

Law and Finance Committee Minutes
December 13, 2017 – 4:00 p.m.

Present: Chairman Collyer; Committee members Preston Allen, Paul Lent, Dan Lewza, Kevin Tollisen, Matt Veitch, Mo Wright; Supervisors Art Johnson, Dick Lucia, Peter Martin, Bill Peck, Dan Pemrick, Tom Richardson, Jonathan Schopf and Tom Wood; Spencer Hellwig, Chad Cooke, Brian O’Conor, County Administrator; Steve Dorsey, County Attorney; Craig Hayner, County Clerk. Lisa Scaccia, Employment & Training; Marcy McNamara, Human Resources; Michael Prezioso, Mental Health; Steven Bayle, Probation; Oscar Schreiber, Public Defender; Dan Rourke, Sewer; Michael Zurlo, Rick Castle, Sheriff; Tina Potter, Social Services; Andrew Jarosh, Treasurer; J. Wes Carr, Youth Bureau; Tara Gaston; Press.

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

On a motion made by Mr. Veitch, seconded by Mr. Allen, the minutes of the November 15, 2017 meeting were approved unanimously.

On a motion made by Mr. Wright, seconded by Mr. Veitch, the following resolutions were approved. Mr. Tollisen recused himself from voting on any items relating to the Public Defender’s Office.

HUMAN RESOURCES & INSURANCE

- Adopting the 2018 Saratoga County Compensation Schedule.
- Setting 2018 Salaries for Certain County Employees.
- Setting 2018 Salaries for Certain Temporary and Part-Time Employees.
- Introducing a local law to amend the 2018 County Compensation Schedule to provide a cost-of-living increase for certain County Officials, and setting a date for a public hearing thereon.

Mr. Hellwig said that the four resolutions will all be brought to the special board meeting scheduled for today as part of the adoption of the budget. The first item is necessary to approve the position changes approved during the budget process as well as those that will occur as a result of the COLA approvals. The second item will extend the terms of the CSEA agreement to the officers, officials, management and confidential employees that are excluded from collective bargaining agreements. The third item will extend the terms of the CSEA agreement to temporary and part-time employees not covered under collective bargaining agreements. The final item will extend the CSEA agreement terms for any officers that are in a term that can only receive increases through the adoption of a local law. The public hearing will be set for January 10, 2018 at 4:45pm.

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

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

- Authorize the chair to execute the Saratoga-Warren-Washington LWDA Local Plan for June 1, 2017 through June 30, 2021 as required by the NYS Department of Labor.

Mr. Hellwig said that the Department of Labor is requiring that the plan be signed. The plan addresses the needs of job seekers, the business community, as well as various educational and training services that are provided by the program.

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

EQUALIZATION & ASSESSMENT

- Authorizing conveyance of tax acquired lands.
- Authorizing an agreement with the Environmental Protection Agency for the Distribution of Proceeds from a County Real Property Tax Foreclosure Sale.
- Adopting a 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).

Mr. Hellwig said that the first item is a repurchase offer. One of the previous owners had filed for bankruptcy and the County was unable to foreclose on the property, that person has now passed away and her husband has negotiated with the County Attorney's office to pay the back taxes, penalties and interest. The property is scheduled to be sold on December 20, the County Attorney will be attending the closing. For the second item, the agreement with the EPA will allow the County to foreclose on the former county infirmary in the Town of Providence. In an exchange from the release of liability on the property, the County will be splitting the sale proceeds with the EPA up to the point where the County's tax lien is covered. Proceeds beyond that will be split 90/10 with the EPA. For the final item, the exemption is currently capped at 10 years, the resolution will allow the exemption to qualify property owners of residential properties to continue the benefit indefinitely as long as their status remains eligible.

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

PUBLIC HEALTH

- Authorize an amendment to the contract with Burnt Hills-Ballston Lake Community Human Services, Inc. in the amount of \$2,000 for respite services.

Mr. Hellwig said that the County currently has a surplus under an agreement with an additional provider.

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

PUBLIC SAFETY

- Authorize agreements with the Town of Clifton Park and Town of Halfmoon for the Sheriff to provide law enforcement services for 2018.
- Authorize a 3-year renewal agreement with Cross Country Staffing, Inc. to provide nursing services at weekday hourly rates of \$57 and weekend hourly rates of \$59.
- Authorize acceptance of a NYS Division of Criminal Justice Services grant for the Ignition Interlock Device Monitoring program in the amount of \$19,715.
- Authorize acceptance of a NYS Supervision and Treatment Services for Juveniles Program grant and authorizing provider contracts through December 31, 2018.
- Authorize a 2-year contract with Michael Carota, Esq. for part-time Assistant Public Defender services.

Mr. Hellwig said that for the first item, both agreements have increased 2% over the 2017 amounts. For the second item, the service is provided at the Saratoga County Correctional Facility and there is a \$2/hour increase from the expiring agreement. This service is used in the event that current full time positions are not staffed. For the third item, the grant provides reimbursement to the Probation Department for costs related to monitoring probationers that are required to participate in the Ignition Interlock program. For the fourth item, the grant amount is \$59,992 and will be used to fund a portion of the supervision and treatment services for juveniles. This program provides an alternative to secure detention and the County has contracts with Berkshire Farms and KMG monitoring. The final item is entirely covered through the office of Indigent Legal Services.

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

LAW & FINANCE

- Amending the 2018 Tentative Budget.
- Adopting the 2018-2022 Saratoga County Capital Plan.

- Authorizing 2018 contracts with various agencies.

Mr. Hellwig said that these three items will be going to the special meeting today. The amendments to the tentative budget went through Law & Finance and the budget workshop. The adoption of the capital plan was approved by the Long Range Capital Committee in September and the dollar amounts associated with that are included in the tentative budget. The final item are agreements with public benefit agencies that the county contracts with for a variety of services.

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

LAW & FINANCE

- Authorization to levy amounts payable to the County Treasurer and the Town Supervisors.
- Establish January 2, 2018 at 4 pm in the Board of Supervisors' Chambers as the date, time and place of the 2018 Organizational meeting of the Board of Supervisors.
- Authorize an amendment to the 2017 County budget to increase revenues and expenses in the amount of \$2,000,000 for additional college and preschool special education tuition.
- Confirm the 2018 Scale of Charges for the Saratoga County Sewer District No.1.
- Authorize a contract with the Laberge Group in the amount of \$21,500 for engineering and construction services associated with the repair of sanitary sewer infrastructure in the Town of Clifton Park.
- Authorize contracts with J Squared Construction as the General Contractor in the amount of \$835,999.85 and Kahrs Construction as the Electrical Contractor in the amount of \$299,500 associated with a pump station improvement project for three pump stations (Moe Road, MTP and Round Lake stations).

Mr. Hellwig said that for the third item, \$1.5M is for additional tuition costs and \$500K is for the preschool special education program. Mr. Hellwig said that the County received \$2M this year as a partial reimbursement from the Water Authority and this resolution will allow the County to appropriate the funds to cover the charges. Mr. Hellwig said that the total costs for tuition benefits this year will be approximately \$8.4M.

For the fourth item, Mr. Hellwig said that the Sewer Commission had approved a \$20 rate increase at their November 9th meeting following a public hearing on the rates, and the board's approval is needed before the rates can go into effect.

For the fifth item, Mr. Hellwig said that he had initially approved a minor contract with Laberge Group for emergency services tied to a failure of a sewer line, at this point additional engineering services are needed to finalize replacement and repair and the costs exceed the \$15K minor

contract limit. For the final item, the agreements are tied to ongoing capital improvements to pump stations.

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

Respectfully submitted,
Therese Connolly
Deputy Clerk of the Board