



PLANNING & ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY COMMITTEE

Monday, November 6, 2023, Time: 1:00 PM
Committee Room, 2nd floor, 74 Ontario Street,
Canandaigua, NY 14424

Committee Members

David Phillips, Chair
Fred Lightfoote
Jack Marren
William Namestnik
Christopher Vastola
Mark Venuti
Andrew Wickham

1. Call To Order:

The Planning & Environmental Quality Committee was called to order at 01:00 PM on November 6, 2023.

Members Present: Supervisor(s) David Phillips, Jack Marren, Christopher Vastola, Mark Venuti, Andrew Wickham, William Namestnik.

Necessarily Absent: Supervisor(s) Frederick Lightfoote.

Others present in addition to committee members:

- Todd Campbell, BOS Chair
- Chris DeBolt, County Administrator
- Alissa Bub, Deputy County Administrator
- Holly Adams, County Attorney
- Brian Sanders, Casella General Manager
- Tim Davis, Cornell Cooperative Extension Executive Director
- Emma Wilson, CCE Agricultural Educator
- Dave Shaw, Reporter
- Mary Gates, Finance Director, *via WebEx*
- Tim Jensen, Associate Planner, *via WebEx*
- Holly Smith, Grant Coordinator, *via WebEx*
- Nancy Yacci, *via WebEx*
- Kaitlynn McCumisky, Sustainability Assistant, *via WebEx*
- AJ Magnan, *via WebEx*
- Tom Harvey, Planning Director
- Calra Jordan, Director of Sustainability and Solid Waste
- Regina Sousa, Sr. Planner
- Ryan Davis, Economic Developer
- Linda Phillips, Sr. Planner
- Val Knobaulch, Visitors Connection President
- Tracey Burkey, Visitors Connection Director of Destination Development
- Jessica VanDemar, Visitors Connection Partner Engagement
- Michael Wojcik, Sr. Fiscal Manager, *via WebEx*
- Julie Barry, Sr. Planner, *via WebEx*

2. Approval Of Minutes:

Supervisor Christopher Vastola motioned to approve the minutes of the October 16, 2023 Planning & Environmental Quality Committee meeting. The motion was seconded by Supervisor Jack Marren. The motion passed.

Yes: Supervisor(s): David Phillips, Jack Marren, Christopher Vastola, Mark Venuti, Andrew Wickham, William Namestnik. No: Supervisor(s): None. Abstain: Supervisor(s): None.

3. Team Agency Updates:

Mr. Davis, introduced Emma Wilson, who started working for Cornell Cooperative Extension in January. They handed out an information sheet regarding Agriculture in the Classroom. Ms. Wilson

then talked about her Agricultural in the Classroom program that she has been teaching elementary students. She has provided instruction to roughly 1,000 Ontario County youths. This instruction was done in all the schools in the County, summer camps and programs, YMCA's, and Libraries.

4. Casella:

Mr. Sanders provided the following updates regarding the landfill:

- They are trying to finish up gas collection work. They only have two wells left to drill.
- 85% of the new gas collection system has been connected
- They are finishing the last of this year's closure construction project.
- They are starting to prepare for winter.
- They are working on changing the way they handle leachate. They are starting to filter and treat leachate in the tank, thus reducing the amount going into the ponds. The amount of leachate that they are currently treating is down significantly from prior years.

5. Sustainability & Solid Waste Management:

Ms. Jordan let the committee know that there are now four large green tanks at the landfill. These large tanks are not associated with the Casella and the landfill. The gas to energy plant installed them without notifying the County. The tanks are used to treat the gases coming to the plant prior to going to the engines. This is an effort to make the plant run more efficiently. Ms. Jordan is working to find out more information from NYS DEC regarding the use and permitting of the tanks.

The department is wrapping up their events for the year. The first pumpkin collection event was held this past weekend and another will be held this upcoming week. Corn stalks, gourds, and other fall organic decorative items are also accepted at the pumpkin collection event.

The department has been working on creating an extensive inventory of what reuse opportunities currently exist in the County for unwanted materials. They have discovered that we are lacking opportunities for the reuse of construction materials. They talked with Diane Cohen in Ithaca who runs Finger Lakes Reuse, which is a construction materials collection and resale center. They talked about how Ontario County could do something similar. The Town of Geneva will be requesting funding to start a small setup for this type of operation that all residents can use. Ms. Cohen has also contracted with the County to help with accepting reusable construction materials during the 3010 County Complex Dr. renovation project.

Carla Jordan, presented a municipal funding request from the Town of Geneva. The request is to help fund the contract to set up a small construction materials collection and resale center in the Town of Geneva that was talked about by a committee. The contract for the town is for \$8,640. The town is requesting the \$5,000 available to every municipality yearly for sustainability program funding. After discussion with the committee, the committee thought it would be beneficial to all County residents to fully fund this program at the \$8,640 amount.

Supervisor Andrew Wickham motioned to approve the Town of Geneva municipal funding request in an amount not to exceed \$8,640. The motion was seconded by Supervisor Jack Marren. The motion passed.

Yes: Supervisor(s): David Phillips, Jack Marren, Christopher Vastola, Mark Venuti, Andrew Wickham, William Namestnik. No: Supervisor(s): None. Abstain: Supervisor(s): None.

Regina Sousa, presented a resolution entitled, "Authorization to Accept FY2023 Household Hazardous Waste Site Assistance Program from NYS Department of Environmental Conservation".

Supervisor William Namestnik motioned to approve the resolution as presented. The motion was seconded by Supervisor Mark Venuti. The motion passed.

Yes: Supervisor(s): David Phillips, Jack Marren, Christopher Vastola, Mark Venuti, Andrew Wickham, William Namestnik. No: Supervisor(s): None. Abstain: Supervisor(s): None.

6. Economic Development:

Ryan Davis noted that he worked with the Town and City of Cananadigua on their downtown revitalization grant application and presentation to the State grant committee. Mr. Davis then passed out to committee members and reviewed the latest economic impact of NYS IDA's executive summary.

7. Tourism:

Ms. Burkey from the Visitors Connection gave a brief presentation about how they have reached their contract deliverables for their meeting and group promotion funding that they received.

8. Planning Department:

Linda Phillips, presented a resolution entitled, "Appointment of Chris Mergler to the Ontario County Planning Board".

Supervisor Jack Marren motioned to approve the resolution as presented. The motion was seconded by Supervisor Andrew Wickham. The motion passed.

Yes: Supervisor(s): David Phillips, Jack Marren, Christopher Vastola, Mark Venuti, Andrew Wickham, William Namestnik. No: Supervisor(s): None. Abstain: Supervisor(s): None.

Linda Phillips, presented a resolution entitled, "Approval of the Expenditure of the 2023 Ontario County Agricultural Enhancement Plan Funds".

Supervisor Mark Venuti motioned to approve the resolution as presented. The motion was seconded by Supervisor William Namestnik. The motion passed.

Yes: Supervisor(s): David Phillips, Jack Marren, Christopher Vastola, Mark Venuti, Andrew Wickham, William Namestnik. No: Supervisor(s): None. Abstain: Supervisor(s): None.

Mr. Harvey let the committee know that FEMA will be holding a couple of open forums this week. The first will be Wednesday, November 8th from 6:00 PM to 8:00 PM at Richmond Town Hall. The second will be on Thursday, November 9th from 3:00 PM to 7:00 PM at the Ontario County Safety Training Facility. Once FEMA issues their letters of determination, towns will have six months to adopt their new model Local Law for floodplain protection.

Mr. Harvey gave a brief presentation of the history and evolution of the County Code Enforcement position. He talked about the 40 free hours of technical assistance from the Planning Department that all municipalities are able to take advantage of each year. Municipalities can use part or all of those 40 hours for Code Enforcement if they have a vacancy and need some temporary coverage. Above the 40 hours, municipalities have to contract with the County for additional coverage. Mr. Harvey is not advocating for the County to take over Code Enforcement responsibilities for the municipalities. It is still advantageous and usually fiscally better for the municipalities to hire their own Code Enforcement

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Officer or work out an agreement with other municipalities to share in the cost of one Code Enforcement Officer who would serve jointly for the municipalities. The municipalities will also still have to have their own Zoning Officer. He also recommended that municipalities look at their permit fees. Many municipalities haven't increased their fees in many years, if ever, from the original date they were set.

9. County Administrator:

Chris DeBolt, reminded everyone that applications for the second round of ARPA grant funding, for workforce development and childcare, are due December 1st.

Alissa Bub, let the committee know that the United Way campaign kicked off today. This campaign will run through December 1st.

Alissa Bub, presented a resolution entitled, "No-cost Time Extension is with Wendel Energy Services, LLC in Regard to the Energy Efficiency Consulting Work".

Supervisor Mark Venuti motioned to approve the resolution as presented. The motion was seconded by Supervisor Andrew Wickham. The motion passed.

Yes: Supervisor(s): David Phillips, Jack Marren, Christopher Vastola, Mark Venuti, Andrew Wickham, William Namestnik. No: Supervisor(s): None. Abstain: Supervisor(s): None.

Christopher DeBolt, presented a resolution entitled, "Funding Source for Tourism Promotion in Ontario County".

Supervisor William Namestnik motioned to approve the resolution as presented. The motion was seconded by Supervisor Andrew Wickham. The motion passed.

Yes: Supervisor(s): David Phillips, Jack Marren, Christopher Vastola, Mark Venuti, Andrew Wickham, William Namestnik. No: Supervisor(s): None. Abstain: Supervisor(s): None.

Confirm next meeting date and time: *November 27, 2023 at 1:00 PM*

Adjournment:

On motion of Supervisor Jack Marren, seconded by Supervisor Christopher Vastola, the Planning & Environmental Quality Committee meeting was adjourned at 02:48 PM.