

Town of Hempstead IDA
Governance Committee Meeting AGENDA
IDA Office
350 Front Street, Room 234-A
February 28, 2022 – 8:30 a.m.

Members:

Eric Mallette, Chairman

Thomas Grech

Robert Bedford

Edie Longo

Arlyn Eames

John Ryan

Agenda:

- Consideration and Adoption of the Mission Statement 2023 and Measurement Report 2023
- Consideration and Adoption of the Property Disposition Policy
- Consideration and Adoption of the Operations and Accomplishments 2022
- Consideration of the Purchasing Guidelines
- Consideration of the Self Evaluation Policy and Procedures
- Consideration of the Code of Ethics

Town of Hempstead Industrial Development Agency
2023 Mission Statement and Performance Measurements
(2023 Review)

(Measurement Report)

Name of Public Authority: Town of Hempstead Industrial Development Agency

Mission Statement:

Pursuant to the General Municipal Law of the State of New York the Town of Hempstead Industrial Development Agency (“Agency” or “IDA”) was established under the laws of New York State to promote economic development and employment opportunities within the Town of Hempstead.

The Agency is a public benefit corporation created by the State of New York and is a quasi-governmental authority that functions in the public interest. The seven-member board over its 20 + years of existence and through its enacted policies and procedures has operated with transparency and openness. The Agency has, and will, continue to advance its statutory mandate to encourage economic growth and business activity, while preserving the best interests of the Town of Hempstead and its residents.

This outreach is achieved through the Agency’s online site and involvement by staff and board members with the business community at seminars and events.

The IDA believes that the most effective means to achieve its goals and reach its public purpose is to publicize the incentives that the agency provides. The key incentives include property tax relief, exemption from sales taxes and waivers of the mortgage recording tax.

Board members are actively involved in the development of our mission and in the ongoing evaluation of how well the agency is meeting its goals. During the year, the staff and board members discuss the contacts and proposed developments that have come to the IDA as well as the status of projects and the nature of what brought them to us. Discussions further involve how well we are meeting the needs of those who contact the Agency and the key role that our incentives play in this regard.

List of Performance Goals:

- Full compliance with all state disclosure requirements
- Annual analysis of the jobs created and economic activity generated through its projects by board members and staff to determine if the agency’s mission statement is being realized
- Transparency of all operations
- Strict adherence by management of all internal controls

- Outreach to business community and public, in general, to make them aware of the IDA's existence and the benefits that the agency can provide
- Ongoing update of the internet as well as the advertising program to best ensure that outreach is full realized
- Ensure interaction and outreach to elected officials in jurisdictions affected by the town IDA

1. Have the board members acknowledged that they have read and understood the mission of the public authority: Yes and more over each Board member is highly engaged in the authority and its mission to enhance economic development and job growth.
2. Who has the power to appoint the management of public authority? The seven member board of directors appoint the management of the IDA
3. If the Board appoints management, do you have a policy you follow when appointing the management of the public authority? There are six staff members currently . Each position requires a degree of expertise and specific qualifications for each title that the board and existing staff management have defined.

4. Briefly describe the role of the Board and the role of management in the implementation of the mission. Members of the board are actively involved in the development and implementation of the mission. Prior to its adoption, the mission statement was reviewed and discussed by the full board and staff. Pursuant to the New York State's Public Authorities Accountability Act of 2005, ("the Act") the day-to-day operation of the Agency is the specific obligation of its staff.

The "Act" reposes in the IDA Board of Directors direct oversight and control over the management staff. Thus, the board members are required to review and monitor financial and management controls and the operational activities of the IDA. The Board sets policy through its approval of resolutions and the projects that it induces to receive IDA benefits. Specifically, the Board members review and monitor the implementation of fundamental financial and management controls it establishes and enacts time and attendance rules and policies for staff salaries. The IDA Board is responsible for the adoption of the Code of Ethics that governs the activities of all members of the IDA, procedures and policies to protect employees from retaliation, and an indemnification policy covering all staff and board members. These have been in place for many years.

The Agency has established an independent Audit Committee, which has the responsibility to oversee all financial operations, as well as all reports and governmental disclosures prepared by the IDA. This Committee interacts with Sheehan and Company, the independent CPA firm that both conducts the annual audit and reviews all financial activities and transactions of the Agency on an ongoing basis throughout the year. The committee continually examines and revises the internal controls that are in place at the Agency to ensure not only that all operations are conducted pursuant to the highest ethical standards, but also that any conflicts of interest are avoided.

The Agency's Governance Committee seeks to ensure that the Agency follows and adopts best practices with respect to all IDA procedures, operations and policies. The Committee members are attentive to government reforms and new initiatives adopted in both the public and private sectors to ensure that the IDA is both aware of such measures and adopts the most effective and efficient methodologies for the conduct of all Agency affairs.

5. Has the board acknowledged that they have read and understood the responses to each of these questions? Yes, each board member provided input into the development of the mission statement as well as the policies and performance goals of the Agency. At board meetings, there is discussion as to the progress of the Agency in meeting its performance goals, as well as a review of our performance policies and fulfillment of the mission statement.

Adopted by Governance Committee:

Resolution: 010-2023

Adopted:

Ayes:

Nays:

Chairman

Town of Hempstead Industrial Development Agency

Property Disposition Policy

In keeping with the policy of maintaining the highest standards of conduct and ethics and of operating in the most accountable and open manner, the Town of Hempstead Industrial Development Agency (the "Agency") will maintain adequate inventory controls and accountability systems for all Property (as such term is defined below) under its control. Furthermore, the Agency will Dispose (as such term is defined below) of Property in compliance with any applicable Law, Rule or Regulation (as such term is defined below). Failure to follow the provisions of this Property Disposition Policy will result in disciplinary action including possible termination of employment, dismissal from one's board or agent duties and possible civil or criminal prosecution if warranted.

Definitions

Contracting Officer shall mean the Chief Financial Officer of the Agency.

Dispose, Disposed or Disposal shall mean the transfer of title or any other beneficial interest in personal or real property in accordance with Section 2897 of the New York Public Authorities Law.

Law, Rule or Regulation: Any duly enacted statute, or ordinance or any rule or regulation promulgated pursuant to any federal, state or local statute or ordinance.

Property shall mean (a) personal property in excess of five thousand dollars (\$5,000.00) in value, (b) real property, and (c) any inchoate or other interest in such property, to the extent that such interest may be conveyed to another person for any purpose, excluding an interest securing a loan or other financial obligation of another party.

Operative Policy

Inventory Controls and Accountability Systems

The Contracting Officer of the Agency shall be responsible for the Agency's compliance with this Property Disposition Policy and the supervision and control of all Property Disposed of by the Agency. In addition, the Contracting Officer shall have the responsibility to insure the Agency operates in compliance with Title 5-A of the New York Public Authorities Law, including creating and maintaining adequate inventory controls and accountability systems for all Property under the control of the Agency and periodically inventorying such property to determine which, if any, property should be Disposed by the Agency. The Contracting Officer shall recommend to the Board any Property he or she deems suitable for Disposal.

Disposition of Property

Unless otherwise authorized by this Policy, the Agency shall Dispose of Property for not less than fair market value ("FMV") by sale, exchange, or transfer, for cash, credit, or other property, with or without warranty, and upon such terms and conditions as the Contracting Officer deems proper. Provided, however, that no disposition of real property, any interest in real property, or any other Property which because of its unique nature is not subject to fair market pricing shall be made unless an appraisal of the value of such Property has been made by an independent appraiser and included in the record of the transaction.

Unless otherwise authorized by this Policy, prior to disposing of Property or entering into a contract for the Disposal of Property, the Agency shall publicly advertise for bids for such Disposal or contract for Disposal. The advertisement for bids shall be made at such a time prior to the Disposal or

contract for Disposal, through such methods, and on such terms and conditions as shall permit full and free competition consistent with the value and nature of the Property. Such advertisement shall include the date, time and place the bids will be publicly disclosed by the Agency. The Agency shall award the contract with reasonable promptness to the most responsible bidder whose bid, conforming to the invitation for bids, is most advantageous to New York State (the "State"), price and other factors considered; provided, however, that Agency reserves the right to reject all such bids when it is in the public interest to do so.

The Agency may Dispose of Property or enter into contracts for the disposal of Property via RFP, negotiation or public auction without regard to the two (2) paragraphs immediately above, but subject to obtaining such competition as is feasible under the circumstances, if:

- the personal property involved is of a nature and quantity which, if Disposed of under the first two (2) paragraphs of this section, would adversely affect the state or local market for such Property, and the estimated FMV of such Property and other satisfactory terms of the Disposal can be obtained by negotiation;
- the FMV of the Property does not exceed fifteen thousand dollars (\$15,000.00);
- bid prices after advertising therefore are not reasonable, either as to all or some part of the Property, or have not been independently arrived at in open competition;
- the Disposal is to the State or any political subdivision of the State, and the estimated FMV of the Property and other satisfactory terms of the Disposal are obtained by negotiation;
- the Disposal is for an amount less than the estimated FMV of the Property, the terms of such Disposal are obtained by public auction or negotiation, the Disposal of the Property is intended to further the public health, safety or welfare or an economic development interest of the State or a political subdivision of the State, including but not limited to, the prevention or remediation of a substantial threat to public health or safety, the creation or retention of a substantial number of job opportunities, or the creation or retention of a substantial source of revenues, and the purpose and terms of the Disposal are documented in writing and approved by resolution of the Board; or
- such Disposal or related action is otherwise authorized by law.

The Agency shall file an explanatory statement with the comptroller, the director of the division of budget, the commissioner of general services and the legislature not less than ninety (90) days before the Agency Disposes the Property if the Property is personal property in excess of \$15,000, or real property that has a fair market value in excess of \$100,000. When the Property is Disposed by lease (or exchange), then the Agency shall file an explanatory statement when the Property is real property leased for a term of five (5) years or less with an estimated fair annual rent exceeding one-hundred thousand (\$100,000.00) in any given year, real property leased for a term greater than five (5) years with an estimated fair annual rent exceeding one-hundred thousand (\$100,000.00) for the entire lease term; or any real property or real and related personal property Disposed of by exchange, regardless of value, or any property any part of the consideration for which is real property.

Reporting Requirements

Annual Report

The Agency shall publish, at least annually, an Annual Report (the "Annual Report") listing all Property consisting of real property of the Agency. In addition, the Annual Report shall include a list and full description of all Property consisting of real and personal property Disposed of during such period covered by the Annual Report. The Annual Report shall include the price received by the Agency for the Property, in addition to the name of the purchaser for all such Property sold by the Agency during such period covered by the Annual Report.

The Agency shall deliver copies of the Annual Report with the comptroller, the director of the division of budget, the commissioner of general services and the legislature, and to the extent practicable, post such Annual Report on its website.

Property Disposition Policy

The Agency shall review and approve this Property Disposition Policy annually by resolution of the Board. On or before March 31 of each year, the Agency shall file with the New York State Office of the State Comptroller a copy of its Property Disposition Policy, including the name of the Contracting Officer appointed by the Agency. Upon such filing with the comptroller, the Agency shall post its Property Disposition Policy on its website.

Adopted by Governance Committee:

Resolution Number: 011-2023

Adopted:

Ayes:

Nays:

Chairman: _____

Operations and Accomplishments
Town of Hempstead Industrial Development Agency
2022

The projects undertaken in 2022 centered on retail, housing and manufacturing. Such projects provided construction jobs and long-term economic development that greatly enhanced the region's viability.

The marketplace reflected the need for housing to address the shortage in the County. A major project in Lynbrook created a multi-family transit-oriented housing. Breslin Realty demolished vacant buildings and erected 201 residential units (55 studios, 111 one-bedroom units and 35 two-bedroom units in 278,014 square feet of space) with 205 on-site parking spaces. The total project cost is \$109 Million. Seven(7) full-time and three(3) part-time positions will be created by the second year of operation.

The Village of Freeport served as the situs for two housing projects. A \$43.584 million dollar project at the old Schooner Restaurant site was approved for a 89,936 square foot hotel run by Hilton Garden Inn. The project consists of 100 rooms with a ballroom and restaurant. Thirty(30) full-time and eleven(11) part-time positions will be created by the second year of operation.

A second development in Freeport consists of a 39,780 square foot multiple dwelling building with 31 units (1 studio, 26 one-bedroom and 4 two-bedroom) and 48 on-site parking spaces. The project will be totally workforce and affordable housing. The \$17.041 million dollar project will create one and a half(1.5) full-time equivalent jobs.

A new building in Garden City, consisting of 9,464 square feet, will house a commercial distribution center or pharmaceutical company. The \$33.792 million dollar project will create fifty(50) full-time positions by the second year.

Maxima Apparel Corp. will renovate a 78,909 square foot building in Westbury to accommodate its business of producing and marketing streetwear fashion products. A full rehabilitation of the structure will be undertaken. Fifty(50) per cent of the building will be rented to a third-party business. Total project costs are \$18.350 million dollars. Sixty(60) full-time and fifteen(15) part-time positions will be created.

An innovative proposal by Prosperity Holdings LLC-Paul's Auto Collision is the development of an auto collision and repair center in Garden City that focuses on specialized methods and practices for modern automobiles. The working area of the project is 11,900 square feet and the shop area is 10,628 square feet. By the third year, thirty(30) full-time positions will be created.

It is expected that 2023 will be an active year for development due to the number of pending projects brought forth in 2022 but not closed, and the improving economic climate.

Adopted by Governance Committee:

Adopted:

Resolution: 012-2023

Ayes:

Nays:

Chairman

**PURCHASING GUIDELINES OF THE
TOWN OF HEMPSTEAD INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AGENCY**

The Agency shall make no purchases of supplies, equipment or materials nor shall the Agency contract for the purchase of supplies, equipment or materials except as follows:

a. When the cost of the supply, equipment, services or material involved should reasonably be expected to cost in excess of ten thousand dollars (\$10,000), the item to be purchased shall be formally bid and the purchase made from the lowest responsible bidder.

b. When the cost of the supply, equipment, services or material involved should reasonably be expected to cost in excess of three thousand dollars (\$3,000) but not more than ten thousand dollars (\$10,000), written price quotations shall be obtained from not fewer than three (3) vendors and the purchase made after all such quotations are evaluated by the Agency.

c. When the cost of the supply, equipment, services or material involved should reasonably be expected to cost in excess of one thousand dollars (\$1,000) but not more than three thousand dollars (\$3,000), written price quotations shall be obtained from not fewer than two (2) vendors and the purchase made after all such quotations are evaluated by the Agency.

d. When the cost of the supply, equipment, services or material involved should reasonably be expected to cost in excess of two hundred fifty dollars (\$250) but not more than one thousand dollars (\$1,000), oral price quotations shall be obtained from not fewer than two vendors (2) and the purchase made after all such quotations are evaluated by the Agency.

e. No solicitation of price quotations shall be required in the following instances:

e-1. when the cost of the supply, equipment or material involved is two hundred fifty dollars (\$250) or less,

e-2. when the purchase is of professional services,

e-3. when the purchase is necessitated by a *bona fide* emergency, which emergency is described in writing by the Agency member or employee declaring same, ratified by telephone by not fewer than a majority of members and ratified by resolution at the next meeting of the Agency,

e-4. when the supply, equipment or material sought to be purchased is available only through a single source,

e-5. when the supply, equipment or material is being purchased from a correctional facility, another governmental Agency or an Agency serving the blind or severely handicapped, or at auction, or

e-6. when the supply, equipment or material is being purchased under a town, county or state contract.

As used in section e-3 hereof, the term “majority of members” shall mean a number of members equal to more than fifty percent (50%) of the difference between seven (7) and the number of IDA memberships, which are vacant at the time of the vote.

Adopted by Governance Committee:

Adopted:

Resolution Number: 013-2023

Ayes:

Nays:

Chairman

**SELF-EVALUATION POLICY & PROCEDURES
TOWN OF HEMPSTEAD
INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AGENCY**

2023

Self-analysis & internal evaluation of IDA procedures and policies is a crucial and difficult area to objectively calculate. The Agency considers that the policies and procedures that are currently in place ensure productivity, efficiency and financial “checks and balances” on the members and staff who run the day-to-day operations.

The staff literally, on a weekly basis, reviews operations to ensure that the agency is fulfilling its mandate to spur economic development. This includes procedures to comply with state requirements, reaching out to prospective clients and updating projects in the pipeline.

Any procedural or policy changes are discussed with both Agency counsel and board members serving on the Agency committee that have jurisdiction over the particular area involved.

The status of all projects is updated for board members through a monthly CEO’s Report, which includes general updates as to Agency operations, finances, procedures and policies.

Our outside accountants independently audit our books and finances to evaluate from their perspective as detached financial analysts, IDA procedures, policies and compliance with state requirements.

Specific roles:

- 1) CEO – Primary responsibility is the implementation of enacted procedures and policies of the Agency. The CEO is the staff person who is primarily responsible to ensure that the enacted resolutions and adopted policies and procedures are fully implemented. These formal actions, together with the operational methodology, govern the manner in which the agency conducts business.

As such, the CEO coordinates all Agency activities to effectuate the mission statement and the outreach to the economic and business community to generate an awareness of the Agency’s role and to spur project development.

The CEO further ensures that internal controls are in place and that the budget is within projections established both prior to the budgetary year and as the year unfolds. The CEO oversees the other personnel and interacts, on an ongoing basis, with the Agency council and chairs of the various committees with jurisdiction over the Agency’s operations.

The CEO, as designated chief exponent of IDA business, frequently speaks before economic groups, participates in forums and visits existing projects and potential ones to explain IDA benefits and the Agency's role in economic development.

The CEO and CFO are bank signatories and oversee the income and expenditures of the Agency. The CEO opens and reviews all bank statements to ensure postings comply with bank reports. The Agency Administrator and Deputy Agency Administrator tend to the Agency's daily financial operations and bookkeeping.

- 2) The CFO and Deputy Finance Officer oversee status of project compliance through an online spreadsheet program that includes all material data for each Agency project. This program is updated for accuracy and provides an ongoing tally of projects and the status and composite of all projects.
- 3) The CFO Independently reviews each check and wire that is submitted for induced projects. Thus, the CFO and the Agency Administrator act independently to account for all revenues that are received and invested by the Agency. In addition, the Agency Admin. is responsible for the day-to-day expenditures of the Agency and the related record keeping. Claim forms are attached to every bill and checks are signed by one of the bank signatories. The Agency Administrator is not one of the bank signatories. The CFO oversees PILOT banking and disbursement. The Deputy Financial Officer is responsible for the PILOT billing and collection.
- 4) Fees or other income earned by the Agency are prudently invested with commercial banks in Certificates of Deposit. On an ongoing basis, staff receives and verifies documentation to ensure that all accounts are adequately collateralized and the Agency's investments are protected. The CEO frequently contacts Commercial banks to ascertain the highest rates earned on a 30, 60, 90 day or longer basis. Moneys are transferred and deposited amongst the highest paying financial institutions. The CEO periodically speaks with the Town of Hempstead Comptroller's Office to ensure that the Agency has the most recent investing information concerning financial institutions as the Town, which engages in such activity on a daily basis. The CEO reviews the overall investments with the CFO and Deputy FO and reports his findings to the Chairman of the Finance Committee.
- 5) The Deputy Executive Director reconciles the PILOT accounts monthly and is the staff person responsible for the application processing.

As economic development is the key reason for the existence of the Agency, continuous outreach to the business, real estate and development communities is a crucial aspect of the daily operation of the CEO and staff.

Constant perusal of periodicals, updates to developers, brokers and business persons, as well as, onsite meetings with elected officials & members of the economic development community ensure that the Agency and the benefits it

provides are well known to all these key groups.

The CEO prepares a monthly report of potential projects, inquiries and solicitations that serves as a basis to track agency involvement. This report is presented to the board at its monthly meetings.

These formal internal procedures, as well as the documentation produced, provide the Agency with a structure that ensures a constant self-evaluation of its staff, procedures and overall operation.

Adopted by Governance Committee:

Resolution: 014-2023

Adopted:

Ayes:

Nays:

Chairman: _____

Town of Hempstead
Industrial Development Agency
CODE OF ETHICS

This Code of Ethics shall apply to all officers and employees of the Town of Hempstead IDA. These policies shall serve as a guide for official conduct and are intended to enhance the ethical and professional performance of the Authority's directors and employees and to preserve public confidence in the Authority's mission.

Responsibility of Directors and Employees

1. Directors and employees shall perform their duties with transparency, without favor and refrain from engaging in outside matters of financial or personal interest, including other employment, that could impair independence of judgment, or prevent the proper exercise of one's official duties.

2. Directors and employees shall not directly or indirectly, make, advise, or assist any person to make any financial investment based upon information available through the director's or employee's official position that could create any conflict between their public duties and interests and their private interests.

3. Directors and employees shall not accept or receive any gift or gratuities where the circumstances would permit the inference that: (a) the gift is intended to influence the individual in the performance of official business or (b) the gift constitutes a tip, reward, or sign of appreciation for any official act by the individual. This prohibition extends to any form of financial payments, services, loans, travel reimbursement, entertainment, hospitality, thing or promise from any entity doing business with or before the Authority.

4. Directors and employees shall not use or attempt to use their official position with the Authority to secure unwarranted privileges for themselves, members of their family or others, including employment with the Authority or contracts for materials or services with the Authority.

5. Directors and employees must conduct themselves at all times in a manner that avoids any appearance that they can be improperly or unduly influenced, that they could be affected by the position of or relationship with any other party, or that they are acting in violation of their public trust.

6. Directors and employees may not engage in any official transaction with an outside entity in which they have a direct or indirect financial interest that may reasonably conflict with the proper discharge of their official duties.

7. Directors and employees shall manage all matters within the scope of the Authority's mission independent of any other affiliations or employment. Directors, including ex officio board members, and employees employed by more than one government shall strive to fulfill their professional responsibility to the Authority without bias and shall support the Authority's mission to the fullest.

8. Directors and employees shall not use Authority property, including equipment, telephones, vehicles, computers, or other resources, or disclose information acquired in the course of their official duties in a manner inconsistent with State or local law or policy and the Authority's mission and goals.

9. Directors and employees are prohibited from appearing or practicing before the Authority for two (2) years following employment with the Authority, consistent with the provisions of Public Officers Law.

Implementation of Code of Ethics

This Code of Ethics shall be provided to all directors and employees upon commencement of employment or appointment and shall be reviewed annually by the Governance Committee. The board may designate an Ethics Officer, who shall report to the board and shall have the following duties:

- Counsel in confidence Authority directors and employees who seek advice about ethical behavior.
- Receive and investigate complaints about possible ethics violations.
- Dismiss complaints found to be without substance.
- Prepare an investigative report of their findings for action by the Chief Executive Officer or the board.
- Record the receipt of gifts or gratuities of any kind received by a director or employee, who shall notify the Ethics Officer within 48 hours of receipt of such gifts and gratuities.

Penalties

In addition to any penalty contained in any other provision of law, an Authority director or employee who knowingly and intentionally violates any of the provisions of this code may be removed in the manner provided for in law, rules or regulations.

Reporting Unethical Behavior

Employees and directors are required to report possible unethical behavior by a director or employee of the Authority to the Ethics Officer. Employees and directors may file ethics complaints anonymously and are protected from retaliation by the policies adopted by the Authority.

Adopted by Governance Committee:

Resolution Number: 015-2023

Adopted:

Ayes:

Nays: