



6122 South Park Avenue  
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[www.HamburgIDA.com](http://www.HamburgIDA.com)

**Hamburg Industrial Development Agency  
Board of Directors Meeting  
September 22, 2020, 7:30am  
Blasdell Village Hall –in person or  
Via Zoom Teleconferencing – due to the COVID 19 Pandemic**

**Present**

Robert Reynolds – in person  
Tom Moses – in person  
Janet Plarr – in person  
Bob Hutchison - in person  
Andy Palmer – in person  
Davis Podkulski – via Zoom  
Cam Hall – in person

**Excused**

Wence Valentin  
Norma Rusert-Kelly

**Guests**

Jennifer Strong, Neill & Strong - in person  
Mary Doran, HIDA – in person  
Jessica Bond, Hamburg Sun - Zoom  
Andy DeVincentis, Walden Develop - Zoom

**Executive Director**

Sean Doyle – in person

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**-Pledge of Allegiance**

**- Roll Call**

**-Motion** to open the board meeting at 7:33am.

**Moved:** Tom Moses                      **Seconded:** Andy Palmer  
**Ayes:** Reynolds, Moses, Hutchison, Palmer, Plarr, Podkulski, Hall  
**Nays:** none  
**Carried**

**-Motion** to approve the August 2020 board meetings minutes.

**Moved:** Bob Reynolds                      **Seconded:** Bob Hutchinson  
**Ayes:** Reynolds, Moses, Hutchison, Palmer, Plarr, Podkulski, Hall  
**Nays:** none  
**Carried**

Treasurer, Bob Reynolds, gave an update on the financials. Reimbursement of \$5,000 was received from the Hamburg Development Corporation for program operating expenses and \$2,500 was paid for continuing technology support. A tentative budget for 2021 has been drafted and will be presented to the rest of the board in October.

**-Motion** to approve the July 2020 Treasurer Report.

**Moved:** Andy Palmer

**Seconded:** Janet Plarr

**Ayes:** Reynolds, Moses, Hutchison, Palmer, Plarr, Podkulski, Hall

**Nays:** none

*Carried*

### **Executive Director Update:**

-The finance committee will be meeting soon to review the 2021 budget before it is presented to the board. A draft has been prepared. It is very similar to the 2020 budget excluding some of the planned and unplanned technology expenses due to covid.

-Project closings:

- Erie Wind is in the process of completing their title search, the lease has been signed. The resolution with the HIDA was signed in December 2019. They have a 12 month timeline to complete the paperwork and close before extension fees etc. could be incurred. Their closing with the ECIDA is moving along just as slow.

- E-One, signed resolution and portion of agency fee received, not yet closed.

- 290 Lake Street – approved in August, sent resolution for signature and invoiced for portion of agency fee, but has yet to be received.

-New project potential:

- Interest from a manufacturer of prefab buildings looking for 10,000 square foot site in Hamburg.

- Carwell – potential for a PILOT after the land deal at the LECC closes.

- Key Capture Energy – lead from Janet Plarr. They will be applying for a PILOT could have application by October meeting.

-Committee meetings have started up again. Doyle is the head of the Southtowns Chamber of Commerce Government Affairs Committee. They are currently discussing solutions for business issues that may arise with the pandemic in the winter months, such as dealing with curbside pick-up and snow piles. Doyle also stated the Buffalo Niagara Partnership has a very good buy local marketing campaign.

-HDC Loan to Just Fun Family and Entertainment Center has gone into default. The business declared bankruptcy in August as a result of the covid 19 pandemic. The HDC is filing the appropriate paperwork to secure its position in the line of creditors aiming to recover the outstanding loan balance of approximately \$34,000.

Andy Palmer stated 1/3 of the businesses in Hamburg are restaurants and entertainment venues, such as the Palace Theatre. All of which could face the same outcome with the state of the ongoing covid 19 pandemic. Doyle said the HIDA is currently 40% under the projected income for 2020. The HIDA could potentially set up grants for PPE etc. for struggling companies however the HIDA does not have significant resources to pull from. Additionally, a lot of policies and procedures would have to be approved by the board to operate a grant program. It's something for the board to think about.

-Doyle has been talking to local businesses about the HDC loan program. Some businesses are considering shifting their current business model to compensate for the disruption covid has caused. Thus permanently changing how they operate in an effort to stay afloat amid a covid environment.

-Bob Reynolds suggested marketing Blasdell as the new Lake Avenue Road project has had a significant impact on that section of town. Janet Plarr stated, although it may not look like it there is only one store front currently unoccupied in that area. The board commended Janet and the Village of Blasdell on the work done on the project, that area had not been touched since 1967.



**-Motion** to adjourn at 7:52am

**Moved:** Janet Plarr

**Seconded:** Andy Palmer

**Ayes:** Reynolds, Moses, Hutchison, Palmer, Plarr, Podkulski, Hall

**Nays:** none

***Carried***

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Sean Doyle', written over a horizontal line.

Sean Doyle, Executive Director

**The next meeting will be Thursday October 22<sup>th</sup> – 6:00PM  
Hamburg Town Hall, Room 7A**