



Tioga County Worksession Minutes **January 19, 2023 – 10:00 a.m.**

Legislators Present:

Legislator Brown
Legislator Ciotoli
Legislator Monell (*Arrived at 10:03 a.m.*)
Legislator Mullen
Legislator Roberts
Chair/Legislator Sauerbrey
Legislator Standinger (*Arrived at 10:20 a.m.*)
Legislator Weston (*Arrived at 10:19 a.m.*)

Legislators Absent:

None

Guests:

Brittany Woodburn, Land Bank Director (*Departed at 10:18 a.m.*)

Staff Present:

Peter DeWind, County Attorney (*Arrived at 10:03 a.m.*)
Cathy Haskell, Legislative Clerk
Amy Eiklor, Deputy Legislative Clerk
Linda Parke, Personnel Officer
LeeAnn Tinney, Director of ED&P (*Departed at 10:18 a.m.*)

Call Meeting to Order: Chair Sauerbrey opened the meeting at 10:02 a.m. with a **Public Hearing on Local Law Introductory No. A of 2023** for Legislature consideration of the following:

- ***A Local Law Establishing the Salary for the Offices of County Clerk and County Sheriff for the Four-Year Term of Office Commencing January 1, 2024 and Continuing Through and Including December 31, 2027***

Legislative Clerk Haskell took roll call and read the legal notice as published in the Tioga County designated newspapers. Public Hearing adjourned at 10:04 a.m. with regular worksession immediately following.

Approval of Worksession Minutes: On motion of Legislator Monell, seconded by Legislator Brown, the January 5, 2023 minutes were unanimously approved.

Action Items: Currently we have none.

Other:

- ***Restore NY Grant Discussion:*** Brittany Woodburn, Land Bank Director, reported ED&P submitted a Restore NY grant application for the Tioga Trails building in Owego last year. ED&P was not awarded the grant, but New York State has opened up another round of Restore NY applications for those that did not receive a grant. However, applications will only be accepted until January 27th. Ms. Woodburn reported the application fee is \$500, which can be paid out of the ED&P budget. She reported Restore NY applications only come out every few years so there may not be another opportunity to apply.

Ms. Woodburn explained the current property owners entered into an option agreement with the Land Bank to acquire the property, contingent on the Land Bank receiving enough funds to implement the project. The agreement was a two-month option agreement, with a sale price of \$60,000. That agreement has since lapsed. Should the grant be awarded, the option agreement would have to be renewed. Ms. Woodburn reported if grant funding was awarded for the project, the Land Bank would close on the property and act as the developer.

Ms. Woodburn reported the current property owners are behind on taxes and Tioga County is expected to foreclose on the property in June. She explained that the building is currently in a vacant, dilapidated state, with falling bricks and a leaking roof. Legislator Mullen expressed concern that Tioga County would end up paying a significant amount of money to demolish the building. He suggested amending a Local Law to cap the amount of money Tioga County would be responsible to pay for demolishing dilapidated buildings. County Attorney DeWind stated amending the Local Law could be difficult because there are so many variables in place with taxing jurisdictions.

On a straw poll vote, all Legislators were in favor of re-applying for the Restore NY grant, with the \$500 application fee coming from ED&P's budget. A retroactive resolution will be presented at the February 14th Legislative Meeting.

- ***Opioid Settlement Discussion:*** County Attorney DeWind reported Tioga County must decide whether to join the Teva opioid settlement agreement. Total amount of compensation is contingent on the number of communities participating in the settlement. Legislator Monell inquired what would happen if Tioga County did not join the settlement. Mr. DeWind responded Tioga County would receive no compensation. On a straw poll vote, all Legislators were in favor of joining the Teva opioid settlement agreement. A retroactive resolution will be presented at the February 14th Legislative Meeting.

Executive Session: With no confidential matters to discuss, an Executive Session was not necessary.

Meeting adjourned at 10:23 a.m.

Next Worksession scheduled for Thursday, February 9, 2023 at 1:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Amy Eiklor

Deputy Legislative Clerk