

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

**PROJECTS COMMITTEE
AUGUST 11th, 2022
MEETING MINUTES**

CALL TO ORDER

The COIDA and OCCRC's joint Projects Committee meeting was called to order at 9:20am at the Otsego Now offices at 189 Main Street in Oneonta, NY. Members were given the option join the meeting virtually (v) or in-person. Members present included:

Cheryl Robinson
Jeffrey Lord (v)*
Andrew Marietta (v)*

Tom Armao
David Rowley

Also, in attendance:

STAFF
Jody Zakrevsky, **CEO**
Meaghan Marino, **Dir. of Finance and Admin.**
Kurt Schulte, **Agency Counsel***

*departed before end of meeting.

CHAIR'S REMARKS

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

MEETING MINUTES

C. Robinson requested a motion to approve the July 14th 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, D. Rowley made a motion to approve the meeting minutes. T. Armao 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 July 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:

- **Richfield Springs (RS)** – J. Zakrevsky advised that he spoke with Joe Scott who is actively working on the water/sewer agreements. Joe has a call scheduled with the both the Village of RS and Town of RS later this week. J. Zakrevsky has applied for a \$500,000 grant from Southern Tier 8, who approved the application and moved it onto the Department of State. C. Robinson expressed concern over the timeline of this project. J. Zakrevsky noted that he met with NYSEG and Sen. Oberaker, and NYSEG has agreed to move forward with the project even though there isn't a committed tenant for the park. He noted to NYSEG that there is no cost to them, which was why they didn't want to get involved originally. NYSEG did request support letters for the project to submit to the Public Service Commission by August 20th. C. Robinson asked about the status of the bid documents. J. Zakrevsky advised that the bid documents are complete, but there is one form that needs to be completed that shows where in the bid documents what EDA's requirements are. He's hopeful that we will go out to bid within a month.
- **Innovation/Acceleration Center (IAC)**– J. Zakrevsky was asked by board members to put together a project tracker for the IAC. He noted that the tracker will track three different funding opportunities for this project; one from the Appalachian Regional Commission (ARC), another from USDA, and the third from Empire State Development (ESD). ARC has reviewed the grant application for this project and made recommendations to move the application onto their full board for approval. The USDA application should be decided on by October, 2022. The ESD grant has already been awarded, which provides a 10% match of the total project costs. Should the first two grants be awarded, the board would then sit down and determine next steps.
- **Oneonta Rail Yards** – J. Zakrevsky advised that he is still working with Rambol Engineers on their geothermal study of the Oneonta Rail Yards. They are currently doing detailed plans of manufacturing space and office space that could be in the rail yards and what their energy consumption would be. Rambol has also reached out to Corning to see if they can incorporate them into their geothermal study. He also received confirmation from Peter Fontana, of Norfolk Southern, that he is coming to meet with J. Zakrevsky next week.

NEW/UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- **Marketing Campaign** – J. Zakrevsky noted that we had a meeting with Christopher Quereau, of Vibrant Brands, about the next phase of the marketing campaign. Two changes requested were that the campaign focus more on the electronics industry and that the targeting move closer to home, like the Utica, Albany, Binghamton areas. Chris indicated that he really liked the idea of targeting specific industries closer to our region. IDA staff will also be meeting with Paperkite in the coming weeks to go over specifics of the campaign.
- **Systematic Power Manufacturing/IOXUS** – J. Zakrevsky noted that the CEO of the company signed the grant agreements and indemnification agreements for the CDBG funding. The only thing he is waiting on for this funding is a copy of the Town of Oneonta's workman's comp.

- **ASATI** – J. Zakrevsky is working with this company to submit a \$100,000 grant to Empire State Development for expansion efforts in their existing location. ESD would provide funding for 20% of the costs.
- **Oneonta Business Park** – The NYS Historic Preservation Office accepted the archaeological study that was done about six years ago. They are now waiting for comments about the property from the Indian Nations, who have until the end of the month. J. Zakrevsky believes that if there are no further comments on the property then it would not reduce the amount of space that could be utilized for building in the park.
- **Office Space** – M. Marino advised that we were contacted by a woman looking for office space for her husband who is working remotely. He works for the International Food Policy Research Institute. They toured the offices and we explained to them that there is a possibility that the building could be sold, but they were still interested in moving into one of the offices. We advised that it would be the same amount, \$500, which was what we charged Congressman Delgado for the smaller office that they utilized in the past. She added that they would like to do a 6-month lease to see how it goes. C. Robinson noted that this seems like a decision IDA management should be making, so long as it aligns with the vision of the agency.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to discuss, D. Rowley made a motion to adjourn the Projects Committee meeting at 9:37am.

UPCOMING MEETING SCHEDULE

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