

2019 Tentative Budget Workshop
November 19, 2018

Vice Chairman Tollisen called the meeting to order.

Roll call was taken: PRESENT – Alan Grattidge, Philip C. Barrett, Jean Raymond, Preston Allen, Arthur M. Wright, Kevin Tollisen, Scott Ostrander, Sandra Winney, Thomas N. Wood, III, Tara N. Gaston, Matthew E. Veitch, Edward D. Kinowski, John Lawler Arthur J. Johnson – 14. ABSENT – Timothy Szczepaniak, Jonathan Schopf, Richard Lucia, Michael Smith, Daniel Pemrick, Vincent DeLucia, Thomas Richardson, Willard H. Peck, Theodore Kusnierz -9.

The Clerk read the rules of the Budget Workshop.

Mr. Hellwig distributed a handout containing the General Budget Overview. In this handout there are charts that will show various changes in the spending categories from 2018 to 2019.

Mr. Hellwig distributed the Law & Finance Amendments. This handout shows what will need to be changed prior to the adoption of the budget assuming the Board approves those change that were recommended at the Law & Finance Budget Hearings.

Mr. Hellwig gave a brief overview and went over the handout. He said two items on the Capital Register are Rehabilitation of the Water Tower and Jail Renovations. These are new projects. Issues were discovered with the water tower that feeds the water to the Correctional Facility. The \$246,000 represents a multi-year project. There will also be an annual maintenance of the water system to the facility. With regards to the Jail Renovations, \$200,000 will be for renovations of the Jail to come into compliance with the Department of Corrections in term of bedding for the facility. The \$60,000 will be used for long term changes in the facility. A study will be done. Mr. Hellwig said about \$5M in requests have been removed. The Law and Finance Committee budget hearings were last week and the amendments made at that hearing were handed out. These changes will go for a vote at the special meeting in December when the budget is adopted.

Mr. Barrett asked Mr. Hellwig to be more specific regarding the additional funding for beds at the Jail and the \$60,000 for long term renovations. He asked if the \$60,000 was for engineering. Mr. Hellwig said in 2019 there is going to be modifications made to an area of the jail known as the education area that will be moved to another area. That area will have 22 beds added as a result of the renovation/creation of a dorm area. Mr. Hellwig said the \$60,000 is for an engineering firm to look at the renovation of the outdoor exercise area. Mr. Barrett said he agrees the exercise area needs to be done and added he sent a letter, a couple months ago, to leadership about the jail. He said he toured the jail and outlined some concerns he had that the facility does need work in some areas that are evident now and will become worse in the future. Mr. Hellwig stated every item in the letter will be addressed in 2019 with the exception of the exercise area. Mr. Barrett thanked Mr. Hellwig and agreed if prioritizing the issues, the exercise yard would be last.

Ms. Gaston asked what the decrease in the General Government Spending was attributed to. Mr. Hellwig said general government spending is generally administrative costs. He said he would have to review what was put under that category and there have been areas that have seen significant drops such as the health insurance due to becoming self-insured. Ms. Gaston said would some of this be the Public Safety Facility. Mr. Hellwig said the expense for that facility was taken out of the general fund and put into a capital account so that is some of it.

Mr. Ostrander asked if an explanation could be given as to why the Senior Investigator position was pulled from the Sheriff's request. He added he received many phone calls on this. Mrs. McNamara said a subcommittee met and went over the \$2M in Departmental requests. The decision was made to provide the Sheriff's Department with two (2) full time 911 Dispatchers, 2 Desk Officers and a Director of Community Preparedness and Youth Services and salary changes for other positions. It was agreed that these were more important at this time. Mr. Ostrander asked if a Director of Community Preparedness and Youth Services/School Resource Officer was created/needed more than a Senior Investigator who would handle the high profile cases in Saratoga County. Mrs. McNamara said she relies on the Sheriff when it comes to these decisions.

Mr. Lawler asked if Mr. Hellwig could explain the increase in revenue which looks to be about \$10M. Mr. Hellwig said the increase in revenue can be attributed to the School Resource Program which revenue will come from the schools, the

new operator at the Landfill and the Gaming Revenue. Mr. Lawler asked about the Public Defender's Office and the revenue received there. Mr. Hellwig said that is the Indigent Legal Services.

Mr. Barrett said one thing that should not be overlooked and he has been tracking for over a year since the Chinese changed their rules as far as what would be accepted as recyclable materials. He said he was afraid as the contract came up that it might affect us as it has everyone else. It did to the tune of \$200,000. He doesn't think that should be overlooked as Saratoga County continues its commitment to recycling and unfortunately for 2019 its going to come at a much higher cost. But despite that higher cost the Board of Supervisors is maintaining the recycling program as it is. He gave kudos to Mr. Tollisen and the Budget team.

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

Respectfully submitted,

Pamela Wright, Clerk