

Economic Development, Tourism, Housing, Planning & Transit Committee

Regular Meeting Minutes

DATE & TIME: November 13, 2014, 5:30 PM
LOCATION: Legislative Chambers, 6th Floor, COB, Kingston, NY
PRESIDING OFFICER: Chair Thomas J. Briggs
LEGISLATIVE STAFF: Krista Barringer, Deputy Clerk
PRESENT: Legislators Chris Allen (arrived 5:35 PM/Left 6:28 PM), Lynn Archer, Herbert Litts, III, James F. Maloney (Left 6:28 PM), Mary Beth Maio and Kenneth Wishnick
EXCUSED: None
QUORUM PRESENT: Yes
OTHER ATTENDEES: Legislators Dean Fabiano and Pete Loughran, Office of Business Services Director Suzanne Holt, and Department of Planning Director Dennis Doyle.

Chair Briggs called the meeting to order at 5:32 PM.

**Motion No. 1 RESOLVED to Approve the Minutes of October 7, 2014
and October 16, 2014**

Motion Made By: Legislator Archer
Motion Seconded By: Legislator Maloney
Discussion: None
Roll Call Vote: No
Voting In Favor: Legislators Archer, Briggs, Litts, Maloney, Maio, and Wishnick
Voting Against: None
No. of Votes in Favor: 6
No. of Votes Against: 0
Disposition: Carried

Motion No. 2 Resolution No. 373 – November 18, 2014

Motion Made By: Legislator Maio

Motion Seconded By: Legislator Maloney

Text of Motion: **Resolved to approve Resolution No. 373** - Approving The Execution Of A Contract In Excess Of \$50,000.00 Entered Into By The County – UC Economic Development Alliance, Inc. – Department Of Planning

Resolution No. 373 Summary: This Resolution states the Ulster County Legislature has examined the contract, 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: Director Holt noted she had done a presentation with FOCUS Media at Ways and Means and she arrived to this meeting prepared to answer questions. She indicated she was not told to invite Mr. Sommers to this meeting. She stated she could discuss what FOCUS Media had completed to date as indicated in the expense breakout provided. (attached to minutes). Legislator Maio thanked Director Holt for the expense breakout document.

Director Holt reviewed the breakdown of expenses. She spoke of a video being produced by FOCUS Media and the Site Selector Magazine ad which includes two follow-up mailers as well as website updates. She discussed their educational effort which included quarterly networking breakfasts and noted the next one will be held January 21, 2015 at 8:30 AM at Deisings with the proposed topic being 3D printing. She indicated the cost is \$20 per person and that the breakfasts are held quarterly on the third Wednesdays. She discussed a Spanish speaking networking opportunity that met in Ellenville. She discussed her new staff member, Arthur Zaczekiewicz, previously with Cornell Cooperative Extension, who is putting together these educational meetings. She stated their goal for 2014 was to get all the professional collateral together and for 2015, they are targeting particular industries, continue to market externally and educate internally.

Legislator Allen asked if the SWOT session expenses were for time and preparation of materials. Director Holt stated it was the time as FOCUS Media hosted three sessions. Legislator Archer reiterated her request from last meeting to have FOCUS Media in attendance with her desire to understand their whole approach, the research they did, who was included in these sessions and a fuller understanding of what they did. She noted the expectation that the economic development strategy was developed as a result of the input. Director Holt replied the select group of individuals participating were chosen by FOCUS Media and the County Executive's office. She noted no prospective new businesses or prospective business that ultimately decided not to locate to Ulster County participated. She highlighted the two excellent qualities that should be highlighted based

on the SWOT sessions: strategic location and excellent quality of life. She noted in regards to strategic location a business can access one-third (1/3rd) of the United States population and two-thirds (2/3rd) of Canada within a one days drive. She also noted the three Thruway exits, the proximity to two International airports, and accessibility to rail. In regards to the quality of life, she highlighted the four season opportunities.

Legislator Allen asked the average work hours per month for the marketing and PR expenses. Director Holt replied there were a number of staff that she would interact with throughout the various projects and was unable to identify a specific number of hours.

Legislator Allen asked if the Facebook ad campaign was based on the number of individuals reached. Director Holt replied their Facebook Friends went from 90 when they started the campaign to over 1,000 over the course of a few months.

Legislator Allen asked about the printing costs. Director Holt replied these expenses had not been completed yet as it was for the Site Selector ad to run in the November issue and two follow-up mailings of about 7,000 cards. Legislator Allen noted the difference in expenditures for the Site Selector Ad and the purchase of the mailing lists and printing of the post cards.

Legislator Allen asked about the \$10,000 expense for the video. Director Holt stated this was a subcontract through FOCUS Media with Ellenbogen. She stated the video would be shown in multiple locations including the website. She stated other target groups were being identified in potential growth areas for future videos.

Roll Call Vote:	No
Voting In Favor:	Legislators Allen, Archer, Briggs, Litts, Maloney, Maio, and Wishnick
Voting Against:	None
No. of Votes in Favor:	7
No. of Votes Against:	0
Disposition:	Carried

Motion No. 3 **Resolution No. 392 – November 18, 2014**

Motion Made By: Legislator Maio

Motion Seconded By: Legislator Maloney

Text of Motion: **Resolved to approve Resolution No. 392 - Setting A Policy Offering Discounted UCAT Fares To Veterans**

Resolution No. 392 Summary: This Resolution authorizes any honorably discharged member of the armed forces of the United States to pay a discounted fare when utilizing UCAT between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m., and such discount shall be fifty percent (50%) of the full fare for the service provided upon the presentation of an Ulster County Veterans identification card or an official United States military identification card.

Discussion: None
Roll Call Vote: No
Voting In Favor: Legislators Allen, Archer, Briggs, Litts, Maloney, Maio, and Wishnick
Voting Against: None
No. of Votes in Favor: 7
No. of Votes Against: 0
Disposition: Carried

Motion No. 4 **Resolution No. 406 – November 18, 2014**

Motion Made By: Legislator Litts

Motion Seconded By: Legislator Maloney

Text of Motion: **Resolved to approve Resolution No. 406** - Authorizing The Continuation Of Agricultural District No. 4 – Esopus Creek – Towns Of Hurley, Kingston, Marbletown, Olive, Saugerties, Shandaken, Woodstock and Ulster – Department Of Planning

Resolution No. 406 Summary: This Resolution approves the continuation, with modifications, of Agricultural District No. 4 in the Towns of Hurley, Kingston, Marbletown, Olive, Saugerties, Shandaken, Woodstock and Ulster in accordance with the recommendations of the AFPB as filed with the Clerk of Legislature, as Agricultural District No. 4 Esopus Creek, Ulster County, with the next anniversary date of March 13 2023, and the exception that the following property remaining within the District: Jeannine Ricketson, Saugerties, 18.1-1-33.200, 3022 Route 32, 4.8 acres. The Resolution finds the continuation of the District with modifications, will result in no significant adverse environmental impacts and that a Negative Declaration is hereby adopted under State Environmental Quality Review Act, 6 NYCRR Part 617 (SEQRA) and directs the Clerk of the Ulster County Legislature to submit this resolution, maps and reports as required to the Commissioner of New York State Department of Agriculture and Markets for consideration to determine if it is consistent with New York State environmental plan, policies and objectives and requesting certification of the modified District.

Discussion: Legislator Maloney noted this Resolution was for the 8-year review of Agricultural District No. 4. Legislator Archer highlighted this was an automatic review every 8 years.

Department of Planning Director Doyle highlighted there are 5 districts and this district includes over 77,000 acres.

Legislator Maloney noted the Agricultural and Farmland Protection Board maintained information on every property within the district, visit each to ensure still meeting the requirements for inclusion in the district, and that it was quite a process.

Department of Planning Director Doyle indicated all landowners being proposed to be removed from the district receive certified mailing indicating the Board's recommendations and it is their responsibility to notify the Legislature if they disagree with the recommendations.

Legislator Litts noted landowners in the District must supply information annually to their Town Assessor to keep their agricultural designation.

Department of Planning Director Doyle noted the Legislature receives the Agricultural and Farmland Protection Board's recommendations and then decide to recommend the continuation of the district with the recommended modifications to the New York State Commissioner of New York State Department of Agriculture and Markets for his/her consideration to act on the recommendations.

Department of Planning Director Doyle noted the Legislature has set March 1 – March 30 for district additions or removals. He noted the landowners apply to their Town Assessors annually for the Agricultural credits. Legislators Maloney and Archer noted just being in the district does not automatically grant the property tax credits.

Roll Call Vote:	No
Voting In Favor:	Legislators Allen, Archer, Briggs, Litts, Maloney, Maio, and Wishnick
Voting Against:	None
No. of Votes in Favor:	7
No. of Votes Against:	0
Disposition:	Carried

Motion No. 5 **Resolution No. 412 – November 18, 2014**

Motion Made By: **Legislator Maloney**

Motion Seconded By: **Legislator Maio for discussion only**

Text of Motion: **Resolved to approve Resolution No. 412** - 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

Resolution No. 412 Summary: This Resolution states the Ulster County Legislature has examined the contract, 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 Litts noted this is a continuation of an existing contract. Deputy Clerk Barringer noted the contract provides support and upgrade for the Aegis public safety software and TRACS interface for the Sheriff's department.

Roll Call Vote: No
Voting In Favor: Legislators Allen, Archer, Briggs, Litts, Maloney, Maio, and Wishnick
Voting Against: None
No. of Votes in Favor: 7
No. of Votes Against: 0
Disposition: Carried

New Business:

Department of Planning Director Doyle provided a report from the Transportation Council. He noted they would be holding on December 19, 2014, a public hearing on the Corridor Study for Broadway Project in the City of Kingston. He noted the oversight of a Corridor Advisory Committee. He stated the public hearing would be held at 721 Media Center in Kingston. He noted this was a wayfinding plan project and that the initial assessment was completed. He stated the process has led to additional studies and the identification of changes to accommodate pedestrians and bicycles. He stated the City of Kingston has money available to move the recommendations to the implementation phase. He noted a light synchronization study led to a recommendation to the City of Kingston. He noted this wayfinder plan project would start with the I-597 corridor converting to a roundable. He noted this Interstate was the shortest Interstate in the United States and that the project would be moving toward design in 2016-2107.

Department of Planning Director Doyle noted on November 20, 2014, the Town of Rosendale would be hosting an initial community meeting entitled Finding Rosendale which is also a projected wayfinder plan project. He stated the meeting would be held at 7:00 PM at the Rosendale Community Center. He stated this project initiated with the community seeking connections from the railtrail and Routes 212/32 to the businesses.

He highlighted a Town and Village of New Paltz intermodal study which was 75% completed. He stated they would be scheduling a public hearing and that they had identified 8-10 sites. He stated the Transportation Advisory Committee (TAC) was looking at where the intermodal center would work best. He stated cost estimates on the top three sites were coming soon and would be presented to the community for their input. He stated this study started with high transit use of trailways and the DOT approaching them when the bus station building was sold. He stated they sought

alternatives in the community. He stated the study indicated the community desired a walkable transit station in the downtown area. He stated they are doing design work for the three sites identified including the existing site, a site on Route 32 and at the current village hall/DPW location.

Department of Planning Director Doyle reported the Park & Ride in New Paltz was completed and the money was reprogrammed for Saugerties after SUNY New Paltz completed the project without Federal funding reimbursement. He stated the Saugerties Park & Ride was being proposed for an area across from the southbound Thruway exit. He indicated it would accommodate 47-50 cars and include a bus drop off areas as well as accommodations for future concerts. He stated the Park & Ride at the Roundabout in the Town of Ulster is expected to be expanded from the current of 76 spaces which is at overflow capacity to over 80 spaces with construction expected next summer.

He discussed the Route 213 bridge and the Village of Ellenville's Hickory Street bridge which was just completed.

He noted the Long Range Transportation Plan which is required to be updated every five years is being reviewed. He noted the Legislature would need to adopt a new plan by next September.

Legislator Maloney asked if there was expectations of taking the parcel in front of the Town of Ulster Park & Ride to which Department of Planning Director Doyle replied they were not intending to take the parcel as they would get the additional spaces without the extra land.

Legislator Maloney congratulated Department of Planning Director Doyle on his 40 year anniversary with the County.

Legislator Wishnick stated he appreciated the comprehensive report provided to the Committee. He asked if the New Paltz Trailways Bus Station was at risk. Department of Planning Director Doyle replied it was not at risk but that the Department of Transportation was nervous as there was no lease with the current building owner. He stated the existing location had limited uses and that they could, through a private-public lease partnership, pay for the renovations of the building. He discussed the experience with the Kingston Trailways Bus Station.

Legislator Wishnick asked if the City of Kingston had any focus for the Broadway Corridor project on land use. Department of Planning Director Doyle replied the City of Kingston was currently in the process of updating their Comprehensive Plan. He discussed their BEAT initiative, which was an arts district around the UPAC area. He noted this plan was in sync with the transportation study. Legislator Archer noted the issue of food services for people in the area of the BEAT initiative has been referred to as a food desert. She noted the food resources were fast food and convenience.

Legislator Maloney inquired as to any I-587 project alternatives. Department of Planning Director Doyle stated the preferred alternative was the roundabout. He noted this was supported by the community and that the Department of Transportation's perspective is a roundabouts first policy. He stated the website had some renderings for the project. He noted one alternative was for I-587 to give up its interstate distinction and become a parkway. He discussed a grid system which would reinvent the Kingston Plaza as a Main Street. He highlighted their work on Boices Lane in conducting rail safety.

Department of Planning Director Doyle noted the Ulster County Planning Board was the third smallest MPO (Metropolitan Planning Organization) in New York State and the only MPO in New York State to be part of a TMA/MPO. He stated this required them to submit joint resolutions with other MPOs in the TMA (Transportation Management Area). He noted New Paltz, Highland, Shawangunk, and Plattekill were part of the Poughkeepsie/Newburgh Urbanized Area.

Old Business: None

Adjournment

Motion Made By: Legislator Litts
Motion Seconded By: Legislator Archer
No. of Votes in Favor: 5
No. of Votes Against: 0

TIME: 6:39 PM

Dated the 17th day of November, 2014
Krista J. Barringer, Deputy Clerk

Minutes Approved on: December 4, 2014