

Tompkins County Council of Governments
 Regular Meeting Minutes - APPROVED
 Thursday, January 25, 2018 3:00 PM
 Scott Heyman Conference Room

Attendance

Attendee Name	Title	Status	Arrived
Elizabeth Thomas	Member, Town of Ulysses	Present	
Betty Conger	Vice-Chair, Village of Groton	Present	
Bill Goodman	Co-Chair, Town of Ithaca	Present	
Ric Dietrich	Member, Town of Danby	Present	
Marty Petrovic	Member, Village of Trumansburg	Present	
Jason Leifer	Member, Town of Dryden	Present	
Casey Powers	Member, Town of Newfield	Present	
Linda Lavine	Alternate, Town of Dryden	Present	
Donna Fleming	Co-Chair, City of Ithaca	Present	
Ed Lavigne	Alternate, Town of Lansing	Present	
Mark Witmer	Alternate, Town of Caroline	Present	
Linda Woodard	Member, Village of Cayuga Heights	Present	
Pat O'Rourke	Member, Village of Lansing	Present	
Beth McGee	Member, Town of Enfield	Present	
Joe Wetmore	Member, Town of Lansing	Late	4:20 PM
George McGonigal	Alternate, City of Ithaca	Present	
Marcia Lynch	Public Info. Officer, County Administration	Present	
Katrina McCloy	Legislature Office	Present	
Lee Shurtleff	Director, Department of Emergency Response	Present	

Guests: Mike Thorne, Superintendent of Public Works, City of Ithaca; Nick Goldsmith, City of Ithaca; Terry Carroll, Clean Energy Coordinator Program, NYSERDA; and Kate Supron, Office of Community Relations, Cornell University; Matt Bishop, local resident and CEO, Open City Labs

Call to Order

Mr. Goodman, Co-Chair, called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m.

Greeting/Sign In/Review Agenda

The following changes were made to the agenda:

The interim report from the Emergency Services Task Force was deferred to the March meeting and an update by Mr. Dietrich on the Cayuga Watershed Inter-Municipal Organization was added to the agenda. Mr. Goodman requested the subcommittee report of the Community Choice Aggregation Work Group be removed from the agenda and future agendas as there is no activity from the subcommittee at this time.

Minutes Approval

December 14, 2017

RESULT:	ACCEPTED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Betty Conger, Vice-Chair, Village of Groton
SECONDER:	Ric Dietrich, Member, Town of Danby
AYES:	Thomas, Conger, Goodman, Dietrich, Petrovic, Leifer, Powers, Fleming, Lavigne, Witmer, Woodard, O'Rourke, McGee

Discussions:

Cayuga Watershed Inter-Municipal Organization Update

Mr. Dietrich stated there was overwhelming support by those in attendance at the Cayuga Watershed Inter-Municipal Organization meeting last night for the Cayuga Watershed Initiative and the conference being held in Seneca Fall later in the Spring. Cornell University will be assisting with the conference and the Seneca Falls Community Center has donated the use of its facility. Mr. Dietrich stated the initiative is to reduce the amount of erosion coming from the various municipalities into Cayuga Lake. He believes if everyone could get together to discuss this and some of the projects involved a solution can be found.

Mr. Dietrich stated the Governor has announced the release of funding for the lakes systems and he is asking municipalities to write a letter of support for the conference and initiative. A copy of the letter of support from the Town of Ulysses was shared at the meeting and a copy will be e-mailed to all TCCOG members. In addition, all entities across the County that are involved with water are being included and will be invited to the conference.

Mr. Goodman stated the municipalities and organizations around Cayuga Lake updated the Watershed Management Plan and the Inter-Municipal Organization received a three-year grant from New York State to work with the Central New York Planning Agency to develop projects to implement the Plan. The funding now being sought by the Watershed Inter-Municipal Organization is to implement those projects.

Streetlight Conversion to LEDs (ID #7512)

Mr. Thorne stated there is a Countywide effort to change streetlights to light-emitting diode (LED) fixtures that use approximately one-third of the energy. He said the City of Ithaca has contracted with George Woodbary, Light Smart Energy Consulting of North Carolina, who specializes in streetlight conversion to LED and will provide the same services to municipalities at their cost if they decide to do this. Mr. Thorne reviewed in detail a document entitled Scope of Work, Street light Consulting Services, City of Ithaca and Tompkins County Municipalities, that laid out the steps involved in the streetlight conversion process and provided estimated costs.

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Report on Tompkins County Emergency Response and Oversight Committee

Appoint a TCCOG representative

Mr. Shurtleff distributed a document that outlined the Tompkins County Emergency Response Oversight Committee (EROC) and provided a brief background on the development of the Committee. He stated today there is a much broader use of the emergency communication network and involvement and a need for a broader EROC. He stated the Legislature approved new bylaws last fall and now there is

a seat on EROC for a TCCOG member to gain the local municipality perspective. He envisions the Committee will meet Wednesdays for two hours on a bi-or tri-monthly basis at the Emergency Response Center.

Pat O'Rourke, Village of Lansing, expressed that she was interested but did not want to commit until she has been given an opportunity to look into it further. Mr. Goodman stated she could be given that opportunity and can report back to TCCOG next month.

Report from Subcommittees

Cable Committee

Mr. Dietrich updated TCCOG members that negotiations have resumed and there is a planning session scheduled to bring everyone up-to-speed on this followed by a meeting to review the draft contract, which has a rural and City component. He suggested that members from each municipality review the draft document and familiarize themselves with this. Mr. Goodman suggested this be a topic of discussion at a future meeting.

Mr. McGonigal stated when Spectrum took over Time Warner WENY, Channel 19, was dropped from the local station channel availability and was replaced with a Syracuse-based channel. He believes the local coverage was better with the Elmira station. However, he has found that WENY is available on the newer Spectrum cable boxes as channel 1210 but is concerned that it will be eliminated in the future. He would like the affected municipalities in the County to write letters to Spectrum and State and Federal officials requesting that Spectrum continue to offer WENY. Mr. Goodman suggested he provide a sample letter. Ms. Robertson stated the Legislature will need updated information prior to passing a resolution regarding its support.

Energy Task Force

Ms. Thomas reported the Task Force has been working on the LED streetlight conversion. She said at the last meeting they were also working on the Countywide Electric Vehicle Initiative Grant. She stated there is no meeting today.

Transit Services Committee

Ms. Fleming stated the TCCOG seat on the Transit Services Committee was set up to provide input from rural communities to the Committee. She is a City representative and believes the seat would be better suited for a representative from a rural area. Mr. Witmer is interested in the seat and will speak with Ms. Fleming and report back next month.

Future Meeting Agenda Items

Following a discussion by Committee members the next meeting agendas will include:

- February 22, 2018, Meeting
 - Overview of the Swift 911 Services Available
 - Planning and Sustainability Department Overview of Services and assistance they can provide
 - Further discussion of extending the meeting to two hours
 - Appointment of TCCOG representative to Emergency Response and Oversight Committee

- March 22, 2018, Meeting
 - Update from Tompkins County Planning Department on Article 239 review process

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- Cayuga Lake Water Basin Summit
- Establishing an Emergency Preparedness Task Force
- Consideration of extending meeting length to two hours

- Future Meetings
 - Municipal Check-ins (Reports by members on large issues municipalities are currently engaged in)
 - Priorities for 2018
 - Work with Cornell University and Schedule Lobbying Efforts

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 4:36 p.m.