

Finance & Rules Committee
April 26, 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 John Peck, Robert Ferris and Anthony Doldo, County Administrator Robert Hagemann, County Attorney David Paulsen, Treasurer Accountant Ann Converse, Watertown Daily Times Reporter Brian Molongoski, Confidential Secretary Jill Jones

Chairman Montigelli called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m. and offered privilege of the floor, however no one present wished to speak. The Committee approved the minutes of the March meeting as written.

Chairman Montigelli introduced a resolution approving the mortgage tax report 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 calling for an increase in the share of revenue counties retain for providing State DMV services 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 reappointments to the Jefferson-Lewis Workforce Development Board and entertained a motion for consideration. A motion was duly made by Legislator McBride seconded by Legislator Nabywaniec and there being no discussion, the Committee agreed to sponsor the resolution as presented.

Chairman Montigelli introduced a resolution amending Management Compensation Plan for 2016 and entertained a motion for consideration. A motion was duly made by Legislator Docteur seconded by Legislator Johnson and there being no discussion, the Committee agreed to sponsor the resolution as presented.

Chairman Montigelli introduced a resolution calling on the State of New York to fully reimburse counties for District Attorney salary increases set by the State and entertained a motion for consideration. A motion was duly made by Legislator Fitzpatrick and seconded by Legislator Drake. Mr. Hagemann advised that this pay increase is retroactive to April 1, 2016 when the State Budget was adopted and affects counties statewide. Of the current \$153,000 DA salary, \$72,000 is covered by the State; the last time the State increased the DA salary (4 years ago) they covered the increase, but this time without warning they said the increase is a County obligation.

Chairman of the Board Gray advised that in phone calls with New York State Association of Counties (NYSAC) officials and other legislative chairs today, this was the #1 topic, and NYSAC is actively pursuing reimbursement for counties in this session, before the State Legislature breaks for the summer. Other topics discussed were indigent defense and an increase in the 2% property tax cap levy. Discussion ensued with regard to how the salary of a particular DA is calculated as it appears that some already make quite a bit more than others and how this raise would affect them. County Attorney Paulsen said the salary is tied to the judges salary by State statute and judges in places like Long Island would make more than upstate judges, so the DAs would also make more downstate. Mr. Hagemann noted that the DA salary will again increase by \$10,000 in 2018, but we can budget for that. There being no further discussion, the Committee agreed to sponsor the resolution as presented.

Chairman Montigelli introduced a resolution re-appointing Director of Real Property Tax Services and entertained a motion for consideration. A motion was duly made by Legislator Fitzpatrick 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 purchase of real property for the purpose of establishing public access to Slack Lot County Forest Preserve in the Town of Champion and entertained a motion for consideration. A motion was duly made by Legislator Docteur and seconded by Legislator Fitzpatrick. Legislator Peck appreciated the support of legislators for this resolution as it has been a long standing dispute in the town. This will provide a defined right of way, protect the neighboring landowner, and finally resolve this issue which has simmered since Jay Matteson was Soil & Water Director and Gary Eddy was the Forrester. There being no discussion, the Committee agreed to sponsor the resolution as presented.

Chairman Montigelli introduced a resolution authorizing the Chairman of the Board to execute certain purchase agreements for real property to be used for radio transmission towers for the Emergency Management Radio System and entertained a motion for consideration. A motion was duly made by Legislator Nabywaniec and seconded by Legislator Johnson. Legislator Docteur requested a little more detail as to what would be signed, and noted that he reached out to the local Planning Board regarding the County's plans for the Project in his district and it was very well received. Mr. Hagemann advised that 12 locations have been identified on which to erect towers for the program and this would give permission for the Chairman to sign formal proposals to the owners of these sites. All final offers would come back to the Board for approval, but this would allow the process to move forward as time is of the essence because the grant monies need to be spent by year end.

County Attorney Paulsen added that in the next month or month ½ there will be purchase or easement agreements ready to be signed with various municipalities and he wanted to have the flexibility to negotiate if needed for all 12 sites. He said any offers would be done in conjunction with the Ad Hoc committee that is in place and he did not anticipate any dollar amounts that need to be committed, only non-monetary issues resolved. Legislator (and Ad Hoc Committee Chair) Doldo advised that only one property is being purchased, the rest of the sites are on municipal properties. Chairman Montigelli and Committee members expressed appreciation to Legislator

Doldo for all his hard work on this project. Following discussion, the Committee agreed to sponsor the resolution as presented.

On a motion by Legislator Drake seconded by Legislators Fitzpatrick, Docteur and McBride and unanimously carried, the Committee approved the following General Services Committee sponsored resolutions:

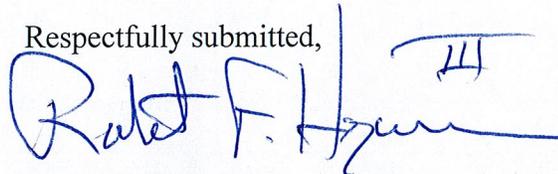
- ✓ Amending the 2016 County Budget in Relation to the Sheriff's Department
- ✓ Amending the 2016 County Budget to Recognize Insurance Recovery and Allocating Same in Sheriff's Department Budget

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

- ✓ Amending 2016 County Budget for Office for the Aging Relative to Delivery System Reform Incentive Payment Program (DSRIP)
- ✓ Amending 2016 County Budget for Community Services Relative to Delivery System Reform Incentive Payment Program (DSRIP)
- ✓ Authorizing Agreement with the Lewis County Public Health Agency for Cancer Services Program Outreach and Education Services in Jefferson County and Amending the 2016 County Budget in Relation Thereto

There being no further business of the Committee, on a motion by Legislator Nabywaniec seconded by Legislator Fitzpatrick and unanimously carried, the meeting was adjourned at 7:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Robert F. Hagemann, III". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "R" and a distinct "III" at the end.

Robert F. Hagemann, III
Clerk of the Board