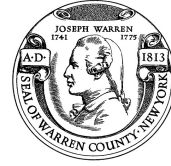


Warren County Board of Supervisors

BOARD MEETING
FRIDAY OCTOBER 20, 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=jsxN75Fo3aQ>

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 10:00 a.m.

Mr. Kevin B. Geraghty presiding.

Salute to the flag was led by Supervisor Etu following which a moment of silence was observed in remembrance of the lives lost in the recent attacks against Israel.

Roll called, the following members present:

Supervisors Conover, Diamond, McDevitt, Bruno, Driscoll, Geraci, Smith, Strough, Wild, Magowan, Beaty, Etu, Thomas, Runyon and Geraghty - 15. Supervisors Leggett, Braymer, Frasier, Dickinson and Merlino - 5.

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

Peter Caldwell, *Warren County Resident*, voiced his opposition to the salary increase for the Sheriff that he believed was included in 2024 proposed County Budget.

Supervisor Magowan spoke regarding employee performance evaluations, indicating he would like an update pertaining to whether they were still being carried out.

Motion was made by Supervisor Geraci, seconded by Supervisor Runyon and carried by a unanimous vote of those present (*Supervisors Leggett, Braymer, Frasier, Dickinson and Merlino absent*) to approve the minutes of the September 12, 2023 Board Meeting and October 13, 2023 special Board Meeting, subject to correction by the Clerk of the Board.

Presentation of the Employee of the Month Award was made to Chip Mellon, *2nd Deputy Fire Coordinator, Office of Emergency Services*, and Ted Little, *1st Deputy Fire Coordinator, Office of Emergency Services*.

Supervisor Merlino entered the meeting at 10:08 a.m.

Moving along, with the Agenda review, Chair declared the Public Hearing open on proposed Warren County Local Law No. 5 of 2023, Entitled: *A Local Law Creating a Patrial Real Property Tax Exemption for Volunteer Firefighters and Ambulance Workers Pursuant to New York State Real Property Tax Law §466-a*”, open at 10:11 a.m. and requested the Clerk of the Board read the Notice of Public Hearing aloud. Chair called for public comment.

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Supervisor Magowan spoke in favor of proposed Local Law No. 5 of 2023 which he believed would assist with recruiting new members.

Chairman Geraghty once again called public comment on proposed Warren County Local Law No. 5 of 2023, Entitled: *A Local Law Creating a Patrial Real Property Tax Exemption for Volunteer Firefighters and Ambulance Workers Pursuant to New York State Real Property Tax Law §466-a*; there being no response he closed the Public Hearing at 10:12 p.m.

Continuing with the Agenda review, Chair declared the Public Hearing open on proposed Warren County Local Law No. 6 of 2023, Entitled: *"A Local Law Imposing an Additional Mortgage Recording Tax in Warren County"*, open at 10:13 a.m. and requested the Clerk of the Board read the Notice of Public Hearing aloud.

Chairman Geraghty advised he would keep the Public Hearing open and proceeded with the Agenda review.

Report by the Chairman of the Board was given.

Reports by Committee Chairs were given during motion was made by Supervisor Strough, seconded by Supervisor Merlino and carried by majority vote of those present (*Supervisors Leggett, Braymer, Frasier and Dickinson absent*), with Supervisor Thomas voting in opposition, to amend proposed Resolution No. 455, *Authorizing Termination of Agreement with Clear Ballot Group, Inc. to Provide Clearcount/ClearAudit Software and Software Support for the Board of Elections*, to change the phrasing from termination to reduction, as well as to reduce the annual cost of the contract from \$9,032 to \$6,107.10.

Also during the Reports by Committee Chairs the following motions were made:

Motion was made by Supervisor Strough, seconded by Supervisor Wild and carried by majority vote of those present (*Supervisors Leggett, Braymer, Frasier and Dickinson absent*), with Supervisor Thomas voting in opposition, to Waive 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 authorizing the appropriation of funds in the amount of \$386,290.84 from Budget Code A.898.00, *Reserve, Election Equipment*, to Budget Code A.1450 260, and appropriating \$73,010.16 from Budget Code A.909.00, *General Fund Unappropriated Surplus Fund*, to Budget Code A.1450 260, to cover the cost of the remaining balance for the contract with Clear Ballot.

Motion was made by Supervisor Strough, seconded by Supervisor Merlino and carried by majority vote of those present (*Supervisors Leggett, Braymer, Frasier and Dickinson absent*), with Supervisors Magowan, Beaty and Thomas voting in opposition, to authorize the appropriation of funds in the amount of \$386,290.84 from Budget Code A.898.00, *Reserve, Election Equipment*, to Budget Code A.1450 260, and appropriating \$73,010.16 from Budget Code A.909.00, *General Fund Unappropriated Surplus Fund*, to Budget Code A.1450 260, to cover the cost of the remaining balance for the contract with Clear Ballot.

Mrs. Allen announced the Resolution concerning the waiving of the Rules of the Board would now be known as proposed Resolution No. 476 and the Resolution authorizing the appropriation of funds would now be referred to as proposed Resolution No. 477.

Report by the County Administrator was given.

Report by the County Attorney was given.

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Returning to the Public Hearing pertaining to proposed Warren County Local Law No. 6 of 2023, Entitled: “A Local Law Imposing an Additional Mortgage Recording Tax in Warren County”, Chairman Geraghty once again called public comment; there being no response he closed the Public Hearing at 11:28 a.m.

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

Reports from:

1. Capital District OTB - Financial Reports dated June 30, 2023 and July 31, 2023
2. Warren County Auditor - Real Property Tax Corrections Reports for August & September 2023
3. Drescher & Malecki, CPA - Independent Auditor’s Report for year ended December 31, 2022

Other:

1. Mountain Lakes Regional EMS Council, Inc. - Notice of Public Hearing regarding the Queensbury EMS application to the Mountain Lakes Regional EMS Council for approval to expand their operations to cover the Pilot Knob Fire District in the Town of Fort Ann.

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

Amanda Allen, *Clerk of the Board*, advised Resolution Nos.445-475 were distributed to the Board and posted to the Warren County website on Friday October 17th, along with four Proclamations, and the Report of Committee on Assessment Rolls, adding this distribution met the deadline specified in the Rules of the Board. The four Proclamations were:

- PR36 - Proclaiming October 8-14, 2023 to be Fire Protection Week in Warren County
- PR37 - Proclaiming Warren County to be a Green Light for Military Service County
- PR38 - Proclaiming October to be Breast Cancer Awareness Month in Warren County
- PR39 - Proclaiming October 2023 to be Youth Substance Abuse Prevention Month in Warren County

Discussion and public comment on proposed Resolutions was called for.

Supervisor Thomas requested roll call votes on proposed Resolution Nos. 454, *Authorizing Agreement with Clear Ballot Group, Inc. for the Purchase, License and Maintenance of Voting Machines and Software for the Board of Elections*, and 477, *Authorizing the Appropriation of Funds from the Elections Equipment Reserve and the General Fund Unappropriated Fund Balance to the Board of Elections Budget to Cover the Balance of the Cost of a New Agreement with Clear Ballot Group, Inc. for the Purchase, License and Maintenance of Voting Machines and Software; and Amending 2023 Warren County Budget*. It was noted proposed Resolution No. 477 already required a roll call vote.

Supervisor Magowan asked whether now would be the appropriate time to discuss the employee performance evaluations and Chairman Geraghty replied in the negative, indicating the matter would be discussed at the Personnel, Administration & Higher Education Committee meeting.

Supervisor Diamond spoke regarding proposed Resolution No. 464, *Awarding Bid and Authorizing Agreement with Waste Management of New York, LLC to Provide Disposal and Hauling Services for Municipal Solid Waste & Recyclables (WC 55-23)*, noting the tonage listed in the bid tabulation sheet appeared to be rather high. In response Kevin Hajos, *Superintendent of Public Works*, apprised those figured were provided by the towns transfer station and were the same they submitted to the NYSDEC (*New York State Department of Environmental Conservation*).

Supervisor Beaty requested roll call votes on proposed Resolution Nos. 455 *Amending the*

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Agreement with Clear Ballot Group, Inc. to Provide Clearcount/Clearaudit Software and Software Support for the Board of Elections to Reduce the Annual Amount, and 456, Authorizing Termination of Lease Agreement with Dominion Voting Systems for Dominion "Ice" Accessible Voting Machines for the Board of Elections.

Voting on resolutions occurred. Resolution Nos. 445-477 were approved as presented, with the exception of proposed Resolution No. 455 which was amended from the floor.

Chairman Geraghty offered privilege of the floor.

Supervisor Merlino noted the substantial rates charged for disposal and hauling services of solid waste and recyclables negatively impacted the smaller towns.

Chairman Geraghty called for announcements.

Supervisor Bruno announced the groundbreaking ceremony for the "Event and Market Center" on South Street in the City of Glens Falls was scheduled for 3:00 p.m. today.

Supervisor Driscoll apprised on Sunday October 22nd an interfaith meeting would be held calling for peace in the Middle East at Christ Church United Methodist in the City of Glens Falls and he encouraged all to support this effort.

Supervisor Driscoll exited the meeting at 11:46 a.m.

Mr. Hajos spoke regarding Resolution No. 464, *Awarding Bid and Authorizing Agreement with Waste Management of New York, LLC to Provide Disposal and Hauling Services for Municipal Solid Waste & Recyclables (WC 55-23)*, indicating this particular contract only pertained to the Town of Hague. He added due to a change in the recycling market the towns now had to pay a fee to have their recycling material transported and disposed of.

Christine Norton, *Warren County Resident*, questioned whether the employee performance evaluations would be discussed at the November 2nd meeting of the Personnel, Administration & Higher Education Committee and then again at the November 17th Board Meeting and Chairman Geraghty responded it would be discussed at the Personnel, Administration & Higher Education Committee meeting and if the Committee took action, the matter would be brought before the November 17th Board Meeting.

Supervisor Magowan announced on behalf of Supervisor Braymer that the County Foreclosure Auction would be held tomorrow at the Warren County Municipal Center.

There being no further business to come before the Board of Supervisors, on motion made by Supervisor Conover and carried by a unanimous vote of those present (*Supervisors Leggett, Braymer, Driscoll, Frasier and Dickinson absent*), Chairman Geraghty declared the meeting adjourned at 11:48 a.m.