

Members Attending: Mr. Acres, Mr. Denesha, Mr. Fay, Mr. Forsythe, Ms. Haggard, Mr. Lightfoot, ~~Mr. Perkins~~, Mr. Reagen, and Mr. Smithers

Members Attending via Video: Mr. Arquiett, Mr. Burke, Ms. Curran arrived at 5:41 p.m., Ms. Fiacco, Mr. Sheridan, and Ms. Terminelli

1. CALL TO ORDER AND APPROVAL OF AGENDA – Chair Acres called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. Mr. Denesha moved to approve the agenda, seconded by Mr. Fay, and carried by a voice vote of thirteen (13) yes votes, and two (2) absent (Curran and Perkins).

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – Mr. Forsythe moved to approve the December 20th meeting minutes, seconded by Mr. Denesha, and carried by a voice vote of thirteen (13) yes votes, and two (2) absent (Curran and Perkins).

3. CLIFTON FINE HOSPITAL CAPITAL PROJECTS – Dierdra Sorrell, RN, MSN and Tom Sauter

Ms. Curran arrived at 5:41 p.m.

4. HIGHWAY – DON CHAMBERS

A. Modifying the 2022 Budget for the Department of Highways for the Northumberland Street Bridge Over Morristown Bay, BIN 3341380 (Res) – Mr. Lightfoot moved to forward this resolution to full Board, seconded by Mr. Forsythe, and carried by a voice vote with fourteen (14) yes votes, and one (1) absent (Perkins).

B. Authorizing the Chair to Sign a Contract with J.E. Sheehan Contracting Corporation for Replacement of a Box Culvert on County Route 62 in the Town of Piercefield (Res) – Mr. Forsythe moved to forward this resolution to full Board, seconded by Mr. Denesha and Ms. Curran, and carried by a voice vote with fourteen (14) yes votes, and one (1) absent (Perkins).

C. Authorizing the Chair to Sign an Agreement with the United States Department of Agriculture, Animal, and Plant Health Inspection Service Wildlife Services (Res) – Mr. Smithers moved to forward this resolution to full Board, seconded by Mr. Lightfoot and Ms. Curran, and carried by a voice vote with fourteen (14) yes votes, and one (1) absent (Perkins).

D. Authorizing the Chair to Sign an Inter-Municipal Cooperation Agreement between the Department of Highways and the Town of Fine for Replacement of the Youngs Road Large Culvert/Bridge in the Town of Fine (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 (Perkins).

E. Authorizing the Chair to Sign a Contract with Delta Engineers, Architects & Land Surveyors, DPC, for Engineering and Design Services for Skate Creek Road Over Oswegatchie River, BIN 3340930, Town of Fine (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 (Perkins).

F. Outpost Update (Discussion) – Mr. Chambers

G. Authorizing the Chair to Sign a Supplemental Agreement with Brooks Washburn, Architect for Additional Engineering and Design Services for Salt/Sand and Motor Equipment Storage Facilities (Res) – Mr. Smithers moved to forward this resolution to full Board, seconded by Ms. Curran and Mr. Forsythe, and carried by a voice vote with fourteen (14) yes votes, and one (1) absent (Perkins).

H. Authorizing the Chair to Sign Contracts for Construction of the Highway Storage Facilities in the Town of Potsdam (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 (Perkins).

I. Modifying the 2021 Budget for the Department of Highways and Amending the Highway Fund Balances Appropriated to the 2021 Capital Projects Budget for the Potsdam Equipment and Salt Storage Facilities (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 (Perkins).

5. COUNTY ATTORNEY – STEVE BUTTON

A. Authorizing a Settlement Agreement between Allergan Finance, LLC, and Allergan Limited and St. Lawrence County with Respect to an Action Relating to the Opioid Crisis (Res) – Mr. Forsythe moved to forward this resolution to full Board, seconded by Mr. Fay and Ms. Curran, and carried by a voice vote with fourteen (14) yes votes, and one (1) absent (Perkins).

B. Authorizing the Chair to Sign an Agreement between the New York Environmental Protection and Spill Compensation Fund and County of St. Lawrence, New York, Regarding Certain Tax Delinquent Properties Owned by Kendrick B. Grimshaw Sr. & Nancy J. Grimshaw, William H. Wilson, Bruce Galloway & Tamara Galloway, and Grant's Gas & Grocery, LLC (Res) – Mr. Denesha moved to forward this resolution to full Board, seconded by Mr. Smithers, Mr. Lightfoot, and Mr. Sheridan, and carried by a voice vote with fourteen (14) yes votes, and one (1) absent (Perkins).

6. INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AGENCY – PATRICK KELLY

A. Approving the St. Lawrence County Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy as Prepared by the St. Lawrence County Industrial Development Agency (Res) (Info) – Mr. Reagen moved to forward this resolution to full Board, seconded by Mr. Denesha, and carried by a voice vote with fourteen (14) yes votes, and one (1) absent (Perkins).

7. TREASURER – RENEE COLE

A. Modifying the 2021 Budget for The Treasurer’s Office for Additional Sales Tax Distribution (Res) – Mr. Denesha moved to forward this resolution to full Board, seconded by Mr. Forsythe, and carried by a voice vote with fourteen (14) yes votes, and one (1) absent (Perkins).

Ms. Cole said the November bank reconciliation summary has been posted to Google Drive.

Ms. Cole gave an update on tax collection in the City of Ogdensburg.

8. LEGISLATOR KEVIN ACRES

A. Authorizing the Treasurer to Share a Portion of the Additional One (1%) Percent of Sales and Compensating Use Taxes with the City of Ogdensburg for Sales Tax Collected within the Taxing Jurisdiction of the City of Ogdensburg, New York (Res) – Mr. Smithers moved to forward this resolution to full Board, seconded by Mr. Lightfoot and Mr. Forsythe.

Mr. Forsythe moved to make a friendly amendment to remove the ninth, tenth, eleventh, twelfth, and thirteen “whereas” along with the “now, therefore, be it resolved” and the third “be it further resolved” from the resolution, and to include wording “to support the effort of the City of Ogdensburg in Home Rule Legislation to maintain their half of the one percent,” seconded by Mr. Reagen and Ms. Curran.

Mr. Lightfoot called the question, seconded by Mr. Arquiatt, and carried by a voice vote with fourteen (14) yes votes, and one (1) absent (Perkins).

The friendly amendment failed by a roll call vote with nine (9) no votes, five (5) yes votes (Curran, Reagen, Forsythe, Smithers, and Denesha), and one (1) absent (Perkins).

Mr. Lightfoot moved to amend the resolution to add the wording “Be it further resolved the County supports the City of Ogdensburg in their efforts to have Home Rule Legislation adopted to receive fifty percent (50%) of the one percent (1%) of sales tax generated within the tax jurisdiction of the City of Ogdensburg,” seconded by Mr. Sheridan, and carried by a voice vote with fourteen (14) yes votes, and one (1) absent (Perkins).

Amended resolution carried by a voice vote with fourteen (14) yes votes, and one (1) absent (Perkins).

9. LEGISLATOR JIM REAGEN

A. St. Lawrence County Board of Legislators Calls upon Governor Katherine Hochul to Consider Keeping the Ogdensburg Correctional Facility Open and Relocating Inmates from Rikers Island to the Ogdensburg Correctional Facility (Res) – Mr. Reagen moved to forward this resolution to full Board, seconded by Mr. Forsythe, Mr. Fay, Mr. Burke, Mr. Sheridan, and Mr. Arquiatt.

Mr. Burke, Ms. Curran, Mr. Acres, Mr. Lightfoot, Ms. Terminelli, Ms. Fiacco, Mr. Sheridan, Mr. Denesha, Mr. Smithers, Mr. Forsythe, Mr. Fay, and Ms. Haggard 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 (Perkins).

10. VACANCY REVIEW COMMITTEE – RUTH DOYLE

A. Highway – Mr. Chambers requested to fill a Motor Equipment Operator, Position No. 310000012, in Highway

B. Board of Legislators – Mr. Grant requested to abolish Head Building Maintenance Worker and create and fill Buildings and Grounds Supervisor, Position No. 303200002

11. COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR’S REPORT – RUTH DOYLE

A. Modifying the 2021 Budget for the County Administrator’s Office for Costs Associated with Court-Ordered Treatment Services at New York State Operated Inpatient Mental Hygiene Facilities (Res) – Mr. Smithers moved to forward this resolution to full Board, seconded by Ms. Curran.

Mr. Acres asked for a friendly amendment to the resolution to add the wording “shifted a former shared expense of fifty percent (50%) cost to the State and fifty percent (50%) cost to the County to a one-hundred percent (100%) County cost.”

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

B. Urging New York State to Honor the Tribal-State Compact Agreement with St. Lawrence County and Provide Withheld Payments and Remain Current in the Future (Res) – Mr. Smithers moved to forward this resolution to full Board, seconded by Ms. Curran and Mr. Lightfoot.

Mr. Arquiett asked to be added as a co-sponsor to this resolution.

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

C. Recommending the 2022 New York State Legislative Agenda for St. Lawrence County and Requesting Timely Reimbursement (Res) – Mr. Denesha moved to forward this resolution to full Board, seconded by Mr. Forsythe and Mr. Lightfoot.

Ms. Doyle said there have been updates to the Bills listed in the resolution under the second “be it further resolved,” and requested changes be made to the resolution: Senate and Assembly Bills A2396A/S7028 have been signed into law, so these could be removed from the resolution, and Senate and Assembly Bills A4197/S1863, A6538-B/S6288-B, and A8287/S7494 could be moved up to be listed under “primary priorities.”

Mr. Arquiett moved to amend the resolution under “no cost priority items” to increase the definition of all-terrain vehicles to include vehicles up to two-thousand (2,000) pounds, seconded by Mr. Lightfoot and Mr. Forsythe, and carried by a voice vote with fourteen (14) yes votes, and one (1) absent (Perkins).

Mr. Acres moved to amend the resolution under “primary priorities” to include opposing college campus polling locations in instances of colleges/universities having 300 or more students registered to vote, seconded by Mr. Reagen, and carried by a voice vote with twelve (12) yes votes, two (2) no votes (Burke and Haggard), and one (1) absent (Perkins).

Amended resolution carried by a voice vote with fourteen (14) yes votes, and one (1) absent (Perkins).

D. Modifying the 2022 Budget for Information Technology for the Upgrade of MUNIS Software and Closing the ERP Capital Project (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 (Perkins).

E. 2021 Fourth Quarter Financial Update (Info) – Ms. Doyle

Ms. Doyle said the COVID-19 positivity rate for St. Lawrence County is 13.58%; per one-hundred thousand is 759.24; and the percentage of population that have received a booster shot is 52.7%. There will be booster clinics scheduled in Ogdensburg and Gouverneur. The County will received \$1M of the \$65M associated with COVID-19.

Ms. Doyle reported two transfers of funds: \$615 for the County Attorney for court-ordered conflicts for Family Court, and \$500 for Emergency Services for fuel expenses associated with COVID-19 expenses.

Ms. Doyle congratulated Highway Superintendent Don Chambers, the Highway Bridge Crew, and all Highway staff on being awarded the 2021 Project of the Year for the Depot Street Bridge Project.

Ms. Doyle commended the IDA on the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS), and said she appreciated the update to the CEDS by adding healthcare to the strategy.

The NYSAC Conference will be held March 14-16, 2022.

A NYPA resolution will be come to the Board of Legislators at the February Finance Committee.

Ms. Doyle requested the Negotiating Team come to the Board Office to sign the bargaining agreement contracts.

12. COMMITTEE REPORTS

- A. Cornell Cooperative Extension Board – Mr. Denesha
- B. Fish and Wildlife Management Board, Region 6 – Ms. Curran
- C. Fisheries Advisory Board – Ms. Terminelli
- D. Gouverneur Fair Board – no report
- E. Highway/Solid Waste Committee – no report
- F. Industrial Development Agency – Mr. Reagen
- G. Recreational and Trails Advisory Board – Mr. Arquiett
- H. St. Lawrence River Valley Redevelopment Agency (RVRDA) – Mr. Forsythe
- I. St. Lawrence County Chamber of Commerce – Ms. Haggard
- J. Soil & Water Conservation District Board of Directors – Mr. Burke

13. OLD AND NEW BUSINESS

- A. Newspaper Designation for 2022 (Discussion) – Ms. Doyle

Ms. Haggard asked the County to install a light behind the DSS Building where the County fleet cars are located.

Mr. Forsythe moved to go to Executive Session at 9:26 p.m. to discuss negotiations, litigation, personnel and appointments, seconded by Mr. Smithers and Ms. Curran, and carried by a voice vote with fourteen (14) yes votes, and one (1) absent (Perkins).

14. EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mr. Fay moved to go to Open Session at 10:33 p.m., seconded by Mr. Forsythe, and carried by a voice vote with fourteen (14) yes votes, and one (1) absent (Perkins).

Mr. Fay moved to return to Executive Session at 10:34 p.m. seconded by Mr. Forsythe and carried by a voice vote with fourteen (14) yes votes, and one (1) absent (Perkins).

Mr. Forsythe moved to go to Open Session at 10:41 p.m., seconded by Mr. Smithers, and carried by a voice vote with fourteen (14) yes votes, and one (1) absent (Perkins).

15. ADJOURNMENT – Mr. Acres moved to adjourn the Finance Committee Meeting at 10:42 p.m., as there was no further business.