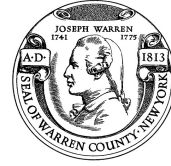


# Warren County Board of Supervisors

BOARD MEETING  
FRIDAY JUNE 21, 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=0OxzKyw2M2U>

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 Driscoll.

Roll called, the following members present:

Supervisors Conover, Maday, Diamond, Gilligan, Turner, Bruno, Driscoll, Patchett, Bean, Geraci, Crocitto, Merlino, Strough, Wild, Magowan, Strainer, Thomas, Runyon and Geraghty; Absent - 1 Supervisor Etu

Motion was made by Supervisor Driscoll, seconded by Supervisor Geraci and carried by a unanimous vote of those present (*Supervisor Etu absent*), to approve the minutes of the June 14, 2024 Board Meeting and June 10, 2024 Board Workshop Meeting, subject to correction by the Clerk of the Board.

Proceeding with the Agenda review, Chairman Geraghty extended privilege of the floor to Dan Durkee, *Public Health Program Administrator & Emergency Preparedness Coordinator*, for the presentation of certificates to the winners of the 2024 Tar Wars Tobacco Free Education Program and Poster Contest for students in grades 4 and 5 of the participating schools in Warren County. Mr. Durkee made a Powerpoint presentation which displayed the winning posters and outlined the program objectives; *a copy of the Powerpoint presentation is on file with the items distributed at the Board Meeting*. Chairman Geraghty presented the winner's with a certificate commending their efforts, following which a round of applause was given.

Presentation of the Certificate of Excellence was made to the 2024 SUNY Adirondack Graduate Ms. Stephanie Brown.

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

David LaPell, *Warren County Resident*, spoke regarding Elderwood at North Creek Nursing Home, encouraging the Board to adopt a resolution supporting their efforts to secure funding from New York State to allow the facility to remain open.

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 by Robert Terwilliger, *First Assistant County Attorney*.

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

**Reports from:**

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

**Letters/emails from:**

1. FitzGerald Morris Baker Firth - Notice of Public Hearing for the SpringCity Development Group 36 Elm Street, 41 South Street and 45 South Street Project.
2. FitzGerald Morris Baker Firth - Notice of Public Hearing for the 326 Sherman Avenue Associates Afrim's Adirondack Dome Project.
3. Washington County BOS - Resolution No. 161 of 2024, *"To Appoint Member 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. 184-215 and Floor Resolution Nos. 1-4 were distributed to the Board and posted to the Warren County website on Tuesday June 11, 2024, along with four Proclamations which were posted on Tuesday June 18, 2024, which met the deadline specified in the Rules of the Board. The four Proclamations were:

Proclamation No. 22 - Alzheimer's Awareness Month

Proclamation No. 23 - PTSD Awareness Month

Proclamation No. 24 - Elder Abuse Awareness Month

Proclamation No. 25 - Warren County Board of Supervisors SUNY Adirondack Certificate of Excellence Award

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

Motion was made by Supervisor Bean, seconded by Supervisor Runyon and carried by a unanimous vote of those present (*Supervisors Etu 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 a One-Time Payment to Jokamsco Group LTD/Hudson River Grinding Company for Blade Sharpening Services Provided to the Print Shop"*, to the floor. Mrs. Allen announced proposed Floor Resolution No. 1 would now be referred to as proposed Resolution No. 216.

Motion was made by Supervisor Merlino, seconded by Supervisor Turner and carried by a unanimous vote of those present (*Supervisor Etu absent*), to bring proposed Floor Resolution No. 2 entitled *"Authorizing a One-Time Payment to Jokamsco Group LTD/Hudson River Grinding Company for Blade Sharpening Services Provided to the Print Shop"*, to the floor. Mrs. Allen stated proposed Floor Resolution No. 2 would now be referred to as proposed Resolution No. 217.

Motion was made by Supervisor Runyon, seconded by Supervisor Bruno and carried by a unanimous vote of those present (*Supervisor Etu 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. 595 of 2023; Approving Standard Work Day and Time Reporting Resolution for All Elected and Appointed Officials for Retirement Purposes"*, to the floor. Mrs. Allen apprised proposed Floor Resolution No. 3 would now be referred to as proposed Resolution No. 218.

Motion was made by Supervisor Geraci, seconded by Supervisor Runyon and carried by a unanimous vote of those present (*Supervisor Etu absent*), to bring proposed Floor Resolution No. 4 entitled

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“Amending Resolution No. 595 of 2023; Approving Standard Work Day and Time Reporting Resolution for All Elected and Appointed Officials for Retirement Purposes”, to the floor. Mrs. Allen indicated proposed Floor Resolution No. 4 would now be referred to as proposed Resolution No. 219.

Discussion and public comment on proposed resolutions was called for:

Supervisor Wild apprised while he was supportive of proposed Resolution No. 194, *Authorizing the Chair of the Warren County Board of Supervisors to Confirm the Action Taken by the Warren and Washington Counties Industrial Development Agency (WWIDA) Resolution No. 07-24 to Provide Financial Assistance to 326 Sherman Avenue Assoc., LLC for the Purchase and Further Development of the Afrim’s Adirondack Dome Project in Queensbury, New York*, he felt it was necessary to note his concern with the funding provided to the prior owner who sold the facility; and Supervisor Magowan countered, pointing out how imperative the funding was for the facility.

Supervisor Magowan spoke regarding his concerns with the changes outlined for the Human Resources Department in proposed Resolution No. 201, *Amending Table of Organization and Warren County Salary and Compensation Plan for 2024 to Increase/Decrease Salaries Within the Human Resources Department; to Delete Positions Within the Human Resources Department; to Create/Delete Position Within the Planning & Community Development Department; and Create a Position Within the County Clerk Department*, and more specifically the increase in the cost due to the salary increases.

In response to Supervisor Magowan’s concerns, John Taflan, *County Administrator*, noted the proposed salary changes for the positions within the Human Resources Department would result in a decrease in the departmental budget.

Mrs. Allen apprised Rob York, *Director, Office of Community Services*, was requesting proposed Resolution No. 195, *Resolution Calling for the SFY 2024-25 Enacted Budget to Include Reforms for Determining the Capacity of a Defendant to Stand Trial*, be withdrawn and sent back to Committee to address concerns he had with some of the language included within the proposed Resolution.

Supervisor Wild requested a roll call vote on proposed Resolution No. 198, *Approving the 2024 Occupancy Tax Spending Plan for Municipalities and Authorizing Agreements for Tourism Promotion and Tourist and Convention Development Services*, due to his concerns regarding the additional occupancy tax funding being provided to certain municipalities within Warren County.

Motion was made by Supervisor Runyon, seconded by Supervisor Strainer and carried by a unanimous vote of those present (*Supervisor Etu absent*) to withdraw proposed Resolution No. 195, *Resolution Calling for the SFY 2024-25 Enacted Budget to Include Reforms for Determining the Capacity of a Defendant to Stand Trial*, and send it back to Committee for further discussion.

A lengthy discussion ensued regarding proposed Resolution No. 198, *Approving the 2024 Occupancy Tax Spending Plan for Municipalities and Authorizing Agreements for Tourism Promotion and Tourist and Convention Development Services*, during which several Supervisors voiced their support of the additional funding being provided to certain municipalities located within Warren County.

Supervisor Strainer exited the meeting at 11:22 a.m. and re-entered at 11:23 a.m. during the roll call votes.

Voting on resolutions occurred. Resolution Nos. 185-219 were approved as presented, with the exception of proposed Resolution No. 195, which was withdrawn.

Chairman Geraghty offered privilege of the floor.

Mr. Lapell spoke regarding his disappointment that the County did not move forward with the proposed "Joseph Warren Museum" which he believed was a missed opportunity.

Supervisor Strough thanked Mr. LaPell for his comments regarding the "Joseph Warren Museum" which he was hoping would be brought back and moved forward in the future.

Announcements were called for:

Supervisor Strainer spoke regarding a celebration of life being held for William Kenny, *former 5<sup>th</sup> Ward Supervisor for the City of Glens Falls*, at Crandall Park on June 29<sup>th</sup> and he encouraged all to attend. He recognized both the girls and boys Lacrosse teams from Queensbury High School for making it to the Foothills and State Sectional finals. Supervisor Strainer then mentioned the Queensbury High School seniors who donated their time to assist on different community projects that assisted various organizations. He concluded by recognizing the Adirondack Thunder players and staff, as well as the staff of the Cool Insuring Arena for all of their efforts; and the members of the Adirondack Civic Center Coalition for making the Civic Center a success again.

Supervisor Bruno voiced his concerns regarding the whereabouts of the \$100 million in Federal funding provided to the State's for broadband improvements, noting there were still areas within the County that were underserved.

Supervisor Driscoll also spoke regarding the celebration of life being held for Mr. Kenny, noting some of Mr. Kenny's accomplishments while he was a member of the Board.

Supervisor Merlino questioned whether the Board would be adopting a resolution in support of the Elderwood at North Creek Nursing Home and Chairman Geraghty replied the matter was referred to and would be discussed at the Legislative, Rules & Governmental Operations Committee meeting.

Supervisor Thomas echoed the comments made by Mr. LaPell regarding the missed opportunity relating to the "Joseph Warren Museum". He also advised he was fully supportive of adopting a resolution in support of the Elderwood at North Creek Nursing Home.

Supervisor Patchett apprised the Hague Town Board had recently adopted a Local Law regarding short-term rentals in the Town of Hague which he hoped would discourage local investors from purchasing properties within their community for the sole purpose of financial gain rather than contributing to the community.

Supervisor Geraci questioned whether the offer from the Town of Lake George still stood to use the old courthouse in town to house the Joseph Warren memorabilia to save the County money and Supervisor Crocitto replied affirmatively. He then spoke regarding the lack of broadband coverage in certain areas within the County which he believed was unacceptable.

Chairman Geraghty apprised it was necessary to press the Economic Development Corporation of Warren County to work with the individuals identified in each community who did not have access to broadband to get them service.

There being no further business to come before the Board of Supervisors, on motion made by Supervisor Strainer and seconded by Supervisor Strough, Chairman Geraghty adjourned the Board Meeting at 11:47 a.m.