Law and Finance Committee Minutes

January 8, 2007 – 4:00 p.m.

Present: Chairman Hargrave; Supervisors Gutheil, A. Johnson, M. Johnson, Peck, Thompson, Wood, Keyrouze, Daly, Grattidge, Janik, Lucia and DeCerce; David Wickerham, County Administrator; George Hodgson, Environmental Services; Ed Tremblay, Emergency Services; Jason Kemper, Planning; John "Jasper" Nolan, Republican County Chairman; Sam Pitcheralle, Treasurer; Dale Angstadt, Mental Health; John Murray, County Auditor; Mark Rider, County Attorney; Shelby Schneider, SEDC; Bill Fruci, Elections; Press.

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

On a motion made by Mr. Thompson, seconded by Mr. Wood the minutes of the December 13, 2006 meeting were approved unanimously.

Chairman Hargrave appointed Mr. Johnson as Vice Chair. Mr. Johnson accepted the appointment.

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

BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS

- Authorizing the Chairman to accept a State DOT grant in the amount of \$23,527 for the purchase of airport avigation easements.
- Reappropriating funds for the Avigation Easement Project in the amount of \$950,477.21.
- Authorizing easements over the County Sewer mains to allow lateral sewer connections for homeowners (1) in the Town of Clifton Park and (2) in the Town of Malta.

Mr. Wickerham said the first item authorizes the acceptance of a DOT grant in the amount of \$23,527, of which the county is paying 2 ½%, and the State is paying 2 ½%, and the Federal Government is paying 95%.

Item two is money that was involved in the Avigation Easement Project at the airport from last year that needs to be carried over and reappropriated. Of that amount, the County share is approximately \$23,000.

Item three is with regard to lateral sewer connections. When a homeowner has property on a lateral sewer system, they are allowed to make a connection to the sewer line, and at that time they would become a paid user. There is no charge for the easement, however, they are required to have the pipe put in with the supervision of an engineer and a final inspection when completed.

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

PUBLIC WORKS

• Amending the 2007 budget under the Public Works Department to reappropriate \$406,477.63 for local and HBRR bridges.

Mr. Wickerham said funds are reappropriated when they are not finished within the year that they were designated. There are a number of bridges, including the Stewart's Dam, CR 43, which is Geyser Road over the D&H and the Dunning Street Roundabout that will be completed in 2007.

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

PUBLIC SAFETY

- Authorizing the Chairman to accept a \$71,200 Crime Victims Board grant for the District Attorney's Office.
- Amending the 2007 budget under Emergency Services to reappropriate \$784,161 for the completion of the burn building construction.
- Amending the 2007 budget under Emergency Services to reappropriate \$239,000.80 for purchases covered under Homeland Security funds.
- Amending the 2007 budget under the Sheriff's Department to reappropriate \$305,382.59 for Wireless 911 for completion of this project at the Sheriff's Dispatch Center.

Mr. Wickerham said it is expected that all of the above projects will be complete in 2007.

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

EQUALIZATION AND ASSESSMENT

- Authorizing the County Auditor to approve tax refunds and corrections not to exceed \$2,500 subject to the approval of the County Treasurer and Real Property Director.
- Accepting a tender offer from Citimortgage, Inc. on a parcel in the Town of Stillwater in the amount of \$1,569.93.

Mr. Wickerham said there would be a report back from the Auditor to the Equalization and Assessment Committee on a monthly basis with regard to authorization of refunds or corrections. This is done with approval from the County Treasurer and the Real Property Director.

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

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

- Authorizing the Chairman to enter into a contract with Saratoga Economic Development Corporation for administering the Empire Zone Program at an annual cost of \$60,000.
- Recommending New York State conduct responsible and cost effective fish monitoring for the Viral Hemorrhagic Septicemia (VHS) Disease in private New York State Fish Hatcheries.

Mr. Wickerham said the first item is a successor contract with SEDC to administer the Empire Zone Program. The \$60,000 is the same amount that has been contracted for in the last two years.

The second item is a recommendation relative to monitoring for Viral Hemorrhagic Septicemia Disease in private NYS fish hatcheries, as there is concern that the disease could spread.

CHAIRMAN'S ITEM

• Appointing Jeannette Bruno and Edward Dweck as members at-large to the Saratoga Lake Protection and Improvement District for terms to expire on December 31, 2009.

LAW AND FINANCE

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

• Authorizing the Chairman to accept grants for the Board of Elections as follows: Polling Place Access Improvements \$65,650; Voting Access for individuals with disabilities polling place access \$31,539; Voter education/poll worker training \$131,301 and amending the budget in relation thereto.

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

• Amending the 2007 budget under the County Clerk's Office to reappropriate \$12,500 for the computerization and digitization of the land records.

On a motion made by Mr. Thompson, seconded by Mrs. Johnson the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted, Chris Sansom