

Members Attending: **Mr. Gennett**, Mr. Burke, Ms. Curran arrived at 8:19 p.m., Mr. Denesha, Mr. Fay, Mr. Forsythe, Ms. Haggard, Mr. Hull, Mr. Lightfoot, Mr. Perkins, Mr. Reagen, Mr. Sheridan arrived at 5:32 p.m., Mr. Smithers, Ms. Terminelli, and Mr. Webster

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

Chair Gennett said due to extenuating circumstances, Legislators Sheridan and Burke will be attending the meeting remotely, and Legislators Curran is absent.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – Mr. Perkins moved to approve the December 19th meeting minutes, seconded by Mr. Reagen, and carried by a voice vote with thirteen (13) yes votes, and two (2) absent (Curran and Sheridan).

Mr. Sheridan arrived at 5:32 p.m.

3. CIVICPLUS AGENDA & MEETING MANAGEMENT SOFTWARE DEMONSTRATION – Levi Smith, Account Executive, CivicPlus and Rochelle Cantero, Solutions Engineer, CivicPlus

Mr. Sheridan left the room at 6:00 p.m.
Mr. Burke left the room at 6:15 p.m.

4. HIGHWAY – DON CHAMBERS

A. Authorizing Entering into a Cooperative Agreement with Franklin County Highway Department for the Purchase of Road Salt through the 2023-2024 St. Lawrence County Salt Bid (Res) – Mr. Perkins moved to forward this resolution to full Board, seconded by Mr. Hull, and carried by a voice vote with twelve (12) yes votes, and three (3) absent (Curran, Burke, and Sheridan).

B. Authorizing the Chair to Sign a Contract with the United States Department of Agriculture, Animal, and Plant Health Inspection Service Wildlife Services to Mitigate Damage to Roadways in St. Lawrence County Caused by Beaver (Res) – Mr. Forsythe moved to forward this resolution to full Board, seconded by Mr. Hull, and carried by a voice vote with twelve (12) yes votes, and three (3) absent (Curran, Burke, and Sheridan).

C. Authorizing the Chair to Sign and Award a Contracts for Installation of Generators and Automated Transfer Switches in the Lisbon, Russell, and Potsdam Outposts (Res) – Mr. Denesha moved to forward this resolution to full Board, seconded by Mr. Forsythe and Mr. Lightfoot.

Mr. Burke returned to the room at 6:23 p.m.

Motion carried by a voice vote with thirteen (13) yes votes, and two (2) absent (Curran and Sheridan).

D. Authorizing the Department of Highways to Assist the St. Lawrence County Snowmobile Association to Install a Temporary Snowmobile Bridge on Lafaver Road over Elm Creek (Res) – Mr. Denesha moved to forward this resolution to full Board, seconded by Mr. Perkins, and carried by a voice vote with thirteen (13) yes votes, and two (2) absent (Curran and Sheridan).

E. Potsdam Outpost Update (Discussion) – Mr. Chambers

5. COUNTY ATTORNEY – STEVE BUTTON

A. Authorizing the Forgiveness of Interest, Penalties, and Certain Fees on the Property Known as “The Property of Frederick and Melinda Goss” Located at 9435 State Highway 37, Ogdensburg, New York, in the Town of Lisbon (Res) – Mr. Forsythe moved to forward this resolution to full Board, seconded by Mr. Perkins, and carried by a voice vote with thirteen (13) yes votes, and two (2) absent (Curran and Sheridan).

B. Authorizing the Chair to Sign a Contract with JEDA Environmental Services and AAC Contracting for Controlled Demolition on Properties Owned by Kristine and Jonathan Capone, Carmine Barba (Estate), Dennis Edwards and Tammy Groves, Trevor Harris, and Patrick Murphy Pursuant to the St. Lawrence County Blighted Residential Property Program (Res) – Mr. Perkins moved to forward this resolution to full Board, seconded by Mr. Fay.

Mr. Sheridan returned at 6:38 p.m.

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

C. Authorizing the Chair to Sign a Contract with Atlantic Testing Laboratories for air monitoring for Controlled Demolition on Properties owned by Kristine and Jonathan Capone, Carmine Barba (Estate), Dennis Edwards and Tammy Groves, Trevor Harris, and Patrick Murphy Pursuant to the St. Lawrence County Blighted Residential Property Program (Res) – Mr. Forsythe 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 (Curran).

6. TREASURER – DEB BRIDGES

A. Modifying the 2022 Budget for the Treasurer’s Office for Additional Sales Tax Distribution (Res) – Mr. Perkins moved to forward this resolution to full Board, seconded by Mr. Hull and Mr. Fay, and carried by a voice vote with fourteen (14) yes votes, and one (1) absent (Curran).

7. COMMUNITY SERVICES – JAY ULRICH

A. Authorizing the Chair to Sign a Contract for Funding From OASAS Substance Abuse Prevention and Treatment (SAPT) Block Grant Program and Modifying the 2023 Budget for Community Services (Res) – Mr. Perkins moved to forward this resolution to full Board, seconded by Mr. Hull, and carried by a voice vote with fourteen (14) yes votes, and one (1) absent (Curran).

8. WORKFORCE INNOVATIVE OPPORTUNITY ACT – PAM LEWIS

A. Establishing the Budget for the NY SCION Initiative (Res) – Mr. Perkins moved to forward this resolution to full Board, seconded by Mr. Reagen, and carried by a voice vote with fourteen (14) yes votes, and one (1) absent (Curran).

9. LEGISLATORS FORSYTHE AND PERKINS

A. Urging State Legislative Leaders to focus their Property Tax Relief Efforts on Fiscal Reforms that will lead to Permanent Property Tax Reduction by Assuming the Cost of State Programs Currently Paid by Counties (Res) – Mr. Lightfoot moved to forward this resolution to full Board, seconded by Mr. Denesha.

Ms. Haggard called a Point of Order.

Mr. Lightfoot, Mr. Hull, and Mr. Sheridan asked to be added as co-sponsors to this resolution.

Mr. Perkins asked for a friendly amendment to add all Counties of New York State to the list of officials to receive certified copies of the resolution.

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

10. LEGISLATOR PERKINS

A. Calling upon the New York State Public Service Commission to Grant the Application for Re-Energy Holdings, LLC for Designation of a Biomass Facility at Fort Drum Military Installation as a Renewable Energy Source (Res) – Mr. Denesha moved to forward this resolution to full Board, seconded by Mr. Smithers.

Mr. Smithers, Mr. Lightfoot, Mr. Denesha asked to be added as co-sponsors to this resolution.

Mr. Smithers asked for a friendly amendment to include United States Senator Kristen Gillibrand and Jefferson and Lewis Counties to the list of officials to receive copies of the resolution.

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

11. VACANCY REVIEW COMMITTEE – RUTH DOYLE

A. Treasurer – Ms. Bridges requested to fill a Deputy County Treasurer-Tax Supervisor, Position No. 105000001; fill a Property Tax Law Enforcement Supervisor, Position No. 106600001; and create and fill a Tax Collection Technician, Position No. 105900002 in the Treasurer's Office.

Ms. Terminelli left the room at 7:28 p.m., and returned at 7:30 p.m.

12. AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT (ARPA) FUNDS – RUTH DOYLE

A. Information and Update (Discussion) – Ms. Doyle

B. Authorizing the Chair to Sign Contracts Appropriating American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Funds for the Purpose of Funding Water and Sewer Infrastructure Projects in the Municipalities of Brasher, Canton, Clifton, Colton, Dekalb, Hermon, Heuvelton, Lisbon, Louisville, Madrid, Ogdensburg, Parishville and Modifying the 2023 Budget for the Planning Office (Res) (Info) – Mr. Fay moved to forward this resolution to full Board, seconded by Mr. Lightfoot and Mr. Reagen, and carried by a voice vote with fourteen (14) yes votes, and one (1) absent (Curran).

13. COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR’S REPORT – RUTH DOYLE

A. 2022 Fourth Quarter Financial Update (Info) – Ms. Doyle

B. Authorizing the Chair to Sign a Contract with CivicPlus, LLC for an Agenda & Meeting Management Software Platform and Modifying the 2023 Budget for the County Administrator’s Office (Res) – Mr. Forsythe moved to forward this resolution to full Board, seconded by Mr. Fay, and carried by a voice vote with fourteen (14) yes votes, and one (1) absent (Curran).

C. Modifying the 2022 Budget for the County Administrator’s Office for Costs Associated with Community College Tuition (Res) – Mr. Perkins 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 (Curran).

D. Modifying the 2022 Budget for the County Administrator’s Office for Funds Awarded for the Snowmobile Trail Grant (Res) – Mr. Denesha moved to forward this resolution to full Board, seconded by Mr. Lightfoot and Mr. Fay, and carried by a voice vote with fourteen (14) yes votes, and one (1) absent (Curran).

E. Modifying the 2022 Budget for the Assigned Counsel Program (Res) – Mr. Perkins 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 (Curran).

F. Employee Recognition Program (Discussion) – Ms. Doyle

Ms. Curran arrived at 8:19 p.m.

G. Requesting the New York State Legislature and Governor Adopt Legislation to Permit St. Lawrence County Home Rule to Extend the Sales Tax Rate as Previously Authorized from 3% to 4% (Res) – Mr. Perkins moved to forward this resolution to full Board, seconded by Mr. Forsythe, and carried unanimously by a voice vote with fifteen (15) yes votes.

H. Modifying the 2022 Budget for the Public Safety Complex Capital Renovation Project in the County Administrator’s Office (Res) – Mr. Denesha moved to forward this resolution to full Board, seconded by Mr. Perkins, and carried unanimously by a voice vote with fifteen (15) yes votes.

The Healthcare Committee met last week with Burnham Consultants regarding the pharmacy contract.

A debrief was held regarding the snowstorm event that happened on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day.

Public Health will be offering CPR Training for County staff.

Ms. Doyle said she and Real Property Director Bruce Green will be attending a Town Supervisor's Meeting on Tuesday to discuss chargebacks.

Furniture will be ordered for the DSS Massena Satellite Office. CPS Unit and Eligibility will be located in this office.

14. OLD AND NEW BUSINESS

A. Accepting the Recommendations of the County Administrator Regarding the 2022 Annual Vacancy Review Analysis Including Rescinding Resolution No. 281-2008 and Amending Resolution No. 304-2012 (Res) (*Note: This resolution was tabled and will need a motion to remove it from the table.*) – Mr. Denesha moved to remove this resolution from the table, seconded by Mr. Sheridan, and carried unanimously by a voice vote with fifteen (15) yes votes.

Ms. Terminelli moved to amend the resolution to strike a portion of the fifth bullet that states “and allow part time management/confidential staff to access benefits and prorated accruals”, seconded by Mr. Sheridan.

Ms. Terminelli made an amendment to her amendment to strike the entire fifth bullet that states “continue the practice and amend the 2021 recommendation of allowing temporary positions at the discretion of the County Administrator to assist with operational needs and allow part-time management/confidential staff to access benefits and prorated accruals”, seconded by Mr. Sheridan.

Mr. Hull called the question, seconded Ms. Haggard, and carried by a roll call vote with nine (9) yes votes, and six (6) no votes (Burke, Gennett, Lightfoot, Smithers, Denesha, and Fay).

Amendment failed by a roll call vote with eleven (11) no votes, and four (4) yes votes (Terminelli, Sheridan, Hull, and Haggard).

Mr. Hull made a motion to table the resolution to the February Finance Committee Meeting, seconded by Mr. Forsythe, and carried by a voice vote with ten (10) yes votes, and five (5) no votes (Perkins, Denesha, Smithers, Burke, and Terminelli).

Ms. Doyle reported one transfer of funds: \$470 for Emergency Services for mileage reimbursement.

Mr. Reagen asked for a resolution to be prepared in support of the reenactment of the battle of Ogdensburg that is scheduled in February.

Mr. Forsythe said it is unacceptable that nine (9) million gallons of sewage water, mixed with storm water, leaked into the St. Lawrence River in the City of Ogdensburg and the Black River in the City of Watertown.

Mr. Hull thanked the first responders who responded to the scene of the terrible traffic accident, and wanted to give his appreciation for the Countywide and beyond response to the accident.

Ms. Haggard said she, along with Legislators Reagan and Terminelli, will bring a resolution forward next week at the full Board Meeting recognizing February as Black History Month in St. Lawrence County.

Mr. Perkins moved to go into Executive Session at 9:28 p.m., to discuss negotiations, litigation, personnel, and appointments, seconded, and carried unanimously by a voice vote with fifteen (15) yes votes.

15. EXECUTIVE SESSION

Ms. Curran left the meeting at 9:28 p.m.

Mr. Denesha moved to go to Open Session at 10:04 p.m., seconded by Mr. Perkins, and carried by a voice vote with fourteen (14) yes votes, and one (1) absent (Curran).

16. ADJOURNMENT – Chair Gennett adjourned the January Finance Committee at 10:06 p.m., as there was no further business.