

LAW AND FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING

MAY 10, 2006 – 4:00 P.M.

Present: Chairman Barrett; Supervisors DeCerce, Hargrave, A. Johnson, M. Johnson, Peck, Wood, Callanan, Daly, Lawler, Yepsen, Keyrouze, Richardson, Connors, Gutheil, Lucia, Sausville, and Trottier; David Wickerham, County Administrator; Wes Carr, Water Project Manager; John F. Nolan, Sara. Co Chairman; John Murray, County Auditor; Sam Pitcherelle, Assistant County Treasurer; John Cuilla, Public Defender; Dan Butler, Animal Shelter; Barbara Thomas, League of Women Voters; Carol Furney, Kathleen Anderson, Board of Elections; Dale Angstadt, Mental Health; Robert Christopher, Social Services; Jason Kemper, Clifton Park; Wilma Koss, Saratoga Lake Assoc.; Jack Kalinkewicz, Personnel; Carol Holley, Joanne Bosley, Real Property; Ed Tremblay, Emergency Services; Mark Rider, County Attorney; 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 April 12, 2006 meeting were approved unanimously.

PUBLIC SAFETY

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

- **Authorizing an increase in the amount paid to the Rabies Clinic Clerical Staff for work performed at the monthly clinics from \$25 per clinic to \$40 per clinic.**

Mr. Wickerham said the Rabies Clinic is held once a month. When the clinic was first established fourteen years ago the staff was paid \$25 per clinic. The request is to raise the pay to \$40 per clinic, resulting in a maximum cost to the county of \$700 for the year.

- **Authorizing the Chairman to enter into a contract with NYSTEC to identify radio system frequencies operable under the new design changes in an amount not to exceed \$19,780.**

Mr. Wickerham said there is additional work being done to identify radio frequencies that would be operable under the new design change in the project. The contract would be with NYSTEC at an amount not to exceed \$19,780.

- **Authorizing the Chairman to enter into agreements with Hersen Construction for \$800,100 and with Farina Electric, Inc. for \$14,400 for construction and electrical work on the new burn building and amending the budget in relation thereto.**

Mr. Wickerham said research has taken place to replace the existing burn building with a new building. Proposals were received from three firms with the lowest bid from Jersen Construction at \$800,100 and \$14,400 from Farina Electric, Inc. This is above what was allotted in the budget; therefore, there will be a transfer from the contingency budget for \$308,000 in order to complete the project, which has been recommended by the Public Safety Committee.

- **Authorizing the Chairman to enter into successor agreements with the towns of Clifton Park and Halfmoon to provide additional law enforcement services at a total cost of \$501,592. Unanimous.**

Mr. Wickerham said the county provides additional law enforcement service to both Clifton Park and Halfmoon and the towns pay the entire bill. The town of Clifton Park has a contract for three deputies and another contract for three deputies that will be split between the two towns.

- **Authorizing the Chairman to enter into an amended contract with Intelistaf to increase the weekday hourly rates from \$50 to \$55 per hour for 7 a.m. to 11 p.m., \$54 to \$59 per hour for 11 p.m. to 7 a.m., and weekends from \$54 to \$59 per hour.**

Mr. Wickerham said the Sheriff has asked for an amended contract with Intelistaf, a nursing temp service, to increase the weekday hourly rates. The County staffs the nursing facility at the Sheriff's Office with employees. If the county is unable to provide enough staffing they then go to hiring temps. The current rates have been in effect since 2002.

- **Authorizing the Chairman to accept an Aid to Defense grant in the amount of \$21,164 for enhanced defensive services designed to expedite the processing of violent and serious felony cases.**

SOCIAL PROGRAMS

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

- **Authorizing the Chairman to accept an additional \$1 million in the Home Energy Assistance Program (HEAP) and amending the budget in relation thereto.**

Mr. Wickerham said the Federal Government has extended the HEAP program, and there is an additional \$1 million available to the county through the program. All participants will have to meet the same standards as before and go through the Department of Social Services.

- **Amending the budget to appropriate an additional \$421,226 in revenue and expenses to implement the Inter-Governmental Transfer Program.**

Mr. Wickerham said the county will spend an additional \$421,226 within the Social Services department; however, for the payoff there will be an additional \$842,000 that will come back from the State and go directly to Maplewood Manor.

PUBLIC HEALTH

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

- **Authorizing the Chairman to amend the contract and budget to accept an additional \$38,201 in State aid for the Transitional Services Association for supported housing.**

Mr. Wickerham said this is for additional services for supported housing. The money will go through the Transitional Services Association primarily for day treatment clients.

- **Amending the budget under Mental Health to increase revenues and expenses by \$90,000 for employment services provided by Unlimited Potential.**

WATER COMMITTEE

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

- **Authorizing the Water Project engineers to prepare easements at a cost of \$500 per easement.**

Mr. Wickerham said the total cost will not exceed \$86,500, and is part of the overall Water project budget.

- **Authorizing the load of up to \$15 million as the final portion of the financing package for the Water project provided contracts are in place for sale of 3.65 million gallons per day. That funding will be the last piece of the financial package and based on an initial water rate of \$2.05 per thousand gallons.**

Mr. Wickerham said this is the final portion of the financing package for the water project. The money will not be loaned until contracts are in place for the sale of 3.65 million gallons of water per day. The funding from the county would be the final piece of the financial package, and it would be based on the initial water rate of \$2.05 per thousand gallons. The loan would be paid over a 32-year period.

LEGISLATIVE AND RESEARCH

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

- **Reiterating the County's support for S 5168 and A 10289 to eliminate State and Local Sales Tax on motor and diesel fuel sales in excess of \$2.00 per gallon.**

EQUALIZATION AND ASSESSMENT

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

- **Authorizing corrections to the tax roll for parcels located in the Towns of Clifton Park and Malta totaling \$12,641.94.**

Mr. Wickerham said the parcel in the town of Clifton Park had an erroneous school re-levy from the Niskayuna School district. In the town of Malta, the property should have been exempt and it was not.

- **Authorizing the cancellation of taxes on parcels in the Towns of Greenfield and Milton totaling \$2,958.53.**

Mr. Wickerham said the above parcels are owned by the State. They are delinquencies that date back to the late 1990's and early 2000's, which have been satisfied.

- **Authorizing tax refunds on parcels in the Towns of Clifton Park (\$3,477.50) and Day (\$351.28).**

Mr. Wickerham said the parcel in the town of Clifton Park is an erroneous Niskayuna re-levy, and the parcel in the town of Day was due to an assessment error.

BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS

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

- **Authorizing the Chairman to enter into agreements with General Mechanical Systems, Inc. to replace the air handling system in the County Clerk's vault at a cost not to exceed \$38,290.**

Mr. Wickerham said there were five bids in all with General Mechanical Systems, Inc. as the low bidder. This is a group that the county has worked with before and they have provided satisfactory assistance in the past.

- **Authorizing the Chairman to enter into additional agreements with Woodward, Connor, Gillies and Seleman Architects to complete the design phase of the**

courtyard reconstruction project and prepare the necessary bid documents at a cost not to exceed \$120,900.

Mr. Wickerham said the total project estimate at this time is \$1.4 million. Architectural work will need to be done prior to construction. The \$120,900 for the design phase of the project will be provided from the Buildings Capital account.

- **Authorizing the Chairman to accept a FAA Airport Grant in the amount of \$625,000 to purchase aviation easements on Runway 14-32.**

Mr. Wickerham said these are the funds that Congressman Sweeney brought to the area and spoke about, for the purchase of aviation easement rights on Runway 14-32 at the county airport. The county share will be \$16,447, and the State and Federal Government will fund the remainder.

CHAIRMAN'S ITEM

- **Appointing Christopher Barclay to the County Planning Board to fill the unexpired term of Lorraine Tharp.**
- **Re-appointing Robert Hall to the Saratoga County Planning Board for a term to expire on May 31, 2011.**

LAW AND FINANCE

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

- **Recommending the navigational dredging of the Hudson River/Champlain Canal channel be conducted concurrently with PCB remediation dredging.**

Mr. Wickerham said the PCB dredging is going to be at a level that is not going to be deep enough for the navigational use of the canals. The committee feels that it makes no sense to dredge the area twice.

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

- **Authorizing the Chairman to enter into an agreement with DCG Development Co. for the storage of voting machines in an amount not to exceed \$875 per month.**

Mr. Wickerham said under the HAVA act the county is now responsible for all of the voting machines. A request for a bid was sent out with only two responses. DCG Development Co. was the lowest bidder at \$875 per month.

Mr. Richardson distributed handouts with regard to the Downtown Revitalization Plan for the City of Mechanicville for all members of the committee to review.

Mr. Richardson requested consideration by the committee for \$200,000 to help in the Revitalization effort for the City of Mechanicville. This would be used exclusively for the writing of grants, he said.

Mr. Barrett said the committee would review the documents that were presented to them and then move forward with a decision.

A motion was made by Mr. DeCerce, seconded by Mr. Hargrave to move into Executive Session for the purpose of Personnel. Unanimous.

A motion was made by Mr. Hargrave, seconded by Mr. Johnson to return to Open Session. Unanimous.

A motion was made by Mr. Peck, seconded by Mr. DeCerce that the Board of Supervisors appoint Jason Kemper as the new Director for the Saratoga County Planning Department. Unanimous.

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

Respectfully submitted,

Chris Sansom