

LAW AND FINANCE COMMITTEE MINUTES

SEPTEMBER 10, 2008 – 4:00 P.M.

Present: Chairman A. Johnson; Supervisors Daly, Grattidge, Hunter, Peck, Thompson, Wood, M. Johnson, Yepsen, Richardson, Sausville, Southworth, Connelly, Hargrave, Wright, Raymond; David Wickerham, County Administrator; Hans Lehr, Mental Health; Joseph Ritchey, Public Works; Mark Rider, County Attorney; Jack Kalinkewicz, Personnel; Wes Carr, Youth Director; John Murray, County Auditor; Paul Lent, Emergency Services; Spencer Hellwig, Mgmt. Analyst; Sam Pitcherale, County Treasurer; Dan Butler, Animal Shelter; Barbara Thomas, Denny Finnerny, League Of Women Voters; Press.

Chairman A. Johnson called the meeting to order and welcomed all in attendance.

On a motion made by Mr. Thompson, seconded by Mr. Hunter the minutes of the August 13, 2008 meeting were approved unanimously.

On a motion made by Mr. Peck, seconded by Mr. Wood the following were approved unanimously.

PUBLIC HEALTH

- **Authorizing the Chairman to enter into amended contracts with various agencies and amending the budget under Mental Health to accept an additional \$82,500 in State funding as follows:**

Cost of Living Adjustments:

820 River Street, Inc.	\$1,817
Alcohol & Substance Abuse Council	\$16,376
Saratoga Bridges NYSARC, Inc.	\$16,107
Community Human Services	\$229
Community, Work & Independence, Inc.	\$1,034
Family & Children's of the Capital Region, Inc.	\$2,210
Franklin Community Center	\$989
Mechanicville Area Community Center, Inc.	\$141
Northeast Career	\$1,018
Northeast Parent & Child Society	\$342
Saratoga Center for the Family	\$110
Shelters of Saratoga	\$545
Transitional Services Association, Inc.	\$35,133
U.C.P.A./Prospect	\$1,201
Unlimited Potential	\$7,948

Mr. Wickerham said the above expenses occurred in 2007, however, the State has just approved them. The items above are all the cost of living expenses that were approved by the state in 2007 for direct care workers, resulting in a 3.2% increase for all direct care staff in each of the agencies.

- Amending the 2007 contract with Transitional Services Association (TSA) to allow for the payment of \$19,500 in State approved expenses.

The 2007 contract will be amended and the money will be passed through to the direct care workers.

On a motion made by Mr. Peck, seconded by Ms. Daly the following was approved unanimously.

PERSONNEL

- **Authorizing amendments to the County Policies and Procedures manual related to the safety and accident reporting procedures, sale of county personal property, cash reporting policy, employee physicals, and vacation carryover provisions.**

Mr. Wickerham said annually the county policies and procedures policy is reviewed, and when there are changes needed they are brought forward to the Board of Supervisors. A copy of the changes was put in each Supervisor's box for their review.

On a motion made by Ms. Daly, seconded by Mr. Thompson the following was approved unanimously.

SOCIAL PROGRAMS

- **Authorizing the Chairman to enter into an agreement with Saratoga County Transportation Company Ltd. To provide transportation services for pre-kindergarten handicap children at a cost not to exceed \$42/per child, per day and \$75/ per aide, per day when required.**

Mr. Wickerham said that every three years the county goes out to bid for transportation for the Handicapped Children's Program. Ten RFP's were sent out with only two replies. The low bidder was forced to withdraw, as they weren't able to comply with the terms of the contract. The second bidder, who is currently the provider, has been chosen at a cost of \$42 per child/ per day. When there is an aide required, there is an additional \$75/day for the aide.

On a motion made by Mr. Thompson, seconded by Mr. Grattidge the following was approved unanimously.

PUBLIC SAFETY

- **Authorizing the Chairman to enter in agreement with Blue Wing Services to review RFP submissions for microwave communications equipment and take the project through completion, at a cost not to exceed \$198,500. Unanimous.**

Mr. Wickerham said Blue Wing Services has contracted with the county for several years on the microwave radio project. They have recently completed the RFP for the radio equipment. Responses are due within the next thirty to forty-five days. This is the last phase of the contract that would take it through installation of the equipment, oversight of the equipment and working with FAA for all of the licenses. Services will be billed on an hourly basis.

On a motion made by Mr. Thompson, seconded by Mr. Hunter the following was approved unanimously.

BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS

- **Authorizing the Chair to enter into an agreement with the provider of the lowest quote for installing security gates at the Saratoga County Airport for an amount not to exceed \$19,000.**

Mr. Wickerham said this agreement would be subject to the approval of the County Attorney and the Contract Administrator as to the form and content.

CHAIRMAN'S ITEMS

- **Appointing Robert Brown to the Saratoga County Fire Advisory Board to fill a vacancy created by the resignation of Scott Brackett for the remainder of his term which expires December 31, 2009.**

On a motion made by Mr. Thompson, seconded by Mr. Grattidge the following was approved unanimously.

LAW AND FINANCE

- **Authorizing the bonding of up to \$7 million for the Emergency Radio System capital project.**

Mr. Wickerham said, currently the actual figure is \$6.7 million; however, the request is for up to \$7 million in the event there are additional expenses to be covered.

On a motion made by Mr. Hunter, seconded by Mr. Thompson the following was approved unanimously.

- **Amending the Saratoga County Investment Policy to allow an eligible letter of credit instead of securities held by third party banks to collateralize our deposits.**

On a motion made by Mr. Peck, seconded by Mr. Grattidge the following were approved unanimously.

LAND PRESERVATION

Mr. Peck said there was \$750,000 in grants appropriated for the Land Preservation program with approximately \$1.8 million in requests. The following are the recipients of the grants:

1. The Willow Marsh Farm in the Town of Ballston is the purchase of a development rights project that is funded by the State. The State provides for 75% of the costs of the program, and the county's portion is 25%. The request is approximately half of the 25% match in the amount of \$176,000.

Mr. Thompson asked what the total cost of the project was? Mr. Kemper said approximately \$1.4 million.

Mr. Peck said the second property is in the town of Saratoga, the Gilseck Farm, which is a purchase of development rights project in the amount of \$347,400.

The third property is in the town of Stillwater, the Sweeney Farm. Last year Sweeney, phase one was completed in Malta. This is a parcel that is connected in the town of Stillwater with State money involved. Their request was for \$393,000. What was left on the grant money was \$126,600. After discussions it was determined that this would help to move forward with Sweeney Phase II of the project.

The fourth property is in the town of Clifton Park, the Heckman Farm. This was a farm that had a subdivision proposal. This parcel was ranked high on Clifton Park's open space committee for acquisition. They originally came back seeking \$475,000. After review of the project it was determined to be an open space project which has a \$100,000 cap. After discussions with the Town of Clifton Park, Supervisor Barrett said he thought that the town would be supportive of the idea and would then do the matching part of it in order to bring the project to fruition.

On a motion made by Mr. Hunter, seconded by Ms. Daly the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,
Chris Sansom

