

Law and Finance Committee Minutes
December 10, 2014 - 4:00 p.m.

Present: Chairman Veitch; Supervisors Collyer, Daly, Grattidge, Kinowski, Lewza, Wright, Raymond, Johnson, Allen, Sausville, Wood, Tollisen, Martin, and Lucia; Spencer Hellwig, Administrator; Kevin Mullahy, Michael Zurlo, Sheriff; Craig Hayner, County Clerk; Steven Bayle, Probation; Oscar Schreiber, Public Defender; Tina Potter, Social Services; Chad Cooke, Sewer District; Brian O'Connor, Auditor; George Martin, Treasurer; Jack Kalinkewicz, Personnel; Wes Carr, Youth Bureau; Shauna Sutton, Charles Foehser II, County Clerk; Joanne Bosley, Real Property; Keith Manz, Public Works; Marcy McNamara, Personnel; Cathi Duncan, Public Health; Drew Jarosh, Treasurer; Steve Dorsey, County Attorney; Press.

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

On a motion made by Mr. Lewza, seconded by Mr. Kinowski the minutes of the November 12, 2014 meeting were approved unanimously.

EQUALIZATION AND ASSESSMENT

- **Accepting a tender offer on a parcel in the Village of South Glens Falls for \$29,422.09**

Mr. Hellwig said the above resolution is a tender offer for a parcel located in the Village of South Glens Falls. The property owner has paid all property taxes for 2011 through 2014, including the penalties and interest.

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

PERSONNEL AND INSURANCE

- **Amending the 2014 Budget to appropriate #200,000 from the Self Insurance Contributory Reserve Fund into the operating budget.**
- **Authorizing the Chairman to enter into an agreement with Choice-Strategies to administer a flexible benefits healthcare plan for county employees.**
- **Authorizing the Chairman to enter into an agreement with Security Mutual Life Insurance Agency (SML) to provide short term disability insurance for county employees at a monthly cost of \$9,204.**
- **Setting 2015 salaries for County officers, officials, management and confidential personnel who are not members of the collective bargaining unit and do not require local law approval for a salary increase.**

- **Setting the salaries of temporary and part-time employees who are not covered by the collective bargaining agreement**
- **Introducing a proposed local law relative to amending the compensation schedule to include a cost of living increase for certain county officials and setting a date for a public hearing.**
- **Adopting the 2015 Saratoga County Compensation Schedule, providing for the abolition and creation of certain positions.**

Mr. Hellwig said the first item is for authorization to amend the Self-Insurance budget by \$200,000 for some section-32 settlements that have been ordered by the Workers Comp Board and a number of large claims that have been paid out this year that have exceeded \$50,000. Funding for these unanticipated costs will come out of the Self-Insurance Fund.

The second item will authorize a contract with Choice Strategies to administer the Flexible Benefits Plan, which is a health savings account for county employees to deposit pre-taxed contributions into to cover a variety of outside healthcare costs.

The third item will authorize an agreement with (SML) insurance agency to provide short-term disability insurance for county employees. The cost of the agreement is \$9,204/mo. and will replace the agreement with Hartford whose monthly bill was \$9,387. The one significant change from the expiring agreement to the (SML) agreement is that up to this point, 194 employees, which are mostly management and confidential positions, never had access to this coverage. With this new policy we will not only save money, but we can include those employees in the new policy as well.

The fourth item is a resolution to change the terms of the CSEA agreement for officials, officers and management/confidential employees who are excluded from the collective bargaining agreement.

The fifth item extends the terms of the CSEA agreement to temporary and part-time employees who are also not covered by any collective bargaining agreement.

The sixth item will be the introduction of a Local Law to extend the terms of the CSEA agreement for any officers who are in a term. This group can only receive cost of living adjustments through the adoption of a local law. A public hearing will be set for January 14, 2015 at 4:55p.m.

The final item is for the adoption of the 2014 compensation schedule which is necessary to authorize the position changes that were approved during the budget process, as well as the changes that will occur as a result of the COLA adjustments contained in the four mentioned resolutions.

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

PUBLIC HEALTH

- **Authorizing the Chairman to enter into agreements with agencies providing various mental health counseling, substance abuse, housing and case management services for a period of one year.**
- **Authorizing an increase in compensation from \$39,505 to \$40,098 for Public Health's Medical Director, Dr. DelGiacco, effective January 1, 2015.**

Mr. Hellwig said the first item is a resolution for authorization to renew a community mental health contract with the various service providers for a one-year period. The agencies that were contained in last years' resolution, as well as the funding amounts, are unchanged from 2014.

The second item is to authorize a \$593 increase in the stipend for Dr. Desmond DelGiacco. This is a two percent increase, which is provided the doctor for services he provides the Public Health Nursing Department, including the TB Clinic Assistants for administrative issues, as well as staffing issues that come up during the course of the year.

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

PUBLIC SAFETY

- **Authorizing the acceptance of a \$10,000 grant from the NYS Division of Criminal Justice Services for the purchase of installation of a Child ID fingerprint system and related equipment, and amending the 2015 Adopted Budget in relation thereto.**
- **Authorizing the Chairman to enter into agreements to provide additional law enforcement services in 2015 with the Town of Clifton Park (at a total cost of \$519,037) and the Town of Halfmoon (at a total cost of \$201,378)**
- **Authorizing the Chairman to enter into an agreement with the NYS Office of Indigent Legal Services to accept a three-year grant in the amount of \$423,201 to enhance indigent legal representation in Saratoga County.**
- **Authorizing acceptance of a NYS Supervision and Treatment Services for Juveniles Program (STSJP) grant and authorizing provider contracts through December 31, 2015.**

- **Authorizing the Chairman to enter into an agreement with the NYS Division of Criminal Justice Services to accept up to \$48,600 in State Aid to reimburse expenses related to the ignition interlock device monitoring program.**

Mr. Hellwig said the first item is a member grant from Senator Marchione for Operation Safe Child to be used for the costs of fingerprinting children whose records will be placed in a statewide database that will enable law enforcement in identifying children that have been abducted and later located. The resolution will also authorize an amendment to the 2015 budget in order to increase the expenses and revenues by \$10,000.

The second item is for authorization to renew contracts between the Sheriff's Department and the towns of Clifton Park and Halfmoon for law enforcement services. The agreements are for one year totaling \$519,037 for Clifton Park and \$201,378 for Halfmoon.

The third item is a Public Defender grant, where authorization is necessary to draw down the state aid that is being used to cover all the costs that are associated with the Conflict Defender's office, as well as some related operational expenses within the Public Defender's office.

The fourth item is for the Probation Department where they are requesting authorization for \$66,294 of state aid to fund a portion of The Supervision of Treatment Services to Juveniles Program, which will provide an alternative to secured detention. There are a number of vendors that provide a variety of services as a part of the overall initiative to keep these individuals from being placed in a secured facility.

The fifth item will provide reimbursements to Probation for expenses related to the monitoring of probationers. Probation is required by the Court to participate in the Ignition Interlock Program for individuals who have been convicted of DWI related expenses.

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

SOCIAL PROGRAMS

- **Amending Resolution 138 of 2014 to direct funding for the Ballston Area Recreation Commission through the Town of Milton in order to streamline the claiming process.**

Mr. Hellwig said the above item will authorize the Youth Bureau's funding applications and contracts that were done in June. Pursuant to that resolution, the Ballston area Community Recreation Commission was to receive a total of \$4,700 that was going to be channeled through four separate municipalities. The Youth Bureau has worked with the municipalities to streamline the claiming process, which has resulted in a decision to channel all the funding through the town of Milton.

On a motion made by Mr. Collyer, seconded by Mr. Lewza, the above item was approved unanimously.

PUBLIC WORKS

- **Authorizing the Chairman to enter into an agreement with County Waste for the transportation, processing and recovery of recyclables from the County Transfer Stations and the Town of Edinburg and amending the 2015 budget.**
- **Authorizing the Chairman to enter into inter-municipal agreements with the Towns of Clifton Park, Corinth, Moreau and City of Saratoga Springs for the purpose of managing the recycling services at the County Transfer Station.**

Mr. Hellwig said the first item will authorize the contract with County Waste to handle the transportation of processing recyclables, which will no longer be done by the County Public Works Department. This is part of a larger initiative to have the County Transfer Stations managed by the towns and City of Saratoga Springs.

The second item will authorize the inter-municipal agreements with the municipalities that are taking over the operations at those county transfer stations. They will all be given a \$35,000 payment to offset some of the personnel costs that each of the municipalities incurs as a part of their operations at those sites.

Mr. Grattidge said there is an overall savings of at least \$250,000.

Mr. Hellwig said if the market is healthy next year the savings could be even greater.

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

LAW AND FINANCE

- **Authorizing the acceptance of NYS Local Government Records Management Improvement Fund Grant in the amount of \$29,315 and amending the 2015 Saratoga County Compensation Schedule and 2015 Adopted Budget in relation thereto.**

Mr. Hellwig said the County Clerk is requesting approval to accept a \$29,315 Local Government Records Management Grant, which will be used for the digitization of criminal court records from 1986 to 1996.

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

- **Amending Resolution 29 of 2009 to include the Saratoga County Water Authority among the municipal entities eligible for reimbursement by the County for costs incurred during the course of litigation to guarantee the safety of public water supplies which may be contaminated by PCB's.**

Mr. Hellwig said in 2009 the Board authorized the County to participate and provide funding for litigation for municipalities in the county that were commencing legal action against the US Environmental Protection Agency. The litigation was that they were requesting that this entity guarantee that there would be no contamination of the county's water supply as a result of the dredging project. This resolution would extend the Saratoga County Water Authority to that list of entities that are pursuing litigation against the EPA. All of these organizations and municipalities, as well as the Water Authority, have the same motive, which is to guarantee the water quality in the county. A recommendation is being made that the protection under that resolution is extended to the Water Authority.

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

- **Amending Resolution 181-12, as last amended by Resolution 163-14, and approving a revised standard workday reporting resolution for elected and appointed county officials for retirement purposes.**

Mr. Hellwig said the Standard Workday Resolution is for elected and appointed county officials, which is required by the State Retirement System. As a result of filling a vacancy in the Mental Health Department the resolution is now being updated to include, Dr. Michael Prezioso.

- **Confirming the 2015 Scale of Charges for the Saratoga County Sewer District.**

Mr. Hellwig said the proposed scale of charges for the sewer district for 2015 was approved unanimously by the Sewer Commission and was presented at a Public Hearing which was held on November 5, 2014. At this time the Board of Supervisors approval is required before it can go into effect.

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

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

Mr. Hellwig said the authorization is needed in order for the county to issue tax bills for 2015.

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

- **Establishing January 2, 2015 at 4:00 p.m. in the Board of Supervisors Chamber as the date, time and place of the 2015 Organizational Meeting of the Board of Supervisors.**

Mr. Hellwig said the establishment of January 2, 2015 at 4:00p.m. will be the date and time of the Organizational Meeting.

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

- **Awarding College Scholarships to the winners of the Character First Program essay Contest.**

Mr. Hellwig said last month the Board of Supervisor's authorized a scholarship program for the winners of the Character First Program essays. This resolution will name the individual winners of those essay contestants.

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

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

Respectfully submitted,
Chris Sansom