

WARREN COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

COMMITTEE: FINANCE

DATE: AUGUST 13, 2018

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:

SUPERVISORS SOKOL
SIMPSON
MERLINO
DICKINSON
STROUGH
BEATY
MCDEVITT
GERAGHTY
BRAYMER
HYDE

OTHERS PRESENT:

MIKE SWAN, COUNTY TREASURER
RONALD CONOVER, CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD
RYAN MOORE, COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR
AMANDA ALLEN, CLERK OF THE BOARD
AMY LAVINE, ASSISTANT COUNTY ATTORNEY
FRANK THOMAS, BUDGET OFFICER
SUPERVISORS DIAMOND
HOGAN
LEGGETT
LOEB
MAGOWAN

COMMITTEE MEMBER ABSENT:

SUPERVISOR FRASIER

TRAVIS WHITEHEAD, TOWN OF QUEENSBURY RESIDENT
DON LEHMAN, *THE POST STAR*
THOM RANDALL, *ADIRONDACK JOURNAL*
SARAH MCLENITHAN, DEPUTY CLERK OF THE BOARD

Please note, the following contains a summarization of the August 13, 2018 meeting of the Finance 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/2018/finance/>

Mr. Sokol called the meeting of the Finance Committee to order at 10:55 a.m.

Motion was made by Mr. Geraghty, seconded by Mr. Dickinson 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.

Mr. Sokol advised the only Action Agenda Item pertained to a referral from today's meeting of the Criminal Justice & Public Safety Committee, *Sheriff*, concerning a request to amend the County Budget in the amount of \$100,000 to reflect the receipt of grant funding from DASNY (*Dormitory Authority of the State of New York*) for the purpose of purchasing four patrol cars. He stated it was necessary for the Committee to determine a source of funding to advance monies for the vehicle purchases until grant funds were received from DASNY.

Mr. Simpson stated he was in favor of moving forward with the request as long as the Budget Officer was comfortable with the County advancing the funds before the grant funding was received. Mr. Thomas asked whether the funds were budgeted and Mr. Sokol replied in the negative. Ryan Moore, *County Administrator*, explained that the Sheriff's Office had been awarded grant funding from DASNY specifically for the purpose of the purchase of four Ford Taurus police cruisers. He said the process had taken a significant amount of time, apprising that he had received confirmation in writing from DASNY that they had completed all of their approvals and were awaiting approval from the State Department of Budget. He said Assemblymen Stec's Office had indicated to him that the State Department of Budget

did not fast track anything regardless of who was making the request. He informed DASNY had indicated to him a signed contract was not required prior to making the purchase.

Mr. Thomas apprised that there was \$100,000 budgeted for the purpose of purchasing patrol cars in 2018. Mr. Moore interjected that the gross appropriation included in the current budget would increase from \$199,000 to \$299,000, as these funds had not been accounted for. He added he believed the fund Mr. Thomas referred to had been appropriated from the Vehicle Reserve Fund.

Mr. Sokol informed there was slightly more than \$140,000 remaining in the Contingent Account, which was sufficient to cover this expense. Mike Swan, *County Treasurer*, remarked that the Contingent Account was not appropriate for this purpose since the funds would be reimbursed and funding could not be returned to the Contingent Account.

A discussion ensued during which Mr. Swan noted the Ford Taurus patrol vehicles, which were significantly cheaper than other options available, would no longer be available for purchase after September 15th. He remarked typically he would not be in favor of moving forward with expending funds when a grant had not been signed; however, he apprised, due to the savings that would be realized, even if the County did not receive reimbursement, he was fully supportive of moving forward with the purchase.

Motion was made by Mr. Simpson, seconded by Mr. Geraghty and carried unanimously to authorize the appropriation of funds in the amount of \$100,000 from the Unappropriated Surplus Fund Balance to Budget Code A.3110 230, *Sheriff's Law Enforcement Auto Equipment*, for the purpose of purchase four Sheriff Patrol cars, with the expectation that the funds would be reimbursed once the grant funding from DASNY was received and the necessary resolution was authorized for the August 17th Board Meeting.

There being no further business to come before the Finance Committee, on motion made by Mr. Dickinson and seconded by Mr. Simpson, Mr. Sokol adjourned the meeting at 11:04 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Sarah McLenithan, Deputy Clerk of the Board