomew described the awards from the Capitol Region Funding and indicated the Governor would announce the winners in early December. He mentioned there were ten regions and the top five would receive \$25 million each, and the bottom five would receive \$10 million each. He reported Wayne LaMothe, County Planner, had submitted projects to Capitol Region Funding along with Adirondack Craft Beverage and the Park Street Elizabeth Miller Theater.

Supervisor Leggett entered the meeting at 9:13 a.m.

Continuing, Mr. Bartholomew stated the EDC worked with the City of Glens Falls on a \$10 million grant application to revitalize downtown. He informed this was the last week to submit ideas to better the city at the following website www.gfdri.org.

Mr. Bartholomew announced there would be a charrette at Heritage Hall Saturday, December 3rd, from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Mr. Bartholomew reported the EDC was providing a program for fifteen first-time home buyers that included ten homes in the City and five homes outside the City. He said each family would receive a grant of up to \$20,000, for a home priced at no more than \$176,000. He informed the program was available for low income families.

Following, Mr. Bartholomew remarked the \$500,000 loan portfolio would be starting pending final approval in December, which he said was partnered with Lake Champlain-Lake George Regional Planning Board.

Privilege of the floor was extended to Wayne LaMothe, County Planner, who informed the State announced funding availability through home programs in which the County had participated in the past. He notified there was a workshop December 7th at Fulton Montgomery Community College that he would be attending to reacquaint himself with the requirements needed to obtain funding in the future.

Mr. Bartholomew announced Mohawk Werks would be moving their business from Oneida County to Warren County due to a lower sales tax rate. He indicated he discussed potential locations with them and said they wanted to be closer to the ski centers they provided equipment to.

Mr. Montesi inquired to the status of Just Water and Mr. Bartholomew replied they were expanding on a weekly basis.

There being no further business to come before the Economic Growth & Development Committee, on motion made by Mr. Montesi and seconded by Mr. Strough, Mr. McDevitt adjourned the meeting at 9:26 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Molly Ganotes, Legislative Office Specialist