

St. Lawrence River Valley Redevelopment Agency  
Minutes of April 28, 2015 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. Acres, Carroll, McNeil, Murphy, and Strait attend. New York Power Authority Representative Eric Bowers joined the meeting via conference call. A quorum is recognized.

Public Notice: Public notifications were sent on April 17, 2015 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: Murphy/Strait motion to approve the January 20, 2015 meeting minutes. The minutes were passed unanimously.

Financial Report: Carroll/Acres moved approval of the December, 2014 and the January, February, and March 2015 financial reports. Motion passes unanimously.

Committee Reports: None

Presentations: None

Old Business: None.

New Business:

Resolution: Annual Review of Procurement Policy. Strait/Carroll motion to approve. Motion passes unanimously.

Resolution: Accepting 2014 Audit. Since not all the members had reviewed the audit, consideration of the 2014 audit was postponed until the next meeting.

Resolution: Authorizing a Loan of Up To \$100,000 to Hoosier Magnetics. Mr. Kelly says that an executive session will be necessary before this resolution can be acted upon.

Staff Report:

Mr. Kelly reviewed the 15 loans and leases in the RVRA's "portfolio", noting that 2014 saw several projects added to the list. These projects, together with others from the RVRA's affiliated agencies, helped rank the Massena-Ogdensburg micropolitan area in a tie for 8<sup>th</sup> place in Site Selection Magazine's list of top U.S. micropolitan areas, ranked by number of new or expanded corporate facility projects. He noted that 2015 was so far much "slower".

Mr. Kelly reviewed the trade shows the staff has attended and was scheduled to attend during the next few months.

Mr. Murphy suggested that one of the RVRA's buildings in the Massena Industrial Park would make a good home for the Veteran's Clinic, if that organization could not find a suitable location elsewhere in the Massena area.

Mr. Kelly reported on the collaborations between RVRA/IDA and SUNY Potsdam focused on developing or attracting music businesses to the area, an effort that builds on the prominence of the Crane School of Music. He described the marketing effort with the four Canton/Potsdam colleges to interest the schools' alums in establishing businesses in the County. He explained how RVRA/IDA had proposed that a focus

for the North County Regional Economic Development Council should be the preparation of materials for 3-D printing.

A discussion ensued of the study (funded by NYPA) that McKinsey had recently started for St. Lawrence County. Mr. Kelly explained that McKinsey was only doing the one study for the County and that other regions' complaints had prompted NYPA back off from financing a parallel McKinsey study as part of the whole region's preparation for competition in the Upstate Revitalization Initiative.

Mr. Kelly reported on some of the RVRA/IDA's marketing initiatives.

Mr. Kelly summarized the response to the RVRA's request for proposals to the Community Development/Environmental Improvement fund for 2015. The RVRA received 20 proposals for a total of about \$1.7 million in grants (no loans proposed) in projects totaling about \$15.5 million. No more than \$473,516 was available for award. He said that the agency would discuss these proposals in executive session.

Mr. Kelly said that the revised Massena Arts and Theater project – now structured as a forgivable loan – would soon close.

Mr. Kelly reported that he would be doing an orientation for new County legislators in Massena on 4/30, which would be followed by a tour of Curran Renewable Energy's pellet plant. He invited RVRA members to join the tour.

Mr. Bowers reported that he did not know where appointments to the Northern New York Power Proceeds Allocation Board stood. He said that the fund under the NNYPAB's care was building up on a monthly basis since the end of 2014.

Mr. Kelly reported that the Business Development Corporation for a Greater Massena had hired an attorney (John Herbrand) to draft a use agreement for the Massena Industrial Park siding serving Curran Renewable Energy and other potential users in the area.

Public Comment:

None

Executive Session: Strait/Acres motion for Executive Session at 5:28 PM to discuss the financial data of several companies and other organizations. Motion passes with unanimous consent.

Return to regular session at 8:19 PM, upon the motion by Carroll/Strait.

Other Business

Resolution: Authorizing a Loan of Up To \$100,000 to Hoosier Magnetics. Carroll/Strait motion to approve. Motion passes unanimously.

Mr. Kelly will poll the RVRA members to schedule a meeting in May to continue review of the CD/EI program proposals. The final review will occur in a joint meeting with the IDA-LDC, probably in June.

The meeting is adjourned at 8:20 PM, upon the motion by Carroll/Murphy.

Note: The next meeting of the St. Lawrence River Valley Redevelopment Agency is scheduled for Tuesday, May 12 <sup>th</sup> , 2015 at 6:00 PM, Town of Louisville Municipal Offices, Massena (relative to comment under Old Business).
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