

# Warren County Board of Supervisors

BOARD MEETING  
FRIDAY AUGUST 19, 2022



**Note: Pursuant to New York State Legislation (S.50001/A.40001): “Notwithstanding the provisions of article 7 of the public officers law to the contrary, any state agency, department, corporation, office, authority, board, or commission, as well as any local public body, or public corporation as defined in section 66 of the general construction law, or political subdivisions as defined in section 100 of the general municipal law, or a committee or subcommittee or other similar body of such entity, shall be authorized to meet and take such action authorized by law without permitting in public in-person access to meetings and authorize such meetings to be held remotely by conference call or similar service, provided that the public has the ability to view or listen to such proceeding and that such meetings are recorded and later transcribed.”**

**Please note that the following is a summarization of the Board Meeting; the meeting, in its entirety, can be viewed on the Warren County website: <https://warrencountyny.gov/mma>**

The Board of Supervisors of the County of Warren convened at the Supervisors' Room in the Warren County Municipal Center, Lake George, New York; meeting called to order at 10:01 a.m.

Mr. Kevin B. Geraghty presiding.

Salute to the flag was led by Supervisor Wild.

Roll called, the following members present:

Supervisors Conover, Leggett, Diamond, McDevitt, Braymer, Bruno, Driscoll, Frasier, Geraci, Hogan, Dickinson, Strough, Wild, Magowan, Seeber, Beaty, Thomas and Geraghty - 18. Supervisor Merlino and Runyon absent - 2. All Supervisors in attendance were physically present, aside from Supervisor Dickinson, who attended the meeting virtually.

Motion was made by Supervisor Frasier, seconded by Supervisor Strough and carried by a unanimous vote of those present (*Supervisors Merlino and Runyon absent*) to approve the minutes of the July 29<sup>th</sup> Board Meeting, subject to correction by the Clerk of the Board.

Presentation of the Employee of the Month Award was made to Magdalena Cafaro, *Keyboard Specialist #1, Tourism Department*.

The following individuals were recognized for completing their Leadership Badge Training in Senior Management which was offered to Department Heads and individuals in Senior Management positions: Amu McByrne, *Director, Countryside Adult Home*; Elizabeth Burke, *Supervising Social Services Investigator, Department of Social Services (DSS)*; Candace Groff, *Sr. Social Welfare Examiner, DSS*; Rebecca Hill, *Principle Social Welfare Examiner, DSS*; Tara Kelly, *Sr. Social Welfare Examiner, DSS*; Josette Kill, *Sr. Social Welfare Examiner, DSS*; Mary Klaiber, *Principle Social Welfare Examiner, DSS*; Ashley McKinney, *Sr. Social Welfare Examiner, DSS*; and Karen Whitted, *Principle Social Welfare Examiner, DSS*.

Privilege of the floor and public comment was offered.

Bob Dylan, *Town of Lake George Resident*, spoke regarding the Director of Tourism position and

his concerns with the process used to fill the vacancy, indicating he believed the Board should table the appointment and re-open the interviewing process.

Supervisor Seeber voiced her concerns with Privilege of the Floor not being provided at Committee meetings at the beginning of the meeting to allow the public and Supervisors who were not members of the Committee to comment on matters before they were voted on and she asked that they consider changing this. Supervisor Seeber also spoke regarding her unease with the way Board members were treated when they spoke against, abstained from or voted in opposition of Resolutions and she asked that going forward everyone respect their colleagues votes regardless of whether they agreed with them.

Report by the Chairman of the Board was given.

Reports by Committee Chairs were given during which Supervisor Merlino entered the meeting at 10:15 a.m.

At the conclusion of the Reports by Committee Chairs, Chairman Geraghty advised the other Unions within the County had expressed an interest in scheduling meetings to discuss implementing the interim salary increases that had been provided to the CSEA (*Civil Services Employees Association*) members for their members, as well.

Upon the request of Chairman Geraghty, Supervisor Craig Leggett, *Acting County Administrator*, provided an update on Supervisor Runyon and her partner, whose home had recently been destroyed in a fire.

Report by the County Administrator was given.

Report of County Attorney was given.

Reading of communications by Clerk of the Board was provided, as follows:

**Letters/emails from:**

Washington County Board of Supervisors - Resolution No. 162 of 2022, "*To Adopt Adirondack Community College Budget*"

Washington County Board of Supervisors - Resolution No. 163 of 2022, "*Appoint Member of the Counties of Warren and Washington Industrial development Agency and Civic Development Corporation*"

City of Glens Falls - Copy of letter to the Warren County Board of Elections regarding City of Glens Falls mandatory referendum on the re-drawing of Ward Division boundaries

NYS Parks, Recreation & Historic Preservation - National Register Application for Three Squares Historic District

FitzGerald Morris Baker Firth - Notice of corrected PILOT Agreement for 407 Big Bay Road, LLC in the Town of Queensbury

Reading of resolutions by the Clerk of the Board was announced as follows:

Amanda Allen, *Clerk of the Board*, advised Resolution Nos. 386-427 were distributed to the Board and posted to the Warren County website on Tuesday, August 16<sup>th</sup>, along with two

Proclamations, adding this distribution met the deadline specified in the Rules of the Board. The two Proclamations were:

- PR31 - Immunization Awareness Month
- PR32 - Women's Equality Day.

Mrs. Allen indicated there was one Floor Resolution:

Floor Resolution No. 1 - *Authorizing Submission of Documentation Required to Comply with the New York State Health Care and Mental Hygiene Worker Bonus Program*. She noted a motion to Waive the Rules of the Board was required in order to entertain the proposed Floor Resolution.

Motion was made by Supervisor Magowan, seconded by Supervisor Driscoll and carried by a unanimous vote of those present (*Supervisors Runyon absent*) to waive the standing Rule of the Board relating to the requirement that all Resolutions be distributed to the Board no later than the Tuesday before the Board Meeting in order to entertain a Resolution regarding New York State Health Care and Mental Hygiene Worker Bonus Program . Mrs. Allen announced the waiving of the Rules resolution would now be referred to as proposed Resolution No.428.

Mrs. Allen advised a motion was required to bring proposed Floor Resolution No. 1 to the floor. The necessary motion was made by Supervisor Strough, seconded by Supervisor Thomas and carried by a unanimous vote of those present (*Supervisor Runyon absent*) to bring proposed Floor Resolution No. 1, *Authorizing Submission of Documentation Required to Comply with the New York State Health Care and Mental Hygiene Worker Bonus Program*, to the floor. Mrs. Allen advised proposed Floor Resolution No. 1 would now be referred to as proposed Resolution No. 429.

Discussion and public comment on proposed resolutions was called for.

Motion was made by Supervisor Strough and seconded by Supervisor Dickinson to table proposed Resolution Nos. 406, *Accepting Proposal and Authorizing Agreement with Hunden Strategic Partners for Tourism Revitalization and Rejuvenation Services (WC 33-22)*, 407, *Accepting Proposal and Authorizing Agreement with Loud Media, LLC or Tourism Revitalization and Rejuvenation Services (WC 33-22)*, and 427, *Authorizing the Appropriation of Funds from the Occupancy Tax Reserve to the Tourism Budget; Amending 2022 Warren County Budget*, to allow for further review and discussion. Chairman Geraghty asked whether they would like to table the proposed Resolution indefinitely or bring them back to Committee and Supervisor Strough responded he would like them to be discussed at a future meeting of the Occupancy Tax Coordination Committee. Chairman Geraghty called the question and the motion to table proposed Resolution Nos. 406, 407 and 427 was carried by a unanimous vote of those present (*Supervisor Runyon absent*).

A motion was made by Supervisor Magowan and seconded by Supervisor Bruno to table proposed Resolution No. 416, *Appointing Alfred Snow as Director of Tourism*.

Supervisor Dickinson voiced his opposition on the motion to table, advising of business communities desire for proposed Resolution No. 416 to be adopted. Chairman Geraghty indicated an executive session would be required if they were going to discuss a particular individual. Supervisor Dickinson advised he would refrain from speaking about a specific individual, adding proposed Resolution Nos. 406, 407 and 427 were tabled to allow whomever was appointed as the new Tourism Director to provide input on them.

Supervisor Merlino indicated he concurred with the remarks made by Supervisor Dickinson, adding tabling proposed Resolution No. 416, *Appointing Alfred Snow as Director of Tourism*, would create hardships on the Tourism Department. Supervisor Seeber called for point of order,

**WARREN COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**  
**BOARD MEETING**  
**FRIDAY AUGUST 19, 2022**

---

apprising the discussion should pertain to tabling the proposed Resolution and did not concern any other matters, such as the appointment of a particular individual. Chairman Geraghty allowed Supervisor Merlino to continue with his comments. Supervisor Beaty noted Chairman Geraghty needed to rule on the point of order and Chairman Geraghty replied he had overruled Supervisor Seeber's point of order. Supervisor Beaty called for a roll call vote on Chairman Geraghty's decision on the point of order. Chairman Geraghty's decision to overrule Supervisor Seeber's point of order was carried, with a vote of 558 in favor (*Supervisors Wild, Thomas, Conover, Leggett, McDevitt, Braymer, Driscoll, Frasier, Geraci, Dickinson, Merlino and Strough*), and 367 voting in opposition (*Supervisors Magowan, Seeber, Beaty, Diamond, Bruno and Hogan*) and 60 abstaining (*Chairman Geraghty*) and 17 absent (*Supervisor Runyon*).

Supervisor Merlino continued with his comments, reiterating tabling the proposed Resolution would stymie the operation of the Tourism Department. Further discussion ensued during which Supervisor Driscoll exited the meeting at 10:55 a.m. Chairman Geraghty called the question and the motion to table proposed Resolution No. 416, *Appointing Alfred Snow as Director of Tourism*, failed to obtain the majority vote required, with 424 votes in favor (*Supervisors Magowan, Seeber, Beaty, Diamond, Braymer, Bruno and Hogan*) and 519 voting in opposition (*Supervisors Wild, Thomas, Conover, Leggett, Frasier, Geraci, Merlino, Strough and Geraghty*) and 59 absent (*Supervisors Runyon and Driscoll*).

Supervisor Driscoll re-entered the meeting at 10:56 a.m.

Motion was made by Supervisor Braymer and seconded by Supervisor Hogan to table proposed Resolution No. 419, *Amending Resolution No. 12 of 2022, Reappointing Members to the ARPA Advisory Committee, to Update Committee Membership*, and send it back to Committee for further discussion.

Motion was made by Supervisor Thomas to amend proposed Resolution No. 419, *Amending Resolution No. 12 of 2022, Reappointing Members to the ARPA Advisory Committee, to Update Committee Membership*, to ensure the Acting County Administrator and/or County Administrator was appointed as a member of the Committee.

Chairman Geraghty noted they needed to address the motion to table. Supervisors Braymer withdrew her motion to table and proceeded to make a motion to amend proposed Resolution No. 419, *Amending Resolution No. 12 of 2022, Reappointing Members to the ARPA Advisory Committee, to Update Committee Membership*, to remove Trisha Rogers from the proposed resolution and leave the position vacant. Supervisor Dickinson seconded the motion.

Discussion ensued during which Supervisor Wild proposed another amendment to proposed Resolution No. 419 to change the termination date of those appointed from December 31, 2023 to December 31, 2022. Further discussion ensued during which Chairman Geraghty called for a roll call vote on the motion to amend proposed Resolution No. 419, *Amending Resolution No. 12 of 2022, Reappointing Members to the ARPA Advisory Committee, to Update Committee Membership*, to remove Trisha Rogers from the proposed resolution and leave the position vacant. He called the question and the motion to amend proposed Resolution No. 419 as outlined above was carried by majority vote, with 896 voting in favor (*Supervisors Wild, Magowan, Beaty, Thomas, Conover, leggett, Diamond, McDevitt, Braymer, Bruno, Driscoll, Frasier, Geraci, Hogan, Dickinson, Merlino, Strough, Wild and Geraghty*), and 89 voting in opposition (*Supervisor Seeber*) and 17 absent (*Supervisor Runyon*).

Discussion resumed on the proposed Resolutions, the majority of which was on proposed Resolution Nos. 416, *Appointing Alfred Snow as Director of Tourism*, following which Don

**WARREN COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**  
**BOARD MEETING**  
**FRIDAY AUGUST 19, 2022**

---

Lehman, *Director of Public Affairs*, read aloud public comment from an individual who identified themselves as Patrick Bent. Also during the discussion Supervisor Hogan requested a roll call vote on the proposed Resolution 416.

A lengthy discussion was held on proposed Resolution Nos. 417, *Amending Tables of Organization and Warren County Salary and Compensation Plan for 2022 to Provide Interim Salary Increases for Non-Bargaining Unit Employees*, and 418, *Introducing Proposed Local Law No. 3 of 2022, Entitled "A Local Law Amending Local Law No. 1 of 2022, 'A Local Law Fixing the Salaries of Certain County Officers and Employees of Warren County', to Include Interim Salary Increases"*, and *Authorizing Public Hearing Thereon*, during which a motion was made by Supervisor Seeber and seconded by Supervisor Beaty to remove the elected officials from the Proposed Resolution No. 418.

During the discussion Larry Elmen, *County Attorney*, any amendments to Resolution No. 418, *Introducing Proposed Local Law No. 3 of 2022, Entitled "A Local Law Amending Local Law No. 1 of 2022, 'A Local Law Fixing the Salaries of Certain County Officers and Employees of Warren County'"*, should be taken care of today because that would be the Local Law that was published for the public to comment on at the Public Hearing. In response to Supervisor Seeber's question, Mrs. Allen apprised the District Attorney's salary was not included in the proposed Resolution because that salary was set by the State and the Sheriff was left off because requests from the law enforcement unions for interim salary increases were just received and would be addressed at a later date which would include the Sheriff's salary, as well as all of the non-Union employees who worked in the Sheriff's Office. She added the Local Law would need to be amended again if the Sheriff's salary was increased. During the discussion Supervisor Hogan suggested Supervisor Seeber amend her motion to table the proposed Resolution No. 418 and send it back to Committee and Supervisor Seeber voiced her concerns with tabling. Supervisor Thomas called for point of order, advising he believed the discussion concerned the proposed amendment and not tabling. Supervisor Seeber withdrew her motion to amend proposed Resolution and Supervisor Beaty withdrew his second to the motion.

Motion was made by Supervisor Braymer and seconded by Supervisor Hogan to amend proposed Resolution No. 388, *Authorizing the Appropriation of ARPA Funds to the Warren County Department of Public Works to Fund Emergency Culvert Repairs and Capital Improvements; and Amending Warren County Budget for 2022*, to reduce the amount of ARPA funding from \$3.5 million to \$2 million.

Debate was held on the proposed amendment following which Chairman Geraghty requested a roll call vote on the proposed motion. He called the question and the motion to amend proposed Resolution No. 388 as outlined above failed to obtain the majority vote required, with 436 voting in favor (*Supervisors Seeber, Beaty, Diamond, McDevitt, Braymer, Bruno, Driscoll and Hogan*), and 549 voting in opposition (*Supervisors Wild, Magowan, Thomas, Conover, Leggett, Frasier, Geraci, Dickinson, Merlino, Strough and Geraghty*) and 17 absent (*Supervisor Runyon*).

Supervisor Hogan exited the meeting at 11:40 a.m.

Prior to voting on Resolutions, Mr. Lehman read aloud public comments made by Gina Mintzer, *Executive Director, Lake George Regional Chamber of Commerce & CVB*, Ryan Moore, *former Warren County Administrator*, and Christianne Strough, *Town of Queensbury Resident*.

Kristine Norton, *Warren County Resident*, suggested they hold off on moving forward with Resolution No. 388, *Authorizing the Appropriation of ARPA Funds to the Warren County Department of Public Works to Fund Emergency Culvert Repairs and Capital Improvements; and*

*Amending Warren County Budget for 2022*, until all of the applications for ARPA funding were reviewed. She added if any funding remained once the applications were approved and/or denied it could be allocated for municipal purposes such as emergency culvert repairs, noting the primary purpose of ARPA funding was to assist small businesses and not-for-profits impacted by COVID-19.

Supervisor Seeber called for point of order, inquiring whether requests for roll call votes could be addressed. Chairman Geraghty asked Supervisor Seeber if she would like to request a roll call vote on a specific Resolution and she replied affirmatively, indicating she would like a roll call vote on proposed Resolution No. 419, *Amending Resolution No. 12 of 2022, Reappointing Members to the ARPA Advisory Committee, to Update Committee Membership*, if it had not already been requested.

Supervisor Thomas requested a roll call vote on proposed Resolution No. 405, *Authorizing Agreement with Dominion Voting Systems Corporation to Provide Repairs to Dominion "Ice" Accessible Voting Machines for the Board of Elections*.

Ms. Norton spoke again, indicating because of her background in finance she was well aware when funding was appropriated from a fund balance it was never returned and she once again asked that the Board consider all of the applications they had received for ARPA funding before they used it for municipal purposes.

Voting on resolutions occurred. Resolution Nos. 386-429 were approved as presented, with the exception of Resolution Nos. 406, 407 and 427 which were tabled and Resolution No. 419 which was amended from the floor.

During the voting on resolutions Supervisor Diamond explained his vote in opposition to Resolution No. 416 which related to the process used to fill the position.

Privilege of the floor and public comment was called for.

Mike Swan, *County Treasurer*, provided an overview of the issues with the Unappropriated Surplus Fund Balance during the prior recession in 2008-2009 where several positions had to be deleted from the County Budget.

Supervisors Braymer, Beaty, Seeber Driscoll all made comments regarding various matters.

There being no further business to come before the Board of Supervisors, Chairman Geraghty adjourned the Board Meeting at 12:10 p.m.