

Minutes

Planning, Development & Environmental Quality Committee Tompkins County Legislature

Special Meeting
November 20, 2007 5:00 PM Legislature Chambers

Members Present: Martha Robertson (Chair), Jim Dennis, Pam Mackesey, Frank Proto, Tyke Randall

Staff: Ed Marx, Commissioner of Planning & PW
Kathy Wilsea, TCPD

Visitor: Don Barber, Town of Caroline

The meeting was called to order at 5:05 PM by the Chair, Martha Robertson, with all members present.

1 Tompkins County Area Development

a) Resolution: Resolution in Support of the County-wide Water and Sewer Evaluation -- Resolution moved by Jim Dennis, seconded by Pam Mackesey. Revisions were made to the resolution this morning and it was distributed to all legislators. Copies of the RFP went to PDEQ members. Don Barber reviewed discussion from the Tompkins County Council of Governments (COG). He said this study would contribute greatly to goals for affordable housing. New information is important to all of the municipalities, and COG is willing to be the lead agency, with the County serving as funding conduit. All municipalities with existing infrastructure are willing to share data.

Frank Proto said there was mention of the process at PDEQ, and he had shared his concern that PDEQ was not informed of details. One of his concerns is that he feels a County department needs to be the lead. The municipalities in his district are supportive of pursuing this study. His concerns have been more or less addressed in the revisions, but he pointed out that Tompkins County doesn't govern the COG. Ed Marx said there will be a lot of people examining this as it goes along, with many opportunities for review. We can fine tune agreements during the contract process, but this resolution establishes no commitment beyond the study. Tyke Randall said most of his concerns have also been addressed in the revisions. He felt he was short on information before. Martha pointed out discussion on the study has been in the TCAD reports that accompany the PDEQ agenda since May.

Dooley Kiefer had asked for some changes to the resolution, and the committee agreed to amend the first resolved to read in part, “. . . supports the development *by an engineering consultant* of a county-wide evaluation . . .” Resolution passed by unanimous vote.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:18 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathy Wilsea, Secretary
Tompkins County Planning Dept.