

TOWN OF LIBERTY

120 North Main Street Liberty, NY 12754 845-292-5111



TOWN BOARD:
Supervisor Charlie Barbuti
Councilperson Thomas Hasbrouck
Councilperson Dean Farrand
Councilperson Russell Reeves
Councilperson Brian McPhillips
Town Clerk Laurie Dutcher

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Town of Liberty & Village of Liberty Joint Resolution

by the *Town of Liberty* and *Village of Liberty*in *Support of the Casino Gaming* License application of *Foxwoods Catskills Resort Casino*to be located in Liberty, New York

WHEREAS, the exceptional efforts of Governor Andrew M. Cuomo, the New York State Legislature, and the voters of New York State brought about the enactment of the Upstate N.Y. Gaming Economic Development Act, which included an amendment to the New York State Constitution to allow Class III Gaming in New York State; and

WHEREAS, on November 5, 2013, the voters of the **Town of Liberty** overwhelmingly supported such amendment with over 83% of its citizens voting "yes"; and

WHEREAS, the passage of said constitutional amendment and the concurrent legislation authorized the establishment of four destination gaming resorts in three distinct regions (Regions 1, 2 and 5), in Upstate New York, with a maximum of two projects to be located in any one Region; and

WHEREAS, Liberty, N.Y. is located in the Catskill/Hudson Valley, Region 1, and

WHEREAS, the Upstate N.Y. Gaming Economic Development Act requires the creation of a New York State Gaming Facility Location Board to create the Requests for Application for Casino licenses, to review all qualified applicants for Casino licenses, and to award said Casino licenses; and

WHEREAS, Foxwoods Catskills will be applying for one of the Casino licenses to be awarded to be located on property it owns or controls in Liberty; and

WHEREAS, said legislation established criteria which must be considered for the location of said resorts, which include economic impacts, capital expenditures, quality of amenities, recapture of out-of-state gaming revenue, the experience of the resort casino operators, local impact, support of host community, partnerships with local businesses and entertainment venues, and maximizing the revenue to New York State and localities; and

WHEREAS, it will be demonstrated that the Foxwoods Catskills Resort in Liberty meets or exceeds each and every criterion for selection contained in the legislation; and

WHEREAS, Liberty NY has been recognized as the premiere vacation destination in New York State for generations and had historically served as host to some of the world's most famous destination resorts, including the Grossinger's Hotel and Country Club; and

WHEREAS, the local infrastructure of Liberty, N.Y. was always sufficiently able to handle all economic, social and environmental direct and indirect impacts of the many destination resorts; visiting tourists, and the employees who worked in these facilities; and

WHEREAS, Liberty, N.Y, has experienced a significant downturn in its tourist and non-tourist economy over the last half century and stands now as one of the most economically challenged areas in New York State; and

WHEREAS, Liberty's working class and small businesses, as well as tax ratables, have significantly suffered from this downturn; and

WHEREAS, Liberty, through its local and state officials and local business community, has historically sought the legalization of Class III Casino Gaming for more than four decades, and

WHEREAS, the establishment of the Foxwood Catskills Resort Casino will provide financial support for education and desperately needed property tax relief for Liberty taxpayers and communities statewide; and

WHEREAS, the **Joint Town and Village of Liberty** Comprehensive Plan adopted in 2008 contains the objective of "working toward a diverse tourism industry with a balanced mix of year round activities", which the Foxwoods Catskills Resort will provide.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the **Town of Liberty** and **Village of Liberty** jointly and enthusiastically support the siting of a Class III Gaming Destination Resort at the perfectly suited and beautiful location in Liberty being proposed by Foxwoods Catskills Resorts, adjacent to the very special grounds of the once world famous Grossinger Hotel and Country Club and the issuance of a Casino License to Foxwoods Catskills Resorts.

Moved by Councilperson Thomas Hasbrouck, seconded by Trustee Joan Stoddard, put to a roll call vote as follows:

Town Board		<u>Village Board</u>	
Supervisor Charlie Barbuti	AYE	Mayor Dan Ratner	AYE
Councilperson Thomas Hasbrouck	AYE	Trustee Joan Stoddard	AYE
Councilperson Dean Farrand	AYE	Trustee Ronald Stabak	AYE
Councilperson Russell Reeves	AYE		
Councilperson Brian McPhillips	AYE		