

Law and Finance Committee Minutes  
October 15, 2014 - 4:00 p.m.

Present: Chairman Veitch; Supervisors Daly, Grattidge, Kinowski, Lewza, Sausville, Martin, Raymond, Jenkins, Lucia, and Wood; Spencer Hellwig, Administrator; Ed Tremblay, Emergency Services; Susan Duff, Sewer District; Joanne Bosley, Real Property; Brian O'Conor, Auditor; Lisa Scaccia, Employment and Training; Keith Manz, Public Works; Sam Pitcheralle, Treasurer; Ryan Moore, Mgmt. Analyst; Steve Dorsey, County Attorney; Press.

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

**On a motion made by Mr. Grattidge, seconded by Mr. Kinowski the minutes of the September 10, 2014 meeting were approved unanimously.**

**ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**

- **Amending Resolution 124 of 2014 to include Program Year carry-over amounts in the authorized cost of the contract renewals with Warren and Washington Counties to administer the 2014 Workforce Investment Act Youth Program in their counties.**

Mr. Hellwig said earlier this year the Board authorized renewal agreements with the administration of the Workforce Investment Act Youth Program for the 2014 program year. At the time the Board adopted the resolution, it was not known that Warren and Washington county had unexpected surplus funds from the prior year, 2013, which needed to be carried over into the 2014 budget year. The resolution will allow the existing agreements to be amended to bring the surplus funding forward.

**On a motion made by Ms. Daly, seconded by Mr. Kinowski the above resolution was approved unanimously.**

**EQUALIZATION AND ASSESSMENT**

- **Authorizing the conveyance of 9 parcels sold at the September auction to successful bidders.**
- **Authorizing deletion from the tax rolls of parcels located in the Town of Malta and authorizing a credit to the tax bills of these parcels in the combined amount of \$519.28.**
- **Authorizing a credit to tax bills in the Town of Greenfield in the amount of \$832.13 and providing a corrected tax bill for 2014 taxes due for the non-exempt portion of the tax bills.**

- **Accepting a conditional tender offer in the Town of Greenfield in the amount of \$34,967.15.**

Mr. Hellwig said the first item is for authorization for the conveyance of 9 parcels sold at the September auction.

The second item is with regard to two parcels that are owned by a homeowners association and as such, they can be assessed either as individual lots or on the entire parcel. In this case they were assessed under both; therefore, the resolution will apply a credit equal to the 2012-2013 taxes.

The third item is for a corrected tax bill on five parcels that were required by New York State last December, to be used as reforestation lands. They are exempt from County taxes and certain special assessments. This resolution will credit the portion of the 2014 taxes that are due for county purposes and issue a corrected tax bill for the remaining taxes.

The final item is for a parcel that the county foreclosed on in 2011, which has been under a court order since 2012, and has prevented it from being sold at the tax auction. The tender offer represents seven years' worth of taxes, penalties and interest. The tender offer was approved by the Equalization and Assessment Committee and is being supported by the County Attorney with the following conditions:

- That the former owners issue a release of any claims against the county relative to the property and that they pay the school taxes for the years 2014 and 2015 school taxes that are currently due; lifting any conditions on the County to dispose of the property

**On a motion made by Mr. Lewza, seconded by Mr. Grattidge the above resolutions were approved unanimously.**

### **PUBLIC HEALTH**

- **Approving the consolidation of the Town of Corinth and the Village of Corinth Vital Statistics Registration Districts.**

Mr. Hellwig said Public Health advises that each city, town and village in the state must have a Registration District for the purpose of reporting vital statistics within the municipal boundaries. If the municipalities within the districts wish to consolidate their services, the State Commissioner of Health can approve such consolidation upon approval of the Board of Supervisors. In this particular instance, the Town of Corinth is consolidating with the Village of Corinth for the purpose of providing those services to both village and town residents.

**On a motion made by Mr. Wright, seconded by Ms. Daly the above resolution was approved unanimously.**

## **PUBLIC SAFETY**

- **Authorizing the Chairman to enter into an agreement with the New York State Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Services to accept a \$217,500 State Homeland Security Program (SHSP) grant**
- **Authorizing the execution of contracts between the Saratoga County Animal Shelter and participating municipalities that utilize the Shelter's services at revised rates with respect to charges for shelter services, cremations and shelter calls, and authorizing the Animal Shelter Supervisor to bring said contracts current to the prior calendar year's services provided, effective with the 2015 billing.**

Mr. Hellwig said the first resolution is the acceptance of \$217,500 in Homeland Security Funding for the Fire Coordinator's office in the Emergency Services Department. The expenses will not occur until next year, so the funding will be included as a part of next years' budget. There are a number of purchases and expenses that are in the plan which include the "I Am Responding" software agreement, supplies and training.

The second item is from the Animal Shelter, which will authorize the new rates to take effect in 2015 for the services that the shelter provides to each of the towns. The contracts are broken down into three categories which include shelter service fees, cremation fees as well as shelter call fees. It is estimated that the additional revenue will be \$2,000 to \$2,500 a year.

**On a motion made by Mr. Wright, seconded by Mr. Kinowski the above resolutions were approved unanimously.**

## **CHAIRMANS ITEMS**

- **Appointing Eddie Joe Moulton (Town of Hadley), Rusty Seastrum (Town of Providence) and Gary Rogers (Town of Waterford) to the County Fire Advisory Board.**

Mr. Hellwig said, based on the recommendation of the Fire Coordinator, there are three appointments to the Fire Advisory Board to fill current vacancies; they are, Gary Rogers from the Town of Waterford, Eddie Joe Moulton from the Town of Hadley and Rusty Seastrum from the Town of Providence.

## **LAW AND FINANCE**

- **Amending the 2014 budget to appropriate \$910,000 from the Saratoga County Sewer District's fund balance to address unanticipated costs related to the sludge incinerator.**

Mr. Hellwig said the above resolution was adopted unanimously by the Sewer Commission and will appropriate \$910,000 from the Sewer District's fund balance to cover estimated costs associated with removing sand from the incinerator bed and the wind box. Part of the funding

will be used primarily for sludge hauling. The incinerator, due to heat spikes this summer, had to be shut down and the district is currently transporting the sludge to a landfill. The cost will be approximately \$850,000. An additional \$50,000 will be used for a study to report to the commission on whether or not they should continue to operate the incinerator or should they look at maintaining an agreement for hauling the sludge off site.

**A motion was made by Ms. Daly, seconded by Mr. Kinowski to approve the above resolution unanimously.**

- **Authorizing the inter-agency transfers necessary to close out the 2014 county budget.**

Mr. Hellwig said the above resolution will allow the Administrator to move funds from departments where there is a surplus into departments where there is a deficit. The need for this is to close out the budget for the 2014 year. A report will be issued to the Law and Finance Committee when the process is complete, which will detail the transfers that have occurred under this authorization.

**On a motion made by Mr. Lewza, seconded by Mr. Kinowski the above resolution was approved unanimously.**

- **Honoring former Saratoga County District Attorney James A. Murphy, III upon his retirement from County Service.**

Mr. Hellwig said Mr. Murphy started in the DA's office more than 26 years ago, in 1988, as an Assistant District Attorney. He then served 17 years as the District Attorney, re-elected four times and served faithfully for the entire 26 year career, until his retirement was announced on September 18, 2014.

**On a motion made by Mr. Grattidge, seconded by Ms. Daly the above resolution was approved unanimously.**

- **Authorizing the Chairman to enter into an agreement with Ocean Associates Security Investigative Services, Inc. to provide service of process during the two year term beginning November 1, 2014 through October 31, 2016 with two optional one-year renewals at a flat rate of \$40/service in Saratoga County, \$55/service in adjoining counties and \$65/service elsewhere.**

Mr. Hellwig said the above resolution is to enter into an agreement with Ocean Associates Security Investigative Services, Inc. They were the low bidder for the process service contract with the county. The county Attorney's Office, Public Defender, District Attorney, Social Services and in some cases, Collections, for bad debt at Maplewood, used this service. The total expenses were approximately \$12,000/yr. The agreement is for two years with an additional two one-year option to renew, if the county and the vendor agree to extend it.

**On a motion made by Mr. Grattidge, seconded by Mr. Wright the above item was approved unanimously.**

**On a motion made by Mr. Kinowski, seconded by Ms. Daly the meeting was adjourned unanimously.**

Respectfully submitted,  
Chris Sansom