

TIOGA COUNTY ED&P/TOURISM/CCE/SOIL & WATER  
LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE AGENDA

**February 6, 2024**

1:00 PM

- MINUTES
  - Approval of minutes of January 2, 2024
  
- FINANCIAL
  - Economic Development
  - Planning
  - Sustainability Management
  
- OLD BUSINESS
  - Reports
  - Grants
  - Economic/Community Development
  - Land Bank
  - Workforce Development
  - Planning
  - Sustainability Management
  - IDA
  - Misc.
  
- NEW BUSINESS
  - Reports
  - Grants
  - Economic/Community Development
  - Land Bank
  - Workforce Development
  - Planning
  - Sustainability Management
  - IDA
  - Misc.
  
- PERSONNEL
  
- RESOLUTIONS
  - B01-Set Public Hearing for 2024 Annual Agricultural District Inclusions
  - B06-Appoint EDP Community Development Specialist
  - B10-Filing of an application for State Assistance HHW for 2023
  - B14-Utility Easement with NYS Electric Gas and Tioga Co

B15-Reappoint Member (C DiStefano) to the Tioga County Local Development Corp Board

B24-Authorization to Enter into a Five Yr Agreement with Municipalities to Accept Household Electronic Waste from Tioga Co Residents

B27-Reappoint Member (B Johnson) to the Tioga County Local Development Corp Board

B31-Set Public Hearing CDBG Microenterprise Grant

- PROCLAMATIONS- N/A
- ADJOURNMENT

DRAFT

## ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & PLANNING TOURISM/AGRICULTURE LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE MEETING January 2, 2024

### **ATTENDEES:**

**Legislators:** Barb Roberts, Keith Flesher, Dennis Mullen, Marte Sauerbrey

**Staff:** LeeAnn Tinney, Linda Sampson, Brittany Woodburn, Megan Schnabl, Peter DeWind

**Guests:** Wendy Walsh, Soil & Water

Legislator Dale Weston was not in attendance.

Committee Chair, Legislator Barb Roberts called the meeting to order at 2:00 P.M.

**ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & PLANNING (ED&P):** Agenda and attachments previously emailed. Ms. Tinney reported the following:

### **I. MINUTES**

#### **A. Approval of minutes of December 5, 2023**

Legislator Roberts asked for approval of the minutes from the December 5, 2023 committee meeting. Legislator Flesher made a motion to accept the December 5, 2023 minutes, seconded by Legislator Mullen. All were in favor.

### **II. FINANCIAL**

The 2023 Year End Budget Reports were in the committee packets. Ms. Tinney reported the 2024 Budget has just begun and reported the following:

#### **A. 2024 Budget**

1. Economic Development
  - Year-to-Date Budget is tracking.
2. Planning
  - Year-to-Date Budget is tracking.
3. Sustainability Management
  - Year-to-Date Budget is tracking.

### **III. OLD BUSINESS**

#### **A. Reports**

1. Tioga County Soil & Water Conservation District- Wendy Walsh, District Manager.  
Ms. Walsh distributed and reviewed her monthly report; highlighting the Agriculture Program, Hazard Mitigation and Stormwater.

Not on her monthly report, Ms. Walsh reported working on a Dean Creek Watershed Rehabilitation Plan over the last couple of years for the two high hazard dams in Spencer. The dams do not meet current design standards and the DEC has sent notices that if the requirements are not met a notice of violation will be sent. Ms. Walsh reported working with NRCS to come up with a plan to update the structures. After reviewing alternatives, a plan was selected to rehabilitate both dams and will meet DEC and NRCS standards. Ms. Walsh reported the following:

- The total cost for this project may be as much as 7.2M.
- May be able to come up with 5.3M through a Federal Cost Share Program.
- The balance of almost 2M falls on the Soil and Water District, Tioga County and the Town of Spencer.
- Will be working over the next couple years to secure funding to address the balance of 2M.
- A resolution will be coming forward next month for Legislative Chair signature, not saying you will implement the plan, just that you agree with the alternative plan.

2. Tioga County Tourism – Monthly report previously emailed.

3. Cornell Cooperative Extension – Monthly report previously emailed.

4. Economic Development – In keeping with staff reporting, Ms. Tinney introduced Megan Schnabl, Economic Development Specialist. Ms. Schnabl reported on the following projects she is working on:

DRI Project Administration

- 37-41 Lake Street, Gallery 41- Coordinating with property owner and architect and sending RFP's for this project; storefront, sides of the building, deck and apartments.
- 145 Front Street, The Parkview – Project complete; final disbursement request sent last week.
- 53-55 North Ave, new roasted coffee shop – Finishing storefront, working on apartments.
- 48-50 Lake Street, Tioga Trails building – Working with property owner to obtain architectural drawings to move forward.
- Ti-Ahwaga – Completed first phase of the project; audio equipment. Working on front porch/deck/ramp area. Will be sending RFP's for electrical upgrades.
- 43-45 Lake Street, Owego Antique Center - Coordinate with property owner and contractors for work on this project.
- 187 Main Street, Kathy Cakes – Starting construction on the interior this month; preparing for roof work.
- 68 North Ave., Anything Artistic – Project almost complete; rear façade and decks. Spiral staircase near completion.
- Elks Lodge – Working with property owners to obtain bids to clean up asbestos on the roof. Bids were high; deciding how to move forward.
- The Cellar – Rear deck complete. Final disbursement request sent.

- NY State Main Street project in Candor is complete.
- CDBG/Neighborhood Depot – Progress payments in process.

#### Restore Projects

- River House Confectionery & Mercantile - Waiting on paperwork from property owner.
- Tioga Trails - Waiting for paperwork from property owner.

Ms. Schnabl reported the apartments in the above-mentioned projects were not previously rented, making for additional housing in Tioga County.

Ms. Tinney reported that she and Ms. Woodburn met with Legislative Chair Sauerbrey and Legislator Roberts regarding future changes in the ED&P Department. Ms. Woodburn prepared a presentation explaining her vision and it was distributed to this committee. Ms. Woodburn was in attendance to review the presentation, Economic Development Strategy, and was open to any conversation and questions upon completion. Also distributed was a spreadsheet of the projected salary budget for the next 3 years.

Ms. Tinney asked Ms. Woodburn to report on the Micro-Enterprise Program. Ms. Woodburn reported the following:

- Looking at pursuing the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Micro-Enterprise Program.
- The County could apply for up to \$300,000.00 and could sub grant those funds to micro-enterprise businesses with 5 or less employees.
- \$35,000.00 per business for working capital equipment purchases, no construction allowed. The business has to create at least one job.
- Ms. Woodburn reached out to Thoma Development, who has had a lot of experience with this program and asked for their assistance in applying for the CDBG funds. The fee is \$3,500.00 for this service. This fee would come out of the ED&P Budget.
- If we are awarded the funds, we would hire them to manage the program for us. That would be paid for out of the CDBG funds.
- Only municipalities can apply; villages, towns, cities and counties.

Ms. Tinney reported the process begins with Thoma determining if there is enough interest before making the application and reported the following steps:

- We would have enter into a contract with Thoma. That fee, \$3,500.00, comes out the ED&P budget. Mr. DeWind would review the contract.
- If there is enough interest, we come back with a resolution to apply for the grant funds.
- This is grant money. It does not have to be paid back. However, for example, if they move their business within 2 years, there would be a recapture agreement in place.

This committee was in agreement to move forward with this program.

#### B. Grants

1. Active Grants – Tioga County as applicant
  - a. CDBG- Racker Neighborhood Depot – Ms. Schnabl reported on earlier.

- b. Restore NY- River House Confectionery and Mercantile – Ms. Schabl reported on earlier.
  - c. NYS Snowmobile- Countywide Phase 1 & Phase III
    - i. Updated agreement status - One signature needed.
  - d. NYPA- EV charging stations – Worked through the potential right of way easement issues. This project is moving forward.
  - e. DEC- HHW Program – Dr. Pratt continues to work on this program.
  - f. Restore NY- Tioga Trails – Ms. Schnabl reported on earlier.
  - g. FEMA- Hazard Mitigation Plan update – Ms. Walsh reported on earlier.
2. Active Grants- (Tioga County is not applicant)- Nothing to report this month.
- C. Economic/Community Development
- 1. Village of Owego
    - a. Downtown Revitalization Initiative (DRI) administration
      - i. Owego Donuts and Beer – Looking into having a ribbon cutting event including the Governors office.
  - 2. Village of Waverly
    - a. NY Forward – The final draft implementation plan is being reviewed now; will soon be submitted to the State.
- D. Land Bank
- E. Workforce Development – Mr. Lanning continues to work on the following:
- 1. Talent Supply Table
    - a. Future meeting dates set up with Tioga Downs this month, and Best Buy in March.
    - b. Assisting with Tioga County Pop-Up Job Fair
    - c. School/Career Center Pilot Program- Contracts in place with S-VE and Waverly Schools in partnership with the Career Center; to have someone from the Career Center in their facilities.
- F. Planning – Ms. Jardine continues to work on the following:
- 1. Hazard Mitigation Plan Update
    - a. Core Planning Group draft review planned for mid-January.
    - b. Draft of the plan will be available for review the first part of February.
    - c. 2<sup>nd</sup> Public Information Meeting scheduled for February 12<sup>th</sup>.
- G. Sustainability Management – Dr. Pratt continues to work on the following:
- 1. Local Solid Waste Management Plan
    - a. Draft is with DEC; waiting for comments to come back.

#### **IV. NEW BUSINESS**

- A. Reports
  - 1. 2023 Top Ten Employers and Ten Largest Taxpayers report is in the committee packet previously emailed. Ms. Tinney reported that of the top ten employers 9 of the ten have added to their count from 2022 and only one is under the count from 2022, adding the numbers are going in the right direction.
- B. Economic/Community Development
  - 1. Presentations – No presentations this month.
- C. Workforce Development – Mr. Lanning continues to work on the following:

1. Talent Supply Table
  - a. Waverly internships (Guthrie, Best Western, Accurate Power Systems)
  - b. S-VE Work Based Learning Coordinator proposal in process.
  - c. Connecting Owego and Waverly Career Center.
  - d. Athens School District- Education Workforce Coordinator position discussion scheduled.
  - e. BT BOCES tours coordinated with Best Buy, Tioga Downs and Crown Cork & Seal
  - f. Working on a 2-year progress report.
- D. Planning – Ms. Jardine continues to work on the following:
  1. 239 Reviews
    - a. 2023-024 Town of Owego; Rezone of Property, Residential to Agricultural (East Campville Road); recommended approval.
    - b. 2023-025 Town of Owego; Special Use Permit (Upstate Shredding); recommended approval.
    - c. 2023-026 Village of Owego; Site Plan review/Floodplain Special Use Permit (Rage Cage); recommended disapproval.
  2. Two Rivers State Park meeting was held on December 15<sup>th</sup>. The following was discussed:
    - The State agreed to work with NYS DOT to put Two Rivers State Park and Waverly Glen Park signs at NYS Route 17 Exit 60.
    - The State agreed to establish an official park entrance on Walker Hill Road including a new sign; joint signage with Waverly Glen and the State Park, creating a new parking area more accessible.
    - The State agreed to update the trail map and signs upon Legislator Mullen recommendation.
    - Tourism agreed to work to reinvigorate the Friends of Two Rivers State Park group; recommended by the State.
    - Ms. Jardine agreed to connect Tori with the Village of Waverly Clerk to discuss paddling and fishing possibilities in the lower village-owned reservoir. That connection has been made.
  3. IDA Buck Road- New Energy NY is looking to establish a Tech Hub in the Northeast. The IDA owned Buck Road property has been submitted for consideration and will hopefully be included in the ST8 application for funding to build the Tech Hub.
- E. Sustainability Management – Updated numbers below:
  1. 2023 YTD
    - a. Paid to Broome County
      - i. HHW= \$12,925.50
      - ii. E-Waste= \$6,000.05
    - b. Towns/County(EWaste)= \$679.68
- F. IDA
  1. Southern Tier Clean Tech Corridor Initiative – The IDA agreed to participate with other counties; the Clean Tech development project within the 86 corridor will begin.

**V. PERSONNEL**

- a. Community Development Specialist backfill process continues.

**VI. RESOLUTIONS**

A20-Recommend Members to the Susquehanna Heritage Area Commission

After reviewing the above resolution, Ms. Tinney asked this committee for support to move the resolution forward. The vote to support the above resolutions follows:

Legislator Roberts - yes  
Legislator Flesher – yes  
Legislator Mullen – yes

**VII. PROCLAMATIONS- N/A**

**VIII. ADJOURNMENT**

With no further topics of discussion or questions, the meeting was adjourned at 3:10 P.M.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Linda Sampson  
Administrative Assistant Economic Development & Planning

DRAFT





# TIOGA COUNTY, NEW YORK

## Tioga County YEAR-TO-DATE BUDGET REPORT

FOR 2024 02

ACCOUNTS FOR: A	General Fund	ORIGINAL APPROP	TRANSFRS/ ADJSTMTS	REVISED BUDGET	YTD ACTUAL	ENCUMBRANCES	AVAILABLE BUDGET	PCT USE/COL	
<b>A6422 Economic Development</b>									
A6422	411132	Tax On Hotel/Motel	-35,000	0	-35,000	.00	.00	-35,000.00	.0%
A6422	412890	Other Gen Gov. Inc	-100,000	0	-100,000	.00	.00	-100,000.00	.0%
A6422	419890	Contribution To Ec	-20,000	0	-20,000	.00	.00	-20,000.00	.0%
A6422	421891	Other Home & Commu	-25,000	0	-25,000	.00	.00	-25,000.00	.0%
A6422	510010	Full Time	314,875	0	314,875	9,866.69	.00	305,008.31	3.1%
A6422	510020	Part Time/Temporar	12,553	0	12,553	512.04	.00	12,040.96	4.1%
A6422	540010	Advertising	3,000	0	3,000	300.00	.00	2,700.00	10.0%
A6422	540040	Books	500	0	500	.00	.00	500.00	.0%
A6422	540070	Car Maintenance	2,000	0	2,000	.00	.00	2,000.00	.0%
A6422	540180	Dues	450	500	950	845.00	.00	105.00	88.9%
A6422	540220	Automobile Fuel	150	0	150	.00	.00	150.00	.0%
A6422	540320	Leased/Service Equ	1,350	0	1,350	48.46	.00	1,301.54	3.6%
A6422	540360	Meals/Food	750	0	750	54.83	.00	695.17	7.3%
A6422	540390	Mileage Expense	50	0	50	.00	.00	50.00	.0%
A6422	540420	Office Supplies	1,280	0	1,280	.00	.00	1,280.00	.0%
A6422	540480	Postage	380	0	380	.00	.00	380.00	.0%
A6422	540485	Printing/Paper	1,500	0	1,500	.00	.00	1,500.00	.0%
A6422	540487	Program Expense-WD	100,000	0	100,000	15.45	.00	99,984.55	.0%
A6422	540590	Services Rendered	20,000	0	20,000	.00	.00	20,000.00	.0%
A6422	540620	Software Expense	100	0	100	.00	.00	100.00	.0%
A6422	540660	Telephone	740	0	740	.00	.00	740.00	.0%
A6422	540733	Training/All other	4,820	-500	4,320	.00	.00	4,320.00	.0%
A6422	581088	State Retirement F	6,927	0	6,927	2,605.22	.00	4,321.78	37.6%
A6422	583088	Social Security Fr	4,097	0	4,097	1,510.91	.00	2,586.09	36.9%
A6422	584088	Workers Compensati	0	0	0	459.60	.00	-459.60	100.0%
A6422	585588	Disability Insuran	0	0	0	20.86	.00	-20.86	100.0%
A6422	586088	Health Insurance F	13,076	0	13,076	3,369.51	.00	9,706.49	25.8%
A6422	588988	Eap Fringe	0	0	0	6.08	.00	-6.08	100.0%
TOTAL Economic Development		308,598	0	308,598	19,614.65	.00	288,983.35	6.4%	
TOTAL General Fund		308,598	0	308,598	19,614.65	.00	288,983.35	6.4%	
TOTAL REVENUES		-180,000	0	-180,000	.00	.00	-180,000.00		
TOTAL EXPENSES		488,598	0	488,598	19,614.65	.00	468,983.35		



**Tioga County**  
**YEAR-TO-DATE BUDGET REPORT**

FOR 2024 02							
	ORIGINAL APPROP	TRANFRS/ ADJSTMTS	REVISED BUDGET	YTD ACTUAL	ENCUMBRANCES	AVAILABLE BUDGET	PCT USE/COL

GRAND TOTAL	308,598	0	308,598	19,614.65	.00	288,983.35	6.4%
-------------	---------	---	---------	-----------	-----	------------	------

\*\* END OF REPORT - Generated by Sampson, Linda \*\*



# TIOGA COUNTY, NEW YORK

## Tioga County YEAR-TO-DATE BUDGET REPORT

FOR 2024 02							
ACCOUNTS FOR:	ORIGINAL	TRANFRS/	REVISED	YTD ACTUAL	ENCUMBRANCES	AVAILABLE	PCT
A General Fund	APPROP	ADJSTMTS	BUDGET			BUDGET	USE/COL
<b>A8020 Planning</b>							
A8020 510010 Full Time	167,422	0	167,422	6,390.21	.00	161,031.79	3.8%
A8020 540010 Advertising	200	0	200	.00	.00	200.00	.0%
A8020 540040 Books	600	0	600	.00	.00	600.00	.0%
A8020 540140 Contracting Servic	22,000	0	22,000	.00	.00	22,000.00	.0%
A8020 540180 Dues	800	0	800	400.00	.00	400.00	50.0%
A8020 540220 Automobile Fuel	200	0	200	.00	.00	200.00	.0%
A8020 540320 Leased/Service Equ	1,200	0	1,200	.00	.00	1,200.00	.0%
A8020 540360 Meals/Food	190	0	190	.00	.00	190.00	.0%
A8020 540390 Mileage Expense	600	0	600	.00	.00	600.00	.0%
A8020 540420 Office Supplies	500	0	500	.00	.00	500.00	.0%
A8020 540480 Postage	900	0	900	.00	.00	900.00	.0%
A8020 540485 Printing/Paper	1,000	0	1,000	.00	.00	1,000.00	.0%
A8020 540590 Services Rendered	4,875	0	4,875	.00	.00	4,875.00	.0%
A8020 540660 Telephone	600	0	600	.00	.00	600.00	.0%
A8020 540733 Training/All other	1,200	0	1,200	7.00	.00	1,193.00	.6%
A8020 581088 State Retirement F	0	0	0	1,091.60	.00	-1,091.60	100.0%
A8020 583088 Social Security Fr	0	0	0	905.70	.00	-905.70	100.0%
A8020 584088 Workers Compensati	0	0	0	183.84	.00	-183.84	100.0%
A8020 585588 Disability Insuran	0	0	0	10.46	.00	-10.46	100.0%
A8020 586088 Health Insurance F	0	0	0	3,703.69	.00	-3,703.69	100.0%
A8020 588988 Eap Fringe	0	0	0	2.46	.00	-2.46	100.0%
TOTAL Planning	202,287	0	202,287	12,694.96	.00	189,592.04	6.3%
TOTAL General Fund	202,287	0	202,287	12,694.96	.00	189,592.04	6.3%
TOTAL EXPENSES	202,287	0	202,287	12,694.96	.00	189,592.04	



**Tioga County**  
**YEAR-TO-DATE BUDGET REPORT**

FOR 2024 02							
	ORIGINAL APPROP	TRANFRS/ ADJSTMTS	REVISED BUDGET	YTD ACTUAL	ENCUMBRANCES	AVAILABLE BUDGET	PCT USE/COL

GRAND TOTAL	202,287	0	202,287	12,694.96	.00	189,592.04	6.3%
-------------	---------	---	---------	-----------	-----	------------	------

\*\* END OF REPORT - Generated by Sampson, Linda \*\*



# TIOGA COUNTY, NEW YORK

## Tioga County YEAR-TO-DATE BUDGET REPORT

FOR 2024 02

ACCOUNTS FOR: A General Fund	ORIGINAL APPROP	TRANFRS/ ADJSTMTS	REVISED BUDGET	YTD ACTUAL	ENCUMBRANCES	AVAILABLE BUDGET	PCT USE/COL
<b>A8160 Refuse &amp; Garbage</b>							
A8160 421890 Other Home & Comm	0	0	0	-792.00	.00	792.00	100.0%
A8160 439892 Solid Waste State	-30,000	0	-30,000	.00	.00	-30,000.00	.0%
A8160 510010 Fulltime	69,317	0	69,317	2,645.70	.00	66,671.30	3.8%
A8160 540010 Advertising	7,500	0	7,500	.00	.00	7,500.00	.0%
A8160 540180 Dues	175	0	175	.00	.00	175.00	.0%
A8160 540270 Insurance-Liabilit	1,422	0	1,422	.00	.00	1,422.00	.0%
A8160 540320 Leased/Service Equ	0	2,000	2,000	48.46	.00	1,951.54	2.4%
A8160 540390 Mileage Expense	167	0	167	.00	.00	166.75	.0%
A8160 540420 Office Supplies	2,000	0	2,000	.00	.00	2,000.00	.0%
A8160 540444 Permits, Fees, Ins	100	0	100	.00	.00	100.00	.0%
A8160 540480 Postage	200	0	200	.00	.00	200.00	.0%
A8160 542140 Contracting Servic	100,000	-2,000	98,000	.00	.00	98,000.00	.0%
A8160 542261 Household Hazardou	75,000	0	75,000	.00	.00	75,000.00	.0%
A8160 542485 Printing/Paper	1,500	0	1,500	.00	.00	1,500.00	.0%
A8160 542640 Supplies (Not Offi	11,000	0	11,000	.00	.00	11,000.00	.0%
A8160 542680 Tires	3,900	0	3,900	.00	.00	3,900.00	.0%
A8160 581088 State Retirement F	0	0	0	547.16	.00	-547.16	100.0%
A8160 583088 Social Security Fr	0	0	0	379.28	.00	-379.28	100.0%
A8160 584088 Workers Compensati	0	0	0	91.92	.00	-91.92	100.0%
A8160 585588 Disability Insuran	0	0	0	5.22	.00	-5.22	100.0%
A8160 586088 Health Insurance F	9,585	0	9,585	915.00	.00	8,670.00	9.5%
A8160 588988 EAP Fringe	115	0	115	1.22	.00	113.78	1.1%
TOTAL Refuse & Garbage	251,981	0	251,981	3,841.96	.00	248,138.79	1.5%
TOTAL General Fund	251,981	0	251,981	3,841.96	.00	248,138.79	1.5%
TOTAL REVENUES	-30,000	0	-30,000	-792.00	.00	-29,208.00	
TOTAL EXPENSES	281,981	0	281,981	4,633.96	.00	277,346.79	



# TIOGA COUNTY, NEW YORK

## Tioga County YEAR-TO-DATE BUDGET REPORT

FOR 2024 02							
	ORIGINAL APPROP	TRANFRS/ ADJSTMNTS	REVISED BUDGET	YTD ACTUAL	ENCUMBRANCES	AVAILABLE BUDGET	PCT USE/COL

GRAND TOTAL	251,981	0	251,981	3,841.96	.00	248,138.79	1.5%
-------------	---------	---	---------	----------	-----	------------	------

\*\* END OF REPORT - Generated by Pratt, Ellen \*\*



## Tioga County Tourism January 2024

### **DRI Wayfinding Sign Project**

Trailblazing parking signs are ready for installation pending Village of Owego. Pedestrian plan and content are being updated and finalized. Fabrication and installation timeline will be updated pending village and steering committee review.

### **Online Services Grant**

The Online Services grant through the USDA has been extended until September of 2024. TCT has approximately \$29,000 in reimbursable funds to contract with an online marketing specialist to work one-on-one with TC businesses. We have developed a program that will allow approximately 17 businesses and organizations to participate in an eight-week customized program. Participation requirements and promotional material have been distributed. So far 5 applications have been received. More information and the application is at <https://experiencetioga.com/digital-marketing-course-2>. Four businesses are participating in the first quarter course. 16 applications have been received.

### **Tioga Antique Trail Campaign**

TCT is worked with Mediabrush marketing to create a comprehensive campaign to promote the Tioga Antiques Trail. This campaign began in mid-December and will run through the first quarter of 2024. It includes digital advertising, streaming commercials, videos and a new landing page a <https://experiencetioga.com/antiques-trail/>.

### **Finger Lakes Farm Country**

Tioga County Farms will be featured in the updated Finger Lakes Farm Country Program. Itineraries are being created, and a mobile "Breakfast at the Farm" event will take place at a Tioga County Farm with a branded food truck.

### **Two Rivers State Park**

Becca attended a meeting of Tioga County staff and elected officials, the Finger Lakes Region of NYS Parks and a representative of Senator O'mara to discuss development opportunities for the park. Short term projects include re-establishing a Friends of the Park Group, construction of a new entrance with parking on Walker Hill Road, updating signage to acknowledge a revered cross country coach, and exploring the possibility of adding more roads, paddling and fishing access.

### **Souther Tier Water Trail**

Branding is almost complete for this project. It includes a logo, trail markers, rack card and wesite (Launch date June - August).



Serving Tioga County Farmers, Families & Youth for 100+ Years

## **Cornell Cooperative Extension Tioga County**

📍 343 Cass Hill Rd  
Candor, NY 13743

☎ 607-223-2753  
✉ [tioga@cornell.edu](mailto:tioga@cornell.edu)  
🌐 [tioga.cce.cornell.edu](http://tioga.cce.cornell.edu)

### **January 2024 CCE Tioga Highlights Prepared for Tioga County Legislature Update**

#### **Organizational Updates:**

- The recruitment process continues for a new Executive Director. Applications will continue to be accepted by the Search Committee until they have a qualified applicant pool to begin the interview process. The position can be found at [tioga.cce.cornell.edu](http://tioga.cce.cornell.edu) under the heading JOIN OUR TEAM.
- The following positions have been recently filled: Agriculture Development Specialist, 4-H Educator, Regional Energy Team Leader
- The following positions are open with active recruitment and/or interviewing process underway: Finance Manager, Energy Educator

#### **Hilltop Community Farm:**

- CCE Tioga is collaborating with Tioga County Soil & Water Conservation District to undertake a flood mitigation project at Hilltop Community Farm. The project will help improve water quality on the farm, protect the stream corridor and provide resiliency and flood mitigation to the entire Pipe Creek Watershed. Once complete the project will also serve as a demonstration project to educate stakeholders about how these types of improvements can help mitigate flooding from heavy rain events and improve overall water quality. Grant funding is being provided through the Tioga County SWCD using the Susquehanna River Basin Commission's Mitigation Program.
- Work is complete on the new greenhouse. Staff is planning for activities to begin in early Spring with programs focused on producers, youth and Master Gardeners.

#### **Agriculture Activities:**

- Technical assistance and staff support continue to be provided to the current cohort of Incubator Farmers located at Hilltop Community Farm with recruitment for the 2024 cohort underway.
- We are organizing a county wide seed swap in early Spring this year. Individual swaps will



be held in Van Etten, Candor, Owego, Apalachin, Barton, Waverly, Nichols, and Tioga and possibly more. This is happening March 23rd and will entail seed/plant sharing as well as various educational components.

- A plant propagation workshop is scheduled for Feb 17th at the farm with follow up workshops at various places anticipated later in the season throughout the county.

#### 4-H Youth Development

- A new Teen Council has been formed with 10 members and growing. The group is planning its first fundraiser, a pancake breakfast in April.
- The annual Public Presentations for all 4-Hers is planned for March 23.
- A Tractor Safety course starts this month!
- We want to introduce Ben O'Connor, our new 4-H Educator, who provided the following email introduction to 4-H Leaders:

*Ben loves to be outdoors and playing his ukelele to whatever in nature will listen. He is a gamer of all types (video, board and roleplaying, etc), enjoys sports and rocks at trivia. Ben is very excited to be joining our team as our new 4-H Educator, and his many years of experience as an Eagle Scout is going to really open up possibilities of activities for the kids! Please welcome Ben to the CCE Tioga and Tioga County 4-H Team!*

#### Campus Connections

- Interim ED Kevin Jordan participated in the annual state legislative visits for the Cooperative Extension system on January 21 & 22 in Albany. Executive Directors from the Southern Tier Region provide updates to state legislators from the region about key programs and accomplishments and outlined the impact that state 224 funding provides to Cooperative Extension.

Respectfully submitted by

Kevin J. Jordan  
Interim Executive Director



Cornell Cooperative Extension is an employer and educator recognized for valuing AA/EEO, Protected Veterans, and Individuals with Disabilities and provides equal program and employment opportunities.

Get Social  
With Us!



Facebook/CCETioga



Instagram/CCETioga

REFERRED TO:

ED&P COMMITTEE

RESOLUTION NO. -24

SET PUBLIC HEARING FOR 2024 ANNUAL  
AGRICULTURAL DISTRICT INCLUSIONS

WHEREAS: The Tioga County Legislature, as per Resolution 296-03 designated January 2<sup>nd</sup> through January 31<sup>st</sup> as the official annual enrollment period for inclusion of viable agricultural properties in agricultural districts as required by §303-B of the NYS Agricultural and Markets Law 25-AA; and

WHEREAS: Tioga County Planning has received requests for inclusion of land in agricultural districts and said law requires that the Tioga County Legislature hold a public hearing before making a decision on inclusion of lands; therefore be it

RESOLVED: That the Tioga County Legislature will hold a public hearing on requests of inclusion of viable agricultural land in agricultural districts received within the designated time period in 2024 on February 22, 2024 at 10:00 A.M. in the Legislative Conference Room of the Ronald E. Dougherty County Office Building, 56 Main Street, Owego, NY. All interested parties will be heard by the Tioga County Legislature at this hearing.

REFERRED TO:

ED&P COMMITTEE  
PERSONNEL COMMITTEE

RESOLUTION NO. -24

AUTHORIZE APPOINTMENT OF  
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT SPECIALIST IN  
THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT &  
PLANNING DEPARTMENT

WHEREAS: Legislative approval is required for any appointment to a Management Confidential position within Tioga County; and

WHEREAS: The Director of Economic Development & Planning (ED&P) has conducted a recruitment search for the Community Development Specialist and has identified a candidate; and

WHEREAS: The Community Development Specialist position has been vacant since September 13, 2023; and

WHEREAS: The Community Development Specialist position funding is included in the ED&P 2024 budget; therefore be it

RESOLVED: That the Director of Economic Development & Planning is hereby authorized to appoint Sean Lanning to the position of Community Development Specialist at an annual Management Confidential salary of \$57,009 effective February 26, 2024, in accordance with payroll processing standards; and be it further

RESOLVED: That said appointment shall be provisional, pending the outcome of a civil service examination.

REFERRED TO:

ED&P COMMITTEE

RESOLUTION NO. -24

FILING OF AN APPLICATION FOR  
HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE  
STATE ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

WHEREAS: The State of New York announced a grant from the DEC Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) program to assist counties and local governments with their household hazardous waste program expenses; and

WHEREAS: Through this grant Solid Waste would be partially reimbursed for their eligible costs of their HHW program; therefore be it

RESOLVED: That the Tioga County Legislature authorizes the Sustainability Manager to apply and administer said grant via NYS Grants Gateway; and be it further

RESOLVED: That the Tioga County Legislature authorizes and directs the Chair or their designee to sign the application via Grants Gateway for grant upon approval by the County Attorney.

REFERRED TO:

ED&P COMMITTEE

RESOLUTION NO. -24

UTILITY EASEMENT WITH  
NEW YORK STATE ELECTRIC & GAS AND  
TIOGA COUNTY

WHEREAS: The New York Power Authority is installing electric vehicle charging stations within the County's Court House parking lot located between Park Street and Parkers Lane in the Village of Owego; and

WHEREAS: This project will require that New York State Electric & Gas (NYSEG) install and upgrade electrical infrastructure servicing the charging stations' location; and

WHEREAS: New York State Electric & Gas (NYSEG) is requesting an easement to install and maintain equipment on Tioga County property at the Courthouse parking lot owned by Tioga County (Tax Parcel ID # 128.08-6-81); and

WHEREAS: It is proposed that Tioga County grant an easement for NYSEG to bring 3-phase power and complete said tree work; and

WHEREAS: Said work and utility easement shall not interfere with the use of the land for county purposes; therefore be it

RESOLVED: That the Tioga County Legislature authorizes the Chair to sign the utility easement between NYSEG and Tioga County upon its approval by the County Attorney.

REFERRED TO:

ED&P COMMITTEE

RESOLUTION NO. -24

RE-APPOINT MEMBER TO THE TIOGA  
COUNTY LOCAL DEVELOPMENT  
CORPORATION (TCLDC)

WHEREAS: The term of Tioga County Local Development Corporation member Christina DiStefano expires as of March 31, 2024; and

WHEREAS: Christina DiStefano has expressed a desire to serve another term; therefore be it

RESOLVED: That the Tioga County Legislature hereby re-appoint Christina DiStefano for another three-year term effective 4/1/24 through 3/31/27.

REFERRED TO:

ED&P COMMITTEE

RESOLUTION NO. -24

AUTHORIZATION TO ENTER INTO A FIVE (5) YEAR AGREEMENT WITH MUNICIPALITIES TO ACCEPT HOUSEHOLD ELECTRONIC WASTE FROM TIOGA COUNTY RESIDENTS

WHEREAS: In January of 2015, New York State banned consumers from disposing of certain types of electronic waste in landfills, waste-to-energy facilities, in the trash, or at curbside for trash pickup; and

WHEREAS: Due to this ban, the only disposal point for such waste is through the Tioga County Household Hazardous Waste program which requires electronic waste be brought to the Broome County Landfill; and

WHEREAS: To provide alternative drop off sites the Department of Solid Waste will pay for the recycling costs for acceptable household electronic waste brought to a participating Tioga County municipality either during a public clean up event or at an agreed upon permanent drop off location which they sponsor for their residents; therefore be it

RESOLVED: That the Tioga County Legislature authorizes and directs the Chair of Tioga County or their designee to enter into agreements with participating municipalities as approved by the County Attorney for up to five (5) years to provide for electronic waste drop off sites.

REFERRED TO:

ED&P COMMITTEE

RESOLUTION NO. -24

RE-APPOINT MEMBER TO THE TIOGA  
COUNTY LOCAL DEVELOPMENT  
CORPORATION (TCLDC)

WHEREAS: The term of Tioga County Local Development Corporation member Beth Johnson expires as of March 31, 2024; and

WHEREAS: Beth Johnson has expressed a desire to serve another term; therefore be it

RESOLVED: That the Tioga County Legislature hereby re-appoint Beth Johnson for another three-year term effective 4/1/24 through 3/31/27.



REFERRED TO:

ED&P COMMITTEE

RESOLUTION NO. -24

SET PUBLIC HEARING FOR NYS CDBG  
MICROENTERPRISE GRANT APPLICATION

WHEREAS: Tioga County Economic Development & Planning intends to apply for a NYS CDBG Microenterprise Program Grant to support microenterprises in Tioga County with business start-up and expansion funding; and

WHEREAS: The Tioga County Legislature is required to hold a public hearing allowing for citizen feedback on the community and economic development needs of Tioga County and the proposed program; therefore be it

RESOLVED: That the Tioga County Legislature will hold a public hearing for community input in regards to the current Community Development Block Grant project in the Legislative Conference Room of the Ronald E. Dougherty County Office Building, 56 Main Street, Owego, New York 13827 on Thursday, February 22, 2024 at 10:05 A.M. All interested parties will be heard by the Tioga County Legislature at this hearing.