

Members Attending: **Mr. Gennett**, Mr. Burke, Ms. Curran, Mr. Denesha, Mr. Fay, ~~Mr. Forsythe~~, Ms. Haggard, Mr. Hull, Mr. Lightfoot, Mr. Perkins, Mr. Reagen, Mr. Sheridan, Mr. Smithers, Ms. Terminelli, and Mr. Webster

Chair Gennett said that due to extenuating circumstances Mr. Sheridan is attending remotely as announced, and Ms. Terminelli will be attending remotely from 23 Walnut Street, Massena.

1. CALL TO ORDER AND APPROVAL OF AGENDA – Legislator Gennett called the meeting to order at 5:36 p.m. Ms. Curran moved to amend the agenda to remove Item 11A from the agenda, seconded by Mr. Hull, and carried by a voice vote with fourteen (14) yes votes, and one (1) absent (Forsythe).

Ms. Curran moved to approve the agenda as amended, seconded by Mr. Perkins, 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 February 27th meeting minutes, seconded by Mr. Perkins, and carried by a voice vote with fourteen (14) yes votes, and one (1) absent (Forsythe).

3. UPDATES REGARDING THE DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY OF THE NORTH COUNTRY (DANC) – Alex MacKinnon and Mark Hall, DANC Board of Directors

Ms. Terminelli left the meeting at 6:16 p.m.

4. HIGHWAY – DON CHAMBERS

A. Modifying the 2023 Budget for the Department of Highways from New York Power Authority for Funding Received for Damages Caused to County Route 23 during the Smart Path Project (Res) – Ms. Curran moved to forward this resolution to full Board, seconded by Mr. Burke, and carried by a voice vote with thirteen (13) yes votes, and two (2) absent (Forsythe and Terminelli).

B. Authorizing the Chair to Sign a Contract with J.E. Sheehan Contracting Corporation for Rehabilitation of Skate Creek Road Bridge over Oswegatchie River, BIN 3340930, Town of Fine (Res) – Ms. Curran moved to forward this resolution to full Board, seconded by Mr. Lightfoot, and carried by a voice vote with twelve (12) yes votes, one (1) abstained (Perkins), and two (2) absent (Forsythe and Terminelli).

C. Approving Federal Aid Local Project Supplemental Agreement for Right-of-Way Acquisition for Lazy River Road Bridge Over Grasse River, PIN 775332, BIN 3341820 (Res) – Mr. Perkins moved to forward this resolution to full Board, seconded by Ms. Curran, and carried by a voice vote with thirteen (13) yes votes, and two (2) absent (Forsythe and Terminelli).

D. Authorizing the County of St. Lawrence to Accept Real Property Obtained by the State of New York Relative to the Lazy River Road Over Grasse River Bridge Replacement Project, PIN 7753.32, bin 3341820 (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, and two (2) absent (Forsythe and Terminelli).

E. Authorizing the Chair to Sign a Contract with Barton and Loguidice, D.P.C., for Design and Environmental Permitting for Proposed Multi-Use Trail Segment from Morgan Road to Picketville Road (Res) – Mr. Perkins moved to forward this resolution to full Board, seconded by Ms. Curran.

Trail Coordinator Deb Christy spoke to the resolution.

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

F. Authorizing the Chair to Sign a St. Lawrence River Valley Redevelopment Agency & Community Development & Environmental Improvement Fund Application for the Multi-Use Recreational Trail System in St. Lawrence County (Res) – Ms. Curran moved to forward this resolution to full Board, seconded by Mr. Perkins.

Trail Coordinator Deb Christy spoke to the resolution.

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

G. Resolution Authorizing Submission of Comments and Recommendations to the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (“NYSDEC”) Regarding the South Colton Conservation Easement Recreation Management Plan (Res) – Mr. Perkins moved to forward this resolution to full Board, seconded by Mr. Denesha, and carried by a voice vote with thirteen (13) yes votes, and two (2) absent (Forsythe and Terminelli).

5. WORKFORCE INNOVATION AND OPPORTUNITY ACT (WIOA) – PAM LEWIS

A. Modifying the PY22 WIOA Budget to Transfer Formula Funds from Dislocated Worker Accounts to Adult Accounts (Res) – Mr. Perkins moved to forward this resolution to full Board, seconded by Ms. Curran, and carried by a voice vote with thirteen (13) yes votes, and two (2) absent (Forsythe and Terminelli).

6. COUNTY ATTORNEY – STEVE BUTTON

A. Setting the Allocation Algorithm for Workers’ Compensation Plan Participants for 2024, 2025, and 2026 (Res) – Ms. Curran moved to forward this resolution to full Board, seconded by Mr. Lightfoot, and carried by a voice vote with thirteen (13) yes votes, and two (2) absent (Forsythe and Terminelli).

B. Authorizing and Approving a Settlement Agreement between Walmart, Walgreens, CVS 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, and two (2) absent (Forsythe and Terminelli).

7. VACANCY REVIEW COMMITTEE – RUTH DOYLE

A. Highway – Mr. Chambers requested to fill a Motor Equipment Operator, Position No. 310000027, in the Highway Department.

8. LEGISLATOR JIM REAGEN AND DAVID FORSYTHE

A. St. Lawrence County Board of Legislators Supports a Request by the City of Ogdensburg and Supports Senate Bill S4810 and Assembly Bill A5276 that Allows for the Taxation of State Property Located in the City of Ogdensburg (Res) – Mr. Lightfoot moved to forward this resolution to full Board, seconded by Mr. Reagen.

Mr. Denesha, Mr. Lightfoot, Ms. Curran, Mr. Hull, Mr. Sheridan, Mr. Perkins, and Mr. Webster asked to be added as co-sponsors to this resolution.

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

9. LEGISLATOR JOHN BURKE

A. Commemorating the Bicentennial of the Town of Norfolk (Res) – Mr. Perkins moved to forward this resolution to full Board, seconded by Ms. Curran, and carried by a voice vote with thirteen (13) yes votes, and two (2) absent (Forsythe and Terminelli).

10. AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT (ARPA) UPDATE – RUTH DOYLE

A. Authorizing the Chair to Sign Contracts Appropriating American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Funds for the Purpose of Funding Broadband Development and Installation Projects and Modifying the 2023 Budget for the County Administrator’s Office (Res) – Mr. Perkins moved to forward this resolution to full Board, seconded by Mr. Reagen.

Planning Director, Jason Pfothauer, spoke to the resolution.

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

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

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

11. COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR’S REPORT – RUTH DOYLE

A. Authorizing the Chair to Sign a Contract with the St. Lawrence County Bar Association for the 2023-2026 Assigned Counsel Contract (Res) – This item was removed from the agenda.

B. Modifying the 2023 Budget for the County Administrator’s Office for the Upgrade of Electronic Work Order Software to Include a Smart Phone Application (Res) – Ms. Curran moved to forward this resolution to full Board, seconded by Mr. Hull.

Buildings and Grounds Superintendent, Jim Trathen, spoke to the resolution.

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

C. Authorizing the Chair to Sign a Contract for Heating and Cooling Water System Treatment and Legionella Prevention Program Services for County Buildings (Res) – Ms. Curran moved to forward this resolution to full Board, seconded by Mr. Perkins.

Buildings and Grounds Superintendent, Jim Trathen, spoke to the resolution.

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

D. Celebrating April as National County Government Month and Commemorating a Milestone Birthday of an Original Member of the St. Lawrence County Board of Legislators (Res) – Ms. Curran moved to forward this resolution to full Board, seconded by Mr. Perkins.

Mr. Reagen, Ms. Haggard, Mr. Lightfoot, Mr. Sheridan, Mr. Fay, Mr. Denesha, and Mr. Burke asked to be added as a co-sponsors to this resolution.

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

E. Authorizing Salary Matrix Changes for CSEA Grade 7 for 2023 and 2024 (Res) – Ms. Curran moved to forward this resolution to full Board, seconded by Mr. Smithers, and carried by a voice vote with thirteen (13) yes votes, and two (2) absent (Forsythe and Terminelli).

Ms. Doyle said work began today in front of the Harold B. Smith Building on a bus pull-off lane and shelter to better serve the public using public transportation. This project is funded by a grant, and the work will be done by the Highway Department.

The resolution adopted in March extending the Sales and Compensating Use Tax for three (3) years for St. Lawrence County has to be re-done. We will request our State Senator and Assemblyman to reintroduce new Bills for a two (2) year term, to expire on November 30, 2025.

A survey has been distributed to Legislators regarding holding a meeting at the County Fair, a Highway Tour, and an Ag Tour.

County staff will attend an update on the Smart Path Connect Project.

The number of individuals in the Jail has been on the rise with the number today being 131, and of those, 61 are on MAT Program. A Budget modification will be needed for MAT Program, and a resolution will be prepared for the Operations Committee. Also the regular prescription account will need a budget modification, as well.

Ms. Doyle said discussions are still in progress on the Indigent Defense contract.

A resolution will come forward on the Full Board agenda authorizing a continuation of a contract with the Rural Law Center for appeals.

12. COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. Cornell Cooperative Extension Board – Mr. Denesha

B. Fish and Wildlife Management Board, Region 6 – Mr. Sheridan

- C. Fisheries Advisory Board – no report
- D. Gouverneur Fair Board – no report
- E. Highway/Solid Waste Committee – no report
- F. Industrial Development Agency – no report
- G. Recreational and Trails Advisory Board – Mr. Perkins
- H. St. Lawrence River Valley Redevelopment Agency (RVRDA) – no report
- I. St. Lawrence County Chamber of Commerce – Mr. Webster
- J. Soil & Water Conservation District Board of Directors – Mr. Burke

13. OLD AND NEW BUSINESS

A. Setting a Date for a Public Hearing on Proposed Local Law A (No. ___) for the Year 2023, “Exemptions for Certain Members of Volunteer Fire Companies and Ambulance Services in St. Lawrence County Pursuant to Section 466-A of the Real Property Tax Law” and Repealing Local Law No. 2 for the Year 2005 in St. Lawrence County (NOTE: This resolution was tabled at the February Finance Committee Meeting, a motion will need to be made to remove it from the table for consideration.) – There was no motion made to remove this from the Table.

Mr. Reagan said he will bring forward a resolution to the next meeting to urge the New York State Legislature adopt the Local Journalism Sustainability Act.

Mr. Denesha said the Antique Motorcycle Club of America and the Village of Waddington will be hosting an Antique Motorcycle Show which includes a swap meet, field events, and bike show on June 2-4, 2023.

Ms. Curran moved to go to Executive Session at 8:01 p.m., to discuss negotiations, litigation, personnel, and appointments, seconded by Mr. Hull, and carried by a voice vote with thirteen (13) yes votes, and two (2) absent (Forsythe and Terminelli).

14. EXECUTIVE SESSION

Ms. Curran moved to go to Open Session at 9:06 p.m., seconded by Mr. Smithers, and carried by a voice vote with thirteen (13) yes votes, and two (2) absent (Forsythe and Terminelli).

15. ADJOURNMENT – Mr. Gennett adjourned the March Finance Committee Meeting at 9:06 p.m., as there was no further business.