



PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY COMMITTEE

Time: 1:00 PM

Location: WebEx and 74 Ontario St., 2nd Floor Committee Room 213

June 12, 2023

MEMBERS PRESENT

In Person: Supervisors David Phillips, Fred Lightfoote, Jack Marren, William Namestnik, and Andrew Wickham.
Necessarily Absent: Supervisors Christopher Vastola and Mark Venuti.

OTHERS PRESENT

In Person: BOS Chairman Todd Campbell, County Administrator Chris DeBolt, Deputy County Administrator Alissa Bub, County Attorney Holly Adams, Finance Director Mary Gates, Economic Developer Ryan Davis, Sustainability & Solid Waste Director Calra Jordan, Planner Regina Sousa, Planning Director Tom Harvey, Sr. Planners Linda Phillips and Thomas Lyon, Treasurer Gary Baxter, Economic Specialist Sue Vary, Visitors Connection President Valarie Knoblauch, Visitors Connection Director of Operations Steve Laros, Cornell Cooperative Extension Director Tim Davis, Casella General Manager Brian Sanders, Soil and Water Director Megan Webster, Soil and Water Conservation District Educator Alaina Robarge, Reporter Dave Shaw, and Clerk to the Board Kristin Voss.

Via WebEx: Supervisors Ingalsbe and Vastola, Associate Planner Tim Jensen, Sr. Planners Julie Barry and Betsy Landre, Sustainability Assistant Kaitlynn McCumiskey, Consultants Chuck Bell and Mike Zimmerman, Abigail Marion, and AJ Magnan.

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting of the Planning & Environmental Quality Committee was called to order at 1:00 p.m. by Chairman Phillips.

MINUTES

Supervisor Marren made a motion to approve the minutes of the Planning and Environmental Quality Committee meetings held on May 22, 2023 and June 1, 2023 as a block. Supervisor Wickham seconded the motion. The motion carried.

TEAM AGENCIES

- ♦ *Cornell Cooperative Extension*

Mr. Davis noted that it is their internship time of year. They mostly get interns from the University's College of Ag and Life Science's and the College of Human Ecology. This year they have an intern looking at starting a school-based parenting program. They have also been approached to work with other schools at Cornell to do a pilot land use

plan for the Bristol Hills 4-H camp property. They believe this could be a 10-year process.

◆ *Soil and Water*

Ms. Webster introduced Ms. Robarge to the committee. They provided a handout with the recent projects they have been working on. Ms. Robarge talked about what she does at Soil & Water which includes, managing their website and Facebook page along with a few other conservation sites. They have an interactive map on their website that has all their projects on it. When you click on the dot on the map it gives you information on that project. She also provides support to local watersheds, municipalities, and storm water coalitions. They also work with schools to do educational events and produce YouTube educational videos. Ms. Webster talked about the grant applications that they will be applying for during this application period.

CASELLA

◆ *Update*

Mr. Brian Sanders presented the following updates:

- The closure project has started. Mr. Sanders showed committee a map where excavation and final cap will be completed
- They will not have any portion of the gas wells offline more than 24 hours during construction
- The stormwater diversion and pond expansion has been completed
- He presented a map that showed the drone results from the emissions testing that was performed
- The testing showed emissions were little to none
- Only nine spots were detected in working sections. These detections were below the EPA accepted value for reportable emissions
- NYSEG will be doing the final switch over of the electric to the gas plant. They will run their flares during this time

SUSTAINABILITY AND SOLID WASTE

◆ *Events Update*

Sustainability and Solid Waste Director, Carla Jordan, presented to the committee the following:

- They are holding a paper shredding event on Saturday in Bristol. This event is full with 114 people and 12 people on the waiting list
- The additional backyard composting bins have been sold
- They held a mattress recycling event in Farmington and it was successful with taking in 144 mattresses

◆ *NYS Solid Waste Management Plan Update*

Ms. Jordan talked about the following updates to the NYS Solid Waste Management Plan

- Their Vision for 2050 includes very high goals such as reducing landfilling by 85% in 2050
- They are looking to create more extended producer responsibility programs, expanding the food donation and scraps recycling law, requiring a per-ton disposal disincentive surcharge on all waste landfilled, and several other programs
- In 2008 the NYS recycling rate was 36% and in 2018 it rose to 43%

Ms. Jordan talked about the following updates to the NYS Part 360 Regulatory Updates:

◆ *Legislative Update*

- Final regulations were adopted June 7, 2023 with an effective date of July 22, 2023
- They provided clarification on the 1000' setback requirement and the 80 Mil HDPE geomembrane will only be mandatory in the primary liner system
- NYS DEC will also be adopting some in regulations with the adoption of this plan. Some of those regulations include a focused effort with quick timing, addressing PFAS concentration points, and performance-based treatments to treat leachate
- Once the DEC picks a date for some of these new requires all landfills must be in compliance with them by that date

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

◆ *Department Update*

Economic Developer, Ryan Davis, let the committee know that the regional ESD will be holding CFA workshops at the County and hold office hours to help fill out applications. A collaboration idea between FLCC and the County came out of the FLCC Ad Hoc committee last week. FLCC and County staff will be discussing how best to get information out to businesses that FLCC can provide programs to do on going training for them.

Mr. Davis then provided highlights of the airport economic impact study that was recently completed and included in the agenda packet.

PLANNING DEPARTMENT

◆ *Resolutions*

Sr. Planner, Linda Phillips, presented the following two resolutions:

- Appointment of Bessie Tyrell as Alternate Member of the Ontario County Planning Board
- Re-Appointment of Michael Woodruff to the Ontario County Planning Board

Supervisor Marren motioned to approve these two resolutions as a block. Supervisor Lightfoote seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Planning Director, Tom Harvey, presented the following resolution entitled, “Authorizing Contract with H2O Partners for Updating of Ontario County Multi-Jurisdictional All Hazard Mitigation Plan”.

Supervisor Wickham motioned to approve this resolution. Supervisor Namestnik seconded the motion. The motion carried.

♦ *Informational*

Sr. Planner, Thomas Lyon, talked about the County-Wide Parks and Recreation Master Plan Project. Labella Associates is currently working on the first phase. This includes inventorying the parks, their existing conditions, and how they compare with other County parks in the State. They have also come up with a community survey that they will be distributing. This will be open throughout the summer to see what users are looking for and what needs they have for the parks. They will also be holding workshops in targeted areas to get more information. They are hoping to have draft recommendations to bring back to the committee in the fall.

TOURISM

♦ *Solar Eclipse*

Visitors Connection Director of Operations, Steve Laros, provided information on the solar eclipse that will happen April 8, 2024. Our County will see anywhere between 2 minutes and 5 seconds in the southern portion and about 3 minutes and 18 seconds in the northern portion of total eclipse time. They have been working with County staff to make sure any traffic and safety concerns are mitigated. They have a portion of their website directly dedicated to the eclipse for visitors and residents.

COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR

♦ *Resolution*

County Administrator, Chris DeBolt, presented the following resolution entitled, “Authorization to Contract with MSW Consultants for Landfill Consultant Services”.

Supervisor Wickham motioned to approve this resolution. Supervisor Lightfoote seconded the motion. The motion carried.

♦ *Presentation*

Mr. Chuck Bell and Mr. Mike Zimmerman from Harrison Studio are the consultants working to administer our ARPA community grant programs. The first phase of the grant program will be for funding project that are focused on arts, culture, and recreation. They are hoping to have the application period for this phase open around the end of June and

close around the end of July. They are anticipating this phase will have the largest amount of applications.

◆ *Discussion*

County Administrator, Chris DeBolt, talked about a new Finger Lakes Visitors Connection funding formula that they have come up with for 2024. This was requested by the PEQ and WM committees last year. They are looking to do a 3-year agreement that would provide a funding floor to the Visitors Connection of \$1,175,000+ 5% COLA growth each year with the remaining funds, that don't go to the Treasurer's office administration fee, to be placed in the county tourism reserve fund that was created last year. With the funding floor, this provides the Visitors Connection a guaranteed funding amount even if the County doesn't collect that much in occupancy tax. The Visitors Connection can also come back to committee and request funds from the reserve for special projects, like they have done this year. They are also hoping to have State Representatives approve changes to increase allowable uses for the county tourism reserves. If the County is successful in being able to collect occupancy tax on short-term rental such as, Airbnb's then they would look at renegotiating this 3-year agreement. The Visitors Connection and the County also feel it would be beneficial for everyone to participate in a joint strategic planning process for tourism in the County.

**COUNTY ATTORNEY/
TREASURER**

◆ *Resolution*

County Attorney, Holly Adams, presented the following resolution entitled, "Fixing Date and Notice for the Public Hearing on Local Law No. 4 (Intro.) of 2023".

Supervisor Marren motioned to approve this resolution. Supervisor Wickham seconded the motion. The motion carried.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

At 2:42 PM, Supervisor Lightfoote made the motion, seconded by Supervisor Wickham to go into executive session regarding discussion on the proposed, pending or current litigation; motion carried.

At 3:16 PM, Supervisor Wickham made the motion, seconded by Supervisor Lightfoote to leave executive session; motion carried.

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

◆ *Discussion*

Supervisor Wickham motioned to have the County Administrator draft a new resolution addressing the concerns of the County with the relocation of individuals in need of emergency assistance from New York City to Ontario County without a call for the Chairman to declare a State of Emergency. Supervisor Marren seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Supervisor Marren motioned to have the County Administrator draft a resolution stating that if New York City doesn't work with Ontario County to come up with a plan then they will request the Chairman to declare a State of Emergency. Supervisor Lightfoote seconded the motion. The motion carried.

ADJOURNMENT

On motion of Supervisor Lightfoote seconded by Supervisor Namestnik, the meeting was adjourned at 3:18 pm.

Respectfully Submitted, Kristin A. Voss, Clerk to the Board

Approved