

Law and Finance Committee Minutes
October 10, 2012 – 4:00 p.m.

Present: Chairman Grattidge; Supervisors Daly, Rowland, Sausville, Veitch, Wormuth, Wright, Southworth, Collyer, Richardson, Wood, M. Johnson, Raymond, Peck, and Yepsen; Spencer Hellwig, Administrator; Ryan Moore, Mgmt. Analyst; Steve Dorsey, County Attorney; Sam Pitcherelle, D'Arcy Plummer, George Martin, Treasurer; Bill Davis, Chad Cooke, Sewer District; Jack Kalinkewicz, Personnel; Karen Levison, Public Health; Brian O'Connor, County Auditor; Keith Manz, Public Works; Hans Lehr, Mental Health; Tina Potter, Social Services; Joanne Bosley, Real Property; Jim Murphy, District Attorney; Barbara Thomas, League of Women Voters; Press.

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

On a motion made by Mr. Veitch, seconded by Mrs. Wormuth the minutes of the September 11, 2012 meeting were approved unanimously.

EQUALIZATION AND ASSESSMENT

- **Authorizing the conveyance of 11 parcels sold at the September Auction to successful bidders.**
- **Amending the policies and procedures manual of the Equalization and Assessment Committee to allow municipalities and not-for-profits to purchase foreclosed properties prior to the auction date and additional provisions in relation thereto.**

Mr. Hellwig said the first item is the conveyance of 11 parcels sold at the September auction with the county realizing just over \$142,000.

The second item is an amendment to the policies and procedures manual that was drafted by the County Attorney in conjunction with Committee Chair, Jean Raymond. This amendment will allow the towns to purchase foreclosed properties that will be used for municipal purposes without having to wait until the March or September auctions.

On a motion made by Mr. Rowland, seconded by Mr. Veitch the above resolutions were approved unanimously.

LEGISLATIVE AND RESEARCH

- **Urging New York State to ban the manufacture, distribution, sale and possession of dangerous synthetic drugs.**
- **Opposing Clean Water Act draft guidance proposed by the Environmental Protection Agency.**

Mr. Hellwig said the first item is being modeled after the one that was adopted by NYSAC at the fall seminar, calling for the State to outlaw bath salts.

The second item is a result of an issue raised at the September Board meeting by a representative of the NYS Farm Bureau opposing some language in the Clean Water Act. The NYS Farm Bureau is opposing the change because of the broadening of the scope of the regulation which would make every pool of water subject to the regulation which places an undue hardship on farms and municipalities governed under those regulations.

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

BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS

Authorizing the Chairman to enter into an agreement with McFarland-Johnson to provide services associated with the update of the existing Saratoga County Airport Master Plan at a cost of \$361,375.

Authorizing the Chairman to enter into a lease agreement with Saratoga Prime Properties, LLC for office space at 135 South Broadway, Saratoga Springs for a term of five years at \$28,151 per month plus taxes, water and sewer charges and all other maintenance costs with the base annual rent to increase by 3% every two years during any renewal period.

Mr. Hellwig said the first item is an update to the Saratoga County Airport Master Plan which was last updated in 2003. The Buildings and Grounds Committee has recommended that a contract with McFarland Johnson be authorized to complete the work updating this plan.

The second item is for authorization for the County to enter into a contract with Saratoga Prime Properties for office space for Saratoga County Mental Health and Alcohol Services. The lease with Saratoga Hospital will terminate effective May 31, 2013.

On a motion made by Mr. Rowland, seconded by Mr. Wright the above resolutions were approved unanimously.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Designating the Saratoga County Chamber of Commerce as the County TPA (Tourism Promotion Agency) and authorizing the Chamber to apply for "I Love New York" Grants for 2012-2013.

Mr. Hellwig said this resolution is designating the Saratoga County Chamber of Commerce as the County Tourism Promotion Agency, which will allow the Chamber to apply for "I Love New York" Grants for 2012-2013.

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

PUBLIC HEALTH

- **Adopting the Saratoga County Public Health Nursing Service Billing and Collection Policy.**
- **Authorizing a fee for the administration of immunization services provided by the Public Health Nursing Service and setting the fee at an amount equivalent to the New York State Vaccine for Children (VFC) Program administrative fee, plus reimbursement for the actual cost of the vaccine where applicable.**
- **Authorizing an amendment to the 2012 budget and contract with Transitional Services Association to accept additional funding from the Office of Mental Health (OMH) for 4 supported housing units effective 10/1/12.**

Mr. Hellwig said the first item is to accept the Saratoga County Public Health Nursing Service Billing and Collection Policy as there is no department policy which addresses all aspects of billing.

The second item is part of an ongoing effort from the State to reduce the cost associated with the provision of various health care services.

The third item is to accept and spend additional State Aid for supported housing units being provided by Transitional Services.

On a motion made by Mr. Veitch, seconded by Mr. Wright the above resolutions were approved unanimously.

PUBLIC SAFETY

- **Authorizing the Chairman to accept a \$25,000 Legislative Grant for the Domestic Violence Program and amending the budget in relation thereto.**
- **Authorizing the Chairman to accept an additional \$25,000 Legislative Grant for the Domestic Violence Program and amending the budget in relation thereto.**
- **Authorizing the Chairman to apply for and accept \$105,316 in Local Enhanced Wireless 911 funding from the NYS Department of State and amending the budget in relation thereto.**

- **Authorizing the Chairman to accept a \$56,000 Homeland Security Grant from the NYS Division of Homeland Security and amending the budget in relation thereto.**

Mr. Hellwig said the first two resolutions are to accept Legislative Grants from the District Attorney's Office to enhance the provision of Domestic Violence Services and to underwrite the expense of various equipment.

The third item is a Wireless 911 grant the Sheriff will be using to underwrite a variety of equipment purchases related to dispatching.

The final item is to accept a Homeland Security Grant that will be used to purchase equipment for a Homeland Security program that is run by the Sheriff.

On a motion made by Mr. Wright, seconded by Mr. Rowland the above resolutions were approved unanimously.

PERSONNEL AND INSURANCE

- **Authorizing the appointment of Tina Potter to the position of Commissioner of Social Services at Grade 22, Step 2, for a five year term effective October 26, 2012 and expiring October 25, 2017.**

Mr. Hellwig said a recommendation was made to appoint Tina Potter as the new Social Services Commissioner to fill the vacancy created by the retirement of Robert Christopher.

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

LAW AND FINANCE

- **Authorizing the Chairman to enter into agreements with Insituform Technologies, Inc. in the amount of \$713,577.50 for Phase IV of the Saratoga County Sewer District's interceptor relining/repair project in the Town of Ballston.**

Mr. Hellwig said the above item is to allow the Sewer District to enter into an agreement with Insituform Technologies to complete relining/repair work in the Town of Ballston.

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

- **Authorizing the Chairman to enter into an agreement with Avanti Control Systems, Inc. in the amount of \$459,900 for the replacement of six non-potable water pumps at the Saratoga County Sewer District's Wastewater Treatment Plant.**

Mr. Hellwig said the above item is a request to replace six non potable water pumps at the Saratoga County Sewer Wastewater Treatment Plant that have been in service for over thirty years.

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

- **Authorizing the inter-agency transfers necessary to close out the 2012 County budget.**

Mr. Hellwig said the above item is to allow interagency transfers to close out the 2012 budget and to move funds from departments that have a surplus to departments that have a deficit. At the end of the cycle a report of the transfers will be submitted to the Law and Finance Committee. He said last year there were 152 transfers done.

On a motion made by Mr. Rowland, seconded by Mr. Wright the above resolution was approved unanimously.

Mr. Grattidge said that all Supervisors have received the monthly budget report and should anyone have any questions they are to contact the Administrator's Office. He said it looks like we are on target, if not a little bit on the favorable side with both the revenues and expenditures.

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

Respectfully submitted,
Chris Sansom