

Law and Finance Committee Minutes  
April 10, 2013 – 4:00 p.m.

Present: Chairman Sausville; Supervisors Daly, Rowland, Veitch, Wright, Kinowski, Raymond, Collyer, Lewza, A. Johnson, Yepsen, Jenkins, and Grattidge; Spencer Hellwig, Administrator; Ryan Moore, Mgmt. Analyst; Paul Lent, Ed Tremblay, Emergency Services; Steve Dorsey, County Attorney; Wes Carr, Youth Bureau; Sam Pitcheralle, George Martin, Treasurer; Brian O’Conor, Auditor; Chris Aldrich, Joanne Bosley, Real Property; Chad Cooke, Sewer District; Karen Levison, Public Health; Peter Bardunias, Southern Saratoga Chamber; Lisa Scaccia, Employment and Training; Keith Manz, Public Works; Dominic Gallo, Cool Insuring; Press.

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

**On a motion made by Mr. Wright, seconded by Ms. Daly the minutes of the March 13, 2013 meeting were approved unanimously.**

**EQUALIZATION AND ASSESSMENT**

- **Accepting tender offers on parcels in the Towns of Clifton Park (18,790.60) and Stillwater (\$6,351.10).**
- **Authorizing the conveyance of 31 parcels sold at the March Auction to successful bidders.**

Mr. Hellwig said the county has received payments for parcels in the Town of Clifton Park and in the Village of Stillwater. The payments reflect back taxes from 2010 to 2012 including penalties and interest. There was a special meeting today that was held by the E&A committee where two other tender payments from Clifton Park are also included. In total the offers are \$25,141.70.

The second item is to authorize the conveyance of the 31 parcels that sold at the March Auction. These parcels will be conveyed to the successful bidders. The county realized a net gain of \$219,371 over the taxes that were owed.

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

**PERSONNEL AND INSURANCE**

- **Authorizing County insurance coverage through May 8, 2014 at a cost of \$917,543 and amending the budget in relation thereto.**

Mr. Hellwig said the County's personnel and liability insurance will expire on May 8<sup>th</sup>. The broker, Cool Insuring, did shop around for competitive proposals for this years' renewal and after being told by the requesting carriers that some of the coverage premiums would either be increased or cancelled after receiving quotes from three separate carriers including Trident, Travelers and NYMIR, the personnel committee selected NYMIR who had the lowest increase over the expiring coverage which was 10% higher than the premium that was paid for those policies. In both cases, most of the increases were tied to the medical professional coverage in an approximate amount of \$90,000. These increases are primarily with Maplewood Nursing Home. The recommendation is to authorize the renewal with NYMIR at a cost of \$917,543.

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

### **ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**

- **Authorizing the Chairman to enter into an agreement with the Chamber of Southern Saratoga County (CSSC) to draft and implement a Community Development Plan to promote tourism and other economic benefits at a cost not to exceed \$20,000.**

Mr. Hellwig said the Economic Development committee has adopted a resolution to authorize the Chairman to enter into an agreement with the Southern Saratoga Chamber to promote tourism and other economic benefits at a cost not to exceed \$20,000. In this particular instance, the Southern Chamber will be drafting a community development plan and working with the county and other groups within the county to promote tourism and other community initiatives.

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

### **RACING**

- **Supporting legislation (S.4173/A.5995) requiring full casinos to be located at existing VLT racetracks and requiring such casinos to make appropriate support payments for education, purse enhancements, breeding funds, racing operation/capital expenditures and host communities.**

Mr. Hellwig said the above resolution is supporting State legislation that would require the citing of any full casino gambling to be done in an existing racetrack with VLT lottery terminals. In addition, the resolution would ask for the continued support for education, purse enhancements, breeding funds and other things to support racing operations, as well as capital expenditures and host benefits.

Mr. Hellwig said the Racing Committee passed a resolution, in November, supporting a similar initiative. It was also included in the legislative agenda that was adopted by the Board and

shared with State Representatives in March. Now that the bills are numbered and underway with the State Legislature, this resolution is re-emphasizing the importance to Saratoga County and to future gambling within the county.

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

### **PUBLIC HEALTH**

- **Authorizing the Chairman to enter into an amended agreement with Procura, LLC to provide training services at an additional cost not to exceed \$525.**

Mr. Hellwig said the above amendment is necessary to add training services to Public Health's contract with Procura, LLC a billing software company which is web based billing services that the department uses. The additional cost represents \$175/hr. in training for the fiscal manager to complete a course which is necessary for the department to create the reports necessary to provide to the State of New York. There are currently funds within the budget for those costs.

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

### **PUBLIC SAFETY**

- **Proclaiming April 21 – April 27, 2013 National Crime Victims' Rights Week**
- **Authorizing the Chairman and the Sheriff to enter into a contract for additional police services for the Village of Corinth.**
- **Authorizing participation in the 2013 STOP-DWI Program and authorizing Contracts with local agency participants.**
- **Authorizing the Chairman to accept an \$85,222 State Homeland Security Grant to fund various administrative training, hazard analysis and planning activities in the Emergency Services Department.**
- **Amending the 2013 budget to appropriate an additional \$10,693 in Homeland Security Funding for the purchase of a computer workstation and aerial digital imagery and data services.**
- **Authorizing a Memorandum of Understanding with Rensselaer County to capture \$2,300 in State funding for reimbursing Saratoga County for overtime and equipment costs associated with participation in a hazmat training exercise.**

Mr. Hellwig said there are a number of activities planned for National Crime Victims' Rights Week that can be reviewed on the District Attorney's website. The resolution reiterates the Board's commitment to enforce victims' rights and address the needs during this week and throughout the year.

The second request is to authorize a renewal agreement with the Village of Corinth for the Sheriff to continue to provide law enforcement services. The services are provided at a level above what is typically provided by the regular county patrol. The \$298,000 amount that is being charged is consistent with other similar agreements that the Sheriff has with other towns in the county and is unchanged from last year's amount due to the fact that the collective bargaining agreement is still being negotiated.

The third item is the Board's annual approval that is required by the State to authorize participation in the STOP-DWI program which uses DWI defined monies to fund activities that include law enforcement, substance abuse treatment, education and other prevention services. The approved grant total for this year of \$337,533 has been approved by the State.

The fourth item will be a resolution to amend the budget to accept \$85,220 in State Homeland Security funding that will be used by Emergency Services to offset various administrative expenses including training exercises, hazardous analysis, and planning.

The fifth item is a budget amendment to the 2013 budget. Last month there was a resolution to re-appropriate \$564,955 in Homeland Security Funding for various equipment and training supplies and other eligible emergency services costs. There were some additional grant funds that were left out of that resolution, so the Emergency Services Department is requesting authorization to amend the budget to add an additional \$10,693 in expenses and revenues for these items which will be used to purchase a work station for the Planning Department and some additional services of aerial, digital imagery and data services that were provided by a vendor, Pictometry, to conduct that work.

The final item is for authorization of a Memorandum of Understanding with Rensselaer County. They applied for and received funding for the costs associated with a multi-county Hazmat Training exercise. Each of the participating counties including, Rensselaer, Saratoga, Schenectady and Albany are eligible to receive funding under this grant. In the case of Saratoga County we will be using approximately \$2,300 in grant funds to cover the overtime and equipment costs that will be associated with the City of Saratoga Springs bringing the Hazmat vehicle and paid firefighters to the training exercise that will be held in Watervliet.

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

### **SOCIAL PROGRAMS**

- **Proclaiming May 2013 as "Older Americans Month" in the County of Saratoga**

- **Amending Resolution 136-2012 to authorize an additional \$10,000 in Community Services for the Elderly funding to be provided through an amended agreement with the Town of Clifton Park to offset the purchase of a senior transportation bus.**
- **Authorizing the Chairman to enter into an agreement with the New York State Department of Health to establish an escrow agreement to manage payments for Early Intervention Services by a state assigned fiscal agent.**
- **Authorizing the Chairman to enter into an agreement with the Research Foundation for Mental Hygiene, Inc. to provide employment services and supports under the “Ticket to Work” program for individuals receiving Social Security Disability Insurance (SSDI) and/or Supplemental Security Income (SSI).**

Mr. Hellwig said the first item is proclaiming May 2013 as “Older Americans Month” honoring older adults and the professionals, family members and volunteers that care for them. The annual Senior luncheon will be held on May 31<sup>st</sup> at the City Center in Saratoga Springs.

The second item is a request from the Office for the Aging to spend an additional \$10,000 in Community Services for the Elderly money. Initially, they agreed to provide \$20,000 in funding to the Town of Clifton Park for a Senior Transportation Bus. There was an additional \$10,000 in State funding available; therefore, a request has been made to authorize an amendment to the original resolution to increase the funds up to \$30,000.

Mr. Hellwig said as part of the State’s administrative takeover of the Early Intervention Program, they are currently in the process of contracting with a fiscal agent that will be responsible for paying the providers for all the Early Intervention claims from April 1<sup>st</sup> and beyond. The county will no longer be directly dealing with the various providers under the program, as the State is taking that over. As part of the process, and the State’s management of those payments, the county is now required under the new system to enter into an escrow agreement with the State Department of Health to ensure that the appropriate funding is available to the fiscal agent that will be controlled by the State of New York as the funding to pay for the claims. This resolution will authorize the agreement with the State.

The final item is for authorization to enter into an agreement with the Department of Labor and the Office of Mental Health to receive reimbursement for enrolling people with disabilities who receive Social Security and Disability Insurance as a supplemental security income into the “Ticket to Work” Program. The County Employment and Training Administration provides services to this population and this contract will allow the county and the Employment and Training Department to receive revenue that is tied to serving this population.

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

## **PUBLIC WORKS**

- **Setting May 15, 2013 at 5:15PM in the County Board Room as the date, time and place for a public hearing pursuant to Section 120W of the General Municipal Law regarding the potential privatization of the County Landfill.**
- **Authorizing the Chairman to enter into an amended agreement with Mark Schachner to provide legal services related to the privatization of the County Landfill at a rate of \$190 per hour, at a total cost not to exceed \$25,000 and amending the 2013 budget in relation thereto.**
- **Amending the 2013-2017 Saratoga County Capital Plan due to increased CHIPS funding, increasing 2013 County road improvements from 15.52 miles to 17.42 miles, and amending the 2013 budget to appropriate \$387,088 in additional expenses and revenues.**

Mr. Hellwig said the first item is scheduling a public hearing which will be held immediately following the May Agenda meeting in the Board Room. It will be for the purpose of taking public comments on the three proposals that were received and reviewed by the landfill subcommittee. Final proposals for the privatization of the Saratoga County Landfill were received from three separate vendors which included Casella Waste Systems, Waste Connections, Inc. and Finch Paper, LLC. Pursuant to section 120W of the General Municipal Law, there will be a summary report of how the three proposals will be prepared for the Board of Supervisors and released publicly. A week in advance of the hearing the board will take public comments on the report before taking further action on privatizing the facility. A final decision by the county is anticipated sometime in June.

Mr. Hellwig said last December, the landfill subcommittee made a recommendation for the Board to approve a contract with Mark Schachner of Miller, Mannix and Schachner to serve as special counsel relative to the privatization of the County Landfill. At this point, due to a higher volume of work than anticipated and tasks including SEQRA and the 120W process, Mr. Schachner's work has reached approximately \$9,500 and it is currently anticipated that there may be as much as another \$15,000 to \$16,000 required. This resolution will authorize payment up to \$25,000 to cover those additional costs and will require a budget amendment.

The final item is an amendment to the budget. The adopted State budget does contain an increase in consolidated highway improvement program funding. Saratoga County will see an additional \$387,088 in funding which is approximately a 17% increase over what was budgeted for this year. The Public Works Department will be using these funds to provide work on two additional sections, the first being County Rt. 13, Fayville Road, in the town of Providence and County Rt. 94, Guideboard Road, which is in the southern part of Saratoga County, which will add an additional 1.9 miles to this year's road improvement schedule.

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

#### **LAW AND FINANCE**

- **Amending the budget to establish a Capital Fund of \$18,500,000 for the Saratoga County Sewer District's upgrade of Saratoga Lake sewer lines and construction of a new sewer line in the Town of Halfmoon.**

Mr. Hellwig said the above item is to establish a Capital Fund which will include an amendment to the budget in the amount of \$18,500,000 in expenses and revenues. Up to now the Sewer District has been using a separate capital fund to handle some of the initial expenses in this project. A step is now being taken to establish a separate Capital Fund to deal with the construction and engineering and various costs associated with upgrade to the system around Saratoga Lake as well as a new line into the town of Halfmoon.

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

- **Ratifying an emergency condition and authorizing the Executive Director of the Saratoga County Sewer District to procure those goods and services necessary to repair a deteriorated portion of sewer force main in the Town of Milton at a cost not to exceed \$500,000 and amending the budget in relation thereto.**

Mr. Hellwig said on March 27<sup>th</sup> the Sewer Commission passed a resolution declaring an emergency condition as a result of a 36 year old forced main that broke in the Town of Milton. As a result, a number of emergency repairs are needed, which would need to be ratified by the Board. The Sewer Commission has authorized that the Executive Director can make the necessary repairs. Most of the work will be done through the contractor that is currently on site doing capital work under another agreement; however, the contract will need to be amended with the vendor at an estimated total cost not to exceed \$500,000.

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

- **Authorizing the Chairman to enter into an agreement with Environmental Design Partnership for engineering services for the Saratoga County Sewer District's Milton Pump Station upgrade project at a cost not to exceed \$83,350.**

Mr. Hellwig said the authorization to enter into an agreement with Environmental Design Partnership will be for engineering services needed to replace pumps, electrical systems and a new septic receiving system in the Town of Milton Pump Station. ADP was the low bidder out of seven proposals and the contract will be in an amount not to exceed \$83,350, which is included in the Capital budget for 2013.

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

**On a motion made by Mr. Wright, seconded by Mr. Veitch the meeting was adjourned unanimously.**

Respectfully submitted,  
Chris Sansom