

Health & Social Services Committee Minutes
February 5, 2020 – 2:30 p.m.

Present: Chairman Dick Lucia; Committee Members Todd Kusnierz, Darren O'Connor, Sandra Winney, Tom Wood, Benny Zlotnick; Supervisor Ed Kinowski and Chairman of the Board Preston Allen; Chad Cooke, County Administrator; Tina Potter, Department of Social Services, Michael Prezioso, Mental Health & Addiction.

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

On a motion made by Mr. O'Connor, seconded by Mr. Wood, the minutes of the January 8, 2020 meeting were approved unanimously.

A motion was made by Mrs. Winney, seconded by Mr. Zlotnick, to authorize 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. Unanimous.

Ms. Potter said that this grant will be used to expand the availability of subsidized daycare services for working parents in Saratoga County. Families can be working up to 20 hours per week or enrolled in a vocational program. The current subsidized daycare program has a waiting list. This is a 2 year grant and it is anticipated that \$400K will be spent this year and \$600K in 2021. A budget amendment in the amount of \$400K will be needed for 2020. There is no budget impact as this is 100% federal funding. Ms. Potter said that families can use formalized daycare, informal daycare and center based programs for daycare services. Ms. Potter said that notifications have been sent out to the families on the waiting list and 20 responses have already been received. Residents are made aware of this program from the website, word of mouth, and referrals are also made to those receiving other benefits such as SNAP. Ms. Potter said that daycare providers are also aware of the program.

Mr. Kinowski inquired about the Coronavirus and the County's preparation plans. Mr. Cooke said that there have been coordination efforts between Office of Emergency Services and Public Health to set up emergency protocols should those be deemed necessary.

On a motion made by Mr. Kusnierz, seconded by Mr. O'Connor, the meeting was adjourned unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,
Therese Connolly
Deputy Clerk of the Board