

Buildings & Grounds Committee Minutes
June 11, 2019 – 4:00 p.m.

Present: Chairman Matthew Veitch; Committee Members Phil Barrett, Todd Kusnierz, Mike Smith; Supervisor Tara Gaston and Chairman of the Board Kevin Tollisen; Spencer Hellwig, County Administrator; Steve Dorsey, County Attorney; Keith Manz, Tom Speziale, Public Works; Turner Bradford, McFarland Johnson; Frank Zilka, John Zilka, Jon Crimmins, Chris Scaringe, North American Flight Services; Sana Syed, Town of Clifton Park Intern.

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

On a motion made by Mr. Smith, seconded by Mr. Kusnierz, the minutes of the March 12, 2018 meeting were approved unanimously.

A motion was made by Mr. Barrett, seconded by Mr. Smith, to authorize acceptance of a NYSDOT Aviation Snow Removal Equipment Building Grant and amending the budget in relation thereto. Unanimous.

Mr. Manz said that the grant amount is \$799,432 and the 10% county match is \$7,994. The building will be also used to house some mowing equipment.

A motion was made by Mr. Smith, seconded by Mr. Barrett, to authorize a license agreement for a shooting range in the Town of Corinth. Unanimous.

Mr. Dorsey said that the Sheriff's Department has been using this 39 acre parcel for the past 20 years. It is located at 129 Heath Road and the Sheriff's Department has constructed a building on this property using asset forfeiture funds. The Town of Corinth has asked the County to formalize the arrangement. The license agreement will be good until 12/31/2029 and renewable for 10 year periods thereafter for \$1 per year. The Sheriff's use of the range will be limited to 8am – 8pm and it would not be used for shooting on the weekend without prior approval from the Town. The county will be responsible for maintenance on the property and building. If at the end of the license, the County decides that it does not want to renew the license, both parties would need to engage in discussions on what to do with the building as the building was constructed with asset forfeiture funds and the use of these funds are strictly controlled. The building would need to be purchased by the Town or removed from the property.

Mr. Tollisen joined the meeting at this point. Mr. Kusnierz stated that he does business with North American Flight Services and to avoid the appearance of a conflict of interest, he will be abstaining from any discussion or vote on this next item.

A motion was made by Mr. Tollisen, seconded by Mr. Barrett, to authorize the acceptance of the conveyance of North American Flight Services, Inc.'s Hangar Building at the County Airport subject to certain terms and conditions. The motion passed. Mr. Kusnierz abstained.

Mr. Dorsey said that the Town of Milton hired a new assessor last year. The Assessor had previously done work in the Town of Colonie, is experienced in the assessment of airport property, and they took a different view on how airport properties should be assessed. Saratoga County currently has two leases with North American Flight Services that run into 2028. The leases are known as the East lease and the West least. On the West least, North American constructed a hangar building which also contains their offices. The town assessor for the first time last year decided that this building was now going to be assessed which resulted in a substantial tax which was not accounted for in the previously negotiated rent. North American would like to deed the hangar building over to the County by the end of June, and in exchange for that, the existing leases would be amended to provide for a renewal option at the expiration for an additional 20 years. This option would be subject to a public hearing and the rent would be negotiated by the parties at that time, approximately 9 years from now. A meeting was held with Mr. Ostrander as the loss of tax revenue to his town would be approximately \$760. Mr. Ostrander supports the arrangement. North American would continue to maintain the building and be responsible for utilities.

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

Respectfully submitted,
Therese Connolly
Deputy Clerk of the Board