

WARREN COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

COMMITTEE: ECONOMIC GROWTH & DEVELOPMENT

DATE: JUNE 20, 2018

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:

SUPERVISORS MCDEVITT
BEATY
LEGGETT
BRAYMER
STROUGH
HOGAN
MAGOWAN
SIMPSON
WILD

OTHERS PRESENT:

REPRESENTING PLANNING & COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT:
WAYNE LAMOTHE, COUNTY PLANNER
CHRIS BELDEN, ASSISTANT COUNTY PLANNER
REPRESENTING ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION:
ED BARTHOLOMEW, PRESIDENT
JOHN WHEATLY, VICE PRESIDENT
RYAN MOORE, COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR
AMANDA ALLEN, CLERK OF THE BOARD
AMY LAVINE, ASSISTANT COUNTY ATTORNEY
FRANK THOMAS, BUDGET OFFICER
SUPERVISORS DICKINSON
DRISCOLL
MERLINO
SOKOL
KEVIN HAJOS, SUPERINTENDENT OF PUBLIC WORKS
SHAWN LAMOUREE, UNDERSHERIFF
WALTER YOUNG, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, LAKE CHAMPLAIN-LAKE GEORGE
REGIONAL PLANNING BOARD
TRAVIS WHITEHEAD, TOWN OF QUEENSBURY RESIDENT
DON LEHMAN, *THE POST STAR*
LESLIE LOVELACE, SECRETARY TO THE CLERK OF THE BOARD

Please note, the following contains a summarization of the June 20, 2018 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/2018/economic>

Mr. McDevitt called the meeting of the Economic Growth & Development Committee to order at 9:34 a.m.

Motion was made by Mr. Strough, seconded by Mrs. Hogan 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 Wayne LaMothe, *County Planner*, who distributed copies of his agenda to the Committee members; *a copy of the agenda is on file with the minutes.*

Commencing his agenda review, Mr. LaMothe presented a request to record a portion of the \$150,000 County contribution to the Lake George Park Commission expended in the General Fund as State reimbursement expenditures in Capital Project H347, *Invasive Species Boat Washing*, as well as to reduce the \$100,000 recorded as a 2014 advance payment from Warren County to the Lake George Park Commission to establish the boat wash stations by \$1,912.65.

Ms. Braymer inquired if the \$150,000 County Contribution was included in a previous request or if it was for a new request and Mr. LaMothe replied it was from a previous request that was being allocated to a different Budget Code for accounting purposes.

Motion was made by Mr. Simpson, seconded by Mr. Strough and carried unanimously to approve the request as presented and forward same to the Finance Committee. *A copy of the resolution request form is on file with the minutes.*

Mr. LaMothe informed he believed the Town Supervisors had received an email from the A/GFTC (*Adirondack/Glens Falls Transportation Council*) regarding the Make The Connection Program. He informed the Towns had to submit an application to receive the funding, advising it was competitive. He said Chris Belden, *Assistant Planner*, worked with some of the communities on the ADA (*Americans with Disabilities Act*) Transition Plan. He apprised at the A/GFTC meeting they agreed that implication of the transition plans would be eligible under the Make The Connection Program. He said there was remedial action that needed to be taken for sidewalks throughout the County which may be eligible for funding under the Make The Connection Program if there was an approved transition plan.

Mr. Leggett inquired if the Make The Connection program was different from the Transportation Assistance Program and Mr. McDevitt replied in the positive.

There being no further Planning & Community Development business to discuss, privilege of the floor was extended to Walter Young, *Executive Director, Lake Champlain-Lake George Regional Planning Board*, who apprised a Planning Board meeting was held on June 12th with good attendance from all the Counties during which Dave O'Brien from the Town of Hampton had been selected to be the new chairman. He advised there were projects that were reviewed including appointments to a Governance Committee that would review and revise bylaws for the Planning Board and the Loan Committee. He mentioned Mr. O'Brien had an upcoming meeting with the Chairmans of the Board from each of the five Counties. He noted the approval of loans was on hold pending revision of the bylaws.

Ms. Braymer inquired if Mr. Young had documentation showing whether the NYSABO (*New York State Authorities Budget Office*) had made the determination that the Planning Board was not subject to their governance and Mr. Young replied in the positive. Ms. Braymer asked for a copy of the documentation and Mr. Young replied he would forward it to her. Ms. Braymer inquired if the Planning Board would be seeking a waiver and Mr. Young replied in the negative. Mr. Beaty asked what procedures were used to collect on defaulted loans and Mr. Young replied the procedure required the defaulted loans to be forwarded to their collection attorney who handled all the legalities of collecting, garnishments, collateral and judgements. Mr. Beaty asked if a house had ever been garnished as a result of loan default and Mr. Young replied it had been done twice in the 1970's at which time the houses were put up for sale in a public auction. Mr. Beaty requested that a list of such occurrences be e-mailed to himself, Mr. McDevitt, the County Administrator and the Committee members. Mr. Young replied he would send what he could find. Mr. Beaty inquired if Mr. Young had followed all the legal guidelines concerning defaulted loans and Mr. Young explained they were turned over to their legal counsel. Mr. Beaty inquired who authorized his position and Mr. Young replied the position was authorized by the five County Boards. Mr. Beaty asked if Mr. Young had the resolution showing the five County Boards determination he should be the executive director in 2012, 36 hours after he had resigned as a County employee. Mr. Young apprised he had sent a copy of his resignation letter to the Planning Board which included working for a certain period of time during a transition with another employee. Mr. Beaty asked if he had approval from the five County Boards authorizing his position as executive director after resigning, and Mr. Young answered he had only sent the letter of resignation to the Planning Board; Mr. McDevitt requested that Mr. Young submit the documentation he had on the matter. Mr. Wild inquired if there was a time-line for when the bylaws would be drafted and Mr. Young replied they had worked on them the previous day. Mr. Strough advised they had worked on them for several hours prior to the meeting, adding they were nearing completion. He apprised there would be another meeting in July to examine the draft before submitting it to the Boards for their

input. Ms. Braymer inquired when the next Planning Board meeting would be held and Mr. Young replied that would be determined later that day.

Mr. Beaty noted the Planning Board had a number of questionable loans with very little governance and rules which proved a lot of work was needed to restore the public's trust in the organization. He expressed that it was discerning that Mr. Young did not have authorization by the five Counties to return to the Planning Board. He added he had confidence in Dave O'Brien from Washington County as the new Chairman.

Privilege of the floor was extended to Ed Bartholomew, *President of the Economic Growth & Development Corporation (EDC)*, who presented a PowerPoint Presentation entitled "Collaborating", which he reviewed in detail. *A copy of the presentation is on file with the meeting minutes.*

There being no further business to discuss, on motion made by Mrs. Hogan and seconded by Mr. Strough, Mr. McDevitt adjourned the meeting at 10:07 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Leslie Lovelace, Secretary to the Clerk of the Board
(As Typed By Molly Ganotes-Gleason, Legislative Office Specialist)