

WARREN COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

COMMITTEE: OCCUPANCY TAX COORDINATION

DATE: FEBRUARY 23, 2026

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:

SUPERVISORS: CROCITTO
STROUGH
TURNER
RUNYON
PATCHETT

OTHERS PRESENT:

REPRESENTING THE TOURISM DEPARTMENT:
HEATHER BAGSHAW, DIRECTOR
PAUL TACKETT, TOURISM COORDINATOR
JESSICA CARSON, FISCAL COORDINATOR
JEFF MEAD, GENERAL MANAGER, HARDING MAZZOTTI ARENA
CHRISTINE NORTON, COUNTY TREASURER
KEVIN B. GERAGHTY, CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD
JOHN TAFLAN, COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR
AMANDA ALLEN, CLERK OF THE BOARD
RYAN DICKEY, FIRST ASSISTANT COUNTY ATTORNEY
NATHAN ETU, BUDGET OFFICER
SUPERVISORS DIAMOND
DRISCOLL
STRAINER
AMY COLLINS, TOURISM AND BUSINESS COORDINATOR, CITY OF GLENS FALLS
ED LARKIN, LAKE GEORGE TV
MEGAN SEELEY, ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR, LAKE GEORGE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE & CVB
LINDA CLARK, TOWN OF QUEENSBURY RESIDENT
LESLIE LOVELACE, LEGISLATIVE OFFICE SPECIALIST

COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT:

SUPERVISORS: WILD
BUTLER

Please note, the following contains a summarization of the February 23, 2026 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=0wDZ7LvrM-E>

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

Mr. Crocitto called the meeting of the Occupancy Tax Coordination Committee to order at 10:35 a.m.

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

Privilege of the floor was extended to Christine Norton, *County Treasurer*, who explained her office was still recording occupancy tax until the books close on March 31st and she reviewed the Treasurer's Report.

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 2026 Municipal Supplemental Occupancy Tax Funding in the amount of \$261,600, to fund those in the attached list in the agenda packet.

Motion was made by Ms. Runyon, seconded by Ms. Turner and carried by a unanimous vote of those present (*Messrs.*

Wild and Butler absent) to approve the request as outlined above and the necessary resolution was authorized for the March 20th 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. Jeff Mead, *General Manager, Harding Mazzotti Arena*, spoke with regard to the need for \$200,000 in funding for replacement of an Ice Pro Chiller Plant and Machine Room project.
- b. Tourism Department Overview was reviewed by Heather Bagshaw, *Tourism Director*.
- c. Cash Flow Report was reviewed by Jessica Carson, *Fiscal Coordinator*.
- d. Treasurer's Report was addressed by Christine Norton, *County Treasurer*, during privilege of the floor at the beginning of the meeting.

Privilege of the floor was extended to the following individuals:

Mr. Etu opined due to the reduction of Occupancy Tax award funding last year to reoccurring events in an effort to be more conservative with awards, the pandemic having ended May of 2023, having spoke to hoteliers and tourism experts who were no longer enthusiastic about the Lake George TV program, as well as the funding needs of other projects, the Lake George TV project should not continue once the current six month contract extension expired. He stated the platform was helpful during the pandemic and he commended Hood Communications, Inc. with having done a great job, but he said it was not intended to be in perpetuity and the life cycle had ended. He explained the \$275,000 spent on the Lake George TV platform was needed for regular budget expenses, as well as to fund special events better than they were last year. He expressed his opposition to future extensions of the contract unless there were substantial amendments.

Mr. Patchett extended his appreciation on behalf of the Town of Hague for the award included in Action Item 1.

As there was no further business to come before the Occupancy Tax Coordination Committee, on motion made by Mr. Strough, seconded by Ms. Runyon and carried by a unanimously vote of those present (*Messrs. Wild and Butler absent*), Mr. Crocitto adjourned the meeting at 11:03 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Leslie Lovelace, Legislative Office Specialist