

**WARREN COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**

**COMMITTEE: OCCUPANCY TAX COORDINATION**

**DATE:           OCTOBER 21, 2025**

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**COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:**

SUPERVISORS: CROCITTO  
                  RUNYON  
                  PATCHETT  
                  GILLIGAN  
                  ETU  
                  THOMAS

**COMMITTEE MEMBER ABSENT:**

SUPERVISOR: MERLINO

**OTHERS PRESENT:**

REPRESENTING THE TOURISM DEPARTMENT:  
                  PAUL TACKETT, TOURISM COORDINATOR  
                  JESSICA CARSON, FISCAL COORDINATOR  
CHRISTINE NORTON, COUNTY TREASURER  
KEVIN B. GERAGHTY, CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD  
JOHN TAFLAN, COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR  
LARRY ELMEN, COUNTY ATTORNEY  
AMANDA ALLEN, CLERK OF THE BOARD  
SUPERVISORS STRAINER  
                  STROUGH  
                  TURNER  
                  WILD  
TAMMIE DeLORENZO, ASSISTANT TO THE COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR  
AMY COLLINS, TOURISM AND BUSINESS COORDINATOR, CITY OF GLENS  
                  FALLS  
KRISTOPHER BRUNELLE, GLENS FALLS COLLABORATIVE  
WILLIAM COLLINS, MAYOR, CITY OF GLENS FALLS  
JOSE FILOMENO, CELEBRATION OF THE NATIONS  
RANDY GALUSHA, TOAD HILL MAPLE FARM  
SHANE IRWIN, QUEENSBURY EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES  
JASON MILLER, TOWN OF QUEENSBURY RESIDENT  
GINA MINTZER, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, LAKE GEORGE CHAMBER OF  
                  COMMERCE & CVB  
GEORGE NORMANDIN, NORMANDIN MARKETING  
SASHA PARDY, ADIRONDACK WINE & FOOD FESTIVAL  
TOMMY STRUZZIERE, GENZHOMES DBA ALPHA WIN  
LESLIE LOVELACE, LEGISLATIVE OFFICE SPECIALIST  
\*SEE SIGN IN SHEET FOR ADDITIONAL ATTENDEES

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*Please note, the following contains a summarization of the October 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=mMtkPR91\\_4](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mMtkPR91_4)*

Mr. Crocitto called the meeting of the Occupancy Tax Coordination Committee to order at 10:03 a.m.

Motion was made by Ms. Gilligan, seconded by Ms. Runyon and carried by a unanimous vote of those present (*Mr. Merlino 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 Action Agenda/New Business Items portion of the agenda, which

included the following requests:

- a. To award South Queensbury Volunteer Fire Company an amount not to exceed \$2,300 in occupancy tax funding for reimbursement of costs incurred while providing emergency oversight services at the 2025 Adirondack Balloon Festival.

Motion was made by Mr. Etu, seconded by Ms. Runyon and carried by a unanimous vote of those present (*Mr. Merlino absent*) to approve the request as outlined above and the necessary resolution was authorized for the November 21<sup>st</sup> Board meeting. *A copy of the resolution request form is on file with the minutes.*

- b. To extend and amend the existing contract with Lyme Adirondack Forest Company, LLC to reflect the increase of the not to exceed amount from \$2,704 to \$2,785 annually to provide access through property owned by Lyme Adirondack Forest Company, LLC to Swede Mountain fire tower, for a term commencing November 1, 2025 and terminating October 31, 2026. (*Previous Resolution No. 369 of 2024*)

Motion was made by Ms. Runyon and seconded by Mr. Patchett to approve the request as presented. The County Attorney recommended amending the motion to include added language to allow for automatic annual renewals provided there is no more than a 5% increase in the contract amount. Ms. Runyon and Mr. Patchett amended their motion to include the language provided by the County Attorney.

Mr. Crocitto called the question and the motion, as amended, was carried by a unanimous vote of those present (*Mr. Merlino absent*) to approve the request as outlined above and the necessary resolution was authorized for the November 21<sup>st</sup> Board meeting. *A copy of the resolution request form is on file with the minutes.*

Next, a review of the Discussion Items portion of the agenda proceeded with the following:

- a. Bill Collins, *Mayor, City of Glens Falls*, requested \$76,500 for 2026 Municipal Supplemental funding for Event Growth and distributed a handout entitled “City of Glens Falls - Event Growth Proposed Budget - 2026; a copy is on file with the meeting minutes.
- b. Shane Irwin, *Queensbury Emergency Medical Services*, requested \$3,503.07 for reimbursement for payroll and food expenses incurred as a result of providing services for the Adirondack Balloon Festival event.
- c. John Taflan, *County Administrator*, requested \$1872.50 on behalf of Workforce Development for the end-of-the-year Annual Hospitality Workforce Celebration and Awards.
- d. The following individuals spoke regarding their 2026 Special Events Occupancy Tax Application requests:
  1. Jose Filomena, *Celebration of the Nations*, A Festival of Tribes - a hand out entitled “Celebration of the Nations” was distributed as well as a video presentation entitled the same; copies of both are on file with the minutes.
  2. Tommy Struzzieri, *GenZHomes dba Alpha Win*, Bolton Landing Triathlon.
  3. Kristopher Brunelle, *Glens Falls Collaborative*, The Vietnam Traveling Memorial Wall.
  4. George Normandin, *Normandin Marketing*, Adirondack Alumni Weekend and Music and Arts Festival
  5. Randy Galusha, *Toad Hill Maple Farm*, Thurman Maple Days.
- e. Cash Flow Report was reviewed by Jessica Carson, *Fiscal Coordinator*.
- f. Treasurer’s Report was reviewed by Christine Norton, *County Treasurer*.

Privilege of the floor and public comments were extended to the following:

Sasha Pardy, *Adirondack Wine & Food Festival*, spoke with regard to consideration for her application request for \$50,000. She voiced her concern with the Committee’s strategy to move away from reoccurring events dependency on the occupancy tax funding. Ms. Pardy answered questions posed by Mr. Patchett. She opined the Committee should be considering their return on investment rather than her profit. Mr. Crocitto said although Ms. Pardy had a great event, there were a lot of new events and the amount of the requests was more than the amount of funding available. Ms. Pardy requested the Committee consider inflation which caused the events to cost the event holders more money to hold them.

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 (*Mr. Merlino absent*), Mr. Crocitto adjourned the meeting at 11:22 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Leslie Lovelace, Legislative Office Specialist