

Warren County Board of Supervisors

**BOARD MEETING
FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 16, 2024**



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>

Part 1 - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4ze5M9RIlqg>

Part 2 - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cvCWJYx8cKQ>

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 Diamond.

Roll called, the following members present:

Supervisors Conover, Maday, Diamond, Gilligan, Turner, Bruno, Driscoll, Patchett, Bean, Geraci, Strough, Wild, Strainer, Etu, Thomas, and Geraghty-16 Absent - 4 Supervisors Dickinson, Merlino, Magowan and Runyon.

Motion was made by Supervisor Diamond, seconded by Supervisor Etu and carried by a unanimous vote of those present (*Supervisors Dickinson, Merlino, Magowan and Runyon absent*) to approve the minutes of the January 19, 2024 Board Meeting, subject to correction by the Clerk of the Board.

Supervisor Merlino 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.

Presentation of the Employee of the Quarter was made to Josh Inglee, *Buildings and Grounds Department*.

Jason Carusone, *District Attorney*, addressed the Board regarding the upcoming Crime Victims' Week Ceremony which members of the Board would be invited to attend. He then recognized the employees who assisted him on a recent high profile criminal case involving fatalities that occurred on the Warren County Bike Trail.

Report by the Committee Chairs (including the Chairman of the Board's Report) were given during which motion was made by Supervisor Merlino, seconded by Supervisor Strough and carried by a unanimous vote of those present (*Supervisors Dickinson, Magowan and Runyon absent*) to withdraw proposed Resolution No. 53, *Amending Resolution No. 300 of 2023 and Agreement with Rittner's Performing Arts Company, LLC to Extend the Termination Date*.

Report by the County Administrator was given.

Report by the County Attorney was given during which an executive session was requested under Section 105 (1)(d) of the Public Officer's Law for the purpose of discussing proposed pending litigation involving the County regarding the settlement agreement referenced in proposed Resolution No. 50, *Authorizing Settlement and Payment to Joan Waters and Water's Edge Marina, Inc. for Property Acquisition and Just Compensation and Authorizing the Chair of the Board to Sign Required Documents*. It was also noted Kevin Hajos, *Superintendent of Public Works*, would be attending the executive session.

Motion was made by Supervisor Conover, seconded by Supervisor Wild and carried by a unanimous vote of those present (*Supervisors Dickinson, Magowan and Runyon absent*) to enter into an executive session under Section 105 (1)(d) of the Public Officer's Law for the purposes outlined above.

Executive session was held from 10:42 a.m. until 11:01 a.m.

Upon reconvening, the County Attorney announced no action was taken during the executive session.

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

Reports from:

1. County Auditor - January 2024 Real Property Tax Corrections.
2. Capital District OTB - Financial Report dated October 31, 2023

Letters/emails from:

1. June Maxam, Warren County Resident - Requesting termination of Karen Heggen's appointment as Special Prosecutor in the matter of People v. Maxam.
2. Emily Williams, Saratoga County Assistant District Attorney - Responding to June Maxam letter regarding termination of Karen Heggen's appointment as Special Prosecutor in the matter of People v. Maxam.

Other:

1. Washington County - Resolution No. 28 of 2024, Appoint Members to the Counties of Warren and Washington Industrial Development Agency and Civic Development Corporation.

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

Resolution Nos. 28-74 and Floor Resolution Nos. 1-2 were distributed to the Board and posted to the Warren County website on Friday February 9th, along with four Proclamations, which met the deadline specified in the Rules of the Board. The four Proclamations were:

- Proclamation No. 4 - Commemorating the J. Walter Juckett award to Robert Nemer
- Proclamation No. 5 - American Heart Month

Proclamation No. 6 - Black History Month

Proclamation No. 7 - Cancer Prevention Month

Floor Resolution Nos. 3 and 4 were distributed and posted on the County website on Wednesday February 14th. Amanda Allen, *Clerk of the Board*, indicated motions were needed to bring the floor resolutions to the floor.

Motion was made by Supervisor Strough, seconded by Supervisor Merlino and carried by a unanimous vote of those present (*Supervisors Dickinson, Magowan and Runyon absent*), to bring proposed Floor Resolution No. 1 entitled "*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 Members to the Warren County Board of Ethics*", to the floor. Mrs. Allen announced proposed Floor Resolution No. 1 would now be referred to as proposed Resolution No. 75.

Motion was made by Supervisor Wild, seconded by Supervisor Etu and carried by a unanimous vote of those present (*Supervisors Dickinson, Magowan and Runyon absent*), to bring proposed Floor Resolution No. 2 entitled "*Appointing Members to the Warren County Board of Ethics*", to the floor. Mrs. Allen announced proposed Floor Resolution No. 2 would now be referred to as proposed Resolution No. 76.

Motion was made by Supervisor Strough, seconded by Supervisor Strainer and carried by a unanimous vote of those present (*Supervisors Dickinson, Magowan and Runyon absent*), to bring proposed Floor Resolution No. 3 entitled "*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 Resolution No. 14 of 2024, Appointing Members of Board of Directors of Warren-Hamilton Counties Action Committee for Economic Opportunity, Inc., to Update Appointments* ", to the floor. Mrs. Allen announced proposed Floor Resolution No. 3 would now be referred to as proposed Resolution No. 77.

Mrs. Allen announced following the waiving of the Rules of the Board outlined in proposed Floor Resolution No. 3, proposed Floor Resolution No. 4 entitled "*Amending Resolution No. 14 of 2024, Appointing Members of Board of Directors of Warren-Hamilton Counties Action Committee for Economic Opportunity, Inc., to Update Appointments*", which was introduced by Chairman Geraghty, was considered to be on the floor and would now be referred to as proposed Resolution No. 78.

Discussion and public comment on proposed resolutions was called for:

Supervisor Turner advised she would be recusing herself from the vote on proposed 52, *Amending*

Resolution No. 573 of 2023, Which Authorized Agreements with Certain Applicants for the Disbursement of 2024 Occupancy Tax Revenues, to Authorize Agreements and Funding to Silver Bay YMCA; Improv Records, Inc; Adirondack Festivals, LLC; Lake George Winter Carnival, Inc.; Lower Adirondack Regional Arts Council (LARAC); Albany Rods & Kustoms, Inc.; Glens Falls Collaborative and the City of Glens Falls; Glens Falls Collaborative and the City of Glens Falls; Town of Horicon; and Lake Luzerne Regional Chamber of Commerce. Mrs. Allen announced proposed Resolution No. 52 would now be a roll call vote.

Motion was made by Supervisor Wild, seconded by Supervisor Merlino and carried by a unanimous vote of those present (*Supervisors Dickinson, Magowan and Runyon absent*), to amend proposed Resolution No. 57, *Amending Table of Organization and Warren County Salary and Compensation Plan for 2024 to Create/Delete Positions Within the Office for the Aging; Adjust a Salary Within the Department of Social Services; Create/Delete Positions Within the Planning & Community Development Department; Create/Delete Positions Within the Tourism Department; Adjust Salaries Within the Office of Emergency Services; and Create a Position Within the Treasurer's Office*, to remove the creation of the Payroll Technician - Temp for the Treasurer's Office, as the Treasurer had advised this was no longer needed.

Motion was made by Supervisor Conover, seconded by Supervisor Wild and carried by a unanimous vote of those present (*Supervisors Dickinson, Magowan and Runyon absent*), to amend proposed Resolution No. 50, *Authorizing Settlement and Payment to Joan Waters and Water's Edge Marina, Inc. for Property Acquisition and Just Compensation and Authorizing the Chair of the Board to Sign Required Document*, to increase the amount of the settlement agreement from \$100,00 to \$150,000.

Supervisor Thomas requested a roll call vote on proposed Resolution No. 48, *Amending Agreement with Tenex Software Solutions to Purchase Ninety (90) Tenex Electronic Poll Book Computers Including Hardware, Software, Licensing, Registration, Management and Onsite Training, to Increase the Not to Exceed Amount.*

Voting on resolutions occurred. Resolution Nos. 28-78 were approved as presented, with the exception of proposed Resolution No. 53 which was withdrawn, as well as Resolution Nos. 50 and 57 which were amended from the floor. Supervisor Turner exited the meeting during the roll call vote on proposed Resolution No. 52, *Amending Resolution No. 573 of 2023, Which Authorized Agreements with Certain Applicants for the Disbursement of 2024 Occupancy Tax Revenues, to Authorize Agreements and Funding to Silver Bay YMCA; Improv Records, Inc; Adirondack Festivals, LLC; Lake George Winter Carnival, Inc.; Lower Adirondack Regional Arts Council (LARAC); Albany Rods & Kustoms, Inc.; Glens Falls Collaborative and the City of Glens Falls; Glens Falls Collaborative and the City of Glens Falls; Town of*

Horicon; and Lake Luzerne Regional Chamber of Commerce, at 11:09 a.m. and reentered the meeting at 11:10 a.m. Also during the roll call voting, Chairman Geraghty requested that the roll call votes for proposed Resolution Nos. 69-71 be combined into one roll call and no one objected.

Chairman Geraghty offered privilege of the floor:

Supervisor Strainer thanked Sheriff LaFarr and the Warren County Correctional Facility staff for the tour of the facility which he was thoroughly impressed with. He also encouraged the Board members to support the Adirondack United Varsity Girls Hockey team, who would be playing in the State Tournament in Utica, New York this weekend.

Supervisor Wild spoke regarding the Warren County Economic Development Corporation and their efforts and initiatives.

Supervisor Bruno encouraged all Board members to attend the Crime Victims' Ceremony which he believed was a worthwhile event.

Larry Elmen, *County Attorney*, voiced his appreciation for Supervisor Turner for following the proper protocol for recusing herself from a particular resolution that was being addressed during the meeting.

Mr. Hajos advised he would be meeting with Senator Stec and Assemblyman Simpson on Tuesday February 20th at 1:00 p.m. at the DPW location on Warren Street in the Town of Queensbury to discuss advocacy efforts on behalf of the County to be allocated additional CHIPS (*Consolidated Local Street and Highway Improvement Program*) funding and he encouraged the Town Supervisors to implore with their Highway Superintendents to attend the meeting to advocate on behalf of their towns.

John Taflan, *County Administrator*, stated he would be advocating for the County Attorney's Office to State funding to support their increased caseload as a result of the Raise the Age Legislation.

Supervisor Driscoll spoke regarding the Annual Adirondack Thunder Law Enforcement Appreciation Night which would be held on March 9th at 7:00 p.m. at the Cool Insuring Arena and he encouraged all to attend.

Supervisor Wild questioned whether a resolution was required to send a letter to the County's State Representatives requesting funding on behalf of the County Attorney's Office with regard to their

increasing caseload as a result of the Raise the Age Legislation and Chairman Geraghty replied in the negative, indicating he would ensure a letter was drafted and distributed accordingly.

Supervisor Bean informed next Thursday at the Tannery Pond Center in the Town of Johnsbury they would be celebrating the 90th anniversary of the Ski Train traveling to the hamlet of North Creek at 7:00 p.m. and he encouraged all to attend.

Chairman Geraghty thanked the Board members for their support of the appointments of the members of the Warren County Board of Ethics, all of whom he believed were well qualified to carry out the tasks required of them. He then spoke regarding the NYSAC (*New York State Association of Counties*) Legislative Conference from February 26 - 28, 2024 in Albany, New York and he suggested all wishing to attend notify the Clerk of the Board.

There being no further business to come before the Board of Supervisors, on motion made by Supervisor Bruno and seconded by Supervisor Strainer, Chairman Geraghty adjourned the Board Meeting at 11:25 a.m.