

WARREN COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

COMMITTEE: FINANCE & BUDGET

DATE: OCTOBER 30, 2025

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:	Others Present:
SUPERVISORS THOMAS	John Taflan, County Administrator
STROUGH	Christine Norton, County Treasurer
MADAY	Kevin B. Geraghty, Chairman of the Board
DRISCOLL	Larry Elmen, County Attorney
CROCITTO	Amanda Allen, Clerk of the Board
MERLINO	Supervisor Patchett
	Tammie DeLorenzo, Assistant to the County Administrator
COMMITTEE MEMBER ABSENT:	Kevin Hajos, Superintendent of Public Works
SUPERVISOR GERACI	Sarah McLenithan, Deputy Clerk of the Board

Please note, the following contains a summarization of the October 30, 2025 meeting of the Finance & Budget Committee; the meeting in its entirety can be viewed using the following links:

Warren County website - <https://warrencountyny.gov/mma>

Warren County's YouTube Channel - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vRGePPjTxhg>

Mr. Thomas called the meeting of the Finance & Budget Committee to order at 12:04 p.m.

A motion was made by Mr. Crocitto, seconded by Mr. Strough and carried by a unanimous vote of those present (*Mr. Geraci absent*) to approve the minutes of the previous Committee meeting, subject to correction by the Clerk of the Board.

Privilege of the floor was offered for public comment, but there was no one wishing to speak.

The agenda review commenced, as follows:

- 1) Request for transfers of funds as attached for Committee approval.

Motion was made by Mr. Strough, seconded by Mr. Maday and carried by a unanimous vote of those present (*Mr. Geraci absent*) to approve the request as presented and the necessary resolution was authorized for the November 21st Board Meeting.

- 2) Requests/Items to be discussed by the County Administrator:
 - A) Journal Report of transfers approved by the County Administrator staff for September 2025; provided for informational purposes.
 - B) Request to amend the current contract with National Business Equipment to add a device for the Workforce Development office.

Motion was made by Mr. Merlino, seconded by Mr. Driscoll and carried by a unanimous vote of those present (*Mr. Geraci absent*) to approve Item 2B as outlined above and the necessary resolution was authorized for the November 21st Board Meeting.

- C) Request to authorize a new contract with Mediation Matters to provide conflict resolution and group facilitation services for Warren County Departments.

Motion was made by Mr. Driscoll and seconded by Mr. Strough to approve the request as presented; following discussion, Mr. Thomas called the question and the motion was carried by a unanimous vote of those present (*Mr. Geraci absent*) to

approve Item 2C as outlined above and the necessary resolution was authorized for the November 21st Board Meeting.

- 3) Referral from the County Facilities Committee regarding a request for transfer of funds in the amount of \$35,000 from Budget Code A.1990 489, *Contingent Account, Other Payments/Contributions*, to Budget Code A.1624 415, *Health and Human Services Building - Elec*, to cover the cost of unanticipated utility rate increases.

Motion was made by Mr. Merlino, seconded by Mr. Maday and carried by a unanimous vote of those present (*Mr. Geraci absent*) to approve Item 3 as outlined above and the necessary resolution was authorized for the November 21st Board Meeting.

- 4) Referral from the Criminal Justice, Public Safety & Emergency Services Committee pertaining to a request to amend the County Budget in the amount of \$3,560 to reflect receipt of NYS Office of Indigent Legal Services Distribution #14 grant funding to cover hospitalization and dental insurance fringe benefits for the remainder of 2025.

Motion was made by Mr. Strough, seconded by Mr. Crocitto and carried by a unanimous vote of those present (*Mr. Geraci absent*) to approve Item 4 as outlined above and the necessary resolution was authorized for the November 21st Board Meeting.

- 5) Referrals from the Economic Growth & Development Committee:
 - A) Request to establish Capital Project No. H449, *LCBP Septic Replacement*, in the amount of \$111,000.
 - B) Request to establish Capital Project No. H450, *Freight House Restoration*, in the amount of \$308,441.
 - C) Request to appropriate \$77,111 from Budget Code A.899.00, *Reserve, County Railroad Repairs*, to Budget code A.9950 910, *Transfers-Capital Projects, Interfund Transfers*, to cover the local share cost associated with establishing Capital Project No. H450, *Freight House Restoration*.

Motion was made by Mr. Strough, seconded by Mr. Merlino and carried by a unanimous vote of those present (*Mr. Geraci absent*) to approve Items 5A-C as outlined above and the necessary resolutions were authorized for the November 21st Board Meeting.

- D) Request to amend the 2025 Warren County Budget in the amount of \$620,154.30 to reflect receipt of federal WIOA (*Workforce Innovation & Opportunity Act*) funding for the program year 2025 (July 1, 2025 - June 30, 2026).

Motion was made by Mr. Merlino and seconded by Mr. Maday to approve the request as presented; following discussion, Mr. Thomas called the question and the motion was carried by a unanimous vote of those present (*Mr. Geraci absent*) to approve Item 5D as outlined above and the necessary resolution was authorized for the November 21st Board Meeting.

- 6) Referral from the Human Services Committee concerning a request amend the 2025 Warren County Budget in the amount of \$135,378 to reflect receipt of grant funding from NYSODTA to cover the cost of the contract with The Open Door Mission from October 1, 2025 through the remainder of the year.

Motion was made by Mr. Merlino, seconded by Mr. Maday and carried by a unanimous vote of those present (*Mr. Geraci absent*) to approve Item 6 as outlined above and the necessary resolution was authorized for the November 21st Board Meeting.

- 7) Referral from the Park Operations & Management Committee involving a request to appropriate \$2,732.29 from Budget Code A.691.07, *Deferred Revenue - Gaslight Village Parking Fees*, to Budget Code A.1625 413, *Charles R. Wood Park, Repair and Maint-Bldg/Property*, and to authorize reimbursement in the same amount to the Village of Lake

George for Charles R. Wood Park attendants for August 2025.

Motion was made by Mr. Merlino, seconded by Mr. Crocitto and carried by a unanimous vote of those present (*Mr. Geraci absent*) to approve Item 7 as outlined above and the necessary resolution was authorized for the November 21st Board Meeting.

8) Referrals from the Public Works Committee:

- A) Request to decrease Capital Project No. H390, *County Bridge & Culvert Projects*, in the amount of \$7,000.
- B) Request to amend the 2025 Warren County Budget in the amount of \$7,000 to increase Budget Code D.9950 910, *Transfers - Capital Projects*, in accordance with transfer of surplus local match funds from Capital Project No. H390, *County Bridge & Culvert Projects*.
- C) Request to amend Capital Project No. H409, *Warren County Culvert Assessments and Asset Management Plan*, to decrease in-kind services by \$7,000 and increase Budget Code D.9950.910, *Transfers-Capital Projects*, by same to fund the local grant match.

Motion was made by Mr. Strough, seconded by Mr. Merlino and carried by a unanimous vote of those present (*Mr. Geraci absent*) to approve Items 8A-C as outlined above and the necessary resolutions were authorized for the November 21st Board Meeting.

9) Requests/Items to be Discussed by the County Treasurer:

- A) September Budget Variance Analysis. Christine Norton, *County Treasurer*, provided a brief summary of the September Budget Variance Analysis with the Committee members.
- B) Request for transfer of funds in the amount of \$8,000 from Budget Code A.1325 110, *Salaries, Regular*, to Budget Code 1325 130, *Salaries, Part-Time*, to cover the shortfall as a result of the Deputy County Treasurer's per diem schedule in June approved by Resolution No. 158 of 2025.

Motion was made by Mr. Merlino, seconded by Mr. Maday and carried by a unanimous vote of those present (*Mr. Geraci absent*) to approve Item 9B as outlined above and the necessary resolution was authorized for the November 21st Board Meeting.

10) Finance Committee action is required on the following Personnel Agenda items, *contingent upon approval by the Personnel, Administration & Higher Education Committee - 3B, 4, 5, 6 and 8D.*

PERSONNEL AGENDA ITEMS 3B, 4, 5, 6 and 8D:

3) Request/Item to be Discussed by the Director of Information Technology (*Mike Colvin Director*):

- B) Request to appropriate \$20,000 from Budget Code A.895.00, *Computer Reserve Fund*, to the Sheriff's Budget to purchase computers and related equipment and software.

Motion was made by Mr. Strough, seconded by Mr. Maday and carried by a unanimous vote of those present (*Mr. Geraci absent*) to approve Personnel, Administration & Higher Education Agenda Item 3B as outlined above and the necessary resolution was authorized for the November 21st Board Meeting.

4) Request/Item to be Discussed by the Clerk of the Board (*Amanda Allen, Clerk of the Board*):

Request for a transfer of funds in the amount of \$50,000 from Budget Code A.1990 469, *Contingent Account, Other Payments/Contributions*, to Budget Code A.1185 435, *Medical Examiners & Coroners, Medical Fees*, to cover the cost of autopsies for the remainder of the year.

Motion was made by Mr. Maday, seconded by Mr. Merlino and carried by a unanimous vote of those present (*Mr. Geraci*

absent) to approve Personnel, Administration & Higher Education Agenda Item 4 as outlined above and the necessary resolution was authorized for the November 21st Board Meeting.

5) Referral from the Criminal Justice, Public Safety & Emergency Services Committee (Chaired by Supervisor Geraci):
Probation (Bob Iusi, Director) -

Request to amend the Table of Organization and Salary Schedule to create the new position of Probation Officer Trainee #4, Grade 16, Base Annual Salary \$52,270, and unfund but retain the position of Probation Officer #14, effective November 24, 2025.

Motion was made by Mr. Maday, seconded by Mr. Driscoll and carried by a unanimous vote of those present (*Mr. Geraci absent*) to approve Personnel, Administration & Higher Education Agenda Item 5 as outlined above.

6) Referral from the Legislative, Rules & Governmental Operations Committee (Chaired by Supervisor Strough):
County Clerk (Carrie Black, County Clerk) -

Request to amend the Table of Organization and Salary Schedule to fund the position of Legal Recording Clerk, Grade 7, Base Annual Salary \$45,751 and unfund but retain the position of Principal Legal Recording Clerk, Grade 15, Base Annual Salary \$67,589, effective November 24, 2025.

Motion was made by Mr. Maday, seconded by Mr. Strough and carried by a unanimous vote of those present (*Mr. Geraci absent*) to approve Personnel, Administration & Higher Education Agenda Item 6 as outlined above.

8) Request/Item to be Discussed by the County Attorney (Larry Elmen, County Attorney):

D) Request for appropriation of funds in the amount of \$250,000 to cover the final payment in the structured settlement in the matter of John David Smith v. Warren County, et al. to Budget Code A.6010 419, *Social Services, Settlements*, and to determine a source of funding for same.

It was noted the source of funding would be Budget Code A.918.00, *Assigned, Assigned Sexual Abuse Lawsuits*. The County Attorney apprised this Budget Code had been established to cover the cost of future sexual abuse claims; however he noted, funding from the Budget Code had been appropriated to pay past claims resulting in the balance decreasing from \$950,000 to about \$450,000.

Motion was made by Mr. Merlino and seconded by Mr. Maday to approve the request; following discussion, Mr. Wild called the question and the motion was carried by a unanimous vote of those present (*Mr. Geraci absent*) to approve Personnel, Administration & Higher Education Agenda Item 8 as outlined above and the necessary resolution was authorized for the November 21st Board Meeting.

It was noted the balance of Budget Code A.918.00, *Assigned, Assigned Sexual Abuse Lawsuits*, following payment of the above referenced claim would be \$150,000.

Privilege of the floor was offered for public comment:

Mr. Driscoll thanked County employees for providing updates regarding the Federal Government being shutdown and the impact on programs such as SNAP (*Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program*), HEAP (*Home Energy Assistance Program*) and other federally funded programs.

John Taflan, *County Administrator*, apprised the Governor of New York had committed a total of \$95 million in emergency State funding to support food assistance programs amidst the ongoing Federal Government shutdown. He stated there were about 6,700 Warren County residents, or 4,000 households, who received SNAP benefits each month,

a quarter of which were ages eighteen and below and another quarter were seniors. He indicated it would cost New York State \$650 million to fund the SNAP program, adding no State in the Country could afford to solely fund the program. He stated the New York State Office of Temporary and Disability Assistance had notified the County they could expand upon the Meals on Wheels Program to provide home delivered meals through that program and food banks were requesting local companies to sponsor them, as well as having one sponsored by the County. He concluded by noting it did not appear the shutdown would be resolved by the end of November, adding the HEAP program would also have no funding to provide to those in need of assistance.

Mr. Thomas announced he had submitted his recommendations for the 2026 County Budget to the Clerk of the Board, apprising the property tax rate would be increased by about \$.03 per \$1,000 of assessed value on homes. He stated he would provide additional information next Friday at the Special Board Meeting.

There being no further business to come before the Finance & Budget Committee, on motion made by Mr. Strough and seconded by Mr. Merlino, Mr. Thomas declared the meeting adjourned at 12:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Sarah McLenithan, Deputy Clerk of the Board