



PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY COMMITTEE

Time: 1:30 PM

Location: WebEx and 74 Ontario St., 2nd Floor Committee Room 213

April 11, 2022

MEMBERS PRESENT

In Person: Supervisors Fred Lightfoote, William Namestnik, David Phillips, and Mark Venuti.

Via WebEx: Supervisors Andrew Wickham and Christopher Vastola.

Necessarily Absent: Supervisor Lou Guard.

OTHERS PRESENT

In Person: Chairman Marren, County Administrator Chris DeBolt, County Attorney Holly Adams, Planning Director Tom Harvey, Sustainability and Solid Waste Director Carla Jordan, Finance Director Mary Gates, Economic Development Specialist Sue Vary, Sustainability Assistant Kaitlynn McCumiskey, Sr. Planner Linda Phillips, Casella General Manager Brian Sanders, Casella Environmental Specialist Joshua Hamelin, Jim Armstrong, and Clerk to the Board Kristin Mueller.

Via WebEx: Sr. Fiscal Manager Michael Wojcik, Associate Planner Tim Jensen, Sr. Planners Regina Sousa and Maria Rudzinski, Cornell Cooperative Extension Director Tim Davis, Finger Lakes Visitors Connection President Val Knoblauch, Julie Maslyn, Jacob Fox, and AJ Magnan.

CALL TO ORDER

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

MINUTES

Supervisor Phillips made a motion to approve the minutes of the Planning and Environmental Quality Committee meeting on March 21, 2022. Supervisor Venuti seconded the motion. The motion carried.

CASELLA

♦ *Update*

Sustainability and Solid Waste Director, Carla Jordan, reported that the landfill received a Notice of Violation from the State for hydrogen sulfide emissions exceedances at the site after their review of two years' worth of data. This is from the multiple monitoring systems throughout the site. She explained how the continuous monitoring system works. It is her understanding from speaking with the DEC and Casella that they are moving ahead on a better course regarding exceedances at the site. Since this was two years' worth of data the majority of these exceedances are old and they are also spaced out during multiple times.

Mr. Brian Sanders presented the following updates:

- As they upgrade the site, they have found some seams that have not been taken care of correctly. They are correcting these as they come across them in construction.
- 10-20 new vertical wells will be installed this year
- He had a walk through at the site recently with Drew
- They are dewatering seams and wells
- Roadwork is planned for this year
- They will start the plans for finalizing the final cap for next year
- They are working on the final design of the leachate storage tank
- They will be doing another drone fly over at the site
- He presented spreadsheets to committee to show exceedances at all locations around the site since January. This show the steady decline in exceedances

Chair Drew Wickham asked if they have the option to hook into a sewer system to dispose of leachate? Mr. Sanders said that Canandaigua system is the closest, but it is still too far away to connect to it at this time. It is still 11.7 miles to the closest connection.

Supervisor Lightfoote asked if the energy plant is operating at capacity?

Mr. Sanders said that the plant is close to capacity. That is why they haven't been sending as much gas there and using their own flare.

Casella has 18-inch pipe flowing into the plant and the gas plant only has a 12-inch pipe. This narrowing of pipelines causes an issue with constant flow. The plant also wants a certain mixture of methane and oxygen supplied to them and they can't always provide this exact mixture. The flares don't require a certain mixture to run efficiently, that is another reason they have been running it. Turning on their flare has also helped with creating steady flow and vacuum at the site. This has helps with keeping the odors down. Casella has purchased another flare to install and are planning on replacing a header with the gas plant this summer.

SUSTAINABILITY AND SOLID WASTE

♦ *Resolution*

Sustainability Assistant, Kaitlynn McCumiskey, presented a resolution entitled, "Award of Contract to Enviro World Corp. for the Implementation of a Backyard Composting Program".

Supervisor Phillips motioned to approve the contract with Enviro World Corp. Supervisor Venuti seconded the motion. The motion carried.

♦ *Organics Management*

Sustainability Assistant, Kaitlynn McCumiskey, gave a slide show presentation to committee regarding the current state of organics management in Ontario County. On January 1, 2022 the new food

donation and food scraps recycling law went into effect. In Ontario County 13 businesses/institutions are affected by this law. 4 of the businesses are required to recycle and donate. The other 9 are only required to donate. She then reviewed the recycling and donation requirements and places that are accepting organics. Wegmans, Red Jacket Orchards, and Genecco Produce in Ontario County already had existing donation programs in place that were in compliance with this law. She then closed with organics management initiatives that the department will be working on this year.

◆ *Department Update*

Sustainability and Solid Waste Director, Ms. Jordan, presented the 2021 projects and accomplishments impact flyer. She reviewed the events that were held and noted that the diversion rate went from 22% in 2019 to 35% in 2021. The flyer also has a summary of the strategic plan that was completed last year.

Sustainability and Solid Waste Director, Ms. Jordan, noted that our Solid Waste Management Plan is required to be updated this year. Usually, this is done by an outside company. She doesn't feel that we have enough information to complete this to the standard it needs to be at. The State does allow the County to apply for a two-year extension for this update. She would like approval from committee to request a two-year extension to allow for us to update our recycling law and do a community recycle waste assessment before submitting an update. The RPF for the community recycle waste assessment was sent out and they are interviewing respondents next week. She also believes that it is also necessary to assess the solid waste infrastructure in the county.

Supervisors Lightfoote and Venuti asked if they really need two years? If the two years was granted could you turn the update in early to the State?

Ms. Jordan let the committee know that the State only provides for a two-year extension, but it is her hope to have all the information need to submit the plan update before the two-year extension is up.

Supervisor Lightfoote motioned to approve Ms. Jordan to apply to the State for a two-year extension for the Solid Waste Management Plan. Supervisor Venuti seconded the motion. The motion carried.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

◆ *Update on Visit Ontario COVID Relief Program*

Sue Vary reviewed the CDBG funding for COVID relief. They partnered with Finger Lakes Visitors Connection and Ostrander Consultants. There is more money available to them now and they will be looking to do a contract amendment to accept more money. They will bring a resolution next cycle for this.

- ◆ *Review of Business Retention & Expansion Program*

Jim Armstrong presented a slideshow that reviewed the business retention and expansion program for the new committee members.

PLANNING DEPARTMENT

- ◆ *Ontario County Planning Board Ad Hoc Committee – Current and Long-Term Development Concerns*

Due to time constraints this was postponed till next cycle.

- ◆ *Resolutions*

Sr. Planner, Maria Rudzinski, presented the following two resolutions:

- Finding of No Significant Impact Pursuant to the State Environmental Quality Review Act for Inclusion of Viable Agricultural Land in Ontario County Consolidated Agricultural District Number One Pursuant to the 2021 Annual Agricultural Enrollment Period
- Approval of the Inclusion of Viable Agricultural Land in Ontario County Consolidated Agricultural District Number One During the 2021 Annual Agricultural District Enrollment Period

Supervisor Lightfoote motioned to approve the two resolutions as presented as a block. Supervisor Venuti seconded the motion. The motion carried.

TOURISM

- ◆ *Resolution*

Visitors Connection President, Val Knoblauch, presented a resolution entitled, “Resolution Designating National Tourism Week in Ontario County – May 1-7, 2022”.

Supervisor Namestnik motioned to approve designating national tourism week. Supervisor Lightfoote seconded the motion. The motion carried

COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR

- ◆ *Update*

County Administrator, Chris DeBolt informed the committee that he would like to form a County wide housing steering committee and is seeking approval to issue an RFP for a County wide housing assessment.

Supervisor Venuti motioned to have the County Administrator start the RFP process for a County wide housing assessment. Supervisor Phillips seconded the motion. The motion carried.

ADJOURNMENT

On motion of Supervisor Phillips seconded by Supervisor Venuti, the meeting was adjourned at 3:10 pm.

Respectfully Submitted, Kristin Mueller, Clerk to the Board

Approved