

Law and Finance Committee Minutes

July 14, 2010 – 4:00 p.m.

Present: Chairman Wood; Supervisors Daly, Grattidge, A. Johnson, Sausville, Thompson, Wormuth, Southworth, Collyer, Kinowski, Veitch, Wright, Rowland and Peck; David Wickerham, County Administrator; Ed Tremblay, Emergency Services; Kathy Marchione, County Clerk; Jason Kemper, Planning; Mark Rider, County Attorney; LoAnn Sanders, Deputy County Clerk; Bill Fruci, Elections; John F. Nolan, GOP Chairman; John Murray, Auditor; George Hodgson, Environmental Services; Alan Kempf, Janet Glenn, Public Health; Joseph Ritchey, Public Works; Jack Kalinkewicz, Personnel; Sam Pitcherelle, Treasurer; Spencer Hellwig, Mgmt. Analyst; Daniel Butler, Animal Shelter; Press.

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

On a motion made by Mr. Thompson, seconded by Mr. Johnson the minutes of the June 9, 2010 meeting were approved unanimously.

EQUALIZATION AND ASSESSMENT

- **Authorizing conveyance of an auction parcel in the Town of Stillwater to the second bidder in the amount of \$4,000.**
- **Authorizing the cancellation of taxes on an exempt parcel in the Town of Waterford in the amount of \$2.90.**
- **Waiving \$613.47 in penalties and interest on a parcel in the Town of Clifton Park.**

Mr. Wickerham said the first item is a conveyance to the second bidder, as the successful bidder decided to back out. The county will, however, keep the deposit that was made by the first bidder.

The second item is a parcel in the town of Waterford that belongs to the thruway authority. The assessor made an error; therefore, the taxes will need to be canceled.

The third item is a waiver of penalties and interest in the town of Clifton Park. The committee made a review and determined that the owner had not been given the information they needed and decided to waive all penalties and interest. The individual will be paying full tax of \$1,100 within twenty days of the approval of the resolution.

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

PERSONNEL & INSURANCE

- **Introducing a Local Law opting in to the New York State Retirement Incentive Program and setting August 11th as the date for the public hearing on the same.**

Mr. Wickerham said the Personnel committee has passed a resolution that would introduce a Local Law to have the county opt into the New York State Retirement Incentive Program. The Personnel Director, County Treasurer and the County Attorney made an extensive presentation at the Personnel Meeting. It seems probable that over a two-year period the savings to the county will be approximately \$300,000.

A motion was made by Mr. Johnson, seconded by Mr. Sausville to approve the above resolution unanimously.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

- **Amending the 2010 County Budget to appropriate \$170,761.30 in expenses and revenues to fund the MS4 Stormwater Management Program.**
- **Authorizing the Chairman to enter into an agreement with Fountains Spatial to provide enhancements to the Saratoga County Map Viewer GIS application at a cost of \$27,000.**
- **Authorizing the Chairman to enter into an amended agreement with HMA Contracting to perform an additional \$110,000 worth of work on the Zim Smith Trail.**

Mr. Wickerham said the county received a grant for the MS4 Stormwater Management Program through the auspices of Cooperative Extension where services have been provided to all the towns throughout the county for MS4 support. The county has received a total grant of approximately \$250,000, of which there is approximately \$170,761.30 remaining. This is money that will be received on a reimbursed basis. The grant is still good, and will need to be placed in the budget.

The second item is an agreement with Fountains Spatial, the company providing the map viewer on the county web page for GIS at a cost of \$27,000. This is a one-time cost with no increase to the annual maintenance costs in maintaining the database. The funds will be coming from a State Homeland Security Grant the county has already received.

The third item is stimulus funding that was received for the Zim Smith Trail that was to replace TIP funding, the 80/20 funding. Most of the project has been done under the stimulus program; however, there is still some additional money left. The TIP money is still available for our \$22,000, which is the county's share, however the full \$110,000 can be accessed to finish up the paving on the Zim Smith Trail.

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

PUBLIC HEALTH

- **Authorizing the Chairman to enter into an agreement with the NYS Department of Homeland Security to accept \$72,517 in Public Health Emergency Preparedness funding for the period of 8/10/2009 to 8/9/2011.**

Mr. Wickerham said these are grants that are already in the budget. The county expected to receive this money, but it has to be formally accepted.

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

BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS

- **Authorizing the Chairman to enter into amended contracts with Chip Kroneau, Morton Buildings, Inc., and CT Male to approve an additional \$160,757 in expenses for the Animal Shelter exceeding each vendor's 10% contingency cap.**
- **Authorizing a property easement to National Grid to allow for the installation of electrical supply line to a water pump house at the Saratoga County Fire Training Center.**

Mr. Wickerham said three Animal Shelter contracts had to be rearranged because of some work that was not done correctly. There will be no increase in the project costs.

The second item is with regard to a property easement to National Grid. The water pump house was serviced by diesel engine, and now they switching that over to electricity. In order to do that, National Grid has to bring the power out. When that is done, National Grid requires an easement, which will be provided at no cost to them.

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

PUBLIC WORKS

- **Accepting an 800-foot extension on County Road 46 in the Saratoga Springs Industrial Park.**
- **Amending the budget and the Capital Plan and authorizing the Chairman to commit to the rehabilitation of the Dix Bridge in the Town of Northumberland at a total cost not to exceed \$3,125,000 and accepting a Federal grant of \$2,450,000 to help underwrite the project.**

Mr. Wickerham said the first item is accepting an 800-ft extension on County Route 46 inside the Saratoga Springs Industrial Park. The park wants to extend the road in order to do more economic development. The road will be designed to the county's specifications.

The second item deals with the Dix Bridge in the town of Northumberland, which will be a footbridge only. The total cost for the project will be \$3,125,000. The county has already received a federal grant of \$2,450,000; therefore, the county share will be a maximum of \$675,000. The county is in pursuit of a number of grants that may be available.

Mr. Wickerham said there would be two resolutions; the first will be a resolution exactly as the state requires it to be, to show that we are committed to the project. The second resolution will be a budget resolution, where an amendment to the budget will be made to show the expenses. The county will be appropriating \$675,000 of the fund balance to the budget. This is a three year project, with the first year, engineering and the two remaining years for construction. Only a small portion of the fund balance will be used this year.

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

PUBLIC SAFETY

- **Authorizing the Chairman to enter into an amended contract with Miller, Mannix and Schachner to authorize an additional \$10,000 for legal expenses relative to the eminent domain proceeds for the Lake Luzerne radio tower site.**

Mr. Wickerham said the county has been in an eminent domain setting to get a spot for a tower in Lake Luzerne for the emergency radio system. This is the one where Lake Luzerne is actually doing the eminent domain, but the county is doing the actual purchase. There is an additional \$10,000 for legal expenses relative to the eminent domain proceedings.

Mr. Wood said Mrs. Wormuth and he met with Mr. Hill from Miller Mannix and were assured that the \$10,000 is a maximum that would be required to bring the situation to conclusion.

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

SUPERVISOR'S ITEM

- **Honoring the memory of Diane Wade former Commissioner of Elections.**

Mr. Wickerham said the former Commissioner of Elections has passed away. There will be resolution honoring her memory.

Ms. Raymond requested that she and any other Supervisors that would be interested have their name included on the resolution.

LAW AND FINANCE

- **Report from County Treasurer on Bond Sales**

Mr. Pitcherale distributed a handout outlining the recent activity of the Bond Anticipation Note and Serial Bonds, and gave a brief overview.

- **Appointing Roger Schiera as Commissioner of Elections effective July 15, 2010.**

Mr. Wickerham said a certification has been received from the Chairman of the County Republican Party, which is the way it is done according to State Law.

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

- **Authorizing the Chairman to enter into an agreement with WAM Commercial Associates, LLC to provide rental space for elections supplies and equipment at a monthly cost not to exceed \$5,320 for a period beginning June 1, 2010 to May 31, 2013 with an annual increase in 3%.**

Mr. Wickerham said elections has received many of the new voting machines, and the county has been working on storage for them. Three proposals were received for storage of all the machines, with the lowest bid from WAM Commercial Associates, LLC in Ballston Spa. The lease will be for \$5,320/mo. with a contract of June 1, 2010 to May 31, 2013.

Mr. Thompson asked why the landfill wasn't used for storage. Mr. Wickerham said the machines need to be in a conveniently located spot, and secondly, the county does anticipate ultimately to make use of the landfill.

Mr. Fruci said the new machines will not only require heat, but they need to be in a climate-controlled environment, i.e. air conditioning, and humidity control.

On a motion made by Mr. Grattidge, seconded by Mr. Johnson the above resolution was approved by the following votes: Ayes – Wood, Daly, Grattidge, A. Johnson, Sausville and Wormuth; Naye – Thompson.

- **Authorizing the Chairman to enter into a contract with NTS Data Services, Inc. for the printing and mailing of required voter registration materials at a cost not to exceed \$43,650 and amending the 2010 budget in relation thereto.**

Mr. Wickerham said there is a requirement for the printing of voter and registration materials. NTS Data Services will be doing the printing and the mailing for a total cost of \$43,650.

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

- **Amending Resolution #152 of 2009 to authorize the extension of the time period covering the approval of nine (9) part-time clerk's in the County Clerk's Office through December 31, 2010.**

Mr. Wickerham said the County Clerk has a public records grant for digitizing records. Typically the grant runs out in August. At this point an extension of the grant has been offered through the end of December 2010, allowing for all those digitizing records to continue. There will be no cost to the county.

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

- **Authorizing the Chairman to enter into an agreement with L-1 Identity Solutions, Inc. to conduct criminal background checks of prospective DMV employees as required by State regulations and authorizing the establishment of a \$500 escrow account to cover this periodic fee for each check.**

Mr. Wickerham said the County Clerk's office is required for DMV employees to do a criminal background check. They have been doing that using the Sheriff's auspices, but cannot continue to do that. There is a contract with L-1 Identity Solutions to provide the criminal background checks for all of the Maplewood Manor employees, and the County Clerk would be added to that. It is \$105 per employee to do a background check for new employees.

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

- **Authorizing the Chairman to enter into E-Z Pass On-The-Go retail sales agreement with the New York State Thruway Authority to allow the sale of these passes at the Saratoga County DMV Offices.**

Mr. Wickerham said this resolution would be to authorize the Chairman to enter into an E-Z pass On the Go retail sales agreement where the county would sell the passes in the same way they would be sold in other places.

Mrs. Marchione said the fee is between \$21 and \$25. This will give residents the ability to pick up their easy pass in Saratoga instead of having to go to Albany.

Ms. Daly asked if this applied to all DMV offices? Mrs. Marchione said E-Z pass would be available at all DMV offices.

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

A motion was made by Ms. Daly, seconded by Mr. Johnson to move into Executive Session for the purpose of Personnel. Unanimous.

A motion was made by Mrs. Wormuth seconded by Mr. Grattidge to return to Regular Session. Unanimous.

Mr. Wood said the search committee consisting of Chairman Peck, A. Johnson, Mrs. Wormuth, Mr. Wood, County Administrator David Wickerham and County Personnel Director, Jack Kalinkewicz interviewed four candidates for the position of Director of Probation. This is a process that has been ongoing since March. Interviews were held in April and June and ultimately as a result of the interview process John Adams has been selected.

A motion was made by Mr. Johnson, seconded by Ms. Daly to appoint John Adams as Director of the Saratoga County Probation Department effective August 18, 2010. Unanimous.

On a motion made by Mrs. Wormuth, seconded by Mr. Grattidge the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,
Chris Sansom