

# Law & Finance Transcript

12-8-2021

## **SPEAKERS**

Steve Bulger, Phil Barrett, Sandra Winney, Theodore Kusnierz, Tara Gaston, Jonathan Schopf, Matt Veitch, Joe Grasso, Kevin Tollisen, Several Supervisors, Dick Lucia, John Lant, Tom Wood, Bridget Rider

### **Jonathan Schopf**

My microphone's not on, we'll call the meeting to order. We have a mix of folks attending today both in person and virtually. If we could just get an attendance taken of who is virtual and who is in the room please.

### **Bridget Rider**

Supervisor Barrett.

### **Phil Barrett**

Here.

### **Bridget Rider**

Supervisor Grasso

### **Joe Grasso**

Here.

### **Bridget Rider**

Supervisor Tollisen.

### **Kevin Tollisen**

Here.

### **Bridget Rider**

Supervisor Veitch

### **Matt Veitch**

Here.

### **Bridget Rider**

Supervisor Winnie? She's on the phone? Supervisor Wood.

**Tom Wood**

Here.

**Jonathan Schopf**

Great, thank you. So we have Supervisors Winnie and Wood appearing via phone everyone else's in person. At this time I'd like to ask for a motion to approve the minutes of the November 10, 2021 meeting.

**Tom Wood**

Supervisor Wood, I'll make the motion.

**Dick Lucia**

Second the motion, Supervisor Lucia.

**Bridget Rider**

He's not on the committee.

**Matt Veitch**

I'll second, Mr. Chair.

**Jonathan Schopf**

I'm sorry.

**Jonathan Schopf**

Thank you, Supervisor Veitch second. All in favor.

**Several Supervisors**

Aye.

**Jonathan Schopf**

Any opposed? Carried. So we have a thick agenda to get through today. I'll do our best to do it expeditiously. And we'll start with Health and Human Services. County Administrator Bulger, please.

**Steve Bulger**

Thank you, Chairman. Good afternoon, everybody. First item under Health and Human Services authorizing a renewal agreement with Captain Community Human Services, Inc. for In-Home Respite Care Services. Budget impact none. Funds for this agreement are included in the 2022 tentative budget. This renewal agreement will be for a total of three years with each calendar year not to exceed the sum of \$35,000. This agreement will allow Captain Community Human Services to provide respite services to infants and toddlers with developmental delays and disabilities. Next item, authorizing a renewal agreement with James McGuinness and Associates Inc. Budget impact none. Funds for this agreement are included in the 2022 tentative budget. This agreement will allow James McGuinness and Associates to continue providing maintenance and support of a federal and state Medicaid compliance

reporting system. Next item, approving the Saratoga County Child and Family Services Annual Plan Update for 2021-2022. Budget impact none. Local departments of Social Services and County Youth Bureaus are required to develop and submit multiyear plans for the provision of services and the allocation of resources. This resolution will allow the Chairman of the Board to sign and approve the Annual Plan Update for the Saratoga County Children and Family Services Plan. Next item, authorizing the acceptance of additional funds from New York State Office of Children and Family Services for the Safe Harbour New York program, authorizing a renewal agreement with Saratoga Center for the Family and amending the 2022 County tentative budget in relation thereto. Budget impact none. 100% State Aid. Saratoga County has been provided with an unanticipated allocation of \$43,350 for the development and implementation of the Safe Harbour programming, which provides critical services to meet the needs of youth who are identified as victims of trafficking and or exploitation.

**Jonathan Schopf**

Any questions from anyone on any of those items? Motion?

**Kevin Tollisen**

So moved.

**Jonathan Schopf**

Supervisor Tollisen. Second?

**Matt Veitch**

Second.

**Jonathan Schopf**

Supervisor Veitch. Thank you very much. All in favor.

**Several Supervisors**

Aye.

**Jonathan Schopf**

Any opposed? Carries. Legislative and Research is next.

**Steve Bulger**

Okay. Only item on Legislative and Research, approving the 2021 Saratoga County Legislative Program Update. Budget impact none. Outlined in this program are legislative items the Board of Supervisors has identified as priorities for the upcoming legislative sessions.

**Jonathan Schopf**

Thank you. We have a motion on that item.

**Kevin Tollisen**

So moved.

**Jonathan Schopf**

Supervisor Tollisen. Second?

**Matt Veitch**

Second.

**Jonathan Schopf**

Supervisor Veitch. Thank you. Discussion on the motion.

**Tara Gaston**

Chairman, may ask a question?

**Jonathan Schopf**

Yes, Supervisor Gaston.

**Tara Gaston**

As it's not attached to this, I just wanted to make sure, there was a discussion about attaching an item requesting a change of municipal home rule. I just wanted to make sure that that had been added to the agenda.

**Jonathan Schopf**

I see the County Attorney giving thumbs up on that.

**Tara Gaston**

Great. I just wanted to confirm it. Thank you.

**Jonathan Schopf**

Any other questions? All right. All in favor.

**Several Supervisors**

Aye.

**Jonathan Schopf**

Any opposed?

**Jonathan Schopf**

Carries and takes us to Buildings and Grounds.

**Steve Bulger**

Okay, Buildings and Grounds. Authorizing an agreement with American Commercial Cleaning Company LLC for cleaning services at the county's Mental Health and Addiction Services Department. Budget impact none. Funds for this agreement are included in the 2022 tentative budget. American Commercial Cleaning Company was determined to be the best available service provider with three

total bids received by the county. Terms for this agreement include a one year agreement in the amount of \$1,900 per month with three one year renewal options.

**Jonathan Schopf**

Thank you. Is there a motion on that?

**Matt Veitch**

So moved.

**Jonathan Schopf**

Supervisor Veitch. Second.

**Joe Grasso**

I'll second.

**Jonathan Schopf**

Sorry, Supervisor Grasso. Thank you. Any discussion on the motion? All favor.

**Several Supervisors**

Aye.

**Jonathan Schopf**

Opposed? Carries. Brings us to Public Safety.

**Steve Bulger**

Okay first item, authorizing a renewal agreement with NMS Labs for the period from January 1, 2022 to December 31, 2022 for post mortem toxicological services. The term is for this agreement, excuse me, budget impact none. Funds for this agreement are included in the 2022 tentative budget. The terms of this agreement will be similar to the previous year's agreement and will include a not to exceed amount of \$75,000. Next item, authorizing a five year agreement with AXON Enterprises Inc. for body worn and in car cameras, Taser and evidence.com equipment, and web hosted software. Budget impact none. Funds for this agreement are included in the county's tentative 2022 budget. As a result of Executive Order 203, the Board of Supervisors adopted a plan in March of this year, recommending the Sheriff institute a body worn and in car camera program. With this agreement AXON will provide necessary equipment and software to address this recommendation. This agreement will also consolidate existing AXON contracts for taser, drone equipment and software. The total cost of this agreement over five years is estimated to be \$3,075,541.23. Next item, authorizing a three year agreement with LEFTA Systems for access to their hosted SHIELD Internal Affairs and Training software platform. Budget impact none. Funds for this agreement are included in the 2022 tentative budget. This software will be utilized by the Sheriff's Professional Standards Office and will replace the current function of filing paper records for internal affairs and training. This was also a recommendation resulting from Executive Order 203. Next item, authorizing acceptance of a New York State Supervision and Treatment Services for Juveniles Program (STSJP) Grant and authorizing provider contracts through December 31, 2022. Budget impact none. 100% State Aid. This grant provided by the New

York State Office of Children and Family Services will be an amount up to \$59,992 and aims to reduce juvenile detention usage while encouraging alternatives to detention and placement. Next item, authorizing a major contract with CBM Fabrications. Budget impact none. Funds for this agreement are available in the 2021 budget. OES currently has a minor contract in place with the vendor. The total anticipated cost of this project is \$16,019.

**Jonathan Schopf**

Great, thank you. Is there motion on these items?

**Phil Barrett**

So moved.

**Jonathan Schopf**

Supervisor Barrett. Second?

**Kevin Tollisen**

Second.

**Jonathan Schopf**

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

**Several Supervisors**

Aye.

**Jonathan Schopf**

Any opposed? Carries. Thank you. HR and Insurance next.

**Steve Bulger**

Okay, first item authorizing a five year agreement with Catalog and Commerce for a digital and automated system to handle the processing of civil service job applications. Budget impact none. Funds for this agreement are included in the 2022 tentative budget. This software is capable of tracking candidates, positions and employees. The software is also compliant with the New York State's civil service laws and the county's civil service rules. The total cost of this contract will be \$32,500 spread out over five years. Next item, authorizing an agreement with Goldberg Segalla LLP to complete professional legal services and comprehensive labor relations currently in progress. Budget impact none. Funds for this agreement are included in the 2022 tentative budget.

**Jonathan Schopf**

Thank you. We have a motion on those items?

**Tom Wood**

Supervisor Wood.

**Jonathan Schopf**

Thank you, Supervisor. Second?

**Joe Grasso**

I'll second.

**Jonathan Schopf**

Supervisor Grasso. Any discussion? All in favor?

**Several Supervisors**

Aye.

**Jonathan Schopf**

Any opposed? Carries. That brings us to Trails and Open Space.

**Steve Bulger**

Okay. One item under Trails and Open Space, authorizing the Chairman of the Board of Supervisors to sign a memorandum of agreement between Saratoga County the Open Space Institute and Saratoga PLAN for the Community Forest Project. Budget impact none. This Community Forest Project is in the Towns of Greenfield and Wilton. The grant award from the US Fish and Wildlife Service totals \$391,000. These funds will act as a pass through to go towards the purchase of property. All other costs of the project are being provided by project partners. The total project cost is estimated at \$782,000.

**Jonathan Schopf**

Thank you. We have a motion on that item?

**Joe Grasso**

So moved.

**Jonathan Schopf**

Mr. Grasso. Second?

**Matt Veitch**

Second.

**Jonathan Schopf**

I'm sorry.

**Matt Veitch**

Supervisor Veitch.

**Jonathan Schopf**

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

**Several Supervisors**

Aye.

**Jonathan Schopf**

Any opposed? Carries. Brings us to Economic Development.

**Steve Bulger**

First item, approving the issuance of certain obligations by the Michigan Finance Authority to finance certain projects located in Saratoga County for St. Peter's Health Partners and Affiliates as required by section 147 F of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986. Budget impact none. This resolution is at the request of the Saratoga County Capital Resource Corporation. CRC is assisting Trinity Health Corporation and their local affiliates St. Peter's Health to secure a large multi state bond issuance. The local part of this project is scheduled improvements to the Schuyler Ridge facility in Clifton Park. This resolution does not obligate the County in any way but will assist Trinity Health in financing the proposed improvements. Next item, designating the Saratoga County Chamber of Commerce as the County's Tourism Promotion Agency and authorizing the Saratoga County Chamber of Commerce to apply for an I Love New York grant for 2022. Budget impact none. Funds are allocated into 2022 tentative budget. Next item, authorizing the issuance of a third quarter 2021 payment to the Saratoga County Prosperity Partnership, Inc, for economic development services. Budget impact none. Funds are allocated into 2021 budget. This third quarter payment will be in the amount of \$112,500 as set by tax law 1202-G section nine.

**Jonathan Schopf**

Thank you. Is there a motion on these?

**Kevin Tollisen**

So moved.

**Jonathan Schopf**

Supervisor Tollisen. Second?

**Phil Barrett**

Second.

**Jonathan Schopf**

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

**Several Supervisors**

Aye.

**Jonathan Schopf**

Any opposed? Carries. Public Works.



**Steve Bulger**

Okay first item, authorizing the implementation and funding in the first instance 100% of the federal aid and state "Marchiselli" Program-aid eligible costs of a transportation Federal Aid project and appropriating funds for the design, Right of Way incidentals and acquisition work for the replacement of the Lasher Road bridge over the Morning Kill, Town of Ballston in the amount of \$139,419. Budget impact, the County's 5% share totaling \$1,271 will require an appropriation from the fund balance. Next item, authorizing a consultant agreement with Greenman Pedersen, Inc. for the design and right away incidental services related to the replacement of the Lasher Road bridge over the Morning Kill, Town of Ballston in the amount of \$137,120. Budget impact none.

**Jonathan Schopf**

Motion on those items?

**Kevin Tollisen**

So moved.

**Jonathan Schopf**

Supervisor Tollisen. Second?

**Joe Grasso**

I'll second.

**Jonathan Schopf**

Supervisor Grasso, thank you. Any discussion? All in favor?

**Several Supervisors**

Aye.

**Jonathan Schopf**

Opposed?

**Jonathan Schopf**

Carries. Racing and Gaming is up next.

**Steve Bulger**

One item under Racing and Gaming, opposing proposed amendments to tax law to end racing subsidies. Budget impact none. Opposition to these proposed changes for VLT revenue distribution is included in the Legislative and Research committee priorities for next year.

**Jonathan Schopf**

I'd make a motion on this one that we differ and recommend this resolution over to Legislative and Research. This item is part of the Legislative and Research committee's agenda for the upcoming legislative session. And it's really an item that should properly be under that committee. So I'd make that motion at this time.

**Phil Barrett**

Second.

**Jonathan Schopf**

Second by Supervisor Barrett. Any discussion.

**Matt Veitch**

Yeah, Mr. Chair. Are you saying that we're not doing a resolution from the board on this? Is that the idea?

**Jonathan Schopf**

Correct. It already falls under the resolution we moved forward under Legislative and Research.

**Matt Veitch**

I mean, I would just say that in the past, I think we've done resolutions from the board on these issues individually. Usually in a lot of cases, what we would do is we would forward that to the City of Saratoga Springs as they host the racing. You know, they have the racetrack in their town, and they use our language to send their own resolution down to the state. So if we do it in a legislative program, I guess that's fine. I just, sometimes it's stronger if it comes from the Board of Supervisors directly as an individual item. So that would just be my, my item on discussion. So.

**Jonathan Schopf**

I just think it comes out of the Legislative and Research Committee. That would be my opinion.

**Matt Veitch**

Okay, so you're moving? What's the motion then?

**Jonathan Schopf**

To refer this resolution to Legislative and Research.

**Matt Veitch**

Okay.

**Jonathan Schopf**

As part of their legislative agenda.

**Matt Veitch**

Okay.

**Kevin Tollisen**

Quick question on that.

**Jonathan Schopf**

Yes.

**Kevin Tollisen**

If we're supporting the legislative agenda already through Legislative and Research, and that's in there, didn't we already take care of that resolution?

**Jonathan Schopf**

We did. That's my point.

**Kevin Tollisen**

So do we even need to refer it? It's already done. So I don't care. As long as, I understand Supervisors from Saratoga Springs understand that this is a big deal so as long as it's taken care of already, through the supporting the legislative program, I think we're covered. And it would come from the Board of Supervisors.

**Matt Veitch**

Right, so can I speak Mr. Chair? Yes. So the, there's two ways to do this. Right. So one way is to do it through the legislative program, which this item gets put into a group of items, you know, as one of many that we send down to the state and lobby for our legislative, you know, caucus that we have gotten there that represents Saratoga County. So it's basically grouped in with a whole bunch of other items. Or you do this as an individual standalone resolution, which by itself goes down to them as an individual item. So again, from coming from Saratoga Springs, I would say that I prefer to do it as an individual item, because it has more weight that way, it's one thing that the entire board voted on to send down rather than one thing as part of a group of a whole bunch of other things that kind of gets lost in the shuffle. So you know, for me, I would be in support of doing it the way we're doing it rather than rather than tabling this or moving it to another committee or referring it. So just my opinion.

**Jonathan Schopf**

Sorry. Supervisor Gaston.

**Tara Gaston**

Thank you also, in addition to the benefits for the City and being able to use it as a resolution, as a single item, the subsidies would also impact our budget, there's approximately a million dollars and VLT that comes to the County. So having it come as a separate resolution supported by the Board of Supervisors, and the impact on our budget. I think that would also be more helpful than having it bunched in with some other but I just wanted to make sure that the VLT that comes to the County as well was noted. Thank you.

**Jonathan Schopf**

Anybody else? Alright. All in favor?

**Several Supervisors**

Aye.

**Jonathan Schopf**

Opposed?

**Matt Veitch**

No.

**Jonathan Schopf**

All right, carries. Thank you. Veterans Affairs.

**Steve Bulger**

Okay, one item under Veterans Affairs amending resolution 107 of 2021 to authorize the transfer of unallocated 2021 veterans grant funding into the Saratoga County Veterans Trust and Agency Fund. Budget impact none. This resolution will authorize an appropriation of unspent Veteran Program funds at the close of fiscal year to the Saratoga County Veterans Trust and Agency Fund. This grant program was established in 2021, where a total of \$50,000 was set aside for municipalities to use for projects that would have a positive effect on the County's veteran population. Any unused funds from this 50,000 would be transferred into the Veterans Trust Fund to ensure the funds are used to assist veterans.

**Jonathan Schopf**

Motion on that?

**Kevin Tollisen**

So moved.

**Phil Barrett**

Second.

**Sandra Winney**

Supervisor Winney, I'll make the motion.

**Jonathan Schopf**

Thank you. Any discussion on the motion? All in favor?

**Several Supervisors**

Aye.

**Jonathan Schopf**

Opposed? Carries. Law and Finance.

**Steve Bulger**

First item, authorizing an amendment to the agreement with DiRad Technologies, Inc. for inbound and outbound call services to assist public health services with COVID-19 vaccine distribution. Budget

impact none. Costs associated with this contract will be covered by a Health Research Inc. grant. The current agreement with DiRAD Technologies is set to expire at the end of the year. This renewal agreement will be for the same terms as the previous agreement. Next item, authorizing an agreement with The Nurse Connection Staffing, Inc. for temporary RNs and LPNs for continued administration and distribution of COVID-19 vaccinations. Budget impact none. Costs associated with this contract will be covered by a Health Research Inc grant. This agreement will be in an amount not to exceed \$75,000. Public Health Services will be holding more COVID-19 vaccine booster clinics in the coming weeks and months. Next item, authorizing acceptance of a grant from the New York State Board of Elections for technology innovation and election resources. Budget impact none. 100% State Aid. The total amount of this grant will be for \$260,371 and can be used for such things as technology upgrades and infrastructure to protect the security of the county elections software. Next item, authorizing the acceptance of a grant from the New York State Board of Elections for early voting expansion. Budget impact none. 100% State Aid. \$28,929.86 was awarded from the New York State Board of Elections for the reimbursement of eligible expenses related to early voting expansion. Next item, authorizing a renewal agreement with NTS Data Services Inc. for the maintenance and support of the Board of Elections voter database software. Budget impact none. Funds for this agreement are included in the 2022 tentative budget. Total cost of the renewal agreement will be \$62,624. The next three items were approved at the most recent Sewer Commission meeting held on December 2, 2021. Approving the purchase of 523 South Main Street, Mechanicville, New York by the Saratoga County Sewer District #1. Budget impact none. Funds for this agreement are available in the 2021 budget. The resolution will approve the purchase of 523 South Main Street in the Town of Halfmoon for the purchase price of \$835,000 plus any required closing costs. The property is 10.17 acres within an area zoned for manufacturing and industrial uses. It will serve as storage for equipment, pipe, trucks, pumps, etc. for Saratoga County Sewer District #1. Next item, authorizing an agreement with Precision Trenchless LLC for work associated with pipe rehabilitation work in the Town of Stillwater. Budget impact none. Funds for this agreement are available in the 2021 budget. This agreement will be in the amount of \$659,025.46. Next item, authorizing an agreement with Delaware Engineering DPC for design services related to pipe rehabilitation work and a pump station upgrade in the Town of Halfmoon. Budget impact none. Funds for this agreement are available in the 2021 budget. This agreement will be in the amount of \$127,720. Next item, establishing January 5, 2022, at 4pm in the Board of Supervisors Chambers as the date time and place of the 2022 organizational meeting of the Board of Supervisors. Budget impact none. Next item, introduce a resolution to approve levy amounts payable to County Treasurer and Town Supervisors. Budget impact none. Real Property Tax Services is still working on inputting the rates into the computer system. We will have the final report as backup for the board meeting next week.

### **Steve Bulger**

The following seven items are all associated with the adoption of the county's 2022 tentative budget. First, amending the 2022 tentative budget. Second, adopting the 2020 to 2026 Saratoga County Capital Plan. Third, authorizing 2022 agreements with various agencies. Fourth, adopting the 2022 Saratoga County compensation schedule and providing for the abolition and creation of certain positions. Five, setting 2022 salaries for certain temporary and part time employees to include an increase for a 2% cost of living adjustment. Six, setting 2022 salaries for management and confidential employees to include an increase for a 2% cost of living adjustment. Seven, introducing a Local Law to

amend the 2022 County compensation schedule to provide salary increases and cost of living increases for certain county officials and setting a date for a public hearing thereon. These agenda items will be voted upon at the special board meeting scheduled for 4:45pm, today, December 8, 2021.

**Jonathan Schopf**

Ok, thank you. Thanks. Was there any other business come before the board today?

**Bridget Rider**

We need to vote on the Law and Finance items.

**Jonathan Schopf**

Oh, right. Sorry. Uh, is there a motion on Law and Finance items?

**Joe Grasso**

So moved.

**Jonathan Schopf**

Thank you. Second?

**Kevin Tollisen**

Second.

**Jonathan Schopf**

Supervisor Tollisen, thank you. Any discussion on the motion.

**Kevin Tollisen**

It's not the budget ones, it's just the Law and Finance?

**Jonathan Schopf**

All Correct.

**Kevin Tollisen**

The budget is separate.

**Jonathan Schopf**

Correct. Any other questions? All in favor?

**Several Supervisors**

Aye.

**Jonathan Schopf**

Any opposed? Thank you. Any other business for the board? At this time I'll accept a motion to set the agenda for the board meeting for December 15, 2021.

**Phil Barrett**

So moved.

**Jonathan Schopf**

Second?

**Kevin Tollisen**

Second.

**Jonathan Schopf**

Second. Any discussion? All in favor?

**Several Supervisors**

Aye.

**Jonathan Schopf**

Any opposed? Motion to adjourn.

**Tom Wood**

Supervisor Wood.

**Jonathan Schopf**

Oh, sorry. We need to set the agenda. Yes. Thank you. Motion to set the agenda for the special board meeting for 4:45 today for the remaining Law and Finance items.

**Phil Barrett**

So moved.

**Jonathan Schopf**

Supervisor Barrett.

**Matt Veitch**

Second.

**Jonathan Schopf**

Second.

**Matt Veitch**

Supervisor Veitch.

**Jonathan Schopf**

Supervisor Veitch. Thank you. All in favor.

**Several Supervisors**

Aye.

**Jonathan Schopf**

Any opposed? Thank you. Thank you. Sorry about that. (inaudible) Is there a motion to adjourn?

**Phil Barrett**

So moved.

**Jonathan Schopf**

Supervisor Barrett? Second.

**John Lant**

Second.

**Jonathan Schopf**

Okay, Supervisor Lant, you're not even on this committee, sir.

**Joe Grasso**

I'll second.

**Jonathan Schopf**

Supervisor Grasso. All in favor.

**Several Supervisors**

Aye.

**Jonathan Schopf**

Opposed. All right. We're adjourned till the special board meeting at 4:45. Thank you.