



MINUTES
WAYS & MEANS COMMITTEE
Wednesday, March 22, 2023, 5:30PM
Live Link: www.youtube.com/live/seyziMD2It4

CALL TO ORDER: By Hon. Hans Pecher, Chair called the meeting to order at 5:30PM

MEMBERS: Legislators James Basile, Elane Daly, Andy Dennison, Chris Petrus, Robert Shea, and Mark Strong

OTHERS: Chair of the Legislature David Gould and Legislators Lydia Patti Ruffini and Heidi Nightengale, HR Administrator Diann Ferris, Real Property Director Jennifer Indelicato, County Treasurer David Dempsey, Assistant County Attorney Fred Westphal, Sheriff Brian Schenck, Mental Health Director Lauren Walsh, Finance Director Grace Blowers, County Attorney Chris Palermo, Commissioner of Social Services Christine Bianco, Employment and Training Director Kelly King, Health Department Director Kathleen Cuddy, Budget Director Lynn Marinelli, Operations Officer Shereen Androsko, Buildings and Grounds Supervisor Gary Duckett and Deputy Clerk of the Legislature Amanda Morgan

MINUTES TO APPROVE: February 15, 2023, Motion by Petrus, 2nd by Strong, all in favor.

APPOINTMENTS: None

DEPARTMENT UPDATES FOR COMMITTEE:

- **David Dempsey (Treasurer) -**
 - Continued registration of new room tax vendors and follow up of late 4th quarter room tax returns.
 - Collection of Town/County taxes is ongoing and we are working with 23 Town tax collectors to balance batches daily. Balancing of 1st installment tax payments with all towns and additional tax corrections and apportionments are being processed.
 - Continued collection of delinquent County/Town and Auburn School taxes and writing installment agreements.
 - Held an environmental and concerned parcels meeting on 2/23/23 for properties in the 2022-2023 foreclosure process.
 - Redemption day for 2022-2023 foreclosure properties was 3/3/23 and the office was very busy in the weeks and days up to the deadline.
 - Continued to answer questions for Finance Department as needed.
 - Hiring of a Real Property Clerk to replace an employee due to a resignation which left a vacancy. We are short staffed again.
 - Set dates with various towns for meetings to continue open conversations with town boards to help to develop communications between their Tax collection specialists and our county team. This will ensure future collaboration and good will and a county Team approach. Meetings are planned for all towns this calendar year.
 - Continued administration of estates by Treasurer with County Attorney's office. Filed annual report with NY State for open estates.
 - Reviewing a NY State budget issue with other Counties regarding the foreclosure process.

- **Grace Blowers (Finance) –**
 - Continuing to work on year-end work in preparation of our upcoming audit.
 - We have been working with the auditors on the Cayuga Tobacco Asset Securitization Corporation which should be complete by the end of March 2023
 - We just went through a successful MUNIS upgrade thanks to our IT Department.
 - Myself and Allison Collela, the Junior Accountant in the Finance Department participated in the online OSC Government Accounting School for 2 days.
 - The Finance Department continues to be down a Junior Accountant and a Grant Manager position. We will continue to work with HR on recruiting and interviewing in hopes to get these positions filled soon.

- **Jennifer Indelicato (Real Property) -**
 - Prepared Assessment Disclosure Notices for Moravia, Summerhill and Venice reassessment projects.
 - Continued collection and review of exemption applications for Assessment Towns in preparation for Tentative Roll.
 - Processed Splits/Merges of parcels.
 - Sent the State updated Board of Assessment Review information from Towns.
 - Provided Villages with current year taxable values needed for upcoming tax roll and bill processing.

- Calculated omitted taxes and provided to Town Assessors for review and approval.
 - Attended Real Property Director conference in Albany.
 - Foreclosure and auction process is underway. Please direct all requests to purchase property outside the auction to me ASAP, so an appropriate form can be provided.
 - Requests from prior owners of record or party in interest are due no later than May 1, 2023.
 - Requests from all other parties for a negotiated sale are due no later than April 24, 2023.
 The tax foreclosed real property auction has been scheduled with Auctions International as an online auction starting June 13, 2023 and closing June 23, 2023.
 - Worked with the Veterans' Service Agency to analyze the impact of adopting the Cold War Veteran Exemption. There will be a presentation at this month's Legislative meeting.
- **Diann Ferris (Human Resources/Civil Service) –**
 - Annual Report was completed and submitted to NYS Civil Service Commission;
 - Payroll Certifications for 2023 are currently in process;
 - We are working with various departments on their recruitment and hiring needs;
 - Negotiations with CSEA continue;
 - We scheduled a session with Corporate Care (EAP Provider) on Stress Management for employees which focused on Relaxation Tips;
 - Currently working on some employee and Union issues with Counsel;
 - We scheduled two sessions focused on Leadership Training for Department Heads;
 - We scheduled FMLA Training with BS&K for department heads which was offered on March 21, 2023.

RESOLUTIONS:

WAYS & MEANS:

- 3-23-WM-1 Fixing Day and Notice of Public Hearing on a Local Law providing for an exemption from real property taxes for Cold War Veterans as authorized by Section 458-B of New York Real Property Tax Law. **Motion by Dennison, 2nd by Basile, all in favor.**

HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES:

- 3-23-HH-3 Authorizing the Public Health Director to Purchase Vehicle for the Health Department. **Motion by Dennison, 2nd by Basile, all in favor.**

- 3-23-HH-7 Authorizing the Commissioner of Social Services to Purchase Three Vehicles for Department of Social Services. **Motion by Petrus, 2nd by Strong, all in favor.**

Motion by Dennison to bundle HH 1, 2, 4-6 & 8-13, 2nd by Petrus, all in favor.

- 3-23-HH-1 Authorizing the Chairman of the Legislature and the Public Health Director to accept funding from New York State Department of Health to participate in federally funded program Strengthening Public Health Infrastructure, Workforce and Data Systems
- 3-23-HH-2 Authorizing the Chairman of the Legislature and the Public Health Director to Contract with Multiple Service Agencies, School Districts and Individuals for the Provision of Services for Children Eligible for 3-5 Services (SED-4410 pre-school special education services).
- 3-23-HH-4 Authorizing the Chairman of the Legislature and the Commissioner of Social Services to Enter into a Contract with Booker T. Washington Community Center Inc.
- 3-23-HH-5 Authorizing the Chair of The Legislature to Extend A Contract With Housing Visions Consultants, Inc.
- 3-23-HH-6 Authorizing the Commissioner of Social Services to Fill 2 Human Services Examiner Position in the Department of Social Services
- 3-23-HH-8 Authorize the Chair of the Cayuga County Legislature and the Director of Community Services to enter into a contract for mental health counseling
- 3-23-HH-9 Authorization to fill a Food Service Helper position in the Office for the Aging
- 3-23-HH-10 Authorizing an increase in hourly wage for Part Time Food Service Helpers in the Cayuga County Office for the Aging Senior Nutrition Program

- 3-23-HH-11 Authorizing the Chair of the Cayuga County Legislature and the Director of the Cayuga County Office for the Aging to sign the contract for service to produce and mail the quarterly Senior News & Views newsletter
- 3-23-HH-12 Adopting a revised and restated Corporate Compliance Plan
- 3-23-HH-13 Authorizing the Director of Community Services to fill a Senior Clerk Position at the Community Mental Health Center of Cayuga County due to the reclassification of a position by the Cayuga County Civil Service Commission

End of bundle

GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS:

- 3-23-GO-1 Authorization to fill one (1) Full Time Records Retention Specialist due to retirement. **Motion by Pecher, 2nd by Strong, all in favor.**

PLANNING:

Motion by Petrus to bundle PL 1-3 & 5, 2nd by Daly, all in favor.

- 3-23-PL-1 Authorizing the Chair of the County Legislature and Cayuga County Employment and Training Department to enter into a lease agreement with Cayuga Community College
- 3-23-PL-2 Authorizing the Chair of the Legislature and Cayuga County Employment and Training Department to enter into a sub-lease agreement with New York State Education Department ACCES-VR.
- 3-23-PL-3 Authorizing the allocation of \$10,417.00 in Cayuga County matching funds for the 2019 NYS Consolidated Funding Application Grant awarded to the Lake Ontario Regional Dredging Council in support of the Lake Ontario Regional Dredging Management Plan
- 3-23-PL-5 **(AMENDED @ Planning)** Authorizing the Chair of the Legislature to execute an agreement between the Finger Lakes Institute and Cayuga County for implementation of the FY 2023 Owasco Watershed Monitoring Program

End of bundle

- 3-23-PL-4 Authorizing the signing of a contract with Nick Colas to enhance and update the Owasco Lake Watershed Nine Element Plan for Phosphorus Reduction's Watershed Soil and Water Assessment Tool (SWAT) Model. **Motion by Strong, 2nd by Basile, all in favor except Strong.**

PUBLIC WORKS:

Motion by Petrus to bundle PW 1-5, 2nd by Strong, all in favor.

- 3-23-PW-1 Authorization to enter into a Service Agreement with LINSTAR for Security Equipment including printers, cameras, controllers, card readers and other related equipment
- 3-23-PW-2 Authorization for the Chairperson and Highway Superintendent to sign vehicle repair agreements with departments and various agencies.
- 3-23-PW-3 Authorization to purchase Highway Equipment
- 3-23-PW-4 Authorization to hire summer help employees in the Highway Department
- 3-23-PW-5 Authorizing the Highway Superintendent to enter into an agreement with towns to mow on County roads

End of bundle

JUDICIAL & PUBLIC SAFETY:

Motion by Daly to bundle JP 1-11, 2nd by Dennison, all in favor.

- 3-23-JP-1 Authorizing the Chair of the Cayuga County Legislature to sign an agreement Goodwill of the Finger Lakes 211/988 for Suicide Hotline Assistance.
- 3-23-JP-2 Authorizing the Chairman of the Cayuga County Legislature to sign an agreement Interaction Insight Corporation for the purchase of a new recorder at the Cayuga County 911 Center and a re-deployment of the recorder at the primary to the backup center.

- 3-23-JP-3 Authorizing the installation of new carpeting in the District Attorney's Office
- 3-23-JP-4 Authorizing the Cayuga County Legislature to adopt the amended Cayuga County Continuity of Operations Plan (COOP) – Volume I for Cayuga County and Adopt (COOP) Volume II for the Cayuga County Departments
- 3-23-JP-5 **(AMENDED @ Judicial)** Authorization to change titles only within the Cayuga County Probation Department
- 3-23-JP-6 Authorizing the Chair of the Cayuga County Legislature and the Sheriff to enter into an Agreement with CONFIDENTIAL HELP FOR ALCOHOL AND DRUGS (CHAD) to provide substance abuse support and treatment services in the Cayuga County Jail.
- 3-23-JP-7 Authorizing the Chair of the Cayuga County Legislature and the Sheriff to enter into an Agreement with LIBERTY RESOURCES to provide peer counseling services in the Cayuga County Jail.
- 3-23-JP-8 Authorizing the Chair of the Cayuga County Legislature and the Sheriff to enter into an Agreement with NICK'S RIDE 4 FRIENDS, INC. to provide peer counseling services in the Cayuga County Jail and to victims of overdose.
- 3-23-JP-9 Authorizing the Chairman of the Cayuga County Legislature and the Sheriff of Cayuga County to enter into a Memorandum of Agreement to allow the United States Border Patrol to access three (3) law enforcement channels withing Cayuga County's E911 network.
- 3-23-JP-10 Authorizing the Chairman of the Cayuga County Legislature and the Sheriff of Cayuga County to extend an agreement with Trinity Services Group Inc. to provide food services for the incarcerated population housed at the Cayuga County Jail.
- 3-23-JP-11 Authorizing the Chairman of Legislature to fill STOP-DWI Coordinator
- End of bundle**
- 3-23-WM-2 **(ADDED @ Ways)** Resolution requesting State Home Rule Legislation for extension of additional 1 % sales tax to November 30, 2026. **Motion by Petrus, 2nd by Strong, all in favor.**
- 3-23-WM-3 **(ADDED @ Ways)** Authorizing the Chair to enter into an agreement with Bond Schoeneck & King for the purposes of providing the County legal services in the Human Resource, Civil Service, and Labor Negotiations for the years 2023 – 2025. **Motion by Dennison, 2nd by Daly, all in favor.**

Motion by Daly to go into executive session at 6:05PM, 2nd by Dennison, all in favor.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: re: Collective negotiations pursuant to article fourteen of the civil service law

Motion by Basile to come out of executive session at 6:51PM, 2nd by Shea, all in favor.

Motion by Basile to adjourn at 6:52PM, 2nd by Shea, all in favor.