

AGENDA SESSION
May 13, 2020 4:30 p.m.
Meeting Minutes

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

Roll call was taken. PRESENT – Eric Connolly, Alan Grattidge, Philip C. Barrett, Jonathon Schopf, Richard Lucia, Preston Allen, Jean Raymond, Michael Smith, Daniel Pemrick, Arthur Wright, Kevin Tollisen, Darren O’Connor, Theodore Kusnierz, Benny Zlotnick, Willard H. Peck, Sandra Winney, Thomas N. Wood, III, Tara N. Gaston, Matthew Veitch, Edward D. Kinowski, John Lawler – 21. ABSENT - Thomas Richardson, John Lant – 2.

On a motion by Mr. Kinowski, seconded by Mr. Peck the minutes of the March 11, 2020 meeting were unanimously approved.

Mr. Pemrick asked for a motion to accept the agenda for the May 19, 2020 Board meeting as presented and approved by the Law and Finance Committee prior to this meeting. The motion was made by Mr. Zlotnick and seconded by Mr. Grattidge. Unanimous.

Mr. Pemrick asked Ms. Duncan to provide an update to the Board. Ms. Duncan gave an update on the number of cases as well as the challenges they are facing not only with testing but with the labs that are being overwhelmed. She spoke of the testing being done at the nursing homes. Ms. Duncan is a member of the Phase One Advisory Group and provided an update on their meeting. On her department’s website there is a new feature that provides up to date information. Mr. O’Connor said he had been to SUNY Albany campus to be tested. He went to the State’s website to sign up, received a call and went down. He said it was an easy process. Mr. Schopf asked what proof had to be given to prove someone was essential. Ms. Duncan didn’t know. Ms. Gaston asked about testing and the availability of tests.

Ms. Gaston said she has sent several emails that have gone unanswered. She has concerns about the composition of the reopening group that the Chairman appointed. She said she thought Supervisor Smith, Supervisor Lucia and Ms. McCloskey should have been included. She was also looking for an answer as to why a meeting was not called that she had asked for. She was concerned there was no representation from Human Resources in the room as her emails also asked for information from that department. She wanted to be sure this was on the record so her constituents could see she was trying to get answers.

Mr. Barrett said at the Public Works Committee meeting three projects that were suppose to be done this year in Clifton Park were removed from the 2020 budget and moved to 2021. He is concerned about the failing road conditions of Main Street and the strong need for the traffic signal at Grooms and Vischer Ferry Roads. Ashdown Road Bridge was another project in Clifton Park that is not going to be completed. He said at the committee meeting he offered to loan the County the funding needed to get these projects done this year. The cost is \$209,000. He reported that he did contact his Town Board members and all were wholeheartedly in support of loaning this money to the County so these very important projects can be done.

Mr. Grattidge said at the end of the meeting he did ask the County Attorney for a legal opinion on whether doing something like this would be possible so the committee will be looking at this. He added that the Ashdown Road Bridge was removed prior to the pandemic for reasons that concerned the railroad. Mr. Barrett said this is absolutely correct and that is why he is focusing on the other two projects.

Mr. Connolly shared the town had just lost someone to the virus and urged everyone to follow the guidelines.

Mr. Kusnierz expressed his condolences to his colleague. He said he was compelled to echo Ms. Gaston’s comments that he too has asked for information and he has not received it. He said this is not partisan issues but are people issues, public health issues. It is a disservice to the community for them not to receive the information they’ve requested. He reported he was on a call with Congresswoman Stefanik and he received a lot of information. He asked about the sales tax revenue loss implication on the County. Mr. Hellwig said as of right

now the operating budget has an \$18M deficit. Mr. Kusnierz said another concern voiced on the call was that of the opening of DMV and they are hoping they will be up and running soon. He said it was a good call and said he was available to talk with any of his colleagues if they'd like more detail.

Mr. Schopf asked for an update on the investigation for HR. Mr. Lawler reported that his committee has met with six individuals in two separate meetings lasting almost four hours. He said he is hoping to be able to report at the June meeting. He said there will be another meeting on Friday and they have about six more individuals they would like to meet with if they will speak to them. He hopes to have something to report at this month's board meeting.

Mr. Schopf asked about the independent investigation. Mr. Dorsey said he didn't know who they were reporting to be he did know they were interviewing witnesses. He was one of those interviewed so far. He doesn't know who they are talking to or what their time line is. Mr. Schopf asked Mr. Hellwig or Mr. Cooke if they have anything to report. Mr. Hellwig did not. Mr. Cooke said he had been interviewed and received a request today for more information. He didn't know of any time frame for completion.

Mr. Lawler asked Mr. Hellwig if he had sent out a rather comprehensive financial analysis. It was determined that came from the County Treasurer. Mr. Kusnierz said the questions he asked were not addressed in that analysis.

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

Respectfully submitted,

Pamela Wright
Clerk of the Board

PROPOSED RESOLUTIONS

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 \$45,367 in the Mental Health Department and amending the budget in relation thereto.

PUBLIC SAFETY

Authorize a 2-year agreement and a 1-year renewal option with Cummins Sales and Service in the amount of \$19,924.82 per year for generator preventative maintenance at 800 MHz radio tower sites.

Authorizing a tower agreement with the Saratoga Springs City School District for the placement of a communications antenna and related equipment on the County's radio communications tower on Mt. McGregor.

REAL PROPERTY TAX

Authorizing the postponement of the 2020 foreclosure proceeding for 2018 delinquent taxes until 2021.

RACING & GAMING

Resolution supporting Saratoga's Thoroughbred Racing meet in 2020.

PUBLIC WORKS

Authorizing an amended agreement with Clark Patterson Lee in the amount of \$158,000 for construction support services associated with the replacement of the CR 13 bridge over Cadman Creek in the Town of Providence.

BUILDINGS & GROUNDS

Authorizing the creation of a Reserve Account for the purposes to transferring allocated airport capital funds associated with the County's airport property currently occupied by the Gateway House of Peace.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Approving the Workforce Development Board budget for program year 2020-2021 for \$96,400 and authorizing agreements with Warren and Washington Counties to fund WDB services.

Authorizing an agreement with the Washington County Economic Opportunity Council, Inc. to administer the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act Title I Adult Program services and Dislocated Workers Program in Washington County.

Authorizing an agreement with Washington County EOC for the administration of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act Youth Program in Washington County.

LAW & FINANCE

Authorizing the Chair to execute a tower license agreement with Celco Partnership, D/B/A Verizon Wireless, for the placement of communications equipment on the County's Lakeview radio communications tower in the Town Of Day.

Authorize the Chair to execute an agreement with the NYS Board of Elections for a grant in the amount of \$126,148 to reimburse 2019 early voting costs.

Authorize the Chair to execute an agreement with the NYS Board of Elections for a grant in the amount of \$321,119 to reimburse additional election costs due to COVID-19.

Authorize the Chair to execute an agreement with NTS Data Services in the amount of \$23,121 for absentee ballot mailing services.

Authorizing a 1-year veterinarian professional liability insurance policy from 5/8/2020 through 5/8/2021 in the amount of \$3,830.15.

Authorizing the Chair to execute a task order with National Grid in the amount of \$1,730,000 associated with the District's environmental benefit project to install a solar array at the treatment plant.

Authorizing a contract with Greenman-Pedersen for professional engineering and construction services in the amount of \$228,627 associated with a project to upgrade the treatment plant's HVAC systems, roofing systems, and construction of a storage building.