

**COUNTY OF OTSEGO INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AGENCY
OTSEGO COUNTY CAPITAL RESOURCE CORPORATION**

**PROJECTS COMMITTEE
July 14th, 2022
MEETING MINUTES**

CALL TO ORDER

The COIDA and OCCRC's joint Projects Committee meeting was called to order at 7:59am at the Otsego Now offices at 189 Main Street in Oneonta, NY. Members present included:

Cheryl Robinson
Patricia Kennedy
Jeffrey Lord
Craig Gelbsman
Andrew Marietta (v)*

Tom Armao
David Rowley
Jeffery Joyner
James Seward

Also, in attendance:

STAFF

Jody Zakrevsky, **CEO**
Meaghan Marino, **Dir. of Finance and Admin.**

(v) – virtual – board members attending the meeting virtually are ineligible to vote on items and not counted towards a quorum.

*arrived after start of meeting.

CHAIR'S REMARKS

Projects Chair, C. Robinson, moved immediately into the agenda.

MEETING MINUTES

C. Robinson requested a motion to approve the June 9th Project Committee meeting minutes. Committee members were given a draft copy of the minutes prior to the meeting for review. There being no corrections to be made, T. Armao made a motion to approve the meeting minutes. J. Seward seconded the motion, and the motion was approved by remaining board members.

CEO REPORT OF PROJECTS

J. Zakrevsky recapped some of his activities since the June Projects Committee meeting until now. He also provided members with a detailed update of some of the IDA's priority projects. The following topics were discussed in greater detail:

- **Oneonta Rail Yards** – J. Zakrevsky advised that Norfolk Southern has requested a meeting with the agency to assist with marketing efforts for the Rail Yards. C. Robinson requested that J. Zakrevsky report back to the board with more information on who they're marketing to and what their marketing strategies are. J. Lord noted that Norfolk Southern has come to the agency in the past and advised that the Rail Yards didn't have enough rail siding and that lumber would be the only likely export out of the Rail Yards. He asked what has changed. J. Zakrevsky noted that they haven't been here in over four years, so they likely want to come to reassess the inventory along the tracks. J. Joyner noted the shift in the shipping industry and the lack of drivers for long-haul routes, which could be an opportunity for rail.
- **Richfield Springs (RS)** – J. Zakrevsky advised that K. Schulte, counsel attorney, submitted his opinion letter to EDA that the IDA owned the Richfield Springs property. J. Zakrevsky is also following up with J. Scott, bond counsel, to get an update on the water/sewer district agreements that Hodgson Russ, LLP. has been working on. J. Zakrevsky is also working on another ARC grant application, which should be finished next week, for additional funding for this project. Southern Tier 8 provided comments on the application, which J. Zakrevsky is implementing into the final application. C. Robinson expressed a desire to have each grant listed out individually in the project trackers with status, amounts, uses, and conditions/requirements. J. Zakrevsky is also trying to get a meeting with Senator Oberaker and NYSEG to discuss the gas line extensions for this project. Without the gas line extensions cleared up, D. Rowley asked for the status of the bid documents. J. Zakrevsky advised that the project will likely go to bid without the gas extensions. Because the bids need 60-day advertisement, construction likely will not begin until Spring.

NEW/UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- **Oneonta Business Park** – J. Zakrevsky advised that SHIPO is reviewing the archeological documents for the Oneonta Business Park, and we should hear back from them soon. J. Zakrevsky also advised that there has been discussion of a sports dome being donated to the IDA, which could potentially go in the Oneonta Business Park so that it would be visible from I-88. A dome would also alleviate the need to mitigate the archeological areas in the park.
- **Systematic Power Manufacturing/IOXUS** – The IDA, with the Town of Oneonta as the applicant, was awarded \$750,000 for the IOXUS' expansion through CDBG funding.
- **Marketing Campaign** – J. Zakrevsky noted that we received an updated proposal from Paperkite for continued marketing efforts. The proposal was sent out to committee members prior to the meeting. The campaign is broken into two components; the lifestyle campaign for individuals looking to move, and the business campaign for businesses looking to start or relocate here. J. Zakrevsky recommended keeping a small part of the lifestyle campaign going, as is, and recommended retargeting the business campaign from the Tri-state area to more local areas like, Utica, Albany, and Binghamton. The committee requested recommendations from Chris Quereau, who couldn't be at this meeting, but will attend the July board meeting.

- **Innovation/Acceleration Center** – C. Robinson requested a project tracker specifically for the Innovation/Acceleration Center. She also expressed concern over the hiring of a director for the center and the lack of firm commitments from the partners on this project. She requested that J. Zakrevsky work on a contract for the partners. J. Zakrevsky also expressed his desire to get all the partners together to attend a planning meeting with board members.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

D. Rowley made a motion to enter executive session with committee members only, under the Public Officers Law, Article 7, Open Meetings Law Section 105, at 8:48am for the following reasons: To discuss the potential sale of property. C. Robinson seconded the motion, and it was approved by all committee members present. The committee entered executive session at 8:48am.

There was no action taken in executive session.

D. Rowley made a motion to enter back into public session; C. Robinson seconded, and all members approved. The committee exited executive session at 9:00am.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to discuss, J. Joyner made a motion to adjourn the Projects Committee meeting at 9:15am.

UPCOMING MEETING SCHEDULE

The next Projects Committee meeting will be held on August 11th, 2022 at 8:00am.