

LAW & FINANCE Transcript 5/14/2021

SPEAKERS

Steve Bulger, Tara Gaston, Sandra Winney, Phil Barrett, Jonathan Schopf, Michael Hartnett, Matt Veitch, Eileen Bennett, Kevin Tollisen, Several Supervisors, Therese Connolly, Tom Wood, Michael Zurlo, Dan Rourke

Jonathan Schopf

I'd like to call the May 12 Law and Finance meeting to order. Therese can you please take attendance?

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

And Chairman Schopf.

Jonathan Schopf

Present. Thank you. All right. Do we have a motion for the approval of the minutes from April 14 meeting?

Tom Wood

I'll make that motion, Supervisor Wood.

Jonathan Schopf

Supervisor Wood moved, second?

Matt Veitch

I'll second that Supervisor Veitch

Jonathan Schopf

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

Several Supervisors

Aye.

Jonathan Schopf

Anybody opposed? Thank you very much carries. First up today, Human Resources and Insurance. Administrator Bulger.

Steve Bulger

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Good afternoon, everybody. First item under HR and Insurance, authorizing the approval of the County cyber liability insurance policy with Crum and Forster until May 8, 2022. Budget impact none. Funds are available in the 2021 budget. This resolution retroactively approves the policy for the County's cyber liability insurance policy effective May 8, 2021 until May 8, 2022. The policy includes a \$1M coverage limit a \$100,000 deductible and a premium of \$45,216. It has also come to our attention that resolution 112 of 2021, passed last month in April, needs to be amended to reflect corrected premium amounts. The insurance company has notified us that our premiums must be itemized in a slightly different manner for payment processing. The premium totals remain the same. Next item authorizing a revision to the standard workday for elected County officials for retirement purposes. Budget impact none. Regulations of the New York State and Local Employees Retirement System require that municipalities continually update their standard workday resolutions to reflect

changes in employment status of individual employees. Next item authorizing an amendment to the 2021 compensation schedule to reinstate the Account Clerk Typist PT under County Treasurer until December 31 2021. Budget impact none. Keeping the Account Clerk Typist position filled through the end of the year will help to maintain staffing and continuity through this year as the duties of Tax Enforcement Officer are transitioned to the Treasurer, and through retirements and training of new hires. Next item authorizing an amendment to the 2021 Compensation Schedule to create one Director of Public Relations Grade 15 under the County Administrator. Budget impact none. Funds for the new position are available in the 2021 budget through an inter-department transfer. This position will be implemented at step one with a base salary of \$73,127. The Director of Public Relations will be responsible for the planning, coordinating and controlling of public relation and information activities for the County of Saratoga. Next item, authorizing a temporary monthly stipend of \$1,500 a month for Rebecca Robarge, Youth Services specialist from June 2021 through December 2021. Budget impact none. Funds for the stipend are available in the 2021 budget. This temporary monthly stipend will commence on June 1 2021 and remain in effect through December 31 2021. This stipend is in response to additional duties for Rebecca Robarge following the impending retirement of Director Wes Carr. Next item, authorizing an extension of the agreement with Goldberg Segalla LLP for its professional legal services in comprehensive labor relations and representation for and on behalf of the County. Budget impact none. Funds for the agreement were included in the 2021 budget. This agreement will include Goldberg Segalla LLP'S currently hourly rate of \$225 per hour for Partners and Special Counsel \$200 per hour for Associates and \$100 per hour for Paralegals. Resolution 119 of 2019 authorized the current contract with Goldberg Segalla LLP, which expires May 31 2021. Extension of the contract is being recommended at the current hourly rates with the intention to bid for professional legal services at a later date this year.

Jonathan Schopf

Thank you, it's my understanding, we're going to add the housekeeping amendment to Resolution 112 2021 also under the Human Resources and Insurance, and Mike does that need to be a separate vote on that?

Michael Hartnett

I think that it does because it was advanced through Health and Human services, or I'm sorry, Human Resources and Insurance as just the cyber liability. So the housekeeping on 112 of 2021 to adjust the premium amounts without, it's not an adjustment on the total, would be appropriate.

Jonathan Schopf

Alright, so this time, does anybody have any questions from the Committee or elsewhere on these items?

Tom Wood

Mr. Chairman, Supervisor Wood.

Jonathan Schopf

Yes Supervisor.

Tom Wood

I'm just be curious on the extending of the agreement with Goldberg and Segalla. Are those new rates the same or was there an increase in those rates? And also when would the extension expire? Is that a one year extension? or what is that?

Steve Bulger

Supervisor, those rates are the same. It's just we're currently extending the contract. We expect an RFP to go out for the services, possibly within the next couple of weeks, but very soon, and then once the Board makes a decision, on the RFP, then adjustments will be made with the contract terminating with Goldberg, unless they get re-upped in the new RFP. If that answers your question.

Tom Wood

Yes, it does. Thank you.

Phil Barrett

So we need to amend that first resolution, that first item, right?

Steve Bulger

Yes, we need a resolution, I think you may have a note on that Supervisor.

Phil Barrett

Well, yeah, I'll just offer that we amend Resolution 112 2021 to reflect the corrected premium amounts for auditing payment purposes and to approve the cyber liability insurance as mentioned previously.

Jonathan Schopf

Thank you. Is there a second?

Sandra Winney

I'll make that motion.

Jonathan Schopf

Thank you Supervisor Winney. Any discussion. All in favor?

Several Supervisors

Aye.

Jonathan Schopf

Any opposed? Carries. And the entire regular agenda after the amendment of that particular resolution. Do we have a motion to carry these items?

Kevin Tollisen

So moved.

Jonathan Schopf

Supervisor Tollisen. Second?

Matt Veitch

I'll second, Supervisor Veitch.

Jonathan Schopf

Supervisor Veitch second. Any discussion? All in favor?

Several Supervisors

Aye.

Jonathan Schopf

Anybody opposed? Everything carries. Thank you. Health and Human Services up next.

Steve Bulger

Okay, first item is authorizing major contracts for contract tracing services with Suzanne Kwasniewski in an amount not to exceed \$39,000 Kyle Abdellatif in an amount not to exceed \$45,500 and Kayla Aschmutat in an amount not to exceed \$39,000. Budget impact none. Costs associated with these contracts will be covered by a Health Research Inc. Grant. All three of the contact tracers have exhausted the limits of their minor contracts, and Public Health is requesting these be moved two major contracts to continue their work in the Public Health Department. All three contract tracers will be paid the same hourly rate of \$25 per hour for a one year term. The only variance between the three tracers is the maximum number of hours allowed per week for each. Next item, authorizing a transfer in the amount of \$200,000 from fund balance into the Public Health operating budget for Public Health Department expansion costs. Budget impact, this will require an appropriation from fund balance in the amount of \$200,000. The purpose of these funds is to set aside initial resources related to the upcoming expansion of Public Health Services to a full service Public Health Department. The funds will cover anticipated contractual, legal, consultants and other additional costs as needed in the ramp up, particularly for the environmental health inspections components. Next item authorizing a \$75,000 contribution to RISE Housing and Support Services. Budget impact, this will require an appropriation from fund balance in the amount of \$75,000. This funding is proposed to be used for renovation of a commercial kitchen and hiring of a Development Director for the RISE Social Center.

Jonathan Schopf

Thank you very much. Is there any discussion or questions on any of those items before we move them along?

Kevin Tollisen

I have one on the third resolution?

Jonathan Schopf

Yes, Supervisor Tollisen.

Kevin Tollisen

So is this something that was in the budget or not in the budget? Wouldn't this normally fall through the budget process?

Jonathan Schopf

It is my understanding it was not in the budget and it will require the \$75,000 straight appropriation from fund balance.

Kevin Tollisen

What do they do?

Tara Gaston

Chairman I'm happy to provide any answers if you'd like? So, RISE, formerly known as Transitional Services, which I think is how most people in this room would recognize them. They contract and they provide a number of services around the county both housing, mental health and social services. One of the things that they have noticed is that there's been an increasing population in Saratoga County of individuals who do not have the ability to attend the more structured programs at the Office of Mental Health, either their particular condition or substance use issues, prevent them from being able to follow that along. This is a less structured therapeutic environment that will allow them to engage with personnel and become more familiar and ideally get them into those more structured programs. Any provider in Saratoga County would be able to refer individuals to the program, including the Office of Mental Health, which is just across the street, from their current site and where the social club would be. They also have built into their plan transportation from around the county. So every municipality, anybody who's referred into the program would be able to access it, that transportation would not be a barrier. I also provided to every Supervisor some information by email that was sent by RISE in answer to some questions that had been raised by Supervisors in the Health Committee. Unfortunately, even though they presented last month, most of the questions came up at the day of the Health Committee meeting for this month. So they've been trying to catch up and answer those and any other questions that are necessary for any vote at the full Board, they're also happy to answer and provide. They also provided an interview with the current staff at the Warren County Social Club, I don't think they call it that exactly, but it does approximately what they're looking for. So that Supervisors would have an understanding of that. They're also happy to have people in Warren County, if that assists as well. It was not in the budget because the ask was not made last year. They're moving forward on this now and they did not have the ability to do it before, and obviously the number of people who need it has gone up. They're just requesting this, which would be the kitchen, would allow them to both teach cooking skills and nutrition skills, but also would allow them to bring in revenue so that they would not be reliant on the County, they're working with Prosperity Partnership and other economic development organizations to support some of that, and also support local businesses, The development coordinator would also be for the purpose of bringing in additional revenue. And they are aware that any additional cost or County support that they would request would have to go through the budget process.

Kevin Tollisen

So I'll make another comment. I think the year I was Chairman, I think we asked the resolution regarding profit sharing money from the landfill, which each municipality got additional monies for this

type of thing. So it would be my expectation that they would ask the individual municipalities to fund something like this. But I don't know if, and I'm not questioning the integrity of this program, but I think that opens up the County to an awful lot of requests from other not for profit organizations, especially during non-budget time. And I think that we need to be careful of that, that's just my opinion. I'm not opposed to what they're doing, I think what they're doing is good. I just, I think we should caution on the timing of it number one, and number two, look at what we did a couple of years ago, as far as these types of request, that's all my comment is.

Tara Gaston

With respect, this would serve beyond the municipality of the City of Saratoga Springs, which is one reason why it would be brought to the County and not to an individual municipality. Also, those funds go directly to the City and neither Supervisor Veitch nor myself have any say or input into them. So unfortunately, we would not be, I mean, we would continue to advocate for support of RISE, but that is not an option from the City itself. But, again, this would support individuals from across the County as they do now. I know that they have several housing units, they've got a new one going up in Ballston, they have some that they just did in Corinth. They're also building the first residential treatment facility that's outpatient, or intensive, it's not in hospitals, is what I mean by outpatient, and those are the first addiction services beds that will be located in Saratoga County, which means our Sheriff and our Mental Health Services will not have to take people out of the county, which is what we have to do now in order to obtain those similar services. So they do have a history of working across the county, which is one reason why I believe it's appropriate but, point taken we do need to be careful as custodians of the County's money.

Jonathan Schopf

Supervisor Barrett?

Phil Barrett

Yeah, so I did vote against this at the Committee. One of the reasons that I stated was the subject of third party or outside party requests coming through the budget process. And that's how they've been handled in the past. And I think that's a much better alternative as compared to these types of requests coming through during the year. Also, it wasn't just the \$75,000. They plan to come in for another quarter million here at budget time. I think if we approve \$75,000 now it's going to be very difficult to not approve the additional 250. Through 2024, they're looking at I believe it was \$675,000. So it's a rather large expenditure. And I mentioned at the Committee meeting that this appears more of a more like a partnership, than it does just a simple third party request for funding. I appreciate, I did mention and ask for a tour of the Warren County facility. So I appreciate Supervisor Gaston working on that, and I look forward to making that trip to learn a little more about what they want to do here in Saratoga County. And I think that's one way to learn more, is to see it in person and see it in action. So I definitely plan on doing that. And I think requests from outside entities that we have on an annual basis can be entertained, and should be entertained, through a structured process. And right now, that's the budget process. But there might be opportunities for other structured processes that would include the ability for the Board of Supervisors to analyze requests for funding and how we might want to see funding spent in certain areas based on the needs of our individual communities and the County as a whole. The items that Supervisor Gaston mentioned, as far as their programs, and what they try to accomplish,

I think those are all areas that we should be focused on, particularly since some of those issues have increased during our COVID pandemic. So for that reason, I'll vote no again today, but keep an open mind. And like I said, go forward with the tour and would certainly entertain this \$75,000 request at a future time. Thank you.

Jonathan Schopf

Thank you.

Matt Veitch

Mr. Chairman?

Jonathan Schopf

Supervisor Veitch.

Matt Veitch

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Just a couple of comments from me. So first off, I also attended a meeting earlier this year with Supervisor Gaston and RISE had presented their idea for this plan. One of the ways that they presented it to us, and it may not be the same today, was that at one time, Saratoga County had a similar kind of program called the Friendship House. And some more folks who've been around for a while will remember that. And it was essentially this idea of a less structured kind of mental health services program. And we ran it actually as the County, it was part of the Mental Health Department. For some reason over the years that has gone away, and I don't know if it's a lack of State funding, or it was some other program or other issue. But I got behind this because I think it's a good idea, and it was something that we were doing, so why wouldn't we want to continue to do something that's good. So, I'm going to vote in favor of this today. But I agree with you Supervisor Barrett, I think we really need to figure out a way to do a good structured program for not for profits to come during the budget season. It's been one of my kind of things I've wanted to see happen. I'm happy to take it up in Government Review as something we could maybe do a policy on. I know that we have something similar to this already. But it's not maybe as structured as it maybe it could be. So with that, I'll just say, if it doesn't pass today, I think we should definitely consider this going forward, or at the Board. So thank you.

Jonathan Schopf

Thank you.

Tara Gaston

I would also say that we do have an application process already, for nonprofits to apply, and when we have brought things forward, they have been denied and been said that that shouldn't take place at the County level, including funding for UPH in Saratoga Springs. So I recognize that, but I just do want to make it clear the opportunity is not as widely available as one might think, at the budget time. I would also like to say that just as parting, if this does pass and move to the full Board, the RISE Executive Director will be at the full Board meeting and is also willing to bring or provide any additional materials that are needed prior to that meeting. If there are any questions that take place, I would ask that you give a day or two to have them answered if possible, but if there are any other questions or information

that are necessary, she will be here in order to provide that so that every Supervisor can vote as informed as they would like to be. Thank you.

Jonathan Schopf

Thank you. Anybody else, I do not see any other lights on. All right, it sounds like we're going to need a separate roll call vote on these resolutions?

Kevin Tollisen

I'll make a motion on the first two.

Jonathan Schopf

Supervisor Tollisen moving the first two items. Is there a second on that?

Phil Barrett

Second.

Jonathan Schopf

Second by Supervisor Barrett. Any discussion on those two further? All in favor?

Several Supervisors

Aye.

Jonathan Schopf

Any opposed? Passes. And then on the third one, the 75,000 contribution to RISE. Is there a motion on that?

Tara Gaston

I will move that Supervisor Gaston

Jonathan Schopf

Gaston moves. Second?

Matt Veitch

Second, Supervisor Veitch.

Jonathan Schopf

Second. Any further discussion on the motion?

Sandra Winney

I vote no.

Jonathan Schopf

Oh, we're not there yet. Any further discussion? Roll Call on this.

Therese Connolly
Supervisor Barrett.

Phil Barrett
No.

Therese Connolly
Supervisor Gaston.

Tara Gaston
Yes.

Therese Connolly
Tollisen.

Kevin Tollisen
No.

Therese Connolly
Veitch.

Matt Veitch
Yes.

Therese Connolly
Winnie

Sandra Winney
No.

Therese Connolly
Wood

Tom Wood
Yes.

Therese Connolly
Chairman Schopf.

Jonathan Schopf
No.

Therese Connolly
Motion fails.

Jonathan Schopf

Technology and Resiliency.

Steve Bulger

Ok first item, authorizing a contract with Presentation Concepts Corporation for audio visual design and implementation services related to audio and visual upgrades to the Boardroom and one Committee room. Budget impact none. Presentation Concepts Corporation Inc. will design and implement a turnkey audio visual system for the Board room and Committee room. This includes the new Supervisors discussion system, which includes an all in one terminal at each desk that acts as a microphone, speakers and video monitor. The system is scalable and can be upgraded to a complete paperless meeting system and includes a local video camera system with commercial grade monitors with the ability to livestream meetings. Next item, amending Resolution 257 of 2019 pertaining to the lease agreement with Twin State Technologies Inc. for phone upgrades and support of the Department of Motor Vehicle phone system. Budget impact none. Funds are included in the 2021 budget. This resolution will authorize an amendment to the current lease agreement for phone equipment maintenance and support services for Saratoga County. The current agreement included options to add phone upgrades and support for the Department of Motor Vehicles. The amended quote will be for 39 months at a monthly cost of \$997 with a total cost of \$38,883. This addendum will include the same expiration date of November 19 2024, as the previous agreement.

Phil Barrett

I'll move it.

Jonathan Schopf

Second?

Matt Veitch

Second.

Jonathan Schopf

By Supervisor Veitch. Any discussion or questions on it?

Phil Barrett

Yes. Chairman, could you just give us a brief outline of some of these improvements that are going to happen with this first resolution, either yourself or Eileen, because I think these are long awaited and very important.

Eileen Bennett

So the upgrades that will take place in this room would be minimal changes to the seating area that you have now. There is going to be a monitor at each location with a microphone incorporated into that screen. There will be two TVs that we believe will be mounted in the middle of the room for the gallery. There will be cameras that will turn to the speaker, as they turn on their microphone. The Chairman will have control of the microphones at the same time as well to allow or disallow a speaker. It's

upgradable, it's scalable. Without hardware, only software licensing would be needed, so that if we went to a paperless meeting with agendas and things like that it would be paperless.

Phil Barrett

So eventually, after its installed there'll be an opportunity for not only improved general system in here, visual as well as audio, but also streaming of the meetings?

Eileen Bennett

And the ability to stream meetings as well, yes.

Phil Barrett

All right. Good. Thank you,

Tara Gaston

Chairman?

Tara Gaston

Yes Supervisor Gaston.

Tara Gaston

This is Supervisor Gaston, and I would also like to say thank you to both Director Bennett and Warnt. This was not the lowest total cost. However, it was the one that is best able to adjust and grow into the future, and I think that's an extremely important consideration to make. So if there are any concerns or questions about that, I agree that when it was presented, this is the one that can adjust with us and fit with the most things as we need. Because I would hate for us to spend an inordinate amount of money on something that we're going to have to replace in short order. So thank you for that and for making that consideration in the recommendation.

Eileen Bennett

You're welcome. Thank you.

Jonathan Schopf

What's the timeline for it being totally installed?

Eileen Bennett

Once they're awarded the contract, they needed four to eight weeks. So that there won't be any disruption to meetings, we've talked with the vendors as they came in with that one presentation, to let them know that we needed this room to be available during construction, and they were able to accommodate that.

Jonathan Schopf

Wonderful.

Eileen Bennett

Thank you.

Matt Veitch

Mr. Chairman.

Jonathan Schopf

Supervisor Veitch.

Matt Veitch

I don't know if it was mentioned, but we also are going to do upgrades in the Committee room for post COVID meetings when we finally can move back over in our regular Committee room. So some of that cost includes new monitors and some upgrades to that room as well so that we can have, I think live streaming even in there if we need to for our Committees, so just want to let you know.

Jonathan Schopf

Thank you. Alright, it was moved and seconded. Any further discussion questions or anyone? All in favor?

Several Supervisors

Aye.

Jonathan Schopf

Opposed? Motion carries. Public Safety up next.

Steve Bulger

Okay, first item authorizing a contract with the Village of Corinth for specialized law enforcement services, amending the 2021 compensation schedule under the Sheriff's Department and amending the 2021 County budget in relation thereto. Budget impact none. This resolution will formalize an agreement between the Sheriff and the Village of Corinth, included will be an amendment to the 2021 Compensation schedule to create one Deputy Sheriff position. This position will provide patrol services to the Village for 56 hours per week, beginning on June 1 2021 and concluding on May 31 2024. The prorated cost for year one of the agreement will be \$78,255.14. \$136,627.02 in year two, \$139,155.21 in year three, and \$59,056.03 for the remaining five months of the agreement in 2024. Next item authorizing a renewal agreement with Lexipol LLC for specialized software and management services for policy development, accreditation and training. Budget impact none. Funds for the agreement are included in the 2021 budget. The total cost of this renewal agreement will be \$37,819. Lexipol is a sole source product and provider of Lexipol's risk management tools for Public Safety organizations. Lexipol is the current vendor of policy, accreditation and training, development and management services for the Sheriff's office. The original contract was awarded based on an RFP to which Lexipol was the only respondent.

Jonathan Schopf

Right, thank you. So just two items on that. Anybody have any questions for Public Safety?

Tara Gaston

Chairman?

Jonathan Schopf

Yes, Supervisor Gaston.

Tara Gaston

Sorry, this may be best for the Sheriff or the Undersheriff. I asked in the committee for the amount it's a \$37,800. So just under \$38,000 annually, is that what we're paying now? Or is the starting? I mean, it's a renewal. Right? Sorry. Do you need him to come to the microphone? Thank you.

Michael Zurlo

It's a renewal.

Tara Gaston

And what are we currently paying, the same amount?

Michael Zurlo

What's that?

Therese Connolly

What are we currently paying?

Michael Zurlo

What's the current? No increase.

Tara Gaston

So we're currently paying \$37,000 for this? And what are the services? I assume it goes beyond the policy drafting.

Michael Zurlo

It provides bulletins for us, policy and procedure manual, all current trends that occur throughout the country and in New York State. Keeps us up to date with our policies and procedures.

Tara Gaston

Okay, is this comparative to what other policing agencies your size?

Michael Zurlo

I'm not aware of that. I just what we have with us.

Tara Gaston

Okay. Thank you.

Michael Zurlo

You're welcome.

Tara Gaston

Chairman, just that, I'm going to vote no, on that particular item. I don't know if you'd like to have a separate on those two. Thank you.

Jonathan Schopf

Okay, Thank you. Any other questions from anyone? Can we get a motion on the Village of Corinth contract?

Sandra Winney

I'll make it.

Jonathan Schopf

Supervisor Winney came in first, Supervisor Barrett with the second. Any discussion? All in favor?

Phil Barrett

Second.

Several Supervisors

Aye.

Jonathan Schopf

Any opposed? Passes. And then on the Lexipol LLC renewal agreement.

Kevin Tollisen

I'll make a motion to approve it.

Jonathan Schopf

Supervisor Tollisen moves it, second?

Tom Wood

Supervisor Wood second.

Jonathan Schopf

Supervisor Wood. Any further discussion?

Tara Gaston

I'm just going to sorry, this is Supervisor Gaston. I'm just gonna vote no, I've done a little poking around. It seems like this is far more than other agencies of the size are paying. I'd like some more information on what the distinction is before moving forward with that size annual contract.

Jonathan Schopf

Roll call vote please on this one.

Therese Connolly

Supervisor Barrett.

Phil Barrett

Yes.

Therese Connolly

Gaston

Tara Gaston

No.

Therese Connolly

Tollisen.

Kevin Tollisen

Yes.

Therese Connolly

Veitch.

Matt Veitch

Yes.

Therese Connolly

Winnie.

Sandra Winney

Yes.

Therese Connolly

Wood.

Tom Wood

Yes.

Therese Connolly

Chairman Schopf.

Jonathan Schopf

Yes.

Therese Connolly

Motion passes.

Jonathan Schopf

Thank you everybody. Trails and Open Space.

Steve Bulger

Okay, amending Resolution 258 of 2019 to comply with a reduction in funding for the Open Space Grant. Budget impact none. This amended resolution is for an open space grant in the Town of Milton. For the Smassanow project. The Planning Department was notified that the total project cost has been reduced to \$152,994 from \$179,854, and therefore the County Open Space Grant has been reduced to \$76,497 from \$89,927. Since this change is greater than the 10% allowed in Resolution 258 of 2019 and in consultation with the County Attorney, a new resolution will be required.

Jonathan Schopf

Any questions on that? Motion?

Phil Barrett

I'll move it.

Jonathan Schopf

Supervisor Barrett, second?

Tara Gaston

Second

Jonathan Schopf

Supervisor Gaston second. All in favor?

Several Supervisors

Aye.

Jonathan Schopf

Opposed? Passes. Economic Development, one resolution.

Steve Bulger

Okay authorizing the acceptance of \$43,701.26 in Employment Recovery National Dislocated Worker grant funds from the New York State Department of Labor. Budget impact none. Saratoga County is the grant recipient for the Saratoga, Warren and Washington Workforce Development area and will retain \$22,838.28 of the awarded amount. The remaining \$20,862.98 will go to Warren and Washington counties. This grant will be used to provide career services, training services, supportive services, and needs related payments to dislocated workers.

Jonathan Schopf

Any questions on that? Motion?

Tara Gaston

Supervisor Gaston, I'll move that.

Jonathan Schopf

Supervisor Gaston, second?

Phil Barrett

Second.

Jonathan Schopf

Supervisor Barrett. All in favor?

Several Supervisors

Aye.

Jonathan Schopf

Any opposed? Public Works.

Steve Bulger

All right. First item authorizing the implementation and funding of 100% of the cost of a transportation project for the construction and construction inspection services for the rehabilitation of the Hans Creek Road bridge over Hans Creek in the Town of Providence in the amount of \$554,500. Budget impact none 5% County share is available in the 2021 budget. Costs for this transportation project may be eligible for Federal aid, State aid or Bridge New York funds for the construction and construction inspection services for the rehabilitation of the Hans Creek Road bridge. The County's 5% share of the project equates to \$27,725 and is included in the 2021 budget. Next item, amending the consultant agreement with Creighton Manning Engineering LLP to include construction support and inspection services for the rehabilitation of the Hans Creek Road bridge over Hans Creek in the Town of Providence in the amount of \$116,500. Budget impact none. 5% County share is available in the 2021 budget. The original contract with Creighton Manning was authorized through Resolution 73 of 2019 with a cost not to exceed \$125,000. At that time, Saratoga County Department of Public Works had evaluated and ranked all firms on New York State DOT's Region One Local Design Service Agreement list and selected Creighton Manning Engineering LLP to provide design services related to the rehabilitation of the Hans Creek Road bridge. Next item, introducing a Local Law authorizing the conveyance of the Roberts Lane Bridge to Synergy Park LLC, and setting a date for a public hearing. Budget impact none. This bridge is an approximate 30 foot clear span filled aluminum arch bridge located on a former Town of Halfmoon roadway. This bridge previously served a single private property and is currently surrounded by private property with no easements. In 2020 the Town of Halfmoon, through a Resolution of the Town Board, abandoned Roberts Lane and transferred ownership to the adjoining property owner.

Jonathan Schopf

Any questions on any of those three items? Motion.

Sandra Winney

I'll make that motion

Jonathan Schopf

Supervisor Winney.

Kevin Tollisen

Second

Jonathan Schopf

Second Supervisor Tollisen. All in favor?

Several Supervisors

Aye.

Jonathan Schopf

Anybody opposed? Passes. Thank you. Buildings and Grounds.

Steve Bulger

Okay, first item, approving and confirming the auction sale of County owned lands located at 31 Woodlawn Avenue in the City of Saratoga Springs. Budget impact. This will result in an increase of \$2,800,100 in 2021 revenues. Auctions International conducted an online auction on behalf of the County from April 6 through April 28. There were 182 bids received, the highest being from the Adirondack Trust Company at \$2,800,100. The 10% required deposit was wired from Adirondack Trust Company and received by Auctions International on April 28 2021. Next item authorizing a five year extension of the current lease between the Board of Elections and WAM Commercial Associates LLC for the secure storage of voting machines and related materials, commencing on September 1 2021, and concluded on August 31 2020. Budget impact none. The Board of Elections has had 10 years of consistently positive experiences with WAM. The proposed lease renewal will stay the same for one year at \$5,843 per month with a 2% increase per year for years two, three and four, and the fifth and final year being a 3% increase.

Jonathan Schopf

Okay, any questions on either of those items? Do we have a motion.

Matt Veitch

I'll move that Chairman.

Jonathan Schopf

Supervisor Veitch, a second?

Tara Gaston

I will second it. Supervisor Gaston

Jonathan Schopf

Supervisor Gaston Second. All in favor?

Several Supervisors

Aye.

Jonathan Schopf

Any opposed? Carried. A couple under Law and Finance.

Steve Bulger

First item authorizing a transfer any amount of \$700,000 from Fund Balance into the Public Health operating budget for COVID response efforts. Budget impact, this will require an appropriation from Fund Balance in the amount of \$700,000. In January of this year, the Board reappropriated nearly \$400,000 for COVID response and relief efforts to Public Health's operating budget. Those funds have been nearly exhausted mostly due to expenses related to contact tracing, PPE, vaccination expenses and other supplies. This resolution will provide an additional appropriation of \$700,000 to Public Health A.40.409 division for ongoing COVID response and relief efforts, including contact tracing, vaccine outreach, inmate displacement costs and more. Currently, \$825,715.45 remains outstanding in potential reimbursements, which includes FEMA reimbursements for all Departments and non FEMA Public Health expense reimbursements from the HRI Grant, State Aid and others. Estimated costs for the next few months include the contact tracer contracts \$160,000, nurse connection contract \$20,000, inmate reimbursement \$100,000, EMS vaccine contracts \$180,000, DiRAD setup and calling \$140,000, miscellaneous expenses \$100,000, for a total of \$700,000. Next item, adopting a Local Law opting into the new DEC Deer Hunting pilot program. Budget impact none. At the April Board meeting a public hearing for this proposed Local Law was set for May 18 at 3:30pm. It is anticipated that this proposed Local Law will be adopted following the public hearing at the May Board meeting. Next item authorizing the Chairman to enter into an amendment to the agreement with Tyler Technologies Inc. for new SQL Server service. Budget impact none. Funds for this agreement are included in the 2021 budget. The server services to be provided by Tyler Technologies includes installation and configuration of the windows SQL Server and restoration of all New World ERP databases to the new SQL Server at go live. Next item authorizing the Chairman of the Board to execute a contract amendment with Arcadis to reappropriate funds within the existing engineering contract for the Biosolids Facility design. Budget impact none. This amendment will allow Arcadis to begin work studying different options for a Biosolids Facility here at the Saratoga County Sewer District. Albany County has recently submitted a withdrawal letter to remove themselves from the current inter-municipal agreement. Therefore, the Sewer District will now need to explore options for a Biosolids Facility at the existing Wastewater Treatment Plant. Next item authorizing the Chairman of the Board to execute a contract with Arcadis of New York Inc. in the amount of \$24,500 to perform a technical determination of local limits study and evaluation for Saratoga County Sewer District's Industrial Pretreatment Program, budget impact none. This work will update already defined pollutants of concerns that SCSD must regulate to protect the Wastewater Treatment Plant, the public and the environment. Five proposals were received and range from

\$24,500 to \$69,400. Arcadis has intimate knowledge of our collection system and is currently performing plant modeling as part of our biosolids project. They were the low proposal and provide the best value to perform this work.

Jonathan Schopf

Thank you. Any questions on any of those for anyone?

Tara Gaston

So many.

Jonathan Schopf

Supervisor Gaston.

Tara Gaston

Thank you, Supervisor Gaston. Start from the bottom up. So the Biosolids Facility when were we notified of that, of their withdrawal?

Steve Bulger

Recently, and we have a call scheduled later this week, I believe, with representatives from Albany County to discuss it in more detail and find out exactly why this is happening from their end, but they've indicated they do want to withdraw from the inter-municipal agreement.

Tara Gaston

Is this recently, a few days? A few weeks?

Steve Bulger

I'm not sure when we got the letter. Dan, do you know exactly when they sent us the letter?

Tara Gaston

I assume it was after the last Public Works meeting?

Dan Rourke

We met with the Joint Regional Biosolids Board on March 18, where this was discussed. And then we received the letter this week. And we received verbal on March 18, that they were going to do it, but this goes through the Sewer Commission, not necessarily the Public Works Committee.

Tara Gaston

Okay, fair enough. Do we know how much money we've spent on the plan, as it was with Albany? And what is our ability to recoup any of that, given that we have invested into this other plan that they're now backing out of?

Dan Rourke

Yep, our share was \$500,000, that we spent. The hope is that we will, with one of the resolutions that are on the table today, utilize Arcadis to assist with our options so that some of that \$500,000 that we

spent can be utilized to help what we need to determine to move forward by utilizing existing energy flow models, existing solids loading analysis that has been done. So while that whole \$500,000 isn't going to be utilized, some of it will be if we move forward with Arcadis.

Tara Gaston

Oh, yeah, absolutely. And I think that's good. I think we should consider that. And I'm glad that the Sewer District's looking at it. But I would also like, if there is any potential for us to recoup any of that. With them backing out, I don't know exactly how the contract was written. But that is a little bit frustrating for us to put that much money towards something., and for them to withdraw, and now we're having to completely redo the plans. So if that is a potential, I would support asking them to give us some back, please.

Dan Rourke

I understood, extremely frustrating.

Tara Gaston

I'm sure it's more so for you. Yes, that's all I had for the Sewer. I don't know, do you want anybody else while he's standing there? If they have any other questions?

Phil Barrett

I just want to say, Dan, I understand you have a Board of Commissioners for the Sewer District that conducts all the business of the Sewer District, but you're always welcome to the Public Works meeting. So anytime you want to come by just let me know.

Dan Rourke

You got it.

Jonathan Schopf

Questions?

Tara Gaston

Two others sorry. The Tyler Technologies, I just wanted to make it clear that it is an item that should be before the Tech and Resiliency Committee. Director Bennett did request because it was determined to be needed to be brought forward to the full Board after that meeting. However, I think this brings up a point that I think that we need to deal with. I believe the reason it wasn't brought prior was because it was going to be an amendment made through a minor contract, and since we already had a contract with them, I think it should be our policy and practice to not make amendments through that method. One, it meant that something went outside of the normal committee process, but also two, I think it's better to keep these things together instead of having a separate contract that's minor, to discuss the issues. I think it's important, it's worth it, I absolutely agree with Director Bennett and I have no problem with it being brought here. But I do think that we need to determine some policies so that that does not happen. I think an amendment to a contract should not come through minor contract. Especially if the contract itself was a major contract that went before the Board itself.

Jonathan Schopf

Okay. You had one more?

Tara Gaston

Yes. I just don't know if you want me to move topics before.

Jonathan Schopf

Go right ahead.

Tara Gaston

The other one is about the Public Health and the Fund Balance. I think that this is worthy money to help go forward and looking at it, the amount that we've spent previously on items, I think that it's a reasonable estimate of what we'll need to complete and wrap up, please God, wrap up the COVID response. Especially I know some of our PODs have decreased but fingers crossed tonight, we'll be able to get approval to start vaccinating 12 to 17 year olds. So the calls will continue, and I know that we're working with some local businesses, etc. I do have to say, though, that I think it took a lot longer than necessary to determine what we've previously spent money on. And I will be sending some questions about some of the monies that were in there, because I want to make sure that we're not putting ourselves in a position, especially applying for reimbursement that could end up hurting the County. So I think that some of that has changed for the record keeping, which is good, but hopefully this will be the last please. Right, Commissioner? We're going to be done with it? And then there could be no more outbreaks? Okay. He's nodding. I don't think he's serious. But thank you, that was my only comment on that one.

Jonathan Schopf

Anybody else? Supervisor Veitch?

Matt Veitch

I'm ready to vote.

Jonathan Schopf

All right. Ready to vote. All right all in favor?

Therese Connolly

No we need a motion

Jonathan Schopf

I'm sorry.

Tara Gaston

I will move them all.

Matt Veitch

Oh, they had to be moved. I'll second the motion.

Jonathan Schopf

Supervisor Gaston, second by Supervisor Veitch. All in favor?

Several Supervisors

Aye.

Matt Veitch

Any opposed? Passed. We have a Chairman's item to appoint Therese M. Connolly as Clerk of the Board. Questions discussion on this?

Tara Gaston

Who is she? Do we have any knowledge of her?

Phil Barrett

I'll move it unless it's just a Chairman's appointment. Does it require a vote?

Jonathan Schopf

I think it requires a vote.

Phil Barrett

I guess I'll move it for discussion only.

Therese Connolly

Your microphone is not on though.

Tara Gaston

I will second it Supervisor Barrett so that we can discuss this. I'd like to learn more about this individual.

Phil Barrett

Fair enough. So, Therese?

Therese Connolly

Supervisor, can you please put your mic on? (laughter)

Tara Gaston

Yes, I vote yes.

Phil Barrett

Well, I haven't voted yet.

Jonathan Schopf

All right. All in favor?

Several Supervisors

Aye.

Jonathan Schopf

Any opposed?

Sandra Winney

A quick question though, are we going to get cakes? (laughter)

Therese Connolly

Yes.

Jonathan Schopf

Passes? Congratulations.

Tara Gaston

You didn't ask if anyone opposed and if they want to get thoroughly beaten out of the room?

Jonathan Schopf

Nobody said no. All right. Now with that difficult one being done. Executive Session. Do we have a motion to enter in that to discuss the litigation update from the County Attorney on the Saratoga County versus Delaware Engineering et al. matter?

Tara Gaston

I'll move that.

Jonathan Schopf

Supervisor Gaston, second?

Phil Barrett

Second.

Jonathan Schopf

Supervisors Barrett. All in favor?

Tara Gaston

Can we just state for the record just before we go into it so that we have it on the record with the purpose of it is?

Jonathan Schopf

I did.

Tara Gaston

You said for a litigation update but that's not pursuant..

Jonathan Schopf

It's a litigation update on Saratoga County versus Delaware Engineering et al.?

Tara Gaston

Okay.

Michael Hartnett

If possible I would respectfully request that my ACA Naughton, Assistant County Attorney Naughton and Executive Director Rourke could be asked to stay as guests to provide insight into this.

Jonathan Schopf

Not a problem. And I was just gonna ask are you going to be looking for action to be taken on this matter?

Michael Hartnett

Yeah.

Jonathan Schopf

Okay. So we will likely come out of executive session with a resolution. Roll Call vote please. All in favor?

Jonathan Schopf

Aye.

Jonathan Schopf

Opposed? All right. We will stand adjourned for the room to clear and then move into executive session.

Jonathan Schopf

A motion was made by Supervisor Veitch and seconded by Supervisor Barrett to return to open session.

Jonathan Schopf

(Inaudible)

Jonathan Schopf

Mr. Veitch moved the resolution to add that to the Law and Finance agenda.

Michael Hartnett

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Deputy Clerk Connolly the action that was taken was to authorize the special counsel Couch White, the Chairman of the Board, and or the County Attorney to settle the matter of

County of Saratoga versus Delaware Engineering et al. against remaining named defendants, including Delaware Engineering, North Country Engineering, and the Estate of David Klein, in the amount of \$500,000.

Jonathan Schopf

Good.

Phil Barrett

I'll second, oh we already took action.

Jonathan Schopf

We're adding it to the agenda.

Phil Barrett

I'll second.

Tara Gaston

What are we voting on right now?

(inaudible – several people speaking at once)

Jonathan Schopf

We're adding the resolution that we did in Executive Session to the Law and Finance agenda for the Board meeting.

Tara Gaston

Okay, do we need to make a motion to add it or do we need to include which Supervisor moved and seconded?

Michael Hartnett

Yes.

Tara Gaston

Okay. So I believe that Supervisor Barrett, that moved it, and I seconded in session. And do we need a motion to add it to the agenda or do we just add it?

Jonathan Schopf

We're doing the motion to add it right now.

Matt Veitch

I don't think that we actually have to do that, but it's the Chairman's prerogative if he wants to do that.

Michael Hartnett

I concur.

Jonathan Schopf

Let's just vote. All in favor?

Several Supervisors

Aye

Jonathan Schopf

Any opposed. Any other business before Law and Finance today?

Several Supervisors

(Inaudible, several Supervisors) motion to adjourn.

Several Supervisors

Supervisor Wood, I'll make that motion.

Phil Barrett

Second.

Therese Connolly

Supervisor Schopf?

Michael Hartnett

Chairman Schopf.

Jonathan Schopf

I'm here yes.

Michael Hartnett

I believe there needs to be a motion to adopt the agenda or forward the agenda to the Board for the Board meeting.

Jonathan Schopf

Oh yes, you're right.

Tara Gaston

Supervisor Gaston. I will move that.

Kevin Tollisen

Second.

Jonathan Schopf

Hold on Supervisor we're gonna put your motion on the table. Supervisor Gaston moved to add to the agenda. Second?

Kevin Tollisen

Second.

Therese Connolly

Supervisor Tollisen.

Jonathan Schopf

All on favor of moving this month's agenda?

Several Supervisors

Aye.

Jonathan Schopf

Any opposed? Thank you. Supervisor Wood had moved to adjourn, is there a second on that motion?

Tara Gaston

I will second that, Supervisor Gaston.

Several Supervisors

Aye.

Jonathan Schopf

Thank you Supervisor. All in favor?

Jonathan Schopf

All right, any opposed? Thank you very much, everybody. I appreciate it. Appreciate your patience with me ducking out early. And we will see you all at the Board meeting.