

Delaware County Planning, Recreation and Culture Committee Meeting 12/17/24 at 1pm at 2 Bridge Street, Delhi NY

Present: Jim Ellis Tina Mole'
 Allen Hinkley Bill Layton
 Rebecca Walley Jessica Ulmer
 Shelly Johnson-Bennett Kent Manuel
 Nick Carbone Elizabeth DeFalco

Motion by Bill Layton to approve the October meeting minutes, seconded by Jim Ellis. All in favor. Motion carried.

Motion by Jim Ellis to go into executive session at 1:10pm, seconded by Bill Layton. All in favor. Motion carried.

Motion by Bill Layton to exit executive session at 1:59pm, seconded by Jim Ellis. All in favor. Motion carried.

Resolutions: Planning has submitted two resolutions to the BOS for approval at their next meeting in January. One is to amend a previously approved resolution regarding the Clean Path Project; the other one is to increase the amount of money in the Flood Buyout Non-Reimbursable account for next year's mowing.

Clean Path: This has become a NYSERDA project.

FEMA/CDBG: We are still receiving complaints about people using the vacant lots in Sidney. Violations have been issued. The County may have to send a letter. We spent \$33,750 on mowing this year. We are having reimbursement issues and we are waiting for information from DPW.

Housing Study: We have been given an extension.

County Comp Plan ARC: We are amending the budget and requesting a one-year extension. Lynda will do the reporting.

CFA: We are waiting for the contract for the Walton Riverwalk.

SWMS: We do not have the award letter yet.

WAC: Nick attends the meetings; however, they always go into executive session. We are working on white papers regarding Farm Transition. There has been discussion about possibly eliminating unanimous consent. There are issues with ag easements. Second homeowners are paying twice the amount so that the land will not be developed. There is a proposal for a firewood bank and forest easement.

CWT: They continue to participate in negotiations. Large stakeholders meetings have ended and now it is just the smaller ones. There are outstanding issues including workers comp on farms and BMP maintenance. They continue to work on SAP and LAP changes and the new easement language with Kevin. There are concerns that CWT and the County are not in agreement regarding ending land acquisition in areas 3 and 4.

NYC Stakeholders: Core acquisition in priority areas 3 and 4 is now proposed to be reduced to CSAP and WAC easements. A stewardship proposal has been developed; however, enforcement has not been decided. Easement language has been revised regarding clear cutting up to 10 acres for solar on City lands.

Climate Change Initiative: 2025 building code requirements have not been received yet. Nick talked about the wetland regulations and the vernal pools that will have an 800-foot buffer around them. We continue to work with ST8 to review the CLCPA applications. The Newmark Study has been presented and there are no projects for Delaware County. They are getting us ready for Techhub development. Shelly and Glenn will look again for eligible property. Shelly wrote a letter of support for a power grant and has not heard back yet. We are working with Kevin on a battery storage law. Shelly sent a request for more information regarding funding from NY ConnectAll for cell service expansion.

Sidney Culvert Project: Delaware County has taken over the project. The kick-off meeting was held and now they are working on the permitting process. Graydon and his staff are working on the project. DPW will be working with DOT to maintain it. The project will be bid out. Construction will start in 2026. Historic features will need to be preserved regarding the Historic Indian Burial Site.

Sidney Soccer Field: The Town took this project over and will re-apply to Department of State.

CCE: CIG project was awarded to a local farm in Stamford.

S&W: S&W are working on the LFA for Stamford; the culvert project in the Village and the Roxbury LFA possible buyout. Ned and Jess are working on the SCMP updates. The NYC contract is being negotiated. The damage assessment for the August flood will be incorporated into the AHMP. The Walton school wants to build a new bus garage. We submitted a CWC grant to relocate it out of the floodplain.

HMP: We are hiring an intern for a few weeks in December and January to work on Kortright. Middletown will be worked on in the summer. The intern will also be working on the Sidney Comp Plan mailing as well as a plant inventory for landscape architect projects.

Drone: We are waiting for Shelly and Carra to meet to discuss the policies and procedures. New licenses have been sent to Penny. Pilots have drone logs. We do not know if the practice drones have been ordered or received.

CPB: We continue to work on the Comp Plan with the consultant. The consultant working on the Housing Study presented a draft to the CPB at their last meeting. There will be a Housing Forum at the end of January to address the homelessness in the community. The CPB continues to work on the Fleischmanns Freight House project with C&S. We are discussing the possibility of using a buyout property for a restroom facility.

ST8 Broadband: Theresa continues to participate in meetings.

ARC grant: Six projects have been approved.

ST8: Shelly has been invited to Pittsburg regarding the housing crisis.

ED/IDA: Sean attends the meetings.

EMS: We are helping with finding funding regarding the August storms; reviewing damages and highlights. High property values making it difficult to meet eligibility requirements.

DPW: Demos are done. We are working with Lisa on reimbursement. We have until the end of the year to get things from the old building.

FEMA: FEMA reached out to Shelly to discuss the pros and cons of mitigation programming. They have scheduled a site visit in Sidney and Shelly will be meeting with them.

Shelly updated the Committee on the Landscape Architect projects that Sean is working on. He has been able to attend no-cost webinars to meet his continued education requirements. She also updated the Committee on the TPAS projects the Department is working on.

State Climate Change Committee: Kent continues to work with Climate Smart Communities. We will be meeting in January with DEP regarding renewable energy on City owned lands.

The meeting ended at 4:15pm.