Law & Finance Committee

Wednesday, March 11, 2026 4PM
40 McMaster Street, Ballston Spa, NY

Minutes

Present: Chairman Ian Murray; Committee members Robert Anderson, JD Arnold, C. Eric Butler, Jesse Fish, Joe Grasso, Scott Ostrander, Kevin Tollisen
Absent: Dave Ball
Supervisors Burger, Gyarmathy, Peck, Sanghvi, Young; Chairman of the Board Philip Barrett; Steve Bulger, Ridge Harris, Audra Hedden, Stephanie Hodgson, Renee Law, Mariah Ruscio, Christine Rush, Anne Van Vorst, County Administrator; George Conway, Ann Flower Stitt, County Attorney; Jeff Brown, Sheriff; Brett Eby, District Attorney; Dan Rourke, Matthew Yetto, Sewer District; Chad Cooke, Public Works; Jason Kemper, Planning and Economic Development; André Delvaux, Emergency Services; Anna Stanko, Real Property Tax; Pat Maxwell, Marisa Alber, DSS; Sandi Cross, Aging & Youth; Megan Johnson, Mental Health & Addiction; Kelly Devall, Animal Shelter; Susan Hayes Masa, Coroner; Matthew Maiello, Conflict Defender; Dawn Philips, Assigned Counsel.

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

On a motion made by Supervisor Grasso, seconded by Supervisor Tollisen, the minutes of the February 12, 2026 meeting were approved unanimously.

On a motion made by Supervisor Ostrander, seconded by Supervisor Tollisen, the following resolutions were approved unanimously.

PUBLIC SAFETY

- Proclaiming April 2026 as "Child Abuse Prevention Month" in Saratoga County.
  BUDGET IMPACT STATEMENT: No budget impact.

This year's theme is "Pinwheels of Possibility" and celebrates the limitless potential of children and families when communities come together to support them. It emphasizes the importance of investing in families early and often to create conditions where children can grow up safe and supported.

- Proclaiming April 19-25, 2026, as "National Crime Victims' Rights Week" in Saratoga County.
  BUDGET IMPACT STATEMENT: No budget impact.

This year's theme is "Listen, Act. Advocate. Protect Victims, Serve Communities." Saratoga County is committed to assisting all victims of crime throughout the year. During Crime Victims' Rights Week the County expresses its sincere gratitude and appreciation for those community members, victim service providers, and criminal justice professionals who are committed to responding to all victims of crime so that they may find relevant assistance, support, justice, and peace.

- Amending an agreement with Saratoga Hospital for use of laboratory and morgue facilities.
  BUDGET IMPACT STATEMENT: No budget impact. Funds are included in the department budget.

The use of the morgue facilities has exceeded the contracted amount. This amendment will bring the County current in payment of our outstanding bills.

- Proclaiming April 12 – 18, 2026 as "Public Safety Telecommunicators Week" in Saratoga County.
  BUDGET IMPACT STATEMENT: No budget impact.

Every year during the second week of April the telecommunications personnel in our public safety community are recognized. We honor these men and women of the Saratoga County Sheriff's Office Communications Division whose diligence and professionalism help keep our residents safe.

- Amending Resolution 387 – 2025 to adjust the patrol schedule for 2026 Law Enforcement Services in the Town of Malta.
  BUDGET IMPACT STATEMENT: No budget impact. Funds are included in the department budget.

This resolution will authorize a seven-day patrol schedule instead of a five day per week schedule.

- Adopting a 2026 out of county fee schedule and authorizing intermunicipal agreements for Saratoga County Animal Shelter Services.
  BUDGET IMPACT STATEMENT: No budget impact. Funds are included in the department budget.

These agreements will authorize an amended fee schedule for 2026 for contracted Shelter services.

- Authorizing a one-year extension of the Fourth Counsel at First Appearance grant from the New York State Office of Indigent Legal Services.
  BUDGET IMPACT STATEMENT: No budget impact. Funds are included in the department budget.

This amendment will allow the County to spend grant funds to continue to pay stipends and mileage expenses for attorneys representing indigent defendants covering off-hour arraignments around the County.

On a motion made by Supervisor Butler, seconded by Supervisor Grasso, the following resolutions were approved unanimously.

HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES

- Authorizing agreements for Expanded In-Home Services for the Elderly program.
  BUDGET IMPACT STATEMENT: No budget impact. Funds are included in the department budget.

These renewal agreements include three different home-care agencies to provide Level 1 and Level 2 personal care through the State funded Expanded In-Home Services for the Elderly grant program.

- Authorizing an agreement with O'Connell and Aronowitz for legal services for seniors.
  BUDGET IMPACT STATEMENT: No budget impact. Funds are included in the department budget.

This agreement in the amount of $30,000 will assist qualifying County seniors age 60 and over with basic legal services.

- Authorizing an agreement with AA & H Taxi Services Inc. for senior transportation services in the Towns of Charlton, Galway, Providence and Edinburg.
  BUDGET IMPACT STATEMENT: No budget impact. Funds are included in the department budget.

This agreement in the amount of $33,800 will provide transportation to seniors 60 and over to medical appointments, nutrition sites, shopping and socialization events.

- Proclaiming April 2026 as "Youth Month" in Saratoga County.
  BUDGET IMPACT STATEMENT: No budget impact.

The County will celebrate youth through a variety of month-long activities aimed at recognizing, engaging and empowering youth.

- Proclaiming April 2026 as "Donate Life Month" in Saratoga County.
  BUDGET IMPACT STATEMENT: No budget impact.

This resolution will raise awareness of the need for organ and tissue donors in Saratoga County and encourages organ donors to sign up at all three Saratoga County DMV offices.

On a motion made by Supervisor Grasso, seconded by Supervisor Ostrander, the following resolution was approved unanimously.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

- Authorizing the transfer of funds from the Economic Development Grant Reserve and amending the 2026 County Budget in relation thereto.
  BUDGET IMPACT STATEMENT: The budget will be amended to increase expenses and reduce the Economic Development Grant Reserve fund by $23,013.27.

This resolution will authorize the payment of the 2025 Economic Development grants for the Town of Moreau and Village of Victory, and a partial payment to the Town of Greenfield.

On a motion made by Supervisor Anderson, seconded by Supervisor Tollisen, the following resolutions were approved unanimously.

TRAILS & OPEN SPACE

- Authorizing the transfer of funds from the County Trails Development Reserve and amending the 2026 County budget in relation thereto.
  BUDGET IMPACT STATEMENT: The budget will be amended to increase expenses and reduce the Trails Reserve fund by $12,500.

This transfer will allow for the payment of 2024 and 2025 trails grant projects in the Towns of Ballston and Charlton.

- Accepting additional funding of a Snowmobile Trail Grant-in-aid Program grant from the New York State Office of Parks, Recreation, and Historic Preservation and amending the 2026 County budget in relation thereto.
  BUDGET IMPACT STATEMENT: The budget will be amended to accept these funds, increase the related expenses and increase fund balance by $8,956.

This resolution will allow the County to accept additional funds to administer the snowmobile grant program. These funds are passed through to the snowmobile clubs in the County.

- Approving amendments to the boundaries of Saratoga County Consolidated Agricultural Districts #1 and #2 and authorizing issuance of a negative declaration under SEQRA.
  BUDGET IMPACT STATEMENT: No budget impact.

This item includes the addition of 121.26 acres of viable farmland to Saratoga County Consolidated Agricultural Districts #1 and #2. The five properties for this year's inclusion are located in the Towns of Saratoga, Greenfield, Malta, and Clifton Park. A public hearing will be held immediately following this meeting.

On a motion made by Supervisor Ostrander, seconded by Supervisor Butler, the following resolutions were approved unanimously.

AIRPORT IMPROVEMENT

- Accepting an Airport Improvement Grant from the New York State Department of Transportation.
  BUDGET IMPACT STATEMENT: No budget impact. Funds are included in the department budget.

These funds totaling $7,422 will offset costs associated with construction of the new terminal building.

- Accepting an Airport Improvement Grant from the New York State Department of Transportation.
  BUDGET IMPACT STATEMENT: No budget impact. Funds are included in the department budget.

This grant totaling $4,325 will help fund an obstruction study as part of the Airport Master Plan.

- Accepting an Airport Improvement Grant from the New York State Department of Transportation.
  BUDGET IMPACT STATEMENT: No budget impact. Funds are included in the department budget.

This grant totaling $5,835 will help fund runway improvements.

- Amending an agreement with McFarland-Johnson, Inc. for professional services related to monitoring of the Karner Blue Butterfly and Frosted Elfin Butterfly habitats in the Towns of Northumberland and Wilton and amending the 2026 County budget in relation thereto.
  BUDGET IMPACT STATEMENT: The budget will be amended to accept these funds and authorize the related expenses.

This amendment in the amount of $185,945.37 through an FAS Grant provides continued monitoring and site maintenance services for the habitat areas that were created as part of the taxiway project at the airport.

On a motion made by Supervisor Anderson, seconded by Supervisor Grasso, the following resolution was approved unanimously.

HUMAN RESOURCES & INSURANCE

- Amending the 2026 Compensation Schedule to reclassify one Administrative Coordinator to one Civil Clerk under the Sheriff's Office.
  BUDGET IMPACT STATEMENT: No budget impact.

This resolution will reclassify the position of Administrative Coordinator to Civil Clerk to better align the current duties with the Civil Clerk title.

On a motion made by Supervisor Tollisen, seconded by Supervisor Arnold, the following resolution was approved unanimously.

BUILDINGS & GROUNDS

- Introducing a proposed Local Law identified as Introductory No. 3, Print No. 1 of 2026 entitled "A Local Law authorizing the lease of real property of the County of Saratoga to Gateway House of Peace, Inc.," and setting a date for a public hearing thereon.
  BUDGET IMPACT STATEMENT: No budget impact.

The Gateway House of Peace has leased the property located at 479 Rowland Street in the Town of Milton for over a decade. The property is operated as a not-for-profit end of life care facility for terminally ill patients. A Public Hearing will be scheduled for April 15, 2026 at 4:30 pm.

On a motion made by Supervisor Grasso, seconded by Supervisor Anderson, the following resolutions were approved unanimously.

PUBLIC WORKS

- Authorizing an agreement with Barton and Loguidice, D.P.C. for professional services related to a biennial update of the County's Solid Waste Management Plan.
  BUDGET IMPACT STATEMENT: No budget impact. Funds are included in the department budget.

This agreement in the amount of $16,500 authorizes expenses to complete and submit the biennial Solid Waste Management Plan.

- Amending an agreement with Greenman Pedersen, Inc. for additional construction administration and inspection services related to the Pavement Preservation of CR28-Glens Falls/Fort Edward Road in the Town of Moreau.
  BUDGET IMPACT STATEMENT: No budget impact. Funds are included in the department budget.

Due to project schedule extensions, GPI provided additional construction administration and inspection services in the amount of $41,201.78 in order to complete and close out this project.

- Authorizing the implementation and funding of costs of a transportation project which may be eligible for Federal-aid and/or State-aid or reimbursement from BridgeNY funds for a bridge replacement project on Heath Road over Sturdevant Creek in the Town of Corinth.
  BUDGET IMPACT STATEMENT: No budget impact. Funds are included in the department budget.

This initial master agreement totaling $360,000 covers preliminary and final design and right-of-way incidentals.

- Authorizing an agreement with Creighton Manning Engineering and Surveying, PLLC. for professional services related to the bridge replacement project on Heath Road over Sturdevant Creek in the Town of Corinth.
  BUDGET IMPACT STATEMENT: No budget impact. Funds are included in the department budget.

Related to the previous item, this resolution authorizes an agreement with CME in the amount of $360,000.

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

LAW & FINANCE

- Authorizing the County Administrator to transfer funds from certain reserve accounts for previously approved projects.
  BUDGET IMPACT STATEMENT: No budget impact.

This resolution authorizes the County Administrator to make transfers for previously approved projects by the Board from the Farmland and Open Space Reserve, County Trails Development Reserve, and Economic Development Grant Reserve to ensure timely payments to municipalities.

- Authorizing a Memorandum of Understanding with the Town of Wilton for the use of space at Gavin Park.
  BUDGET IMPACT STATEMENT: No budget impact.

Authorizing a Memorandum of Understanding with the Town of Wilton for the use of space at Gavin Park.

- Accepting an Aid to Prosecution Grant from the New York State Division of Criminal Justice Services, authorizing the disbursement of a portion of the funds to eligible Assistant District Attorneys, and amending the 2026 County Budget in relation thereto.
  BUDGET IMPACT STATEMENT: The budget will be amended to accept these funds and authorize the related expenses.

The County will accept this grant in the amount of $667,333, with $256,750 to be allocated for recruitment and retention incentives.

- Authorizing consent to assign the construction and land lease agreement with Cellco Partnership DBA Verizon Wireless to Public Safety Towers, LLC.
  BUDGET IMPACT STATEMENT: No budget impact.

This consent agreement will allow Public Safety Towers to assume all rights and obligations of the current lease agreement.

On a motion made by Supervisor Tollisen, seconded by Supervisor Butler, the Board Meeting Agenda for March 18, 2026 was approved unanimously.

On a motion made by Supervisor Grasso, seconded by Supervisor Butler, the meeting was adjourned unanimously.

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