

WARREN COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

COMMITTEE: ECONOMIC GROWTH & DEVELOPMENT

DATE: SEPTEMBER 27, 2022

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:

SUPERVISORS: MCDEVITT
HOGAN
STROUGH
LEGGETT
FRASIER
MAGOWAN

OTHERS PRESENT:

REPRESENTING THE PLANNING DEPARTMENT:
WAYNE LAMOTHE, COUNTY PLANNER
SARA FRANKENFELD, GIS ADMINISTRATOR
JIM SIPLON, PRESIDENT, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION
KEVIN B. GERAGHTY, CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD
SARAH MCLENITHAN, DEPUTY CLERK OF THE BOARD
FRANK E. THOMAS, BUDGET OFFICER
SUPERVISORS DRISCOLL
GERACI
SEEBER
TAMMIE DELORENZO, ASSISTANT TO THE COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR
DON LEHMAN, DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS
LESLIE LOVELACE, SECRETARY TO THE CLERK OF THE BOARD

COMMITTEE MEMBER ABSENT:

SUPERVISOR: WILD

Please note, the following contains a summarization of the September 27, 2022 meeting of the Economic Growth & Development Committee; the meeting in its entirety can be viewed on the Warren County website using the following link: <https://warrencountyny.gov/mma>

In the absence of Committee Chairman Wild, Supervisor McDevitt, as Vice-Chair, called the Economic Growth & Development Committee meeting to order at 1:17 p.m.

Copies of the meeting agenda were distributed; a copy of the agenda is on file with the meeting minutes.

Motion was made by Mr. Strough, seconded by Mrs. Frasier and carried by a majority vote of those present (*Messrs. Wild and Magowan absent*), with Ms. Hogan abstaining, to approve the minutes of the previous Committee meeting, subject to correction by the Clerk of the Board.

The Planning and Community Development agenda review commenced with the following Discussion Items:

1. 2023 Budget request review - documentation provided as an agenda attachment.

Mr. Magowan entered the meeting at 1:22 p.m.

2. Discussion regarding proposed Countywide Comprehensive Plan- during which it was mentioned that a Request for Proposal (RFP) was released for a Countywide Housing Study.
3. Demo of new Warren County GIS Hub - Sara Frankenfeld, *GIS Administrator*, provided a demonstration of the new website "*Warren County GIS Hub*" and answered questions posed by the Committee.

There being no further Planning & Community Development business to discuss, privilege of the floor was extended to Jim Siplon, *President, Economic Growth & Development Corporation (EDC)*, who advised there were between 1,500 and 2,000 open jobs in the County, adding housing issues persisted with less than 200 homes available for sale under \$400,000. He advised with 1,600 open jobs there were six times the number of open jobs compared to the number of available homes, explaining the only way to correct the shortfalls was to bring more individuals into Warren County. He discussed regional Broadband, advising the EDC submitted for grant funds in the amount of \$50,000 for ARPA (*American Rescue Plan Act*) funding. He mention the Village and the Town of Lake George had initiated a J1 Housing Project. He said the LDC was looking to provide support other than revolving loans.

The Referral/Pending Items portion of the agenda was reviewed as follows:

1. Referral from the Personnel, Administration & Higher Education Committee to explore the economic impact it

would have on the County if a local law was adopted opting out of section 487(9) of the Real Property Tax law. It was noted the law pertained to an exemption for solar, adding commercial solar development required 6-8 acres of land to produce a megawatt of power which cost \$1 million to achieve, adding the assessed value per acre was \$585 a year based on the County tax rate.

Discussion ensued regarding individuals who used bubblers to stop the water from freezing around boats and docks which created hazards during the winter for individuals who enjoyed winter activities on the lake. Mr. Geraci asked for the Planning and Community Development Department to assist with public outreach and education.

As there was no further business to come before the Economic Growth & Development Committee, on motion made by Mr. Magowan, seconded by Mr. Strough and carried by a unanimous vote of those present (*Mr. Wild absent*), Mr. McDevitt adjourned the meeting at 2:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Leslie Lovelace, Secretary to the Clerk of the Board
as Transcribed by Molly Ganotes-Gleason, Legislative Office Specialist