



Law & Finance Committee

Wednesday, October 9, 2024 4PM

40 McMaster Street, Ballston Spa, NY

Minutes

Present: Chairman Matthew Veitch; Committee members Diana Edwards, Joe Grasso, John Lant, Scott Ostrander, Kevin Veitch.

Absent: Kevin Tollisen,

Chairman of the Board Philip Barrett; Steve Bulger, Ridge Harris, Stephanie Hodgson, Christine Rush, Anne Van Vorst, County Administrator; George Conway, County Attorney; Karen Heggen, District Attorney; Craig Hayner, County Clerk; Jason Kemper, Planning and Economic Development; Scot Chamberlain, Katie Bottger, Human Resources; Michael Prezioso, Mental Health; Patrick Maxwell, Social Services; André Delvaux, Emergency Services; Anna Stanko, Real Property; Chris Dubois, Information Technology; Kelly Devall, Animal Shelter; JoAnne Kupferman, Terri Wrisley, Treasurer; Donna Miter, CSEA.

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

On a motion made by Mr. Kevin Veitch, seconded by Mr. Grasso, the minutes of the September 11, 2024 meeting were approved unanimously.

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

HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES

- Amending Resolutions 296-2021 and 201-2023, authorizing amendments to mental health contracts to accept State-funded cost of living increases, and amending the 2024 County budget in relation thereto.

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

This item will accept \$53,687 in additional state aid providing Cost of Living adjustments and amending the 2024 budget accordingly.

- Amending an agreement with the Sheriff's Office to include State-funded cost of living adjustments for Transitional Management Services and amending the 2024 County budget in relation thereto.

BUDGET IMPACT STATEMENT: The budget will be amended to increase revenues an increase fund balance by \$325.

This will increase the current agreement from \$15,252 to \$15,577 to account for the cost-of-living increase from New York State.

- Authorizing renewal agreements with Mental Health Service Providers for 2025-2027.
BUDGET IMPACT STATEMENT: No budget impact. Funds are included in the department budget.

The current agreements with mental health providers are set to expire at the end of the year. This item will renew those agreements for a three-year term.

- Amending the Memorandum of Understanding between the Sheriff's Office and the Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services for the School-Based Opioid and Substance Use Disorder Treatment Program.
BUDGET IMPACT STATEMENT: No budget impact. Funds are included in the department budget.

This item will extend the current MOU until the end of 2026 and increase the amount by \$185,260, bringing the total amount to \$295,260.

- Accepting additional Child Care Block Grant allocations from the New York State Office of Children and Family Services and amending the 2024 County budget in relation thereto.
BUDGET IMPACT STATEMENT: The budget will be amended to accept these funds, authorize the related expenses, and increase fund balance by \$90,000.

This item will approve the acceptance of an additional \$1,268,058 in funding from NYS OCFS to provide mandated childcare services to eligible residents.

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

HUMAN RESOURCES & INSURANCE

- Authorizing an agreement with The Segal Group, Inc. for health insurance consultant services.
BUDGET IMPACT STATEMENT: No budget impact. Funds are included in the department budget.

This agreement will total \$165,000. The Segal Group will analyze historical data to estimate future utilization rates among County employees and retirees. This effort will assist the County in securing the most competitive rates among medical, dental, and prescription insurance carriers for all County healthcare insurance plans.

- Amending the Policy and Procedure Manual to revise the County's Union Rights Policy.
BUDGET IMPACT STATEMENT: No budget impact.

This will authorize necessary updates to the Policy and Procedure Manual to reflect changes made as negotiated between Saratoga County and the PBA, UPSEU and CSEA.

- Amending the Policy and Procedure Manual to revise the County's Personal Leave Time Policy

BUDGET IMPACT STATEMENT: No budget impact.

This will authorize necessary updates to the Policy and Procedure Manual to reflect changes made as negotiated between Saratoga County and the PBA, UPSEU and CSEA.

- Amending the Policy and Procedure Manual to revise the County’s Sick Leave Policy.

BUDGET IMPACT STATEMENT: No budget impact.

This will authorize necessary updates to the Policy and Procedure Manual to reflect changes made as negotiated between Saratoga County and the PBA, UPSEU and CSEA.

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

PUBLIC SAFETY

- Authorizing an agreement with Public Safety Psychology, PLLC for psychological evaluations for Public Safety Employees.

BUDGET IMPACT STATEMENT: No budget impact. Funds are included in the department budget.

The cost of these services will be capped at \$43,302. These services will cover the required psychological testing for both new and current employees.

- Authorizing the transfer of funds from the Animal Shelter Trust & Agency Fund and amending the 2024 County budget in relation thereto.

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

This transfer will be in the amount of \$25,600. These funds will support the installation of new equipment and infrastructure at the Animal Shelter.

- Accepting a 2024 – 2025 District Attorney Salary Aid Program Grant from the New York State Division of Criminal Justice Services.

BUDGET IMPACT STATEMENT: No budget impact. Funds are included in the department budget.

The total amount of this funding will be \$72,189 to help offset salary costs the County will incur during the period of April 1, 2024, to March 31, 2025.

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

TRAILS & OPEN SPACE

- Authorizing an agreement with 3B Timber Company, Inc. for a timber harvest in the Town of Northumberland and amending the 2024 County budget in relation thereto.

BUDGET IMPACT STATEMENT: The budget will be amended to accept these funds, authorize the related expenses, and increase fund balance by \$10,800.

Bids for the 2024 timber harvest on County Forestland were opened on September 19th, 2024. Two bids were received, and the top bidder was 3B Timber Company Inc. in the amount of \$52,006.41. This is a revenue contract.

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

LAW & FINANCE

- Authorizing the acceptance and disbursement of New York State Septic System Replacement program grant funds and amending the 2024 County budget in relation thereto.

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

Two residents from the Town of Clifton Park have completed their septic system replacement projects which are reimbursable through this state program. The total amount of these two projects is \$14,433.75.

- Authorizing inter-agency transfers necessary to close out the 2024 County budget.

BUDGET IMPACT STATEMENT: No budget impact.

This is an annual housekeeping item for end of year transactions.

- Introducing a proposed Local Law identified as Introductory No. 3, Print No. 1 of 2024 entitled “A Local Law amending Local Law No. 3 of 2006 as amended by Local Law No. 1 of 2023 to provide an extension of the 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” and scheduling a public hearing thereon.

BUDGET IMPACT STATEMENT: No budget impact.

This item will authorize the County to offer a real property tax exemption to certain volunteer firefighters or ambulance workers who live in Saratoga County but who serve in a neighboring municipality. The Public Hearing for this item will be held on November 13th, 2024, at 4:25pm.

- Amending an agreement with Coughlin & Gerhart, L.L.P. for professional legal services.

BUDGET IMPACT STATEMENT: No budget impact. Funds are included in the department budget.

Coughlin & Gerhart currently assist the Board and the County Attorney with FOIL services. This agreement originally started as a minor contract and will be moved to a major contract that will be capped at \$30,000.

- Authorizing an agreement with Hamer Enterprises for the implementation and training of a Property Tax Collection System.

BUDGET IMPACT STATEMENT: The budget will be amended to increase expenses and decrease fund balance by \$40,850.

This agreement for a property tax collection system will total \$101,600. Included in these costs will be the implementation and training, ASP host and disaster recovery fees, and contingency

fees. The remaining balance is included in the department budget. Hamer was selected from five bidders following the RFP process.

- Authorizing an agreement with Richard Sears Tree Experts Inc. for stump grinding services in the Town of Edinburg.

BUDGET IMPACT STATEMENT: No budget impact. Funds are included in the department budget.

This item will allow for emergency tree grinding services at Edinburg Town Hall following the devastation from the July 2024 tornado that struck Northwestern Saratoga County. The total cost of this agreement will be \$18,100.

- Amending Resolution 246 of 2024 for an agreement with Captain Community Human Services related to the School Based Opioid and Substance Use Disorder Treatment program.

BUDGET IMPACT STATEMENT: No budget impact.

This item will amend the previous resolution to correct a typographical error in the first "Resolved" clause of the original resolution.

On a motion made by Mr. Grasso, seconded by Mr. Kevin Veitch, the Board Meeting Agenda for October 15, 2024 was approved unanimously.

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

Respectfully submitted,
Bridget M. Rider, Deputy Clerk of the Board