

ERIE COUNTY GAMING REVENUE COMMITTEE MEETING

March 28, 2008

An organizational meeting of the Erie County Gaming Revenue Authority (ECGRA) was called to order in the County Council Caucus Room on March 28, 2008 at 12:02 p.m. by Council Chairman Joseph F. Giles. Other board members present were County Executive Mark A. DiVecchio, Jennifer Dobbs Woods, Jim Mikovch, Kathy DiSanti, Stephanie Freeman, Dave Sample. Members absent were Pasquale (Pat) Bruno and Joseph Kujawa. Also present were County Clerk Douglas R. Smith, County Solicitor Wally Knox, Council CPA Joseph P. Maloney, and Attorney Roger Taft.

New Business

County Solicitor Wally Knox reviewed the Articles of Incorporation which were officially accepted by the Department of State on January 31, 2008. Council CPA Joseph P. Maloney presented a synopsis of the Restricted Gaming Funds Distribution Plan for the Board. Attorney Knox then briefly covered the contents of the Administrative Code relative to the Authority. Chairman Giles asked Mr. Smith to distribute sections of the Administrative Code regarding “conflicts of interest” to board members. Chairman Giles and members discussed the need to form a committee to create by-laws for the group. Mrs. Freeman and Ms. DiSanti volunteered to sit on the “by-laws subcommittee”.

The next agenda item dealt with the Summit Industrial Development Authority’s lawsuit against Erie County over restricted gaming funds at which time the Authority went into Executive Session. Attorney Taft presented the facts of the suit and Erie County’s position including the inevitability that the Authority would be named in the current legal action and that they must either allow his firm to represent them as they do the County or name separate counsel. He further advised the Authority members to begin the work of examining grant applications as soon as possible. While a court order prevented money from being awarded to applicants, it did not prevent the Authority from doing the examinations of grant applications. The Executive Session ended after approximately one hour and Chairman Giles asked that the Board plan to make a decision about legal counsel at the next Board meeting. Solicitor Knox further advised that the Board should consider other matters such as accounting and secretarial services once the County employee was hired by the Administration.

That led to a discussion about the gaming position that was to be approved by Council on April the 8th and the manner in which the employee would interact with the Board. Also touched on was the need to finalize the forms which prospective grantees would use to apply for restricted gaming funds. Some other forms used by various agencies will be examined by Members in order to make a final decision in this matter.

Recess

A recess was called at 2:22 p.m. and the Authority agreed to reconvene on April 3, 2008 at 12:00 p.m. in the Council Caucus Room.

