

## LAW AND FINANCE COMMITTEE MINUTES

DECEMBER 12, 2007 – 4:00 P.M.

Present: Chairman Hargrave, Gutheil, A. Johnson, M. Johnson, Thompson, Wood, Sausville, Keyrouze, Connors, Daly, Lucia, Grattidge, Raymond, Janik and Yepsen; Jason Kemper, Planning; Diane Wade, Bill Fruci, Elections; Mark Rider, County Attorney; John Murray, County Auditor; Bill Davis, Jim DiPasquale, Sewer District; Sam Pitcherale, Treasurer; Janet Glenn, Alan Kempf, Public Health; Diane Brown, Maplewood Manor; Sandi Cross, Office for the Aging; Paul Lent, Emergency Services; Jack Kalinkewicz, Personnel; Carol Holley, Real Property; Dan Butler, Animal Shelter; Janice Burns, League of Women Voters; Press.

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

**On a motion made by Mr. Wood, seconded by Mr. Thompson the minutes of the December 12, 2007 meeting were approved unanimously.**

**On a motion made by Mr. Johnson, seconded by Mr. Wood the following was approved as follows: Ayes - Hargrave, A. Johnson, M. Johnson, Thompson and Wood; Abstained – Gutheil Absent – Peck. Motion Carried.**

### **SOCIAL PROGRAMS**

- **Amending resolution 212 of 2007 to increase the daily rate for Capitaland Taxi for senior transportation under the Office for the Aging's six town contracts from \$330 to \$350 per day with a total annual cost not to exceed \$87,500.**

Mr. Wickerham said there were ten vendors contacted and the only vendor who responded for the transportation program for the six town region was Capitaland Taxi, requiring an additional \$20 to \$350/day, which is a 6% increase. This service covers Ballston, Malta, Milton, Greenfield, Wilton, and Northumberland.

Mr. Gutheil said he would be abstaining from the vote until the Board Meeting on December 18<sup>th</sup>. He has asked for additional information from the Office for the Aging. Consistently there has only been one bidder. I would like to see if there are any other options.

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

- **Authorizing the Youth Bureau's 2008 funding applications and contracts.**

Mr. Wickerham said this is money that is received through the YDDP program, with a 1% increase which has been distributed through all the different agencies that they normally do business with. In addition, there is a \$40,000 increase in funding for the homeless shelter for youth, which will go to CAPTAIN. Four thousand dollars will go to the Youth Bureau for administration costs.

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

### **PUBLIC HEALTH**

- **Authorizing the Chairman to enter into agreements with NYS Department of Health to accept \$172,452 for bio-terrorism response and preparedness.**
- **Authorizing an increase in compensation from \$36,878 to \$38,169 for Public Health's Medical Director, Dr. DelGiacco, effective January 1, 2008.**
- **Authorizing an increase in the rates paid for physical therapy visits from \$75 for the initial visit to \$77 for the initial visit; \$55 per patient visit to \$57 per patient visit \$60 for OASIS visits plus related costs effective January 1, 2008.**
- **Establishing hourly rates for aid agencies providing Certified Home Health Agency (CHHA) and Long Term Home Health Care Program (LTHHCP) services effective January 1, 2007 as follows: (Janet Glenn, Acting Director of Public Health Nursing)**
  - Greater Adirondack Home Health Aids from \$25.04 per hour to \$25.54 per hour**
  - Gentiva from \$16.42 per hour to \$18.48 per hour**
  - Visiting Nurse Home Care from \$19.13 per hour to \$19.70 per hour (plus holiday rates)**
- **Authorizing the Chairman to enter into a contract with Thomas Nicolla Consulting Services for physical therapy services in the Maplewood Manor at a cost of \$45.35 per hour for 2008 and \$46.48 for 2009.**

Mr. Wickerham said the first item is authorizing agreements to accept bio-terrorism response money. This is approximately a \$28,000 reduction in the amount that was received in the past.

The second item is a request for a 3.5% salary increase for Dr. Del Giacco.

The third item is an increase in the physical therapy rates with an increase between 2.5% to 3.5%.

The fourth item is an increase in the CHHA and LTHHCP contracts representing increases between 3% and 4%.

The fifth item is a successor contract for physical therapy consultants at Maplewood Manor with a cost of \$45.35 per hour for 2008 and \$46.48 for 2009, representing a 2% increase for 2008 and a 2 ½% increase for 2009.

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

### **ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**

- **Adopting the Zim Smith Use Policy as described by the Trail Use Committee and established by the Economic Development Committee.**

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

### **EQUALIZATION AND ASSESSMENT**

- **Accepting tender offers in the Town of Corinth in the amount of \$2,033.31 and the Town of Northumberland in the amount of \$25,820.24.**
- **Accepting a conditional tender offer in the Town of Wilton in the amount of \$7,634.49.**
- **Rejecting a \$50,000 auction bid and authorizing an agreement with Calibre Investment Group LLC for redemption of a property in the Village of Victory Mills.**
- **Canceling \$1,112.42 in taxes and fees on four parcels in the Town of Malta.**
- **Authorizing the Chairman to enter into an agreement with Systems Development Group to purchase document imaging software at a cost of \$11,000.**
- **Authorizing the Chairman to enter into an agreement with Fountain Spatial, Inc. to complete the conversion of tax parcel data from AutoCAD to Geodatabase format at a cost of \$95,350.**

Mr. Wickerham said the second item is a conditional tender offer where the owner is refinancing their property and obtaining bank loans. The county will be transferring the deed to the bank and upon closing the county will be paid.

Mr. Wickerham said with regard to item three the county will be accepting a \$100,000 non refundable deposit from Calibre Investment Group. Assuming that all the environmental items check out, they will then pay the county the remaining taxes that are owed, which are approximately \$400,000.

Item four is with regard to a parcel at the round lake bypass. When the State went in to do the round lake bypass they took a number of properties. When the properties are taken they come off the tax rolls. This property remained on the tax rolls and will need to be cancelled.

The final two items deal with the grant to migrate off the AutoCAD and on to the Geodatabase format for doing GIS work.

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

### **BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS**

- **Awarding a lease for the Fixed Base Operator for the Saratoga County Airport to North American Flight Services, Inc. at a lease rental of \$60,000 per year.**

Mr. Wickerham said this lease rental will cost \$60,000 per year and will be paid in \$5,000/mo. increments. This is approximately twice what was budgeted for the year, therefore, there will be additional revenue in the 2008 budget. The lease is for 20 years.

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

- **Authorizing the Chairman to enter into a renewal agreement with the New York State Office of Homeland Security for mutual aid activities conducted in Saratoga County for a period beginning September 9, 2007 and ending September 9, 2012.**

Mr. Wickerham said shortly after 9-11 the office of Homeland Security made a number of funds available to all municipalities to buy HAZMAT equipment to be used in an emergency situation. The county has an informal agreement to store the equipment for them and in turn they provide the materials. The contract has reached its end and will need to be renewed for another five years.

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

### **INSURANCE AND RISK MANAGEMENT**

- **Authorizing the Chairman to enter into a contract with Blue Shield of Northeastern New York for the renewal of health insurance coverage for the period of 1/1/08 until 12/31/08 at a cost not to exceed \$18,245,894.**

Mr. Wickerham said Blue Shield of Northeastern New York is the current insurance carrier for the county. Through negotiations the increase will be 7.5%, which is half the increase from previous years.

Mr. Gutheil said that health insurance has reached a crisis level in the country. He would like to see a committee next year take a proactive roll in getting the State to do something about it. It is time for the lower levels of government to put the pressure on those who can do something about it.

### **SUPERVISOR'S ITEM**

- **Honoring the memory of Kenneth Petteys former supervisor (1958-1959) from the Town of Wilton.**

### **LAW AND FINANCE**

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

- **Authorizing an inter-municipal agreement with the Town of Malta to advance \$2.5 million for the purpose of building internal roads at the Luther Forest Technology Campus. This advance will be repaid to the County at the conclusion of the building of the roads with 4% simple interest.**

Mr. Wickerham said the schedule is such that the roads will be completed over a 15-month period.

Mr. Gutheil asked what kind of guarantee would there be? Mr. Wickerham said, it would be written as a note with an agreement with Malta. The money is being used to access grant money. There is money for the entire project, but in order to do the project the work first needs to be done and the funds will be applied for afterwards. The project is projected at approximately \$30 million, therefore, Malta will continually rollover the \$2.5 million and keep giving the funds back. In the final phase of the project, what will be leftover will be the \$2.5 million plus interest, and Malta will repay that to the county.

Mr. Gutheil said there should be a drop-dead date when the funds are due back to the County.

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

- **Authorizing the Chairman to enter into an agreement with Inclusion Solutions to provide voter accessibility products in compliance with HAVA at a cost not to exceed \$35,080.**

Mr. Wickerham said under the HAVA act all polling places must be certified accessible. In order to comply, the Elections Department has had people go out to all those places and make a list of all the concerns that they have. In going through the process they have agreed on a company to resolve any problems.

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

- **Establishing the 2008 scale of charges for the Saratoga County Sewer District.**

Mr. Wickerham said the charges remain the same for 2008 as they were for 2007.

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

- **Levying amounts payable to the County Treasurer and the Town Supervisors.**

Mr. Wickerham said this is the basis on which the tax bills will be sent out on January 1, 2008.

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

- **Establishing January 3, 2008 at 2:30 p.m. as the date and time for the organizational meeting of the 2008 Board of Supervisors.**

Mr. Gutheil said the county has never participated in the salary survey with NYSAC. Mr. Gutheil offered a motion to direct the appropriate people at the county to submit the information and participate in the NYSAC Salary Study Survey.

**A motion was made by Mr. Gutheil, seconded by Mrs. Johnson to approve directing the appropriate people at the county to submit the information and participate in the NYSAC Salary Study Survey. (Committee resolution only).**

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

Respectfully submitted,  
Chris Sansom