



PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY COMMITTEE

Time: 1:30 PM

Location: WebEx and 3019 County Complex Dr., Room 204

October 13, 2020

MEMBERS PRESENT

In Person: Supervisors Singer, Bateman, and Wickham.
Via WebEx: Supervisors Guard, Hicks, Lightfoote, and Venuti.

OTHERS PRESENT

In Person: Interim County Administrator Brian Young, County Attorney Holly Adams, Public Health Director Mary Beer, Finance Director Mary Gates, Sustainability and Solid Waste Director Carla Jordan, and Clerk to the Board Kristin Mueller.
Via WebEx: Chairman Jack Marren, Planning Director Tom Harvey, Sr. Planners Regina Sousa and Maria Rudzinski, Economic Developer Michael Manikowski, Associate Planner Tim Jensen, Outside Counsel J. Stravino, Cornell Cooperative Extension Director Tim Davis, Sr. Fiscal Manager Michael Wojcik, Casella General Manager Brian Sanders, Grants Coordinator Peter Brown, Deputy Clerk to the Board Diane Foster, Lynn Klotz, and Jim Armstrong.

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting of the Planning & Environmental Quality Committee was called to order at 1:30 p.m. by Chair Singer.

MINUTES

Supervisor Bateman made a motion to approve the minutes of the Planning and Environmental Quality Committee meeting on September 21, 2020. Supervisor Wickham seconded the motion. The motion carried.

COVID-19 UPDATE

Public Health Director, Mary Beer, gave an update of the COVID-19 Pandemic, noting the following:

- 513 Positive total cases
- 4 New cases today
- 39 Cases have been from Hobart & William Smith
- A cluster has been found at Clifton Springs Hospital and Seneca Terrace
- One positive case from the McDonald's in Farmington
- 5 People are hospitalized
- The Governor is providing rapid testing machines and kits to all Counties

CASELLA

♦ Update

Mr. Brian Sanders presented the following updates:

- They have discovered an area of new odor. They have installed three new vertical wells to correct this potential issue
- They are doing work to the gas headers to get wells online

quicker

- They have 9 out of 26 horizontal wells in the new cell complete and functioning
- They are looking at testing out a new alternative daily cover, it is a spray foam, that will help control odors and gas collection after hours
- The vegetation and restoration project on the east slope is complete

SUSTAINABILITY AND SOLID WASTE

♦ *Strategic Plan*

Ms. Jordan updated the committee on the strategic plan. They have completed the visioning portion of the plan; and it has been given to Causewave. They should have Causewave's results for the next committee cycle. The SWAT analysis and goals will be coming up next. They are going to try to schedule a standing meeting for the next four weeks to complete this.

♦ *Backyard Composting Program*

Ms. Jordan spoke about the backyard composting program. The second round has ended, and they sold out again. The orders are expected to be delivered next week. They have had nothing but positive feedback and hope to expand this service into next spring.

Ms. Jordan was out at the landfill site to give a presentation to a group of Geneva people and spoke with the DEC inspector this past week. She asked if they had noticed that odors were started to come back to the site. He stated that most of the odors he found were working face odors. She found that the DEC is inconstant in describing the odors at the site in their report and has asked that they are more constant from now on.

CORNELL COOPERATIVE EXTENSION

♦ *Informational: Ontario CCE Regional Agriculture Program Response to the COVID-19 Crisis*

Mr. Davis presented a summary of the impact that Cornell Cooperative Extension has had with their Agriculture teams. Their staff was able to filter out information that producers needed to know and distribute that to them effectively. They helped get many business reopening plans in English and Spanish. They worked with the Ontario produce auction, farmer markets, and u-pick business to provide best practices to them to keep their customers safe. They also worked with producers to get some of the CARES act funding. They even held online virtual trainings for proper pesticide application.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

♦ *Update: Business Retention & Expansion program*

Mr. Manikowski introduced Jim Armstrong the provider for the business retention and expansion program. Mr. Armstrong provided the follow statistics.

- Prior to the pandemic the economy was the best he had seen. Companies were lacking skill workers. They had more work than employees could complete.

- Now, since COVID-19 hit some business are busier than normal such as food distributors, equipment, and packaging, alcohol distributors, essential medical suppliers, home improvement stores, and mail order businesses.
- Curbside pickup software has become in high demand
- Recreation equipment sales are the highest they have seen them.
- All things IT related can't be completed fast enough

On the negative side some business that were not deemed essential lost production and are just starting to bounce back. The tourism took the largest hit.

PLANNING DEPARTMENT

- ♦ **Resolution:** *Authorization to Contract with John G. Waite to Prepare the Manchester Yard Redevelopment Strategy – Phase -2 – Manchester Roundhouse Building Condition Report*

Ms. Rudzinski presented a resolution to contract with John G. Waite for the Manchester Roundhouse building condition report.

Supervisor Wickham to approve the contract with John G. Waite for a building condition report. Supervisor Bateman seconded the motion. The motion carried.

- ♦ **Resolution:** *Adoption of Ontario County Fair Housing Plan*

Mr. Harvey presented a resolution for the adoption of the Ontario County fair housing plan.

Supervisor Bateman to approve the adoption of the Ontario County fair housing plan. Supervisor Wickham seconded the motion. The motion carried.

COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR

- ♦ *Updates*

Interim County Administrator, Brian Young, gave the following updates:

- 74 Ontario St. is almost fully completed
- The Sheriff's Office is moving in this week
- Board of Elections moved last week
- Standing committees and the Board meetings will be moved next cycle to 74 Ontario St. permanently
- Early voting starts on October 24th
- A committee is working on the Police Reform plan for the Governor, and the Public Hearings schedule and locations will be out shortly

ADJOURNMENT

On motion of Supervisor Bateman seconded by Supervisor Wickham, the meeting was adjourned at 2:31 pm.

Respectfully Submitted
Kristin A. Mueller,
Clerk to the Board