

Minutes of the Meeting of the  
Oneida County Industrial Development Agency

September 20, 2024

584 Phoenix Drive, Rome, NY /Webex Video/Teleconference

**Members Present:** Steve Zogby, David Grow, Kristen Martin, Tim Reed, Arrica Lewis, and Franca Armstrong.

**EDGE Staff Present:** Shawna Papale, Tim Fitzgerald, Laura Cohen, Maureen Carney, and Marc Barraco.

**Others Present Virtual:** Linda Romano and Laura Ruberto, Bond, Schoeneck & King; Mark Levitt and Jenna Peppenelli, Levitt & Gordon;

S. Zogby called the meeting to order at 8:03 AM.

**Minutes – September 5, 2024**

S. Zogby presented the draft September 5 meeting minutes for review. **T. Reed moved to approve the September 5, 2024 meeting minutes as presented. K. Martin seconded the motion, which carried 6-0.**

S. Papale informed the members that at the most recent Finance Committee meeting, A. Lewis was nominated to chair the committee, and that she accepted this nomination.

**2025 OCIDA Budget**

M. Carney presented the proposed 2025 budget to the members. The budget looks largely similar to the Agency's 2024 budget. D. Grow asked if staff had any recommendations for what to do with cash on hand. S. Papale mentioned the new ON-RAMP program which has been announced by New York State, which would be an opportunity for the Agency to invest in local workforce development, specifically in advanced manufacturing. She also mentioned ongoing discussions with local health systems on training more nurses. But there are no firm decisions at this point on what to do with cash on hand. **D. Grow made a motion to approve the Agency's 2025 budget as presented. T. Reed seconded the motion, which carried 6-0.**

**Interim Financials**

M. Carney presented the August 31, 2024 interim financial statement. She noted that the Q3 Wolfsped PIF payment has already been received, and all other July PILOT payments have been received and disbursed to the appropriate jurisdictions. There were no other items of note. **The Agency received and accepted the interim financials as presented, subject to audit.**

**Funding Request – Marcy Nanocenter Development**

S. Papale made a request that the Agency authorize an additional contribution to EDGE, beyond the 2024 budgeted "Special Economic Development Contingency" amount of \$25,000, to assist with paying for a service fee to the consultant ATREG. This consultant was responsible for Wolfsped coming to the Mohawk Valley. There is now an opportunity to contract for its services again, with an annual fee of \$240,000. EDGE desires to enter into a two-year service contract with ATREG. National Grid has agreed to pay \$100K each year, and Oneida County has agreed to pay \$50K each year, while EDGE will contribute \$40K each year, plus expenses. S. Papale is requesting \$50K per year over the proposed two-year contract term. The \$25K contingency line in the 2024 budget would be used to cover a portion of this, and an additional \$25K contribution would have to be approved. A discussion ensued about whether proceeds from the Wolfsped PIF can be used to pay for this contract. It was determined that such funds cannot be used for this purpose. S. Zogby asked for a motion to authorize the 2024 Special Economic Development Contingency amount of \$25,000 to help pay for the ATREG service agreement. **T. Reed made a motion to authorize the 2024 Special Economic Development Contingency amount of \$25,000 to help pay for the ATREG service agreement. K. Martin seconded the motion, which carried 6-0.**

**Sovena USA**

D. Grow informed the members that the Agency was served a lawsuit by Sovena USA, contesting the assessment of its Rome facility. They are requesting a reduced assessment. S. Papale gave the members background on the Sovena

project. M. Levitt suggested the Agency refer its interest in the case to Tod Lascurettes. The members concurred with this approach.

**Adjournment**

With no further business, S. Zogby asked for a motion to adjourn. **At 8:49 AM F. Armstrong moved, and A. Lewis seconded a motion to adjourn. Motion carried, 6-0.**

Respectfully Submitted,  
Tim Fitzgerald