

## Law and Finance Committee Minutes

December 9, 2009 – 4:00 p.m.

Present: Chairman Peck; Supervisors Daly, Grattidge, Hargrave, Sausville, Thompson, Wood, Veitch, Southworth, Wright, Rowland, Jenkins, A. Johnson; David Wickerham, County Administrator; Spencer Hellwig, Mgmt. Analyst; Jack Kalinkewicz, Personnel; Sam Pitcherale, Treasurer; Joe Ritchey, Public Works; Jim DiPasquale, Bill Davis, Sewer District; John Nolan, County Chairman; John Murray, Auditor; Diane Brown, Maplewood Manor; Mark Rider, County Attorney; Edward Kinowski, Stillwater; Press.

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

**On a motion made by Mr. Hargrave, seconded by Mr. Wood the minutes of the November 12, 2009 meeting were approved unanimously.**

**On a motion made by Mr. Hargrave, seconded by Ms. Daly the following were approved unanimously.**

### **PERSONNEL**

- **Amending the Compensation Plan to create a position of Temporary Deputy Coroner at a rate of \$100 per call and employing Russell Peacock in the position.**
- **Authorizing the Chairman to enter into agreements with Blue Shield of NENY to continue to provide health insurance for county employees and officers.**

Mr. Wickerham said one of the Coroners has been unable to answer calls. In order to relieve the problem the personnel committee is asking to create a temporary position as deputy coroner to be only used when there are only calls necessary for the individual to work. The rate of pay would be \$100 per call. Russell Peacock would assume the position.

The second item is the annual renewal for the Health Insurance Program that goes to county employees. The premium increase will be 9.7%. The funds have been secured in the budget.

### **PUBLIC HEALTH**

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

- **Authorizing the Chairman to enter into a renewal contract with Thomas Nicola Consulting Services for Physical Therapy Services for 2010 at current contract rates.**

Mr. Wickerham with the renewal of the contract with Thomas Nicola Consulting Services for Physical Therapy Services for 2010, there will be no increase in the amount of money paid for the service and no change in the terms of the operation.

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

### **BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS**

- **Setting January 13, 2010 at 5:30 p.m. at County Building #5 as the date, time and place for a public hearing for condemnation of the avigation easement over 8 Wyndham Way for the purpose of tree obstruction removal at the Saratoga County Airport.**

Mr. Wickerham said the county has been seeking an avigation easement for some tree obstruction removal at the county airport. An agreement with the property owners was unsuccessful; therefore, it is going to eminent domain. As part of that procedure there will be a public hearing, which is set for January 13, 2010 at 5:30 p.m.

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

### **PUBLIC WORKS**

- **Authorizing the Chairman to enter into agreements with NYSDOT to accept funding and complete preliminary engineering work for the replacement of CR45 Northline Road over the Kayderosseras Creek Bridge in the Town of Malta at a cost not to exceed \$230,298.**
- **Authorizing the Chairman to enter into an agreement with NYSDOT to accept funding and complete preliminary engineering work for the replacement of Central Avenue over the Anthony Kill Bridge in the City of Mechanicville.**

Mr. Wickerham said these are two bridge projects that are in the capital plan. This is the engineering for those projects. The county will receive HBRR funds, which are essentially 80% federal funds. The projects will not be completed this year; however, the funds will be carried over into 2010 as needed.

Mr. Grattidge said both the projects would be completed by 2012.

**On a motion made by Ms. Daly, seconded by Mr. Grattidge the following were approved unanimously.**

## **PUBLIC SAFETY**

- **Authorizing the Chairman to enter into successor agreements with the Towns of Halfmoon and Wilton to provide additional law enforcement services at a cost of 201,378 for 2010.**
- **Authorizing the Chairman to enter into successor agreements with the towns of Clifton Park and Halfmoon to provide additional law enforcement services at a cost of \$201,378 in 2010.**
- **Authorizing the Chairman to enter into successor agreements with the town of Clifton Park to provide additional law enforcement services at a cost of \$216,970 for 135 hours and \$201,378 for 120 hours in 2010.**

Mr. Wickerham said some of the town's contract with the Sheriff for additional patrols rather than create their own police departments. This would include the towns of Halfmoon, Clifton Park and Wilton. Currently, they have contracts for different amounts of hours and different manpower. The contracts will be extended for one year at the same rate.

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

## **LEGISLATIVE AND RESEARCH**

- **Introducing a Local Law to amend Local Law #1 of 1991 to include a Voice Over Internet Protocol (VoIP) 911 surcharge and setting January 13, 2010 at 4:45 p.m. as the date and time for a public hearing.**

Mr. Wickerham said the county has a 911 surcharge on landlines and wireless phones. It turns out that Voice Over Internet Protocol was never captured. They should pay the same rate as everyone else with a telephone; therefore, the original local law will be amended that set the landline rate to include Voice Over Internet Protocol 911 surcharges. A local hearing will be held on January 13, 2010.

**On a motion made by Mr. Sausville, seconded by Mr. Hargrave the following was approved unanimously.**

## **EQUALIZATION AND ASSESSMENT**

- **Accepting tender offers on two parcels in the Town of Halfmoon in the amount of \$10,981.09.**

Mr. Wickerham said the two parcels are owned by the same homeowner. He is redeeming his parcels for the \$10,981.09 in back taxes, penalties and interest.

## **CHAIRMAN'S ITEM**

- **Honoring the memory of 1<sup>st</sup> Assistant Public Defender Mark Major.**

## **LAW AND FINANCE**

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

- **Approving the report and recommendations of the 2009 Saratoga County Green Committee**

Mr. Wickerham said earlier this year the Chairman appointed an ad-hoc Green Committee to look for ways to improve energy efficiency within the county. The committee has issued a report of recommendations to the Law and Finance Committee for their approval.

Mr. Veitch said there were meetings held by the Green Committee throughout the county this past year with various Green Companies to learn what is out there and what could be used within the county to be more efficient and operate in a more environmentally friendly manner. Most importantly, trying to save costs to taxpayers in Saratoga County.

Three stages of recommendations were made in the report:

- Short-term – Those things that could be done at little or no cost
- Intermediate - Something that would be done as an ongoing project, such as replacing lighting when needed.
- Long-term – Larger projects

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

- **Authorizing the Chairman to accept a HAVA grant in the amount of \$10,384 for polling place access improvement.**

Mr. Wickerham said earlier this year the county was required under law to make improvements for handicapped accessibility to all polling sites. Under HAVA there was money available to the county that was never sent out. The county is now receiving those funds in the amount of \$10,384.

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

- **Confirming the 2010 Scale of Charges for the Saratoga County Sewer District.**

Mr. Wickerham said the Sewer District has established their Scale of Charges and they need it to be confirmed by the Board of Supervisors.

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

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

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

- **Establishing January 4, 2010 at 11:30 a.m. as the date and time for the Organizational Meeting of the 2010 Board of Supervisors.**

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

Respectfully submitted,  
Chris Sansom