

Warren County Board of Supervisors

BOARD MEETING
TUESDAY SEPTEMBER 12, 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=bJ9wvpMjDeQ>

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 Magowan.

Roll called, the following members present:

Supervisors Leggett, Diamond, McDevitt, Braymer, Bruno, Driscoll, Geraci, Merlino, Strough, Magowan, Etu, Thomas, Runyon and Geraghty - 14. Supervisors Conover, Frasier, Smith, Dickinson, Wild and Beaty - 6.

Supervisor Conover entered the meeting at 10:02 a.m.

Chairman Geraghty called for privilege of the floor/public comment, but there was no one wishing to speak.

Motion was made by Supervisor Bruno, seconded by Supervisor Geraci and carried by a unanimous vote of those present (*Supervisors Frasier, Smith, Dickinson, Wild and Beaty absent*) to approve the minutes of the August 18th Board Meeting, subject to correction by the Clerk of the Board.

Supervisor Beaty entered the meeting at 10:04 a.m.

Presentation of the Employee of the Month Award was made to Justin Gordon, *Building Maintenance Worker, Buildings and Grounds*.

Report by the Chairman of the Board was given.

Reports by Committee Chairs were given.

Report by the County Administrator was given.

Report by the County Attorney was given.

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

Other:

1. Town of Lake George - Resolution No. 114 of 2023, Decision on 2023 Sales Tax Funds at

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County.

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

Amanda Allen, *Clerk of the Board*, advised Resolution Nos. 409-443 were distributed to the Board and posted to the Warren County website on Friday September 8th, along with six Proclamations, adding this distribution met the deadline specified in the Rules of the Board. The six Proclamations were:

- PR30 - Proclaiming September 11, 2023 to be September 11th Day of Service and Remembrance
- PR31 - Proclaiming September 2023 to be Suicide Prevention Month in Warren County
- PR32 - Proclaiming September 2023 to be Preparedness Month in Warren County
- PR33 - Proclaiming October 2023 to be Domestic Violence Awareness Month in Warren County
- PR34 - Proclaiming October 15-21, 2023 to be Freedom from Workplace Bullies Week
- PR35 - Proclaiming October 20, 2023 to be Special Olympics Support and Awareness Day

Mrs. Allen noted proposed Resolution No. 429 was amended after mailing and a motion was required to approve the amendments to the resolution, as provided.

Motion was made by Supervisor McDevitt, seconded by Supervisor Merlino and carried by a unanimous vote of those present (*Supervisors Frasier, Smith, Dickinson and Wild absent*) to approve proposed Resolution No. 429 as amended.

Discussion and public comment on proposed Resolutions was called for.

A discussion ensued regarding proposed Resolution No. 429, *Amending Table of Organization and Warren County Salary and Compensation Plan for 2023 to Re-Classify Positions within the Public Defender's Office; Create Positions within the Sheriff's Department; and Create/Delete Positions within the Department of Real Property Tax Services*, during which Larry Elmen, *County Attorney*, provided clarification that the Patrol Officer #74 being created would be deleted if the Warrensburg School District decided they no longer needed the position and no other vacant patrol officer positions existed.

Supervisor Magowan voiced his concerns regarding the cost of the contract with the SPCA of Upstate New York, Inc. referenced in proposed Resolution No. 441, *Accepting Proposal and Authorizing Agreement with SPCA of Upstate New York, Inc. for Dog Seizure, Dog Control, Dog Shelter, and Animal Cruelty Prevention, Response and Support Throughout Warren County (WC 50-23)*. A discussion ensued.

Chairman Geraghty requested a roll call vote on proposed Resolution No. 424, *Introducing Proposed Local Law No. 5 of 2023, Entitled "A Local Law Creating a Partial Real Property Tax Exemption for Volunteer Firefighters and Ambulance Workers Pursuant to New York State Real Property Tax Law §466-A," and Authorizing Public Hearing Thereon*.

Supervisor Magowan requested a roll call vote on proposed Resolution No. 441, *Accepting Proposal and Authorizing Agreement with SPCA of Upstate New York, Inc. for Dog Seizure, Dog Control, Dog Shelter, and Animal Cruelty Prevention, Response and Support Throughout Warren County (WC 50-23)*.

Voting on resolutions occurred. Resolution Nos. 409-443 were approved as presented.

During the roll call vote Chairman Geraghty turned the Chair over to Supervisor Leggett from 11:01 a.m. until 11:02 a.m. which was during the roll call vote on proposed Resolution No. 424, *Introducing*

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Proposed Local Law No. 5 of 2023, Entitled "A Local Law Creating a Partial Real Property Tax Exemption for Volunteer Firefighters and Ambulance Workers Pursuant to New York State Real Property Tax Law §466-A," and Authorizing Public Hearing Thereon, to allow Chairman Geraghty to abstain from the vote.

Privilege of the floor and public comment was called for.

Supervisor Braymer requested the Board consider re-instating virtual meeting attendance due to the increase in positive cases of COVID-19. In regard to requests for transfers of funds, she indicated the Board should not provide the County Administrator with the authority to approve them, as she felt it was their duty as Supervisors to be aware of and approve these transfers. Supervisor Braymer then requested an update on the filling of the vacant Director of Planning & Community Development and Commissioner of the Department of Social Services positions which the County Administrator provided a brief summary of.

Supervisor Magowan spoke regarding concerns expressed by his constituents that they were unable to participate in the meetings virtually and he inquired what the appropriate Committee would be to bring this matter before; Chairman Geraghty responded the appropriate Committee to discuss the matter with was the Legislative, Rules & Governmental Operations Committee.

Supervisor Merlino voiced his pleasure regarding the adoption of Resolution No. 441, *Accepting Proposal and Authorizing Agreement with SPCA of Upstate New York, Inc. for Dog Seizure, Dog Control, Dog Shelter, and Animal Cruelty Prevention, Response and Support Throughout Warren County (WC 50-23).*

Supervisor Geraci requested the Planning & Community Development department provide the towns with guidance how they could assist them in compiling a joint application to New York State to provide broadband in the underserved areas rather than having to compete amongst one another.

Supervisor Leggett advised the Adirondack Association of Towns & Villages (AATV) would be meeting on October 20th at Gore Mountain during which the expansion of broadband to underserved areas would be discussed, adding he also believed a regional application to the State would have more bandwidth than if the towns submitted one on their own.

There being no further business to come before the Board of Supervisors, on motion made by Supervisor Strough, seconded by Supervisor Merlino and carried by a unanimous vote of those present (*Supervisors Frasier, Smith, Dickinson and Wild absent*), Chairman Geraghty declared the meeting adjourned at 11:14 a.m.