

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

**Special Meeting Minutes**

**DATE & TIME:** June 24, 2014, 6:30 PM  
**LOCATION:** Karen L. Binder Library, 6<sup>th</sup> Floor, COB  
**PRESIDING OFFICER:** Chair Thomas J. Briggs  
**LEGISLATIVE STAFF:** Jay Mahler, Deputy Clerk  
**PRESENT:** Legislators Chris Allen, Lynn Archer, Herbert Litts, III, James F. Maloney, Mary Beth Maio, and Kenneth Wishnick  
**EXCUSED:** None  
**QUORUM PRESENT:** Yes  
**OTHER ATTENDEES:** Majority Leader Donald Gregorius,

Chair Briggs called the meeting to order at 6:33 PM.

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**Old Business – Ulster County Industrial Development Agency – Appointment Applications Scoring and Recommendations**

Legislator Archer motioned to enter Executive Session for the purposes of discussing the scoring, evaluation and the determination of appointment recommendations for the Ulster County Industrial Development Agency. Legislator Maloney seconded and with all in favor, the Committee entered Executive Session at 6:33 PM.

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Legislator Maloney motioned to exit Executive Session and Legislator Litts, III seconded the motion. With all in favor, the Committee exited Executive Session at 7:10 PM.

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Chairman Briggs asked the Committee to consider how often they would like a member of the IDA to appear before the Committee to update them on projects and PILOTs being considered in the County. He suggested that a member of the IDA, perhaps the Chairman, could report to the Committee bi-monthly and have Susan Holt report to the Committee on the alternating months. He continued by saying that current IDA members were consistent when offering their opinions on what the weaknesses were in the County, and that infrastructure was identified as chief among them.

Legislator Litts reiterated the need to take steps to correct the weaknesses in order to entice economic development. He also suggested that the newly appointed IDA Board

come to the next Economic Development meeting so they could be congratulated and introduce themselves to one another.

Chairman Briggs polled the Committee and with everyone in agreement, said he would invite the new Board members to the meeting immediately following their appointment.

Legislator Wishnick requested that a letter go to the current IDA asking for a copy of their Annual Report.

Legislator Maloney advised the Committee that, per a discussion at the last Committee meeting, the IDA was currently working on the report and offered that two "PARIS Reports" were currently available. The Committee agreed to see what was available before sending a letter.

Legislator Archer informed the Committee that she had asked Susan Holt for specific information about PILOT projects in Ulster County since 2011 to get a sense of the work of the current IDA with an eye towards infrastructure.

Discussion again turned to having Ms. Holt appear before the Committee on alternating months from members of the IDA to keep the Committee apprised of the economic development initiative in the county.

Legislator Litts stated his feeling that having both Ms. Holt and the IDA attending regular meetings will help to ensure that the issues of interest to the Committee and the legislature are brought back to their Board and given consideration when evaluating projects.

Legislator Maloney cautioned the Committee about the level of information that the IDA members and Ms. Holt can provide in public settings because of a certain level of confidentiality required. He continued by saying that anything that could jeopardize the creation of 50 jobs in Ulster County should not be taken lightly.

Legislator Archer recommended that presentations to the Committee by the IDA and/or Ms. Holt be conducted in Executive Session. She continued by saying that Legislators have an understanding that a certain amount of confidentiality is required in all business conducted.

Legislator Wishnick pointed out that the Committee be provided with the same level of information that an individual would have if he/she attended the monthly IDA meetings.

There was some discussion about which IDA PILOT projects appear before the Legislature and to what extent the Committee's involvement should be in the IDA's decision making process.

Legislator Archer spoke to the necessity of being an informed body and the many benefits to the county when there is openness and dialogue.

Chairman Briggs said that was the intent of having Ms. Holt and the IDA appear before the committee and having her also provide information in writing.

**Legislator Archer confirmed with the Committee that they were all on the same page with the seven names being submitted for positions on the IDA. The Committee agreed.**

Legislator Briggs reminded the Committee that the July monthly meeting of the Committee is scheduled for Tuesday, July 1<sup>st</sup>.

**Adjournment**

<b>Motion Made By:</b>	Legislator Litts, III
<b>Motion Seconded By:</b>	Legislator Maloney
<b>No. of Votes in Favor:</b>	7
<b>No. of Votes Against:</b>	0

**TIME: 7:22 PM**

**Dated the 25<sup>th</sup> day of June, 2014**

**Jay Mahler, Deputy Clerk**

**Minutes Approved on: July 1, 2014**