

## Law and Finance Committee Minutes

December 12, 2006 – 4:00 p.m.

Present: Chairman Barrett; Supervisors DeCerce, Hargrave, A. Johnson, M. Johnson, Peck, Wood, Raymond, Grattidge, Trottier, Sausville, Keyrouze, Gutheil, and Janik; Wes Carr, Youth Bureau; Jack Murray, County Auditor; Bill Davis, Sewer District #1; Helen Endres, Alan Kempf, Public Health; Mark Rider, County Attorney; Tom Speziale, Public Works; John F. Nolan, County Chairman; Barbara Murphy, League of Women Voters; Bill Baker, Jack Kalinkewicz, Personnel; Jim DiPasquale, Sewer District; Press.

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

**On a motion made by Mr. Hargrave, seconded by Mr. DeCerce the minutes of the November 15, 2006 meeting were approved unanimously.**

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

### **Insurance and Risk Management**

- **Authorizing the Chairman to enter into an agreement with Blue Shield of NENY for the renewal of health insurance coverages effective 1/1/07 through 12/31/07 in an amount not to exceed \$16,730,633.**

Mr. Wickerham said the Insurance and Risk Management committee looked at all alternatives to Blue Shield, in all 20 to 25 proposals with the best response from Blue Shield. There will be an increase of 13% for 2007 for an approximate total of \$16.7 million. The funds are available in the 2007 budget.

**On a motion made by Mr. Hargrave, seconded by Mr. Wood the following was approved unanimously.**

### **Social Programs**

- **Authorizing the Chairman to execute all subcontracts and contracts to accept the Youth Bureau's 2007 YDDP funding in the amount of \$146,298 and SDPP funding in the amount of \$84,613.**

Mr. Wickerham said there are two major funding streams, YDDP and SDPP. Essentially there is no change in the SDPP funding of \$84,613, however, there was a slight increase of 1% in the YDDP funding for a total of \$146,298.

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

### **Public Health**

- **Amending Resolution No. 100-05 to increase Public Health's Agency Fees to maximize Federal and Medicaid funding as follows: Skilled nursing services to \$160 per visit; Nurse PRI Evaluation to \$160 per visit and home health aides to \$50.**
- **Establishing hourly rates for aide agencies providing Certified Home Health Agency (CHHA) and Long Term Home Health Care Program (LTHHCP) services effective January 1, 2007 as follows:**
- **Greater Adirondack Home Health Aids from \$24.31 per hour to \$25.04 per hour  
Home Health Care Partners from \$19.00 per hour to \$20.50 per hour  
Visiting Nurse Home Care from \$18.57 per hour to \$19.13 per hour**
- **Authorizing the Chairman to enter into an amended contract with Dr. Desmond DelGiacco to provide medical services for Public Health Nursing effective January 1, 2007 at a rate of \$36,878 per year.**

Mr. Wickerham said the county periodically increases the Public Health Agency fees in order to maximize reimbursement. We are reimbursed at either the Medicaid rate or County rate, whichever is lower. It is important to keep the rate at the Medicaid rate in order to maximize the reimbursement. The fees for skilled nursing services will be increased to \$160 per visit; Nurse PRI Evaluation to \$160 per visit and home health aides to \$50.

Mr. Wickerham said there are a number of agencies that provide Long Term Home Health Care for Public Health. The county is managing to keep all the increases to 3%.

Mr. Wickerham said there has been a request to increase Dr. DelGiacco's contract. He provides all the physician services for Public Health Nursing. The rate would be a 3.5% increase.

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

### **Economic Development**

- **Introducing a Local Law to include Momentive Performance Materials, USA, Inc. in the Saratoga County Empire Zone as a regionally significant project and setting January 10, 2007 at 4:50 p.m. as the date and time for the public hearing.**
- **Authorizing the Chairman to enter into a revenue contract with Dave Ambrosino, Timber Harvesting, to log a forestation parcel in the Town of Providence for a payment of \$50,879.**

- **Authorizing the Chairman to enter into an amended agreement with New York State to accept an additional \$96,000 in State Aid for the MS4 Stormwater Program and amend the budget thereto.**

Mr. Wickerham said the first item is the introduction of a local law which would make Momentive Performance Materials an empire zone project, which was the former GE Silicones. They are considered a regionally significant project, as they will be creating 50 new jobs. There will be a public hearing at the January Agenda meeting and then the passing of a Local Law.

The second item is with regard to county owned landed that is used for forestry and recreation. The land is thinned on a professional basis for good forestry practices. The committee sent our RFP's earlier in the year with a low response. They decided to bid it out a second time with seven proposals. The high bid was for \$50,879 from Timber Harvesting.

The third item is authorizing acceptance of additional funding for the MS4 Stormwater Program, which is the one that the County is working with the Towns on as the lead agent for the Storm Drain Projects. There will be an additional \$96,000 that will come in as revenue and will be expended for the program.

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

#### **Equalization and Assessment**

- **Authorizing conveyance of an auction parcel in the Town of Wilton to the second bidder in the amount of \$1,200.**
- **Accepting tender offers from the Town of Milton (\$2,102.57) and the Town of Saratoga (\$5,232.31).**
- **Accepting a conditional tender offer in the amount of \$14,038.38 on a parcel in the Town of Waterford.**
- **Authorizing the canceling of taxes on two parcels in the Town of Corinth totaling \$1,831.32.**

Mr. Wickerham said at the auction in September there was a parcel in the Town of Wilton, and the person who bought it backed out. It was then conveyed to the second bidder for \$1,200, and the deposit from the first bidder was kept.

The third item is a conditional tender offer, which is a circumstance under which the county tenders it to the bank that is holding the mortgage and then the bank will tender it to the individual.

The fourth item is the canceling of taxes on two parcels in the Town of Corinth totaling \$1,831.32. One parcel is a lake bottom on Pine Lake with no real value. The other was a suffix parcel where the individual was eligible for a senior citizens exemption and failed to pay the taxes.

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

### **Public Works**

- **Authorizing the Chairman to approve a change order in the amount of \$1,300 with MJ Engineering in connection with the reconstruction of the Palmer Avenue Bridge in the Town of Corinth.**

Mr. Wickerham said this item deals with the reconstruction of the Palmer Avenue Bridge in the Town of Corinth. It is a circumstance where the contractor did not perform duties properly and the bridge had to be redesigned.

Mr. Wickerham said there would be no impact to the county.

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

### **Public Safety**

- **Authorizing the Chairman to enter into successor agreements with the Town of Clifton Park and Halfmoon to provide additional law enforcement services at a total cost of \$559,912.**
- **Authorizing the Chairman to enter into agreements with the Towns of Halfmoon and Wilton to provide additional law enforcement services at a total cost of \$181,440 and amending the 2006 County Compensation Schedule to create three- (3) positions of Deputy Sheriff Patrolman.**
- **Authorizing the Chairman to enter into a contract with American Emergency Notification to provide an Emergency Notification System at a cost of \$7,500 for set up and \$12,500 annually for maintenance.**
- **Authorizing the Chairman to enter into an amended contract with Chazen Engineering to authorize an additional \$6,700 for tower site work required by the APA and the State Historic Preservation Office.**

Mr. Wickerham said the county has agreements with two towns to provide them with additional Sheriff patrols. The first is a successor agreement with the town of Clifton Park and Halfmoon. Clifton Park will be paying for two and a half of those positions and Halfmoon will be paying for half of on position. The total cost is 559,912.

The third item is a contract with American Emergency Notification for the County Emergency Notification System. The committee looked at a number of alternatives, by far the cheapest was a system that requires \$7,500 for setup and hardware and then will be \$12,500 annually for maintenance. This will allow emergency calls and use of it for emergency notification of the population. The contract will be for a one-year term.

The fourth item is an amendment for Chazen Engineering, the firm doing work on the tower sites as part of the radio project. This is an addendum for some historical work that had to be done on the tower site that they were working on for the State Historical Preservation Office. The work has been completed, he said.

Mr. Barrett thanked the Public Safety sub-committee lead by Jeff Trottier, Supervisor from Hadley for searching through all of the prospective companies that came forth to provide the Emergency Notification service.

### **Supervisor's Item**

- **Honoring the memory of William Sewell former Supervisor from the Town of Ballston**

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

- **Amending the 2006 Compensation Schedule to create one position of Public Information Officer at a base salary of \$69,141 (Grade 18)**

Mr. Baker said this is a very strong position, directly reporting to the Board of Supervisors to do certain things with regard to publications/communications director. It is recommended that a search committee be established with Board members involved to finalize the criteria for the position. This is a key position with the county government, with many other counties having someone in this capacity. A draft copy of the job description was distributed to all supervisors for their review.

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

- **Establishing the 2007 scale of charges for the Saratoga County Sewer District**

Mr. Wickerham said the unit rate has not changed in this particular budget. The Sewer District continues to work on their capital projects and they are now beginning a project to increase capacity within the next three years to bring it up to the maximum capacity for the district.

**On a motion made by Mrs. Johnson, seconded by Mr. Hargrave the following was approved unanimously.**

- **Levying amounts payable to the County Treasurer and the Town Supervisors**

Mr. Wickerham said this would allow the County to distribute the tax bills, which will be going out to each municipality January 1, 2007.

**On a motion made by Mr. Hargrave, seconded by Mrs. Johnson the following was approved unanimously.**

- **Establishing January 3, 2007 at 2:30 p.m. as the date and time for the organizational meeting of the 2007 Board of Supervisors**

**On a motion made by Mr. Hargrave, seconded by Mr. DeCerce the meeting was adjourned to Executive Session for the purpose of Personnel and Contract Negotiations.**

**On a motion made by Mr. Peck, seconded by Mr. wood the meeting was reopened to Public Session.**

**No action was taken.**

**On a motion made by Mr. DeCerce, seconded by Mr. Hargrave the meeting was adjourned.**

Respectfully submitted,  
Chris Sansom