

ST. LAWRENCE COUNTY INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AGENCY

Meeting of April 23, 2024

CALL TO ORDER: Vice Chairman Mr. Blevins calls the meeting to order at 1:03 PM in the main conference room at the Ernest J. LaBaff Industrial Building, Canton.

ROLL CALL:

Staples	Absent	McMahon	Present
LaBaff	Present	Morrill	Absent
Blevins	Present	Reagen.....	Present
Hall.....	Present (via Zoom)		

A quorum is recognized.

IDA Staff present: Patrick Kelly, Kimberly Gilbert, Lori Sibley, and Richard Williams. Bob Ahlfeld attends via Zoom.

PUBLIC NOTICE: Public notifications sent April 18, 2024, to, at a minimum: newspapers designated for the publication of local laws and other matters required by law to be published; additional local media sources and websites.

PUBLIC COMMENT: Andrew Gardner, Reporter for Johnson Newspapers, is in attendance via Zoom. Mr. Gardner has no comment.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Motion to accept the minutes of the March 26, 2024 meeting by Mr. LaBaff, seconded by Mr. Reagen. The motion is approved unanimously.

FINANCIAL REPORTS: Ms. Gilbert reports on the January 2024 financial report, mentioning it was a typical month of activity. She points out that the large PILOT revenue collected and recorded in the January 2024 financial report has been distributed to the taxing jurisdictions and will show in the February 2024 report. Mr. McMahon asks if the PILOT payments made to the jurisdictions are on the same pro rata share as tax payments, which Mr. Williams, IDA Project Manager, and Ms. Gilbert confirm is the case. Motion to accept the January 2024 financial report by Mr. LaBaff, seconded by Mr. Reagen. Motion is approved by unanimous vote.

COMMITTEE REPORTS: None

STAFF REPORT: Mr. Kelly highlights recent activities.

Property: Canton Industrial Building: The lighting upgrades and improvements project utilizing grant funds by National Grid have been completed. There is now all new lighting throughout this building.

Marketing: Mr. Ahlfeld and Ms. Sibley will attend a job fair tomorrow at the Massena Central School District. Staff helped outreach local businesses to attend this event.

The Spring Business Mixer is scheduled for April 30th at the Best Western in Canton. There will be a panel of four business representatives, including Clara Cummings from Empire State Mines, LLC., Kevin Lynch from SLIC Network Solutions, Dierdra Sorrell from Clifton-Fine Hospital, and Scott Wright from Pepsi Cola Ogdensburg Bottlers.

We will talk with them in a panel format about their experiences with operating a business in St. Lawrence County and their experiences utilizing some of the business resources available in the county. Attendees will have the opportunity to ask questions and talk with over a dozen local, regional, and state resource partners who will be on hand at the event. This is a way for us to get the word out to local businesses and employers regarding the programs and services available through the IDA and resource partners.

We are also scheduled to attend the Accelerate Ottawa event in June as part of our external marketing efforts.

Appointments/Reappointments: Mr. Blevins's term will expire in June 2024. He has expressed interest in being reappointed to another term. Mr. McMahon/Mr. Reagen motion/second, to recommend Mr. Blevins be reappointed to another term to the St. Lawrence County Industrial Development Agency.

New York State Budget: An agreement appears to have been reached on the New York State Budget. The New York State Economic Development Council has already distributed a budget summary. The Budget still includes the closure of up to five New York State Correctional Facilities. Mr. McMahon asks about any highlights in the budget to support economic development, Mr. Kelly mentions programs such as Restore NY and FAST NY which are being funded again.

OLD BUSINESS: None

EXECUTIVE SESSION: A motion is made by Mr. McMahon to go into executive session at 1:10 PM to discuss the financial, credit, or employment history of a particular person or corporation, seconded by Mr. LaBaff. A motion to return to regular session is made by Mr. LaBaff, seconded by Mr. Reagen at 1:26 PM.

NEW BUSINESS:

Resolution IDA-24-04-15: Authorizing Allocations through the St. Lawrence County American Rescue Plan Act "ARPA" Economic Development and Tourism Funding Program: Mr. Kelly mentions that an Exhibit A has been attached to the resolution indicating the awards that are being presented for approval. Mr. McMahon motions to accept Resolution IDA-24-04-15, seconded by Mr. Reagen.

ADJOURNMENT: A motion to adjourn is made by Mr. LaBaff/Mr. Reagen. The meeting adjourns at 1:27 PM by unanimous vote.

Mr. Ernest LaBaff, Secretary