

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

Present: Chairman Sausville; Supervisors Daly, Rowland, Wood, Veitch, Wormuth, Wright, Peck, Barrett, Kinowski, Collyer, A. Johnson; Grattidge, Lucia, Raymond, and M. Johnson; Spencer Hellwig, Administrator; Felipe Moon, Veterans Director; Susan Hayes-Masa, Coroner; Lisa Scaccia, Employment & Training; Tina Potter, Social Services; Steven Bayle, Probation; Jack Kalinkewicz, Personnel; John Warmt, Maplewood Manor; William Benosky, Public Works; Karen Levison, Public Health; Steven Dorsey, County Attorney; Paul Lent, Emergency Services; Sam Pitcherelle, Treasurer; Ryan Moore, Mgmt. Analyst; Press.

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

On a motion made by Mr. Wood, seconded by Mr. Rowland the minutes of the September 11, 2013 meeting were approved unanimously.

PERSONNEL

- **Authorizing the appointment of John Warmt to the position of Director of Purchasing at a Grade 16 base salary of \$66,631.**
- **Authorizing the Chairman to enter into an agreement with United Health Care to provide a full range of healthcare benefits under their Medicare Advantage Plan for all Medicare eligible retirees accessing coverage under the county's health insurance contracts.**

Mr. Hellwig said the first item is the recommendation of the appointment of John Warmt to the position of Director of Purchasing that was created when Kathy Schrome retired at the end of June. Mr. Warmt has been employed at Maplewood Manor for the past twenty three years as a support supervisor and has had the responsibility of managing several operations which include, ordering and activities as well as other tasks that will be similar to those that he will be responsible for in this new position.

The second item is for approval of a contract with United Healthcare which will provide coverage under the Medicare Advantage Plan. This is an alternative to the health insurance policies that are currently available to our retirees that are 65 years and older and Medicare eligible. Under this shift, the existing PPO and POS policies that are currently offered by Empire Blue Cross Blue Shield will be replaced by this Medicare Advantage Plan. According to the consultants, Marshall and Sterling, both policies will continue to provide coverage that is substantially similar to that which we receive under the Empire plan. In addition to this, this alternative is expected to reduce the costs to the county in terms of the premium costs by over \$1.4 million per year. Those policies will go into effect on January 1, 2014.

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

BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS

- **Authorizing the Chairman to enter into an agreement with DPI Mechanical Services of Waterford, NY for the replacement of a steam boiler in the main county complex and amending the 2013 budget in relation thereto.**

Mr. Hellwig said the above item is authorizing the Chairman to enter into an agreement with DPI Mechanical Services of Waterford, which is for the replacement of a boiler that was installed in 1997 that provides heat for all the buildings in the main complex. The boiler has been inspected by four separate contractors and all of them have indicated that the existing leaks will present a real expectation that a failure is imminent. Mr. Hellwig said, rather than wait until we get into an emergency situation where we will be spending twice as much money to get the work done; the committee is supporting the replacement of the boiler at this time, at a cost of \$55,000. This money will be transferred from the Contingency Account to cover the replacement costs.

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

EQUALIZATION AND ASSESSMENT

- **Authorizing the conveyance of tax acquired land to the Town of Stillwater for the sum of \$4,085.51.**
- **Authorizing the acceptance of a tender offer in the Town of Day for \$1,020.64.**
- **Authorizing the conveyance of 10 parcels sold at the September auction to successful bidders.**

Mr. Hellwig said the first item is the conveyance of a tax parcel for the town of Stillwater that will be for the town to use as a part of the expansion and enhancement of their public multi-use trail. This sale to the town is consistent with the county's policy to allow municipalities to take ownership of tax foreclosed properties when the property is going to be used for a municipal purpose. The Town Supervisor, Kinowski stated that the former owner has not expressed an interest in reclaiming this property.

The second item is the acceptance and approval of a tender offer in the Town of Day for a total of \$1,020.64, which will cover the delinquent taxes, penalties and interest for tax years 2010 through 2013.

The final item is for authorization for the conveyance of ten parcels that were sold at the September property auction. These parcels will be conveyed to the successful bidders. Mr. Hellwig said the county realized a net profit of just over \$28,000 as a result of the auction proceeds.

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

VETERANS

- **Authorizing the Chairman to enter into an agreement with Galileo Media Arts of Saratoga Springs, NY for the production of promotional video and radio advertisements for the Saratoga County Veterans Peer-to-Peer Program at a total cost not to exceed \$24,350.**

Mr. Hellwig said the above resolution is for authorization to enter into a contract to cover the costs associated with the production of one, three minute video and one, thirty second radio spot to provide the Peer-to-Peer Mentoring Program. The goal is to attract additional Veterans to the program. The vendor that was selected to produce the video will be creating the video and managing the process that leads up to the broadcast on network television.

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

PUBLIC HEALTH

- **Authorizing the Chairman to enter into an agreement with the NYS Department of Health for the Immunization Action Plan (IAP) for the period of April 1, 2013 through March 31, 2018.**
- **Amending the Policies and Procedures Manual of the Public Health Nursing Service to include requirements pertaining to yearly influenza vaccinations for personnel.**

Mr. Hellwig said the first item authorizes a new five year agreement with the NYS Department of Health for the Public Health Nursing Services Immunization Program. The State has already approved the year one budget and work plan for the program.

The second item is an amendment to the Public Health Nursing Service Policy and Procedure Manual to include procedures that ensure all personnel that have contact with patients during the flu season receive a flu shot prior to November 1, 2013, unless they receive a medical or religious exemption or decline for personal reasons. In addition, they will be required to wear a surgical mask when they are interacting with patients.

On a motion made by Mr. Veitch, seconded by Ms. Raymond the above items were approved unanimously.

PUBLIC SAFETY

- **Authorizing the Chairman to enter into a 2-year renewal agreement with RS Telecom, Inc. to perform repair and maintenance work on the public safety radio system at a cost of \$36,000 annually, plus \$3,500 for each additional site and \$90/hour for non-scope work.**
- **Amending Resolution 160-10 to authorize the addition of up to three microwave radio sites to the radio system maintenance schedule at a cost of \$4,000 per site per year, as listed in bid specification 10-ESMSM-1, retroactive to October 1, 2011.**
- **Authorizing acceptance of a New York State Supervision and Treatment Services for Juveniles Program (STSJP) grant, authorizing provider contracts through December 31, 2014, and amending the budget in relation thereto.**
- **Authorizing the Chairman to enter into an agreement with Saratoga Hospital for use of the morgue and examination room to perform autopsies at a cost not to exceed \$25,000 annually effective January 1, 2012.**

Mr. Hellwig said the first item is for authorization to enter into a renewal agreement with RS Telecom, Inc. for preventative maintenance and repair services for the public safety microwave radio system. They were the only bid for this service at \$36,000, which is \$6,000 less than the expiring contract. This agreement will be for two years with an option for a one year renewal.

The second resolution is authorizing the amendment of resolution 160-10, which was the original authorizing resolution for the maintenance of the microwave radio system. The amendment will provide for the maintenance of three additional sites which were not included in the original amendment that authorized the agreement.

The third item is from the Probation Department requesting authorization to accept State aid and to amend the 2013 budget to fund a Supervision and Treatment Services for Juveniles Program, which will provide an alternative to secured detention. By keeping Juveniles out of the secured environment there are substantial savings to the costs that are associated with the contracts that the county will have with Berkshire Farms, KMG Monitoring and Captain, in comparison to having these individuals placed in a facility.

The final item is a request by the Coroner for approval of a contract with Saratoga Hospital for the use of the Morgue to perform autopsies by a pathologist, Jack Paston. Historically, the facility, which is billed on a per autopsy basis, has been covered by a minor contract. Based on the annual charges from 2012 and the projected charges for 2013 a regular contract is necessary to cover the charges from both budget years.

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

SOCIAL PROGRAMS

- **Amending the 2013 budget to appropriate \$84,000 in expenses and revenues related to a U.S. Department of Labor Workforce Innovation Grant.**

Mr. Hellwig said, the above item is for a budget amendment to appropriate \$84,000 in expenses and revenues which will be received through Federal Aid under the Workforce Innovation Grant. The grant is setup to assist under employed or unemployed county residents to obtain careers in science, technology, engineering and math.

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

LAW AND FINANCE

- **Authorizing the inter-agency transfers necessary to close out the 2013 County budget.**

Mr. Hellwig said the above item is to authorize inter-agency transfers to close out the 2013 budget. This will allow the Administrator to move funds from departments where there is a surplus to departments where there is an operating deficit. The procedure has been that the transfers are made until the budget is closed out. He said upon completion of the final report, a copy will be given to all Law and Finance Committee members.

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

- **Approving the issuance of tax-exempt revenue bonds by the Saratoga County Capital Resource Corporation in the aggregate principal amount not to exceed \$35,644,000 to finance a project to be undertaken at the request of Saratoga Hospital.**

Mr. Hellwig said the Saratoga County Capital Resource Corporation is requesting approval from the Board to issue up to \$35,644,000 in tax exempt bonds to Saratoga Hospital which will be used to cover the costs that are associated with the construction of a new three story addition.

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

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

Respectfully submitted,
Chris Sansom