St. Lawrence County Board of Legislators Zoom Meeting Operations Committee Monday, April 20, 2020 5:30 p.m.

PURSUANT TO THE STATE OF EMERGENCY EXECUTIVE ORDER 202.1 ARTICLE 7, SUSPENSION OF LAW ALLOWING THE ATTENDANCE OF MEETINGS TELEPHONICALLY OR OTHER SIMILAR SERVICE

Members Attending: Mr. Denesha and Mr. Sheridan

Members Attending Via Videoconference: Mr. Acres, Ms. Arquiett, Mr. Arquiett, Mr. Burke, Ms. Curran, Mr. Fay, Mr. Forsythe, Mr. Leader, Mr. Lightfoot arrived at 5:49 p.m., Mr. Perkins, Mr. Reagen, and Ms. Terminelli

Others Attending: Ruth Doyle, Kelly Pearson, Dylan Soper, Stephen Button

- **1. CALL TO ORDER AND APPROVAL OF AGENDA** Chair Denesha called the meeting to order at 5:33 p.m. Mr. Acres moved to approve the agenda, seconded by Ms. Terminelli, and carried by a voice vote with thirteen (13) yes votes, and one (1) absent (Lightfoot).
- **2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES** Mr. Arquiett moved to approve the March 9th meeting minutes, seconded by Mr. Fay, and carried by a voice vote with thirteen (13) yes votes, and one (1) absent (Lightfoot).

3. SHERIFF – BROOKS BIGWARFE

A. Modifying the 2020 Budget for the Sheriff's Office for the Purchase of Uniforms (Res) – Mr. Burke moved to forward this resolution to full Board, seconded by Mr. Perkins, and carried by a voice vote with thirteen (13) yes votes, and one (1) absent (Lightfoot).

B. Jail Update (Discussion) – Sheriff Bigwarfe

4. PLANNING – JASON PFOTENHAUER

A. Authorizing the Chair to Appoint the Planning Director, Jason Pfotenhauer, as Certifying Officer for Environmental Review as Required by FY2019 CDBG Grant Award 1106HR363-19 (Res) – Mr. Acres moved to forward this resolution to full Board, seconded by Mr. Fay, and carried by a voice vote with thirteen (13) yes votes, and one (1) absent (Lightfoot).

B. Encouraging St. Lawrence County Land Owners to use Marginal Lands when Signing Leases for Large-Scale Solar Arrays (Res) (Info) – Ms. Terminelli moved to forward this resolution to full Board, seconded by Mr. Acres.

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

Mr. Arquiett moved to amend the resolution to state "encouraging land owners to utilize the advice of the Soil and Water Conservation District prior to the sale of lands associated with solar", seconded by Mr. Acres, and carried by a voice vote with thirteen (13) yes votes, and one (1) absent (Lightfoot).

Mr. Lightfoot arrived at 5:49 p.m.

Amended resolution carried unanimously by a voice vote with fourteen (14) yes votes.

- C. Authorizing the Chair to Sign a Contract with New York State Office of Community Renewal for the Community Development Block Grant Funds and Modifying the 2020 Budget for the Planning Office (Res) Mr. Perkins moved to forward this resolution to full Board, seconded by Ms. Curran, and carried unanimously by a voice vote with fourteen (14) yes votes.
- D. Authorizing the Chair to Sign a Contract with New York State Department of Transportation for Public Transportation Services (Res) Ms. Terminelli moved to forward this resolution to full Board, seconded by Mr. Forsythe, and carried unanimously by a voice vote with fourteen (14) yes votes.

Mr. Pfotenhauer gave an update on transportation.

5. BOARD OF ELECTIONS – JENNIE BACON AND TOM NICHOLS

- A. Authorizing the Chair to Sign Contracts Requesting Grant Extensions for Poll Worker Training/Voter Education and Modifying the 2020 Budget for the Board of Elections (Res) Ms. Terminelli moved to forward this resolution to full Board, seconded by Mr. Perkins, and carried unanimously by a voice vote with fourteen (14) yes votes.
- B. Authorizing the Chair to Sign HAVA- Shoebox Contract Extension with New York State Board of Elections (Res) Ms. Curran moved to forward this resolution to full Board, seconded by Mr. Arquiett, and carried unanimously by a voice vote with fourteen (14) yes votes.
- C. Primary Update (Discussion) Tom Nichols and Jennie Bacon

6. VACANCY REVIEW COMMITTEE

- A. Summary (Info) Ruth Doyle
- B. Planning Mr. Pfotenhauer said he is requesting to abolish a temporary Office Manager Position and fill Office Manager, Position No. 100000001, in the Planning Office.
- **7. COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT** This was held in conjunction with the following Services Committee Meeting.

8. COMMITTEE REPORTS

- A. Agriculture & Farmland Protection Board Mr. Denesha
- B. Alternatives to Incarceration Board no report
- C. Board of Trustees for Supreme Court Library no report
- D. Emergency Medical Services Advisory Board no report
- E. Environmental Management Council no report
- F. Fire Advisory Board Mr. Denesha
- G. Intercounty Legislative Committee no report
- H. Jury Board no report
- I. Planning Board Mr. Fay

9. OLD/NEW BUSINESS – Mr. Denesha said an employee of the County Highway Department reached out to him and expressed his thanks to the Board for not laying anyone off during this time.

Mr. Forsythe said he appreciates that but said on the flipside, the hospitals are laying off hundreds, and there needs to be discussion on how long County Government can sustain.

Mr. Arquiett said while he appreciates the sentiment, County employees are coming in and getting paid for an honest day's work and in turn are taking care of all of us.

Ms. Arquiett asked what percentage of people are working from home. Ms. Doyle said staff is reduced in the offices by fifty percent (50%), with some working from home or on flex schedules. Ms. Doyle said we are doing our best to continue to provide services to the public.

Mr. Acres said although funds are budgeted for payroll, if this continues, we may need to start to take a look at options. Ms. Doyle said we are looking at everything and planning for everything.

Mr. Burke said we should not lose sight of the fact that the main purpose for reducing staff is for the health of all County residents. This is not a gift to our employees; this is an essential strategy to help control the spread of the virus.

Mr. Arquiett said during times like these if employees were laid off, these employees would still be compensated, but with money coming from a different pocket.

Mr. Acres said he did not mean to insinuate it was a gift to employees. He said his point is that if this continues we will reach a period of time when we have to consider how long we will be able to continue to pay employees.

Mr. Burke said he hopes that we would continue to provide services to the County residents. The services that each and every department delivers are critical services.

- **10. EXECUTIVE SESSION** Executive Session was held in conjunction with the following Services Committee Meeting.
- **11. ADJOURNMENT** Chair Denesha adjourned the April Services Committee Meeting at 6:38 p.m., as there was no further business.