

Law and Finance Committee Minutes
November 15, 2017 – 4:00 p.m.

Present: Chairman Collyer; Committee members Preston Allen, Paul Lent, Kevin Tollisen, Matt Veitch; Supervisors Phil Barrett, Alan Grattidge, Art Johnson, Dick Lucia, Bill Peck, Dan Pemrick, Jean Raymond, Jonathan Schopf, Tim Szczepaniak, Tom Wood and Chairman of the Board Ed Kinowski; Spencer Hellwig, Chad Cooke, Brian O'Connor, County Administrator; Steve Dorsey, County Attorney; Judy Dahoda-Taylor, Aging; Jason Hayes, Animal Shelter, Craig Hayner, County Clerk; Carl Zeilman, Emergency Services; Diane Brown, Human Resources; Jason Kemper, Planning; Oscar Schreiber, Public Defender; Keith Manz, Public Works; Dan Rourke, Sewer District; Tina Potter, Social Services; Drew Jarosh, Treasurer, Wes Carr, Youth Bureau; Press.

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

On a motion made by Mr. Allen, seconded by Mr. Lent, the minutes of the October 11, 2017 meeting were approved unanimously.

On a motion made by Mr. Veitch, seconded by Mr. Tollisen, the following resolution was approved unanimously.

VETERANS

- Amending the Rules and Regulations of the Saratoga County Veterans Trust and Agency Fund.

Mr. Cooke said that the document will codify the trust fund rules, the application process, eligibility for disbursements and record keeping.

On a motion made by Mr. Tollisen, seconded by Mr. Veitch, the following resolution was approved unanimously.

LEGISLATIVE & RESEARCH

- Resolution urging the preservation of the Federal income tax deduction for state and local taxes.

Mr. Cooke said that under the proposed tax reform bill, the current deduction for state and local taxes would be capped at \$10K for property taxes only. Mr. Cooke said that the following item will be added to the Board's agenda following completion of the public hearing scheduled for 4:40pm today.

- Adopting a Local Law Identified as Introductory No. 5, Print No. 1 of 2017, entitled "A Local Law Prohibiting Target Shooting on the Northern Section of the County's Reforested Lands on Loudon Road in the Town of Wilton".

On a motion made by Mr. Tollisen, seconded by Mr. Allen, the following resolution was approved unanimously.

HUMAN RESOURCES & INSURANCE

- Appointing Christopher Schall as the Saratoga County Auditor at the base level of Salary Grade 17.

Mr. Cooke said that Mr. Schall's appointment will be effective December 15, 2017. There were four candidates interviewed and Mr. Schall's experience and skillset was determined by the committee to be the best fit for the position. Mr. Schall will need to be re-appointed in January for a full term.

On a motion made by Mr. Lent, seconded by Mr. Veitch, the following resolutions were approved unanimously.

EQUALIZATION & ASSESSMENT

- Introducing a proposed Local Law identified as Introductory No. 6, Print No. 1 of 2017, entitled "A Local Law Amending Local Law 3-08 to Extend the Partial Tax Exemption for Real Property Taxes Owned by Persons who rendered Military Service to the United States during the Cold War (9/2/45 – 12/26/91)", and setting a date for a public hearing thereon.
- Authorize the Chair of the Board to execute an agreement with the New York Environmental Protection and Spill Contamination Fund to split the proceeds of an auction sale of an abandoned gas station in the Village of Schuylerville.

Mr. Cooke said that the gas station site was cleaned by the DEC and they filed a lien on the property in the amount of \$348K. The County has not taken title on the property due to the lien. The DEC will agree to remove the lien upon sale of the property and splitting the proceeds of the sale.

On a motion made by Mr. Tollisen, seconded by Mr. Allen, the following resolution was approved unanimously.

PUBLIC HEALTH

- Authorize acceptance of additional state aid in the amount of \$5,000 from the Office of Alcoholism and Substance Abuse Services, amend the contract with the Alcohol and Substance Abuse Prevention Council of Saratoga and amend the 2017 budget in relation thereto.

Mr. Cooke said that the funds will be used to upgrade the Council's computer system to better serve their client base.

On a motion made by Mr. Lent, seconded by Mr. Veitch, the following resolutions were approved. Mr. Tollisen recused himself from the Public Defender items vote.

PUBLIC SAFETY

- Authorize acceptance of a \$25,000 grant from the NYS Division of Criminal Justice Services and amending the budget in relation thereto.
- Authorize acceptance of a FEMA Pre-Disaster Mitigation Competitive Grant in the amount of \$225,000 to update the County's Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan and amend the budget in relation thereto.
- Authorize a contract with Sky Climber Telecom in the amount of \$49,703 for the County's Monopole Extension project at the emergency radio communication site in the Town of Edinburg.
- Authorize a 3-year renewal contract with a 1-year extension option with Pittsfield Communications in an amount not to exceed \$20,200 per year for radio removal, installation and related services associated with the County's emergency services communications equipment.
- Authorize a 2-year renewal agreement with NMS Labs for routine postmortem toxicology testing services.
- Authorize a renewal agreement with Saratoga Hospital for the use of laboratory and morgue facilities needed by the County Coroners when performing autopsies and other post-mortem activities.
- Authorize a 2-year renewal agreement with Jeffrey Bagnoli, retained as a part-time Assistant Public Defender at Salary Grade 18 for 35 hours per pay period.
- Authorize a 2-year renewal agreement with Kyran Nigro, retained as a part-time Chief Conflict Defender at Salary Grade 20 for 35 hours per pay period.
- Authorize 2-year renewal agreements with Andrew DeLuca and Neil Weiner, retained as part-time Assistant Conflict Defenders at Salary Grade 18 for 35 hours per pay period.
- Authorize a renewal agreement with Jody O'Neill for Social Worker related services in the Public Defender's Office.
- Authorizing an amendment to the Saratoga County Animal Shelter Trust and Agency Fund.

Mr. Cooke said that for the first item, the grant is from Senator Tedisco and the funds will be used to purchase mobile speed monitoring equipment with an integrated license plate reader. For the second item, there is a \$75K local match. For the third item, the monopole will be extended

by 15' which will improve communications and avoid utilizing a T1 connection which is prone to failure during storms.

For the Coroners first item, NMS Labs has agreed to hold 2017 pricing for the majority of their tests, there will be a 4% increase in specialty tests.

For the first Public Defender item, the agreement with Jeffrey Bagnoli is funded through the New York State Caseload Relief Act. The next three items are also from the Public Defender's office and are 100% funded by a grant from indigent legal services. The agreement with Jodi O'Neill is capped at \$25K per year.

For the final item, the amendment will include language to institute a moratorium on drawing funds from the Animal Shelter Trust fund in 2018 and will cap the transfer of funds in subsequent years to 80% of the previous year's donations.

On a motion made by Mr. Tollisen, seconded by Mr. Allen, the following resolution was approved unanimously.

SOCIAL PROGRAMS

- Authorizing 2018-2019 annual implementation plan and 2018 subcontracts for the Office for the Aging.

Mr. Cooke said that this is a housekeeping item approving contracts for the agencies that provide home care services for the elderly.

On a motion made by Mr. Lent, seconded by Mr. Allen, the following resolutions were approved unanimously.

BUILDINGS & GROUNDS

- Authorize acceptance of a NYSDOT matching Airport Improvement Grant in the amount of \$5,027 for the Saratoga County Airport to conduct a Phase II Environmental Study regarding the Karner Blue Butterfly.
- Authorize acceptance of a NYSDOT matching Airport Improvement Grant in the amount of \$27,519 for the Saratoga County Airport to reconstruct an aircraft apron.
- Authorizing the submission of a Certificate of Need Application to the NYS Department of Health to relocate the Saratoga County Public Health Services Article 28 Clinic to the New Public Safety Facility.
- Committing to the construction of a new Public Safety Facility.

On a motion made by Mr. Veitch, seconded by Mr. Lent, the following resolution was approved unanimously.

CHAIRMAN'S ITEMS

- Appointing Daniel Keegan of Clifton Park to the Sewer Commission with a term expiring 12/31/2017.

Mr. Cooke said that Mr. Keegan will be filling the vacancy of Michael Hale.

On a motion made by Mr. Tollisen, seconded by Mr. Lent, the following resolutions were approved unanimously.

LAW & FINANCE

- Authorizing intermunicipal agreements between the County of Saratoga and municipalities in the County in order to proceed with consolidated commodity purchasing as submitted in the County's Shared Services Plan.
- Awarding 2017 Farmland/Open Space Preservation Grants for approved projects in the City of Saratoga Springs, Town of Milton and Town of Halfmoon.
- Amend Resolution 222-2015 to modify the land purchase total in the Town of Milton from \$50,546.20 to \$53,634.03, modify the land purchase total in the Town of Moreau from \$85,000 to \$31,608.82 and the County's contribution from \$40,000 to \$15,804.41, and authorize a transfer of funds from the County's Open Space Reserve.
- Authorizing the transfer of funds from the Farmland/Open Space Preservation Reserve to the Town of Galway in the amount of \$22,708, and amending the 2017 County Budget in relation thereto.
- Authorizing an agreement with O'Brien and Gere Engineers in the amount of \$24,400 for professional services associated with the District's Title V air permit.
- Authorizing an agreement with Barton and Loguidice PC in the amount of \$283,500 for professional engineering services associated with an ammonia capacity analysis and aeration system upgrade project at the Sewer District's Treatment Plant.
- Designating WEDECO UV System components as the standard to be used at the Sewer District's Treatment Plant for the disinfection of wastewater for reasons of efficiency and economy.
- Adopting the 2018 County Budget (TO BE TABLED).
- Appropriating amounts finally set forth in the 2018 Saratoga County Budget (TO BE TABLED)
- Setting December 6, 2017 at 4:30 pm in the County Board Room as the date, time and place for the public hearing on the revised tentative 2018 Saratoga County Budget.

- Approving the 2018 Tax Bill Flyer, pursuant Local Law introductory #1, Print #1 of 2012, establishing Truth in Taxation in Saratoga County.

For the second item, Mr. Cooke said that there were three projects of \$50K each for a total of \$150K. For the fourth item, the funds were used to purchase land to extend a trail.

For the agreement with O'Brien and Gere, they have been operating under a minor contract but additional tasks were necessary in order to update the district permit.

For the agreement with Barton & Loguidice, Mr. Cooke said that the project is necessary in order to stay ahead of the growing industry in the County. For the WEDECO agreement, Mr. Cooke said that their components are cost comparative with other manufacturers but are more energy efficient. The next two items are budget items and will be tabled until after the public hearing on December 6.

For the final item, the tax bill flyer includes the definition of state and federal mandates and a narrative summary of key financial impacts.

On a motion made by Mr. Lent, seconded by Mr. Veitch, the meeting was adjourned to Executive Session for a discussion of settlement of pending litigation.

On a motion made by Mr. Tollisen, seconded by Mr. Allen, the meeting was reopened to Regular Session. Unanimous.

On a motion made by Mr. Lent, seconded by Mr. Veitch, the following resolution was approved unanimously.

- Authorize the Chair of the Board to execute the Order on Consent issued to the Sewer District by the NYS Department of Environmental Conservation.

On a motion made by Mr. Tollisen, seconded by Mr. Allen, the meeting was adjourned unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,
Therese Connolly
Deputy Clerk of the Board