

NEW BUSINESS:

UCDC Presented:

Lance Matteson passed out an Economic Development Update and giving an overview of what UCDC will be asking for in terms of budgetary funding this upcoming year, which is in line with 2008. UCDC will be asking for \$248k for base monies and then an additional \$200K in incentive monies. He'll bring in a more detailed accounting of why UCDC needs and wants this level of funding at the next meeting.

Lance went on to reiterate that retention is a priority as he feels it's extremely important to keep the companies we have and getting companies to expand is important as well – but both are very time consuming. A lot of activity goes on in Ulster County and our County is lower in its unemployment rate than most counties. Legislator Loughran requested information as to the number of jobs that have left the County within the past ten years and costs to the County associated with these losses; Legislator Rodriguez would like to see the report include positive items such as expansions, new companies, etc.

Shovel ready projects were reviewed - - Saugerties s going out to bid (\$1 mil in bonding from County) . Old Kings Highway expansion is occurring. Lloyd is looking to do Phase II. Tech City is seeing some activity with 3-4 companies signing leases or letters of intent; Master Plan is gaining national attention.

Solar Investments are beginning to take hold in the market but the economy has slowed activity. Chinese are interested in both solar technologies and manufacturing in New York.

There has been a Committee formed to insure Winston Farm is developed as the community wants, while being beneficial to the community.

UCDC is monitoring the upcoming auction of the Nevele and is involved to a limited degree with the Nevele situation. UCDC wants to be sure whoever buys the Nevele can do all they can to develop the Nevele successfully.

Incentive monies for UCDC have slowed a little with regard to matching funds; fundraising efforts have been impacted by the economy; time has also been spent more directly with trying to sustain companies, expansion of companies and trying to bring in new companies rather than fundraising. Job growth has been positive in the County (ie Rocking Horse Ranch, Earthkind)

County Planning Presented:

Dennis Doyle passed out information on a Broadband Project applied for by the County that would allow Community Wireless, a division of IITS, Inc. to provide a unique last mile approach to extend broadband internet access to areas of the Ulster county abandoned by traditional cable, DSL and FIOS.

Dennis credited March Gallagher, Deputy Director for Economic Development, along with the County Information Services, for moving this project along.

Highway Trust Fund (Federal Funding 2010) is projecting shortfalls in their spending and revenue – which means obtaining federal funding in 2010 is going to be challenging.

Dennis provided a hand out on the status of the Highway Trust Fund

UCAT transition, which Dennis has been involved with as the Deputy Director for UCAT, has gone smoothly.

Walkway transportation being worked on. 5307 Funds that are left over are being reviewed and considered for other projects. Kehonkson Bridge is moving along. Housing Campaign is being rolled out in October – will have a website. Main Street Projects for Milton, Esopus, Phoenicia, Pine Hill and Shokan have all been contracted for – we are one of two Counties doing a regional program. Stormwater grant is being re-purposed. Check arrived for development rights for Milsner and Davis Farm.

Cornell Cooperative Presented:

Lee Reidy indicated Ulster fair did well in spite of the rainy weather. Cornell is working on numerous grants, most of which will enhance current programming.

RESOLUTIONS:

Authorizing The Chairman Of The Ulster County Legislature To Execute An Amendment To New York State Department Of State Contract No. C069948 To Extend The End Date For Implementation Of The Quality Communities Grant To Improve Existing Centers

Motion was made by Legislator Harris, seconded by Legislator Loughran. All were in favor.

Discussion: None

Designation of Ulster County as A Recovery Zone for the Purpose of Establishing the Jurisdictional Area in Which Recovery Zone Bonds May Be Utilized

Motion was made by Legislator Bischoff, seconded by Legislator Loughran. All were in favor.

Discussion: Dennis Doyle explained Recovery Zones and the County will be saving money on borrowing costs; designation allows for bonds to be done now for future projects.

Motion to Adjourn:

Motion was made by Legislator Loughran, seconded by Legislator Terrizzi

All were in favor. Meeting adjourned at: 7:32 PM

Submitted by: Mary L. Carey, Clerk of the Legislature
September 23, 2009