

Law and Finance Committee Minutes  
February 12, 2020 – 4:00 p.m.

Present: Chairman Daniel Pemrick; Committee members Ed Kinowski, Todd Kusnierz, Jonathan Schopf, Kevin Tollisen, Sandra Winney, Mo Wright; Supervisors Tara Gaston, Alan Grattidge, John Lant, Dick Lucia, Bill Peck, Mike Smith, Tom Wood; Spencer Hellwig, Chad Cooke, Brian O’Conor, County Administrator; Steve Dorsey, County Attorney; Craig Hayner, County Clerk; Tina Potter, DSS; Jenniffer McCloskey, Employment & Training; Lauren Roberts, Historian; Adam Kinowski, Human Resources; Jason Kemper, Planning; Andrew Blumenberg, Public Defender; Keith Manz, Public Works; Anna Stanko, Real Property Tax; Dan Rourke, Sewer; Michael Zurlo, Sheriff; J. Wes Carr, STOP DWI; Barbara Thomas, League of Women Voters; Ridge Harris, Gramercy Communications; Press.

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

**On a motion made by Mr. Kinowski, seconded by Mr. Kusnierz, the minutes of the January 15, 2020 meeting were approved unanimously.**

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

**HEALTH & SOCIAL SERVICES**

- Authorizing the acceptance of a grant from the NYS Office of Children and Family Services in the amount of \$1,000,000 and amending the budget.

Mr. Hellwig said that this grant will cover a 2 year period from 10/2019 – 9/2021. The grant is targeted at addressing the growing caseloads for short term child care services.

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

**HUMAN RESOURCES & INSURANCE**

- Authorize a contract with Saratoga Hospital in an amount not to exceed \$30,000 for physical examination and testing services.

Mr. Hellwig said that this is a 1-year renewal grant. The physical examination and testing services are conducted for existing and new employees as part of the hiring process and/or drug testing protocol within the County.

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

## **PUBLIC SAFETY**

- Authorize the Chairman of the Board of Supervisors to enter into a contract with Trinity Services Group for food service procurement management services for the Saratoga County Correctional Facility.
- Authorize an amendment to the 2020 budget to reappropriate unspent capital funds in the Sheriff's Department in the amount of \$86,631.41.
- Authorize a 3-year contract with Northeast Mobile Dental Services for dental services at the County's correctional facility in the amount of \$126,000.
- Authorize an amendment to the 2020 budget to reappropriate unspent Statewide Interoperable Communications grant funds in the amount of \$848,874.
- Authorize a contract with Cellco Partnership d/b/a Verizon Wireless in the amount of \$26,400 per year to co-locate wireless communications equipment on the County's radio monopole in the Town of Edinburg.
- Authorizing participation in the 2020 State STOP-DWI program and contracts with local agency participants.
- Authorize the acceptance of a grant from the NYS Office of Indigent Legal Services in amount of \$211,602 for Distribution No. 9 for the period from January 1, 2019 through December 31, 2021.
- Authorize the acceptance of a grant from the NYS Office of Indigent Legal Services in amount of \$211,602 for Distribution No. 10 for the period from January 1, 2020 through December 31, 2022.
- Authorizing Chairman to enter into intermunicipal agreements with participating municipalities for 2020 Saratoga County Animal Shelter services.

Mr. Hellwig said that for the first item, an RFP was issued for the services and Trinity was the only response received. Based on the pricing structure in their proposal, it is anticipated that there will be a savings of approximately \$40K this year on meal costs. For the second item, the funds will allow for payment of outstanding invoices for the jail renovation project. For the third item, the services are provided on an as needed basis for inmates. The cost since 2011 has been \$36K per year. The cost per year for this contract will be \$42K per year. For the fourth item, the funds will be used for the maintenance of the County's emergency radio system as well as additional work on the 3 County CAD network and the purchase of additional radio units. For the fifth item, part of the contract will provide for sharing 50% of the revenue with the landowner, Mr. Stock. For the sixth item, the program is entirely funded with STOP DWI fine monies and funds a variety of activities such as law enforcement, substance abuse treatment education and other prevention services. For the seventh item, the funds will be used to cover the salary of the Public Defender's office Social Worker and the costs associated with the Rural

Law Center. For the eight item, the funds will be used to cover a variety of services and supplies including training, investigators, expert witnesses, and technology upgrades.

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

### **REAL PROPERTY TAX**

- Authorize a tax correction on a parcel in the Town of Waterford related to an incorrect sewer levy.
- Authorize the acceptance of tender offers totaling \$45,656.42.
- Authorize the acceptance of tender offer from the Town of Corinth on Tax Parcel 73.-2-61.

Mr. Hellwig said that for the first item, the parcel was incorrectly levied a sewer charge of a little over \$27K, the correct amount was \$321.99. For the second item, the tender offers are for properties in the Towns of Ballston, Halfmoon and Malta for back taxes from 2017-2019. For the final item, the Town will be paying for the delinquent taxes, penalties and interest and the County will be retaining an easement to a landlocked parcel for future timbering activities. There is also a reverter clause in this agreement that requires the parcel be returned to the County in the event that the Town is no longer using the parcel for public benefit.

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

### **LEGISLATIVE & RESEARCH**

- Adopt the 2020 Legislative Agenda.
- Support of Senator Tedisco's S.7280 bill that extends privacy protections to emergency first responders to address some of the inadequacies with recent discovery law reform.

For the first item, Mr. Hellwig said that the agenda includes a listing of priorities including Criminal Justice Reform, Medicaid Reform, infrastructure funding for communities across the County, Community College Tuition, Early Voting, and VLT funding. A group of Supervisors met with the State Representatives prior to the Legislative & Research meeting and based on their discussions, they believe these items have the greatest likelihood of being supported at the State level. For the second item, the law currently provides protections for law enforcement personnel to protect their families against threats of intimidation, this bill would extend the protections to emergency medical providers as well as fire personnel.

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

## **RACING & GAMING**

- Resolution seeking full restoration of VLT Funding in the 2020-2021 State Budget.

Mr. Hellwig said that in 2019 County received, and has budgeted for 2020, \$775K. The City of Saratoga Springs has an excess of \$2.3M in their budget. The resolution is to urge the Governor and State Legislature to reinstate the funding.

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

## **PUBLIC WORKS**

- Authorizing inter-municipal agreements for the period of January 1, 2020 – December 31, 2020 with the Towns of Clifton Park, Corinth, Moreau and the City of Saratoga Springs for the purpose of managing the collection of recyclables at the county recycling centers located in their respective municipalities for the amount of \$35,000 per municipality.
- Authorizing a purchase agreement for the acquisition of a temporary construction easement from Stanley E. Brizzie, Tax Parcel 215.-1-29, 510+/- sf, needed for the replacement of the CR 59 (Middleline Road) culvert over a Tributary of the Gordon Creek in the Town of Milton for the amount of \$100.

Mr. Hellwig said that for the first item, this yearly stipend will help to offset the costs associated with operating the recycling center in these municipalities.

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

## **ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**

- Terminating the agreement with Warren and Washington Counties for Workforce Development Board appointments and authorizing the Chair to execute a new agreement subject to certain terms and conditions.
- Approving amendments to the boundaries of Saratoga County Consolidated Agricultural District #2 and authorizing an issuance of a negative declaration under SEQRA.

Mr. Hellwig said that the first item will be brought to the special Board Meeting scheduled for 4:35pm today. The Workforce Development Board's Executive Director and the Board Chairman are refusing to recognize one of the Saratoga County Chairman's appointments on the grounds that the appointment did not fall within the categories that are permissible under the current agreement. Discussions will begin next week with the Administrators from Warren and Washington Counties, and the County Attorney, to draft a new agreement that serves the needs of all three counties. For the second item, Mr. Hellwig said that a public hearing will take place

today at 4:25pm. There is a little over 172 acres of additional property being added to the district from the Towns of Galway, Providence, Malta and Clifton Park.

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

### **LAW & FINANCE**

- Authorize acceptance of a local grant from the William G. Pomeroy Foundation in the amount of \$1,100 for the placement of an historic marker and amending the budget in relation thereto.
  - Authorize the Chair of the Board or the County Administrator to execute contracts as necessary related to the census initiative, recognize grant funds from the State in an amount up to \$213,683 and amending the budget in relation thereto.
  - Authorizing an amendment to the Sewer District's 2020 budget to reappropriate \$6,882,942 for a variety of Sewer District projects including the rehabilitation of pump stations, treatment plant upgrades, and interceptor relining projects.
  - Introducing a local law to update the County's Sewer Use Ordinance and setting a public hearing for Wednesday, March 11th at 4:20 p.m.
- Adopting a Local Law amending the 2020 County Compensation Schedule.

For the first item, the marker will be placed on CR 16 in the Town of Providence and will provide a brief history of the County Infirmary. For the second item, the County is prohibited from spending any of the funds prior to March 10. 75% of the funds must be given to not for profits, the county is allowed to spend 25% for administrative activities related to the Census. For the fourth item, this is being done as part of the consent order with the EPA and does require to be enforced by March 31<sup>st</sup>. Mr. Hellwig said that the final item will be voted upon at the special meeting scheduled for today. This local law extends the terms of the CSEA agreement to any county officers currently serving a term. This group can only receive a cost of living increase through the adoption of a local law. The local law was introduced in December and a public hearing was held. The officials included in this law include the Coroner, Treasurer, Real Property Director, DPW Commissioner, HR Director, DSS Commissioner, and the Elections Commissioners.

**On a motion made by Mr. Kinowski, seconded by Mr. Schopf, the meeting was adjourned unanimously.**

Respectfully submitted,  
Therese Connolly  
Deputy Clerk of the Board