

## LAW AND FINANCE COMMITTEE MINUTES

NOVEMBER 14, 2007 – 4:00 P.M.

Present: Chairman Hargrave; Supervisors Gutheil, A. Johnson, M. Johnson, Peck, Thompson, Wood, Sausville, Yepsen, Lawler, Lucia, Trottier, Grattidge and Raymond; D. Wickerham, County Administrator; Diane Brown, Sandi Fischer, Maplewood Manor; Dale Angstadt, Mental Health; Daniel Butler, Animal Shelter; Janet Glenn, Public Health; Jason Kemper, Planning; Jim Carminucci, Lemery Greisler; Sam Pitcherelle, George Martin, Gerald Lundgren, Treasurer; Paul Lent, Emergency Services; Rick Gardner, Public Works; Barbara Thomas, League of Women Voters; John Murray, County Auditor; Shawn Connelly, Stillwater; Press.

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

**On a motion made by Mr. Thompson, seconded by Mr. Wood the minutes of the October 10, 2007 meeting were approved unanimously.**

Mr. Johnson said after speaking attorneys for the IDA, it was determined that two resolutions are needed involving the issuance of IDA tax exempt bonds for Saratoga Hospital in the amount of \$16,000,000 and \$19,000,000. These would normally go through the Economic Development Committee, but the public hearing on the two bond issues did not happen until today. He requested to have a special Economic Development Committee meeting prior to the Board Meeting on November 20<sup>th</sup>. The resolutions will go directly to the full Board of Supervisors meeting for consideration.

Mr. Peck said he would have to abstain from voting at the Economic Development meeting as he sits on the board for the Saratoga Hospital.

Mr. Hargrave approved allowing the resolution to go directly to the full Board of Supervisors for consideration.

### **BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS**

- **Authorizing the Chairman to enter into a contract with Pacheco Ross Architects to provide schematic designs for a public safety facility at a cost not to exceed \$129,540.**

Mr. Wickerham said Pacheco Ross Architects did the feasibility study on the public safety facility. The committee would now like them to move ahead to the schematic design phase at a cost not to exceed \$129,540.

**A motion was made by Mrs. Johnson, seconded by Mr. Peck to approve a resolution authorizing the Chairman to enter into a contract with Pacheco Ross Architects to**

**provide schematic designs for a public safety facility at a cost not to exceed \$129,540. Ayes – Hargrave, A. Johnson, M. Johnson, Peck, Thompson, and Wood – Abstained – Gutheil. Motion passed.**

Mr. Gutheil asked if there was an idea on how much would be spent on the facility? He said he didn't want to run into the same issues as with the animal control building, where we come up with a \$27,000 contract. The first project came in, in excess of \$10 million and we still don't have a building with a floor plan design that is within a price range that is acceptable.

Mrs. Johnson said a fixed figure was not set. The first study was for approximately \$17 million, which included soft costs that will not be included as most of that equipment already exists. We are looking in the area of \$12 million, she said.

Mr. Gutheil asked if there was some indication that they could do the job within that price range? Mrs. Johnson said there have only been discussions with them, nothing in writing. They are going to meet with each one of the departments that are affected by this, public safety, sheriff and emergency services and work down from the feasibility study to what is really needed. This will give us a better idea before we proceed any further.

Mr. Trottier said when the Public Safety Committee first had Pacheco Ross start the feasibility study; it was the committees direction to design a building that would meet the essential needs of the County and nothing more. Mr. Trottier said as chairman of the committee he felt comfortable forwarding it on to Buildings and Grounds Committee, stating that it was a reasonable fee based on the square footage.

Mrs. Johnson said originally the Sheriff's administration was not included in the design and now they are. It is still questionable whether they will remain in the design.

Mr. Gutheil said he would like to see a more structured contract. When we know when we want to opt out, we will know what we have spent.

Mr. Wickerham said the following two items are lease renewals. Space is leased for the Supreme Court Justices who reside within the county. The lease at the Stewart's Ice Cream headquarters is a continuation of the lease with no increase other than the utility and cleaning charges, which will be a pass through, for a total not to exceed \$10.88 per square foot.

The lease at the Roohan Building, Inc. for Judge Williams, is a proposed 3% increase. Both of the contracts will have a six-month termination clause.

**A motion was made by Mrs. Johnson, seconded by Mr. Peck to approve a resolution authorizing the chairman to enter into a five-year lease renewal within Stewart's Ice Cream Shops, Inc. for chambers for Judge Ferradino at \$12/sq.ft. with pass through costs for utilities not to exceed \$10.88sq.ft. and a five year lease with Roohan**

**Building , Inc. at a cost of \$21.29 sq.ft inclusive of all utilities and \$1.37 sq.ft. for cleaning services, with a 3% yearly increase. Unanimous.**

### **SOCIAL PROGRAMS**

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

- **Supporting a grant application of a joint consortium of WIB Boards to access \$500,000 in Federal funding to train the local workforce for emerging technologies and agreeing to provide a County representative to the management board for the grant.**
- **Approving the four-year Aging Services Implementation Plan covering the years 2008-2012.**
- **Authorizing the Chairman to enter into contracts with all agencies involved in providing services for the 2008 Office for the Aging Implementation Plan.**

Mr. Wickerham said the first item is a consortium of five different WIB Boards, including Warren, Washington and Saratoga Counties. In order to obtain federal funding they need resolutions from all the counties in the five WIB's supporting the grant application. There will be no cost to the county.

The second item is the implementation plan describing how the county will address the needs of the elderly in Saratoga County.

The third item is the 2008 implementation of the plan, which includes a large number of contracts with no increase in any of the contracts from 2007.

### **PUBLIC HEALTH**

**On a motion made by Mrs. Johnson, seconded by Mr. Wood the following were approved unanimously.**

- **Authorizing the Chairman to accept an additional \$11,447 in funding from NYS DOH for the tuition assistance and scholarship funding in Maplewood Manor for the time period of January 1, 2007 until June 30, 2007 and amending the 2007 budget.**
- **Increasing the private pay rate at Maplewood Manor from \$225/day to \$235/day plus the 6% NYS cash assessment for a total daily rate of \$249.10 effective January 1,2008.**

- **Authorizing the Chairman to enter into amended agreements with Transitional Services, Inc. to provide an additional \$3,516 in funding for supporting housing, new initiatives and reinvestment programs and amending the budget thereto.**
- **Declaring accounts uncollectible within the Public Health Nursing Budget**

Mr. Wickerham said the first item is accessing money under the tuition assistance scholarship program to cover expenses for those people covering shifts for people in training.

Mr. Wickerham said there are 240 patients currently at Maplewood Manor on private pay, with an average of six months before they convert to Medicaid. This private pay rate was last increased in 2006.

**On a motion made by Mr. Gutheil, seconded by Mrs. Johnson the following were approved unanimously.**

### **PUBLIC SAFETY**

- **Authorizing the Chairman to accept a \$35,000 State grant for the Road to Recovery Program to cover costs incurred by the District Attorney's Office for case oversight.**
- **Authorizing the Chairman to sign a grant extension for the Wireless 911 funding to access the remaining \$110,000 in aid.**
- **Authorizing the Chairman to accept a Wireless 911 grant in the amount of \$114,384 to cover the cost of upgrades to the Wireless 911 System and amending the budget in relation thereto.**
- **Authorizing the Chairman to accept a \$15,000 grant from DCJS to cover overtime costs associated with the Sheriff's employees assigned to the Drug Task Force.**
- **Authorizing the Chairman to enter into an agreement with Alcatel USA Marketing Inc. to complete FCC required studies and document processing at a cost not to exceed \$18,000.**
- **Authorizing the Chairman to enter into a 3-year lease renewal agreement with Upland Forestry for property at the base of Spruce Mountain at a cost of \$650 per year effective January 1, 2008.**

Mr. Wickerham said with regard to item two a \$1.8 million grant has been received with approximately \$110,000 remaining. Additional time is needed by the Sheriff's department.

The third item deals with a new grant of \$114,384 to cover additional costs to the wireless 911 upgrade.

The fourth item is accepting a \$15,000 grant by the Sheriff from DCJS for overtime costs. The Sheriff has been a part of a drug task force that has been operating with the State Police. DCJS has made money available to pay for the overtime costs that are also a part of that.

The sixth request is for the building located at the bottom of Spruce Mountain to house the snowmobiles that are used in the wintertime to access the site. This is a \$50 increase from past years. The fee has been \$600 for at least the last five years.

### **LAW AND FINANCE**

**On a motion made by Mrs. Johnson, seconded by Mr. Johnson the following was approved unanimously.**

- **Requesting designation of the County of Saratoga as a Greenway Community.**

Mr. Wickerham said earlier this year there was home rule legislation asking that Saratoga County be included as a Hudson River Greenway Community that was approved. This puts Saratoga County as a whole in the Greenway program, allowing the county to apply for funding. The final phase is to request designation as a member through a resolution. When that is completed, the county will be eligible for all grants and membership on the council.

**On a motion made by Mr. Johnson, seconded by Mr. Wood the following was approved unanimously.**

- **Authorizing levy for unpaid 2007 Sacandaga Lake maintenance assessments.**

Mr. Wickerham said this is with regard to the re-levying of the maintenance assessments on the Sacandaga Lake. It is only the hydro companies that need be re-levied because they don't pay directly and have to pay to a municipal agency. Albany Engineering is being re-levied for a total of \$108,838.84.

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

- **Authorizing an advance of up to \$6 million to the Saratoga County Water Authority to pay for ongoing construction. The advance will be repaid to the County out of the proceeds of the Water Authority Bond issuance.**

Mr. Wickerham said all grants are reimbursement grants that have to be paid in the first instance and reimbursed back. There are bills for construction that need to be paid, by

advancing those monies to the water authority, they will repay that money out of the proceeds of the bond issue, which is expected to be completed by years end.

**On a motion made by Mrs. Johnson, seconded by Mr. Wood the following was approved unanimously.**

- **Authorizing the Chairman to enter into an agreement with Bollam, Sheedy Torani & Co. LLP for individual and single audit services at a cost not to exceed \$95,000 in 2008; \$90,000 in 2009; \$93,000 in 2010.**

Mr. Wickerham said the county goes out every year for RFP's for single audit and individual audit services. These are the companies that are currently doing the county audits and the Treasurer has recommended that they remain in place for another three-year period.

**Mrs. Johnson made a motion, seconded by Mr. Gutheil to approve the following resolution for discussion.**

- **Authorizing the Chairman to enter into an agreement with Time Warner Cable to provide service to the County Farm at a cost not to exceed \$12,900.**

Mr. Wickerham said the Data Processing Users Committee was authorized last month to transfer from a frame relay system to roadrunner. Roadrunner would be the carrier of the internet for all county offices. It was found that there is no way to provide service to the County Farm because the closest system is too far away. In working with them we can do it for \$12,900 to provide that service to the County Farm and have everyone in the county with the same internet provider. The money is available within the Data Processing Users Committee.

Mr. Hellwig said the cable location in relation to where the highway department is, is beyond 1,500 ft. Originally it was thought that there was a closer connection. When they looked closer at it, they realized the cable didn't come any closer than 1,500, requiring additional construction.

Mr. Gutheil said the town of Milton franchise agreement is where this should be spelled out. He said there are people at the Public Service Commission that will work with the municipality. We should be sure that there isn't another alternative, he said.

**A motion was made by Mr. Thompson, seconded by Mr. Gutheil to table the above motion in order to gather more information. Unanimous.**

**On a motion made by Mr. Peck, seconded by Mrs. Johnson the following were approved unanimously.**

- **Setting November 27, 2007 at 5:30 p.m. in the Saratoga County Board Rooms as the time and place for the public hearing on the 2008 budget.**

- **Adopting the 2008 County Budget (TO BE TABLED)**
- **Appropriating amounts finally set forth in the 2008 County Budget.**

**On a motion made by Mr. Thompson, seconded by Mr. Johnson the meeting was adjourned.**

Respectfully submitted,  
Chris Sansom