

**Finance & Rules Committee**  
**June 28, 2016**  
**Minutes**

**Members Present:** Committee Chair Michael Montigelli, Legislators Michael Docteur, William Johnson, Allen Drake, Daniel McBride, James Nabywaniec, Carolyn Fitzpatrick, and Chairman of the Board Scott Gray

**Others Present** Legislators Philip Reed, John Peck, Jeremiah Maxon, and Anthony Doldo, County Administrator Robert Hagemann, County Attorney David Paulsen, JCC President Carole McCoy, JCC Vice President for Administration & Treasurer Daniel Dupee, Information Technology Director Gregory Hudson, Treasurer Accountant Anne Converse, Watertown Daily Times Reporter Brian Molongoski, other representatives of the media, Confidential Secretary Jill Jones

Chairman Montigelli called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and offered privilege of the floor.

Don Metzger complemented the Committee on the work that was done in reference to the policy resolution on alternative energy projects larger than 25 megawatts on the agenda tonight. He said the policy statement attached to the resolution shows a real depth of understanding, homework and research done on the issue and he and his wife were grateful for legislators' work and hoped the resolution was passed.

Gunther Schaller, 17348 County Route 5, Clayton, seconded the comments made by Mr. Metzger and said that the negative economic impact of the projects proposed by both Iberdrola and Apex far exceed the benefits even with 100% valuation. With the Galloo project in particular the town of Hounsfield is the only municipality that would break even, everyone else would experience a loss. He also pointed out that tourism may also experience negative impacts if wind project development is encouraged.

Town of Hounsfield Supervisor Tim Scee expressed concern over the development of a blanket policy which would not allow pilots for any wind or solar projects. He said monthly economic development meetings are held on how to attract business to our area, and this would be a new multimillion dollar business development. To his knowledge the developer has talked to the IDA about tax abatement, but has not made any formal request yet, and until it is determined how the wind farm will be assessed, we will not have any final numbers. He thoroughly respected the job that the legislators have to do in representing their municipalities, and understood it was a tough decision, but hoped that a few people would not determine the future of wind and green energy projects in the County. He thanked the Committee for the opportunity to speak and their consideration.

The Committee minutes of the May meeting stand as presented in the absence of objection or correction.

JCC President Carole McCoy highlighted the accomplishments of 2015-2016 Year noting the success of the residence hall at 101% occupancy in the Fall semester and 90% for the Spring, an increase in tuition for out-of-state students, and a significant increase in county chargebacks; the Deans Collaborative Learning Center opened in April and the new Gregor Building is on schedule and budget to be open in time for the Fall semester, and they had a record year in terms of receiving grants for over \$1,000,000. Looking ahead to the 2016-2017 Year they are anticipating enrollment to decline again, the residence hall to be full, the start of construction of a one-stop place for enrollment based services to make enrollment easier for the students, the Educational Support Professionals contract was settled, but the Faculty Association contract expires on August 31<sup>st</sup> and she does not anticipate a settlement will be reached on time. On the financial side, Dr. McCoy stated that State Aid is up \$100, they are increasing tuition 5.2% for a total of \$4,392 for the year, they are not asking for an increase in funding from the County, and will be using \$600,000 from fund balance as well as adding to the fund balance.

Chairman Montigelli introduced a resolution for payment of Legislators' expenses and entertained a motion for consideration. A motion was duly made by Legislator McBride seconded by Legislator Johnson and there being no discussion, the Committee agreed to sponsor the resolution as presented.

Chairman Montigelli introduced a resolution adopting the 2016-2017 Jefferson Community College budget and entertained a motion for consideration. A motion was duly made by Legislator Nabywaniec seconded by Legislator Drake and there being no discussion, the Committee agreed to sponsor the resolution as presented.

Chairman Montigelli introduced a resolution appropriation for the conduct of Jefferson Community College for Fiscal Year 2016-107 and entertained a motion for consideration. A motion was duly made by Legislator McBride seconded by Legislator Docteur and there being no discussion, the Committee agreed to sponsor the resolution as presented.

Chairman Montigelli introduced a resolution amending the 2016 County Budget and Capital Plan in relation to JCC Master Plan projects and entertained a motion for consideration. A motion was duly made by Legislator Drake seconded by Legislator Fitzpatrick and there being no discussion, the Committee agreed to sponsor the resolution as presented.

Chairman Montigelli introduced a resolution amending the 2016 County Budget relative to capital projects and entertained a motion for consideration. A motion was duly made by Legislator McBride seconded by Legislator Johnson and there being no discussion, the Committee agreed to sponsor the resolution as presented.

Chairman Montigelli introduced a resolution authorizing reappointment to the Jefferson-Lewis Workforce Development Board and entertained a motion for consideration. A motion was duly made by Legislator Fitzpatrick seconded by Legislator Nabywaniec and there being no discussion, the Committee agreed to sponsor the resolution as presented.

Chairman Montigelli introduced a resolution setting forth the policy of the Jefferson County Board of Legislators in regard to the abatement of real property and other taxation for alternative energy projects larger than 25 megawatts rated capacity and entertained a motion for consideration.

A motion was duly made by Legislator Docteur and seconded by Legislator McBride.

Legislator Drake did not support the resolution but said he is not anti wind or pro wind he felt it was a local issue and each project should be judged on its own merits rather than have a blanket policy for all projects. He said he does not trust big business, but felt there is significant economic secondary activity that would warrant some kind of a payment in lieu of taxes. He appreciated all the time that was put into the policy and agreed that we should receive as much as we can from these projects.

Legislator Docteur complimented Administration, staff and legislators who were involved in developing the policy and felt it was important that developers know the County's position before they come to the area with a project. He felt the document goes a long way to protecting two of our most valuable assets Fort Drum, especially with the possibility of additional assets being placed there, and the tourism industry and property owners along the St. Lawrence River and Lake Ontario.

Legislator Maxon said that IDA Board members have expressed concern to him, as the County's representative, that the County is taking a blanket approach and not looking at each project individually. He expressed support for and appreciated the resolution because it is important that projects that generate limited ongoing employment don't receive tax abatements. He felt multi-national corporations should be paying their fair share of the services that this County provides, and the residents of the County deserve to have real property improvements on an even playing field with any other business that comes to the County. He said the resolution does not discourage development, it sets the standard for any large scale industrial commercial wind development or solar array and that's a good thing.

There being no further discussion, the Committee agreed to sponsor the resolution, with Legislator Drake voting no. Chairman Montigelli said this is about the payments in lieu of taxes, but also noted that pilots count against a County when figuring their 2% tax cap set by the State, so the more pilots we have the less of 2% we will be able to use for services.

Chairman Montigelli introduced a resolution authorizing the execution of a Tri-County Energy Consortium Intermunicipal Agreement and Electricity Purchasing Agreement and entertained a motion for consideration. A motion was duly made by Legislator Nabywaniec seconded by Legislator Johnson and there being no discussion, the Committee agreed to sponsor the resolution as presented.

Chairman Montigelli introduced a resolution authorizing the approval of an Outline of Understanding with Copenhagen Wind Farm, LLC and affected Jefferson County taxing jurisdictions regarding property tax and other inducements in regard to a electrical transmission "feeder line" in the Towns of Champion and Rutland and entertained a motion for consideration. A motion was duly made by Legislator Nabywaniec and seconded by Legislator Fitzpatrick. Legislator Docteur expressed concern about the proximity of the project to the flight pattern and operations of Wheeler Sack Army Airfield on Fort Drum and said he would not support the resolution. Legislator Peck gave kudos to the Town for their negotiations with OWN energy and getting their fair share for what is being constructed there. He also said if Fort Drum had serious concerns with the project, they could have stopped it already. There being no further discussion, the Committee agreed to sponsor the resolution as presented with Legislator Docteur voting no.

Chairman Montigelli introduced a resolution authorizing an agreement with the New York State Environmental Protection Spill Compensation Fund regarding tax map parcel no. 55.71-1-44 in the Town of Leray and entertained a motion for consideration. A motion was duly made by Legislator Docteur seconded by Legislator Fitzpatrick and there being no discussion, the Committee agreed to sponsor the resolution as presented.

Chairman Montigelli introduced a resolution amending 2016 County Budget relative to Buildings and Grounds Department and entertained a motion for consideration. A motion was duly made by Legislator Nabywaniec seconded by Legislator McBride and there being no discussion, the Committee agreed to sponsor the resolution as presented.

On a motion by Legislator Nabywaniec seconded by Legislators McBride, Johnson and Docteur and unanimously carried, the Committee approved the following Health & Human Services Committee sponsored resolutions:

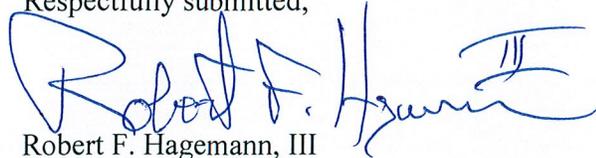
- ✓ Amending the 2016 County Budget to Allocate Additional State Aid for Community Services Programs
- ✓ Amending the 2016 County Budget and Authorizing an Agreement with Credo Community Center for the Treatment of Addictions, Inc. in Relation Thereto
- ✓ Accepting Funds for NYSDOH COLAs for Lead Poisoning Prevention Program and Rabies Expenses, and Amending the 2016 County Budget in Relation Thereto

Chairman Montigelli introduced an additional resolution for consideration authorizing agreements with the Federal Aviation Administration, the New York State Department of Transportation, Passero Associates and M-B Companies Inc., and Amending the 2016 County Budget and Capital Plan in Relation to Acquisition of Snow Removal Equipment and entertained a motion for consideration. A motion was duly made by Legislator Fitzpatrick seconded by Legislator Nabywaniec and there being no discussion, the Committee agreed to sponsor the resolution as presented.

Chairman Montigelli brought attention to the budget development schedule that was in the agenda packet noting that the work sessions are scheduled for the first week of November instead of the end of October because of how late in the month that Election Day falls.

There being no further business of the Committee, on a motion by Legislator McBride seconded by Legislator Johnson and unanimously carried, the meeting was adjourned at 7:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Robert F. Hagemann, III  
Clerk of the Board