



Onondaga County Legislature

JAMIE McNAMARA
Clerk

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Chairman

TAMMY BARBER
Deputy Clerk

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PLANNING & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE MINUTES – FEBRUARY 19, 2025 **DAVID H. KNAPP, CHAIR**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Mr. Meaker, Ms. Fiato, Ms. Harvey, Mr. Olson
ALSO ATTENDING: Chairman Burtis, Ms. Hernandez; also see attached

Chair Knapp called the meeting to order at 9:37 a.m. and the previous meeting's minutes were approved.

1. APPOINTMENTS: Megan Costa, Admin for Special Projects
a. Confirming Appointments to the Onondaga County Planning Board (Renee S. Dellas, Michael LaFlair, Kevin J. Casserino, Craig Dennis, Donald S. Radke)

- Five appointments to the OCPB, nominated by the County Executive, confirmed by the Legislature
- 7 member board – 5 regular members, 2 ex officio members (County DOT Commissioner, County Comptroller)
- All 5 seats are up for appointment; *resumes on file with the Clerk*

Questions/Comments from the Committee:

- This board is going to be more important with Micron and other supply chain companies
- Important that this board is full and has quality people

A motion was made by Mr. Olson, seconded by Ms. Fiato, to approve this item. Passed unanimously; MOTION CARRIED.

2. ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT: Bob Petrovich, Deputy County Executive, Economic Development
a. 2024 Transfer Resolution (\$1,500,000)

PURPOSE: *Transfer \$1,500,000 to a grant project account to support workforce development initiatives regarding advanced manufacturing/semiconductor manufacturing.*

OBJECTIVE/WORK PLAN: *The Onondaga County Office of Economic Development is partnering with the economic development ecosystem to support workforce development. A key area of focus is the advanced manufacturing/semiconductor manufacturing industry. This funding will support transformational opportunities for residents of Onondaga County. The goals of these programs is to provide pathways to prosperity for residents of Onondaga County.*

The Office of Economic Development is engaged with local organizations such as MACNY, OCC and Syracuse University to expand partnerships regarding workforce development. OCIDA routinely partners with organizations such as MACNY to address the critical workforce needs of local companies, particularly in the advanced manufacturing sector.

This investment will work in concert with ongoing efforts such as the Micron Cleanroom Simulation Lab at Onondaga Community College and provide career opportunities to residents of Onondaga County. An example of this would be development of training programs for technicians in the semiconductor and microelectronic manufacturing industries.

FUNDING SOURCE: *Funding approved in 2024 Budget.*

BUDGET: *Transfer from contingent account to grant project account.*

- Looking to develop a broader employment and talent base across the advance manufacturing/semiconductor ecosystem
- Micron and everything in addition to Micron that ED is focused on, in terms of advance manufacturing
- Making sure there is talent here through community colleges, 4 year schools and K-12
- Focus is on immediate needs for kids in high school going to 2 & 4 year schools for jobs in the future
- Longer range plans to facilitate K-12 development of talent for these jobs, expected over next one or two decades

Questions/Comments from the Committee:

- Is Steam School still on track?
 - Not something focused on
 - Steam School is advancing, windows going in soon and will have an effect on the façade
 - Coming this fall - September
- Can you give an example of a program that is going to be used?
 - Part of this effort is to get the money to develop the programming
 - Whether working with ed institutions or broader eco systems
 - Looking at specific skills and training needs (i.e. welding skills for piping) - working with MACNY
 - With respect to OCC, County Executive investment in clean room & curriculum development
- Any community outreach to those underserved that would benefit the most from this?
 - Working on this every day to broaden the field of opportunities for this area
 - Aware of the need to pull more people typically not in this space; will be part of programming to be advanced
- Will this be an ongoing budget request moving forward for the next few years?
 - Do not know the answer to that; will be a wait and see
 - For now this will help jump start what Economic Development is trying to do
 - Nothing like success to garner more support
 - Want to get this stood up, so folks in this space have opportunity to get those jobs, and those desperate to get those jobs filled, will have the right talent
 - If there is success and able to meet objectives, will come back
 - Also leveraging of public/private partnerships – can help companies, institutions and people that need jobs
- Could this funding be used to help BOCES, OCC, and/or a welding company?
 - Yes, looking to be inclusive not exclusive with this
 - In the past ED has worked with MACNY and other companies that had a particular need (i.e. welders)
 - Cohort has gone through with 15 participants and 12 of them got jobs
 - People that needed training was part of an earn and learn process (Feldmeier Equipment, Inc.)
- Will anything be implemented in the City Schools?
 - Will have to be flushed out as programming is developed; open for ideas, solutions, programs and proposals
 - Like any of these programs have to understand where the need is and target effort in that area
- Ask that Economic Development come back to committee to show the plan and/or the results
 - Yes; first is agreeing on a proposal, then executing it; support to come after

A motion was made by Mr. Meaker, seconded by Mr. Olson, to approve this item. Passed unanimously; MOTION CARRIED.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:50 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,



DEBBIE KAMINSKI, Assistant Clerk
Onondaga County Legislature

ATTENDANCE

COMMITTEE: PLANNING & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
COMMITTEE
DATE: FEBRUARY 19, 2025

NAME (Please Print)	DEPARTMENT/AGENCY
Yvonne Long	OCEY
Bob Petronich	CO EX OFE / ED
Darcie Lesniak	Leg
Megan Costa	Planning
John DeSantis	N/A
Nolan Quinn	N/A
Jim Beebe	Leg
Don Yaus	
Joe F.	