

# Economic Development, Tourism, Housing, Planning & Transit Committee

## Regular Meeting Minutes

**DATE & TIME:** October 6, 2015, 6:30 PM  
**LOCATION:** Karen L. Binder Library, 6<sup>th</sup> Floor, COB, Kingston, NY  
**PRESIDING OFFICER:** Chairman Thomas J. Briggs  
**LEGISLATIVE STAFF:** Krista J. Barringer, Deputy Clerk  
**PRESENT:** Legislators Chris Allen (6:10 PM), Lynn Archer, Tracey Bartels, Herbert Litts, III, and Mary Beth Maio  
**ABSENT:** James Maloney  
**EXCUSED:** None  
**QUORUM PRESENT:** Yes

**OTHER ATTENDEES:** League of Women Voters of the Mid Hudson Valley Observer Corp Member Vic Melville; Trails Advisory Committee Member Kathy Nolan; RGI Owner Raleigh Green; and Ulster County Economic Development Alliance Director Suzanne Holt

Chairman Briggs called the meeting to order at 6:02 PM.

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### **Motion No. 1                      RESOLVED to Approve the Minutes of September 1, 2015**

**Motion Made By:** Legislator Bartels  
**Motion Seconded By:** Legislator Archer

#### **Discussion:**

Legislator Archer noted the spelling change to the word “reflect” in the first paragraph.

**Motion made to accept the minutes as amended:** Legislator Litts

**Motion seconded by:** Legislator Maio

**Roll Call Vote:** No  
**Voting In Favor:** Legislators Archer, Bartels, Briggs, Litts, and Maio  
**Voting Against:** None  
**No. of Votes in Favor:** 5  
**No. of Votes Against:** 0  
**Disposition:** Carried

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**Guest Presentation: Suzanne Holt, Director, Ulster County Economic Development Alliance and Raleigh Green**

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Director Holt stated this was her quarterly report to the Committee and noted she would review the Ellenville Million and the Marketing initiatives. She noted the Ellenville Million had nine parts and reviewed each part:

1. **Water/Sewer Infrastructure Improvements:** She noted there was a meeting last week with Town, Village, Pattern for Progress, and Ulster County Planning Department representatives. She noted the meeting was to work on components, which impact jointly the Village and the Town. She stated the goal was to share the excess water and sewer for any new business that would come. She noted the inter-municipal agreement would allow the village and town to sell the excess water and sewer at the same price they charge their own customers. She stated they were working on the agreement language. She stated they will need a feasibility study for a future multi-million dollar infrastructure improvement project. Legislator Bartels asked what the Ellenville Million incentive money would be used for. Director Holt replied it would be used for engineering, legal or feasibility study fees to get the infrastructure project moving. She stated it appeared the Department of Corrections was invested in the project. Chairman Briggs highlighted the Department of Correction's sewer plant challenges before and after it was damaged in the hurricane. Legislator Archer noted she understood they had just received a grant to repair the damages. Chairman Briggs noted the repairs were just to get it operational and noted the facility was very close to having to shut down after Hurricane Sandy. He reiterated the grant was just to get it back online. He noted the opportunity for the facility to access the new Town sewer plant with this infrastructure improvement project. Legislator Bartels asked if this project only impacted a section of the town and village. Director Holt replied it did impact the commercial districts of both the town and the village. Chairman Briggs noted the water need was village wide. He stated the sewer charge of \$60 to all of the village would be shared with the Town so it would benefit both.
2. **Soft Landing Fund:** Director Holt noted they were drafting the application and rules at this time. She indicated the County Planning Department and County Attorney were reviewing the drafts. She noted this fund was commonly used in other parts of the Country and if successful, could be expanded to other parts of Ulster County.
3. **Tourism/Marketing Campaign:** Director Holt stated she is working with Ulster County Tourism Director Rick Remsnyder on an RFP and that it could touch on economic development as part of the campaign.
4. **Outdoor Recreation & Opportunities:** Director Holt invited all Committee members to an upcoming Economic Development Alliance meeting on October 19 at 1:00 where they will touring the Shadowland Theater and the five parks set to receive improvements. She noted the creation of a Joint Commission that will oversee such improvements as signage, railtrail, and marketing. Legislator Bartels highlighted the availability of mountain biking trails at Lippman Park. Chairman Briggs concurred the wide and active use of the parks including the cross country team from Ellenville High School.
5. **Shadowland Theater:** Director Holt noted this project is matching funds for a consolidated funding application to the State for capital improvements. She noted the

improvements would be made to the second theater and if no grant is received, the Theater would go back to stage one to determine what the money would be used for. Chairman Briggs noted the funds would be for the creation of a 90-seat Black Box Theater and highlighted the infrastructure needs to create this opportunity.

6. Hunt Memorial Building: Director Holt noted the formation of a 501c3 to renovate this building. She noted the October 19<sup>th</sup> Economic Development Alliance tour would start at the Hunt Memorial Building. She noted the key stakeholder group had done many renovations on their own and using in kind resources. She noted the \$100,000 is projected for renovations that include electricity, plumbing, portico, handicapped access, skylight restoration and basement windows. She noted the group prioritized the renovation needs and would use the funds in order of priority until expended. She noted they would be monitoring expenses and approving receipts. She stated once renovated, the building would be used to hold classes such as through BOCES or SUNY Ulster as well as hold weddings or other large functions.
7. Village Façade Improvement: Director Holt stated they were drafting the application and rules for this project. She noted there was only \$25,000 available and expected this would be matching funds for other sources. She indicated there would be a small window of opportunity such as 4 weeks for the application and 9 months for the completion of the work. She confirmed she would be reaching out to every property owner in the fourteen block area.
8. Project Management/Grant Writing Services: Director Holt indicated they anticipated contracting with Pattern for Progress for ongoing project management. She stated Pattern would be the overseer for any grants that would be applied for as part of the Ellenville Million.
9. High Speed Broadband: Director Holt reported the County is putting together a county-wide assessment RFP. She noted the Governor's initiative, Broadband for All, is coming out with a guidance of obtaining funding and this assessment is to prepare Ulster County for responding to the applications for funding.

Director Holt reiterated the invitation to Committee members to attend the Economic Development Alliance's tour of the Ellenville Million projects scheduled to begin at the Hunt Memorial Building on October 19, 2015 at 1:00 PM. She noted the additional visits to Shadowland Theater, main street, and the five parks. She confirmed participants would be caravanning in their own vehicles.

Director Holt noted the two consultant projects being conducted by the Economic Development Alliance. She noted the first was a targeted industry assessment being conducted by Peter Fairweather. She stated they had conducted multiple stakeholder and sector meetings and they were currently expecting the submission of his recommendation report. She stated this report would inform the marketing activities for 2016.

Director Holt noted the second project was a targeted marketing campaign and introduced

Raleigh Green, the President and CEO of the marketing company selected to conduct the technology entrepreneur campaign. Mr. Green provided an overview of the high tech/tech entrepreneur movement that is happening in Ulster County. He provided a handout summarizing his company's campaign for 2015 entitled, Sowing Seeds of Future Growth (attached). He highlighted the three main components of the campaign listed on the handout as under the Summary of Key Results heading.

Director Holt and Mr. Green highlighted the experiences and backgrounds of the Red Carpet Tour participants.

Mr. Green noted the lessons learned from this first campaign.

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**Guest Presentation: Ulster County Broadband Plan, Bob Sudlow, Ulster County Executive Office**

Chairman Briggs stated Deputy County Executive Sudlow would not be in attendance but would be presenting at the November meeting. He noted a county committee had been formed and was scheduled to meet next week with some Broadband companies. He stated Deputy County Executive Sudlow would provide an update from this meeting at the next Committee meeting.

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**Motion No. 2**

**Resolution No. 369**

**October 20, 2015**

**Text of Motion:** **Resolved to approve Resolution No. 369** - Appointing Alternate Member To The Ulster County Planning Board – Village of New Paltz

**Motion Made By:** Legislator Litts

**Motion Seconded By:** Legislator Allen

**Resolution No. 369 Summary:** This Resolution appoints David Gilmour from the Village of New Paltz as an alternate member to the Ulster County Planning Board for a term that shall coincide with the appointed incumbent board member, Maurice Weitman's, term set to end on December 31, 2017.

**Discussion:** None

**Roll Call Vote:** No

**Voting In Favor:** Legislators Allen, Archer, Bartels, Briggs, Litts and Maio

**Voting Against:** None

**No. of Votes in Favor:** 6

**No. of Votes Against:** 0

**Disposition:** Carried

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**Motion No. 3**

**Resolution No. 374**

**October 20, 2015**

**Text of Motion:** **Resolved to approve Resolution No. 374** - Approving The Execution Of A Contract Amendment In Excess Of \$50,000.00 Entered Into By The County – New World Systems – Department of Information Services

**Motion Made By:** Legislator Archer

**Motion Seconded By:** Legislator Bartels for discussion

**Resolution No. 374 Summary:** This Resolution states the Ulster County Legislature has examined the contract amendment with New World Systems for an increased amount of \$2,560.00, and hereby approves the amendment in the form as filed with the Clerk of the Ulster County Legislature or as modified with the approval of the County Attorney and Legislative Counsel.

**Discussion:**

Legislator Archer asked why there was no one in attendance from the Department to discuss the contract. Legislator Maio suggested the Committee wait on voting on the contract until the Department could provide information. Legislator Litts noted in another Committee this week, it was decided that the Chairman would write a letter requesting representatives be in attendance at Committee meetings to afford members the opportunity to have questions answered.

**Chairman Briggs queried the Committee members if they wanted to hold the Resolution until next month and all agreed. No action was taken on this resolution.**

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**Motion No. 4**

**Resolution No. 375**

**October 20, 2015**

**Text of Motion:** **Resolved to approve Resolution No. 375** - Approving The Execution Of A Contract In Excess Of \$50,000.00 Entered Into By The County – Windstream Holdings, Inc – Department of Information Services

**Resolution No. 375 Summary:** This Resolution states the Ulster County Legislature has examined the contract with Windstream Holdings, Inc for \$210,000.00, and hereby approves the contract in the form as filed with the Clerk of the Ulster County Legislature or as modified with the approval of the County Attorney and Legislative Counsel.

**Discussion:**

**Chairman Briggs queried the Committee members if they wanted to hold the Resolution until next month and all agreed. No action was taken on this resolution.**

Chairman Briggs stated he would ask representatives from the Department of Information Services be available at the next Committee meeting.

Legislator Bartels asked if this was the Voice Over IP contract that Legislator Belfiglio had expressed concerns about in previous years as a member of the technology oversight committee. She stated she would follow up with him on this.

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**Motion No. 5**

**Resolution No. 376**

**October 20, 2015**

**Text of Motion:** **Resolved to approve Resolution No. 376** - Approving The Execution Of A Contract In Excess Of \$50,000.00 Entered Into By The County – Nelson/Nygaard Consulting Associates, Inc. – Department of Planning

**Motion Made By:** Legislator Archer for discussion

**Motion Seconded By:** Legislator Maio

**Resolution No. 376 Summary:** This Resolution states the Ulster County Legislature has examined the contract with Nelson/Nygaard Consulting Associates, Inc. for \$53,974.00, and hereby approves the contract in the form as filed with the Clerk of the Ulster County Legislature or as modified with the approval of the County Attorney and Legislative Counsel.

**Discussion:**

Legislator Bartels noted her dissatisfaction with the Department of Planning not being in attendance.

Legislator Litts indicated the Legislature should not complicate the Federal funding.

**Roll Call Vote:** No

**Voting In Favor:** Legislators Allen, Archer, Bartels, Briggs, Litts, and Maio

**Voting Against:** None

**No. of Votes in Favor:** 6

**No. of Votes Against:** 0

**Disposition:** Carried

**Text of Motion:** **Resolved to approve Resolution No. 377** - Approving The Execution Of A Contract In Excess Of \$50,000.00 Entered Into By The County – RUPCO, Inc – Department of Planning

**Motion Made By:** Legislator Bartels for discussion

**Motion Seconded By:** Legislator Maio

**Resolution No. 377 Summary:** This Resolution states the Ulster County Legislature has examined the contract with RUPCO, Inc for \$492,000.00, and hereby approves the contract in the form as filed with the Clerk of the Ulster County Legislature or as modified with the approval of the County Attorney and Legislative Counsel.

**Discussion:**

Legislator Bartels noted the contract was 100% Federally funded and for the preserving and greening of housing but reiterated the displeasure at the Department not being in attendance. She noted the Committee is suppose to get updates and that there had been representatives in attendance.

Chairman Briggs stated in the future he would make calls to ensure representatives are in attendance.

**Roll Call Vote:** No

**Voting In Favor:** Legislators Allen, Archer, Bartels, Briggs, Litts, and Maio

**Voting Against:** None

**No. of Votes in Favor:** 6

**No. of Votes Against:** 0

**Disposition:** Carried

**Text of Motion:** Resolved to approve Resolution No. 378 - Approving The Execution Of A Contract In Excess Of \$50,000.00 Entered Into By The County – Spacesaver Systems Inc – Department of Information Services

**Resolution No. 378 Summary:** This Resolution states the Ulster County Legislature has examined the contract with Spacesaver Systems, Inc for \$114,830.00, and hereby approves the contract in the form as filed with the Clerk of the Ulster County Legislature or as modified with the approval of the County Attorney and Legislative Counsel.

**Discussion:**

**Chairman Briggs queried the Committee members if they wanted to hold the Resolution until next month and all agreed. No action was taken on this resolution.**

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**New Business**

Legislator Maio noted the discussion of a countywide Broadband assessment as part of the Ellenville Million projects and queried the specific funding for the Ellenville Million. Legislator Archer noted the Ellenville Million funds were identified to kickstart the needs in Ellenville and that the county committee was doing a separate RFP assessment. She noted in the past year the inaccuracies coming from the New York State Broadband report of Boardband access which indicated, as an example, Rochester with 95% coverage when in reality it was closer to 65%.

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**Old Business:**

None

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**Adjournment**

**Motion Made By:** Legislator Litts  
**Motion Seconded By:** Legislator Maio  
**No. of Votes in Favor:** 6  
**No. of Votes Against:** 0

**TIME:** 6:57 PM

**Dated the 8<sup>th</sup> day of October, 2015**  
**Krista J. Barringer, Deputy Clerk**

**Minutes Approved on: November 4, 2015**