

WARREN COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

COMMITTEE: FINANCE

DATE: FEBRUARY 2, 2017

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COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:

SUPERVISORS SOKOL  
SEEBER  
DICKINSON  
MERLINO  
STROUGH  
BEATY  
FRASIER  
MCDEVITT  
SIMPSON  
GERAGHTY  
VACANT

OTHERS PRESENT:

RONALD CONOVER, CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD  
BRIAN REICHENBACH, COUNTY ATTORNEY  
SARAH MCLENITHAN, DEPUTY CLERK OF THE BOARD  
FRANK THOMAS, BUDGET OFFICER  
SUPERVISORS BROCK  
MACDONALD  
JOANN MCKINSTRY, ASSISTANT TO THE COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR  
MIKE SWAN, COUNTY TREASURER  
JACK DIAMOND, CITY OF GLENS FALLS MAYOR  
DON LEHMAN, *THE POST STAR*  
MOLLY GANOTES, LEGISLATIVE OFFICE SPECIALIST

COMMITTEE MEMBER ABSENT:

SUPERVISOR STROUGH

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*Please note, the following contains a summarization of the February 2, 2017 meeting of the Finance, Personnel & Higher Education Committee; the meeting in its entirety can be viewed on the Warren County website using the following link: <http://www.warrencountyny.gov/gov/comm/Archive/2017/finance/>*

Mr. Sokol called the meeting of the Finance Committee to order at 11:11 a.m.

Motion was made by Ms. Seeber, seconded by Mr. Simpson and carried unanimously to approve the minutes of the previous Committee meeting, subject to correction by the Clerk of the Board.

Copies of the meeting Agenda were distributed to the Committee members and a copy of same is on file with the meeting minutes.

Prior to entering into an executive session Mr. Sokol offered privilege of the floor to anyone present wishing to address the Committee on any matter. There being no response he asked Brian Reichenbach, *County Attorney*, to elaborate on why an executive session was needed. Mr. Reichenbach apprised that an executive session was required to discuss proposed or pending litigation with Siemens.

Motion was made by Mrs. Frasier, seconded by Mr. Simpson and carried unanimously to enter into an executive session pursuant to Section 105(d) of the Public Officer's Law.

Executive session was held from 11:12 a.m. until 11:27 a.m.

Upon reconvening Mr. Sokol announced no action was taken during the executive session.

Continuing with the Agenda review, privilege of the floor was offered to Mike Swan, *County Treasurer*, to provide an update pertaining to the bonds for the Court Addition and NSTEM (*Nursing, Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics*) Projects. Mr. Swan apprised currently the County had an \$8 million bond for the Court Expansion Project and a \$3.2 million band for the NSTEM Project. He stated as it stood right now the plan was to use some money from the cash flow and pay off the band and then in June Bond the additional \$8.5 million required to complete the Court Expansion Project, as well as the \$5.7 million required for the NSTEM Project and pay back the \$3.2 million used from the cash flow. He said this would equate to a bond of \$14.2 million with a twenty year duration. He informed the first payment would not be due until 2018 thereby providing additional time to determine how these payments would be made.

Mr. McDevitt asked what type of interest rate the County could anticipate on the bond and Mr. Swan

responded that he felt they would obtain a favorable rate since all indicators were leaning toward the Federal Reserve not increasing the rates over the next few months.

A discussion ensued.

Mr. Dickinson entered the meeting at 11:30 a.m.

Moving along, Mr. Sokol advised that Agenda Items 2A-M pertained to the following referrals from the Criminal Justice & Public Safety Committee:

- 2A) *Public Defender*- Request to amend the County Budget in the amount of \$28,260 to reflect the receipt of funds from the Office of Indigent Legal Services.

Motion was made by Mr. Simpson, seconded by Mr. Merlino and carried unanimously to approve the request and the necessary resolution was authorized for the February 17<sup>th</sup> Board Meeting.

*Office of Emergency Services-*

- 2B) Request to amend the County Budget in the amount of \$5,982 to carry over unused funds from FY15 State Homeland Security Program.
- 2C) Request to amend the County Budget in the amount of \$75,970.76 to carry over unused funds from FY15 Hazmat Grant Program.
- 2D) Request to amend the County Budget in the amount of \$22,092.31 to carry over unused funds from FY16 State Homeland Security Program.

Motion was made by Mrs. Frasier, seconded by Mr. Simpson and carried unanimously to approve the requests as outlined above and the necessary resolutions were authorized for the February 17<sup>th</sup> Board Meeting.

- 2E) Request to amend the County Budget in the amount of \$36,204 to reflect the receipt of funds from the FY16 HazMat Emerg Preparedness Grant Program.

Motion was made by Mr. Dickinson, seconded by Mrs. Frasier and carried unanimously to approve the request and the necessary resolution was authorized for the February 17<sup>th</sup> Board Meeting.

*Sheriff*

- 2F) Request to amend the County Budget in the amount of \$7,000 to reflect the receipt of funds from New York State Legislative Initiatives Grant.
- 2G) Request to amend the County Budget in the amount of \$4,994 to reflect the receipt of funds from NYS DCJS Video Recording of Statements Equipment Grant.
- 2H) Request to amend the County Budget in the amount of \$31,900 to reflect the receipt of funds from New York State Governor's Traffic Safety Committee Traffic Grant.
- 2I) Request to amend the County Budget in the amount of \$20,000 carry over unused funds from the 2016 SLETPP Grant.
- 2J) Request to amend the County Budget in the amount of \$34,854 to reflect grant funding received from NYS DCJS Protective Equipment Program.

Motion was made by Mr. Merlino, seconded by Mr. Dickinson and carried unanimously to approve the requests as outlined above and the necessary resolutions were authorized for the February 17<sup>th</sup> Board Meeting.

- 2K) Request to amend the County Budget in the amount of \$1,000 to reflect the receipt of funding from New York State Sheriff's Association to cover the travel expenses associated with sending Undersheriff Lamouree to training.

Motion was made by Mr. Simpson, seconded by Mr. Beaty and carried unanimously to approve the request and the necessary resolution was authorized for the February 17<sup>th</sup> Board Meeting.

- 2L) Request to amend the County Budget in the amount of \$4,744.30 to reflect receipt of funding from the Great Escape Park (Six Flags) for law enforcement services provided to them.

Motion was made by Mr. Geraghty, seconded by Mr. Merlino and carried unanimously to approve the request and the necessary resolution was authorized for the February 17<sup>th</sup> Board Meeting.

- 2M) Referral from the Public Safety Committee to determine a source of funding to reimburse the City of Glens Falls in the amount of \$36,061.21 for costs associated with the lateral transfer of a City Officer to the Sheriff's Department when this occurs.

Motion was made by Mr. McDevitt and seconded by Mr. Simpson to bring the matter to the floor for discussion.

Mr. Sokol requested that Mr. Reichenbach provide an overview of the law pertaining to reimbursements to a municipality for training of a police officer. Mr. Reichenbach stated Section 72C of the General Municipal Law stated that when a municipality hires an officer whose been trained for police officer status within three years of completion of training, the hiring municipality was to reimburse the municipality that paid for the training on a pro-rated basis broken down on that three years for the cost of training per day. He apprised as an example if an individual was hired one year and six months following graduation of the police academy the hiring municipality would owe half of the cost of training to the municipality that paid for that training. He informed the training expenses included salary, tuition, enrollment fees, books and the cost of transportation to and from the training school. He said he confirmed with Sheriff York that he had not hired officers from any municipality within the three years following their graduation from the police academy and he was aware if he did he would be obligated to fund funding in his budget to pay those expenses on a pro-rated basis.

Mr. Dickinson questioned why the County would reimburse the City if they had not hired any of their officers within that three year time frame and Mr. Geraghty responded that Jack Diamond, *City of Glens Falls Mayor*, brought the proposal forth at the January 23<sup>rd</sup> meeting of the Criminal Justice & Public Safety Committee. Mayor Diamond advised what was occurring was the City of Glens Falls was paying for individuals to become certified through the Police Academy who then vacated their positions following the three year term that was set by the law in order for the City to receive reimbursement thereby creating a financial burden upon the City. He stated the purpose of his request was for the County to consider reimbursing the City for these costs if they were to move forward with hiring one of their officers following the three year period, as the City could not be competitive with the salary and benefits the County provided their officers with nor would they want to prevent someone from bettering themselves.

Mr. Dickinson asked Mayor Diamond how he calculated the \$36,061.21 figure he presented for reimbursement and Mayor Diamond responded that the figure included expenses associated with the police academy, equipment, uniforms, salary, etc. He apprised he did not include costs associated with health care and additional training.

A lengthy discussion ensued following which a motion was made by Mr. Dickinson, seconded by Mr. Beaty and carried unanimously to table the matter until the next meeting.

Proceeding with the Agenda review, Mr. Sokol advised Agenda Items 3A-E pertained to the following referrals from the Health, Human & Social Services Committee:

- 3A) *Employment & Training*- Request to amend the County Budget in the amount of \$17,500 to reflect the receipt of grant funding from the from the Adirondack Health Institute to support the New York State Delivery Systems Reform Incentive Payment Program Project.

*Mental Health-*

- 3B) Request to amend the County Budget in the amount of \$113,170 to reflect the receipt of funding from New York State Office of Alcoholism and Substance Abuse Services for operation of an Opioid Diversion Challenge Program.
- 3C) Request to amend the County Budget in the amount of \$20,950 to reflect the receipt of funding from the Adirondack Health Institute to support the New York State Delivery Systems Reform Incentive Payment Program Project.

*Health Services-*

- 3D) Request to amend the County Budget in the amount of \$22,650 to reflect the receipt of funding from the Adirondack Health Institute to support the New York State Delivery Systems Reform Incentive Payment Program Project.
- 3E) Request to amend the County Budget in the amount of \$2,500 to reflect the receipt of funds from the Adirondack Rural Health Network ti support the Neonatal Syndrome (NAS) Prevention Agenda Project.

Motion was made by Mr. Dickinson, seconded by Mr. Simpson and carried unanimously to approve the requests as outlined above and the necessary resolutions were authorized for the February 17<sup>th</sup> Board Meeting.

Continuing with the Agenda review, Mr. Sokol informed Agenda Items 4A-B pertained to the following referrals from the Occupancy Tax Coordination Committee:

- 4A) Request to appropriate \$110,000 from Budget Code A.881, *Reserve-Occupancy Tax*, to Budget Code A.6417 480, *Tourism-Special Events*, to cover the additional funding awarded at the December 15, 2016 Occupancy tax Workshop.
- 4B) Request to re-appropriate \$150,000 from Budget Code A.881, *Reserve-Occupancy Tax*, to Budget Code A.6417 480.04, *Tourism-Warren County Projects*, to pay for the water feature at Festival Commons at Charles R. Wood Park.

Motion was made by Mr. Simpson, seconded by Mrs. Frasier and carried unanimously to approve the requests as outlined above and the necessary resolutions were authorized for the February 17<sup>th</sup> Board Meeting.

Moving along, Mr. Sokol stated that Agenda Items 5A-B pertained to the following referrals from the Public Works Committee:

- 5A) *Parks, Recreation & Railroad*- Request to amend the County Budget in the amount of \$500 to reflect the receipt of grant funding from the Glenn & Carol Pearsall Adirondack Foundation.

Motion was made by Mr. Simpson, seconded by Mr. Dickinson and carried unanimously to approve the request and the necessary resolution was authorized for the February 17<sup>th</sup> Board Meeting.

- 5B) *DPW*- Request to increase Capital Project H298, *Stony Creek Bridge Construction Projects*, in the amount of \$39.10 to cover expenses that were not reimbursable through grant funding.

Motion was made by Mr. Dickinson, seconded by Mr. Simpson and carried unanimously to approve the request and the necessary resolution was authorized for the February 17<sup>th</sup> Board Meeting.

Continuing to Agenda Item 6, Mr. Geraghty pointed out that the agenda packet included a reporting

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of the transfers approved by the County Administrator's Office since the last meeting. He noted this was an informational item which required no action.

Mr. Sokol apprised that Agenda Items 7A-B pertained to the following referrals from the Personnel & Higher Education Committee, *Human Resources*:

- 7A) Request for funding in the amount of \$2,100 to pay to pay the monthly administration fee associated with the Health Reimbursement accounts administered by Jaeger & Flynn.
- 7B) Request for funding to replace five Novatime clocks and increase the annual software support due to equipment failure.

Mr. Sokol suggested transferring the funds required from the Contingent Account to cover the cost of both request, as current balance was \$275,000.

Motion was made by Ms. Seeber, seconded by Mr. Dickinson and carried unanimously to approve the requests and transfer the funds required from the Contingent Account to cover the cost of the aforementioned requests and the necessary resolutions were authorized for the February 17<sup>th</sup> Board Meeting.

Concluding the Agenda review, Mr. Sokol announced Agenda Item 8 pertained to Finance Committee action which was required on the following items as approved by the Personnel Committee: Personnel Agenda Items 4F, 6B, 7A-B and 8A-B.

Motion was made by Mr. Geraghty, seconded by Mrs. Frasier and carried unanimously to approve the request and the necessary resolution was authorized for the February 17<sup>th</sup> Board Meeting.

There being no further business to come before the Finance Committee, on motion made by Mrs. Frasier and seconded by Mr. Simpson, Mr. Sokol adjourned the meeting at 11:59 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Sarah McLenithan, Deputy Clerk of the Board