

St. Lawrence River Valley Redevelopment Agency  
Minutes of May 20, 2014 Meeting ~ Town of Louisville Municipal Offices, Massena NY

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 6:01 PM by Chairman McNeil.

Roll Call/Determination of Quorum: Mssrs. McNeil, Murphy, and Strait attend. Mr. Burns joins the meeting at 6:11 PM. New York Power Authority Representative Michael Huvane joins the meeting via conference call. NYPA Representative Karen White is present. A quorum is recognized.

Public Notice: Public notifications were sent May 12, 2014 to, at a minimum: St. Lawrence County's newspapers designated for the publication of local laws and other matters required by law to be published. Notification also sent to other local media sources and websites.

Approval of Minutes: Strait/Murphy motion to accept the March 18, 2014 regular meeting minutes. The minutes are accepted unanimously.

Financial Report: Murphy/Strait motion to accept the January, February, March 2014 financial reports. Passed unanimously.

Committee Reports: None

New Business: Resolution: Accepting 2013 Audit: Strait/Murphy motion to accept. Motion passes with unanimous consent.

Resolution: Authorizing Adjustments to the St. Lawrence River Valley Redevelopment Agency 2014 Budget. Mr. Plastino notes the budget estimates were constructed last October, at which time it was uncertain as to which CDEI projects will complete by the end of 2013. Now that 2013 final expenditures totals are available, a modification to the 2014 budget is required. Strait/Murphy motion to accept the 2014 budget modification. Motion passes with unanimous consent.

Mr. Kelly introduces Calene Richards, a junior at Clarkson University majoring in Finance. Calene will be volunteering her time at the St. Lawrence County Industrial Development Agency this summer to assist with financial research and legal document analysis work within the office.

Staff Report: 2014 Community Development and Environmental Improvement Fund: Mr. Kelly reports that the 2014 CD/EI application review process is on-going. Additionally, the Town of Massena loan and grant closed recently.

The North Country Regional Economic Development Council: The 2014 application process is underway, with a June 16<sup>th</sup> deadline for project submission. This is the program's fourth year.

Massena Industrial Park: Mr. Kelly informs the group that the \$60,000 in building improvement funds to be reimbursed to the RVRDA for its 2013 North Country Regional Economic Development Council grant process is behind schedule. Reimbursements were expected in February or March. Information recently conveyed suggests the timeframe to submit a request for reimbursement of expenditures on the RVRDA's two Massena buildings will be August or September.

May/June Marketing Initiatives: Mr. Kelly distributes a copy of an ad that was recently published in the Montreal Gazette, highlighting low-cost power, sites and buildings, skilled labor force and financial incentives in St. Lawrence County. He also references ads that were recently placed in the local visitor's

guides targeting former residents that may be visiting and considering relocating (their business) to St. Lawrence County. He also lists various tradeshows attended and direct mailings to high cost power areas (both U.S. and Canada), as well as businesses in close proximity to where staff will be attending tradeshows. Mr. Huvane suggests areas in Canada, even if they have hydro-power, as the power market rates are increasing. Also, Mr. Kelly mentions collaborative mailings with the local colleges to highlight STARTUP NY (in addition to low-cost power and property availability).

*Mr. Burns enters the meeting*

3D Printing Conference: Mr. Plastino refers to a handout he distributed outlining his notes from a 3D Printing conference in New York City he recently attended. Mr. Plastino reports that 3D and other additive manufacturing are already in existence and progressing quickly. He suggests working with Clarkson University and possibly other resources in the area to capitalize on this industry to bring this type of business to our region. He also suggests further research on how this may impact some of our already existing companies as we enter the world of 3D applications and technologies.

Monetization: Chairman McNeil references a recent discussion with Mr. Gil Quiniones, President and Chief Executive Officer of the New York Power Authority, to discuss the status of monetization. During their conversation, Mr. McNeil referenced a major study in western New York, paid for by NYPA, which outlined a comprehensive strategy for economic development for the whole region, which helped that region to obtain funding for the Buffalo Billion Initiative. Mr. McNeil suggests that, if NYPA would be willing to pay for something like this for St. Lawrence County, it could assist the County's efforts to update its CEDS (Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy) in 2014. Mr. Quiniones offered to draft language that would integrate the RVRDA/SLCIDA process for allocating RVRDA resources into proposed legislation that might be acceptable at the State level in order to monetize the unused portion of the 20 megawatts of power.

Also, Mr. McNeil mentions a letter that Ernie LaBaff, Vice Chairman of the SLCIDA and President Emeritus for the Aluminum Brick and Glass Workers International Union, sent to the Governor's office requesting action for monetization. Mr. LaBaff received a response from Mr. Tom Congdon, Deputy Secretary of Energy, offering to provide legislation modeled on what was done in Western New York, to which he would add language the Governor would likely accept that would be specific to St. Lawrence County. Mr. McNeil followed up with a letter to Mr. Quiniones last week, expressing interest in getting the draft legislation to review and consider to be brought forward by our local representatives for their concurrence. Mr. Strait suggests discussing monetization and other efforts (such as CEDS) at different times. He does not want to see the CEDS used to delay getting monetization. Mr. Burns mentions the importance of CEDS and suggests we utilize all available resources to assist us with the process.

Presentations: Mr. Michael Almasian proposes contracting services he could offer the RVRDA to promote marketing initiatives (including 3D Printing, graphene, high performance concrete and other cutting-edge technologies). A former lawyer and economic development executive in St. Lawrence County, Mr. Almasian relocated to Connecticut last year, where he states he has done a great deal of research in the areas of these technologies. He suggests the Massena and the County should take advantage of these rapidly growing technologies and even (for example) build machines here for the 3D Printing Industry. He offers to meet with each of the RVRDA members to discuss how he can make the connection between investors in the New England area with businesses in the County. Mr. Strait suggests Mr. Almasian present a proposal outlining his services (including cost, performance, ideas) and the group will meet to review and discuss.

Public Comment: Larry Legault mentions a petition circulating around, initiated by the St. Lawrence County Local Government Task Force that is aimed at getting the county a more equitable power contract with New York Power Authority.

Mr. Legault also enquires into the timeframe for award announcements for the 2014 CDEI Fund.

Executive Session: Strait/Burns motion for Executive Session at 6:56 PM to discuss the financial history of particular companies.

Return to regular session at 8:42, upon the motion of Burns/Murphy.

New Business: Resolution “Authorizing a Loan of up to \$100,000 to Riverside Iron, LLC”:  
Burns/McNeil motion to accept the resolution. Motion failed 2-2 (with Strait/Murphy voting nay).

Resolution “Authorizing a Loan of up to \$44,000 to BlastBoss, LLC”: Burns/McNeil motion to accept the resolution. Motion passed 3-1 (with Strait voting nay).

Resolution “Authorizing Change of Terms in the Purine Pharma Loan”: Burns/McNeil motion to accept the resolution.

Motion to table the previous motion: Burns/McNeil motion to table the Purine Pharma resolution.  
Motion passed 4-0.

Motion to reconsider the Riverside Iron resolution: Murphy/Burns moved to reconsider the Riverside Iron resolution. Motion passed 3-1 (with Strait voting nay).

Motion to table the Riverside Iron resolution: Murphy/Burns moved to table the reconsidered Riverside Iron resolution. Motion passed 3-1 (with Strait voting nay).

The meeting adjourned at 8:52, upon the motion of Murphy/Burns.

Note: The next scheduled meeting of the St. Lawrence River Valley Redevelopment Agency will be held at <b>6:00PM</b> on Wednesday, May 28, 2014 at the Town of Louisville Municipal Offices.
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