

ONONDAGA CIVIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION
Special Meeting Minutes
May 28, 2019

A Special meeting of the Onondaga Civic Development Corporation was held on Tuesday, May 28, 2019 at 333 West Washington Street, Syracuse, New York, 13202, in the large conference room on the 1st floor.

Matthew Marko called the meeting to order at 10:03 am with the following:

PRESENT:

Matthew Marko
Alison Miller
Michael LaFlair
Gerald Albrigo
Kimberly Townsend

ABSENT:

Ben Dublin
James Jordan

ALSO PRESENT:

Robert Petrovich, President/CEO
Brian Bartlett, Secretary
Nate Stevens, Treasurer
Karen Doster, Recording Secretary
Chris Andreucci, Harris Beach
Janet Aaron, Town of Skaneateles
Julie Abbott-Kenan, Onondaga County Legislature
Emily Long, Office of Economic Development
Theodore Burtis, Office of Economic Development

CONFLICT OF INTEREST

The Conflict of Interest was circulated and there were no comments.

TOWN OF SKANEATELES – WATERSHED NINE ELEMENT PLAN

Janet Aaron stated the Skaneateles Lake Association came to the Town of Skaneateles about a year ago asking the Town to sponsor a grant to develop a Nine Element Plan for the Skaneateles Lake Water Shed. She stated it required a 20% match and between the Skaneateles Lake Association and the Town of Skaneateles they met the \$75,000 they needed to obtain a grant written by Kathy Bertuch at CNY Regional Planned and Development Board. She stated the

grant was successful for \$235,000 and Kathy Bertuch will be administering the grant in the future. She stated there has been pressure because of the algae blooms that happened on the lake in 2017 and that is what prompted this grant to be written and to determine the main cause of these blooms. She stated Skaneateles provides drinking water to over 200,000 people in the City of Syracuse and different townships. She stated the State of New York process takes time and the Skaneateles Lake Association and other agencies are looking to start the program obtaining data collection and modeling. She stated part of the grant that covers that is about \$106,000. She stated they don't know when the State is going to provide the funding and everyone is anxious about what is going in the lake. She stated Julie Abbot-Kenan worked hard with the County and different agencies to find a way these projects could start and qualify under the State grant so they could be reimbursed. She stated there are people working to make sure to meet the requirements to get reimbursed. She stated they are here today to request \$106,000 in order to proceed with the data that is necessary to establish the Nine Element Plan which once approved will qualify them for more funding from the State.

Julie Abbot-Kenan stated Kathy Bertuch pointed out there is minimal risk to the County in terms of being reimbursed. She stated County Executive McMahon is agreeable because there is tremendous pressure regarding the drinking water. She stated there are over 1,600 members of the Skaneateles Lake Association, it is a bipartisan lake and everyone cares with the same goal. She stated the SLA was going to fund but that meant they wouldn't be able to do other remediation work. She stated they will now have the data that they desperately need in order to proceed. She stated it will open up more funding with the State if we show collaboration.

Matthew Marko stated the terms and conditions are it is a \$106,400 loan at zero percent until the terms of which the Town of Skaneateles would have the money from the Department of State in which they would be able to reimburse OCDC or in some time in the future. He stated in the unlikely event the Department of State did not provide the funds there would be some kind of future maturity date of which the Town of Skaneateles would make OCDC whole. Janet Aaron stated Town of Skaneateles would have a contract with OCDC and Kathy Bertuch as CNYRPDB. She stated in order for them to accept the money they have to get approval from the Town Board and the only requirement is to publish a notice 20 days before they can accept the money. She stated the paper only publishes once a week so it will be about July 3.

Matthew Marko stated CNYRPDB and Kathy Bertuch do an excellent job administering these projects and funds. He stated his experience with them has been nothing but excellent over the years in private and public sector. He stated the NYS DEC is very much in favor of this data collection as an opportunity to get an early start to the project and the sense of urgency with respect to the harmful algae blooms is shared with the community. He stated even though the grant process from the Department of State seems to be moving slowly, many actions are under way in concert with the local governments. He stated they are all working together in different ways and was organized in the Harmful Algae Bloom Action Plan published for Skaneateles Lake as part of the Governor's initiative. He stated the action plan does include moving forward on this approach for a Nine Element Plan for the lake. He stated this is basically executing a plan in advance to take advantage of the season of the summer instead of the season of the grant.

Julie Abbott-Kenan stated they wanted to start the end of May. She stated she knows it is said the State is laborious and takes forever but according to Kathy Bertuch it is moving at lightning speed.

Alison Miller stated it is a loan with zero percent interest and asked how long is the original term. Chris Andreucci stated it needs to be negotiated but one year would probably be the maturity date.

Robert Petrovich stated we have the flexibility to the extent we need to extend. Janet Aaron stated that would be helpful but they are hopeful the State produces the money faster than normal.

Chris Andreucci stated there will be two triggers; the receipt of the grant or the loan maturity date.

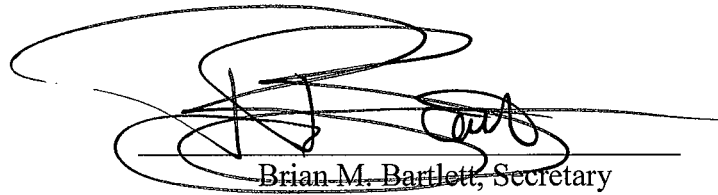
Matthew Marko stated this is a significant unbudgeted expense.

Matthew Marko asked if language should be added that it is zero percent interest. Chris Andreucci stated it will be included in the minutes.

Matthew Marko stated that although the DEC is involved he personally has no involvement in the approval of the Department of State grant and therefore he can act solely in his capacity as OCDC Director so he will be voting.

Upon a motion by Alison Miller, seconded by Michael LaFlair, the OCDC Board approved a resolution approving the issuance of the loan to the Town of Skaneateles in the amount of \$106,400 and authorizing an officer of the Corporation to sign the necessary contracts and documents to effectuate the foregoing. Motion was carried unanimously.

Upon a motion by Matthew Marko the meeting was adjourned at 10:17 am. Motion was carried unanimously.



Brian M. Bartlett, Secretary