

**Minutes of the Meeting of the
Oneida County Industrial Development Agency
Held on June 19, 2009 at the EDGE offices
Rome, NY 13441**

Members Present: F. Betrus, N. Brown, M. Fitzgerald, D. Grow, M. Valentine, S. Zogby

Absent:

EDGE Staff Present: J. Castilla, S. DiMeo, S. Papale, M. Rizzo

Others Present: M. Dorr, M. Murphy, D. O'Toole, L. Ruberto, M. Stephens

Mr. Grow called the meeting to order at 8:10 AM.

The minutes of the May 22, 2009 Agency meeting were unanimously approved with corrections deleting portion of prior month's minutes that were inadvertently left in upon a motion made by Mr. Valentine, seconded by Ms. Brown.

In other Agency business:

- A request by Fountainhead Group for a three-year extension of their current PILOT, which expires in 2010, was brought before the Agency. Included in the request is the purchase of approximately \$575,000 worth of equipment. Mr. O'Toole, representing Fountainhead Group, explained the equipment purchase is part of a product redesign project for their backpack sprayer line that is necessary for the company to remain competitive in the marketplace. He also made mention of the owners' significant private contributions that have been made to the company in recent years in order to keep the company operating during the downturn in business it has experienced over the past few years. Discussion ensued. *A motion was made by Ms. Brown to table the request, seconded by Mr. Betrus. The motion was unanimously passed.*
- Mr. Fitzgerald exited the meeting due to prior commitment.
- *A motion to enter Executive Session for the purpose of discussing pending contracts was made by Mr. Betrus, seconded by Ms. Brown at 8:45 AM. Consensus to exit Executive Session was achieved at 9:35 AM.*
- A request by Champion Home Builders for a five year extension of their current PILOT, which expires in 2010, was brought before the Agency. Mr. Castilla explained that the company requested the extension as it has been severely impacted by the downturn in the economy, particularly the housing market. The company has reduced employment to 75 FT people and has made significant cost cutting measures in order to keep operating. The Waterville School District has indicated its support for the extension of this PILOT. *A motion to extend the PILOT for five (5) years with the company employing a minimum of 75 FT people and with each year of the extension increasing an equal percentage to the point whereby year five of the PILOT the company is paying 100% of taxes was made by Mr. Betrus, seconded by Mr. Zogby. Upon calling for a vote, the motion was passed with Mr. Valentine opposed.*
- A request by Lewis Brothers for sales and mortgage recording tax exemptions on Phase III of their Lewiston at Clinton Street project was brought before the Agency. There was no formal application submitted for this project as it is a continuation of an ongoing project for which an application was

submitted and acted upon in January of 2008. Mr. Grow requested that the minutes from the January 2008 Agency action be distributed to members. The request was tabled.

Old Business:

- The ongoing brownfield remediation project at the former Rome Cable facility has cleaned approximately 10 acres to date. Approximately 53 acres remain for cleaning. Rome Community Brownfield Restoration Corporation has submitted a NY RESTORE grant and the project has been approved for funding. A bid was released for refurbishing of electrical equipment at the facility. The Agency is overseeing the bidding process as it is the owner of record for the site.
- Mr. Grow informed the Board that County Executive Picente has submitted Gene Quadraro to the Legislature for appointment to the Agency Board.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:55 AM upon a motion made by Mr. Betrus, seconded by Ms. Brown.

Respectfully submitted,

Shawna M. Papale
Executive Director