

Agenda
Oneida County Local Development Corporation
Audit Committee

Tuesday, January 14, 2024

8:30 A.M. WebEx

1. Call meeting to order
2. Minutes: March 18, 2024
3. Audit: Entrance Conference
4. Executive Session (if necessary)
5. Adjourn Meeting

Next meeting: Date, time, and location to be determined

**Minutes of the Meeting of the
Audit Committee of the
Oneida County Local Development Corporation
March 18, 2024**

Members Present: Steven Zogby, Kristen Martin, Franca Armstrong

Other Present: None

Staff Present: Shawna Papale, Maureen Carney, Bill VanShufflin

Auditor Present: Gregg Evans, Erica Pawlewicz

The meeting was called to order at 11:25 a.m.

A motion to approve the minutes from March 17, 2023, March 6, 2024 was made by Ms. Martin and seconded by Ms. Armstrong. The motion carried.

Mr. Evans reviewed the Financial Statements for 12/31/23 along with the required communication letters. He began by reviewing the Independent Auditors Report noting that the auditor's report expressed a clean opinion having no concerns of fraud, internal control issues or policy issues and that the financial statements are presented fairly in all material respects and the financials received the highest level of opinion. He explained that management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the Financial Statements and the related internal controls and the auditor's responsibility is to express an opinion based on the audit. He also pointed out that this audit was performed in accordance with Generally Accepted Auditing Standards. There were no concerns or findings with internal controls.

Mr. Evans reviewed the Statement of Net Position (Balance Sheet) noting that cash decreased and investments increased. This was the most significant change from 2022 to 2023. Net assets decreased from the prior year primarily because no projects closed in 2023 therefore there were not any revenues to offset the expenses. Mr. Evans reviewed the Statement of Revenue and Expenses and again noted a decrease in net assets. He also pointed out that interest income increased from \$600 in 2022 to \$14,000 in 2023 due to the attractive rate environment in 2023. He also pointed out that that there was a drop in expenses due to a contract with MVCC in the prior year.

Mr. Evans explained that there were no audit adjustments and there were no disagreements and no difficulties with management.

Ms. Martin moved to approve the OCLDC 2023 Audit, Ms. Armstrong seconded. Motion carried.

A motion to close the meeting was made by Ms. Martin and seconded by Mr. Armstrong. The motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Maureen J. Carney

Maureen Carney
CFO, Mohawk Valley EDGE

January 6, 2025

Shawna Papale, Executive Director
Oneida County Local Development Corporation
584 Phoenix Drive
Rome, New York 13441-4105

Dear Shawna:

We are pleased to confirm our understanding of the services we are to provide for Oneida County Local Development Corporation for the year ended December 31, 2024.

Audit Scope and Objectives

We will audit the financial statements of Oneida County Local Development Corporation (the Organization), which comprise the statement of financial position as of December 31, 2024, the related statements of activities and cash flows for the year then ended, and the disclosures (collectively, the “financial statements”).

The objectives of our audit are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and issue an auditor’s report that includes our opinion about whether your financial statements are fairly presented, in all material respects, in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not absolute assurance and therefore is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with audit standards generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAS) will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements, including omissions, can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if there is a substantial likelihood that, individually or in the aggregate, they would influence the judgment of a reasonable user made based on the financial statements.

Auditor’s Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements

We will conduct our audit in accordance with GAAS and will include tests of your accounting records and other procedures we consider necessary to enable us to express such an opinion. As part of an audit in accordance with GAAS, we exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit.

We will evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management. We will also evaluate the overall presentation of the financial statements, including the disclosures, and determine whether the financial statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation. We will plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement, whether from (1) errors, (2) fraudulent financial reporting, (3) misappropriation of assets, or (4) violations of laws or governmental regulations that are attributable to the Organization or to acts by management or employees acting on behalf of the Organization.

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Because of the inherent limitations of an audit, combined with the inherent limitations of internal control, and because we will not perform a detailed examination of all transactions, there is an unavoidable risk that some material misstatements may not be detected by us, even though the audit is properly planned and performed in accordance with GAAS. In addition, an audit is not designed to detect immaterial misstatements or violations of laws or governmental regulations that do not have a direct and material effect on the financial statements. However, we will inform the appropriate level of management of any material errors, fraudulent financial reporting, or misappropriation of assets that comes to our attention. We will also inform the appropriate level of management of any violations of laws or governmental regulations that come to our attention, unless clearly inconsequential. Our responsibility as auditors is limited to the period covered by our audit and does not extend to any later periods for which we are not engaged as auditors.

We will obtain an understanding of the Organization and its environment, including the system of internal control, sufficient to identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to error or fraud, and to design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks and obtain evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentation, or the override of internal control. An audit is not designed to provide assurance on internal control or to identify deficiencies in internal control. Accordingly, we will express no such opinion. However, during the audit, we will communicate to you and those charged with governance internal control related matters that are required to be communicated under professional standards.

We have identified the following significant risk of material misstatement as part of our audit planning:

- Management override of controls

We will also conclude, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about the Organization's ability to continue as a going concern for a reasonable period of time.

Our procedures will include tests of documentary evidence supporting the transactions recorded in the accounts, tests of the physical existence of inventories, and direct confirmation of receivables and certain assets and liabilities by correspondence with selected individuals, funding sources, creditors, and financial institutions. We will also request written representations from your attorneys as part of the engagement.

We may, from time to time and depending on the circumstances, use third-party service providers in serving your account. We may share confidential information about you with these service providers but remain committed to maintaining the confidentiality and security of your information. Accordingly, we maintain internal policies, procedures, and safeguards to protect the confidentiality of your personal information. In addition, we will secure confidentiality agreements with all service providers to maintain the confidentiality of your information and we will take reasonable precautions to determine that they have appropriate procedures in place to prevent the unauthorized release of your confidential information to others. In the event that we are unable to secure an appropriate confidentiality agreement, you will be asked to provide your consent prior to the sharing of your confidential information with the third-party service provider. Furthermore, we will remain responsible for the work provided by any such third-party service providers.

Our audit of the financial statements does not relieve you of your responsibilities.

Responsibilities of Management for the Financial Statements

Our audit will be conducted on the basis that you acknowledge and understand your responsibility for designing, implementing, and maintaining internal controls relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, including monitoring ongoing activities; for the selection and application of accounting principles; and for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. You are also responsible for making drafts of financial statements, all financial records, and related information available to us; for the accuracy and completeness of that information (including information from outside of the general and subsidiary ledgers); and for the evaluation of whether there are any conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about the Organization's ability to continue as a going concern within one year after the date that the financial statements are available to be issued. You are also responsible for providing us with (1) access to all information of which you are aware that is relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements, such as records, documentation, identification of all related parties and all related-party relationships and transactions, and other matters; (2) additional information that we may request for the purpose of the audit; and (3) unrestricted access to persons within the Organization from whom we determine it necessary to obtain audit evidence. At the conclusion of our audit, we will require certain written representations from you about the financial statements and related matters.

Your responsibilities include adjusting the financial statements to correct material misstatements and confirming to us in the management representation letter that the effects of any uncorrected misstatements aggregated by us during the current engagement and pertaining to the latest period presented are immaterial, both individually and in the aggregate, to the financial statements taken as a whole.

You are responsible for the design and implementation of programs and controls to prevent and detect fraud, and for informing us about all known or suspected fraud affecting the Organization involving (1) management, (2) employees who have significant roles in internal control, and (3) others where the fraud could have a material effect on the financial statements. Your responsibilities include informing us of your knowledge of any allegations of fraud or suspected fraud affecting the Organization received in communications from employees, former employees, grantors, regulators, or others. In addition, you are responsible for identifying and ensuring that the Organization complies with applicable laws and regulations.

With regard to including the auditor's report in an exempt offering document, you agree that the aforementioned auditor's report, or reference to our Firm, will not be included in any such offering document without our prior permission or consent. Any agreement to perform work in connection with an exempt offering document, including an agreement to provide permission or consent, will be a separate engagement.

With regard to the electronic dissemination of audited financial statements, including financial statements published electronically on your website, you understand that electronic sites are a means to distribute information and, therefore, we are not required to read the information contained in these sites or to consider the consistency of other information in the electronic site with the original document.

With regard to using the auditor's report, you understand you must obtain our prior written consent to reproduce our report in bond offerings, official statements, or other documents, if required under the bond requirements.

Other Services

We will prepare the financial statements of the Organization in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America based on information provided by you.

We will perform the services in accordance with applicable professional standards. The other services are limited to the financial statement services previously defined. We, in our sole professional judgment, reserve the right to refuse to perform any procedure or take any action that could be construed as assuming management responsibilities.

You agree to assume all management responsibilities for the financial statement preparation services and any other nonattest services we provide; oversee the services by designating an individual, preferably from senior management, with suitable skill, knowledge, or experience; evaluate the adequacy and results of the services; and accept responsibility for them.

Engagement Administration, Fees, and Other

We understand that your employees will prepare all cash, accounts receivable, and other confirmations we request and will locate any documents selected by us for testing. We will schedule the engagement based in part on deadlines, working conditions, and the availability of your key personnel. We will plan the engagement based on the assumption that your personnel will cooperate and provide assistance by performing tasks such as preparing requested schedules, retrieving supporting documents, and preparing confirmations. If, for whatever reason, your personnel are unavailable to provide the necessary assistance in a timely manner, it may substantially increase the work we have to do to complete the engagement within the established deadlines, resulting in an increase in fees over our original fee estimate.

The audit documentation for this engagement is the property of Bonadio & Co., LLP and constitutes confidential information. However, we may be requested to make certain audit documentation available to regulators pursuant to authority given to them by law or regulation. If requested, access to such audit documentation will be provided under the supervision of Bonadio & Co., LLP personnel. Furthermore, upon request, we may provide copies of selected audit documentation to the aforementioned parties. These parties may intend, or decide, to distribute the copies or information contained therein to others, including other governmental agencies.

Gregg H. Evans is the engagement Partner and is responsible for supervising the engagement and signing the report or authorizing another individual to sign it. To ensure that Bonadio & Co. LLP's independence is not impaired under the AICPA *Code of Professional Conduct*, you agree to inform the engagement Partner before entering into any substantive employment discussions with any of our personnel. We expect to begin our audit on approximately January 20, 2024.

We estimate that our fees for the audit to be \$5,400. The fee estimate is based on anticipated cooperation from your personnel and the assumption that unexpected circumstances will not be encountered during the engagement. If significant additional time is necessary, we will keep you informed of any problems we encounter and our fees will be adjusted accordingly.

Our invoices for these fees will be rendered each month as work progresses and are payable on presentation. If we elect to terminate our services for nonpayment, our engagement will be deemed to have been completed upon written notification of termination, even if we have not completed our report. You will be obligated to compensate us for all time expended and to reimburse us for all out-of-pocket expenditures through the date of termination. You may request that we perform additional services not addressed in this engagement letter. If this occurs, we will communicate with you concerning the scope of the additional services and the estimated fees. We also may issue a separate engagement letter covering the additional services. In the absence of any other written communication from us documenting such additional services, our services will continue to be governed by the terms of this engagement letter.

All services will be rendered by and under the supervision of qualified staff in accordance with AICPA standards and the terms and conditions set forth in this letter. We make no other representation or warranty regarding either the services to be provided or any Deliverables; in particular, and without limitation of the foregoing, any express or implied warranties of fitness for a particular purpose, merchantability, warranties arising by custom or usage in the profession, and warranties arising by operation of law are expressly disclaimed.

In no event, unless it has been finally determined that we were grossly negligent or acted willfully or fraudulently, shall we be liable to you or any of your officers, directors, employees or shareholders or to any other third party, whether a claim be in tort, contract or otherwise for any amount in excess of the total professional fee paid by you to us under this agreement for the particular service to which such claim relates. In no event shall we be liable for any special, consequential, indirect, exemplary, punitive, lost profits or similar damages, even if we have been apprised of the possibility thereof.

Neither party shall be liable to the other for any delay or failure to perform any of the services nor obligations set forth in this letter due to causes beyond its reasonable control. All terms and conditions of this letter that are intended by their nature to survive termination of this letter shall survive termination and remain in full force, including but not limited to the terms and conditions concerning payments, warranties, limitations of liability, indemnities, and resolution of differences. If any provision of this letter is determined to be invalid under any applicable law, such provision will be applied to the maximum extent permitted by applicable law, and shall automatically be deemed amended in a manner consistent with its objectives to the extent necessary to conform to any limitations required under applicable law.

You agree to indemnify and hold us harmless and our personnel from any and all Third-Party claims, liabilities, costs, and expenses, including reasonable attorney fees, arising from or relating to the services under this Agreement, except to the extent finally determined to have resulted from the gross negligence, willful misconduct or fraudulent behavior of us relating to such services.

In the event of a dispute related in any way to our services, our firm and you agree to discuss the dispute and if necessary, to promptly mediate in a good faith effort to resolve. We will agree on a mediator, but if we cannot, either of us may apply to a court having personal jurisdiction over the parties for appointment of a mediator. We will share the mediator's fees and expenses equally, but otherwise will bear our own attorneys' fees and mediation cost. Participation in such mediation shall be a condition to either of us initiating litigation. In order to allow time for the mediation, any applicable statute of limitations shall be tolled for a period not to exceed 120 days from the date either of us first requests in writing to mediate the dispute. The mediation shall be confidential in all respects, as allowed or required by law, except our final settlement positions at mediation shall be admissible in litigation solely to determine the prevailing party's identity for purposes of the award of attorneys' fees.

In the unlikely event that differences concerning this engagement or our services provided hereunder should arise that are not resolved by mutual agreement, to facilitate judicial resolution and save time and expense of both parties, we both agree not to demand a trial by jury in any action, proceeding or counterclaim arising out of or relating to this engagement. This engagement will be governed by the laws of the State of New York.

We have the right to withdraw from this engagement if you do not provide us with any information we request in a timely manner, refuse to cooperate with our reasonable requests, or misrepresent any facts. Our withdrawal will release us from any obligation to complete the work described in this letter and will constitute completion of our engagement. You agree to compensate us for our time and out-of-pocket expenses through the date of our withdrawal.

Reporting

We will issue a written report upon completion of our audit of the Organization's financial statements. Our report will be addressed to Board of Directors of the Corporation. Circumstances may arise in which our report may differ from its expected form and content based on the results of our audit. Depending on the nature of these circumstances, it may be necessary for us to modify our opinion, add a separate section, or add an emphasis-of-matter or other-matter paragraph to our auditor's report, or if necessary, withdraw from this engagement. If our opinion is other than unmodified, we will discuss the reasons with you in advance. If, for any reason, we are unable to complete the audit or are unable to form or have not formed an opinion, we may decline to express an opinion or withdraw from this engagement.

Electronic Communications

In performing services under this Agreement, Bonadio & Co., LLP and/or the Organization may wish to communicate electronically either via facsimile, electronic mail, cloud-based portal or similar methods (collectively, "Electronic Means"). However, the electronic transmission of information cannot be guaranteed to be secure or error free, and such information could be intercepted, corrupted, lost, destroyed, arrive late or incomplete or otherwise be adversely affected or unsafe to use. Unless you notify us otherwise, we shall regard your acceptance of this Agreement as your consent to use Electronic Means. It is therefore your responsibility to notify Bonadio & Co., LLP when/if your employee(s) no longer require access to Electronic Means that are controlled by Bonadio. Such notice may be sent by email to the partner responsible for this engagement at the address noted in the signature section of this Agreement. All risks related to your business, including access connected with the use of Electronic Means by you or your employees are borne by you and are not our responsibility.

We appreciate the opportunity to be of service to you and believe this letter accurately summarizes the significant terms of our engagement. If you have any questions, please let us know. If you agree with the terms of our engagement as described in this letter, please sign the attached copy and return it to us.

Very truly yours,
BONADIO & CO., LLP



By:
Gregg H. Evans, CPA
Partner

RESPONSE:

This letter correctly sets forth the understanding of Oneida County Local Development Corporation:

Management signature: _____

Title: _____

Date: _____