

WARREN COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

COMMITTEE: OCCUPANCY TAX COORDINATION

DATE: JULY 21, 2025

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:

SUPERVISORS: CROCITTO
RUNYON
PATCHETT
ETU
THOMAS
MERLINO

OTHERS PRESENT:

REPRESENTING THE TOURISM DEPARTMENT:
PAUL TACKETT, TOURISM COORDINATOR
JESSICA CARSON, FISCAL COORDINATOR
CHRISTINE NORTON, COUNTY TREASURER
ETHAN GADDY, COUNTY PLANNER
KEVIN B. GERAGHTY, CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD
JOHN TAFLAN, COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR
LARRY ELMEN, COUNTY ATTORNEY
AMANDA ALLEN, CLERK OF THE BOARD
SUPERVISORS BEAN
BRUNO
STRAINER
STROUGH
WILD
TAMMIE DELORENZO, ASSISTANT TO THE COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR
ROBERT FLACKE, FORT WILLIAM HENRY CORPORATION
GINA MINTZER, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, LAKE GEORGE REGIONAL CHAMBER
OF COMMERCE & CVB
LESLIE LOVELACE, LEGISLATIVE OFFICE SPECIALIST

COMMITTEE MEMBER ABSENT:

SUPERVISOR: GILLIGAN

Please note, the following contains a summarization of the July 21, 2025 meeting of the Occupancy Tax Coordination Committee; the meeting in its entirety can be viewed on the Warren County website using the following links:

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

Warren County's YouTube Channel - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bANI7dss5Ek>

Mr. Crocitto called the meeting of the Occupancy Tax Coordination Committee to order at 10:20 a.m.

Motion was made by Ms. Runyon, seconded by Mr. Etu and carried by a unanimous vote of those present (*Ms. Gilligan absent*) to approve the minutes of the previous Committee meeting, subject to correction by the Clerk of the Board.

Copies of the meeting agenda were distributed; a copy of the agenda is on file with the meeting minutes.

Privilege of the floor and public comments were called for, but there was no one wishing to speak.

The Committee commenced with a review of the Discussion Items portion of the agenda, which included the following items:

- a. Treasurer's Report was reviewed by Christine Norton, *County Treasurer*.
- b. Lake George Regional CVB Second Quarterly Report was reviewed by Gina Mintzer, *Executive Director*.
- c. Four major tourism-focused projects that could benefit from collaboration of the Occupancy Tax Committee and Planning Department were reviewed by Ethan Gaddy, *County Planner*.

Privilege of the floor was extended to the following:

Ms. Norton apprised there had been a decrease in Canadian tourism; however, she did not think it was as big of a decrease as everyone thought. She noted another key factor in less Canadian tourism was the exchange rate. She provided additional short-term rental information, as well as an update on the Occupancy Tax law.

Mr. Patchett suggested lowering the occupancy tax distribution from \$8,000,000 to \$6,000,000 and use the funds saved to create a fund for the purpose of providing more water access in Warren County or to increase the sales tax rate to fund land acquisition with water access which was so critical to the County.

John Taflan, *County Administrator*, informed the Warren County Department of Public Works had water access to rivers and smaller lakes in the County.

As there was no further business to come before the Occupancy Tax Coordination Committee, on motion made by Mr. Etu, seconded by Ms. Runyon and carried by a unanimous vote of those present (*Ms. Gilligan absent*), Mr. Crocitto adjourned the meeting at 11:12 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Leslie Lovelace, Legislative Office Specialist