

Law and Finance Committee Minutes
March 11, 2020 – 4:00 p.m.

Present: Vice Chairman Jonathan Schopf; Committee members Ed Kinowski, Todd Kusnierz, Kevin Tollisen, Sandra Winney, Mo Wright; Supervisor Phil Barrett, Tara Gaston, John Lant, Jack Lawler, Dick Lucia, Bill Peck, Jean Raymond, Tom Wood, Benny Zlotnick and Chairman of the Board Preston Allen; Spencer Hellwig, Chad Cooke, Brian O’Conor County Administrator; Steve Dorsey, County Attorney; Craig Hayner, County Clerk; Karen Heggen, District Attorney; Adam Kinowski, Human Resources, Michael Prezioso, Mental Health & Addiction; Sandi Cross, Office for the Aging; Keith Manz, Public Works; Dan Rourke, Sewer; Michael Zurlo, Sheriff; J. Wes Carr, STOP DWI; Andrew Jarosh, Treasurer; Barbra Thomas, League of Women Voters; Press.

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

On a motion made by Mr. Kinowski, seconded by Mrs. Winney, the minutes of the February 12, 2020 & February 25, 2020 meetings were approved unanimously.

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

HEALTH & SOCIAL SERVICES

- Authorizing renewal contracts with five different homecare agencies to provide services for the Expanded In-Home Services for the Elderly (EISEP) program.
- Authorizing an amendment to Resolution 234 of 2019 to increase funding reimbursement to the Mechanicville Area Community Services Center from \$20,000 to \$42,000.
- Proclaiming April 2020 as "Donate Life Month" in Saratoga County.

Mr. Hellwig said that the first item is a housekeeping item. For the second item, the increased funding is available through the Community Services for the Elderly Program and will reimburse the salary and fringe for the center’s Director. For the final item, there are currently over 9,700 New Yorkers and 113K men and women across the country awaiting organ transplants. This is an awareness effort that has been in place for a number of years and carried out through the DMV offices.

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

HUMAN RESOURCES & INSURANCE

- Authorizing renewal of Workers' Compensation Excess Employer Liability coverage in an amount not to exceed \$22,821.
- Amending the policies and procedures manual relative to the time keeping policy.
- Amending the 2020 Compensation Schedule under Public Health Nursing Services to Create (1) Program Supervisor, Base \$60,496 and (1) Family Support Worker, Base \$38,898, and amending the budget in relation thereto.
- Amending the 2020 Compensation Schedule under Sheriff's Department to create (1) Staff Social Worker at a base salary of \$64,106, (2) Correction Officers at a base salary of \$45,190, and retitling (1) Correction Officer to Clerk Part-Time, and amending the budget in relation thereto.

Mr. Hellwig said that the first item is an annual housekeeping item. For the second item, Mr. Hellwig said that the amendment will include the Sheriff's department employees' titles that will now be required to log their time using Kronos. It will also list management titles that are exempt from the timeclock policy. For the third item, the new positions will administer a state funded program for healthy families which provides services to improve the health and wellbeing of infants and children through home based activities and services. For the final item, the new positions were reviewed during the budget cycle and the HR sub-committee requested that the Sheriff's department come back at the end of the quarter with more information to have the request reconsidered if deemed necessary. The additional cost of \$246,728 will be appropriated from fund balance.

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

PUBLIC SAFETY

- Amending the 2020 County Budget to increase appropriations and revenues by \$50,794.04 to reappropriate unspent NYS Homeland Security grant funds as approved by resolutions #214-17 and #221-18.
- Proclaiming April 12-18, 2020 as "National Public Safety Telecommunicators Week" in Saratoga County.
- Authorizing the transfer of funds from the STOP-DWI program reserve, and amending the 2020 county budget in relation thereto.

- Proclaiming April 19-25, 2020 as National Crime Victims' Week (2020 Theme - "Seek Justice | Ensure Victims' Rights | Inspire Hope").

For the first item, Mr. Hellwig said that the funds will be used for terrorism prevention program, training, planning and equipment. The second item will recognize Telecommunications Personnel for their dedication and service to the public in providing essential emergency communications in the various communities. For the third item, the funds will be used to send two Sheriff's deputies to attend Drug Recognition Expert training. For the final item, the initiative is to bring awareness to the victims and others whose lives have been negatively affected by criminal acts. Mrs. Heggen said that invitations to a special event will be sent out next week.

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

REAL PROPERTY TAX

- Authorize the acceptance of \$55,432.63 in pre-auction tender offers from the Towns of Ballston, Clifton Park, Edinburg, Halfmoon, Saratoga and Waterford.

Mr. Hellwig said that there may be additional tender offers received by the Treasurer's Office between now and the Board Meeting. These will be added to the resolution next week. Any tender offers received after the Board meeting will be brought to the April meeting for approval.

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

LEGISLATIVE & RESEARCH

- Opposing the Governor's proposal to shift 730.20 Competency Restoration Services costs to counties.

Mr. Hellwig said that presently defendants that are deemed incompetent to stand trial are placed in a state run mental health center, and the cost is split with the state 50%. The Governor is now proposing that the county assume the full cost. In past years, the county cost has run from \$550K to \$650K and if this law is passed, the county costs will be in excess of \$1M.

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

PUBLIC WORKS

- Authorize an amendment to the 2020 budget to reappropriate unspent funds for Public Works projects totaling \$1,146,030.

Mr. Hellwig said that these are various road and bridge projects across the county that were approved in the 2019 Capital Plan.

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

BUILDINGS & GROUNDS

- Authorize an amendment to the 2020 budget to reappropriate unspent funds for Buildings and Grounds projects totaling \$434,251.

Mr. Hellwig said that all of the items are 2019 capital projects, the largest project is for engineering work related to the construction of the parallel taxiway and perimeter fencing at the Airport.

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

LAW & FINANCE

- Authorize the acceptance of \$7,950 from the New York State Environmental Facilities Corporation as part of the septic system rehabilitation program, authorize payment to a recipient in the Town of Clifton Park, and amend the budget in relation thereto.
- Adopting a Local Law identified as Introductory No. 1, Print No. 1 of 2020 entitled “A Local Law Adopting New Sewer Use Rules and Regulations for Saratoga County Sewer District No. 1 which shall supersede and replace Local Law No. 3 Of 1984”.

For the first item, Mr. Hellwig said that this is a state sponsored program that has to be managed through the County. For the final item, there will be a public hearing held today at 4:20pm and the item will then be placed on the agenda for the Board Meeting.

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

Respectfully submitted,
Therese Connolly
Deputy Clerk of the Board