

Law and Finance Committee Minutes

May 12, 2010 – 4:00 p.m.

Present: Chairman Wood; Supervisors Daly, Grattidge, A. Johnson, Sausville, Thompson, Wormuth, Hargrave, Wright, Lucia, M. Johnson, Rowland, Southworth, Veitch and Raymond; David Wickerham, County Administrator; Daniel Butler, Animal Shelter; Sam Pitcherale, Treasurer; John Murray, Auditor; Tony Scavone, Employment and Training; Spencer Hellwig, Mgmt. Analyst; Karen Heggen, District Attorney's Office; Barbara Thomas, League of Women Voters; John Ciulla, Public Defender; Mark Rider, County Attorney; Press.

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

On a motion made by Mr. Thompson, seconded by Mr. Sausville the minutes of the April 14, 2010 meeting were approved unanimously.

EQUALIZATION AND ASSESSMENT

- **Authorizing conveyance of a tax acquired parcel to the Town of Milton**

On a motion made by Mr. Sausville, seconded by Mrs. Wormuth the above resolution was approved unanimously.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

- **Supporting the "Schoolbooks for Haiti" project and urging other Counties throughout the State to participate.**

On a motion made by Ms. Daly, seconded by Mr. Johnson the above resolution was approved unanimously.

PUBLIC SAFETY

- **Authorizing the Chairman to accept a \$10,000 legislative grant from Senator McDonald for the District Attorney's Office and amending the 2010 budget.**
- **Authorizing the Chairman to accept \$119,750 from the State Law Enforcement Terrorism Prevention Program (LETPP) for the Sheriff's Department and amending the 2010 budget.**
- **Authorizing the Chairman to accept an Aid to Defense Grant in the Public Defender's Office in the amount of \$16,900.**

- **Authorizing participation in the 2010 State STOP-DWI Program and authorizing contracts with local agency participants.**
- **Amending the budget under the Animal Shelter to transfer \$136,900 from the Animal Shelter Trust Fund for various items being purchased for the new animal shelter.**
- **Authorizing the issuance of general obligation bonds in the amount of \$11,819,000 to pay for the purchase of a radio communication system.**
- **Amending the 2010 budget to increase appropriations and revenues by \$67,190 in State Aid for communications equipment to be used for training personnel on the new 911-radio system.**
- **Amending the 2010 budget to accept a \$246,000 Homeland Security Grant to purchase various equipment and supplies.**

Mr. Wickerham said the third item is an Aid to Defense grant that is received annually. There was approximately a 10% cut this year bringing the total from last years \$8,700 to \$6,900 for 2010.

The fourth item is the STOP-DWI program where the county receives approximately \$360,000 through fines that must be utilized through the program. The intent will be to continue the contract with all the private and public agencies. There will be no increase in funding for the program.

The fifth item is a transfer of \$136,900 from the Animal Shelter Trust Fund. This is the area where people have been donating toward the Animal Shelter and animals in Saratoga County. This will be used to help out the new Animal Shelter as well as to continue the spaying program for female cats until such time the new facility is up and running.

The sixth item is the authorization of general obligation bonds for the radio communications system. The towers and some of the infrastructure were bonded and this will be adding the actual system to that. A lease purchase system was offered from Motorola last year, and the county treasurer was asked to look at it and determine what would be the most cost-effective way. It was determined that by bonding it would save between \$20,000 to \$40,000.

Mr. Wickerham said last year there were homeland security grants for emergency services and for fire services that were approved. All money was not spent; therefore, this is the remainder of the two grants.

On a motion made by Mr. Thompson, seconded by Mrs. Wormuth the above resolutions were approved unanimously.

SOCIAL PROGRAMS

- **Authorizing the Chairman to accept \$441,013 in Workforce Investment Act funds for the Program Year 2010, authorizing funding applications and contracts and amending the budget in relation thereto.**
- **Authorizing Workforce Investment Board budget for program year 2010 for \$93,357 and authorizing the Chairman to enter into agreements with Warren and Washington Counties and other entities to fund WIB services.**
- **Authorizing the Chairman to enter into an agreement with J.J. Young for the Workforce Investment Board staffing services from July 1, 2010 through June 30, 2011 for a sum not to exceed \$93,357.**
- **Authorizing the Chairman to enter into a renewal agreement with Cornell Cooperative Extension to administer the 2010 Workforce Investment Act Youth Program at a cost not to exceed \$40,000 from July 1, 2010 through June 30, 2011.**
- **Authorizing the Chairman to enter into a renewal agreement with Saratoga Bridges to provide a Disability Navigator Program to Saratoga, Warren and Washington Counties for a sum not to exceed \$37,500.**

Mr. Wickerham said all the above resolutions deal with the county Employment and Training program, which is funded through the Workforce Investment Act fund. The program will receive approximately a 40% increase over last year for a total of \$771,000, and is tied into the overall employment rates throughout the country, as well as, in the county.

The second item deals with the WIB Board, where legislation requires that the Workforce Investment Program setup a separate budget for an oversight board that would not be controlled by any one county. The total grant for this program is \$93,357.

The third item is part of the Workforce Investment grant, and as part of that they hire their own Executive Director separate from any county. In the past there was a contract with Adirondack Community College. The college no longer wants to have a person on their payroll for this purpose; therefore, the group is now going to be contracting with J.J. Young, which is an employment agency who will provide the staffing. Part of the Federal Law requires that two vendors be solicited, and J.J. Young was the low vendor.

Mr. Wickerham said JTPA has a pass through program to fund a Youth Employment Program through Cornell Cooperative Extension. This would renew the contract with Cornell Cooperative Extension and allow the county to pass \$40,000 through them for the Youth Employment Program. The \$37,500 is for a Disability Navigator Program, which is designed to find employment for disabled individuals at not cost to the county.

On a motion made by Mr. Grattidge, seconded by Mr. Johnson the above resolutions were approved unanimously.

CHAIRMAN'S ITEM

- **Re-appointing Robert Hall, Beth Leibeck, Michael Miller to the Saratoga County Planning Board for a term to expire on May 31, 2015.**

LAW AND FINANCE

- **Authorizing blanket official undertaking for county officers required by law to execute and file official undertaking.**

Mr. Wickerham said this item is done as part of the Organizational Meeting. This year it will have to be done again, as the County has changed insurance carriers.

On a motion made by Ms. Daly, seconded by Mr. Grattidge the above resolution was approved unanimously.

- **Authorizing the appeal of the Supreme Court decision, which upheld APA regulations relative to shoreline restrictions within the APA including the Sacandaga Lake.**

Mr. Wickerham said the county was included in a lawsuit against the APA for their sweeping shoreline restrictions. Unfortunately, the lawsuit was not successful, as the Supreme Courts decision was that the APA had the authority and were not outside their authority to make the restrictions. The counties within the adirondacks intend to appeal the ruling and have asked Saratoga County to join them. The cost to the county would not exceed \$2,500.

On a motion made by Mr. Grattidge, seconded by Ms. Daly the above resolution was approved unanimously.

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

Respectfully submitted,
Chris Sansom