

A regular meeting of the Victor Local Development Corporation (VLDC) was held on Tuesday, June 22, 2021 at the Town Hall, 85 East Main Street.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Vice President & Treasurer Liz Biehler
Secretary Joe Corsi
Director Mike Guinan
Director Vince Pettrone
Director Ted Rund Jr.
Executive Director Kathy Rayburn
Minutes Clerk Debby Trillaud

The meeting was called to order by Vice President & Treasurer at 8:06 am.

Salute to the flag.

(Within this report Victor Local Development Corporation will often be referred to as VLDC)

Resolution #19-21VLDC

Acceptance of Minutes

On a motion made by Mike Guinan, seconded by Vince Pettrone, the following resolution was ADOPTED 4 AYES 0 NAYS.

Resolved, that the Victor Local Development Corporation accepts the minutes from the meeting dated May 25, 2021.

Financial Report

Payment of Bills – Abstract #6

The Board reviewed the invoices to be paid from the Victor Local Development Corporation. The invoices totaled \$26,474.00.

Resolution #24-21VLDC

Payment of Bills -VLDC

On a motion made by Vince Pettrone, seconded by Joe Corsi, the following resolution was ADOPTED 4 AYES 0 NAYS

Resolved, that the Victor Local Development Corporation has reviewed and approved invoices for payment that appear on the balance sheet totaling \$26,474.00.

Executive Director Report- Discussion

New Business/Location assistance:

Kathy is still getting inquiries on various locations throughout Victor. She has been sending out information that she has on available space for lease and purchase. Some of the inquiries, location assistance and new businesses include:

- Mark IV Enterprise- reviewing a Village development site with them – they are pursuing with property owners.
- **Nocino** – new Italian restaurant opening at the former Biaggi's location at the Mall – discussions with the owner regarding grand opening, partnering etc.
- Finger Lakes Cannabis – business owners are pursuing the purchase of a building in the Village – should close July 1. They are purchasing regardless of outcome of pending municipal opt in/out they will be presenting their concept at the 6/28 Town Board meeting.
- Busy Bean Café is closed for remodeling and will feature a larger kitchen and extended indoor seating.
- Salon Sano is relocating from 10 East Main to 274 West Main above C&R Vision. Coordinating with them on grand opening/ribbon cutting.
- Working with Allora Salon & Spa for temporary location. They will close in current location by July 1 while pursuing a Victor building purchase.
- Meeting with Select Fabricators owner that will be moving in to space at 6 Framark Drive.
- Check-in visit with the County Economic Development team at LSI. Biggest issue is finding employees!

Business Conditions: Good news that NYS has lifted all COVID related restrictions as of 6/15/21. Businesses especially the restaurants need staff. With the current unemployment funds it seems people would rather collect that than accept a position. Many in the hospitality arena are anxiously awaiting details on event restrictions now that the numbers have been lifted – no updates since March 15. Theatres and entertainment capacity has increased slightly.

VCDO Partnership Update –

- www.victorcdo.org
- They held a very successful Alive after Five event at LNB on May 6th.
- They cross promoted with the Victor Farmers Market and held a Main Street Market the same day and time – June 9. Weather cooperated and businesses were pleased to have people out and about
- Coordinated with Brian Emelson to bring the Summer Concerts back. Copies of the program are being distributed to various points throughout Victor and attached to this report. They are honoring 2020 paid sponsors on the program

and a banner that will be displayed inside the band shell. They have also reached out to them to inquire if they would like to be on-site during a concert to showcase their business.

- Held our second Hike, Bike & Brew event on June 10 at Twin Elder Parking Lot. The purpose is to promote the trails and expose the trail users to local businesses.

Grants –

- FEMA –**No news on the appeal that was submitted for funds denied.**
- CDBG – Community Development Block Grant – They are moving forward with the grant application and a public hearing scheduled for XX. If they are successful in receiving the requested amount of \$500,000 the funds would be dispersed as loans to Victor businesses. A review committee will be formed prior to any awards being dispersed as oversight of the process.
- UPWP – The Town’s proposal for the **Victor Street Connectivity and Access Plan** was approved for funding to build on the plan completed in 2019. Notification of RFP was distributed and they have received two proposals which are being reviewed and scored with a deadline of 6/23.
- Adams Street Feasibility Study – Kathy has been chasing this funding stream since they were approved pre-COVID. Empire State Development must have gotten sick of Kathy calling because they were officially approved and can move forward with the RFP process.

Business COVID Relief – PPP, EIDL, NYForward, Restaurant relief funding and now Small Business Recover Grant Program....there is a lot for these businesses to digest and navigate. The VLDC continue to disseminate information on these programs with two issues being identified: first is small business owners finding the time to apply and work through the process, second is the funding is SLOW to get to businesses that have been approved. The newest grant program was announced last week and seems to have a user friendly sight for applying.

American Rescue Plan does allow funding for strategic support to local small businesses. Kathy’s hope is that she is able to work with the Town regarding a portion of the funds received being allocated to this effort.

14 Railroad Street – The VLDC signed a purchase agreement on June 2 and have 120 days for due diligence – inspections, environmental, financing, code enforcement – to determine the feasibility of the project. The current tenant remains open at this time.

Miscellaneous but relevant:

- VCDO is hosting a networking session at Victor Municipal Park on July 1st prior to the kick off of the Summer Concert Series.

- Supervisor Marren and Kathy will be presenting at the monthly meeting of Victor Kiwanis on 6/25. They will provide updates on Town business/activities.
- Kathy has worked with the editor of the RBJ to feature a monthly article from various Ontario County departments – the series started with County Executive Chris DeBolt in April, Val Knobloch – Tourism in May and Mary Beer in June. They will continue the series with Mike Manikowski, myself and Jack Marren – She is inquiring with workforce development and Leadership Ontario as well.
- FLREDC – Finger Lakes Region Economic Development Council - as part of the annual report by this group to the state, Kathy and Michele Liddle of Perfect Granola provided a two page summary of current Retail/Service businesses as well as recommendations for support from NYS.

Open Discussion

Kathy let the VLDC Board Members know that on June 28th Town Board Meeting, they will be talking about the legalization of Cannabis. Finger Lakes Cannabis, the company she has been assisting with the process, buildings, etc., will be as an educational workshop, as part of Harris Beach, who has a division on the Cannabis topic, will also be presenting to the Town Board and the public about the process, voting, and about opting in or opting out.

Allora Salon & Spa is temporarily closing. They will be leaving the building that they are currently in and will be purchasing/ moving to another location in Victor. Kathy has found a temporary location on 10 East Main for scaled back services.

The VLDC is excited that the Community Development Block Grant looks promising to be able to receive. The Town will be applying for \$500,000 and Kathy will be administering it if successful. She will also create a committee by pulling from the VLDC, Town Board, etc. Then they will be able to give out loans and grants to local small businesses.

Kathy and the Board Members discussed the status of 14 Railroad St. They are now on the clock for 120 days since they have signed the purchase agreement on June 2nd. They have issued per the agreement a \$20,000 check to Cleary Law Firm, which is held in an escrow account. The engineers inspection was completed on June 14th. Labella has been contracted with and they have requested some documents from the accessor to start the environmental process. Kathy, Rebecca, Vince, and Ted did a walkthrough to look at equipment and other aspects of the building on June 14th. They saw that there were a lot of equipment they do not need. The seller discussed removing anything they don't want. Kathy suggested to get together with the county to talk about some ideas and to create a committee to help navigate through the process. They will

also meet with the County IDA (Industrial Development Agency) to discuss about the financial support process. The Board Members would like to have two committees for this project, one based on the financing on the project and one for revenue stream into the project from the tenant standpoint. Kathy will be meeting with the tech farm in Geneva and another place who is doing something similar to get some ideas on how to divide space, contracts, rent, etc. Kathy and the Board Members are all in agreement with the next steps they will have to do to proceed with 14 Railroad St.

Adjournment

Meeting was adjourned on a motion by Mike Guinan, seconded by Vince Pettrone and unanimously approved at 8:43am.

Gina Ko, Minutes Clerk