

Warren County Board of Supervisors

BOARD MEETING
FRIDAY, MARCH 15, 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>
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UTTPycttu2M>

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 10:02 a.m.

Mr. Kevin B. Geraghty presiding.

Salute to the flag was led by Supervisor Gilligan.

Roll called, the following members present:

Supervisors Conover, Maday, Diamond, Gilligan, Turner, Bruno, Driscoll, Patchett, Bean, Geraci, Merlino, Strough, Wild, Magowan, Strainer, Etu, Thomas and Geraghty-18; Absent - 2 Supervisors Dickinson and Runyon.

Motion was made by Supervisor Bruno, seconded by Supervisor Thomas and carried by a majority vote of those present (*Supervisors Dickinson and Runyon absent*), with Supervisor Magowan abstaining, to approve the minutes of the February 16, 2024 Board Meeting, subject to correction by the Clerk of the Board.

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

Mike Parwana, *Town of Queensbury Resident*, first spoke regarding a measure that would be included on the ballot in November for the New York State Constitution to begin recognizing the equality of all people among the governed which he encouraged the Board to adopt a resolution in support of. He also advised of his concerns with opening the monthly Board Meetings with the Pledge of Allegiance, and more specifically with the final phrase "with liberty and justice for all", as this was contradicted by the emergency order that remained in place regarding migrants in Warren County, and he urged the Board to allow the emergency order to expire.

Report by the Committee Chairs (including the Chairman of the Board's Report) 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:

Reports from:

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

Reports from:

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1. County Auditor - February 2024 Real Property Tax Corrections.

Letters/emails from:

1. FitzGerald, Morris, Baker Firth - First Amendment to PILOT Agreement with Native Development Associates, LLC

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

Resolution Nos. 79-107 and Floor Resolution Nos. 1-4 were distributed to the Board and posted to the Warren County website on Monday March 11th, along with five Proclamations, which met the deadline specified in the Rules of the Board. The five Proclamations were:

- Proclamation No. 8 - Developmental Disabilities Awareness Month
- Proclamation No. 9 - Women's History Month
- Proclamation No. 10 - Autism Awareness Month
- Proclamation No. 11 - Brain Injury Awareness Month
- Proclamation No. 12 - Child Abuse Prevention Month

Amanda Allen, *Clerk of the Board*, indicated motions were needed to bring the floor resolutions to the floor.

Motion was made by Supervisor Merlino, seconded by Supervisor Driscoll and carried by a unanimous vote of those present (*Supervisors Dickinson 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 Authorizing Renewal of Agreement with Glens Falls Hospital for Autopsy Services and Authorizing the Chairman of the Board to Sign a Letter of Agreement with Glens Falls Hospital for Same*", to the floor. Mrs. Allen announced proposed Floor Resolution No. 1 would now be referred to as proposed Resolution No. 108.

Motion was made by Supervisor Geraci, seconded by Supervisor Bruno and carried by a unanimous vote of those present (*Supervisors Dickinson and Runyon absent*), to bring proposed Floor Resolution No. 2 entitled "*Authorizing Renewal of Agreement with Glens Falls Hospital for Autopsy Services and Authorizing the Chairman of the Board to Sign a Letter of Agreement with Glens Falls Hospital for Same*", to the floor. Mrs. Allen announced proposed Floor Resolution No. 2 would now be referred to as proposed Resolution No. 109.

Motion was made by Supervisor Thomas, seconded by Supervisor Gilligan and carried by a unanimous vote of those present (*Supervisors Dickinson 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 Altering the Standing Rules of the Board of Supervisors, as Adopted by Resolution No. 1 of 2024, to Alter the Date of the May 2024 Board Meeting*", to the floor. Mrs. Allen announced proposed Floor Resolution No. 3 would now be referred to as proposed Resolution No. 110.

Motion was made by Supervisor Thomas, seconded by Supervisor Bean and carried by a unanimous vote of those present (*Supervisors Dickinson and Runyon absent*), to bring proposed Floor Resolution No. 4 entitled "*Altering the Standing Rules of the Board of Supervisors, as Adopted by Resolution No. 1 of 2024, to Alter the Date of the May 2024 Board Meeting*", to the floor. Mrs. Allen advised proposed Floor Resolution No. 4 would now be referred to as proposed Resolution No. 111.

Discussion and public comment on proposed resolutions was called for:

Supervisor Diamond spoke regarding proposed Resolution No, 95, *Introducing Proposed Local Law*

No. 2 of 2024, Entitled "A Local Law to Consolidate the Department of Human Resources and the Department of Civil Service Administration and its Functions in the County of Warren into a Single Department of Human Resources and Repealing and Replacing Local Law No. 5 of 2015," and Authorizing Public Hearing Thereon, apprising while he would be supportive of the Public Hearing he would like to be provided with a new job description, the estimated cost savings to the County as a result of the consolidation of these positions, the resume of the potential employee outlining their qualifications which should include knowledge of civil service and a summary of how the salary was established for the position. A brief discussion ensued.

Supervisor Maday advised he would be recusing himself from voting on proposed Resolution Nos. 91, *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 Lake George Steamboat Company; Northeastern District Barbershop Harmony Society; Genzhomes, Inc. D/B/A Alpha Win; Americade, Inc.; Vermontfare, Inc. D/B/A Craftproducers; Warrensburg Chamber of Commerce; and Zonta Club of Glens Falls, New York, Inc.,* and 105, *Authorizing the Appropriation of Funds from the Occupancy Tax Reserve to the Tourism Budget; and Amending 2024 Warren County Budget.*

Chairman Geraghty inquired whether anyone objected to combining the roll call vote on proposed Resolutions Nos. 91 and 105 and no one responded in opposition.

Voting on resolutions occurred. Resolution Nos. 79-111 were approved as presented. During the roll call votes Supervisors Magowan recused himself from voting on proposed Resolution Nos. 91 and 105; Supervisors Maday and Magowan exited the meeting at 10:38 a.m. and re-entered following the vote on proposed Resolution Nos. 91 and 105 at 10:40 p.m.

Chairman Geraghty offered privilege of the floor:

Supervisor Conover suggested the Board consider reallocating any remaining ARPA (*American Rescue Plan Act*) funding to the County's solid waste and recycling initiatives which all County residents would benefit from.

Supervisor Strainer recognized the following local school district sports teams and athletes for their achievements: Adirondack United Varsity Girls Hockey team; Queensbury Spartans Boys Hockey Team; Tanner Fearman, *Queensbury Spartans Boys Hockey Team and New York State Division II Hockey Player of the Year*; Tiffany Persutti, *Queensbury Spartan Bowling Team and competitor at New York State Bowling Championship representing Section II*; Ben Jenkin, *Queensbury Spartan Boys Nordic Team and New York State Public High School Athletic Association Boys 7.5 kilometer Nordic Race champion*; Ben Jenkin, Alden Guay and Patrick Cirillo, *Queensbury Spartan Boys Nordic Team and New York State Public High School Athletic Association Boys 3x2.5 kilometer Nordic classic relay*; Hudson Montgomery, *Queensbury Spartan Alpine Ski Team and Queensbury Spartan Boys Nordic Team and New York State Public High School Athletic Association Boys alpine giant and combined slalom champion*; Piper Dock, *Glens Falls Black Bears Alpine Team and New York State Public High School Athletic Association girls slalom champion*; and Alton Bromley, *Queensbury Elementary School Student and New York State Wrestling Association Champion.*

Supervisor Strough voiced his pleasure with the Adirondack Regional Chamber of Commerce for awarding Robert Nemer with the J. Walter Juckett Community Service Award, as he believed this was well deserved.

Supervisor Driscoll recognized the Glens Falls Black Bears Boys Basketball Team for winning this morning's Class A Sectional Playoff game and advancing to the Class A State Championship game

tomorrow at 5:15 p.m. at the Cool Insuring Arena, as well as the North Warren Cougars who would be playing for the Class D sectional game tomorrow at 9:00 a.m. at the Cool Insuring Arena.

John Taflan, *County Administrator*, apprised there would be a celebration following the Meetings of the Personnel, Administration & Higher Education and Finance & Budget Committees to recognize Patricia Nenner, *Personnel Officer*, who would be retiring on April 19th and he encouraged all to attend.

Chairman Geraghty announced there would be a celebration this afternoon in the Human Services Building for Sue Tucker, *Office Specialist, Planning & Community Development*, whose last day was today.

Supervisor Etu advised the project advisory group working on the County's Comprehensive Plan would be meeting on March 25th at the Warrensburg Fire House at 3:30 p.m., adding the public was welcome to attend.

Supervisor Patchett queried whether any of the other Town Supervisors had been approached by National Grid regarding a battery back up system, as they had contacted the Town of Hague regarding one following the recent power outage which significantly impacted the Town and Mr. Taflan replied National Grid had notified him the Town of Hague was on a single ended power line with no redundancy. He stated National Grid had planned on installing a battery back up system that would only operate if the power failed; however, he was unsure of the status and would follow up with them and update the Board on his findings.

In regard to the comments made by Supervisor Conover pertaining to any remaining ARPA funding, Supervisor Merlino apprised he concurred with Supervisor Conover, but also believed the funding should be divided up amongst the smaller towns to assist them.

Supervisor Geraghty stated this would be the last year the New York State Public High School Athletic Association Boys Basketball Tournament would be held in this region; however, he advised, their next bid to bring the tournament back to the region in four years would be more aggressive. He also encouraged any Town Supervisors seeking letters of support for their local communities to notify the County, noting one had just been done for the City of Glens Falls.

There being no further business to come before the Board of Supervisors, on motion made by Supervisor Geraci and seconded by Supervisor Strainer, Chairman Geraghty adjourned the Board Meeting at 10:55 a.m.