

Report of the Genesee County Industrial Development Agency d/b/a Genesee County Economic Development Center, Public Hearing for Six Flags Darien, LLC held on Wednesday, September 26, 2018, 4:00 PM – Darien Town Hall – 10569 Alleghany Road, Darien Center, NY

I. ATTENDANCE

Mark Masse, Senior VP of Operations, Genesee County EDC
Betsy Richardson, Staff Accountant, Genesee County EDC
Dave Hagelberger, Town of Darien Supervisor
Deborah Conti, Town of Darien Assessor

II. CALL TO ORDER

The public hearing for the proposed incentives for Six Flags Darien, LLC was called to order at 4:00 pm at the Darien Town Hall.

A notice of this public hearing describing the project was published in the Batavia Daily News, a copy of which is attached and is an official part of this transcript.

III. PROJECT SUMMARY

Six Flags plans to construct a new high-thrill swing ride for the 2019 operating season. The company plans to invest approx. \$2,150,000 and retain 380 jobs. The company is seeking assistance from the GCEDC with a sales tax exemption valued at approx. \$166,000.

IV. COMMENTS

The Town of Darien Supervisor and the Town of Darien Assessor attended the public hearing. They did not express any concerns or issues with the proposed incentives for the Six Flags Darien Lake project, however, they did want to express their other concerns with the sales tax sharing agreement with Genesee County that they feel could affect Six Flags and other businesses going forward if the new agreement is approved. Under the current sales tax agreement with the County, the Town of Darien gets a proportionate share of the sales tax revenue generated within the County based on the assessed value of their Town as a percentage to the other municipalities in the County. They stated that Darien Lake is the largest sales tax revenue generator for the County, but that the current agreement is a fair way to share that money. The new proposal from the County caps the amount of sales tax revenue that the Town of Darien can receive at the current 2018 level. That means that they will not see any increases to the sales money that they are currently receiving. They use that sales tax money as a way to keep their tax rate at zero. If the funds are capped, they may be forced to set a tax rate for the Town to make for that lost revenue. If they have to do that, their fear is that the additional increased operating costs to Six Flags could have a substantial effect on their operations here in Genesee County. They wanted to make sure our Board was aware of the County's proposal and how it could affect economic development projects in the Town of Darien, and also the County.

V. ADJOURNMENT

The public hearing was closed at 4:15 PM.