

**Members Attending:** Mr. Acres, Mr. Arquiatt, Mr. Burke, Ms. Curran, Mr. Denesha, Mr. Fay, Ms. Fiacco, ~~Mr. Forsythe~~, Ms. Haggard, Mr. Lightfoot, Mr. Perkins, Mr. Reagen, Mr. Sheridan, Mr. Smithers, and Ms. Terminelli

**Others Attending:** Ruth Doyle, Kelly Pearson, and Dylan Soper

**1. CALL TO ORDER AND APPROVAL OF AGENDA** – Chair Acres called the meeting to order at 5:34 p.m. Mr. Denesha moved to approve the agenda, seconded by Mr. Smithers, and carried by a voice vote with fourteen (14) yes votes, and one (1) absent (Forsythe).

**2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES** – Ms. Curran moved to approve the August 23<sup>rd</sup> meeting minutes, seconded by Mr. Lightfoot, and carried by a voice vote with fourteen (14) yes votes, and one (1) absent (Forsythe).

**3. BROADBAND SURVEY RESULTS** – Dave Wolf, Telecom Division Manager, DANC and Laurie Marr, Director of Communications & Public Affairs, DANC

#### **4. HIGHWAY – DON CHAMBERS**

A. Modifying the 2021 Budget for the Department of Highways for the Acquisition and Construction of an Equipment Garage and Sand/Salt Storage Building in the Town of Potsdam (Res) – Mr. Lightfoot moved to forward this resolution to full Board, seconded by Mr. Smithers, and carried by a voice vote with thirteen (13) yes votes, one (1) abstention (Perkins), and one (1) absent (Forsythe).

B. Authorizing the Acceptance of Real Property Obtained by the State of New York Relative to the County Route 35 (Slab City) over Trout Brook Bridge Replacement Federal Pass-Through Project, PIN 775394, BIN 3341700 (Res) – Ms. Curran moved to forward this resolution to full Board, seconded by Mr. Denesha and Mr. Sheridan.

Mr. Reagen left the room at 6:37 p.m., and returned at 6:38 p.m.

Motion carried by a voice vote with fourteen (14) yes votes and one (1) absent (Forsythe).

Mr. Chambers gave an update on outposts and projects.

#### **5. REAL PROPERTY – BRUCE GREEN**

A. Authorizing Collection of Omitted Taxes (Res) – Mr. Smithers moved to forward this resolution to full Board, seconded by Ms. Curran, and carried by a voice vote with fourteen (14) yes votes, and one (1) absent (Forsythe).

B. Adoption of the Equalization Rates for 2022 County Taxes (Res) (Info) – Ms. Curran moved to forward this resolution to full Board, seconded by Mr. Lightfoot, and carried by a voice vote with fourteen (14) yes votes, and one (1) absent (Forsythe).

C. Authorizing Real Property Tax Law Correction of Errors (Res) – Ms. Curran moved to forward this resolution to full Board, seconded by Mr. Sheridan, and carried by a voice vote with fourteen (14) yes votes, and one (1) absent (Forsythe).

## **6. COUNTY ATTORNEY – STEVE BUTTON**

A. Authorizing a Settlement Agreement between McKesson Corporation; Cardinal Health, Inc.; Amerisourcebergen Drug Corporation; PSS World Medical, Inc.; Kinray, LLC; Bellco Drug Corporation; American Medical Distributors, Inc.; and St. Lawrence County with Respect to an Action Relating to the Opioid Crisis (Res) – Ms. Curran moved to forward this resolution to full Board, seconded by Mr. Perkins, and carried by a voice vote with thirteen (13) yes votes, one (1) no vote (Acres), and one (1) absent (Forsythe).

## **7. TREASURER – RENEE COLE**

A. Amending Resolution No. 14-2021, “Bank Depositories and Investment of County Funds” (Res) – Ms. Curran moved to forward this resolution to full Board, seconded by Mr. Smithers and Ms. Haggard, and carried by a voice vote with fourteen (14) yes votes, and one (1) absent (Forsythe).

Ms. Cole said the 2021 tax foreclosure auction ended on Saturday. There were 105 parcels in the auction, and with 351 registered bidders. Preliminary numbers show that all parcels were sold for an approximate amount of \$1,757,000, with \$946,000 being back taxes owed.

The sales tax numbers have been emailed to Legislators and numbers are looking positive.

## **8. WORKFORCE INNOVATION OPPORTUNITY ACT – BARB LASHUA**

A. Authorization to Modify the PY20 Budget for the Workforce Innovation Opportunity Act (Res) – Mr. Sheridan moved to forward this resolution to full Board, seconded by Mr. Lightfoot, Mr. Reagen and Ms. Curran, and carried by a voice vote with fourteen (14) yes votes, and one (1) absent (Forsythe).

B. Authorizing the Chair to Sign the St. Lawrence County Local Workforce Development Area Local Plan (Res) – Mr. Reagen moved to forward this resolution to full Board, seconded by Mr. Sheridan and Ms. Curran, and carried by a voice vote with fourteen (14) yes votes, and one (1) absent (Forsythe).

## **9. HUMAN RESOURCES – JONNIE DOROTHY**

A. Authorizing the Group Health Plan Administrator for St. Lawrence County to Submit a Claim against Blue Cross/Blue Shield Regarding a Class Action Settlement (Res) – Mr. Smithers moved to forward this resolution to full Board, seconded by Ms. Curran, and carried by a voice vote with fourteen (14) yes votes, and one (1) absent (Forsythe).

## **10. INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY – RICK JOHNSON**

A. Proclaiming October 2021 as Cybersecurity Awareness Month in St. Lawrence County (Res) – Mr. Denesha moved to forward this resolution to full Board, seconded by Mr. Perkins, Mr. Reagen, and Ms. Curran, and carried by a voice vote with fourteen (14) yes votes, and one (1) absent (Forsythe).

## **11. LEGISLATOR JIM REAGEN**

A. Calling upon New York State Governor Kathy Hochul and the Commissioner of the Office of Temporary Disabilities Assistance to Expedite the Release of Emergency Rental Assistance Program (ERAP) Funding to Provide Relief to those Impacted by the COVID-19 Pandemic Eviction Restrictions and the Eviction Moratorium (Res) – Mr. Reagen moved to forward this resolution to full Board, seconded by Mr. Sheridan, Mr. Smithers, and Mr. Burke.

Mr. Burke and Ms. Curran asked to be added as co-sponsors to this resolution.

Motion carried by a voice vote with fourteen (14) yes votes, and one (1) absent (Forsythe).

## **12. VACANCY REVIEW COMMITTEE**

A. Solid Waste – Mr. Chambers requested to fill two (2) Heavy Equipment Operator positions in Solid Waste.

B. Highway – Mr. Chamber requested to fill a Bridge Construction Mechanic, Sign Maintenance Crew Leader, Motor Equipment Operator, and Motor Equipment Operator positions in the Highway Department.

C. One Stop/WIOA – Ms. Lashua requested to fill an Employment & Training Counselor position in the One Stop Career Center.

## **13. COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT – RUTH DOYLE**

A. Calling on the State of New York to Increase and Fully Fund County Law 18B Assigned Counsel Statutory Pay Levels (Res) – Mr. Lightfoot moved to forward this resolution to full Board, seconded by Mr. Smithers, and carried by a voice vote with fourteen (14) yes votes, and one (1) absent (Forsythe).

B. Calling on the Governor to Complete Affordable Care Act Enhanced Federal Medicaid Assistance Percentage Reconciliations that are Years Overdue and Immediately Release the Federal Funds Owed to Counties and New York City (Res) – Ms. Curran moved to forward this resolution to full Board, seconded by Mr. Smithers, and carried by a voice vote with fourteen (14) yes votes, and one (1) absent (Forsythe).

C. Calling on the Governor and the Legislature to Suspend any Further State Diversion of Local Sales Tax for Distressed Health Facilities and Work to Immediately Sunset the Law (Res) – Mr. Denesha moved to forward this resolution to full Board, seconded by Mr. Smithers and Ms. Curran, and carried by a voice vote with fourteen (14) yes votes, and one (1) absent (Forsythe).

D. Urging the State of New York and Federal Government to Expand True Broadband Coverage to all New Yorkers (Res) – Mr. Denesha moved to forward this resolution to full Board, seconded by Mr. Fay.

Mr. Acres asked for a friendly amendment to add that a certified copy be sent to the Federal Communications Committee (FCC) on the last be it further resolved.

Motion carried by a voice vote with fourteen (14) yes votes, and one (1) absent (Forsythe).

E. Calling for an Increase in the Share of Revenue Counties Retain for Providing State Department of Motor Vehicle Services (Res) – Mr. Lightfoot moved to forward this resolution to full Board, seconded by Ms. Curran, and carried by a voice vote with fourteen (14) yes votes, and one (1) absent (Forsythe).

F. Calling on the State of New York to Immediately make all Municipalities Whole in the Saint Regis Mohawk Tribal Gaming Region that have been Impacted by the Lack of Payment by New York State (Res) – Mr. Smithers moved to forward this resolution to full Board, seconded by Ms. Curran and Mr. Perkins, and carried by a voice vote with fourteen (14) yes votes, and one (1) absent (Forsythe).

G. Calling on the State of New York to Fully Reimburse Counties for District Attorney Salary Increases that are Set and Controlled by the State (Res) – Mr. Lightfoot moved to forward this resolution to full Board, seconded by Ms. Curran and Mr. Perkins, and carried by a voice vote with fourteen (14) yes votes, and one (1) absent (Forsythe).

H. Supporting a Collaboration between the NYS Office of Mental Health (OMH) and the Counties in Planning and Implementing a National 988 Suicide Prevention Hotline (Res) – Ms. Curran moved to forward this resolution to full Board, seconded by Mr. Burke, and carried by a voice vote with fourteen (14) yes votes, and one (1) absent (Forsythe).

I. Calling on Governor Kathy Hochul to Restore the State-County Share of the Cost of 730.20 Competency Restoration Services and make Reforms to the Program Thereto (Res) – Ms. Curran moved to forward this resolution to full Board, seconded by Mr. Perkins, and carried by a voice vote with fourteen (14) yes votes, and one (1) absent (Forsythe).

J. Calling on the Governor and Legislature to End the Diversion of County Sales Tax to Pay for the State AIM Program and Begin Work to Reform the AIM Program while Restoring State Funding Responsibility (Res) – Mr. Lightfoot moved to forward this resolution to full Board, seconded by Mr. Smithers and Ms. Curran, and carried by a voice vote with fourteen (14) yes votes, and one (1) absent (Forsythe).

K. Authorizing the Chair to Sign an Agreement with United Helpers, Inc. for Space Located at 100 Ford Street, Ogdensburg, New York, Sign a Business Associate Agreement, and Modifying the 2021 Budget for the Department of Social Services (Res) – Mr. Lightfoot moved to forward this resolution to full Board, seconded by Ms. Curran, and carried by a voice vote with fourteen (14) yes votes, and one (1) absent (Forsythe).

L. Declaring October 2021 as the first St. Lawrence County History Month – Ms. Doyle

#### **14. OLD AND NEW BUSINESS**

A. Adopting proposed Local Law C (No. \_\_) for the Year 2021, “Setting the Salary for the County Attorney” – Mr. Denesha moved to forward this resolution to full Board, seconded by Ms. Curran and Mr. Lightfoot.

Mr. Arquiett, Ms. Curran, Mr. Lightfoot, Mr. Sheridan, and Mr. Acres asked to be added as co-sponsors to this resolution.

Motion carried by a voice vote with twelve (12) yes votes, two (2) no votes (Burke and Haggard), and one (1) absent (Forsythe).

Ms. Haggard gave a report of the St. Lawrence County Chamber of Commerce Advisory Board.

Mr. Smithers left the room at 7:58 p.m.

Mr. Lightfoot moved to go to Executive Session at 8:00 p.m. to discuss negotiations, litigation, personnel and appointments, seconded by Mr. Fay, and carried by a voice vote with thirteen (13) yes votes, and two (2) absent (Smithers and Forsythe).

Mr. Smithers returned to the room at 8:05 p.m.

#### **15. EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Mr. Smithers moved to go to Open Session at 8:58 p.m., seconded by Mr. Lightfoot, and carried by a voice vote with fourteen (14) yes votes, and one (1) absent (Forsythe).

**16. ADJOURNMENT** – Mr. Acres adjourned the September Finance Committee Meeting at 8:59 p.m., as there was no further business.