

LAW & FINANCE Transcript 3/10/2021

SPEAKERS

Jean Raymond, Steve Bulger, Bill Peck, Mo Wright, Tara Gaston, Sandra Winney, Phil Barrett, Jonathan Schopf, Michael Hartnett, Matt Veitch, Benny Zlotnick, Kevin Tollisen, Several Supervisors, Therese Connolly, Tom Richardson, Tom Wood, Theodore Kusnierz, Frank McClement

Jonathan Schopf

Good afternoon, everyone. Jonathan Schopf, Chair of Law and Finance speaking. At this point we will call the March 10, 2021, four o'clock meeting on finance to order. Could I please have a roll call?

Therese Connolly

Supervisor Barrett.

Phil Barrett

Here.

Therese Connolly

Gaston.

Tara Gaston

Here.

Therese Connolly

Tollisen.

Kevin Tollisen

Here.

Therese Connolly

Veitch.

Matt Veitch

Here.

Therese Connolly

Winney.

Sandra Winney

Here.

Therese Connolly

Wood.

Tom Wood

Here.

Therese Connolly

Chairman Schopf.

Jonathan Schopf

Present.

Therese Connolly

Quorum is present.

Tom Wood

Thank you. So we have a fairly heavy stack of resolutions for the purposes of setting an agenda for this month's meeting. From I believe just about every committee here. So Administrator Bulger, if you could please start with Legislative. Oh, I'm sorry. I totally skipped the minutes. Everybody's had an opportunity to review the minutes. Everybody got the minutes circulated to them. So if we could just have a motion to approve the minutes of the February 10 2021 meeting, please.

Phil Barrett

So moved.

Tom Wood

Motion to approve Supervisor Wood.

Kevin Tollisen

Second, Supervisor Tollisen

Jonathan Schopf

So, moved by Supervisor Barrett seconded by Supervisor Tollisen. All in favor?

Several Supervisors

Aye.

Jonathan Schopf

Motion carries. And now, Mr. Bulger if you please start with the Legislative committee and work our way down here.

Steve Bulger

Thank you, Chairman. First item is from the Legislative and Research committee adopting the 2021 Saratoga County Legislative agenda, budget impact none. This resolution is an annual housekeeping

item and sets the Legislative agenda for the Saratoga County Board of Supervisors. The proposed agenda was set by the Committee and forwarded on to all Supervisors for review and consists of 11 State and 3 Federal initiatives, including an additional item related to broadband availability that was added as a result of a special meeting of the Committee on Monday, March 8.

Jonathan Schopf

Thank you. Is there any questions or comments about that proposed resolution? Hearing none, do we have a motion to move it?

Matt Veitch

I'll move it.

Jonathan Schopf

Supervisor Veitch. A second?

Sandra Winney

Second.

Jonathan Schopf

Second by Supervisor Winney, thank you. Any further discussion? Hearing none, all in favor?

Several Supervisors

Aye.

Jonathan Schopf

Any opposed? Motion carries.

Jean Raymond

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Jonathan Schopf

Thank you.

Steve Bulger

Next set of items are from the Health and Human Services Committee. First item authorizing three major contracts for contact tracing services, with Alana Martin in an amount not to exceed \$45,500, Deidre Hughes in an amount not to exceed \$39,000 and Kaitlyn Ellis in an amount not to exceed \$52,000. Budget impact none. Costs associated with this contract will be covered by a Health Research Inc. Grant. This resolution will authorize major contracts for contact tracers currently working in the Department of Health. All three of these individuals were working under a minor contract which cannot exceed \$15,000. Therefore the approval of major contract requires the Board's approval. There are no budget impacts associated as all these will be covered by the Health Research grant. Next item is authorizing the acceptance of \$9,133 in State Aid from the Office of Mental Health and the Office of Addiction Services and Support for cost of living adjustments provided to staff with contracted local

agencies. Budget impact, no budget impact 100% State aid. This item is a housekeeping resolution for authorization to renew our Community Mental Health contracts with various service providers for a one year period. The agencies and the County share are unchanged from 2020. Funding for all of these contracts is included in the 2021 adopted budget. Although there is no budget impact, a budget amendment will be necessary to recognize the additional State aid and account for the associated expenses. Next item authorizing renewal agreements with five separate Home Health Care agencies that provide expanded in Home Services for the elderly, for the same rates previously agreed to in 2020 and effective from April 1 2021 until March 31 2022. Budget impact, no budget impact, funding for these contracts are included in the 2021 budget. These home health care agencies provide personal care and do household chores, laundry, shopping, etc. to help seniors stay in their homes as opposed to being placed in a nursing home or other facility. The costs for these services are split 75% State and 25% County. All funding for these contracts is included in the 2021 budget.

Jonathan Schopf

Great, thank you. Is anybody here or on the phone have any questions about any of those three resolutions out of Health and Human Services? Hearing none, is there a motion to approve the three resolutions?

Tara Gaston

Chairman I will move them, Supervisor Gaston

Jonathan Schopf

Moved by Supervisor Gaston Is there a second?

Phil Barrett

Second.

Jean Raymond

I'll second.

Jonathan Schopf

Second by Supervisor Barrett, I believe was first. Any discussion on the motion? Hearing none, all in favor?

Several Supervisors

Aye.

Jonathan Schopf

Any opposed? Motion carries.

Tara Gaston

Thank you.

Jonathan Schopf

Thank you.

Steve Bulger

Okay, next set of items are from the Real Property Tax committee. These next four resolutions deal with corrections to tax bills. The first is authorizing the correction to the tax roll and generating have a new tax bill for tax parcel 224.-1-49 in the Town of Charlton in the amount of \$1,943.83. This first tax bill correction in Charlton is per the Town of Charlton Assessor as the school taxes were mistakenly re levied to the Town and County tax bill. Next item is authorizing a correction to the tax roll and generating a new tax bill for tax parcel 186.-2-44.2 in the Town of Galway in the amount of \$1,091.20. No budget impact. This second tax bill correction occurs in the Town of Galway per the Town of Galway Assessor the school taxes were mistakenly re levied to the Town and County tax bill. Next item is authorizing a correction to the tax roll and generating a new tax bill for tax parcel 200.-2-3 in the Town of Galway in the amount of \$926.97. No budget impact, this correction occurs in the Town of Galway per the Town of Galway Assessor the school taxes were mistakenly re levied to the Town and County tax bill. The fourth one of these is authorizing a correction to the tax roll and generating a new tax bill for tax parcel 210.-1-47 in the Town of Galway in the amount of \$1,190.27. No budget impact. As per the Town of Galway assessor the school taxes were mistakenly re levied to the Town and County tax bill. The next item is authorizing the cancellation of delinquent, current and prospective taxes for several tax parcels. Budget impact none. This resolution will authorize the cancellation of a number of delinquent, current and prospective tax parcels for a variety of reasons. These parcels are located in Towns of Corinth, Greenfield, Wilton, Milton, Waterford and Saratoga. A complete list of these parcels and associated taxes due was provided in the backup to the Real Property Tax committee. Next item is authorizing the Tax Enforcement Officer to permit the cancellation in whole of any interest to which the County shall be lawfully entitled for tax parcels number 262.-1-4.122 and number 262.-1-4.2. Budget impact none. This resolution authorizes the waiver of interest associated with tax liens for two parcels known as the Patenaude properties in Stillwater located on the border of Mechanicville in Stillwater. The Patenaude properties are comprised of abandoned industrial buildings which at one time contained a paint factory. The County has not foreclosed because by obtaining title, we would assume liability for the underlying environmental problems, which require remediation at significant costs. Decresente distributing is located on the neighboring property, and they have offered to purchase the Patenaude properties, including paying back taxes, in addition to the cost of the environmental cleanup, which will be supervised by DEC and eventually expanding their business operations. Cancellation of the interest is allowed under Real Property Tax Law 1182, if determined that it is in the best interest of the tax district. Best interest here is served by elimination of the interest which would enable the purchase of otherwise blighted tax deficient properties, environmental cleanup without the County assuming liability and restoration of the properties to the tax roll. Total interest for two parcels totals \$56,452.62.

Jonathan Schopf

Thank you, sir. On that last one. I just I believe it's contingent on the sale of the property with the associated commitment for cleanup. Is that correct?

Steve Bulger

That is correct.

Jonathan Schopf

Very good. Does anybody else have any questions for the Administrator? Thank you hearing none. Is there a motion to move these housekeeping matters out of Real Property Tax?

Phil Barrett

So moved.

Tara Gaston

I'll second, Supervisor Gaston.

Jonathan Schopf

Moved by Supervisor Barrett, Second by Supervisor Gaston. Any discussion on the motion? Hearing none all in favor?

Several Supervisors

Aye.

Jonathan Schopf

Any opposed? Thank you motions all pass.

Steve Bulger

Okay, next item is from the Veterans Affairs Committee. A grant program honoring Veterans. Budget impact up to \$105,000 in fiscal year 21, will be appropriated in either fund balance or contingency funding. This item authorizes the creation of a new grant program for County municipalities in support of Veteran's initiatives. Each municipality will be reimbursed for up to \$5,000 for expenses incurred in honoring or supporting Veterans in their municipality. Similar to the Economic Development grant fund. This program will be administered through the Veterans Service Agency. This funding can be used for a wide variety of uses to help honor or support Veterans in each municipality during 2021.

Jonathan Schopf

Any questions on this resolution?

Theodore Kusnierz

Mr. Chairman, I do have questions. Could you or maybe a member of the committee where this was reported out of just articulate, is there a limit as to the amount of funding that a municipality can receive? What are the parameters of the program?

Tom Richardson

Mr. Chairman, Tom Richardson here, I'm the Chairman of the Committee. The parameters are \$5,000 per community. And as Steve mentioned, it's for Veterans. It was brought to our attention, for example sake, Saratoga Springs was looking to honor the Veterans with flags on all of their graves. I know in Mechanicville, our Veterans are doing a walkway through Tallmadge Park, it's a brick walkway that they're making. And they're putting Veterans names on all the bricks and they need money to finish that project. As many of the other communities have mentioned that they have different ideas for their

Veterans, I happen to get my idea directly from the American Legion, which is on South Main Street in Mechanicville. Anything else that I can help you with?

Theodore Kusnierz

Thank you for that response. So each Town would get the same allocation?

Tom Richardson

That's correct. The two Cities and each Town.

Theodore Kusnierz

Thank you.

Matt Veitch

Yeah, thank you, Chairman. So I guess I'm guilty of bringing this forward at the Veterans Committee back when it came up in their meeting this last month. One of the things that I was looking for was a little bit of assistance for our City, because of budget cuts that we had this year. But I do think that doing maybe a grant program or something annually from the County would be a good idea. My amount that I was looking for was a little bit less than \$5,000. So I don't know what the actual appropriate level to ask for is on this? I know that some Towns spend some money on Veterans, and then some Towns, maybe don't spend as much on it. And I know VFWs do things. And there's a lot of different things out there. So I think my concern really with this, even though I was the one that brought it up, is that the level of funding seems a little bit high, in my opinion. So I've done some research on distributing based on whether its population or assessed value and things like that, and different Towns would get different levels based on that. And I don't know if that's something that the Board is interested in talking about. But I was thinking more along the lines of somewhere around \$20,000 or so for this not a larger expenditure. So I don't know, if I have to amend the motion or not. We haven't even moved it yet. So I don't know where we would go with this, but not sure I can support it at \$105,000.

Tom Richardson

Excuse me, may I make another comment? Thank you, the Veterans Committee thought that the \$5,000 allocation would be more than appropriate for each one of the communities based on the need of the Veterans, not on the needs of the communities. This the year 2021. And so I know some of the communities, and I know Mechanicville is also looking at, this is the 20th anniversary of 9/11. So there's a lot of things going on. So we also had a subcommittee of three of the Supervisors, Mr. Allen, Mr. Lawler and Mr. Wright. And they had discussions about this, they felt that this was an appropriate amount, they had discussions with Steve in regards to this, and everybody felt that the \$5,000 was an appropriate amount so to change it at this point, I think it would be somewhat hurtful. And also maybe I'm going to say a poke in the eye for Veterans who we certainly should be looking out for them especially this year. Considering 9/11 is 20 year anniversary.

Mo Wright

Can I speak? I was part of a subcommittee that came up with this project. And it was Matt's right he did bring it up at Veterans and we were on a subcommittee We kicked around a bunch of different values. City of Saratoga Springs said they were looking for \$5,000 at the time,. We thought that was a

reasonable amount for Saratoga Springs. We thought if Saratoga Springs would get it, every Town should get something. One thing that we did kick around at the subcommittee meeting, to keep in mind, we have not had a Veterans concert since 2016. Every year, or every other year, we were doing Veterans concerts, and the appropriation was normally between \$45,000 and \$50,000 for that project. It's been five years since we've done anything for the Veterans. So we felt \$105,000 while it is a lot, we felt what our Veterans has done for this County this County could afford to do for them. So we did set, that was our higher limit, we did put it at \$5,000. I don't really believe every Town would spend up the \$5,000, but they could. If they spent more than that they were on their own. But we felt that \$5,000 is a reasonable amount, and we pass it on to Law and Finance for you to come up with an amount. But we do feel strongly that every Town and every City deserves an equal amount because everyone cares about their Veterans as much. It doesn't matter how many people you have in your town. So I just, I would ask that if you do make an amendment to this, my opinion would be to leave the amount the same for every Town and City. Thank you.

Jonathan Schopf

Thank you. A couple questions I have, is this a reimbursement type grant for actual expenditures and then submitted to the County?

Jonathan Schopf

It would be a reimbursement grant, exactly.

Jonathan Schopf

Who's going to administer that?

Tom Richardson

Is Frank McClement here? Frank, do you want to mention how you were going to handle that?

Frank McClement

Sure, Supervisor. So in the Veterans Committee meeting, it was discussed that the funding would be available through the Veterans Service Agency, the application would be made similar to the Economic Development Grant Program, which I'm not overly familiar with. And myself, the County Administrator, Brian O'Connor discussed putting together a process where expenditures would be submitted to the Veterans agency for reimbursement, and then those reimbursements would be made through the Veteran's Service agency budget. Provided obviously all documentation was submitted accordingly and available for auditing and so on.

Jonathan Schopf

And is this going to be a continuing resolution in the annual budget year to year or is this a one time

Tom Richardson

This is a one shot deal

Jonathan Schopf

establishment of a grant to draw down the money from?

Tom Richardson

This is just a one year deal. We felt that it was appropriate again, because of the year and we thought it's certainly appropriate for our Veterans. Who could be more important than those people?

Tara Gaston

Chairman?

Jonathan Schopf

I'm sorry. Supervisor Gaston you chimed in earlier.

Tara Gaston

Thank you. I apologize. There was a special meeting of Veterans Committee. Correct? Was this particular amount discussed in that meeting? I don't have any minutes.

Tom Richardson

That is correct. Yes.

Tara Gaston

So the committee discussed the \$5,000 per municipality?

Tom Richardson

That's correct.

Tara Gaston

Okay. I also noticed that at the previous meeting, there was discussion of paying for the Dwyer program. I don't see that on this agenda. Is that in addition to that?

Tom Richardson

No. Frank, do you want to make a comment as far as the Dwyer money is concerned, please?

Frank McClement

Yes, Supervisor to answer your question. So, as you know, we were awaiting on response from New York State as to whether or not the monies that were allocated to us in last year State budget cycle for the Dwyer program, were going to be distributed, they had not been. And in the days leading up to the Veterans Committee, or after the Veterans Committee meeting, we learned that in fact, those funds were released. We were seeking just to put a number on it., we were seeking to fund that at approximately \$93,000. We don't need to ask that of the Board at this time, because we did receive our State funding. So we have asked to postpone that resolution in the Veterans Committee. So that's why you don't see it on the agenda here tonight.

Tara Gaston

I just wanted to make sure that when we're looking at what the amount that.

Tom Richardson

We're just looking at this, Financially, we're just looking Tara at this this one item, and it's just for this year only for the \$5,000 for each community. That's the only expenditure we're looking at. Thank you.

Tara Gaston

Thank you. For my for clarification, I wanted to make sure I had a perspective of what was (inaudible).

Tom Richardson

Thank you understood. Thank you,

Theodore Kusnierz

Mr. Chairman. If I may? So a question for Frank. You just reported that, and I have actually read that the funding from last year's budget on Peer to Peer review funding, which is probably one of the best programs that the State and local governments offer to our Veterans, I can't think of a more appropriate way to spend money. What I didn't hear you say is, is there monies allocated in the budget that the Governor has put forward for this year?

Frank McClement

We're working on that as well, sir. Typically, every year, we've had to lobby for this funding, just for everybody in the room to give a little bit of history on this. This was made possible through a New York State Senate pilot program, the PFC Joseph Dwyer Peer Grant Program, and we were one of four original Counties, we have gotten our funding every year, we've been allocated upwards of \$185,000 per year, we were approved in last year's budget, we were working closely with Senator Jordan's office in requesting the funding again this year. Some of those funds do carry over. And we've operated like the rest of the County, we've tried to operate fairly responsibly and fairly lean with that program. So there have been years where we haven't used all of that funding, we do have approximately \$150,000 to use through the end of this calendar year of State funding. And then hopefully, we will be granted funding in the New York State budget process again this year. So I will report back to the Veterans Committee as I have more information to share.

Theodore Kusnierz

Thank you for that answer. So to be clear, there's no legislation now that funds it for the State fiscal year beginning April 1, is that accurate?

Frank McClement

Not to my knowledge, I can verify for you.

Mo Wright

Mr. Chairman if I can add something I know the Senate does have it on their buyback list whether or not they buy it back and get it into the April 1 budget. That's something that's on the agenda to try. But that's why I think at the Veterans Committee meeting, we postponed this resolution, instead of just tabling or pulling it all together, in case further in a year, if it comes through that New York State doesn't fund it, and possibly the County could find out for next year. But that's why we postponed the resolution

and not pulling, and if we had to re address it in the future, we could. Well, hopefully the Senate does buy that back and put it back in the.

Jonathan Schopf

Does anyone think there's any value in perhaps our Legislative and Research committee sending a letter in support of that funding for this year's budget?

Tom Richardson

Absolutely. I think that'd be terrific.

Tara Gaston

Chairman?

Jonathan Schopf

Jean, if you're still on the call, is that something you'd be willing to put together?

Jean Raymond

Absolutely. We'd be willing to put that together. And I'm sure the committee would be in favor of it that is an excellent program, I suspect that it will probably get put back in maybe not a full 100%. But assuming that the stimulus package goes through and the extra money is coming into the State, I think that would be a very reasonable expectation, but we will definitely write a letter in support. And I will see that it goes through the Chairman and the County Administrator as well as the Committee.

Jonathan Schopf

Thank you, Jean. I believe Mr. Bulger mentioned it's already in your part of your proposed plan.

Steve Bulger

Yes.

Jean Raymond

I was just looking to see exactly what it says as we speak

Steve Bulger

Exactly, it is an item to restore funding for Veterans Peer to Peer program.

Jean Raymond

It's item number nine, and we can just send a letter in support of item number nine, specifically, to the correct Committees.

Jonathan Schopf

Excellent. I have Supervisor Veitch and then Supervisor Barrett in line.

Matt Veitch

So back to the item at hand here. I appreciate, again, the subcommittee and the Veterans Committee and what they've done here, I'm still not 100% sure that the amount is correct. I would be much more willing to support, \$2,500 max at \$50,000, or \$52,500, or whatever it is. And again, that kind of matches what we had done in the past for our Veterans concert and things like that at a level. And I supported doing that back then, and anytime we can do that again, I think we should. But I'm a little more comfortable at that level rather than 105. So and again, I don't know how we go, we're not yet at a motion. So I don't know what we do as far as coming to an agreement on that. So.

Jonathan Schopf

What exactly proposing a funding level?

Matt Veitch

I would propose \$2,500 max per community, which would put that number at \$52,500. I don't know I'm trying to think of what the right number is \$52,500? I guess is the number.

Steve Bulger

That's it. Yeah.

Matt Veitch

That would be the total budget allocation from fund balance or contingency and equal amount for every community.

Jonathan Schopf

I believe that's correct.

Matt Veitch

I was not a math major in school. So.

Jonathan Schopf

\$52,500. And that would be also, it would follow in the same lines that was proposed as far as being a reimbursement type or?

Matt Veitch

Oh, yeah, same rules apply. Yeah.

Jonathan Schopf

Anything else Matt?

Matt Veitch

That's it.

Jonathan Schopf

Supervisor Barrett, you had your light on?

Phil Barrett

Thanks. I want to thank Supervisor Veitch for bringing up this issue, appreciate it. And certainly, from what he just said, \$50,000 is a large allotment. And certainly nothing that should be taken lightly at all, particularly outside of the budget process. So I mean, we're into March now, mid-March. So \$50,000 is a large allotment. And I think we can do a fantastic job at that level to further celebrate our Veterans throughout the County. And the one thing that I've always said and praised the County for was the great job that we do every day every year, in not only celebrating our Veterans, but supporting them, in many cases, through the Veterans Service Agency and other endeavors. And hopefully, we can get back to the monthly celebration of our deceased Veterans sometime very soon. Frank, as far as the, maybe I missed it, but we're talking about the funding for the Peer to Peer what is that annually? How much would we need for the program?

Frank McClement

This year, we were conservative because some of the issues we had with information as far as budgeting and it was budgeted for approximately \$93,000. That budget is done. The money comes through the Office of Mental Health. So that doesn't reside in my budget. I communicate with Dr. Prezioso.'s staff who runs his budget, so they budgeted conservatively to make sure that we weren't getting too big for our britches, if you will. So this year, it was \$93,000. Historically, we've gotten \$185,000 from the State each year.

Phil Barrett

Yeah. So I think considering the amount, which is a large amount that Supervisor Veitch just mentioned for each municipality, and with the thought that we need to be prepared to possibly allocate additional funds to help continue the Peer to Peer program through this year and next. So that, I think we should keep that in the back of our minds, maybe not allocate that money right now. But it's very realistic to think that we will, if we want to keep that program going, we will have to allocate more money for the veterans programs, which I would support, but I wouldn't do that quite yet. But I think we need to keep that in our back pocket.

Tara Gaston

Chairman?

Jonathan Schopf

All set Supervisor Barrett?

Phil Barrett

Yep, all set.

Tara Gaston

Supervisor Barrett jumped in front. But I think I agree with Supervisor Barrett, my concern is that we don't know what the funding is right now. I actually support this at the full level. But I would like to see it in the context of our financial status. So I would recommend, and I guess we haven't made a motion yet? I would move that we table this until the next month, and consider hopefully, we'll have a better idea of the funding at that time. I don't know if I'll get a second on that. But I would support it at the full

level, I just want to have a better understanding of whether we're going to get the Dwyer funding or not and how that's going to be impacted together. Because that's a, that is a significant allocation outside of the normal budget process. So I move that. I don't know if I'll get a second.

Jonathan Schopf

Well, we do have a motion. Is there a second on that motion?

Tom Richardson

I'd like to make a comment. If I could.

Jonathan Schopf

Just hang out, see if we have it.

Tom Richardson

Okay, thank you.

Matt Veitch

I'll second that motion.

Jonathan Schopf

Second by Supervisor Veitch. Discussion Supervisor.

Tom Richardson

I just I'm finding it rather amazing. The County has a \$30 million balance and from what I understand we're about to receive another \$45 million from the Federal government, and we can't spend \$105,000 on our Veterans associations around Saratoga County, I find that to be..

Theodore Kusnierz

Supervisor point of order. Counsel?

Michael Hartnett

With a motion to table, I believe there should be a vote on the motion to postpone or table without discussion. Because once if it's tabled, then it moves it. My understanding is that there's a motion and a second on the table. There's a vote on that, and then if it fails, it would resume discussion.

Benny Zlotnick

Do we have discussion on the motion to table?

Michael Hartnett

Generally, there is not a discussion on the motion to table.

Jonathan Schopf

Alright. So we got a motion in a second. All in favor?

Several Supervisors

Aye.

Jonathan Schopf

Opposed?

Sandra Winney

No.

Jonathan Schopf

Supervisor Winney opposes? I think I heard somebody else on the phone.

Tom Wood

Supervisor Wood opposes.

Jonathan Schopf

Supervisor Wood opposes. Why don't you take a roll call just so we're clear.

Therese Connolly

Supervisor Barrett?

Phil Barrett

Yes.

Therese Connolly

Gaston.

Tara Gaston

Yes.

Therese Connolly

Tollisen.

Kevin Tollisen

Yes.

Therese Connolly

Veitch

Matt Veitch

Yes

Therese Connolly

No

Therese Connolly

Winney.

Therese Connolly

Wood.

Tom Wood

No.

Therese Connolly

Schopf.

Jonathan Schopf

Yes. With the understanding that we'll go back and discuss the original motion.

Therese Connolly

Motion passes.

Therese Connolly

Now we're back, we can revisit now discussion on the original motion?

Several Supervisors

(several people speaking at once)

Matt Veitch

Mr. Chairman, I would just ask that my colleague be able to at least comment, not directly on this, but whatever comment he was going to make. So if that's okay.

Jonathan Schopf

That's fine. Who was chiming in? I'm sorry Tom.

Tom Richardson

I was just, thank you very much, I appreciate that, Matt and Jonathan. I'm just taken back by this because the County has a \$30 million surplus. From what I understand we're about to receive \$45 million from the Federal government because of the COVID relief package. And we can't spend \$105,000 on our Veterans, we would not be sitting here. Or we may be speaking, we might have been speaking in German as we sit here, if it wasn't for our Veterans. So I'm just, I'm to be honest with you. I'm appalled. And I find it somewhat shameful that this took place. Thank you.

Phil Barrett

Mr. Chairman.

Jonathan Schopf

Supervisor Barrett.

Phil Barrett

I'm appalled that you're appalled with those types of comments to be frank with you. First of all, I don't think we received the check yet, did we? And what has that got to do with as far as that stimulus money? What does that have to do with taking some time to analyze what we're doing here? What's the rush? This was an idea brought by Supervisor Veitch. It was his idea. And it was a darn good idea as I said before. Taking a little bit of time to understand our financial situation. I don't know if our fund balance is 30 million. I don't think it is but be that as a May. I said here last year, in the midst of 100 year pandemic, it was like pulling teeth to buy a testing machine or a few masks. And here we are in a situation where we all agree, this is a great idea. What's the rush? A couple more weeks is somehow going to put celebrations that you obviously haven't planned yet, because this is so brand new, celebrations of our Veterans throughout the County. We do whatever year in Clifton Park, I don't know. I'm sure you do something to Mechanicville too, and we'll use the extra funds to do extra. You know if indeed this is approved, which I'm sure it will be. But, you know, enough with the I'm appalled, please. I mean, this whole group supports veterans 100% we prove it every day of the year.

Tom Richardson

We had a chance to prove it five minutes ago.

Phil Barrett

We have a lot of chances to prove it. Tom, can we have a little bit of time, \$100,000 outside of the budget process. If this was such a great idea and you have this idea, why didn't you bring it up well before Matt did a week ago? What was it a week ago?

Tom Richardson

Mr. Veitch brought it up. We thought it was a great idea.

Phil Barrett

It is a great idea.

Tom Richardson

And we continue to think it's a great idea.

Phil Barrett

Yes.

Tom Richardson

And now he's having a change of heart. So I don't know. I don't know why.

Phil Barrett

I don't think he had a change of heart. I think I heard him very clearly. Don't try to twist his words.

Mo Wright

Mr. Chairman.

Tara Gaston

Chairman.

Mo Wright

The subcommittee met, and the reason we wanted this on the March agenda was to give municipalities time, because some Towns and Cities were going to do something Memorial Day. And we wanted to give them an idea of how much money they could spend, because obviously you can't plan some events in a couple of weeks. That's why we did rush. You're right. We did rush to get it on in March, we talked about that. That's why we had a subcommittee meeting. That's why we had a special meeting of the Veterans Committee, because we wanted to get it on the March agenda. So that municipalities had time to figure out what they were going to spend money on, and how much money they were going to spend. That's the reason it's on March. That's reason why we rushed it. I was part of that conversation. The subcommittee was part of that conversation. And we wanted to get on the March so that we could tell people you'll have so much money coming, start planning if you want to do Memorial Day, if Matt wants to order flags for Memorial Day you can't order them and get them in a week. That's why we had it in March. And that's why we rushed it. You're right. But that's the reason we did it for March.

Phil Barrett

Well, coming out of this meeting, they should have a pretty good idea of what they can expect coming up.

Jonathan Schopf

Supervisor Veitch.

Matt Veitch

No, I'm good. Thank you.

Jonathan Schopf

My understanding some folks on the phone may be muted. If they want to unmute and comment, it's star six. Anybody on the phone wish to comment further? All right, hearing no, we will move forward.

Steve Bulger

All right next item on the agenda Buildings and Grounds. First item is authorizing the acceptance of a Federal Cares Act Airport grant from the Federal Aviation Administration, in the amount of \$23,000, budget impact, no budget impact. This grant will be applied toward existing airport related expenses. And this resolution authorizes the acceptance of the CARES Act airport grant the amount of \$23,000 which will be applied towards existing airport related expenses. Next item is amending the 2021 budget to reappropriate unspent funds relating to Department of Public Works capital projects. Budget impact. This resolution will require an amendment to the 2021 budget in the amount of \$3,627,265, of which \$3,447,062 will be covered by State and Federal aid and \$180,203 will require an appropriation of fund balance. This item amends the 2021 budget to reappropriate unspent funds related to Department of Public Works capital projects. These projects are related to improvements at the airport and the water

tower rehabilitation. Next item is adopting a Local Law authorizing the leasing of real property of the County of Saratoga to Gateway House of Peace, Inc. Budget impact none. This resolution will authorize the leasing of County property at 479 Roland Street in the Town of Milton to the Gateway House of Peace. The lease will include an initial term of five years with an option to renew for an additional five years consistent with the previously approved lease agreement signed in 2011. A public hearing was held prior to today's Law and Finance meeting and no comments were received.

Jonathan Schopf

Does anybody have any questions for the Administrator? Before I ask for a vote? Hearing none, is there a motion on these three items?

Matt Veitch

So moved.

Tara Gaston

I'll second Supervisor Gaston.

Jonathan Schopf

Thank you moved by Supervisor Veitch second by Supervisor Gaston. Any further discussion on the motion? Hearing none all in favor?

Several Supervisors

Aye.

Jonathan Schopf

Any opposed? Motion passes.

Steve Bulger

Okay, moving on to Human Resources and Insurance. First item is authorizing the amendment of Chapter Four Section M of the Saratoga County Policies and Procedures Manual in reference to the Vacation Carryover Policy. No budget impact. The original policy extended vacation carryover from 60 days of anniversary date to one year of anniversary date. This amendment will allow vacation carryover beyond the one year with approval of the Department head and Director of Personnel if the inability to take vacation time was directly related to work activities associated with the Covid-19 pandemic. Next item is authorizing the ratification of the Collective Bargaining Agreement with the United Public Service Employees Union to make part of the Union Registered Professional Nurses and Head Nurse in the Saratoga County Sheriff's Department. Budget impact none. The Union has requested that the nurses that work in Saratoga County Jail become members of the Union, and that the employer, Saratoga County acknowledges the Union as the selected bargaining agent for those nurses. The County and Sheriff have agreed to this request. The nurses will be entitled to the benefits of the Collective Bargaining Agreement and Memorandum of Agreement. The County will deduct Union dues from the pay of those nurses who have signed Union cards. Next item, authorizing an agreement with Saratoga Hospital Inc., Corporate Health Services, for their physical examination and testing of County staff in accordance with its fee schedule for an amount not to exceed \$30,000 for the duration of the 2021

calendar year. Budget impact none, funds are included in the 2021 budget. Resolution 43-2020 executed in agreement with Saratoga Hospital in Corporate Health Services, or the term 1/1/20 to 12/31/20 that has since expired. Saratoga Hospital provides physical examinations and laboratory testing required for new and current County employees in accordance with contractors fee schedule in effect at the time the services are rendered. Recommendation is being given to renew the contract for a period of 1/1/2021 to 12/31/2021, and this contract will be retroactive back to the first of the year. Next item authorizing the Sheriff Department to hire transfers at step one instead of base salary. Budget impact none, funds are available in the 2021 budget. This request was made to the Human Resources Committee from the Sheriff. The ability to hire transfers at step one versus base will significantly aid in the ability for the Sheriff's Department to recruit transfers. Next item authorizing an amendment to the 2021 Compensation Schedule to reclassify one Senior Account Clerk to a Special Clerk to the county treasurer under the Saratoga County Treasurer's department. Budget impact none. A Senior Account Clerk and Special Clerk have the same base salaries. This request was made to the Human Resources Committee from the County Treasurer. The proposed reclassification will better align with the unique duties performed by the position in the County Treasurer's office. The reclassification does not have a budget impact as the two positions have the same base salaries. Next item, appointing Michael J. Hartnett as County Attorney base step one for a term commencing on April 1, 2021 and ending on December 31, 2021. Budget impact none.

Jonathan Schopf

Does anyone have any questions on any of those? And I would just remind everyone at this point if you're on the phone, you can unmute by star six if you want to chime in with questions. Hearing none, is there a motion on the Human Resources and Insurance Committee resolutions?

Sandra Winney

I'll make that motion.

Jonathan Schopf

Motion by Supervisor Winnie, second?

Tara Gaston

I will second Supervisor Gaston

Jonathan Schopf

Supervisor Gaston second. Any discussion on the motion? Hearing none all in favor?

Several Supervisors

Aye.

Jonathan Schopf

Any opposed? Motion is passed. Public Safety.

Steve Bulger

Public Safety. First item is authorizing the acceptance of a grant from the New York State Office of Indigent Legal Services, the amount of \$423,201 for distribution number 11 for the period from January 1, 2021 through December 31, 2023. Budget impact none. This is 100% State aid. This resolution will accept grant funds within the Public Defender's office. This grant funds, salaries, supplies, investigators, transcripts, etc. for the Public Defender's office. Next item approving the County's Alternatives to Incarceration Performance Based Service Plan for the period up until June 30, 2021, and authorizing the acceptance of a grant for Alternatives to Incarceration from the New York State Division of Criminal Justice Services in the amount of \$26,224, for the period of July 1, 2020, to June 30, 2021. Budget impact none, 100% State aid. This resolution authorizes grant funding on behalf of the Probation Department of the total \$26,244 grant, \$9,853.20 goes to the Community Work Order Program, and \$16,370.80 goes to the Pretrial Services Program. This funding was included in the 2021 budget. Next item, authorizing the adoption of Executive Order 203 group report by the Saratoga County Board of Supervisors and authorize the Chairman of the Board to submit verification of compliance with Executive Order 203 to the New York State Division of budget, budget impact none. Executive Order 203 was issued in July 2020 and required all municipalities with a police department to engage in a review of policing strategies, procedures and policies. Chairman of the Board of Supervisors appointed Executive 203 Compliance Group in October 2020 to review the Sheriff's Office policies and procedures and to gather community feedback and input. The Compliance Group was comprised of Dr. Michael Prezioso, the chair, Under Sheriff Rick Castle, Vice Chair, Supervisor Darren O'Connor, Supervisor Tom Richardson, DA Karen Hagen, Public Defender Andrew Bloomberg and community member Opal Hinds. The Compliance Group held eight meetings and invited over 1,000 stakeholder agencies and individuals to participate through meetings, surveys and submitted comments. Following extensive feedback, the group developed a 29 page report that included 10 recommendations for the Sheriff's Office. The Board accepted the report for consideration at the February meeting and opened it to public comment through March 5, 2021. A total of five comments were received, four from community members and one from Sheriff Zurlo. This report is now being offered for adoption by the Board of Supervisors. The report must be adopted or ratified by April 1, 2021. And the Board Chairman must submit verification of compliance to the New York State Division of budget also by April 1. Next item authorizing participation in the 2021 State Stop DWI program and contracts with local agency participants. Budget impact none 100% State aid. The item requires the board's annual approval to authorize our participation in the Stop DWI program, which uses DWI fine monies to fund activities that include law enforcement, substance abuse treatment, education and other prevention measures. Next item authorizing the reappropriation of \$141,477.89 of previously authorized grant revenue and expenses from the 2020 budget to the 2021 budget in the Sheriff's Department. Budget impact none 100% State aid. This item authorizes the reappropriation of the remaining balance of previously authorized grant revenue and expenses from the 2020 budget to the current year budget. These grants include the 2018 Explosive Detection K9 Team grant for equipment and training and the 2018, 2019, and 2020 New York State Homeland Security grants. Again, these grants are 100% State aid. Next item authorizing an agreement with Black Creek Integrated Systems for the licensing and support of the Black Creek Sally port for the Saratoga County Correctional Facility at a cost not to exceed \$43,564.50 for the 2021 calendar year. Budget impact none, funding is included in the 2021 budget. This item authorizes the Chairman of the Board of Supervisors, the Sheriff or County Administrator to enter into a service contract with Black Creek Integrated Systems Corp. for the licensing and support of the Black Creek Sally port Saratoga County Correctional Facility at a cost not

to exceed \$43,564.50 for this calendar year. Funding for this program was included in the 2021 budget. This will be an extension of the previous contract at the same rates as the 2020 plan. Next item, Proclaiming April 11. to the 17th 2021 as National Public Safety Telecommunicators week in Saratoga County. Budget impact none. This resolution will formally proclaim April 11 to the 17th this year as National Public Telecommunicators week in honor of the men and women of the Saratoga County Sheriff's Office Communications Division, whose diligence and professionalism directly help to keep us all safe. Next item, authorizing the acceptance of the Crimes Against Revenue Program Grant from the New York State Division of Criminal Justice Services in the amount of \$118,900 for a period of January 1 2021 to December 31 2021. Budget impact none 100% State aid. This resolution will authorize acceptance on behalf of the DA's office for a grant towards salaries and travel reimbursement. Funding remains the same as 2020. Grant funds were included in the 2021 budget. Last item under Public Safety, authorizing the acceptance of the Criminal Justice Discovery Reform Grant from the New York State Division of Criminal Justice Services in the amount of \$380,056 for a period of April 1 2020 through March 31 2021. Budget impact none 100% State aid. The resolution will authorize acceptance on behalf of the District Attorney's office for grant funding that is provided to support local District Attorneys with expenses related to the implementation of discovery and bail reforms that took effect on January 1 2020. Each County outside of New York City is eligible for this award. Funding is contingent upon the County submission and DCJS approval of a discovery reform funding plan.

Jonathan Schopf

Thank you. Anybody have any questions about the Public Safety resolutions this month? And just a reminder, if you're on the line and muted star six will unmute you.

Tara Gaston

Chairman.

Jonathan Schopf

Yes Supervisor Gaston.

Tara Gaston

The public comments for the 203 Compliance Group, have those been distributed and or will they be to Supervisors?

Steve Bulger

I'm not sure if they have been. We will certainly get those distributed.

Tara Gaston

Thank you.

Jonathan Schopf

Any other questions? Hearing none, is there a motion to move these resolutions?

Phil Barrett

So moved.

Jonathan Schopf

Supervisor Barrett. Second?

Kevin Tollisen

Second, Kevin Tollisen.

Jonathan Schopf

Second by Mr. Tollisen, any discussion on the motion? Hearing none all in favor?

Several Supervisors

Aye.

Jonathan Schopf

Any opposed? Motion is passed. Trails and Open Space.

Steve Bulger

Okay. First item under Trails and Open Space is authorizing Saratoga County to act as project manager for the construction of the Champlain Canalway trail in the Town and Village of Waterford. Budget impact. 100% of the funding for this project will be provided through a grant with Hudson River Valley Greenway with no cost to Saratoga County. The Hudson River Valley Greenway has reached out to Saratoga County and requested that they manage a trail project in the Town and Village of Waterford. The total grant amount will be \$210,000. This first resolution related to the grant will authorize Saratoga County to enter into an agreement with Hudson River Valley Greenway. Although no budget impact, a budget amendment will need to be completed to recognize the additional revenue and associated expenses. Next item, authorizing a contract with CHA for bid coordination, construction oversight services for the Champlain Canalway Trail. Budget impact none, 100% State aid. The second resolution authorizes a contract with CHA for design, bid preparation, bid analysis and construction inspection related to the above resolution. Once the trail is designed and put out to bid, a contractor will be selected and a resolution will need to be approved at that point in time. No budget impact. The budget amendment was taken care of in the previous resolution.

Jonathan Schopf

Thank you any questions for Mr. Bulger on these resolutions? All right. Hearing none, is there a motion?

Matt Veitch

So moved.

Jonathan Schopf

Supervisor Veitch. Second?

Tara Gaston

I'll second Supervisor Gaston.

Jonathan Schopf

Supervisor Gaston Second. All in favor?

Several Supervisors

Aye.

Jonathan Schopf

Any opposed? Trails and Open Space passes. Economic Development.

Steve Bulger

Okay, one item under Economic Development that is authorizing the creation of a new reserve account A-088.ED for unspent monies related to the Municipal Economic Development Assistance grant program. Budget impact none. \$111,744.02 in unassigned fund balance will be assigned to the new A-088.ED reserve account. This resolution will set up a reserve account for the Economic Development Grant program. If funds have not been paid out for any projects., at the close of the budget year, these funds will be placed in the reserve account. Similar accounts have been set up for the Trails and Open Space grant programs as well. A budget amendment will need to be completed to take \$111,744.02, which is the amount of the 2020 grants yet to be paid in unassigned fund balance and transferred to the reserve account.

Jonathan Schopf

Thank you. Any questions on the resolution out of Economic Development? A reminder for star six if you're muted.

Tara Gaston

Chairman, just to be clear, these are funds that were already discussed and communities already have the ability to apply for them. This is just making sure that we preserve that at this time. Is that correct?

Steve Bulger

Yes.

Tara Gaston

Set them aside so that when it's time for the reimbursement that it's available.

Steve Bulger

Correct. These funds were appropriated last year, \$7,100 per municipality, I believe. And so that total \$150,000. So roughly \$40,000 of that has already been reimbursed to various Towns and Cities. The remaining money is available and will be reimbursed as those bills are submitted for reimbursement to the County.

Jonathan Schopf

Any more questions?

Matt Veitch

I think this is a good idea. And I think that when we do these types of grant programs, I think it's very helpful to create these reserves if we're going to do it for multiple years. Because it does get a little tricky when things come in the next year, potentially, and submitted late in the year. And you're using, we do our budget, and it gets beyond that, and it's hard to figure out exactly which year, those grant monies were for. So I appreciate this coming from the Finance area. Thank you.

Jonathan Schopf

Anybody else? Hearing none is there a motion?

Phil Barrett

So moved.

Jonathan Schopf

Supervisor Barrett.

Matt Veitch

I'll second.

Jonathan Schopf

Supervisor Veitch. Discussion on the motion. All in favor?

Several Supervisors

Aye.

Jonathan Schopf

Any opposed? Passed. Public Works.

Steve Bulger

Okay, one item under Public Works. Amending the 2021 budget to reappropriate unspent funds related to the Department of Public Works capital projects in the amount of \$1,363,000. Budget impact none. This resolution will reappropriate unspent funds from 2020 relating to 15 Public Works capital projects.

Jonathan Schopf

Any questions from anyone on this? Do we have a motion?

Tara Gaston

I'll move that.

Jonathan Schopf

Supervisor Gaston. Second?

Phil Barrett

Second.

Jonathan Schopf

Supervisor Barrett. Any discussion on the motion. All in favor?

Several Supervisors

Aye.

Jonathan Schopf

Any opposed? Motion passes. Law and Finance.

Steve Bulger

Okay, first item under Law and Finance is authorizing the Chairman to execute a change order with Barton and Loguidice DPC in the amount of \$1,468,300 for a required project to upgrade the Wastewater Treatment Plant and meet State Pollutant Discharge Elimination System SPDES permit effluent limits and amending the 2021 budget in relation thereto. Budget impact. Currently, there is \$500,000 available in the 2021 budget related to this project, an amendment to the 2021 budget and the amount of \$968,300 will fund all remaining costs related to the change order. The proposed change order will raise the total design fee to \$1,574,600 and the total current contract amount to \$2,027,800. This project is required to upgrade the Wastewater Treatment Plant to handle increased ammonia loading from residential and commercial growth as well as industrial discharges. The upgrades are required to ensure we meet our SPDES permit effluent limits. There have been several resolutions in front of the Board previously related to this consent order and associated work at the Sewer District. The proposed upgrades total approximately \$34 million. The budget amendment will occur from the Sewer District fund balance. Next item, authorizing a contract amendment for Adirondack Environmental Services Inc. for work performed in 2020 under their old contract, and increasing the not to exceed amount to \$78,058. Budget impact none, funds are included in the 2021 budget. This resolution will authorize a contract amendment for Adirondack Environmental Services Inc. that was authorized under 197-2020. That resolution had a maximum contract amount of \$74,500. The additional cost of sampling for BOD and CBOD is \$3,558. Therefore, the contract amount will need to be increased to \$78,058. These funds are included in the 2021 Sewer budget. Next item, adopting a Local Law limiting third party food delivery service fees during a declared emergency. budget impact none. This is a Local Law aimed at assisting restaurants and food service companies, an industry which has been particularly hard hit by the pandemic. Currently third party delivery services for example, Grubhub Doordash, or Uber Eats, charge restaurant fees for delivery services and for listing fees for the restaurant to have their menu listed by the third party delivery service. And these are sometimes referred to as marketing fees. The proposed legislation caps the delivery fee at 15% and also caps the other fees, marketing etc. at 5% of the total order for a combined total of a 20% maximum cap. This law will be in effect during any New York State or County declared emergency plus an additional 90 days after the declared emergency ends. We did receive comments. 14 written comments were submitted on this on this Local Law, and they have been distributed to the Board. I don't believe there were any comments at today's public hearing. Next item authorizing a contract agreement with DiRAD technologies or the outsourcing of an inbound and outbound call center to assist with COVID-19 vaccination response for County residents. Budget impact, funds for this agreement are covered in the 2021 budget. The inbound call center's main purpose will be to enroll County residents and continue to

enroll County residents onto the COVID-19 vaccine interest list. This will also alleviate a large number of residents calling into the Public Health phone line, freeing up staff for other vaccination efforts. And to date after seven days of this inbound call center, they have registered 1,127 people into the interest list through this inbound call center that was already set up under a minor contract last month. The outbound call center will help schedule thousands of residents on the COVID vaccine interest list for vaccinations. DiRAD will be using an automated system as well as live staff to call residents, schedule them for appointments and pre-register them for their appointments. DiRAD will record this data and coordinate with Public Health to upload all vaccine information directly to the mandated New York State CDMS system. This provides a crucial advantage in the mission to get our County residents vaccinated quickly and efficiently.

Jonathan Schopf

Are there any questions on the Law and Finance items? Reminder if you're on the phone star six unmutes you. Hearing none is there a motion?

Bill Peck

Mr. Chairman, can you hear me?

Jonathan Schopf

Yes, Supervisor Peck?

Bill Peck

Just a question for my education. I looked at the, let me first start by saying the calling centers seems to be working really well. So nice addition here to the program. When I was looking at the backup information, just quickly going through some of the charges were weekly based, some were monthly, some were setup fees. I'm just looking for an idea what we expect the monthly total cost to be on that project.

Steve Bulger

The way the contract is set up is there's no monthly fee set right now, because it's a usage based contract. DiRAD will only bill us for the number of calls they take in on the inbound or the number of calls they make on the outbound. So we're really just estimating that. We have capped the contract, I believe it's \$50,000 is what we are capping this at, which we believe will meet all of the requirements for Public Health for the next five months through July, which includes the period where we're going to have to make a lot of calls to get people registered for vaccinations from the interest list. So it's not really broken down on a monthly basis, but more a total cap, and they will bill us on a usage basis, per month. If that answers your question.

Yea. I was just looking for an estimate like that because I saw it was on a per call basis, but there's other fees related. So that's all. I was trying to get an idea how much our call center costs for inbound and outbound but that's good. Yeah, that's all I was wondering. Thank you.

Jonathan Schopf

Thank you. Any other questions? Do we have a motion on these items?

Tara Gaston

I'll move these Supervisor Gaston

Jonathan Schopf

Supervisor Gaston. Second?

Sandra Winney

I'll second.

Jonathan Schopf

Supervisor Winney second. Any discussion on the motion? Hearing none, all in favor?

Several Supervisors

Aye.

Jonathan Schopf

Any opposed? There's please note my recusal on the first item dealing with the SPDES permit please. We have a couple of Chairman's items.

Steve Bulger

Okay. First Chairman's item his appointment to the County Fire Advisory Board. Budget impact none. These appointments were postponed at the January reorganization meeting to give Supervisors more time to review the list. The list was sent out to all the Supervisors. Second item is appointment to the Saratoga Prosperity Partnership Board of Directors. Budget impact none. This appointment is to replace Scott Solomon on the SCPP board, who resigned earlier this month, and appoint Tim Szczepaniak to replace him on the Partnership Board.

Jonathan Schopf

Thank you any questions on these two resolutions, or Chairman's items? Can we get a motion

Phil Barrett

So moved.

Jonathan Schopf

Move by Supervisor Barrett.

Matt Veitch

I'll second.

Jonathan Schopf

Seconded by Supervisor Veitch. Any discussion on the motion. All in favor?

Several Supervisors

Aye.

Jonathan Schopf

Any opposed? Motions carry. For other business, we have a couple of proclamations which is properly been Chairman's items, they came in here late towards the end. The first is a Donate Life Month proclamation, designating April 20 as Donate Life Month in Saratoga County. This relates primarily towards the support of organ and tissue donation and registry of folks on that list as well as signing up people to be voluntary organ donors as comes out of our County Clerk's office. And there will be obviously no impact on the budget with this proclamation. Also, Supervisor Gaston has brought to our attention that I believe April is also a National Counties Matter month, Supervisor Gaston I know you wanted to speak on that briefly if there's a proclamation there you'd like the Board to consider.

Tara Gaston

Yes, thank you. April is National County Government month and the National Association of Counties engages in a lot of information and education around that. And I thought particularly given the increased role of the Count, nothing crucial the increased visibility, of the County's role in our community, especially through the pandemic, it would be a good opportunity for us to highlight our County staff and the work that the County does as a whole. Such a proclamation doesn't require anything in particular, however, Supervisor Schopf did indicate that he would also support us working, National Association of Counties has an art competition that asks for school aged children to submit art about why they're County matters or what's important to them. And we thought that that would also be something to announce and perhaps we could make and hang copies of the winning art around the County, and provide it as well to our State and Federal elected officials so that they could see the good work that Saratoga County is doing here. So.

Jonathan Schopf

Thank you. We will put down those resolutions for proclamations on the agenda this month. If anyone would like to move those two.

Matt Veitch

So moved.

Jonathan Schopf

Supervisor Veitch. Second.

Tara Gaston

I'll second.

Jonathan Schopf

Supervisor Gaston. Is there any discussion on the motion or questions related to this proclamation? All in favor?

Several Supervisors

Aye.

Jonathan Schopf

Any opposed? Thank you motion is carried. And at this point, I will entertain a motion to set the foregoing items we voted on as the Board meeting agenda for March 16, 2021 unless anybody has any other business they'd like to bring before the Board today.

Tom Richardson

I have a couple of comments if you don't mind.

Jonathan Schopf

Supervisor Richardson.

Tom Richardson

Yes, I'd like to thank Dr. Kuhles, Sandi Cross and Carl Zeilman for their help down in Mechanicville. We were able to vaccinate 140 senior citizens today. So I just wanted to mention that. I think that was a great deed that's been done. Many of our senior citizens have now been taken care of with the vaccine. So I just wanted to give a shout out to those people because it was just a great effort. And I really appreciate it so does the City of Mechanicville. The other item I'd like to mention, last year towards the end of the year we helped aid some businesses with some tax relief with their sewer bills. And at that time, some of the Supervisors asked me to continue to look into possibly being able to do more as far as the tax bills for the sewers. We were looking at trying to do some sort of a reimbursement program. And Mike Naughton, Mike Hartnett and Dan Rourke, we've had several conversations, and they've done a lot of investigative work. And due to State regulations, we're unable to do that at this time. So we're going to continue to think outside the box and see if we can figure something else out that may possibly down the road or for next year. So I just wanted everybody to know that we have been working on that. And it's something that we've been trying to move forward as far as small businesses are concerned. So that's where that stands right now. Thank you.

Jonathan Schopf

Thank you.

Tara Gaston

Chairman.

Jonathan Schopf

Supervisor Gaston.

Tara Gaston

I had a comment, but I don't know, it's not for business. It's just something separate. So would you like me to do now or later?

Jonathan Schopf

Let it rip.

Tara Gaston

Okay. I did want to acknowledge Supervisor Richardson's comment about the vaccinations and seniors. Director Cross, Commissioner Kuhles and numerous other County staff have been working very hard, despite relatively flat allocations of vaccines in the County itself. They've been working to connect all of our senior housing to vaccinations and have been doing that in a number of areas around the County. So if you have any, hopefully they'll get to you quickly. The other item is, I'm sending all Supervisors an email. This was requested by the United States Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency. National Association of Counties had a meeting today. Well, a subset of the said, and there are some security concerns regarding Microsoft Exchange systems that are used by local governments. And they ask that every representative review this link and consider their own security, they're seeing a lot of ransomware, particularly in smaller communities. So I just wanted to make sure that everyone was aware of that and check your email. And Supervisor Richardson I think I'd be making sure you have that as well. Thank you.

Jonathan Schopf

Thank you Tara. Anybody else, any other business? Motion to set the agenda for this month's meeting.

Matt Veitch

So moved.

Jonathan Schopf

Supervisor Veitch. Second?

Tara Gaston

Second.

Jonathan Schopf

Supervisor Gaston. Any discussion? All in favor?

Several Supervisors

Aye.

Jonathan Schopf

Any opposed? Motion passes. I'll entertain a motion to adjourn.

Phil Barrett

So moved.

Tara Gaston

Second.

Jonathan Schopf

Okay. All in favor? Any opposed? Good night everybody.