

Warren County Board of Supervisors

RESOLUTION NO. 243 OF 2018

RESOLUTION INTRODUCED BY SUPERVISORS STROUGH, LEGGETT, BRAYMER, WILD, MCDEVITT, DIAMOND, DICKINSON, GERAGHTY, MAGOWAN, SOKOL AND DRISCOLL

RESOLUTION SUPPORTING THE RESOLUTION OF THE ADIRONDACK ASSOCIATION OF TOWNS & VILLAGES SUPPORTING THE EXEMPTION OF THE NEW YORK STATE OWNED FORMER CAMP GABRIELS CORRECTIONAL FACILITY PROPERTY LOCATED IN THE TOWN OF BRIGHTON, FRANKLIN COUNTY, NEW YORK FROM THE “FOREVER WILD” PROVISION OF THE CONSTITUTION OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK

WHEREAS, the Adirondack Association of Towns & Villages adopted Resolution No.4 of 2018 Supporting the exemption of the New York State Owned Former Camp Gabriels Correctional Facility Property Located in the Town of Brighton, Franklin County, New York from the “Forever Wild” Provision of the Constitution of the State of New York, and is requesting that Warren County join in supporting the resolution, a copy of which is attached hereto as Schedule “A”, now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the Warren County Board of Supervisors hereby supports the Adirondack Association of Towns & Villages in supporting the exemption of the New York State Owned Former Camp Gabriels Correctional Facility Property Located in the Town of Brighton, Franklin County, New York from the “Forever Wild” Provision of the Constitution of the State of New York, and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Clerk of the Board of Supervisors be, and hereby is, authorized and directed to forward copies of this resolution to the New York State Association of Counties, Governor Andrew M. Cuomo, Senator Elizabeth O’C. Little, Assemblyman Daniel G. Stec, the Intercounty Legislative Committee of the Adirondacks and the Adirondack Association of Towns & Villages.

SCHEDULE “A”

ADIRONDACK ASSOCIATION OF TOWNS & VILLAGES

Resolution No. 4 of 2018

Supporting the exemption of the New York State Owned Former Camp Gabriels Correctional Facility Property Located in the Town of Brighton, Franklin County, New York from the “Forever Wild” Provision of the Constitution of the State of New York

WHEREAS, the former Camp Gabriels Correctional Facility was closed by New York State in 2009 and has been vacant and unused since that time; and

WHEREAS, when the State took possession of the original 220.9 acres in 1982, they did add 129.2 acres of the property to the forest preserve; and

WHEREAS, the 91.7 acres which is Camp Gabriels was already developed and has a long history of occupation and extensive use since the late 19th century and is inconsistent with the “forever wild” provision; and

WHEREAS, as stated in the deed, those 91.7 acres are inconsistent with the “forever wild” provision, as they contain 55 buildings, roads, a self-contained waste water treatment plant, heating plant, wells and water distribution system and a back-up generator capable of keeping the facility secure in the event of a North Country power outage; and

WHEREAS, New York State conducted several auctions to sell the Camp Gabriels property; and

WHEREAS, a prospective private purchaser was unable to complete the purchase or obtain title insurance because this property is located within the Adirondack Park and potentially subject to the “forever wild” provision in the State Constitution; and

WHEREAS, it is in the best interests of economic development in the Adirondack North Country communities that this property and facility be unencumbered for private purchase and put to good use in the region, now, therefore, be it NOW THEREFORE, BE IT

RESOLVED, that the Adirondack Association of Towns & Villages hereby supports a state side referendum by the voters of New York State that this property be unencumbered for private purchase, exempt from the “forever wild” clause in the State Constitution, and not be added to the forest preserve.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a certified copy of this Resolution shall be forwarded to NYS Senators Elizabeth Little, Joseph Griffo, James Tedisco; NYS Assembly Members Marc Butler, Dan Stec, Billy Jones and Ken Blankenbush; Governor Andrew Cuomo; Basil Steggos, DEC Commissioner; Senate Majority leader and IDC leader; Assembly Speaker and Majority Leader; Senate and Assembly Encon Chairs; Peter Shrope, Town of Brighton/Franklin County Supervisor, Association Of Towns, InterCounty Legislative Committee of the Adirondacks.

Motion: Bill Farber

Second: Ron Moore

Unanimous.