

Law and Finance Committee Minutes
August 14, 2019 – 4:00 p.m.

Present: Chairman Preston Allen; Committee members Ed Kinowski, Scott Ostrander, Dan Pemrick, Jonathan Schopf, Tim Szczepaniak, Mo Wright; Supervisors Alan Grattidge, Art Johnson, Todd Kusnierz, Jean Raymond, Michael Smith, Matt Veitch, Sandra Winney, Tom Wood and Chairman of the Board Kevin Tollisen; Spencer Hellwig, Chad Cooke, Brian O’Conor, County Administrator; Steve Dorsey, County Attorney; Chris Schall, County Auditor, Bill Fruci, Roger Schiera, Board of Elections; Craig Hayner, County Clerk; Karen Heggen, District Attorney; Carl Zeilman, Emergency Services; Margaret McNamara, Adam Kinowski, Human Resources; Michael Prezioso, Mental Health & Addiction; Jason Kemper, Planning, Catherine Duncan, Public Health; Keith Manz, Public Works; Dan Rourke, Sewer District; Michael Zurlo, Sheriff; Andrew Jarosh, Treasurer; J. Wes Carr, Youth Bureau & STOP DWI; Ridge Harris, Gramercy Communications; Press.

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

On a motion made by Mr. Kinowski, seconded by Mr. Szczepaniak, the minutes of the July 10, 2019 meeting were approved unanimously.

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

HUMAN RESOURCES & INSURANCE

- Authorizing a 1-year renewal agreement with MVP for retiree health insurance coverage in the amount of \$3,512,330.51.
- Amending the County's property and casualty insurance policies to include a provision to add insurance coverage for Unmanned Aerial Systems (Drones) in an amount of \$4,236.
- Amending the policies and procedures manual to revise the intern policy.
- Amending the policies and procedures manual to add the Nursing Mothers Accommodation Policy.

Mr. Hellwig said that for the first item, the renewal agreement reflects a 5% increase over the expiring policy. MVP have also committed to an 8% increase cap on the second year. For the second item, the insurance will provide coverage for liability associated with the drones, the \$1M policy will cover bodily injury and property damage. For the third item, there are currently two types of interns, paid and unpaid. Distinctions will be made in the policy regarding hiring of both categories. For the final item, a policy has been in place for some time and this will provide a guide to department heads, and greater consistency from Department to Department.

On a motion made by Mr. Ostrander, seconded by Mr. Kinowski, the following resolutions were approved unanimously.

HEALTH & SOCIAL SERVICES

- Authorizing the acceptance of additional state aid in the form of COLAs for Direct Care and Direct Support Professional initiatives in the amount of \$14,352 in the Mental Health Department and amending the budget in relation thereto.
- Authorizing the acceptance of \$1,000 from the Saratoga County Citizens Committee for Mental Health and amending the budget in relation thereto.
- Authorizing the Youth Bureau's 2019 Funding Applications and Contracts.
- Authorizing a nursing services rate for the Preschool Special Education Program. (J. Wes Carr, Youth Bureau Director)
- Authorizing a contract with Cross Country Staffing to provide nursing services for the Preschool Special Education program at a rate of \$76 per hour.
- Authorizing an agreement with Health Research, Inc. to accept a New York State Department of Health Public Health Emergency Preparedness Program Grant.

For the first resolution, Mr. Hellwig said that the Health & Social Services Committee has the authority to approve the COLA increases however, approval is needed to accept the additional funds. For the second item, the funds will be used for therapeutic patient supplies. For the third item, this is an annual housekeeping item and will approve the annual funding with the various entities across the county related to delinquency prevention services. For the fourth item, the county currently has a situation with a child who needs special nursing services in the preschool program, in order for the County be reimbursed for the services, a rate needs to be set. The next item is the agreement with the nursing service for the child. For the final item, the grant amount is \$184,972, which is a decrease of approximately 3% from last year's grant.

On a motion made by Mr. Szczepaniak, seconded by Mr. Wright, the following resolution was approved unanimously.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

- Authorizing the Chair to enter into the necessary agreements to apply for, accept and administer a New York State snowmobile grant-in-aid program grant, and authorizing the issuance of a negative declaration.

Mr. Hellwig said that these funds are passed through to the Saratoga County Association of Snowmobile Clubs who will use the funding for trail maintenance and other activities related to snowmobile use within the county. The maximum funding amount is \$89K.

On a motion made by Mr. Pemrick, seconded by Mr. Kinowski, the following resolution was approved unanimously.

REAL PROPERTY TAX

- Introducing a proposed amendment to Local Law No. 4 of 2018 to modify the annual PILOT payment required for solar energy systems and setting a date for a public hearing thereon.

Mr. Hellwig said that the payment will be reduced from \$3,500 to \$1,000 per megawatt. Based on feedback from prospective solar energy companies, the initial recommendation received from NYSERDA was reviewed and it has been determined that the rate is not consistent with the amounts that are typically used on a state wide basis. The public hearing will be held on September 11, 2019.

On a motion made by Mr. Szczepaniak, seconded by Mr. Pemrick, the following resolutions were approved unanimously.

PUBLIC SAFETY

- Authorizing a transfer from the DWI Reserve in the amount of \$6,500 and amending the budget in relation thereto.
- Authorize a 3-year 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 an amendment to Resolution 249 of 2017 to increase Saratoga Hospital's annual contract amount to \$35,000.

For the first item, the funds will be used to cover drug recognition training for Sheriff's Deputies at an International Association of Police Chiefs seminar. For the second item, there is a rate change based on the volume of cases and the fees associated. The renewal will be an approximate 5% increase. For the final item, the original agreement had a limit of \$25K and based on the volume of cases, that amount has been exceeded.

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

BUILDINGS & GROUNDS

- Authorizing a contract amendment with Gallo Construction in the amount of \$26,277.64 for construction related services associated with Jail dorm room renovations.
- Authorizing the acceptance of a NYSDOT grant in the amount of \$176,000 for design services related to the installation of a perimeter fence at the airport.

- Authorizing a contract with McFarland Johnson, Inc. in the amount of \$171,016 for design services associated with the installation of a perimeter fence at the airport.
- Authorizing the acceptance of a NYSDOT grant in the amount of \$420,000 for design services related to the installation of a new parallel taxiway at the airport and amending the budget in relation thereto.
- Authorizing a contract with McFarland Johnson, Inc. in the amount of \$413,658 for design services associated with the installation of a new partial parallel taxiway at the airport.

Mr. Hellwig said that for the first item, the original contract amount was for \$229,450 and the amended total is a result of some plumbing and block work that was not anticipated. For the second item, the funding will cover the costs related to the design of the perimeter fence at the airport and the next item is the contract with McFarland Johnson for those services. For the fourth item, the County share is approximately \$21K and a budget amendment is required based on what was placed in the budget, and what the bids came back at. The final item is the contract with McFarland Johnson for the design services. Mr. Szczepaniak expressed concern over the cost of the design services. Mr. Manz said that the estimates were reviewed by a consultant and the FAA and they came back acceptable. The County share is 5%.

On a motion made by Mr. Kinowski, seconded by Mr. Pemrick, the following resolutions were approved unanimously.

LAW & FINANCE

- Authorize an amendment to the contract with Barton and Loguidice in the amount of \$153,200 for additional engineering services associated with ammonia capacity analysis and plant upgrades.
- Authorize a contract with Insituform Technologies in the amount of \$5,938,195 for services associated with relining a portion of the Sewer District's interceptor sewer and amending the budget.
- Authorize the acceptance of state aid for purchases related to NYS early voting reform and amending the budget in relation thereto.

Mr. Hellwig said that for the first item, they will be conducting a pilot program to determine the viability of new technologies before they move forward with the upgrades to deal with the ammonia treatment issues. For the second item, this is part of the District's continuation to reline the entire 15 miles of interceptor line. A portion of this work was coordinated with the Planning Department to advance the sewer improvements occurring in the vicinity of the Zim Smith Trail so that the trail does not need to be disturbed twice. For the final item, the funds will be used to purchase the required electronic poll books and related equipment as part of the compliance with NYS early voting reform.

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

Respectfully submitted,
Therese Connolly
Deputy Clerk of the Board