

LAW & FINANCE Transcript 10/13/2021

SPEAKERS

Jean Raymond, Steve Bulger, Phil Barrett, Sandra Winney, Ed Tremblay, Matt Veitch, Joe Grasso, Benny Zlotnick, Dan Rourke, Several Supervisors, Therese Connolly, Tom Wood

Phil Barrett

Okay Good afternoon. Welcome to the October 13 Law and Finance meeting. You're stuck with me today. Mr. Schopf had a family emergency. So I'll be running the meeting. Welcome in attendance. Attendance has been taken. I'll entertain a motion to approve the minutes of September 8.

Matt Veitch

So moved.

Tom Wood

So moved.

Phil Barrett

Mr. Veitch, second by Mr. Wood. Discussion. All in favor?

Several Supervisors

Aye.

Phil Barrett

Opposed? Motion carries.

Jean Raymond

Jean Raymond Edinburg on the line now too.

Phil Barrett

Do you oppose Jean or are you?

Jean Raymond

No, I'm just letting you know I'm here.

Phil Barrett

Okay. Are you doing?

Jean Raymond

Good? How are you?

Phil Barrett

Good, good. All right, so that passed. We're gonna go on to Human Resources and Insurance. Steve?

Steve Bulger

Thank you Supervisor. First item on today's agenda authorizing a health insurance contract with Capital District Physicians Health Plan Inc. for 2022. Budget impact none. Funds are included in the 2022 tentative budget. This agreement will be effective January 1, 2022, for a projected cost of \$23,205,098.44, which is only a 1% increase over the 2021 premium. Next item authorizing a dental health insurance contract with Metropolitan Life Insurance Company Inc. for 2022. Budget impact none. Funds are included in the 2022 tentative budget. This agreement will be effective January 1, 2022, for a projected cost of \$849,627.12, which is a zero cost increase to our County employees. This extends our current agreements for the provision of dental health care insurance for County employees and the offering of voluntary dental health care insurance plans to County retirees. Next item authorizing an agreement with MVP Health Plan Inc. for all Medicare eligible retirees for 2022. Budget impact none. Funds are included in the 2022 tentative budget. This agreement will be effective January 1, 2022, for a projected cost of \$3,624,756.48, which is again a zero cost increase to our retirees. This extends our current agreements and provides coverage under the Medicare Advantage plan for those enrolling in Medicare. Next time authorizing an agreement with Jaeger and Flynn Associates Inc, a Marshall and Sterling company, for Flex Plan administration. Budget impact none. Funds are available in the 2021 budget. The number of county employees utilizing the services has increased resulting in expenses that are anticipated to exceed the minor contract limit. Next item amending the 2021 Compensation Schedule to reclassify a position under Public Health Services. Budget impact none. This item will authorize the reclassification of one Supervising Public Health Nurse to Community Health Program Manager within Public Health. This will facilitate the department's continued evolution towards a full-service Health Department.

Phil Barrett

Very good. I'll entertain a motion to move Human Resources and Insurance forward. previously were in our second move by Mr. Woods second by Mr. Grasso. Any discussion on any of these items Comments. All in favor?

Several Supervisors

Aye.

Phil Barrett

Opposed. Motion carries. We'll go on to Health and Human Services.

Steve Bulger

Okay, first item authorizing the acceptance of a \$1200 donation from Metabolic Fitness of Clifton Park for Saratoga County Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services Suicide Prevention Coalition of Saratoga County and amending the 2021 County budget in relation thereto. Budget impact none, donation. The 2021 budget will be amended to accept these funds and authorize the related expenses. This donation is the result of a fundraiser organized by Metabolic Fitness in Clifton Park. These funds will be used solely by the Saratoga County Suicide Prevention Coalition for purposes supporting their

mission. Next item authorizing multiyear early intervention grant agreements and contracts. Budget impact 100% State aid. This grant is awarded by the New York State Department of Health it may be used to support salaries, fringe benefits, and non-personnel services of the County's Early Intervention staff. Next item authorizing the acceptance of New York State Department of Health Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Program grant. Budget impact none. 100% State aid. This funding supports the County's Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Program. Next item authorizing the acceptance of New York State Department of Health multi-year Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Program grant. Budget impact none. 100% State aid. Related to the previous item where the New York State Department of Health extended the current Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Program until September 30 of 2021. DOH has reestablished the five-year funding period for this program through September 30, 2026. Next item will authorize the acceptance of year eight Local Health Department performance incentive award from the New York State Department of Health and amending the 2021 budget in relation thereto. Budget impact none. 100% State aid. The 2021 budget will be amended to accept these funds and authorize the related expenses. The Public Health Services Department has been awarded \$21,893 from the New York State DOH for its participation in expedited partner therapy. Next item authorizing the acceptance of State aid from the New York State Department of Health for COVID-19 Vaccine Response grant and amending the 2021 budget and relation thereto. Budget impact none. 100% State aid. The 2021 budget will be amended to accept these funds and authorize the related expenses. This funding of \$645,923.44 from the New York State Department of Health will be used to increase COVID-19 vaccine administration equity and to implement vaccine delivery strategies for COVID-19 vaccinations.

Phil Barrett

OK. I'll entertain a motion to move forward Health and Human Services.

Matt Veitch

So moved.

Tom Wood

Second.

Phil Barrett

Second by Mr. Wood moved by Mr. Veitch. Discussion, comments? Seeing none all in favor?

Several Supervisors

Aye.

Phil Barrett

Opposed? Motion carries. Buildings and Grounds has one item.

Steve Bulger

Okay. Authorizing a lease amendment and extension agreement with Wilton Mall LLC for a satellite office for the Department of Motor Vehicles. Budget impact none. Funds are included in the 2022

tentative budget. This amended lease agreement represents a 22% decrease in annual rental fees for the Wilton DMV site.

Phil Barrett

And Mr. Hayner is here to answer any questions on that if anybody does have anything for him. I'll entertain a motion to approve that item?

Sandra Winney

So moved.

Joe Grasso

I'll second

Tom Wood

Supervisor Wood.

Phil Barrett

Supervisor Winney, second by Supervisor Grasso. Questions, comments? All in favor?

Several Supervisors

Aye.

Phil Barrett

Motion carries. Public Safety.

Steve Bulger

Okay. First item authorizing an agreement with Pittsfield Communication Systems Inc for the removal installation, programming and maintenance of the County's Public Safety radio equipment. Budget impact none. Field Communication Systems will provide services to OES, DPW, Sheriff's and the DA for all the services stated above. Next item amending Resolution 95 of 2020 and authorizing an amendment to the agreement with Cummins Inc. for preventive maintenance services for the emergency standby generators at the county's Public Safety radio towers. Next item, authorizing the Chair to enter into an agreement with the New York State Division of Criminal Justice Services to accept a 2021-22 District Attorney Salary Aid Program grant. Budget impact none. 100% State aid. The New York State Division of Criminal Justice Services has awarded Saratoga County \$72,189 in funding assistance to help offset salary costs.

Phil Barrett

I'll entertain a motion to move forward with Public Safety.

Joe Grasso

So moved.

Sandra Winney

Second.

Phil Barrett

Moved by Mr. Grasso, second by Supervisor Winnie. Discussion.

Joe Grasso

Yes, Mr. Vice Chair.

Phil Barrett

Yes, Mr. Grasso.

Joe Grasso

In terms of the first two items, there's no budget impact, is that because there's no increases from current agreements or that it was included in the budget?

Phil Barrett

Yeah, the funds are included in the budget.

Joe Grasso

Okay.

Phil Barrett

Is there anything else to add there?

Steve Bulger

Well, this is for the Pittsfield Communications?

Joe Grasso

Yeah, both Pittsfield and the Cummings.

Phil Barrett

Ed do you have? I just saw Ed. Ed Tremblay. Ed come over to the microphone. We want to catch every syllable.

Ed Tremblay

Okay, the contract for the radio installations there were like the DA's office was added. So there's some other radio users that are added, so just basically to incorporate those use. The other one the generator, there's a generator a little bit bigger that was installed in Spruce. So that increases the maintenance by probably like 50 bucks.

Joe Grasso

Okay, great. Thank you.

Phil Barrett

Anyone else? All in favor?

Several Supervisors

Aye.

Phil Barrett

Opposed? Motion carries. We'll move on to Open Space, one item.

Steve Bulger

Okay awarding 2021 Farmland Protection and Open Space Preservation grants. Budget impact, funds for these projects are available in the 2021 budget and the Open Space Reserve Fund. There were three applications, one Farmland, two Open Space, covering four municipalities. The Village of Corinth will receive 32,900, the Town of Malta 95,000 and the Towns of Wilton and Greenfield will receive 95,000 for a joint application.

Phil Barrett

Very good. And Jason Kemper is here if anybody has any questions. I'll entertain a motion to move them forward, Trails and Open Space.

Joe Grasso

So moved.

Matt Veitch

I'll second.

Phil Barrett

By Mr. Grasso seconded by Mr. Veitch. Discussion. All in favor?

Several Supervisors

Aye.

Phil Barrett

Opposed? Motion carries. Economic Development.

Steve Bulger

Okay, first item authorizing the issuance of a second quarter 2021 payment to Saratoga Economic Development Corporation for marketing and promotion services. Budget impact none. This is the second quarter payment of 2021 for \$37,500. Next item authorizing the issuance of a second quarter 2021 payment to Saratoga Prosperity Partnership, Inc. for economic development services. Budget impact none. This is the second quarter payment of 2021 for \$112,500.

Phil Barrett

Okay, and these are contracted?

Steve Bulger

Correct.

Phil Barrett

I'll entertain a motion to move these two payments forward.

Joe Grasso

So moved.

Sandra Winney

I'll make the motion.

Phil Barrett

Alright, moved by Mr. Grasso second by Supervisor Winney. Discussion. All in favor?

Several Supervisors

Aye.

Phil Barrett

Opposed. Motion carries. Government Review and Efficiency.

Steve Bulger

Okay first item adopting a Local Law identified as introductory number 6, print number one entitled A local law adopting applicability of County Law 373 to the County of Saratoga. Budget impact none. This formerly opts the County into having the applicability of a Capital Plan. A public hearing will be held on October 19 at 3:45pm. Next item rescheduling the date of the December 2021 regular Board meeting. Budget impact none. Currently the Board is scheduled to meet on December 21, 2021, for its Board meeting. This amendment will move said meeting to Wednesday, December 15.

Phil Barrett

Right very good. I'll entertain a motion to move forward Government Review and Efficiency.

Matt Veitch

So moved.

Phil Barrett

Second, Supervisor Wood.

Phil Barrett

Moved by Mr. Veitch, second by Mr. Wood, Supervisor Veitch is there anything you want to add on the first item?

Matt Veitch

Nothing really to add, it's just that we had been doing our Capital Plan for many, many years at the County when there was a County Law 373, which allows Counties to have a Capital Program. We never adopted that Local Law or applied it to Saratoga County. So we were doing our Capital Program a little bit outside of the State County Law. So this just kind of formalizes what we've already been doing.

Phil Barrett

Applicability, a new County term. All right, any other discussion? Okay, all in favor?

Several Supervisors

Aye.

Phil Barrett

Opposed? Motion carries. All right, we'll move on to Law & Finance.

Steve Bulger

Okay, first item authorizing interagency transfers necessary to close out the 2021 County budget. Budget impact none. This resolution allows the County Administrator to make interdepartmental transfers to close out the 2021 budget. Next, authorizing the Chair of the Board enter into a five-year renewal agreement with Info Quick Solutions, Inc, for the County Clerk's office. Budget impact none. This agreement with Info Quick Solutions provides document verification and related services for the County Clerk's office. Next items, the following four resolutions were previously approved at the Sewer Commission meeting on October 7. First one of those is authorizing the Chair of the Board to execute a contract amendment with Arcadis to amend and restate the agreement for the performance of services relating to the planning and design of a proposed new Biosolids Facility at the Saratoga County Sewer District Wastewater Treatment Plant. Budget impact, this will require a transfer from the Sewer District's unassigned fund balance in the amount of \$938,948. This contract award is an amendment and restatement of the agreement with Arcadis which was previously intended for design of the joint Biosolids Facility with Albany County. The agreement has been amended to be used solely for SCSD in determining the best path forward in managing costs associated risk. The total cost of the agreement for design and planning is \$3 million. Next item authorizing the Chair of the Board to execute an amended contract with General Control Systems Inc. for an amount not to exceed \$30,000. Budget impact none. This resolution will amend this annual minor contract into a major contract in an amount not to exceed \$30,000. Next item authorize the Chairman of the Board to execute a contract with VAD Contractors Inc. of Brooklyn, New York in the amount of \$342,500 for the replacement of a roof at Building 2 of Saratoga County Sewer District's Wastewater Treatment Plant. Budget impact none. VAD contractors Inc. was the lowest of four separate bids received for services related to the replacement of a roof at Building 2 of the Wastewater Treatment Plant. Next item, authorizing the Chair of the Board to enter into an agreement with JW Danforth Company in the amount of \$498,082.06 for the replacement of hot water supply and return piping that unexpectedly failed at the Wastewater Treatment Plant. Budget impact none. Work to be completed includes excavation, pipe installation, interior work, backfilling and other necessary tasks for the replacement of the piping.

Phil Barrett

Alright, and Mr. Rourke is here if anybody has any questions on those items, but I'll entertain a motion to move these items forward under Law and Finance.

Benny Zlotnick

Mr. Chair, I have a question for Mr. Rourke.

Phil Barrett

You're not on the Committee. So hold on. Do we have a motion?

Tom Wood

Wood, I'll make the motion.

Matt Veitch

I'll second.

Phil Barrett

Supervisor Wood, seconded by Supervisor Veitch. Is there anybody? Yes, Mr. Grasso.

Joe Grasso

Mr. Vice Chair, I'd like to recuse myself from any discussion or voting on at least the first item so we can either do that one separately or I can just recuse myself from all the items. The first one is with our Arcadis.

Phil Barrett

Okay. Yep.

Matt Veitch

Mr. Chair.

Phil Barrett

But you'd rather vote on all the others right?

Joe Grasso

I would yeah.

Phil Barrett

Okay. Alright, so perhaps we need to go back and have a separate vote on the first one. Yes?

Therese Connolly

I can note that if you'd like just in the minutes,

Phil Barrett

Okay, all right. Okay. Fantastic.

Matt Veitch

Mr. Chair?

Phil Barrett

Yes, Mr. Veitch.

Matt Veitch

Just on actually the very first one that we had regarding the interagency transfers to close out the budget. I took a look at the resolution that is proposed for this item. I'm wondering if it's possible that we could actually put a firm date on that for next year to have that done by? I'm not sure in the past, how many, if the Law and Finance Committee got that report or not. But I was wondering if we could say something like by the end of the first quarter, or by the half point of the year, at least. So it's not just 2022. And our Board can come to the committee in December, for budget transfers that were done in January. Is that possible?

Phil Barrett

Put it in the tickler file so to speak?

Matt Veitch

Yes put it in the tickler so to speak. Does that work? I'll ask the Administrator because I just don't know if that is enough time. I don't want to have it so that you don't have enough time.

Steve Bulger

Yeah, I know that we do continue into the early part of the next year. But usually my understanding is by the end of the first quarter, that's all taken care of. So if you want to make it by that point, for the first quarter so it's not open ended. I can agree with that.

Matt Veitch

Perfect. Thank you very much. March 31, then right would be the date. So I appreciate that. I don't know if that has to be as an amendment, but.

Phil Barrett

I don't think so.

Matt Veitch

Right it will just come in the resolution at the end. All right. Great. Thank you.

Phil Barrett

Supervisor Zlotnick?

Benny Zlotnick

Yes. My question was just, it says unexpectedly, how old is that water supply that's in there?

Dan Rourke

It's original 1975, I believe.

Benny Zlotnick

Okay. Thank you.

Phil Barrett

But it was still unexpected?

Dan Rourke

It's a fair point.

Phil Barrett

All right. Any other discussion? Okay. All in favor?

Several Supervisors

Aye.

Phil Barrett

Opposed? Motion carries. All right. So we're now to the Executive Session, part of our show. I'll entertain a motion that we turn to Executive Session for a discussion about litigation involving Saratoga County.

Joe Grasso

Some moved.

Phil Barrett

Supervisor Grasso. Oh, Do I have a second?

Matt Veitch

I'll second.

Phil Barrett

Second by Mr. Veitch. All in favor?

Several Supervisors

Aye.

Phil Barrett

All those opposed? Alright, great. So we'll go into Executive Session and we will come back out of session to gavel (unintelligible). Yeah, we also need to set the agenda after we get out of Executive Session, so I just want to make sure the Supervisors that are on Law and Finance don't go anywhere, because we do need a quorum to do that. Okay.

Phil Barrett

Okay, so we're back in regular session, there was action taken in the Executive Session. Mike, could you just review what was discussed and the action taken?

Michael Hartnett

Thank you Supervisor, there was a motion by Supervisor Veitch, second by Supervisor Grasso to authorize an approved settlement with of the pending opioid litigation on behalf of the County against McKesson Corporation, Cardinal Health and AmerisourceBergen Corporation, as proposed by the County's Counsel, Napoli Shkolnik. And there was a motion by Supervisor Veitch, second by Supervisor Grasso to come out of Executive Session. Thank you Supervisor.

Phil Barrett

Very good. Thank you. Any other business to come before the committee today? Mr. Bulger?

Steve Bulger

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. This is a notification to the Law and Finance committee. That Chairman Schopf has set the Law and Finance budget review meeting for next Tuesday at one o'clock. That's Tuesday, the 19th. Before the Board Meeting at four. The tentative budget will be released this Friday and sent to all the Supervisors. And then the Law and Finance as per the budget policy must have a review meeting on that within a specified timeline. So that will occur next Tuesday at one o'clock. Thank you.

Phil Barrett

Thank you. Any other business to come before the committee today? Mr. Veitch?

Matt Veitch

I think we have to approve our agenda for next week.

Phil Barrett

Yeah, we are. I'm just getting through other business.

Matt Veitch

No other business.

Phil Barrett

You're getting a little too efficient.

Matt Veitch

A little too far ahead.

Phil Barrett

Yeah, you're getting too efficient now. We just can't handle that in government. Come on. Any other business? Okay, hearing none. Now I'll take your motion to set the agenda. Do we have a second?

Joe Grasso

So moved.

Phil Barrett

Second by Mr. Grasso to set the agenda for the Board meeting scheduled for October 19, 2021. All in favor?

Several Supervisors

Aye.

Phil Barrett

Opposed. Motion carries. So now I'll entertain a motion to adjourn today's meeting.

Joe Grasso

So moved.

Matt Veitch

I didn't want to be first. So I'll second that.

Phil Barrett

All right. Mr. Grasso, second by Mr. Veitch. All in favor?

Several Supervisors

Aye.

Phil Barrett

Thank you.