

# Tompkins County Industrial Development Agency

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*Administration provided by Ithaca Area Economic Development*

**Minutes of Public Hearing  
Meadow on Seneca (RSS)  
August 3, 2023 @ 1:00 pm  
Ithaca Area Economic Development Office  
119 E. Seneca Street, Suite 200, Ithaca, NY 14850  
*and*  
Via Zoom and Livestreamed on YouTube**

Present: Kellea Bauda (IAED for Tompkins County IDA), Ina Arthur – recording ( IAED), Rich John (TCIDA Board), Robert Cain – remote, Lauren Tegnander - remote (Rehabilitation Support Services, Inc.), Dylan Watros (speaker)

1. Kellea Bauda called the public hearing to order at 1:00 pm.
2. Kellea Bauda gave an overview of the project and the proposed initiative.
3. Public comment was heard from the following:

**Theresa Alt – 206 Eddy Street, Ithaca (read by Kellea Bauda)**

The Meadow is the kind of affordable and supportive housing that the City of Ithaca and Tompkins County needs. So, it is appropriate to grant Rehabilitation Support Services, Inc. the requested PILOT. I would have liked to do extensive research on the track record of this provider, but I have only had time for a quick online search. Little that was negative showed up.

**Dylan Watros – 185 Kendall Ave., Ithaca**

The presentation from Rehabilitation Support Services, Inc. at the TCIDA Board meeting was a good one. However, he fears that the promises made will not be kept. He fears that this project will fail as other similar projects have failed.

The main reason for this concern is the number of staffing positions that will be needed to provide the promised services. There are only a limited number of people in Tompkins County that have the needed skills and the Meadow on Seneca project will pull those people from other places in the County that offer similar services.

He is also worried that the homeless from other Counties will be brought to this facility in Tompkins County as this will be the largest facility run by RSS in the state.

The provider will need to be held accountable.

4. The hearing was adjourned at 1:08 pm.