

# BOARD MEETING Transcript 11/16/2021

## **SPEAKERS**

Ed Kinowski, Darren O'Connor, Tara Gaston, Sandra Winney, Theodore Kusnierz, Phil Barrett, Jonathan Schopf, Ed Lindner, Matt Veitch, Joe Grasso, Mike Smith, Peter Martin, Benny Zlotnick, Kevin Tollisen, Several Supervisors, Dick Lucia, Therese Connolly, Tom Richardson, John Lant, Tom Wood, Bridget Rider

### **Theodore Kusnierz**

Good afternoon everyone. I'd like to welcome you all to the Board of Supervisors meeting for November 16 of 2021 and ask the Clerk to call the roll.

### **Bridget Rider**

Supervisor Allen is excused. Supervisor Barrett.

### **Phil Barrett**

Here.

### **Bridget Rider**

Connolly is going to be late. Gaston.

### **Tara Gaston**

Here.

### **Bridget Rider**

Grasso.

### **Joe Grasso**

Here.

### **Bridget Rider**

Kinowski.

### **Ed Kinowski**

Here.

### **Bridget Rider**

Kusnierz.

### **Theodore Kusnierz**

Here.

**Bridget Rider**

Lant.

**John Lant**

Here.

**Bridget Rider**

Lawler is excused. Lucia.

**Dick Lucia**

Here.

**Bridget Rider**

O'Connor.

**Darren O'Connor**

Here.

**Bridget Rider**

Peck is excused. Pemrick. Raymond. Supervisor Raymond. Richardson.

**Tom Richardson**

Here.

**Bridget Rider**

Schopf. Smith.

**Mike Smith**

Here.

**Bridget Rider**

Tollisen.

**Kevin Tollisen**

Here.

**Bridget Rider**

Veitch.

**Matt Veitch**

Here.

**Bridget Rider**

Winney.

**Sandra Winney**

Here.

**Bridget Rider**

Wood.

**Tom Wood**

Here.

**Bridget Rider**

Wright is excused and Zlotnick.

**Benny Zlotnick**

Here.

**Bridget Rider**

Quorum is present.

**Theodore Kusnierz**

Thank you. And if everyone could please rise for attention to the flag.

**Several Supervisors**

I pledge allegiance to the flag of the United States of America, and to the republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

**Jonathan Schopf**

Jon Schopf calling in.

**Theodore Kusnierz**

Supervisor Wood.

**Tom Wood**

Let us pray. Our Heavenly Father as we prepare for the Thanksgiving holiday, let us reflect on our bountiful life, and give thanks for all the blessings that you have provided us. Each and every day, not just at Thanksgiving time, let us make a conscious effort to remember the less fortunate and do everything in our power to help those in need and improve their life. We're thankful for all of the employees of Saratoga County, and the outstanding work that they do every day. We're thankful for all of the residents of Saratoga County, that make our county the best in the state. And we are thankful to our fellow Supervisors and staff that make all of our achievements possible. We thank you for our Veterans and the opportunity to recognize and celebrate all of them during this month. We ask for your protection of all Americans serving in the armed forces. Their sacrifices make it possible for us to enjoy the freedoms and liberties that we all too often take for granted. We pray this in Your name. Amen.

**Theodore Kusnierz**

Thank you very much Supervisor Wood. Item five on the agenda is approval of minutes. We have two sets. We'll take them separately. The first is October 19, 2021.

**Dick Lucia**

So moved.

**Theodore Kusnierz**

Is there a second?

**Phil Barrett**

Second.

**Theodore Kusnierz**

Second by Supervisor Barrett. Voice vote. All in favor?

**Several Supervisors**

Aye.

**Theodore Kusnierz**

Any opposed? Motion carries unanimously. The second set of minutes for November 10 2021. Is there a motion to approve?

**Matt Veitch**

So moved.

**Theodore Kusnierz**

Supervisor Veitch Is there a second?

**John Lant**

Second.

**Theodore Kusnierz**

Supervisor Lant. Voice vote. All in favor?

**Several Supervisors**

Aye.

**Theodore Kusnierz**

Any opposed? Motion carries.

**Theodore Kusnierz**

Mr. Chairman, John Schopf here from Clifton Park. My apologies. I entered the meeting during the prayer. I'm present.

**Theodore Kusnierz**

Thank you Supervisor Schopf. We have recognized you.

**Jonathan Schopf**

Alright, thank you, sir.

**Theodore Kusnierz**

And we are now joined by Supervisor Connolly. Agenda item six is correspondence.

**Therese Connolly**

Letter from the New York State Department of Homeland Security and Emergency Services notifying that the FY2021 Emergency Management Performance Grant was awarded in the amount of \$85,172.

**Theodore Kusnierz**

Received and filed.

**Therese Connolly**

Thank you note from Our Lady of Victory Church for the donation in memory of Grace Bulger.

**Theodore Kusnierz**

Received and filed.

**Therese Connolly**

Letter from the New York State Department of Homeland Security and Emergency Services notifying that the financial year 2021 State Homeland Security Program was awarded in the amount of \$247,535.

**Theodore Kusnierz**

Received and filed. Reports of committees. Are there any reports of committees? Seeing none, we'll move on to agenda item eight. We do have the mortgage tax report which is report number three. It's the semi-annual report for the period April 1 2021 through September 30 2021. And this requires to be adopted by the Board. Is there motion to move that for approval?

**Kevin Tollisen**

So moved.

**Mike Smith**

Second.

**Theodore Kusnierz**

Supervisor Tollisen , seconded by Supervisor Smith. Voice vote. All in favor?

**Several Supervisors**

Aye.

**Theodore Kusnierz**

Any opposed? Motion carries unanimously. Agenda item nine is Resolutions 294 through 312.

**Therese Connolly**

Resolution 294. Introduced by Real Property Tax  
Authorizing Conveyance Of Tax-Acquired Lands

Budget impact statement: No budget impact.

Resolution 295. Introduced by Real Property Tax

Approving The 2022 Tax Bill Flyer In Accordance With Local Law No. 1 Of 2012 Establishing Truth In Taxation In Saratoga County

Budget impact statement: No budget impact.

Resolution 296. Introduced by Health & Human Services

Authorizing Ongoing Mental Health Contracts For 2022 – 2024

Budget impact statement: Funding For These Contracts Has Been Placed In The 2022 Tentative Budget.

Resolution 297. Introduced by Health & Human Services

Authorizing A Renewal Contract With Shelby Farrelly For Contact Tracing Services

Budget impact statement: None. Costs Associated With This Contract Will Be Covered By A Health Research, Inc. Grant.

Resolution 298. Introduced by Health & Human Services

Authorizing 2022 Subcontracts For The Office For The Aging Pursuant To The 2021 2022 Annual Implementation Plan

Budget impact statement: No budget impact. Funding Is Included In The 2022 Tentative Budget.

Resolution 299. Introduced by Human Resources & Insurance

Authorizing A Salary Revision In The Public Defender's Office

Budget impact statement: No budget impact. Funds For This Position Are Included In The 2021 Budget

Resolution 300. Introduced by Human Resources & Insurance

Authorizing An Agreement With Bartlett, Pontiff, Stewart And Rhodes, P.C. For Labor Relations Services

Budget impact statement: None. Funds For These Services Are Included In The 2022 Tentative Budget.

Resolution 301. Introduced by Buildings & Grounds

Setting A Date For A Public Hearing On Proposed Amendment And Extensions Of The East And West Facilities Airport Leases With North American Flight Services, Inc. Through December 31, 2061

Budget impact statement: No budget impact.

Resolution 302. Introduced by Buildings & Grounds

Designating Axis Communications, Exacqvision Professional And Lenel2 Netbox As The Standard To Be Used In Purchase Contracts Involving Security Camera, Door Access Control And Software For Repair, Replacement Or Addition To The County Of Saratoga's Building Facilities Security Systems For Reasons Of Efficiency And Economy

Budget impact statement: No budget impact.

Resolution 303. Introduced by Public Safety

Authorizing An Agreement With The New York State Division Of Criminal Justice Services To Accept A 2022 Crimes Against Revenue Program Grant

Budget impact statement: None. 100% State Aid.

Resolution 304. Introduced by Trails & Open Space

Adopting An Official Bike Route Map For Saratoga County

Budget impact statement: No budget impact.

Resolution 305. Introduced by Government Review & Efficiency

Amending The Policies And Procedures Manual To Replace The Press Releases Policy With A Public Relations Policy

Budget impact statement: No budget impact.

Resolution 306. Introduced by Government Review & Efficiency

Amending The Policies And Procedures Manual Under The Travel And Discretionary Funds Policy

Budget impact statement: No budget impact.

Resolution 307. Introduced by Law & Finance

Establishing 2022 Scale Of Charges For Saratoga County Sewer District No. 1

Budget impact statement: No budget impact.

Resolution 308. Introduced by Law & Finance

Authorizing The Submission Of A New York State Water Infrastructure Improvement Act Grant Application For Saratoga County Sewer District No. 1's Wastewater Treatment Plant Improvements

Budget impact statement: No budget impact.

Resolution 309. Introduced by Law & Finance

Authorizing The Submission Of A New York State Water Infrastructure Improvement Act Grant Application For Saratoga County Sewer District No. 1's Construction Of A Biosolids Digester Facility

Budget impact statement: No budget impact.

Resolution 310. Introduced by Law & Finance

Adopting 2022 Saratoga County Budget

Budget impact statement: No budget impact.

Resolution 311. Introduced by Law & Finance

Appropriating Amounts Finally Set Forth In 2022 Saratoga County Budget

Budget impact statement: No budget impact

Resolution 312. Introduced by Law & Finance

Setting November 30, 2021 For Public Hearing On Revised Tentative 2022 Saratoga County Budget

Budget impact statement: No budget impact.

### **Theodore Kusnierz**

Thank you. And obviously we have not held the public hearing on the proposed budget for 2022. So I'll entertain a motion to table Resolutions 310 and 311.

### **Phil Barrett**

So moved.

### **Theodore Kusnierz**

Supervisor Barrett. Second?

**Darren O'Connor**

Second.

**Theodore Kusnierz**

Seconded by Supervisor O'Connor. Roll Call.

**Bridget Rider**

Supervisor Barrett.

**Phil Barrett**

Yes.

**Bridget Rider**

Connolly.

**Eric Connolly**

Yes.

**Bridget Rider**

Gaston.

**Tara Gaston**

Yes.

**Bridget Rider**

Grasso.

**Joe Grasso**

Yes.

**Bridget Rider**

Kinowski.

**Ed Kinowski**

Yes.

**Bridget Rider**

Kusnierz.

**Theodore Kusnierz**

Yes.



**Bridget Rider**

Lant.

**John Lant**

Yes.

**Bridget Rider**

Lucia. Supervisor Lucia

**Therese Connolly**

You may need to hit star six Supervisor Lucia I believe you're muted.

**Bridget Rider**

Supervisor Lucia? O'Connor.

**Darren O'Connor**

Yes.

**Bridget Rider**

Richardson.

**Tom Richardson**

Yes.

**Bridget Rider**

Schopf.

**Jonathan Schopf**

Yes.

**Bridget Rider**

Smith.

**Mike Smith**

Yes.

**Bridget Rider**

Tollisen.

**Kevin Tollisen**

Yes.

**Bridget Rider**

Veitch.

**Matt Veitch**

Yes.

**Bridget Rider**

Winney.

**Sandra Winney**

Yes.

**Bridget Rider**

Wood.

**Tom Wood**

Yes.

**Bridget Rider**

Zlotnick.

**Benny Zlotnick**

Yes.

**Bridget Rider**

Motion passes.

**Theodore Kusnierz**

Thank you. And at this time, I'll entertain any individual requests for separate votes on any Resolution. Supervisor Gaston.

**Tara Gaston**

Chair, I would request a separate vote on 304.

**Theodore Kusnierz**

304. Any other requests? Okay, I'd entertain a motion to adopt Resolutions 294 through 312 with the exception of Resolutions 304, 310 and 311.

**Matt Veitch**

So moved.

**Tom Wood**

Second.

**Theodore Kusnierz**

Supervisor Veitch, second by Supervisor Wood.

**Bridget Rider**

ROLL CALL TO Lucia. all yes

**Bridget Rider**

O'Connor.

**Bridget Rider**

REMAINDER. ALL YES

**Bridget Rider**

Motion passes.

**Theodore Kusnierz**

Thank you and entertain a motion to move resolution 304 For discussion.

**Tara Gaston**

I'll move that Chair.

**Matt Veitch**

Second

**Theodore Kusnierz**

Moved by Supervisor Gaston, seconded by Supervisor Veitch. Discussion. Supervisor Gaston.

**Tara Gaston**

Thank you. Mostly wanted to give an opportunity, especially since public input was moved down, just to thank all those who were involved. I'm mostly going to turn it over to Supervisor Veitch, I came in on the tail end of this project. But I'm delighted that it exists. So I just wanted to give my colleague the chance to thank some of the people who were involved in all of this.

**Theodore Kusnierz**

Thank you very much Supervisor Gaston. Supervisor Veitch.

**Matt Veitch**

Thank you, Mr. Chair. Just wanted to echo Supervisor Gaston's sentiments, I appreciate all the work that went into this from not only some folks from the City. City former Commissioners, current Commissioners, members of the public, members of some of the cycling groups, but also our County staff that were involved in this, including former commissioner of DPW Manz as well as the current Commissioner, and especially like to thank Jason Kemper from the Planning Department, who has been integral in getting this done and getting it over the finish line. So as well as the staff that reviewed this earlier this year when we brought it forward. And thank you Supervisor Tollisen for bringing it to your Committee. I appreciate that. So I think that's it and thank you.

**Theodore Kusnierz**

Thank you very much Supervisor Veitch. I as well echo those same sentiments. I expect, we have two individuals signed up under public input, we'll hear a little bit more on that shortly. Any other discussion? If not roll call vote.

**Bridget Rider**

Supervisor Barrett.

**Phil Barrett**

Yes.

**Bridget Rider**

Connolly.

**Eric Connolly**

Yes.

**Bridget Rider**

Gaston.

**Tara Gaston**

Yes.

**Bridget Rider**

Grasso.

**Joe Grasso**

Yes.

**Bridget Rider**

Kinowski.

**Ed Kinowski**

Yes.

**Bridget Rider**

Kusnierz.

**Theodore Kusnierz**

Yes.

**Bridget Rider**

Lant.

**John Lant**

Yes.

**Bridget Rider**

O'Connor.

**Darren O'Connor**

Yes.

**Bridget Rider**

Richardson.

**Tom Richardson**

Yes.

**Bridget Rider**

Schopf.

**Jonathan Schopf**

Yes.

**Bridget Rider**

Smith.

**Mike Smith**

Yes.

**Bridget Rider**

Tollisen.

**Kevin Tollisen**

Yes.

**Bridget Rider**

Veitch.

**Matt Veitch**

Yes.

**Bridget Rider**

Winney.

**Therese Connolly**

Your muted Supervisor Winney. Can you hit star six please?

**Sandra Winney**

I did and I vote yes.

**Bridget Rider**

Thank you. Supervisor Wood.

**Tom Wood**

Yes.

**Bridget Rider**

Thank you and Zlotnick.

**Benny Zlotnick**

Yes.

**Sandra Winney**

Motion passes.

**Theodore Kusnierz**

Thank you. This takes us to agenda item 13, which is unfinished business and new proposals. Anyone wish to be heard? If not, I do not need nor does the County need at this time the executive session unless anyone else needs one? If not, we'll move to agenda item 15, other business. Seeing no request for other business. We will now entertain and listen to public input. And the first individual that has signed up is Peter Martin of Saratoga Springs and would like to speak on the Saratoga County bike map.

**Peter Martin**

Thank you. And I'd like to thank and congratulate the entire Board of Supervisors, as well as Commissioner Kemper for today's resolution authorizing the official bike route map for Saratoga County. This is a great start. I've taken many day trips that have included just about every part of the mapped route. And I think it's an excellent map, excellent routes. This is a start for both improving the health and quality of life benefits that we bring to our residents, as well as the potential for tourism dollars. And that's what I'd like to talk about today. I asked that the Board of Supervisors whenever possible add to and improve on these bike routes to increase the potential for cycling tourist spending in our County. New York State has completed the Empire State bike trail through towns and city in Saratoga County, represented by Supervisors Lawler and Tollisen, Richardson, Kinowski, and Wood. This provides great access for bikers and bike tour directors into all of the communities in our county. Many states have annual biking tours with large positive economic impacts for their communities. Colorado has several tours ranging from three days to a week. I've had the pleasure of riding several times on one of these tours, it's called Ride the Rockies. It's currently in its 38th year, it's limited to only 2,500 riders, it's a six day 500 mile road trip. It's estimated to generate \$1/4M in additional revenue per day for the towns and villages that it travels through. The biggest annual bicycle road tour in America is Iowa. The RAGBRAI through Iowa is in its 47th year and it draws 15,000 cyclists to a seven day 500

mile trip. The economic impact in 2021 was estimated to be \$25 million in direct spending in the cities and towns that that tour runs through. If we continue actions like you took today, this will bring these revenue opportunities to the restaurants, hotels and merchants in our county. I thank you for your action today. Thank you.

**Theodore Kusnierz**

Thank you very much for your comments and input Mr. Martin. Next individual is Ed Lindner.

**Ed Lindner**

Thank you, Supervisor and thank you all for your time. My name is Ed Lindner. I live in Saratoga Springs. I am the advocacy chair for Bikeatoga, which is a local nonprofit that repairs and recycles bikes and gets them back to families in the community. If any Supervisor knows of a family that needs a bike, you can check out our website because we have our holiday kids bike giveaway on December 11. I'm also the spokesman for the Saratoga Safe Cycling Coalition, which is a group of 24 businesses and nonprofits including Saratoga hospital, the regional YMCA, Skidmore College, the Library, 20 other businesses and nonprofits who all support investment in safe bicycling, bicycling infrastructure, because that promotes healthy bodies, and it promotes a healthy economy. One of the advantages of going second is that Peter Martin has already made most of the points that I wanted to make, but I would echo that. You have a real opportunity here. Our county roads are a real resource. I've ridden RAGBRAI in Iowa, have ridden it twice. 15,000 to 20,000 riders, little towns with 500 people with 15,000 riders who are able to buy, you know, every pie, every corn cob, everything that every Girl Scout troop, and Boy Scout troop and firehouse has to sell. Those are the kinds of things that we can have here. So I congratulate you and thank you for this beginning. It's an important step, you need to build on it. And I know that there's a commitment as you repave and maintain these roadways to improve the signage, to improve the shoulders, to get the striping out there. Cyclists notice this thing 1000s 1000s and 1000s of cyclists go to Vermont in Western Massachusetts every year to ride on their country roads. I've written those roads, and I've ridden our roads and they should be coming here. So thank you, and good luck. Keep it up.

**Theodore Kusnierz**

Thank you very much Mr. Lindner for your advocacy and as well, making us and the public aware of the Bike program. This takes us to Agenda Item 17 which is a motion to adjourn will be entertained.

**John Lant**

I'll make that motion.

**Tom Richardson**

Second.

**Theodore Kusnierz**

Supervisor Lant. Seconded by Supervisor Richardson. Roll call vote.

**Bridget Rider**

Supervisor Barrett.

**Phil Barrett**

Yes.

**Bridget Rider**

Connolly.

**Eric Connolly**

Yes.

**Bridget Rider**

Gaston.

**Tara Gaston**

Yes.

**Bridget Rider**

Grasso.

**Joe Grasso**

Yes.

**Bridget Rider**

Kinowski.

**Ed Kinowski**

Yes.

**Bridget Rider**

Kusnierz.

**Theodore Kusnierz**

Yes.

**Bridget Rider**

Lant.

**John Lant**

Yes.

**Bridget Rider**

O'Connor.

**Darren O'Connor**



Yes.

**Bridget Rider**

Richardson.

**Tom Richardson**

Yes.

**Bridget Rider**

Schopf.

**Jonathan Schopf**

Yes.

**Bridget Rider**

Smith.

**Mike Smith**

Yes.

**Bridget Rider**

Tollisen.

**Kevin Tollisen**

Yes.

**Bridget Rider**

Veitch.

**Matt Veitch**

Yes.

**Bridget Rider**

Winney.

**Sandra Winney**

Yes.

**Bridget Rider**

Wood.

**Tom Wood**

Yes.

**Bridget Rider**

Zlotnick.

**Benny Zlotnick**

Yes.

**Bridget Rider**

Motion passes.

**Theodore Kusnierz**

Thank you very much everyone.