

Law and Finance Committee Minutes
January 9, 2013 – 4:00 p.m.

Present: Supervisors Wormuth, Daly, Rowland, Wood, Veitch, Wright, Kinowski, Raymond, A. Johnson, Collyer, Southworth, Peck, and Lucia; Spencer Hellwig, Administrator; Ryan Moore, Mgmt. Analyst; Joanne Bosley, Real Property; Chad Cooke, Sewer District; Jason Kemper, Planning; Brian O’Conor, Auditor; George Martin, Treasurer; Keith Manz, Public Works; Steve Dorsey, County Attorney; Diane Brown, Maplewood Manor; Michael Hayes, MM Hayes; Barbara Thomas, League of Women Voters; Press.

Ms. Wormuth called the meeting to order and welcomed all in attendance.

Ms. Wormuth said the Chairman of the Law and Finance Committee is away and has sent an email to the Chairman of the Board and the Administrator asking if Mrs. Wormuth would be Vice Chairman of the Law and Finance Committee and, therefore, take over today’s meeting.

On a motion made by Mr. Wood, seconded by Mr. Veitch the minutes of the December 12, 2012 meeting were approved unanimously.

EQUALIZATION AND ASSESSMENT

- **Accepting conditional tender offers in the Town of Stillwater (\$9,051.51) and the Town of Providence (\$5,820.39)**
- **Accepting tender offers on three parcels in the Town of Clifton Park in the amounts of \$15,387.89, \$8,021.11 and \$7,116.58.**
- **Authorizing the County Auditor to approve tax corrections and refunds less than \$2,500.**

Mr. Hellwig said the first item is for two conditional tender offers; one, from the town of Stillwater and the other is in the town of Providence. In both cases the former property owners have applied for a reverse mortgage. The payment of the back taxes including penalties and interest is contingent upon the approval of the reverse mortgage. The County Attorney has indicated that they will be given sixty days from the day of the Board Meeting to make those payments. If the payments are not received within that time then the parcels will remain on the March 19th auction list.

The second item is for standard tender offers where the properties are all located in the town of Clifton Park on Plaid Road and Appleton Road. The amounts owed reflect back taxes and penalties for the years 2010, 2011 and 2012.

The final is for authorization for the County Auditor to approve tax refunds and corrections on an amount not to exceed \$2,500 in order to move things along more quickly.

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

BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS

- **Amending the 2013 budget to re-appropriate \$524,399 in expenses and revenues to complete the following projects: Airport Taxiway Lights and Apron Rehab. Design (\$37,546), Airport Master Plan Update (\$354,988) and Maplewood Manor Co Gen Decommission (\$131,865).**

Mr. Hellwig said the above item is for authorization to re- appropriate the funding to complete two airport projects, which were approved in 2012, and also funding to complete the decommissioning of the Co-Generation Facility at Maplewood Manor. The total for both the airport and Maplewood is \$524,399. In the case of the airport work, there is \$373,000 in federal revenue, so the county's share of \$392,000 for the airport piece is \$18,866. For the Maplewood work, the \$131,865 will be covered through an appropriation of the fund balance.

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

VETERANS

- **Requesting Home Rule Legislation to designate a portion of Routes 9P and 32 and Route 423 as the Saratoga County Veterans Memorial Highway.**

Mr. Hellwig said since 2009 the Board has attempted to designate the Saratoga County Veterans Memorial Highway leading up to the Battlefield from Saratoga Springs. The process has been delayed a number of times. Most recently, there were some last minute amendments last year in the Senate which were not processed in the Assembly. This resolution before you today is authorizing the county to submit the bill that both houses can use to designate the route from Exit 14 of the Northway to the Battleground as the Saratoga County Veterans Memorial Highway.

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

PUBLIC WORKS

- **Amending the 2013 budget to re-appropriate \$3,495,579 in expenses and revenues for engineering and construction costs for roads and bridges and professional service for**

the Local Solid Waste Management Plan (\$5,600) and the Landfill Privatization (\$16,400).

- **Authorizing the Chairman to execute a supplemental agreement with NYSDOT to accept additional funding for construction inspection services necessary for the replacement of CR7 (South Shore Road) Bridge over Stewart's Dam in the Town of Hadley.**

Mr. Hellwig said the first item is an authorization to re-appropriate \$3,495,579 for costs related to engineering and construction of various capital projects. Approximately \$3 million will be covered by State aid. The county's share of the total is \$307,655, which will come from the fund balance.

The second item is a supplemental agreement with the New York State Department of Transportation to accept additional grant funding and authorize some additional inspection work that is required as a part of the replacement of the South Shore Bridge over Stewart's Dam in the Town of Hadley. The county match of \$103,000 worth of work is approximately \$5,000 that was included in the budget this year.

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

PERSONNEL AND INSURANCE

- **Appointing Steven R. Bayle as Director of the Saratoga County Probation Department effective January 18, 2013.**

Mr. Hellwig said the Personnel Committee met earlier today to finalize the appointment of a new Probation Director to fill a vacancy that was created when John Adams left the position to take a job with the State Department of Criminal Justice Services. At this time, based on the information that the committee gathered together with the interviews that were conducted in November with the prospective candidates, it was recommended that Steven Bayle be appointed as the new Director of Probation effective January 18, 2013 at a base salary of \$76,139, grade 18.

Mr. Bayle thanked the Board of Supervisors for the opportunity and said he looks forward to working with Saratoga County and the Board of Supervisors.

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

PUBLIC HEALTH

- **Authorizing a renewal agreement with Christine Britton-Hare for Speech Pathologist services at a rate of \$45 per hour.**

Mr. Hellwig said the above item is a Speech Therapy contract with Christine Britton-Hare. This is a renewal agreement for her services at Maplewood Manor, which will continue at the same contract rate as the contract that just expired at \$45 per hour. Most of the work involves swallowing evaluations of residents whose abilities are impaired. The money is in the budget to cover the costs associated with these services.

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

CHAIRMAN'S ITEM

- **Appointing Donald McPherson to the County Planning Board to fill a vacancy.**

The above item is for the appointment of Donald McPherson to the County Planning Board to fill a vacancy previously occupied by Steven Porto from the Town of Wilton.

LAW AND FINANCE

- **Authorizing the Chairman to enter into an agreement with SCI Distribution for a fuel management system of the Saratoga County Sewer District at a cost of \$16,239.**

Mr. Hellwig said the above item is the Sewer District requesting authorization to enter into a contract with SCI Distribution LLC to replace the district's fuel management system at the treatment facility. SCI was the lowest of five bids to provide a wireless system, which will provide security and allow for the tracking of fuel consumption for all district vehicles.

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

- **Authorizing the settlement of all claims and demands of Rita Esposito against the Saratoga County Sewer District and Saratoga County resulting from a sewer backup into her premises on October 10, 2012 in an amount not to exceed \$24,000 contingent upon receipt of proper invoices documenting remediation costs and an executed release from Rita Esposito and amending the budget in relation thereto.**

Mr. Hellwig said the above item is for authorization for the Sewer District to reimburse a homeowner in Clifton Park for property damage in the home that was caused by a backup in the sewer main, which resulted in sewage entering the home. The Sewer Commission has passed a resolution at the December 19, 2012 meeting recommending a payment in an amount not to exceed \$24,000 for the damage. They are now taking preventive measures with the sewer main. Mr. Cooke said it was a grease plug in the line that caused the problem.

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

- **Appointing Wayne Howe to fill a vacancy on the Saratoga County Sewer Commission.**

Mr. Hellwig said the above is a request to approve the appointment of Wayne Howe from the Town of Milton to fill a seat that was vacated by the retirement of Rose Nelson that was a previous commissioner from the town of Milton.

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

- **Approving the issuance of tax exempt bonds by the Saratoga Capital Resource Corporation to Saratoga Hospital.**

Mr. Hellwig said the above item is a request from the Saratoga County Capital Resource Corporation for approval from the Board to issue up to \$25 million in tax exempt bonds to Saratoga Hospital which will be used to cover the costs associated with refunding of earlier issuances which will result in the hospital's overall debt service to be reduced as a result of refunding the bonds.

Ms. Daly said this is a similar practice to what is already done with IDA's. In order to move ahead with the issuance of the bonds it does require Board approval because the entity was setup by the Saratoga County Board of Supervisors. The project is for the purposes of refinancing some previous debt the hospital has incurred. The estimated savings, on a cash basis, is between \$250,000 and \$400,000. Overall through the life of the bond the hospital is looking to save between \$2 million and \$3 million. This underscores the needs that the Capital Resource Corporation is fulfilling for a Saratoga County Not for Profit, and the reason for engaging and developing the corporation and moving ahead. She said the purpose has begun to be served, and she is proud of the fact that they have moved ahead with the organization of the Corporation.

Mr. Collyer asked when the County would get the check. Ms. Daly said the check will go to the Capital Resource Corporation and their Board of Directors. She said a subcommittee has been setup to begin to look at what opportunities can be engaged in with the proceeds of the fees that will be received. Ms. Daly said once the funds close on or before January 31st, it is anticipated that approximately \$131,000 will be generated in revenue.

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

- **Authorizing the Chairman to enter into a five year agreement with MM Hayes Co., Inc. for timecard and attendance hardware/software at a total cost of \$257,720 for years 1-3 and \$67,200 for years 4-5.**

Mr. Hellwig said the Technology Committee has completed their review of various proposals for the Time and Attendance System which will replace the punch clock card system which is currently used throughout the county, except for Maplewood Manor who already has an automated system in place. Based on the committees review, and the work of the Technology Subcommittee consisting of Mr. Johnson, Mr. Grattidge, Mr. Veitch, Mr. Kalinkewicz and Mr. O'Connor, a contract award has been recommended to MM Hayes Company to provide the necessary equipment and related services for five years. The funding for the first year of the contract is available within the 2013 budget.

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

- **Setting a Public Hearing on the proposed amendments of Saratoga County Consolidated Agricultural District #2 for February 13, 2012 at 4:55 p.m.**

Mr. Hellwig said the above item is for authorization to set a public hearing for consideration to amend the Saratoga County Consolidated Agricultural District #2 to allow for the inclusion of three additional parcels in the town of Malta.

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

- **Authorizing the disposition of real estate and certain equipment known as Maplewood Manor to the Maplewood Manor Local Development Corporation and authorizing the Corporation to issue tax exempt bonds.**

Mr. Hellwig said the above item will authorize the LDC to move forward with the sale of Maplewood Manor to a qualified private sector operator and at the same time allow the county to continue to operate the facility until a sale is finalized and the licensing is approved by the State of New York. The resolution will also require that county employees that are currently working at the facility will remain employees of the county until such time that the new owner obtains the necessary operating license from the Department of Health. Mr. Hellwig said there is a public hearing to be held today at 5:15p.m for public input.

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

On a motion made by Mr. Wright, seconded by Mr. Rowland the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Chris Sansom