

Law and Finance Committee Minutes  
February 15, 2023 – 4:00 p.m.

Present: Chairman Jonathan Schopf; Committee members Phil Barrett, Diana Edwards, Joe Grasso, John Lant, Kevin Tollisen, Matthew Veitch.

Supervisors Eric Connolly, Mark Hammond, Scott Ostrander, Mo Wright and Chairman of the Board Theodore Kusnierz; Steve Bulger, Ridge Harris, Stephanie Hodgson, Audra Hedden, Matt Rose, Christine Rush, County Administrator; Michelle Granger, County Attorney; Eileen Bennett, Information Technology; Roger Schiera, Elections; Michael Zurlo, Rick Castle, Sheriff; Dan Rourke, Sewer District; Katie Bottger, Human Resources; Ed Tremblay, Emergency Services; Jason Kemper, Planning and Economic Development; Andrew Jarosh, Treasurer; Dan Kuhles, Department of Health; Craig Hayner, County Clerk; Anna Stanko, Real Property; Chad Cooke, Public Works; Karen Heggen, District Attorney; Donna Miter, CSEA.

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

**A motion was made by Mr. Veitch, seconded by Mr. Tollisen, to enter Executive Session for the purpose of discussing regarding collective negotiations pursuant to article fourteen of the civil service law. Unanimous.**

**A motion was made by Mr. Barrett, seconded by Mr. Veitch, to exit Executive Session. Unanimous.**

**No action was taken in Executive Session.**

**On a motion made by Mr. Grasso seconded by Mr. Veitch the minutes of the January 11, 2023 meeting were approved unanimously.**

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

**REAL PROPERTY TAX**

- Authorizing the establishment of a Capital Reserve Fund to finance the investigation of contaminated real property to be acquired by the County by tax foreclosure, and authorizing the transfer of funds.

**BUDGET IMPACT:** No Budget Impact.

This reserve fund will assist the County's efforts to investigate contamination at tax delinquent parcels. This resolution will also allow for the deposit of up to 10% of the revenue from each

year's Tax Foreclosure Auction into the fund. The fund will initially be established with \$100,000 from this year's auction proceeds and is capped at a total of \$150,000.

- Correcting a 2023 tax bill in the Town of Clifton Park (S/B/L 272.1-2-13.1)  
BUDGET IMPACT: No Budget Impact.
- Correcting a 2023 tax bill in the Town of Clifton Park (S/B/L 276.8-4-1)  
BUDGET IMPACT: No Budget Impact.
- Correcting a 2023 tax bill in the Town/Village of Waterford (S/B/L 291.64-1-10.132)  
BUDGET IMPACT: No Budget Impact.
- Correcting a 2023 tax bill in the Town of Waterford (S/B/L 285.11-2-45)  
BUDGET IMPACT: No Budget Impact.
- Correcting a 2023 tax bill in the Town/Village of Waterford (S/B/L 291.62-1-19)  
BUDGET IMPACT: No Budget Impact.
- Correcting a 2023 tax bill in the Town/Village of Waterford (S/B/L 291.71-1-36)  
BUDGET IMPACT: No Budget Impact.

**On a motion made by Mr. Veitch, seconded by Mrs. Edwards, the following resolutions were approved unanimously.**

### **PUBLIC WORKS**

- 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, appropriating funds therefore, and amending the 2023 county budget in relation thereto. (Intersection of CR109, Kinns Road and Plank Road, Town of Clifton Park)  
BUDGET IMPACT: The budget will be amended to accept these funds and authorize the related expenses.

The total cost of design and right-of-way incidentals for this project will be \$207,844. This will require an appropriation of \$10,393 from fund balance as the County's share of the total cost.

- Authorizing an engineering consultant agreement with CPL Architects, Engineers, Landscape Architect and Surveyor D.P.C. for preliminary design, detailed design and right-of-way services related to the Plank Road intersection improvement project on CR 109 (Kinns road) in the Town of Clifton Park.  
BUDGET IMPACT: No Budget Impact. Funds are included in the Department Budget Related to the prior resolution, this agreement will allow CPL to provide the design and right-of-way incidentals related to the Plank Road Improvement project at a cost of \$207,844.

**On a motion made by Mr. Grasso, seconded by Mr. Barrett, the following resolution was approved unanimously.**

### **LEGISLATIVE & GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS**

- Calling on the State of New York to continue to pass-thru federal Affordable Care Act Enhanced Federal Medicaid Assistance Percentage funds.

**BUDGET IMPACT:** No Budget Impact.

The Governor's budget proposal reallocates federal eFMAP Funds intended to offset the Medicaid cost to counties. If adopted, NYSAC estimates this to potentially cost Saratoga County more than \$3,000,000 in 2023.

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

### **PUBLIC SAFETY**

- Authorizing an amended agreement with Prime Care Medical of New York Inc., Professional Care Medical Practice P.C., and Professional Care Dental Services, P.C. for the provision of behavioral health services for inmates at the Saratoga County Correctional Facility.

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

This item will allow Prime Care Medical to provide behavioral health services at the Saratoga County Correctional Facility at a monthly cost of \$15,823.12 until July 31st, 2023.

- Authorizing an amended agreement with Saratoga Springs City School District for the provision of an additional School Resource Officer, 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.

This item comes at the request of the School District and will be in accordance with all other provisions of the current contract authorized through resolution 259-2022. Costs associated with the additional SRO will be paid to the County from the School District.

- Authorizing an amendment to the contract for police services with the Town of Ballston, and amending the 2023 county budget in relation thereto.

**BUDGET IMPACT:** The budget will be amended to decrease expenses and associated revenues by \$87,035.63.

This item will reduce the current agreement with the Town of Ballston to one Deputy Sheriff to provide these services. This item comes at the request of the Town.

- Authorizing an agreement with Pharmacy Associates of Glens Falls LLC d/b/a Omnicare of Ballston Spa for the provision of pharmaceutical products and pharmacy services for the Saratoga County Correctional Facility.

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

This agreement will be for a one-year term concluding at the end of the 2023 calendar year.

- Authorizing acceptance of a Criminal Justice Discovery Reform grant from the New York State Division of Criminal Justice Services.

BUDGET IMPACT: No Budget Impact. Funds are included in the Department Budget. The total amount of this funding will be \$826,489, which will be applied to expenses related to the implementation of discovery and pretrial reforms.

- Authorizing acceptance of a Federal Emergency Management Agency Hazard Mitigation grant Program Planning grant from the New York State Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Services, 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.

This grant award will total \$210,000 which includes a transfer from fund balance for \$10,000. This funding will be applied towards the updating of the County's Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan.

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

### **HUMAN RESOURCES & INSURANCE**

- Authorizing the Chair to execute an agreement with Saratoga Hospital, Inc., Corporate Health Services for the provision of physical examinations and laboratory testing services.

BUDGET IMPACT: No Budget Impact. Funds are included in the Department Budget. The maximum cost for this agreement will be \$30,000 and will be active for the 2023 calendar year.

- Authorizing an agreement with Bishop House Consulting, Inc.

BUDGET IMPACT: No Budget Impact. Funds are included in the Department Budget. This item will allow Bishop House to provide the County with Management Training services at a cost of \$26,650.

- Amending the 2023 Compensation Schedule to reclassify positions under the Department of Health, and amending the 2023 county budget in relation thereto.

BUDGET IMPACT: The budget will be amended to decrease expenses and associated revenues and increase fund balance by \$8,159.

This action will provide the Public Health Department with needed flexibility and skill sets to expand the pool of potential candidates.

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

### **ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**

- Authorizing the issuance of a fourth quarter 2022 payment to Saratoga Economic Development Corporation for marketing and promotional services.  
BUDGET IMPACT: No Budget Impact. Funds are included in the Department Budget.

This fourth quarter payment is in the amount of \$62,785.67.

- Renewing an agreement with the New York State Environmental Facilities Corporation for the County’s participation in the State Septic System Replacement Program.  
BUDGET IMPACT: No Budget Impact.

This item will extend the County’s participation in the program until 2026 at no additional cost. The remaining \$94,435 in grant funding will be available to eligible County residents for their septic replacement projects.

- Setting a public hearing on proposed amendments to the boundaries of Saratoga County Consolidated Agricultural Districts #1 and #2.  
BUDGET IMPACT: No Budget Impact.

The County has received petitions from twelve landowners seeking the inclusion of sixteen parcels into the Saratoga County Consolidated Agricultural Districts. A public hearing is required on the proposed amendments before the amended boundaries can be adopted by a formal board resolution. The Public Hearing will be set for Wednesday, March 15, 2023, at 4:30pm

- Authorizing an amended agreement with Billio’s, Inc. D/B/A Distinctive Catering for additional food and beverage services at the County’s Annual Planning and Zoning Conference.

BUDGET IMPACT: No Budget Impact. Funds are included in the Department Budget. This item will increase the current contract by \$2,500 to pay for food and beverage services provided at the Saratoga County Planning and Zoning Conference.

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

**LAW & FINANCE**

- Adopting a Local Law identified as Introductory No. 1, Print No. 1 of 2023 entitled “a Local Law amending Local Law No. 3 of 2006 to modify the partial tax exemption for volunteer firefighters, volunteer ambulance workers, and un-remarried spouses of volunteer firefighters and volunteer ambulance workers killed in the line of duty”  
BUDGET IMPACT: No Budget Impact.

To further demonstrate gratitude for the dedicated residents who serve as volunteer firefighters and ambulance workers, with this Local Law, Saratoga County will establish eligibility requirements for a property tax exemption for certain members of a fire district or ambulance agency. A public hearing regarding this local law is scheduled immediately following this meeting.

- Amending Resolution 380-2022 to revise the contract amount for an amended agreement with Tyler Technologies, Inc.

BUDGET IMPACT: No Budget Impact. Funds are included in the Department Budget. Due to a typographical error, Resolution 380-2022 was approved with a spending cap of \$20,500. This item will amend that amount to \$43,800.

- Authorizing an agreement with Jupiter Environmental Services, Inc. for mold and asbestos abatement at the Saratoga County Sewer District No. 1's maintenance facility in the Town of Halfmoon.

BUDGET IMPACT: No Budget Impact. Funds are included in the Department Budget. The total amount of this agreement will be for \$119,200. This project was put out to bid with Jupiter Environmental being selected as the lowest of the two bids received.

- Authorizing an amended agreement with Barton and Loguidice D.P.C. and amending the 2023 budget in relation thereto.

BUDGET IMPACT: Funding for this amended agreement will require an appropriation of \$1,773,600 from Sewer Fund Balance. This item will reappropriate unspent funds for updated services in the existing contract from 2017, transfer funds from Sewer District fund balance and increase the contract amount to \$3,801,400 for work relating to construction administration and inspection for the Ammonia Removal project at the Wastewater Treatment Plant.

- Authorizing an amendment to the agreement with M.J. Engineering and Land Surveying, P.C. for additional construction inspection services relating to Saratoga County Sewer District No. 1's Interceptor Rehabilitation Project and amending the 2023 county budget in relation thereto.

BUDGET IMPACT: Funding for this amended agreement will require an appropriation of \$23,000 from Sewer Fund Balance. This item will increase the current contract amount to \$527,800. This amount accounts for 200 additional hours of inspection to ensure proper site safety.

- Authorizing agreements with T. Lemme Mechanical, Inc., and J. McBain, Inc. for replacements to the heating, ventilation and air conditioning (HVAC) units at the Saratoga County Sewer District No. 1's Wastewater Treatment Plant.

BUDGET IMPACT: No Budget Impact. Funds are included in the department budget. This agreement will be for \$1,273,000. T. Lemme Mechanical was selected for this project as the lowest of three bidders. This agreement will allow for the required replacement of heating and ventilation units which have reached the end of their useful life.

- Authorizing an agreement with Bellamy Construction Company, Inc. for the installation of a new sewer forcemain in the Town of Wilton

BUDGET IMPACT: No Budget Impact. Funds are included in the department budget. This agreement will be for \$1,750,000 and will allow the Town to discharge wastewater to the Saratoga County Sewer District. Bellamy Construction was selected for this work as the lowest of five bidders for the project.

- Authorizing an agreement with Raftelis Financial Consultants, Inc for work associated with performing a complete appraisal of the Heritage Springs Sewer Works system and amending the 2023 budget in relation thereto.  
BUDGET IMPACT: Funding for this agreement will require an appropriation of \$45,000 from Sewer Fund Balance.

This agreement will be for an amount not to exceed \$45,000.

- Authorizing an agreement with NTS Data Services, LLC for the maintenance and support of the Board of Elections voter database software.  
BUDGET IMPACT: No Budget Impact. Funds are included in the Department Budget.

This renewal agreement will be for a one-year term at a cost of \$66,381.

- Authorizing an agreement with Clear Ballot Group, Inc. for the maintenance and support of the Board of Elections central count system.  
BUDGET IMPACT: No Budget Impact. Funds are included in the Department Budget.

This renewal agreement will be for a five-year term at a cost of \$15,132 per year.

- Authorizing a settlement with CVS, Walgreens, Walmart, Teva and Allergan named in an action to recover damages in combatting and treating opioid abuse.  
BUDGET IMPACT: No Budget Impact.

- Authorizing the acceptance of Local Assistance and Tribal Consistency Fund monies from the U.S. Department of the Treasury and amending the 2023 budget in relation thereto.

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

The County was identified as an eligible revenue sharing county through the American Rescue Plan and was awarded \$100,000 as part of this program.

- Amending the 2023 budget to reappropriate unspent funds for various departments from 2022.

BUDGET IMPACT: Reappropriation from previous budget year.

The total amount of this budget reappropriation will be \$39,535,370.83. Beginning this year, departments submitted all reappropriation requests to Administration and such reappropriations are being presented to the Board in a single comprehensive resolution. This procedural change streamlines the accounting and review process, provides accurate data for budgeting, and increases transparency overall.

**On a motion made by Mr. Veitch, seconded by Mrs. Edwards, the following resolutions were approved unanimously.**

### **CHAIRMAN'S ITEM**

- Appointing members to the NYRA Local Advisory Board for Saratoga Racetrack.  
BUDGET IMPACT: No Budget Impact.

- Appointing members to the Tourism Advisory Board.  
**BUDGET IMPACT:** No Budget Impact.

**A motion was made by Mr. Veitch, seconded by Mr. Grasso, to add the following item to the Law & Finance Agenda. Unanimous.**

- Authorizing the 2023 collective bargaining agreement with the Saratoga County Deputy Sheriff's Police Benevolent Association, incorporating prior Memoranda of Agreement with the Saratoga County Deputy Sheriff's Police Benevolent Association, and amending the budget in relation thereto.

**On a motion made by Mr. Veitch, seconded by Mr. Grasso, the following resolution was approved unanimously.**

- Authorizing the 2023 collective bargaining agreement with the Saratoga County Deputy Sheriff's Police Benevolent Association, incorporating prior Memoranda of Agreement with the Saratoga County Deputy Sheriff's Police Benevolent Association, and amending the budget in relation thereto.

**On a motion made by Mr. Tollisen, seconded by Mr. Grasso, the Board Meeting Agenda for February 23, 2023 was approved unanimously.**

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

Respectfully submitted,  
Bridget Rider  
Deputy Clerk of the Board