

September 17, 2007

Mrs. Teichner opened the public hearing on the proposal of the Town applying for Restore New York Grant funding to upgrade buildings located in the Conservation Area of the Seneca Army Depot. Present at this hearing were Councilman Curt Karlsen and Richard Peterson, Seneca County Resource Management Specialist, Peter Brown, Town Clerk, Donna Karlsen and Robert Hayssen.

Mr. Brown noted that due to the specification of the grant, the town would be applying for renovations to building 810 in the Conservation area at a total cost of \$1,000,000 rather than the upgrade and renovation to up to seventy-two buildings as was originally proposed. The Town's share will be 10% of that amount or \$100,000. Although the Town will be responsible for this, Finger Lakes Technology has agreed to reimburse the town this amount. If the Town receives the grant, an agreement between the Town of Varick and Finger Lakes Technologies will need to be established regarding the reimbursement of the \$100,000 prior to the town accepting the award of the grant funds.

Finger Lakes Technology will be responsible for organizing labor and materials for the work that will be completed at prevailing wage and submit invoices to the Town for reimbursement from Empire State Development. It will be the Town's responsibility to verify the work has been completed prior to submittal of these invoices. A discussion was held as to how these invoices should be submitted in order to protect the town's share of 10%. This will be looked at closer if the grant is awarded.

It was noted that there was no written communications.

Mrs. Teichner closed the public hearing at 6:45 p.m.

Mr. Brown indicated that a Resolution of Municipal Support needed to be passed prior to submittal of the application.

The importance of an agreement between the Town of Varick, the Technology Group and the IDA, as they still own the property, for the 10% reimbursement to the town was reiterated.

It was noted that if the Technology Group decides not to agree to pay the 10% we can turn the money back in. Mr. Brown also noted that by receiving the reimbursement from the Technology Group for the 10%, it won't keep the town from receiving the grant funds. He stated it is easier for Empire State Development to monitor the funds through a municipality rather than a private business.

Mr. Peterson noted that the grant funds come from taxpayers and expressed his opinion that the Technology Group should pay for all the work themselves. He feels that if

someone goes into business, they ought to have money to be in business. They shouldn't be taking tax payer's money.

The following resolution was proposed.

WHEREAS, New York State has offered the "Restore NY" grant program to demolish, deconstruct, rehabilitate, or reconstruct vacant, surplus, abandoned, or condemned buildings to remove community blight and attract new development; and,

WHEREAS, if awarded, the grant shall provide 90% of the costs of such a project, and,

WHEREAS, The Town of Varick proposes applying for Restore NY grant funding to renovate Building No. 810 in the Conservation area of the former Seneca Army Depot at a proposed cost total of \$1,000,000 of which the Town's share will be 10% of that amount, being \$100,000; and,

WHEREAS, the Town finds that the proposed project will remove a blighting influence on the community and these prepare this site for future development and use; and,

WHEREAS, the Town finds that the proposed project is *an unlisted action under NYCRR & 617.5 and the shore environmental assessment form has been completed*, and the Board of the Town of Varick intends to serve as the lead agency; and,

WHEREAS, the Town of Varick finds the proposed financing is appropriate for these specific projects; and

WHEREAS, these projects facilitate effective and efficient use of existing and future public resources so as to promote both economic development and preservation of community resources; and,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town finds the above projects consistent with existing local and regional plans; the proposed financing is appropriate for the aforementioned projects; the project facilitate effective and efficient use of public resources; and the projects promote economic development and preservation of community resources;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED; that the Town Supervisor is hereby authorized to submit an application to the Restore NY program, and remit the \$250.00 non-refundable application fee to Empire State Development.

Motion: Curt Karlsen

Seconded by: Joan Teichner

Discussion: Mr. Peterson questioned that if the grant is awarded, can we still decline it? Mr. Brown stated that the town could decline it by not signing the contract that will be sent from Empire State Development.

Roll Call:

Joan Teichner: Yes

Curt Karlsen Yes

Richard Peterson Yes

So Carried

Mrs. Teichner adjourned the meeting at 6:55 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted

Donna Karlsen

Town Clerk