

## LAW AND FINANCE COMMITTEE MINUTES

SEPTEMBER 13, 2006 – 4:00 P.M.

Present: Chairman Barrett; Supervisors DeCerce, Hargrave, A. Johnson, M. Johnson, Peck, Wood, Richardson, Gutheil, Sausville, Keyrouze, Raymond, Yepsen, Lucia, Daly and Trottier; David Wickerham, County Administrator; Mark Rider, County Attorney; Sandi Cross, Office for the Aging; Barbara Tupaluk, Barbara Murphy, League of Women Voters; Joe Ritchey, Commissioner of Public Works; John F. Nolan, Saratoga Springs; Wes Carr, Youth Bureau; Dale Angstadt, Mental Health; Sandy Fisher, Diane Brown, Maplewood Manor; Dan Butler, Animal Shelter; Jack Kalinkewicz, Personnel; John Murray, County Auditor; Jaime O'Neill, County Planning; Blue Neils, Cornell Cooperative Extension; Press.

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

**On a motion made by Mr. Wood, seconded by Mr. Hargrave the minutes of the August 9, 2006 meeting were approved unanimously.**

### **SOCIAL PROGRAMS**

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

- **Authorizing a County contribution of up to \$22,000 toward the purchase of a senior van to transport residents in the Town of Halfmoon and authorizing the Chairman to sign necessary contracts to implement the purchase.**

Mr. Wickerham said this is a state programs that provides funding for vans with a match from the towns involved. This program is implemented on a rotating basis through the various towns.

### **PUBLIC HEALTH**

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

- **Authorizing the Chairman to enter into an amended agreement with United Cerebral Palsy to accept an additional \$46 in State Aid and amending the budget in relation thereto.**
- **Authorizing the Chairman to enter into an amended agreement with Franklin Community Center to accept an additional \$274 in State Aid and amending the budget in relation thereto.**

- **Authorizing the Chairman to enter into an amended agreement with Family and Children Services to accept an additional \$1,050 in State Aid and amending the budget in relation thereto.**
- **Authorizing the Chairman to enter into a contract with Royal Care Pharmacy for medications and pharmacy fees at a projected cost of \$305,000.**
- **Authorizing the Chairman to enter into a contract with 6N Systems to provide clinical and financial software for Maplewood Manor at a cost not to exceed \$164,000.**

Mr. Wickerham said the State Legislature, before leaving session, passed legislation for a 2.8% Cost of Living Adjustment for direct care workers in various fields in the Mental Health Department. The county will act as the pass through agency, he said.

The fourth item is a resolution for a successor contract for Royal Care Pharmacy, providing pharmacy medications to Maplewood Manor. After sending out 12 RFP's, Royal Care Pharmacy was the only respondent. Mr. Wickerham said, there has been a drastic reduction in costs due to the new Medicare D program. Under Medicaid Part D, Royal Care Pharmacy will go directly to Medicaid for the funds, rather than through the County. Projected costs for this year are \$305,000 down from last year's costs of approximately \$800,000.

Mr. Wickerham said earlier this year the county authorized taking reimbursement from HealthNow New York. They needed the county to officially add them in order for them to issue reimbursements for their clients that are in the county nursing home. They have now broken down the payments to pay in four new areas as well. Based on the current caseload it is projected to generate an additional \$25,000 in revenue.

Mr. Wickerham said an RFP was sent out for a clinical and financial package that was originally in the budget for \$200,000. There were 12 RFP's sent out with two responses. 6N systems were the low bid at \$164,000, saving the county approximately \$40,000.

### **LAND PRESERVATION**

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

- **Awarding open space grants to the Towns of Clifton Park, Malta, Northumberland, Saratoga and Wilton in the total amount of \$450,133 and amending the 2006 County budget to reappropriate \$56,000 reserved for open space purchases.**

Mr. Wickerham said the Land Preservation Committee sent out applications for open space requests to area towns. The committee has put together grants totaling \$450,133.

There were five separate grants distributed to the following towns: Clifton Park, Malta, Northumberland, Saratoga and Wilton.

Mr. Barrett announced that the town of Clifton Park has purchased development rights on two separate working farms, and a six-acre parcel on the Mohawk River, which will be developed into a waterfront park.

### **EQUALIZATION AND ASSESSMENT**

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

- **Accepting a conditional tender offer in the amount of \$7,192.19 on a parcel in the Town of Saratoga.**
- **Authorizing cancellation of \$5,940.10 in taxes on a parcel in the town of Malta.**
- **Authorizing foreclosure of tax lien on a property in the Village of Victory.**

Mr. Wickerham said the second item is the cancellation of taxes in the town of Malta. The property was adjacent to the State Park and is now part of the State Park. Due to the fact that the State does not pay taxes, the taxes will need to be cancelled in order to free up the land, he said.

Mr. Wickerham said third item is a Mill in the Village of Victory. There were great environmental concerns as to what might be in there. The County Attorney has found a section of law that will allow the county to move forward with foreclosure, allowing the property to be cleaned up without passing title through the county.

### **BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS**

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

- **Declaring an emergency and authorizing the Chairman to enter into a contract with Quantum Engineering Co., P.C. to design and coordinate the replacement of Maplewood Manor's kitchen wastewater system at a cost not to exceed \$15,000.**

### **PUBLIC SAFETY**

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

- **Recognizing Brianna Fowler from the Town of Saratoga for her generous financial contribution to the Saratoga County Animal Shelter.**

- **Authorizing the Chairman to enter into a five-year contract with the Department of Criminal Justice Services to accept an Alternative to Incarceration grant in the amount of \$37,500 annually for the period beginning January 1, 2006 and ending December 31, 2010.**
- **Authorizing the Chairman to enter into an amended contract with Chazen to allow for an additional \$50,000 in radio system expenses to conduct engineering work required for the relocation of the Lakeview Radio Tower site within the Adirondack Park.**

Mr. Wickerham said item one is recognizing Brianna Fowler, a resident of the Town of Saratoga who raised \$500 and donated it to the Animal Shelter.

The second item is a Alternative to Incarceration matching grant that was received from the State to run two programs, The Intensive Supervision Program handled through the Probation Department and The Community Work Order Program that is handled through JTPA. By having these programs and accepting this grant money the county is able to go to four classifications within the jail as far as incarceration, saving the county money. These grants have been received on an annual basis; however, the Department of Criminal Justice Services is requesting approval for a five-year contract.

The third item is an amendment to the contract with Chazen Company who is doing the work on the Radio System in the Adirondack Park area of the county. There have been some problems, resulting in additional requirements for the Lakeview Radio Tower site. The quote to cover related expenses was \$50,000.

### **ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**

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

- **Declaring a negative declaration for the continuance of the Stormwater Management Program.**
- **Amending Agricultural District #2 to include 361 acres of land in the Towns of Malta, Greenfield and Milton and removing 49 acres in the Town of Galway.**

Mr. Wickerham said the MS-4 program is really a town program; however, it is being coordinated with the County through Cooperative Extension, and declaring a negative environmental impact for the continuance of the program.

The second item is an amendment to Agricultural District #2. The amendment would include an additional 361 acres of land in the Towns of Malta, Greenfield and Milton, with 49 acres of land in the Town of Galway being removed.

## **PUBLIC WORKS**

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

- **Authorizing the Board of supervisors to accept a newly constructed bridge over the Sacandaga Reservoir at Batchellerville subject to the approval of the Commissioner of Public Works and the Chairman of the Board of Supervisors.**

Mr. Wickerham said there has been a question of ownership with regard to the Batchellerville Bridge for many years. As a way to try to get by the ownership question and begin to deal with the safety aspect because the bridge has been deteriorating, the State DOT and Senator Bruno have worked together to find Federal and State funds that would be available to completely renovate the bridge. The project would be completely done by the Department of Transportation; however, the requirement would be that at the end of the time frame when it is complete, the county would accept ownership at that time. The \$35 million project would be at no cost to the county.

## **SUPERVISOR'S ITEMS**

- **Honoring the memory of Michael Nolan, former Supervisor of the Town of Saratoga.**
- **Honoring the memory of Joseph A. Longobardo a resident from the Town of Greenfield.**

## **LAW AND FINANCE**

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

- **Amending the Saratoga County Policies and Procedures Manual.**

Mr. Wickerham said all Supervisors have received a copy of the Policies and Procedures Manual for review. The changes are for the most part, are clerical. There is a new information policy relative to the breach of private information security, which is required by new State law, and addressing identity theft. The Personnel Department has prepared a policy that mimics the state policy.

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

- **Accepting a \$60,500 member item from Senator Bruno relative to the Fire Training Center.**

Mr. Wickerham said the new Burn Building is currently under construction. Senator Bruno has made a number of different funds available along with a \$60,500 member grant, which will need to be approved in order to access the funds.

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

Respectfully submitted,

Chris Sansom