

Warren County Board of Supervisors

BOARD MEETING
WEDNESDAY JUNE 14, 2023



Please note that the following is a summarization of the Board Meeting; the meeting, in its entirety, can be viewed using the following links on the Warren County website:

<https://warrencountyny.gov/mma>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=q7x1GweuzTM>

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 6:02 p.m.

Mr. Kevin B. Geraghty presiding.

Salute to the flag was led by Supervisor Strough.

Roll called, the following members present:

Supervisors Conover, Leggett, Diamond, McDevitt, Braymer, Bruno, Driscoll, Frasier, Geraci, Smith, Strough, Wild, Beaty, Thomas, Runyon and Geraghty - 17. Supervisors Dickinson, Merlino, Magowan and Stec absent - 4.

It was noted for the record that Supervisor Magowan entered the meeting immediately following the roll call at 6:03 p.m.

Privilege of the floor was extended to Kevin Hajos, *Superintendent of Public Works*, who spoke regarding the Organics Management Plan which was prepared by the County's consultant, GHD Engineering Company. He noted David Wright, *representing GHD Engineering Company*, was present to provide an overview of the Organics Management Plan prepared for the County; Mr Wright presented an overview of the Plan.

Chairman Geraghty called for privilege of the floor/public comment:

Barbara Jouudry, *Chair, Adirondack Compost Education Council, Inc. and member of the Zero Waste Warren County Committee*, spoke in favor of the report provided by GHD, which was fully endorsed by their organization.

The following individuals voiced their opinions on the possible arrival of migrants in Warren County:

Mike Parwana, *representing himself*

Diane Collins, *City of Glens Falls Resident*

Dr. Richard Leach, *Member, Adirondack Welcome Circle, Warren County Resident and Medical Advisor to Warren County Public Health*

Lynn McDonald, *Town of Chester Resident*

Paul Hancock, *City of Glens Falls Resident*

Ellen O'Hara, *City of Glens Falls Resident*

Motion was made by Supervisor Driscoll, seconded by Supervisor Frasier and carried by a unanimous vote of those present (*Supervisors Dickinson, Merlino and Stec absent*) to approve the minutes of the May

WARREN COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

BOARD MEETING

WEDNESDAY JUNE 14, 2023

19th Board Meeting, subject to correction by the Clerk of the Board.

Presentation of the Employee of the Month Award was made to Meghan Collins, *Infant Feeding Advocate, WIC Department*.

Recognition was given to the following students who had completed the Criminal Justice Student Intern Pathway Program during the Spring 2022 Semester:

Robert Brown
Allison Gilligan
Lillian Slider

Presentation of the Certificate of Excellence was made to the 2023 SUNY Adirondack Graduate Ms. Nikkita Hyrny.

Reports by Committee Chairs were given.

Report by the County Administrator was given.

Report of County Attorney was given.

Supervisor Braymer spoke regarding the County Executive Order regarding the migrants which she was opposed to and she asked Larry Elmen, *County Attorney*, whether there were plans to defend the County against the lawsuit filed against the County by New York City. Mr. Elmen responded one of the purposes of the Executive Order related to the concern that New York City was not contacting or providing any notice to local municipalities where they were transporting migrants to, as well as the City's lack of responsibility for these individuals going forward

A discussion ensued.

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

Reports from:

1. Warren County Auditor - Real Property Tax Corrections Reports for May of 2023

Other:

1. Washington County Board of Supervisors Resolution No. 161 of 2023, "*Appoint Member to the Counties of Warren and Washington Industrial Development Agency and Civic Development Corporation*"
2. Washington County Board of Supervisors Resolution No. 179 of 2023, "*Supporting Local Share Contribution Plan for SUNY Adirondack to Achieve Thirty-three Percent (33%) Rate by Fiscal Year 2028-29*"

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

Amanda Allen, *Clerk of the Board*, advised Resolution Nos. 284-319 were distributed to the Board and posted to the Warren County website on Friday, June 9th, along with four Proclamations. She stated four Floor Resolutions were distributed to the Board on Tuesday, June 13th, adding these distributions met the deadline specified in the Rules of the Board. The four Proclamations were:

PR21 - Alzheimer's Awareness Month
PR22 - PTSD Awareness Month.
PR23 - Elder Abuse Awareness Day
PR24 - SUNY Adirondack Recognition

WARREN COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

BOARD MEETING

WEDNESDAY JUNE 14, 2023

Floor Resolution Nos. 1-4, included in the Board packet, were outlined individually and motions were requested to bring each to the floor.

Motion was made by Supervisor McDevitt, seconded by Supervisor Smith and carried by majority vote of those present (*Supervisors Dickinson, Merlino and Stec absent*), with Mr. Thomas voting in opposition, to bring proposed Floor Resolution No. 1, *Waiving the Standing Rule of the Board Relating to the Requirement that all Resolutions be Approved through the Established Committee Structure in Advance of a Board Meeting in Order to Entertain a Resolution Appointing Julie Garcia as Assigned Counsel Administrator*, to the floor. Mrs. Allen announced Floor Resolution No. 1 would now be referred to as proposed Resolution No. 320

Motion was made by Supervisor Smith, seconded by Supervisor Geraci and carried by majority vote of those present (*Supervisors Dickinson, Merlino and Stec absent*), with Mr. Thomas voting in opposition, to bring proposed Floor Resolution No. 2, *Appointing Julie Garcia as Assigned Counsel Administrator*, to the floor. Mrs. Allen advised Floor Resolution No. 2 would now be referred to as proposed Resolution No. 321.

Motion was made by Supervisor Geraci, seconded by Supervisor Bruno and carried by majority vote of those present (*Supervisors Dickinson, Merlino and Stec absent*), with Mr. Thomas voting in opposition, to bring proposed Floor Resolution No. 3, *Waiving the Standing Rule of the Board Relating to the Requirement that all Resolutions be Approved through the Established Committee Structure in Advance of a Board Meeting in Order to Entertain a Resolution Amending Table of Organization and Warren County Salary and Compensation Plan for 2023 to Adjust the Salary of the Assigned Counsel Administrator Position*, to the floor. Mrs. Allen advised Floor Resolution No. 3 would now be referred to as proposed Resolution No. 322.

Motion was made by Supervisor Smith and seconded by Supervisor McDevitt to bring proposed Floor Resolution No. 4, *Amending Table of Organization and Warren County Salary and Compensation Plan for 2023 to Adjust the Salary of the Assigned Counsel Administrator Position*, to the floor.

A discussion ensued during which Supervisors Thomas, Beaty and Magowan voiced their opposition to the salary increase. Chairman Geraghty called the question and the motion to bring proposed Floor Resolution No. 4 as outlined above was carried by majority vote of those present (*Supervisors Dickinson, Merlino and Stec absent*), with Supervisors Diamond, Magowan, Beaty and Thomas voting in opposition.

Mrs. Allen advised Floor Resolution No. 4 would now be referred to as proposed Resolution No. 323.

Discussion and public comment on proposed resolutions was called for.

A discussion ensued regarding proposed Resolution No. 297, *Establishing a Timetable for Delinquent Tax Property Foreclosure and Auction for Real Property Tax Services*, during which it was noted due to the action on the proposed Resolution it was necessary to rescind Resolution No. 105 of 2020, *Amending Resolution No. 340 of 2017 which Established a Timetable for Delinquent Tax Property Foreclosure and Auction For Real Property Tax Services to Revise Dates*. The necessary motion was made by Supervisor Braymer, seconded by Supervisor McDevitt and carried by a unanimous vote of those present (*Supervisors Dickinson, Merlino and Stec absent*), to waive the Standing Rule of the Board relating to the requirements that all resolutions be approved through the established Committee structure in advance of a Board meeting in order to entertain a resolution rescinding Resolution No. 105 of 2020, which established a timetable for delinquent tax property foreclosure and auction for Real Property Tax Services.

Motion was made by Supervisor Leggett, seconded by Supervisor Braymer and carried by a unanimous vote of those present (*Supervisors Dickinson, Merlino and Stec absent*), to rescind Resolution No. 105 of 2020, which established a timetable for delinquent tax property

foreclosure and auction for Real Property Tax Services.

Mrs. Allen announced the waiving of the Rules resolution would now be known as proposed Resolution No. 324 and the resolution rescinding Resolution No. 105 of 2020 would be referred to as proposed Resolution No. 325.

A discussion ensued regarding proposed Resolution No. 295, *Authorizing Submission of Consolidated Funding Application for Multiple Local Waterfront Programs and Community Development Programs, and Providing for Public Hearing Thereon*, during which Supervisor Diamond questioned whether the communities that chose to participate were responsible for any matching fund requirements and Chairman Geraghty replied affirmatively.

Supervisor Beaty requested a roll call vote on proposed Resolution No. 319, *Approving Tentative Operating Budget for Fiscal Year 2023-2024 for Adirondack Community College and Providing for Public Hearing*, noting he would be voting in opposition.

A discussion ensued regarding proposed Resolution No. 319, *Approving Tentative Operating Budget for Fiscal Year 2023-2024 for Adirondack Community College and Providing for Public Hearing*.

Supervisor Thomas requested a roll call vote on proposed Resolution No. 306, *Adopting Revised Out-of-unit Employee Benefits Policy for Warren County*.

Voting on resolutions occurred. Resolution Nos. 284-325 were approved as presented, with the exception of proposed Resolution No. 319 which failed to obtain the majority vote.

Privilege of the floor and public comment was called for.

Ms. Collins spoke regarding climate change and how she believed the County should be discussing how to address this matter at the appropriate Committee meeting.

Mr. Parwana once again spoke regarding the potential arrival of migrants in Warren County, how he believed the County should be working on developing a plan to assist these individuals and his opposition to the Executive Order in place.

Supervisor Magowan addressed the Board regarding the Computer Use Policy, apprising he was disappointed his request for the addition of requiring all Supervisors to use a County email when communicating with one another and department heads was denied, as he believed this was necessary for transparency purposes.

A discussion ensued during which Supervisor Frasier exited the meeting at 8:10 p.m.

Chairman Geraghty called for announcements:

Supervisor Strough announced the Queensbury Fire Department's were hosting the Hudson Valley Volunteer Firemen's Association Convention and Parade this weekend and he encouraged all to attend.

Supervisor Beaty advised upon his request the Information Technology Department had put into place a blocking mechanism for any emails distributed to him by Supervisors who did not use a County email address.

Supervisor Runyon stated the County Information Technology Department had combined all three of her email addresses, including her County email to prevent any confusion on her behalf.

In response to the individual who commented on the climate crisis, Supervisor Braymer apprised she would work on scheduling a Climate Smart Task Force meeting to discuss this matter further. She then spoke regarding the Emergency Order which she was opposed to and she made a motion to introduce a Proclamation indicating Warren County was welcoming migrants; was working on plans to humanely, responsibly and sustainably accept migrants into the County.

A discussion ensued during which it was noted a waiving of the rules was not required to introduce a Proclamation from the floor. Following the discussion, Supervisor Braymer voiced her disappointment for the lack of support for her proposed Proclamation, indicating did not believe the Executive Order should be renewed when it expired.

There being no further business to come before the Board of Supervisors, Chairman Geraghty declared the meeting adjourned at 8:21 p.m.