

General Services Committee
March 16, 2021
Minutes

Members Virtually Present:

Committee Chair Philip Reed, Legislators Robert Cantwell, Daniel McBride, Jeremiah Maxon, Robert Ferris, Corey Grant, Anthony Doldo

Present: Chairman of the Board Scott Gray, County Administrator Robert Hagemann, Deputy Administrator Sarah Baldwin, Secretary Torri Richmire

Others Virtually Present:

Legislators John Peck, Frances Calarco, Allen Drake, County Attorney David Paulsen, Conf. Asst. for Fiscal Affairs Gregory Hudson, Airport Manager Grant Sussey, Probation Director Kristine Maloney, Human Resources Director Valerie Nugent, Sheriff Colleen O'Neill, Community Services Director Timothy Ruetten, Black River/Evans Mills Police Officer Steven Wood, Alliance for Better Communities Project Director Anita Seefried-Brown

Chairman Reed called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. and noted that the meeting is being conducted under the extraordinary circumstance of a public health emergency (COVID-19), and under Governor Cuomo's Executive Order 202.1; without permitting public in-person access to the meeting, authorizing the meeting to be held partially or completely with members appearing by remote conference call or similar service, and the meeting is being live streamed via the web and recorded, including the participation of the members appearing by remote link.

The Committee approved the minutes of the February 2021 meeting, as written.

Larry Danforth, Research Coordinator and Andrew Draper, Assistant Professor of Mathematics, Jefferson Community College, Center for Community Studies, presented the committee with results of the 2020 Community Survey. Mr. Danforth reported that 587 participated in the survey via landline, cell phone and email. The interviews included community related questions to Jefferson County residents on the following topics: Quality of Life, Personal Opinions, COVID-19, Personal Financial Situation, What Direction is the County/Country Heading, Legalization of Marijuana and Internet Access. The results are as follows:

- Quality of Life - 67% rated Excellent or Good, a slight increase over past years.
- Personal Opinions Regarding Society Issues (top three) - 77% believe that racism and social injustice are major problems in our country, 75% believe that same sex romance is all right, 67% believe that government should ensure that good healthcare is available to all.
- COVID-19 - 70% are satisfied with the response of Jefferson County Public Health to the pandemic.
- Personal Financial Situation - 66% of residents indicate that their financial situation has remained the same in the past year.

- What Direction the County/Country is Heading - 43% believe that things in Jefferson County are headed in the right direction, while only 33% believe that nationwide the country is headed in the right direction.
- Legalization of Marijuana - 59% of residents support the sale of and 68% support allowing farmers to grow and profit from the industry.
- Internet Access - Less than 1% of residents report not having access from home.

Mr. Danforth encouraged Legislators to contact him or Mr. Lalone with any questions that they would like to include on the 2021 Survey which will start in three weeks.

Chairman Reed introduced a resolution Adopting Jefferson County Police Reform and Reinvention Collaborative Plan and entertained a motion for consideration. A motion was duly made by Legislator Ferris and seconded by Legislator Doldo. Chairman Reed advised that he was a stakeholder of the committee and was impressed by the quality and preparedness of the meetings. He thanked the members of the committee for their time and stated that they were very focused and productive producing a competent plan. Sheriff O'Neill stated that the input and discussions that were had during meetings were valuable and reflected in the recommendations printed in the report. She stated that they have an outstanding agency which she knew when the Governor came out with the executive order but there is always room for improvement and the things that were identified are doable and will improve the agency for the community that they are so proud to serve. She thanked the stakeholders who put their time and effort into this plan stating that she appreciates it and that the community will be better for it. There being no discussion, the Committee agreed to sponsor the resolution as presented.

Chairman Reed introduced a resolution Adopting Jefferson County Plan for Operations in the Event of a Public Health Emergency Involving a Communicable Disease and entertained a motion for consideration. A motion was duly made by Legislator McBride and seconded by Legislator Cantwell. There being no discussion, the Committee agreed to sponsor the resolution as presented.

Chairman Reed introduced a resolution Amending the 2021 County Budget to Re-appropriate Funding from NYS Department of Transportation for New York Statewide Opportunities for Airport Revitalization (SOARS) Marketing Grant and entertained a motion for consideration. A motion was duly made by Legislator Doldo and seconded by Legislator Grant. There being no discussion, the Committee agreed to sponsor the resolution as presented.

Chairman Reed introduced a resolution Amending the 2021 County Budget and Capital Plan to Recognize 2020 Revenue from the Passenger Facility Charges at the Watertown International Airport and entertained a motion for consideration. A motion was duly made by Legislator Doldo and seconded by Legislator Cantwell. There being no discussion, the Committee agreed to sponsor the resolution as presented.

Chairman Reed introduced a resolution Authorizing the Implementation and Funding in the First Instance 100% of the Federal Aid and State "Marchiselli" Program Aid Eligible Costs of a Transportation Federal-Aid Project (CR 97 and Brown Road over Fish Creek), Appropriating Funds

Therefor and Amending the 2021 County Budget and Capital Plan and entertained a motion for consideration. A motion was duly made by Legislator Ferris and seconded by Legislator McBride. There being no discussion, the Committee agreed to sponsor the resolution as presented.

Chairman Reed introduced a resolution Amending the 2021 County Budget in Relation to the County Road Machinery Fund and entertained a motion for consideration. A motion was duly made by Legislator Cantwell and seconded by Legislator Ferris. There being no discussion, the Committee agreed to sponsor the resolution as presented.

Chairman Reed introduced a resolution Amending the 2021 County Budget in Relation to Recycling & Waste Management and entertained a motion for consideration. A motion was duly made by Legislator Grant and seconded by Legislator Doldo. There being no discussion, the Committee agreed to sponsor the resolution as presented.

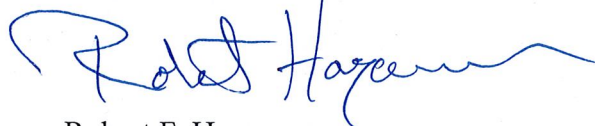
Chairman Reed introduced a resolution Authorizing Agreement for Development and Submission of a Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Application to the NYS Office for Community Renewal, and the Development and Administration of Grant Program and entertained a motion for consideration. A motion was duly made by Legislator Ferris and seconded by Legislator McBride. There being no discussion, the Committee agreed to sponsor the resolution as presented.

Chairman Reed introduced a resolution Authorizing Agreements in Connection with New York State Snowmobile Trails Grant-in-Aid Program and Amending 2021 County Budget in Relation Thereto and entertained a motion for consideration. A motion was duly made by Legislator Cantwell and seconded by Legislator Ferris. There being no discussion, the Committee agreed to sponsor the resolution as presented.

Chairman Reed introduced a resolution Authorizing Agreements for an Additional Allocation for The Governor's Traffic Safety Committee's Stop-DWI Crackdown Enforcement Grant and Amending the 2021 County Budget in Relation Thereto and entertained a motion for consideration. A motion was duly made by Legislator Doldo and seconded by Legislator Ferris. There being no discussion, the Committee agreed to sponsor the resolution as presented.

There being no further business of the Committee, on a motion by Legislator Grant seconded by Legislator Doldo and unanimously carried, the meeting was adjourned at 6:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Robert F. Hagemann
Clerk of the Board