

Law and Finance Committee Minutes
January 11, 2023 – 4:00 p.m.

Present: Vice Chairman Phil Barrett; Committee members Phil Barrett, Diana Edwards, Joe Grasso, John Lant, Kevin Tollisen and Matthew Veitch; Supervisors Mark Hammond, Jean Raymond, Tom Richardson, Mo Wright and Chairman of the Board Theodore Kusnierz; Steve Bulger, Ridge Harris, Audra Hedden, Stephanie Hodgson, Matt Rose, Christine Rush, County Administrator; Michelle Granger, County Attorney; Michael Prezioso, Mental Health; Eileen Bennett, Information Technology; Scot Chamberlain, Katie Bottger, Human Resources; Anna Stanko, Real Property; Dan Rourke, Sewer District; Jenniffer McCloskey, Employment and Training; Charles Fohser, County Clerk; Susan Hayes-Masa, Coroner; Andrew Jarosh, Treasurer; John Warnt, Purchasing; D’Arcy Plummer, Auditor; Dan Kuhles, Department of Health.

Vice Chairman Barrett called the meeting to order and welcomed all in attendance.

On a motion made by Mr. Veitch, seconded by Mr. Lant, the minutes of the December 14, 2022 meeting were approved unanimously.

On a motion made by Mr. Grasso, seconded by Mr. Tollisen, the following resolutions were approved unanimously.

LAW & FINANCE

- Adopting a Local Law identified as Introductory no. 4, print no. 1 of 2022 entitled “A Local Law Amending the 2023 Saratoga County Compensation Schedule to provide salary and cost-of-living increases for certain county officials”.

BUDGET IMPACT: No Budget Impact.

This Local Law adopts the salary and cost-of-living increase for certain elected and appointed County officials previously approved by the Board of Supervisors. A public hearing regarding this item was held at 4:30pm following the meeting.

- Authorizing an amendment to the 2022 agreement with National Medical Services, Inc. d/b/a NMS Labs to provide additional postmortem toxicological services.

BUDGET IMPACT: No Budget Impact. Funds are included in the Department Budget.

Due to an increased number of cases in 2022, total costs for this agreement will exceed the current spending limit of \$75,000. This resolution will increase the limit of the 2022 agreement to \$110,000 to pay remaining non-discretionary expenses.

- Authorizing an amendment to the 2022 agreement with Saratoga Hospital to provide for additional use of laboratory and morgue facilities.

BUDGET IMPACT: No Budget Impact. Funds are included in the Department Budget.

Due to an increased number of cases in 2022, total costs for this agreement will exceed the current spending limit of \$65,000. This resolution will increase the limit of the 2022 agreement to \$75,000 to pay remaining non-discretionary expenses.

- Authorizing the County Auditor to approve tax refunds, corrections and credits in amounts not to exceed \$2,500.

BUDGET IMPACT: No Budget Impact.

This resolution will authorize the County Auditor to approve corrections, tax refunds and credits in amounts not to exceed \$2,500 as authorized by Real Property Tax Law.

- Granting the State of New York authority to height adjust sewer manholes for the Saratoga County Sewer District No. 1 and agreeing to maintain facilities adjusted via state-let contract.

BUDGET IMPACT: No Budget Impact.

This agreement will allow a New York State Department of Transportation certified contractor to perform the work on this project at no extra cost to the County.

- Authorizing the acceptance of New York State Healthcare Worker Bonus program funds, disbursement of program funds to eligible Saratoga County employees, and amending the 2023 County budget in relation thereto.

BUDGET IMPACT: The budget will be amended to accept these funds and authorize the related expenses.

Last year, the State allocated \$1.2 billion in funding to the New York State Health Care Worker Bonus program for the payment of bonuses for certain frontline health care workers. These funds, currently estimated at \$273,431 for Saratoga County, will be passed on to those eligible employees within the county workforce.

On a motion made by Mr. Tollisen, seconded by Mr. Grasso, the following resolutions were approved unanimously.

CHAIRMAN’S ITEM

- Appointing Commissioners of the Saratoga Lake Protection and Improvement District.

BUDGET IMPACT: No Budget Impact.

Three of the commissioners’ terms have expired and this item will allow for their reappointment or replacement for three year terms.

A motion was made by Mr. Veitch, seconded by Mr. Lant, to enter Executive Session for the purpose of discussing proposed, pending or current litigation. Unanimous.

A motion was made by Mr. Grasso, seconded by Mr. Lant, to exit the Executive Session. Unanimous.

No action was taken in Executive Session.

On a motion made by Mr. Tollisen, seconded by Mrs. Edwards, the following resolution was approved to be added to the agenda unanimously.

- Authorizing a settlement with Teva Pharmaceuticals/Teva Pharmaceutical Industries Ltd. named in an action to recover damages in combatting and treating opioid abuse.

On a motion made by Mr. Tollisen, seconded by Mr. Grasso, the Board Meeting Agenda for January 17, 2023 was approved unanimously.

On a motion made by Mrs. Edwards, seconded by Mr. Grasso, the meeting was adjourned unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,
Bridget Rider
Deputy Clerk of the Board