

AGENDA  
December 14, 2011 5:00 p.m.

Vice Chairman Thompson called the meeting to order.

Roll Call was taken. PRESENT: Patricia Southworth, Alan Grattidge, Philip C. Barrett, Anita Daly, Richard Lucia, Mary Ann Johnson, Jean Raymond, George J. Hargrave, Richard Rowland, Arthur M. Wright, Mindy Wormuth, Paul Sausville, Tom Richardson, Frank Thompson, Preston L. Jenkins Jr., Willard Peck, John Collyer, Thomas N. Wood, III, Matthew Veitch, Joanne Dittes Yepsen, Edward D. Kinowski, John E. Lawler , Arthur Johnson – 23.

On a motion by Mr. Hargrave, seconded by Mr. Lucia the minutes of the November 9<sup>th</sup>, 2011 meeting were approved unanimously.

Spencer Hellwig reviewed the following:

**EQUALIZATION AND ASSESSMENT**

“There will be two resolutions. The first one is a tax refund to reimburse a property owner for a conservation easement that were purchased by the State of New York. The second item is authorization to convey three parcels to the second bidder for the properties were forfeited by the high bidder at the last property auction held by the County.”

**VETERANS**

“There will be the establishment of the Veterans Trust and Agency Fund which will be handled by the Veterans Committee who will review application made to the fund and have the authority to make final decision on who receives funding out of that pool of money.”

**PERSONNEL AND INSURANCE**

“There will be two resolutions. The first one will be authorizing a renewal with Blue Shield of Northeastern New York for health insurance for 2012 and the second resolution will be to authorize a contract with Benetch, Inc. to become our benefits administrator to provide oversight and management for a number of services related to our health insurance program.”

**BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS**

“There will be two resolutions. The first one will be authorize an easement for installation of a sewer line linking Frank Rossi property to the County’s Sewer District’s interceptor lines at the Zim Smith Trail and the second one will be to set a public hearing regarding the proposed lease for the Adirondack Soaring Club at the Saratoga County Airport.”

**PUBLIC HEALTH**

“There are two items. The first one is to authorize a renewal agreement next year with Thomas Nicolla Consulting Services for physical therapy services at Maplewood Manor. There is no increase in rates that were charged over the 2011 amounts. The second resolution is to increase the rates for our Public Health Nursing Services for certified home health aide services in order to maximize Medicaid and Medicare and private insured revenues.”

**SOCIAL PROGRAMS**

“There will be two resolutions both authorizing transportation contracts. One will serve six towns which will include Malta, Milton, Ballston, Wilton, Northumberland and Greenfield. The second will authorize an agreement to serve the City of Saratoga Springs.”

### **PUBLIC SAFETY**

“There will be two resolutions. The first one is for authority for the Public Defender’s Office to accept an indigent legal services grant which will provide funding to purchase equipment, conduct training and to purchase computer software as well as office renovations. The second item is a Haz Mat grant application that will be done by Saratoga County Emergency Service’s Department and this is a regional grant application and will be done on behalf of Saratoga, Albany, Rensselaer and Schenectady Counties for Homeland Security funding.”

### **PUBLIC WORKS**

“We have two resolutions. The first one is authorizing the Chairman to execute a supplemental agreement with NYSDOT in regards to changes requested by that State Agency relative to the replacement of Central Avenue over the Anthony Kill Bridge in the City of Mechanicville. The second resolution will be an authorization to amend the contract with the engineering firm currently involved in the design services relative to that bridge replacement.”

### **LAW AND FINANCE**

“We have six resolutions. The first one will be to authorize a proposed scale of charges for 2012 for the Sewer Commission which were presented at a public hearing held on November 9<sup>th</sup>. The Board’s approval is needed before those rates can go into effect. The second item is to reimburse Wilton Water and Sewer Authority for expenses related to capital improvements made at Route 50 pump station in the Town of Wilton which was done at the request of the County Sewer District. That reimbursement amount totals \$117,810. The Technology Committee has requested policy changes in the Saratoga County Policy and Procedures Manual relative to the inclusion of the County Attorney and the Public Defender to the list of departmental exceptions to the policy governing access to certain prohibited content as part of their departmental duties. The next item is the adoption of the 2012 Compensation Schedule which is necessary as part of the process to approve the rate changes currently included in the 2012 contract with CSEA which were negotiated as part of the collective bargaining process. The next resolution will be levying amounts payable to the County Treasurer and the Town Supervisors which is the authorization needed to issue tax bills for the upcoming year. And the final resolution will be to establish January 3, 2012 at 3:30pm as the time and meeting date for the organizational meeting of the Board next year.”

Vice Chairman Thompson acknowledged Preston Jenkins. Mr. Jenkins said he asked the Board to consider adding a resolution to rescind the \$570,000 that was put out for Farms and Open Space. That being said, Mr. Jenkins made a motion to rescind that resolution. The motion was seconded by Mr. Thompson.

Mr. Lawler asked Mr. Jenkins if his motion is to withdraw the Open Space Grant of \$570,000 so a yes vote will rescind that resolution. Mr. Dorsey clarified that Mr. Jenkins is just asking that it be added as an agenda item for the Board’s consideration next week. Mr. Jenkins said yes.

Mr. Johnson asked if it had to go back to the Committee. Mr. Dorsey said it does not. Mr. Lawler said any supervisor can bring a motion before the Board without going through the Committees.

Mr. Barrett asked if the money has been sent. Mr. Hellwig said the money has not been spent.

Mr. Grattidge said this was a program that was put in the 2011 budget that was voted on by this Board. He said in June it was voted on again and the Board had the confidence to move forward and it came up again at the time of passing and it passed. He said we should not start tearing apart these contracts as people are counting on this.

Mr. Peck said he is very disappointed that this has come back up. He said looking backwards is going in the wrong direction. He looked at the grant that was awarded in the Town of Northumberland. He said there has been fundraising that has been going on when this award was given. He said we went through this difficult vote last month and shouldn't be going through it again.

Mr. Kinowski said he has a vested interest in this motion. He said outside of that he would not change his vote even if he did not have an interest. While he understands why it was brought up because of the budget concerns but he is disheartened that it was brought up this way.

Mr. Lawler he said in his 18 years on the Board he can not remember a time when the Board has been called upon to rescind a vote. He said he also can not recall a time when the budget process was so difficult and stressful as it was this year. He said we should never forget that any supervisor can bring a motion to the floor regardless of the passage of the Committee system. He said we just voted on a tax increase and for those who are opposed to a tax increase may want an opportunity to reconsider this resolution because what we believed the 2012 budget would look like changed dramatically a short time later. He said he would support Supervisors Jenkins' motion.

Mrs. Wormuth said when this talked about 30 days ago she was in favor of removing the funding on the fact that we knew more than we knew 6 months ago and that the Board has voted on this three times and the Board has used the process it uses that she would change her vote and she would support not looking at this again.

On a motion by Mr. Jenkins, seconded by Mr. Thompson a motion was made to add an item to Tuesday's Board Meeting reconsidering the Open Space Grant Funds that were awarded last month. The motion failed by the following vote: AYES: (67,143) George J. Hargrave 3,545; Preston L. Jenkins, Jr. 14,728; John Lawler 8,423; Richard Lucia 6,531; Frank Thompson 18,575; Matthew Veitch 13,293; Arthur Wright 2,048. NOES: (152,464) Philip C. Barrett 18,352.5; John Collyer 1,995; Anita M. Daly 18,352.5; Alan Grattidge 4,133; Arthur Johnson 16,173; Mary Ann Johnson 856; Edward Kinowski 8,287; Willard Peck 5,087; Jean Raymond 1,214; Thomas Richardson 5,196; Richard Rowland 7,775; Paul Sausville 14,765; Patricia Southworth 9,776; Thomas N. Wood, III 5,674; Mindy Wormuth 21,535; Joanne Dittes Yepsen 13,293.

Mr. Peck asked for clarification if this could be brought up again next week or next month. Mr. Dorsey said yes.

On a motion by Mr. Hargrave, seconded by Mr. Lawler, the meeting was unanimously adjourned.