

**WARREN COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**

**COMMITTEE: ECONOMIC GROWTH & DEVELOPMENT**

**DATE: JANUARY 23, 2017**

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**COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:**

SUPERVISORS: MCDEVITT  
MACDONALD  
BEATY  
SIMPSON  
SOKOL  
MONTESI  
LEGGETT  
STROUGH

**OTHERS PRESENT:**

REPRESENTING ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION:  
ED BARTHOLOMEW, PRESIDENT  
JOHN WHEATLY, VICE PRESIDENT  
RONALD F. CONOVER, CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD  
KEVIN B. GERAGHTY, ACTING COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR  
MARY ELIZABETH KISSANE, ASSISTANT COUNTY ATTORNEY  
SARAH MCLENITHAN, DEPUTY CLERK OF THE BOARD  
FRANK E. THOMAS, BUDGET OFFICER  
SUPERVISORS BROCK  
MERLINO  
SEEBER  
TRAVIS WHITEHEAD, TOWN OF QUEENSBURY RESIDENT  
DON LEHMAN, *THE POST STAR*  
MOLLY GANOTES, LEGISLATIVE OFFICE SPECIALIST

**COMMITTEE MEMBER ABSENT:**

SUPERVISOR: BRAYMER

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*Please note, the following contains a summarization of the January 23, 2017 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/2017/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. Montesi 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 reviewed the activities of the past year and advised of what was forthcoming in 2017. He stated the key strategy was to continue EDC's roll in economic development. He mentioned jobs were growing throughout the area and a \$17 million wastewater treatment plant was planned for Lake George; he noted tourism in Lake George would be crippled if no action was taken with the wastewater. He spoke regarding the need for broadband in underserved areas of the County and informed there was bipartisan support from the Senate with Governor Cuomo's New York Connect program. He said he was looking to take the New York Connect program and the E-Rate program into the western part of the County. He mentioned Gracenote Inc. was being sold to the Nielson Company. He mentioned they were working with Senator Charles Schumer and Congresswoman Elise Stefanik to have the 2.3% surcharge abolished for the medical device industry.

Supervisor Thomas entered the meeting at 9:10 a.m.

Mr. Bartholomew informed the EDC was working on having a year round facility for the farmers market as part of the Downtown Revitalization initiative and they were continuing to work with paper mills to help find an alternative to putting their waste in landfills. He notified Adirondack Northway Exits 20-25 were being studied and he mentioned there were individual town projects such as the Stony Creek Library, Lake Luzerne water lines and Thurman hiking trails.

Chairman Conover entered the meeting at 9:14 a.m.

Mr. McDevitt commented the Glens Falls Civic Center and Queensbury Hotel looked better than they ever had and Mr. Bartholomew noted work was continuing on them.

Next, Mr. Bartholomew presented a power point presentation entitled EDC Warren County 2017 Areas of Focus, *a copy of which is on file with the minutes.*

Travis Whitehead, Town of Queensbury resident, inquired about the sale of Gracenote Inc. and Mr. Bartholomew responded the sale would be complete in the first quarter and the new management was supportive. Next Mr. Whitehead asked for a broadband update and Mr. Bartholomew replied broadband was in the final stages and three programs were being combined to achieve the goal.

Mr. Conover inquired about the State Budget and the Water Improvement Fund and Mr. Bartholomew replied the EDC was working with State Legislators in Albany.

There being no further business to come before the Economic Growth & Development Committee, on motion made by Mr. Beaty and seconded by Mr. Sokol, Mr. McDevitt adjourned the meeting at 9:38 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Molly Ganotes, Legislative Office Specialist