

LAW AND FINANCE COMMITTEE MINUTES

AUGUST 9, 2006 – 4:30 P.M.

Present: Chairman Barrett; Supervisors DeCerce, A. Johnson, Peck, Wood, Callanan, Gutheil, Raymond, Daly, Trottier, Richardson, and Lucia; David Wickerham, County Administrator; Ed Tremblay, Emergency Services; Michael Valentine, Planning; Blue Neils, Cornell Cooperative Extension; Sandi Cross, Office for the Aging; Barbara Murphy, Barbara Thomas, League of Women Voters; Jack Murray, County Auditor; Sam Pitcherelle, Treasurer; Joe Ritchey, Public Works; Wes Carr, Youth Bureau/Water Coordinator; Press.

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

On a motion made by Mr. Wood, seconded by Mr. Peck the minutes of the July 12, 2006 meeting were approved unanimously.

EQUALIZATION AND ASSESSMENT

On a motion made by Mr. DeCerce, seconded by Mr. Johnson the following were approved unanimously.

- **Amending the 2006 budget to increase expenses and revenues by \$105,000 to cover the rise in fuel expenses.**
- **Amending the 2006 Capital Plan and budget to increase the Airport Capital work expenses and revenues by \$237,324 for a total project cost of \$941,074.**
- **Amending Resolution #136-06 to increase a FAA Avigation Grant from \$625,000 to \$894,021, for the purpose of acquiring additional easements adjacent to airport runways.**

Mr. Wickerham said the first item is an amendment dealing with the rise in the cost of fuel prices. Fuel is bought in bulk and then sold back to individual departments in the county, adding costs to some departments that use county vehicles. Other avenues will be explored to absorb those additional costs with no budget impact.

Mr. Wickerham said that earlier this year a resolution was passed authorizing the taking of avigation easements near the county airport. This is part of the process through the FAA. After the appraisal the price was above the estimates of the project, therefore, the FAA will provide the additional funds needed. Due to that higher amount that is being paid the county share will increase to approximately \$6,000, he said.

PUBLIC WORKS

On a motion made by Mr. Johnson, seconded by Mr. Peck the following was approved unanimously.

- **Authorizing the Chairman to enter into an amended contract with M.J. Engineering and Land Surveying for \$238,420 in additional tasks involved in the design of the Round Lake Bypass and amending the budget in relation thereto.**

Mr. Wickerham said the Round Lake By-pass was taken over by the county from the State because of the funding streams. The County is at a point now where they are almost ready to turn the project back over to the State. Senator Bruno's office has committed to funding the additional costs required to support additional engineering of the project in the amount of \$238,420. An amendment to the county budget will be required to accept the additional revenue from the State for the additional expenses to M.J. Engineering. It is the County's goal to have the project turned over to the State by December, he said.

SOCIAL PROGRAMS

On a motion made by Mr. DeCerce, seconded by Mr. Wood the following were approved unanimously.

- **Accepting a \$743 donation from St. Mary's Church, Crescent to purchase discovery box items for the RSVP Discovery Box Program and amending the 2006 budget.**
- **Authorizing the Chairman to accept an additional \$641 in RSVP funding to cover mandatory staff training and amending the budget in relation thereto.**

Mr. Wickerham said the first item is a donation that was received from St. Mary's Church for the Discovery Box Program, which is an intergenerational program that is administered through the Office for the Aging.

The second item is additional funding received to cover mandatory staff training for the RSVP program. The training will occur in Washington D.C. and the Federal Government will pay for the entire course.

WATER COMMITTEE

On a motion made by Mr. DeCerce, seconded by Mr. Johnson the following were approved unanimously.

- **Accepting the finding in the Final Environmental Impact Statement for the County Water Project.**

- **Authorizing Malcolm-Pirnie to proceed on the next phase of the Water project including preparation and evaluation of bid documents. The cost of this phase will not exceed \$109,808.**
- **Authorizing the Chairman to take easements for the Water project.**

Mr. Wickerham said the above items will be tabled at the Board Meeting on August 15, 2006, to a Special Board meeting that will be designated by the Chairman.

The first item is to accept the findings in the Final Environmental Impact Statement for the County Water Project. The Water Committee has approved the FEIS.

Affirmative actions will need to be taken on the project as follows: The actual bid preparation, going out to bid, evaluating the bid, and awarding the bid. This phase of the contract will cost \$109,808.

The County Attorney has prepared the easements for the Water project. Letters have been sent out, and the County will now be responsible for making the necessary payments for the easements.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

On a motion made by Mr. Peck, seconded by Mr. Wood the following were approved unanimously.

- **Authorizing the Chairman to enter into necessary agreements for the acceptance of a State Snowmobile Trail Fund Grant in the amount of \$89,010.**
- **Authorizing the Chairman to accept \$248,000 in State Aid for the MS4 Stormwater Management Project and amending the budget in relation thereto.**
- **Authorizing the Chair to apply for and accept "I Love New York" tourism funds in an amount not to exceed \$238,850 and designating the Saratoga County Chamber of Commerce as our Tourism Promotion Agent.**

Mr. Wickerham said the State Snowmobile Trail Fund Grant has been an annual resolution for the past five years. These funds are based on the number of snowmobile registrations within Saratoga County, and also on the number of roads that are actually groomed.

The second item is with regard to the MS4 project, which the county has taken the lead in for the towns. There is a grant available in the amount of \$248,000 for a number of different projects within the MS4. Cooperative Extension will be managing the project. The county will accept the State Aid and then pass it through to Cooperative Extension.

Mr. Wickerham said the Saratoga County Chamber of Commerce has been the Tourism Promotion Agent for Saratoga County and has been the one to apply for the funds in the past. The County is applying for \$238,850, which is the amount available for the entire Saratoga region, with expectations of receiving approximately \$65,000 for the program.

PUBLIC SAFETY

On a motion made by Mr. Johnson, seconded by Mr. Peck the following were approved unanimously.

- **Authorizing the Chairman to enter into agreements with NYS to accept a \$97,200 Homeland Security Grant.**
- **Authorizing the Chairman to enter into agreements with Verizon to provide Wireless 911 service and equipment at a cost not to exceed \$853,000.**
- **Authorizing the Chairman to enter into an agreement with Interact to provide services and equipment for Computer Aid Dispatch (CAD) as part of the Wireless 911 Emergency Dispatch Project at a cost not to exceed \$590,670.**
- **Amending Resolution #83-06 to correct contract pricing sheet used to calculate total contract cost for the Patriot Towers inspection work on County Radio Towers.**

Mr. Wickerham said the first item is authorizing the acceptance of a Homeland Security Grant in the amount of \$97,200. This will be used mainly through the fire services and hazardous material response services for radiological metering equipment, to help first responders deal with any potential emergency or terrorist acts.

The second and third items deal with the wireless 911 system. All contracts are in line with \$853,000 to go to Verizon and \$590,670 to be used for equipment and services for the Computer Aid Dispatch.

SUPERVISOR'S ITEM

- **Honoring the memory of former supervisor Glen Hammond from the Town of Greenfield.**

CHAIRMAN'S ITEM

- **Appointing Charles Hanehan of the Town of Saratoga and Raymond O'Connor of the Town of Wilton to the Saratoga County IDA for the unexpired terms of William Peck and John Simoni.**

LAW AND FINANCE

On a motion made by Mr. DeCerco, seconded by Mr. Wood the following were approved unanimously.

- **Authorizing the Chairman to enter into agreements with LA Associates in an amount not to exceed \$25,000 to provide services relative to grant applications relating to the Hudson River Dredging and amending the budget in relation thereto.**
- **Amending the 2006 budget under Environmental Management Services to appropriate an additional \$5,000 for reproduction services.**

Mr. Wickerham said the Ad Hoc Dredging Committee is looking for a way to access a greater amount of the funds that might be available for mitigation of the PCB Dredging project of the Hudson River. A consortium is meeting through the auspices of the Chamber of Commerce and they have gone out on an RFP to firms to prepare for grant applications and a brochure. LA Associates Engineering was chosen by the Dredging Committee at a cost of \$25,000 for services. The funds needed would come from the county contingency budget. In addition, there will be an expense of approximately \$5,000 for the reproduction of the brochure.

Mr. Richardson requested an amendment to his original request of \$200,000 for the revitalization of downtown Mechanicville, to \$100,000. This change request is in response to an offer from Senator Bruno's office for matching funds of \$100,000.

A motion was made by Mr. Peck, seconded by Mr. DeCerco to adjourn to Executive Session for the purpose of Litigation.

On a motion made by Mr. DeCerco, seconded by Mr. Johnson the meeting returned to open session.

No action was taken.

On a motion made by Mr. Wood, seconded by Mr. Peck the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Chris Sansom