

The Chair called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL: All Legislators were present with the exception of Mr. Gennett.

Mr. Denesha offered the prayer followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA: Ms. Curran moved to amend the agenda to remove Item 3 from Presentation of Resolutions as it failed at Committee and should not have been included on the agenda, seconded by Mr. Perkins, and carried by a voice vote with fourteen (14) yes votes, and one (1) absent (Gennett).

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 (Gennett).

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Mr. Perkins moved to approve the August 7, 2023 meeting minutes, seconded by Mr. Sheridan and Ms. Curran, and carried by a voice vote with fourteen (14) yes votes, and one (1) absent (Gennett).

A moment of silence was held to reflect upon the 22nd anniversary of September 11th.

SUICIDE AWARENESS COALITION PRESENTATION – Co-Chairs Lindsay Best and Anne Marie Snell

PRESENTATION OF A RESOLUTION

Services Committee: 8-21-2023

RESOLUTION NO. 270-2023

**PROCLAIMING SEPTEMBER AS NATIONAL SUICIDE
PREVENTION MONTH IN ST. LAWRENCE COUNTY**

By Mr. Hull, Chair, Services Committee
Co-Sponsored by Ms. Haggard, District 10; Mr. Burke, District 12;
Ms. Terminelli, District 14 and Ms. Curran, District 15

WHEREAS, the month of September is a time set aside for communities to discuss proactive suicide prevention and mental health, share resources, help spread awareness about suicide, and work together with a goal of preventing this most tragic act, and

WHEREAS, as one of the fastest growing epidemics across the Country, suicidal thoughts can plague anyone regardless of age, gender, and social status, and according to the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention, suicide is the second leading cause of death among individuals between the ages of 10 and 34 with more than 48,000 people dying by suicide annually in the United States, and

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WHEREAS, mental health organizations and advocates serve on the front lines working hard to start conversations that will help de-stigmatize mental health and suicide, educate, raise awareness, spread hope, and help to connect people with the appropriate support services, and

WHEREAS, all residents are encouraged to take time to understand mental health, and rally together and play a role in their communities sending a clear, hopeful message that help is available, and

WHEREAS, supporting one another, learning warning signs, knowing risk factors, and having open and honest conversation can save lives and make a difference in our communities, and

WHEREAS, the St. Lawrence County Suicide Awareness Coalition will host an event September 16th-22nd called “Chalk the Walk and Have the Talk” encouraging individuals and businesses to chalk messages of hope and resilience outside homes, businesses, schools, and churches in an effort to start conversations, and promote suicide prevention, mental wellness, and stigma reduction,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Legislators proclaims September as National Suicide Prevention Month in St. Lawrence County.

Mr. Hull moved to adopt Resolution No. 270-2023, seconded by Ms. Curran, Mr. Perkins, Mr. Burke, Mr. Webster, Ms. Haggard, Ms. Terminelli, Mr. Denesha, Mr. Lightfoot, Mr. Sheridan and Mr. Forsythe, and carried by a voice vote with fourteen (14) yes votes, and one (1) absent (Gennett).

COMMUNICATIONS: The following correspondence were read by the Deputy Clerk:

1. A resolution was received from Cattaraugus County urging Governor Hochul and the New York State Legislature to properly fund New York State mandated local programs.
2. Two resolutions were received from Greene County: (1) A resolution opposing Senate Bill S6637 regarding amending Section 606 of the Tax Law, and (2) A resolution in opposition to New York State Senate Bill S139B and New York State Assembly Bill A1358B, an act to amend the Uniform Justice Court Act, the Town Law and the Village Law in relation to requiring certain town and village justices be admitted to practice law in the State.
3. On a personal note, a card was received from my family thanking the Board for the kinds words of care and sympathy, for the floral arrangement, food, and to those who attended calling hours for my father, David Hurlbut. I’m beyond grateful for all of you. Thank you.

CITIZEN PARTICIPATION:

John Wayne Johnson of the Town of Hammond; Madeline Pennington of DAR; Kevin Beary of Colton; and Joan Fischer of Canton.

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PRESENTATION OF RESOLUTIONS:

Operations Committee: 8-14-2023

RESOLUTION NO. 271-2023

**MODIFYING THE 2023 BUDGET FOR PROBATION FOR COSTS
ASSOCIATED WITH DOCUMENT MANAGEMENT**

By Ms. Curran, Chair, Operations Committee

WHEREAS, the Probation Department outsources for data imaging and shredding services with New York State Industries for the Disabled, Inc. (NYSID), and

WHEREAS, a transfer of funds is needed to cover the cost of this invoice and any others that may arrive throughout the end of 2023, as it exceeds the amount that the County Administrator is authorized to transfer,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Legislators authorizes the Treasurer to modify the 2023 Budget for Probation for costs associated with document management, as follows:

DECREASE APPROPRIATIONS:

B1014604 43006	B Document Management	\$7,020
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INCREASE APPROPRIATIONS:

Q1031404 43006	Q Document Management	\$7,020
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Ms. Curran moved to adopt Resolution No. 271-2023, seconded by Mr. Hull, and carried by a roll call vote with fourteen (14) yes votes, and one (1) absent (Gennett).

Operations Committee: 8-14-2023

RESOLUTION NO. 272-2023

**AUTHORIZING THE CHAIR TO SIGN AN AGREEMENT WITH
DISCOVER eGOV FOR THE ASSIGNMENT OF THE CONTRACT WITH
DISCOVER eGOV TO GOVERNMENTJOBS.COM, INC. D/B/A NEOGOV**

By Ms. Curran, Chair, Operations Committee

WHEREAS, on March 8, 2019, the County entered into an agreement with Discover eGov for computer software to support the civil service records maintenance system, Roster Card

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application, for St. Lawrence County, and

WHEREAS, the Roster Card software provides the capability to process, record, and track the employment status of public employees, exams, exam applicants, eligible lists, certified lists, and payroll certification, as well as providing an application web-based portal with capabilities of online applications, online exam fee payments, applicant email alerts for future exams, and etc., and

WHEREAS, the contract with Discover eGov allowed for automatic annual renewals for maintenance and support fees (CP014304 42004), as follows, and

2020	\$5,700
2021	\$5,700
2022	\$5,700
2023	\$5,700
2024	\$5,900
2025	\$6,100
2026	\$6,300
2027	\$6,500
2028	\$6,700

WHEREAS, the current agreement with Discover eGov remains in effect through December 31, 2028, and

WHEREAS, Discover eGov has sold to NEOGOV and NEOGOV will become the counterparty to the agreement with Discover eGov and assume all obligations and liabilities, and

WHEREAS, it is anticipated that benefits to this assignment will include enhanced functionality and additional products (i.e. onboarding, training, etc.),

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Legislators authorizes the Chair to sign an agreement with Discover eGov for the assignment of the contract with Discover eGov to GovernmentJobs.com, Inc. d/b/a/ NEOGOV, upon approval of the County Attorney.

Ms. Curran moved to adopt Resolution No. 272-2023, seconded by Mr. Perkins and Mr. Burke, and carried by a voice vote with fourteen (14) yes votes, and one (1) absent (Gennett).

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Services Committee: 8-21-2023

RESOLUTION NO. 273-2023

MODIFYING THE 2023 BUDGET FOR THE OFFICE FOR THE AGING FOR AGING AND DISABILITY RESOURCE CENTER (ADRC) COVID FUNDS

By Mr. Hull, Chair, Services Committee

WHEREAS, earlier in 2023 the Office for the Aging received Aging and Disability Resource Center (ADRC) COVID-19 funding from the New York State Office for the Aging (NYSOFA), and

WHEREAS, this funding was allocated to increase information and access to COVID-19 vaccines for older adults at public events, and

WHEREAS, the Office for the Aging partnered with Hospice to provide educational presentations throughout the County distributing the book, *Roadmaps for the Journey's End*, an advanced planning guide for older adults, and

WHEREAS, the Office for the Aging provided COVID-19 vaccine information and the opportunity to register for vaccines at these events,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Legislators authorizes the Treasurer to modify the 2023 Budget for the Office for the Aging for Aging and Disability Resource Center (ADRC) COVID-19 funds, as follows:

INCREASE APPROPRIATIONS:

OA067724 43007 CVD	O CVD Other Fees & Services	\$7,695
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INCREASE REVENUE:

OA047725 57000 CVD	ADRC COVID-19 Grant Funding	\$7,695
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Mr. Hull moved to adopt Resolution No. 273-2023, seconded by Mr. Denesha, Ms. Curran, and Mr. Perkins, and carried by a roll call vote with fourteen (14) yes votes, and one (1) absent (Gennett).

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Services Committee: 8-21-2023

RESOLUTION NO. 274-2023

**MODIFYING THE 2023 BUDGET FOR THE OFFICE FOR THE AGING
FOR FOOD PURCHASES AND PERSONAL CARE SERVICES**

By Mr. Hull, Chair, Services Committee

WHEREAS, since the COVID-19 pandemic the Office for the Aging has had considerable increases in the amount of meals prepared on a daily basis at nutrition centers, and

WHEREAS, food costs have increased significantly over the past two (2) years, and prices are remaining high, and

WHEREAS, since the expiration of the Emergency SNAP Benefits, a large number of older adults have become food insecure and are requesting food services, and

WHEREAS, New York State has increased the minimum hourly wage for home health aides, and subsequently home health care agencies have increased hourly rates to offset the increased costs in order to continue providing services, and

WHEREAS, older adults rely on the home health aides to provide critical services to help them remain safely in their homes for as long as possible, and

WHEREAS, in order to continue to serve vulnerable older adults in the County, a budget modification is necessary to pay for food items and personal care services for the remainder of the year,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Legislators authorizes the Treasurer to modify the 2023 Budget for the Office for the Aging for food purchases and personal care services, as follows:

INCREASE APPROPRIATIONS:

OA067724 43007	O PFA Other Fees & Services	\$100,000
ON067724 45200	O Nutr Food & Supplies Expense	<u>200,000</u>
		\$300,000

DECREASE APPROPRIATIONS:

B1019904 49700	B SPEC Contingency Account	\$300,000
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Mr. Hull moved to adopt Resolution No. 274-2023, seconded by Mr. Lightfoot, Mr. Smithers, Mr. Denesha, Ms. Curran, and Mr. Webster, and carried by a roll call vote with fourteen (14) yes votes, and one (1) absent (Gennett).

Services Committee: 8-21-2023

RESOLUTION NO. 275-2023

MODIFYING THE 2023 BUDGET FOR COMMUNITY SERVICES FOR FUNDING RECEIVED FROM NEW YORK STATE OFFICE OF MENTAL HEALTH (OMH) AND OFFICE OF ALCOHOL AND SUBSTANCE ABUSE SERVICES (OASAS) TO ST. LAWRENCE COUNTY AS PASS-THROUGH FUNDING TO APPROVED AGENCIES

By Mr. Hull, Chair, Services Committee

WHEREAS, Community Services has received updated New York State OMH State Aid and OASAS funding authorizations to St. Lawrence County as pass through funding for community agencies that includes salary and fringe support adjustments, and

WHEREAS, this is one-hundred percent (100%) pass-through funding for contract agencies,

WHEREAS, these State Aid increases are the result of the Governor’s enacted 2023-24 budget which calls for a four percent (4%) cost of living adjustment (COLA) for providers of mental health services, and additionally Community Services received an OMH State Aide COLA increase of \$11,546,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Legislators authorizes the Treasurer to modify the 2023 Budget for Community Services for funding received from New York State Office of Mental Health (OMH) and Office of Alcohol and Substance Abuse (OASAS) funding to St. Lawrence County as pass through funding to approved agencies, as follows:

INCREASE APPROPRIATIONS:

A2442504 46500	A SEACAP Other Advances	\$46,250
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INCREASE REVENUE:

A2434865 56000	A SA SEACAP Alcohol Addiction	\$46,250
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INCREASE APPROPRIATIONS:

A4143224 465AR	A CSS ARC	\$689
A4143224 465CA	A CSS Citizen Advocates Advances	584
A4143224 465CC	A CSS Catholic Charities	153
A4143224 465RO	A CSS Reachout Advances	2,023
A4143224 465SV	A CSS Seaway Valley Prevention Council	1,327
A4243224 465AR	A CRV ARC Advances	420
A4243224 465CC	A CRV Catholic Charities	2,513
A4243224 465RO	A CRV Reachout Advances	3,518
A4243224 465TL	A CRV NCTLS Advances	490
A4243224 465UH	A CRV United Helpers Advances	1,805
A4343224 465RO	A CPP Reachout Advances	1,057
A4343224 465SS	A CPP Step by Step Advances	2,384
A4443224 465CH	A OFS CHJC Advances	630
A4443224 465 NR	A OFS NRCIL Advances	5,415
A4443224 465TL	A OFS NCTLS Advances	<u>6,628</u>
		\$29,636

INCREASE REVENUE:

A4134905 56000	A SA CSS Mental Health	4,776
A4234905 56000	A SA CR Other Mental Health P	8,746
A4334905 56000	A SA CPP Other Mental Health P	3,441
A4434905 56000	A SA OFS Other Mental Health P	<u>12,673</u>
		\$29,636

DECREASE APPROPRIATIONS:

A4143224 465SS	A CSS Step by Step Advances	\$15,589
A4243224 465SS	A CRV Step by Step Advances	6,916
A4443224 465AR	A ARC Advances	7,817
A4443224 465UH	A OFS United Helpers Advances	<u>20,993</u>
		\$51,315

DECREASE REVENUE:

A4134905 56000	A SA CSS Mental Health	\$15,589
A4234905 56000	A SA CR Other Mental Health P	6,916
A4434905 56000	A SA OFS Other Mental Health P	<u>28,810</u>
		\$51,315

Mr. Hull moved to adopt Resolution No. 275-2023, seconded by Mr. Burke, Ms. Curran, and Mr. Perkins, and carried by a roll call vote with fourteen (14) yes votes, and one (1) absent (Gennett).

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Services Committee: 8-21-2023

RESOLUTION NO. 276-2023

AUTHORIZING THE CHAIR TO SIGN A CONTRACT WITH THE OFFICE OF ALCOHOL AND SUBSTANCE ABUSE SERVICES (OASAS) FOR AN OUTREACH AND ENGAGEMENT CLINIC MODEL GRANT

By Mr. Hull, Chair, Services Committee

WHEREAS, Community Services has been awarded the OASAS Outreach and Engagement Clinic Model Grant funded through the New York State Opioid Settlement Funds, and

WHEREAS, the funding is to be used to support outreach and engagement through case management services designed to reach underserved populations with Opioid Use Disorders (OUD) across New York State, and

WHEREAS, the majority of this grant funding is requested to create two Health Home Care Coordinators to bridge the gaps that deter individuals with substance use disorders, in combination with other co-occurring health issue, from meaningful access to recovery services, and

WHEREAS, the Board of Legislators recognizes the need for increased access for individuals with OUD to recovery services in St. Lawrence County, and

WHEREAS, this is a one-time only funding of \$489,614 for the contract period of the grant which starts October 1, 2023 and ends October 30, 2025,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Legislators authorizes the Chair to sign a contract with the Office of Alcohol and Substance Abuse Services (OASAS) for an Outreach and Engagement Clinic Model Grant, upon approval of the County Attorney.

Mr. Hull moved to adopt Resolution No. 276-2023, seconded by Mr. Burke and Ms. Curran, and carried by a voice vote with fourteen (14) yes votes, and one (1) absent (Gennett).

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Services Committee: 8-21-2023

RESOLUTION NO. 277-2023

**AUTHORIZATION TO FILL A MEDICAL CONSULTANT POSITION
IN THE PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT**

By Mr. Hull, Chair, Services Committee

WHEREAS, Public Health Law §614 and §352 requires the Public Health Department to have a Medical Consultant, and

WHEREAS, Dr. Christopher Comeau, serving in this capacity for St. Lawrence County since 2016, has submitted a letter of resignation from this position,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Legislators authorizes the appointment of Dr. Zachary Mashaw as Medical Consultant in the Public Health Department, not to exceed \$10,000 annually with salary and benefits.

Mr. Hull moved to adopt Resolution No. 277-2023, seconded by Mr. Smithers and Ms. Curran, and carried by a voice vote with fourteen (14) yes votes, and one (1) absent (Gennett).

Services Committee: 8-21-2023

RESOLUTION NO. 278-2023

**MODIFYING THE 2023 BUDGET FOR THE PUBLIC HEALTH
DEPARTMENT FOR THE NEW YORK STATE PUBLIC HEALTH CORPS
(NYSPHC) FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM**

By Mr. Hull, Chair, Services Committee

WHEREAS, Health Research Inc./New York State Department of Health (HRI/NYSDOH), through a Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) sponsored cooperative agreement for Epidemiology and Laboratory Capacity (ELC) for Infectious Diseases, awarded funding to local health departments (LHDs) for the New York State Public Health Corps (NYSPHC) Fellowship Program in 2021, and

WHEREAS, the NYSDOH will work with LHDs and community partners to recruit and deploy NYSPHC fellows across the State (excluding New York City), who will commit to a full-time, paid position and at least a one-year term, and

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WHEREAS, this program will support up to ten (10) fellows annually, of which up to one (1) would be Graduate Fellows, and a local Coordinator to help build public health capacity to support COVID-19 response operations and increase preparedness for future public health emergencies, and provide support for coordination and maintenance of the program, and

WHEREAS, Resolution No. 236-2021 authorized the signing of a contract with Health Research Inc./New York State Department of Health (HRI/NYSDOH) for the New York State Public Health Corps (NYSPHC) Fellowship Program,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Legislators authorizes the Treasurer to modify the 2023 Budget for the Public Health Department for the New York State Public Health Corps (NYSPHC) Fellowship Program, as follows:

INCREASE REVENUE:

PPZ44895 57000 PHC	P PHC Federal Aid	\$53,270
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INCREASE APPROPRIATIONS:

PPZ40102 22002 PHC	P PHC Personal Computers	\$6,020
PPZ40104 21000 PHC	P PHC Furniture & Furnishings	1,200
PPZ40104 41102 PHC	P PHC Educational Workshops	4,000
PPZ40104 41901 PHC	P PHC I/D Central Printing	100
PPZ40104 42000 PHC	P PHC Office Supplies And Expenses	1,100
PPZ40104 42004 PHC	P PHC Computer Software	17,600
PPZ40104 42600 PHC	P PHC Books & Periodicals	150
PPZ40104 43005 PHC	P PHC Advertising Fees & Expense	2,500
PPZ40104 43007 PHC	P PHC Other Fees & Services	<u>4,600</u>
		\$53,270

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that any remaining funds will be rolled over to future budgets until fully expended.

Mr. Hull moved to adopt Resolution No. 278-2023, seconded by Mr. Lightfoot and Ms. Curran, and carried by a roll call vote with fourteen (14) yes votes, and one (1) absent (Gennett).

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Finance Committee: 8-28-2023

RESOLUTION NO. 279-2023

AUTHORIZING THE CHAIR TO SIGN A CONTRACT FOR A PREFABRICATED BOOTH FOR THE OGDENSBURG TRANSFER STATION

By Mr. Gennett, Chair, Finance Committee

WHEREAS, Resolution No. 294-2022 authorized the Chair to sign contracts for the construction of a recycling transfer facility at the Ogdensburg Transfer Station, and

WHEREAS, the Project is nearing completion and a design flaw requires some additional work to ensure the same level of service to customers is continued, and

WHEREAS, a recommendation has been made to add a structure at end of the new scale area for the safety of customers at the Ogdensburg Transfer Station, and

WHEREAS, the Solid Waste Department solicited bids for the purchase and delivery of a prefabricated booth for the Ogdensburg Transfer Station, and

WHEREAS, the lowest responsible bidder for this project has been determined,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Legislators authorizes the Chair to sign a contract for a prefabricated booth for the Ogdensburg Transfer Station, upon approval of the County Attorney, as follows:

Contractor:	Porta-King Building Systems
Amount:	\$28,034
Contract Title:	Purchase and Delivery of Prefabricated Booth for St. Lawrence County Ogdensburg Transfer Station WT081604 40800

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Chair is authorized to sign any further documents necessary to complete the purchase and installation of a prefabricated booth for the Ogdensburg Transfer Station, upon approval of the County Attorney.

Mr. Perkins moved to adopt Resolution No. 279-2023, seconded by Mr. Hull, Mr. Lightfoot, and Ms. Curran, and carried by a voice vote with fourteen (14) yes votes, and one (1) absent (Gennett).

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Finance Committee: 8-28-2023

RESOLUTION NO. 280-2023

AUTHORIZING THE CHAIR TO SIGN A CONTRACT WITH BARTON & LOGUIDICE, D.P.C. FOR ENGINEERING SERVICES TO REPLACE COUNTY ROUTE 49 LARGE CULVERT OVER HOPKINTON BROOK, 49-1-59BC

By Mr. Gennett, Chair, Finance Committee

WHEREAS, the Board of Legislators approved and funded Capital Bridge Projects, and

WHEREAS, the Department of Highways has solicited qualifications for engineering services for the replacement of County Road 49 large culvert over Hopkinton Brook, and

WHEREAS, the best qualified consultant for this project has been determined,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Legislators does hereby approve the following contract to:

Consultant: Barton & Loguidice, D.P.C.

Contract Title: County Road 49 over Hopkinton Brook
Town of Hopkinton

Engineering Fee: Not to Exceed \$59,200
HM551124 430ED B25

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of Legislators authorizes the Chair to sign a contract with Barton & Loguidice, D.P.C. for engineering services to replace County Route 49 large culvert over Hopkinton Brook, 49-1-59BC, upon approval of the County Attorney.

Mr. Perkins moved to adopt Resolution No. 280-2023, seconded by Mr. Smithers and Ms. Curran, and carried by a voice vote with fourteen (14) yes votes, and one (1) absent (Gennett).

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Finance Committee: 8-28-2023

RESOLUTION NO. 281-2023

**AUTHORIZING THE CHAIR TO SIGN A CONTRACT RENEWAL WITH
J. J. KELLER & ASSOCIATES, INC. FOR THE ENTRY-LEVEL DRIVER
TRAINING (ELDT) TRAINER CERTIFICATION PROGRAM**

By Mr. Gennett, Chair, Finance Committee

WHEREAS, the Department of Highways utilizes various pieces of motor equipment in its daily operations, and

WHEREAS, a New York State Commercial Driver's License (CDL), Class A and Class B, is required to operate this equipment, and the current labor market has made it increasingly difficult to hire and retain qualified licensed individuals, and

WHEREAS, the Department of Highways entered into a one (1) year contract with J. J. Keller & Associates, Inc. (J. J. Keller) in 2022 to provide St. Lawrence County with an Entry-Level Driver Training (ELDT) Trainer Certification Program for entry-level driver training for CDLs, Class A & B, and

WHEREAS, since that time, the Department of Highways has had five (5) employees successfully complete the course and obtain CDLs, and

WHEREAS, with the success of this program, the Department wishes to renew the contract with J. J. Keller at a cost of \$670 per month for the first year, and \$345 per month thereafter (HM351104 41102),

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Legislators authorizes the Chair to sign a contract renewal with J. J. Keller & Associates, Inc. for the Entry-Level Driver Training (ELDT) Trainer Certification Program, upon approval of the County Attorney.

Mr. Perkins moved to adopt Resolution No. 281-2023, seconded by Ms. Curran, Mr. Webster, and Mr. Fay, and carried by a voice vote with fourteen (14) yes votes, and one (1) absent (Gennett).

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Finance Committee: 8-28-2023

RESOLUTION NO. 282-2023

**AUTHORIZING THE CHAIR TO SIGN A CONTRACT WITH THE
ST. LAWRENCE COUNTY FIRE TRAINING FACILITY INC., FOR
PRIORITY USE OF THE TRAINING FACILITY BY THE PARTICIPANTS
OF THE ST. LAWRENCE COUNTY SELF-INSURANCE PLAN**

By Mr. Gennett, Chair, Finance Committee

WHEREAS, the St. Lawrence County Self-Insurance Plan had previously contracted with the St. Lawrence County Fire Training Facility, Inc., to provide priority access to the facility and training of the participants of the St. Lawrence County Self-Insurance Plan, and that agreement expires December 31, 2023, and

WHEREAS, the St. Lawrence County Self-Insurance Plan wishes to sign a new contract for one (1) year to begin January 1, 2024, expiring on December 31, 2024, and

WHEREAS, an annual payment of \$35,000 (LI017104 46000) will be made in quarterly payments to the St. Lawrence County Fire Training Facility,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED the Board of Legislators authorizes the Chair to sign a contract with the St. Lawrence County Fire Training Facility, Inc., for priority use of the training facility by the participants of the St. Lawrence County Self-Insurance Plan, upon approval of the County Attorney, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that an annual payment of \$35,000 be made, payable in quarterly payments, to the St. Lawrence County Fire Training Facility.

Mr. Perkins moved to adopt Resolution No. 282-2023, seconded by Mr. Denesha and Ms. Curran, and carried by a voice vote with fourteen (14) yes votes, and one (1) absent (Gennett).

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Finance Committee: 8-28-2023

RESOLUTION NO. 283-2023

AUTHORIZING THE CHAIR TO SIGN A CONTRACT WITH ODIN ENVIRONMENTAL FOR ENVIRONMENTAL INVESTIGATIONS ON PROPERTY OWNED BY THE REDDICK REVOCABLE TRUST, ELENOR R. MALLETTE, SCOTT T. FERRY, DORIS E. MILLER, AND BRADLEY L. FINLEY, JR.

By Mr. Gennett, Chair, Finance Committee

WHEREAS, the County has commenced an In Rem real property tax foreclosure proceeding for delinquent taxes pursuant to Article 11 of the Real Property Tax Law against properties owned by The Reddick Revocable Trust located at 45 Murdock St, Town of Gouverneur, County of St. Lawrence, State of New York with Tax Map No. 173.039-1-9 and 51 Owl Rd, County of St. Lawrence, State of New York with Tax Map No. 173.001-4-8; and against property owned by Elenor R. Mallette located at 58 SH 3, Town of Pitcairn, County of St. Lawrence, State of New York with Tax Map No. 221.001-1-29.1; and against property owned by Scott T. Ferry located at 6911 SH 56, Town of Potsdam, County of St. Lawrence, State of New York with Tax Map No. 53.066-1-6; and against property owned by Doris E. Miller located at 6917 SH 56, Town of Potsdam, County of St. Lawrence, State of New York with Tax Map No. 53.066-1-5; and against property owned by Bradley L. Finley, Jr. located at 463 Oswegatchie Trail Rd, Town of Fine, County of St. Lawrence, State of New York with Tax Map No. 213.051-2-16 (hereinafter referred to as the “Properties”), and

WHEREAS, there are currently delinquent real property taxes due and owing in the amount of \$22,487.99, together with fees, penalties, and interest in the amount of \$12,702.77 for a total of \$35,190.76 on the parcel owned by The Reddick Revocable Trust with Tax Map No. 173.039-1-9; there are currently delinquent real property taxes due and owing in the amount of \$12,430.26 together with fees, penalties and interest in the amount of \$8,191.97 for a total of \$20,622.23 on the parcel owned by The Reddick Revocable Trust with Tax Map No. 173.001-4-8; and there are currently delinquent real property taxes due and owing in the amount of \$16,804.50, together with fees, penalties and interest in the amount of \$17,346.91 for a total of \$34,151.41 on the parcel owned by Elenor R. Mallette with Tax Map No. 221.001-1-29.1; and there are currently delinquent real property taxes due and owing in the amount of \$28,045.67, together with fees, penalties and interest in the amount of \$73,358.47 for a total of \$101,404.14 on the parcel owned by Scott T. Ferry with Tax Map No. 53.066-1-6; and there are currently delinquent real property taxes due and owing in the amount of \$6,919.46, together with fees, penalties and interest in the amount of \$8,963.83 for a total of \$15,883.29 on the parcel owned by Doris E. Miller with Tax Map No. 53.066-1-5; and there are currently delinquent real property taxes due and owing in the amount of \$16,912.38, together with fees, penalties and interest in the amount of \$18,029.23 for a total of \$34,941.61 on the parcel owned by Bradley L. Finley, Jr. with Tax Map No. 213.051-2-16, and

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WHEREAS, the Properties are each known to have had historic storage and/or sale of gasoline and other petroleum products and are believed to be potentially contaminated with petroleum, and

WHEREAS, the Board of Legislators previously authorized the execution of a contract with Odin to perform an initial investigation on the properties but it has been determined that further work is required, and

WHEREAS, the County would like to have Phase II environmental investigation conducted on each of the Properties to secure additional information, which investigations may include a ground penetrating radar ("GPR") as well as subsurface exploration via test pits, so that the County can make an informed decision concerning the Properties prior to a judgment of foreclosure being entered, and

WHEREAS, Odin Environmental has submitted a proposal whereby they will perform Phase II examinations of each of the Properties, and the County Attorney and Consultant, Gary Bowitch, Esq. have reviewed the proposal and recommend awarding the contract to Odin Environmental,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED the Board of Legislators authorizes the Chair to sign a contract for environmental investigation to retain the services of Odin Environmental to perform Phase II Environmental Investigations of properties owned by The Reddick Revocable Trust, Elenor R. Mallette, Scott T. Ferry, Doris E. Miller, and Bradley L. Finley, Jr., upon review of the County Attorney.

Mr. Perkins moved to adopt Resolution No. 283-2023, seconded by Ms. Curran, and carried by a voice vote with fourteen (14) yes votes, and one (1) absent (Gennett).

Finance Committee: 8-28-2023

RESOLUTION NO. 284-2023

AUTHORIZING THE CHAIR TO SIGN AN AGREEMENT BETWEEN THOMAS NORSTROM AND DENISE NORSTROM AND THE COUNTY OF ST. LAWRENCE, NEW YORK, REGARDING A TAX DELINQUENT PROPERTY LOCATED AT 815 STATE HIGHWAY 37, IN THE TOWN OF HAMMOND, NEW YORK

By Mr. Gennett, Chair, Finance Committee

WHEREAS, the County of St. Lawrence ("County") has commenced an action against the owners of land currently identified as 815 State Highway 37, in the Town of Hammond, County of St. Lawrence, New York due to a tax delinquency by a tax foreclosure proceeding on November 2, 2021, for unpaid ad valorem real property taxes (hereinafter referred to as the "Site"), and

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WHEREAS, the Site is identified as follows:

- Current or Prior Owners – Luxe Homes Inc.
- Location – 815 SH 37, Hammond, New York
- TM# 141.002-1-14.121, and

WHEREAS, upon inspection of the property, it has been determined to be an abandoned parcel that is encumbered by the presence of structural deterioration as well as garbage, refuse and rodent infestation sufficient to constitute a threat to human health, safety, and welfare of the public, and

WHEREAS, Thomas Norstrom and Denise Norstrom (“the Norstroms”) have expressed interest in obtaining title to the Site and have submitted a proposal to the County regarding the potential purchase, and

WHEREAS, the Norstroms have proposed to pay all delinquent taxes, including interest, penalties, and fees for the conveyance of the property by the County, that being three thousand five hundred seventy five dollars and seventy-four cents (\$3,575.74), and

WHEREAS, the Norstroms have agreed to assume the responsibility for the removal of all garbage and refuse from the Site, and control of all pestilence, vermin and rodents present as a result of garbage or refuse, and demolition of the Site, and

WHEREAS, in consideration of the likelihood of the County selling and conveying the property via tax foreclosure auction in September due to its condition, and

WHEREAS, in order to facilitate cleanup/demolition of the Site, as well as avoid any liability associated with the Site, the County wishes to enter into an agreement with the Norstroms for the conveyance of the property,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Legislators authorizes the the Chair to Sign an Agreement between Thomas Norstrom and Denise Norstrom and County of St. Lawrence, New York, regarding a Tax Delinquent Property located at 815 State Highway 37, in the Town of Hammond, New York, upon approval of the County Attorney.

Mr. Gennett moved to adopt Resolution No. 284-2023, seconded by Mr. Smithers, Mr. Lightfoot, and Ms. Curran, and carried by a voice vote with thirteen (13) yes votes, one (1) abstention (Sheridan), and one (1) absent (Gennett).

September 11, 2023

Finance Committee: 8-28-2023

RESOLUTION NO. 285-2023

IN OPPOSITION TO THE IMPLEMENTATION OF BACKGROUND CHECKS FOR THE ACQUISITION OF AMMUNITION AND TO THE IMPOSITION OF FEES FOR THE PERFORMANCE OF ANY BACKGROUND CHECKS FOR THE ACQUISITION OF FIREARMS OR AMMUNITION AS REQUIRED UNDER THE CONCEALED CARRY IMPROVEMENT ACT

By Mr. Forsythe, District 2 and Mr. Perkins, District 7
Co-Sponsored by Mr. Lightfoot, District 3; Mr. Sheridan, District 4;
Mr. Smithers, District 5; Mr. Denesha, District 6; Mr. Webster, District 11;
and Ms. Curran, District 15

WHEREAS, on June 23rd, 2022, the United States Supreme Court issued its decision in the matter of the *New York State Rifle and Pistol Association et. al v. Bruen*, striking down the New York State ‘proper cause’ requirements for the issuance of a pistol license, and

WHEREAS, building on *District of Columbia v. Heller* and the decision in *McDonald v. City of Chicago, Illinois*, the United States Supreme Court ruled in *Bruen* that the Second Amendment’s protection of “the right to keep and bear arms” extends to individual self-defense outside the home, and

WHEREAS, in response to the *Bruen* decision, the New York State Legislature and Governor Kathy Hochul concluded a two-day extraordinary session on July 1, 2022 that led to Governor Hochul signing the “Concealed Carry Improvement Act” so titled by its proponents, and

WHEREAS, the Concealed Carry Improvement Act moved to circumvent the decision to deprive its citizens of any effective right to self-defense in public in one major way, by exponentially expanding the places [“Sensitive places”] in which a person with a valid license cannot carry a firearm for self-defense, and

WHEREAS, the Concealed Carry Improvement Act includes alarming provisions that flout the *Bruen* precedent by requiring concealed carry permit applicants to display good moral character; subject their social media accounts for review; submit to in-person interviews with law enforcement; provide four (4) character references; undergo eighteen (18) hours of combined training, an increase from the existing four-hour requirement; and recertify every three (3) years instead of the prior recertification period of every five (5) years, and

WHEREAS, in addition to the aforementioned requirements, the Concealed Carry Improvement Act included having background checks go through the State for buying both firearms and, now, also ammunition, and

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WHEREAS, background checks have been a requirement to buy guns in the State of New York for a long time and currently the FBI conducts these background check; however, starting in September of 2023, New York State will get involved by tacking on charges for legal gun owners, and

WHEREAS, starting September 13th, the New York State Police will serve as the middleman between gun owners and the FBI conducting background checks, and

WHEREAS, the ammunition background checks will be just like the original check for someone who wants to purchase a gun, but under the new rules the New York State Police are actually taking over as the middleman between the gun dealer requesting the check, which they could easily do online or by phone, and the FBI's National Instant Criminal Background Check, which has been free, and

WHEREAS, now the State of New York will charge \$9 for the gun purchase background check and at least \$2.50 for an ammunition purchase background check, and

WHEREAS, immediately following the passage of the Conceal Carry Improvement Act, multiple lawsuits were filed challenging the legislation, and one of the more prominent of these suits was *Antonyuk and Gun Owners of America et. al v. Bruen et. al* in the Northern District of New York U.S. District Court, and

WHEREAS, on September 12, 2022, the Board of Legislators adopted Resolution No. 306-2022 authorizing the County Attorney to explore legal options for challenging the Conceal Carry Improvement Act, and

WHEREAS, since September of 2022, the County Attorney has acted as “of counsel” to litigation known as *Antonyuk*, which challenges the constitutionality of the Concealed Carry Improvement Act, and

WHEREAS, following an initial victory striking down many of the portions of the Act in the Northern District of New York Federal Court, the matter was appealed to the United States Second Circuit Court of Appeals, where it awaits a decision from a three (3) judge panel on whether to sustain the Northern District of New York decision, and

WHEREAS, the initial decisions regarding the Concealed Carry Improvement Act makes clear that the legislation is constitutionally infirm and should not continue forward,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED the Board of Legislators opposes the implementation of background checks for the acquisition of ammunition and to the imposition of fees for the performance of any background checks for the acquisition of firearms or ammunition as required under the concealed carry improvement act, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this resolution be forwarded to Governor Kathy Hochul; Senator Mark Walczyk; Senator Dan Stec; Assemblyman Ken Blankenbush; and Assemblyman Scott Gray.

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Mr. Lightfoot moved to adopt Resolution No. 285-2023, seconded by Mr. Burke, Mr. Webster, Mr. Sheridan, Mr. Smithers, Mr. Denesha, Mr. Perkins, Ms. Curran, and Mr. Reagen.

Mr. Webster requested this be a roll call vote.

Resolution No. 285-2023 was adopted by a roll call vote with thirteen (13) yes votes, one (1) no vote (Haggard), and one (1) absent (Gennett).

Finance Committee: 8-28-2023

RESOLUTION NO. 286-2023

OPPOSING THE ISSUANCE OF EXECUTIVE ORDERS DIRECTING THE PLACEMENT OF MIGRANTS IN LOCAL COMMUNITIES OVER THE OBJECTION OF THE CITIZENRY AND THE IMPACTED COUNTY AND COMMENDING THE REFUSAL OF GOVERNOR HOCHUL TO ISSUE AN EXECUTIVE ORDER DIRECTING PLACEMENT OF MIGRANTS IN UPSTATE COMMUNITIES

By Mr. Forsythe, District 2 and Mr. Perkins, District 7
Co-Sponsored by Mr. Lightfoot, District 3; Mr. Sheridan, District 4;
Mr. Smithers, District 5; Mr. Webster, District 11; and Ms. Curran, District 15

WHEREAS, invited by the New York City Sanctuary City Policy for migrants with non-declared or non-determined legal status, nearly 100,000 migrants have arrived in New York City since the spring of 2022 as of early August 2023, and

WHEREAS, New York City has struggled to respond to the growing crisis as many have sought shelter with the City, which has a legal obligation to give beds to anyone who asks, and

WHEREAS, New York City Mayor Eric Adams has called it a humanitarian crisis that will cost the City about \$12 billion over three (3) years, prompting the City of New York to declare a state of emergency, and

WHEREAS, as New York City has struggled to respond to the arrival of over 96,000 new migrants, Mayor Adams has begun discouraging migrants from seeking refuge in New York City and has sought help from the State of New York in moving the migrants to other areas around New York State, and

WHEREAS, in May of 2023, the State of New York declared an emergency to respond to the growing migrant crisis and to assist as they seek federal funding, and

September 11, 2023

WHEREAS, following the issuance of the State of New York declaration and after the City of New York sought to place migrants in communities while leaving the local communities to cover the expenses of those placed after December 31, 2023, thirty (30) of the fifty-seven (57) counties outside of New York City declared their own States of Emergencies, and

WHEREAS, in response to limited options for housing several legal battles between localities and the City of New York, Mayor Adams encouraged Gov. Kathy Hochul on Wednesday, August 23rd, 2023 to use an executive order to foist migrants on suburban and upstate communities, as well as pay the city \$6.5 billion in aid, and

WHEREAS, lawyers for New York City also recommended several state-controlled locations for temporary new shelters in Brentwood, Newburgh, King Parks, Manhattan, Queens, and Staten Island, according to a filing filed on Wednesday, August 23rd, 2023, in Manhattan Supreme Court, and

WHEREAS, advocated by the City Law Department, a list of sites to be created reportedly includes the Pilgrim Psychiatric Facility, Kings Park Psychiatric Center, the Stewart Air National Guard Base, the Javits Center, Aqueduct Racetrack, a second hanger at John F. Kennedy International Airport, the Staten Island Armory, and some dormitories at State University of New York campuses around the State of New York, and

WHEREAS, St. Lawrence County is home to two State University of New York campuses in the towns of Canton and Potsdam, and

WHEREAS, despite the legal filings and public requests of the City of New York, on August 24th, 2023, Governor Kathy Hochul stated, “We cannot and will not force other parts of our State to shelter migrants,” Hochul said. “Nor are we going to be asking these migrants to move to other parts of the state against their will,” and

WHEREAS, St. Lawrence County appreciates the recognition by the Governor of the upstate communities’ authority to govern its own property and affairs, and

WHEREAS, the New York State Constitution provides the basis for New York State law and the delineation of the powers and authority of local governments in New York State, and

WHEREAS, Section 2 of Article IX of the State Constitution details the responsibility of the New York State legislature to “...provide for the creation and organization of local governments in such manner as shall secure to them the rights, powers, privileges and immunities granted to them by this constitution,” and

WHEREAS, Section 2c of Article IX gives the legislature the ability to provide additional powers to local governments to adopt local laws relating to issues other than “...the property, affairs or government of such local government,” and

September 11, 2023

WHEREAS, the exercise of the issuance of emergency orders directing that one locality assume burdens related to migration of another runs counter to the powers vested in the counties to regulate "...the property, affairs or government..." of their communities, and

WHEREAS, issuance of emergency orders directing the placement of migrants around the State of New York merely shifts the problem from the City of New York to other counties rather than solving the problem,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED the Board of Legislators opposes the issuance of Executive Orders directing the placement of migrants in local communities over the objection of the citizenry and the impacted county and commending the refusal of Governor Hochul to issue an executive order directing placement of migrants in upstate communities, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this resolution be forwarded to Governor Kathy Hochul; Senator Mark Walczyk; Senator Dan Stec; Assemblyman Ken Blankenbush; and Assemblyman Scott Gray.

Mr. Lightfoot moved to adopt Resolution No. 286-2023, seconded by Mr. Smithers, Mr. Perkins, and Ms. Curran.

Ms. Haggard said the resolution says "opposing the issuance of Executive Orders," but it was not an executive order, it was a suggestion by Mayor Eric Adams of New York City.

Mr. Lightfoot said it is anticipatory of something that may happen.

Resolution No. 286-2023 was adopted by a roll call vote with fourteen (14) yes votes, and one (1) absent (Gennett).

Finance Committee: 8-28-2023

RESOLUTION NO. 287-2023

AUTHORIZING THE CHAIR TO SIGN A CONTRACT WITH THE NEW YORK STATE DIVISION OF HOMELAND SECURITY AND EMERGENCY SERVICES FOR STORM WATER MANAGEMENT AND MODIFYING THE 2023 BUDGET FOR BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS

By Mr. Gennett, Chair, Finance Committee

WHEREAS, the New York State Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Services (NYS DHSES) awarded \$27,000 to St. Lawrence County to conduct an engineering study to evaluate storm water management options for the St. Lawrence County Courthouse Complex, formally titled "HMGP 4480-0035 St. Lawrence County Storm Water Management Advanced Assistance," and

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WHEREAS, the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP) requires a local match of ten percent (10%) of project costs to come from non-State or Federal sources,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Legislators authorizes the Chair to sign a contract with the New York State Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Services, and any other documentation necessary, for Storm Water Management, upon approval of the County Attorney, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of Legislators authorizes up to \$3,000 in local funds as the required matching funds, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Treasurer is authorized to modify the 2023 Budget for Buildings and Grounds, as follows:

DECREASE APPROPRIATIONS:

B1019904 49700	B SPEC Contingency Account	\$3,000
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INCREASE APPROPRIATIONS:

BG016204 43007	BLDG Other Fees and Services	\$30,000
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INCREASE REVENUE:

BG049605 57000	B Hazard Mitigation Grant	\$27,000
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BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that any remaining funds will be rolled to future budgets until the grant is fully extended.

Mr. Gennett moved to adopt Resolution No. 287-2023, seconded by Ms. Curran, and carried by a roll call vote with fourteen (14) yes votes, and one (1) absent (Gennett).

Finance Committee: 8-28-2023

RESOLUTION NO. 288-2023

**AUTHORIZING A HYBRID WORK AGREEMENT WITH THE
INDIGENT DEFENDERS IN ST. LAWRENCE COUNTY**

By Mr. Gennett, Chair, Finance Committee

WHEREAS, St. Lawrence County has experience allowing employees to work in remote locations such as their homes or in spaces not designated as their primary work location, and

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WHEREAS, the Indigent Defenders have expressed an interest in a remote/hybrid work environment where they would be availed the opportunity to work both in the office, satellite worksite, and at home, and

WHEREAS, on May 1, 2023, St. Lawrence County appointed a Remote Work Committee to discuss the opportunity with interested bargaining units for staff members to work in a remote/hybrid environment as prescribed by mutual agreement, and

WHEREAS, initially there will be Pilot period for the term of September 12, 2023, or upon signature to a mutually agreed upon Memorandum of Understanding through December 31, 2024, providing an opportunity to determine if this arrangement is beneficial to the Staff, the County, and the public that are served,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Legislators authorizes a hybrid work agreement with the Indigent Defenders in St. Lawrence County from September 12th through December 31, 2024, upon approval of the County Attorney, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Negotiations Committee be provided an update on the status of this agreement prior to the commencement of negotiations for a successor agreement with the Indigent Defenders.

Mr. Gennett moved to adopt Resolution No. 288-2023, seconded by Mr. Hull, Mr. Lightfoot, and Mr. Webster, and carried by a voice vote with fourteen (14) yes votes, and one (1) absent (Gennett).

Finance Committee: 8-28-2023

RESOLUTION NO. 289-2023

**ADOPTING PROPOSED LOCAL LAW A (NO. _) FOR THE YEAR 2023,
“ALLOWING 12 AND 13 YEAR OLD LICENSED HUNTERS TO HUNT DEER WITH
A FIREARM OR CROSSBOW DURING HUNTING SEASON WITH THE
SUPERVISION OF AN ADULT LICENSED HUNTER” AND RESCINDING
LOCAL LAW B FOR THE YEAR 2021**

By Mr. Gennett, Chair, Finance Committee
Co-Sponsored by Mr. Forsythe, District 2; Mr. Denesha, District 6;
Mr. Perkins, District 7; and Mr. Webster, District 11

BE IT ENACTED by the Board of Legislators of the County of St. Lawrence as follows:

Section 1. Pursuant to Environmental Conservation Law, ECL 11-0935, St. Lawrence County elects to participate in the temporary program to allow for young hunters, ages twelve (12) and thirteen (13), to hunt deer with a firearm, to include rifles, shotguns, and muzzle loaded firearms or crossbow through 2025.

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- Section 2. Twelve (12) and thirteen (13) year old licensed hunters shall be allowed to hunt deer, under the supervision of a licensed adult hunter, age 21 years or older, with a rifle, shotgun, or muzzle loading firearm in areas where and during the hunting season in which such firearms may be used.
- Section 3. Twelve (12) and thirteen (13) year old licensed hunters shall be allowed to hunt deer under the supervision of a licensed adult hunter, age 21 years or older, with a crossbow during the times when other hunters may use crossbows.
- Section 4. Supervision of a licensed adult hunter, age twenty-one (21) years or older, with at least three (3) years of experience who exercises dominion and control over the youth hunter at all times is required.
- Section 5. All licensed twelve (12) and thirteen (13) year old hunters as well as their adult supervisors shall be required to wear fluorescent orange or pink clothing while engaged in hunting to an extent and covering so designated pursuant to the law, rules, and regulations promulgated by the State of New York.
- Section 6. All licensed twelve (12) and thirteen (13) year old hunters shall remain at ground level while hunting deer with a crossbow, rifle, shotgun, or muzzleloader.
- Section 7. Notwithstanding any State or Federal Law to the contrary, this local law shall not authorize the hunting of bear by twelve (12) and thirteen (13) year olds with a firearm or crossbow.
- Section 8. A copy of this local law shall be sent to the New York State Department of Conservation.
- Section 9. This local law shall take effect immediately upon filing with the Secretary of State.

Mr. Perkins moved to adopt Resolution No. 289-2023, seconded by Mr. Denesha, Mr. Sheridan, Mr. Smithers, Ms. Curran, Mr. Webster, Mr. Burke.

Mr. Forsythe said he has always been an advocate for youth hunting.

Mr. Denesha said he has been hunting for a number of years, and last year was one of the best years he ever had as he was with a youth hunter who shot his first buck.

Ms. Haggard said this is responsible gun ownership, and she will support this resolution.

Ms. Curran asked why hunting bear was not included in the local law. Mr. Perkins said probably due to the fact that bear can sometimes be dangerous to hunt.

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Resolution No. 289-2023 was adopted by a voice vote with fourteen (14) yes votes, and one (1) absent (Gennett).

Finance Committee: 8-28-2023

RESOLUTION NO. 290-2023

MODIFYING THE 2023 BUDGET FOR HUMAN RESOURCES FOR PAYMENT OF PRE-EMPLOYMENT MEDICAL/PHYSICAL EXAMS FOR ST. LAWRENCE COUNTY

By Mr. Gennett, Chair, Finance Committee

WHEREAS, Local Law No. 1 of 1967 requires all prospective employees of any participating member of the St. Lawrence County Self-Insurance Plan to submit to a medical/physical examinations as a condition of employment, and

WHEREAS, St. Lawrence County (SLC) entered into an agreement with Claxton-Hepburn Medical Center (CHMC), 214 King Street, Ogdensburg, New York 13669, to provide pre-employment medical/physical examinations and testing to SLC employees effective December 9, 2013, and

WHEREAS, the following fee schedule for physicals (non-police exams) was agreed upon and is in effect today:

Medical/Physical Exam	\$50.00
Urinalysis	\$13.13
Tuberculosis	\$10.19
EKG	\$95.82
Reading of EKG	\$10.00
Drug Screen	\$18.00
Chest X-Ray (single view)	\$162.41
Chest X-Ray (two views)	\$219.78

WHEREAS, Part 6000 of Title 9 of New York Codes, Rules and Regulations (9 CRR-NY 6000) establishes the minimum medical and physical fitness standards for police officer candidates, and

WHEREAS, the following fee schedule for police exams was agreed upon and is in effect today, and

Medical/Physical Exam	\$90.00
EKG	\$90.00
Reading of EKG	\$10.00
Drug Screen	\$45.45
Chest X-Ray	\$130.00
Tdap Vaccine	\$81.00

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Hearing Screen	\$95.00
Eye Exam with depth perception	\$250.00

WHEREAS, the correct rates and bills have not been provided consistently as itemized bills, and St. Lawrence County has been unable to reconcile records since 2021,

WHEREAS, in an effort to resolve the issue of past due bills, Human Resources and CHMC have worked together and have fully reconciled the bills which resulted in an outstanding balance due of \$11,729.67 for regular exams and \$3,470.13 for police exams, and

WHEREAS, historically each County department has been responsible for the expenses associated with pre-employment medical/physical exams of each department employee, and Human Resources is also responsible for the expenses associated with pre-employment police medical/physical exams of each municipal agency excluding the City of Ogdensburg, and

WHEREAS, Department Heads have not been able to accurately budget for these costs over the past three (3) years and it would be practical to have these expenses paid with contingency funds for 2023, bill the municipal agencies for their portions, and budget for this expense in Human Resources in the future, and

WHEREAS, it is estimated that there will be approximately fifty (50) new hires between now and the end of 2023 at \$50 per medical/physical exam equaling \$2,500, and there will be no additional police exams are expected through 2023,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Legislators authorizes the Treasurer to modify the 2023 Budget for Human Resources for payment of pre-employment medical/physical exams for St. Lawrence County, as follows:

DECREASE APPROPRIATIONS:

B1019904 49700	B SPEC Contingency Account	\$17,700
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INCREASE APPROPRIATIONS:

CP014304 43004	C Pers Medical Fees	\$17,700
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BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that for the remainder of 2023 and going forward the medical/physical exams for all St. Lawrence County departments will be paid for and budgeted in Human Resources.

Mr. Perkins moved to adopt Resolution No. 290-2023, seconded by Mr. Lightfoot and Ms. Curran, and carried by a roll call vote with fourteen (14) yes votes, and one (1) absent (Gennett).

September 11, 2023

RESOLUTION NO. 291-2023

AUTHORIZING FILLING OF VACANCIES

By Ms. Haggard, District 10 and Ms. Terminelli, District 14

WHEREAS, Resolution No. 369-2019 and Resolution No. 253-2020 authorized the continuance of the current vacancy review process with a recommendation that the vacancies continue to be deliberated at each jurisdictional committee, but one resolution be created for all approved positions to be considered at the Regular Board Meeting, and

WHEREAS, the Vacancy Review Committee reviewed nine (9) positions, of those reviewed eight (8) were existing positions in three (3) departments,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Legislators authorizes the fill of each of the following vacancies which have been reviewed and recommended to be filled or created and filled by the Vacancy Review Committee:

<u>Department/Unit:</u>	<u>Title:</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Type</u>	<u>Duration</u>	<u>Timeline</u>
Office for the Aging	Secretary I*	005100034	FT	Permanent	Immediate
Office for the Aging	Keyboard Specialist	003100048	FT	Permanent	Immediate
Social Services/Accounting	Account Clerk	100100016	FT	Permanent	Immediate
Social Services/CPS	Caseworker	815200017	FT	Permanent	Immediate
Social Services/CPS	Caseworker	815200008	FT	Permanent	Immediate
Social Services/Children's Svc	Director of Services	817300001	FT	Provisional	Immediate
Social Services/Medical Svc	Principal Social Welfare Examiner	814200006	FT	Provisional	Immediate
Social Services/Legal	Legal Secretary	005300008	FT	Permanent	Immediate
Highway	Bridge Construction Supervisor	317000002	FT	Provisional	Immediate

*new position

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED for any positions funded by grants, and the grant goes away, those positions will be abolished, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the appointing authorities are authorized to fill the positions as provided for in the resolution, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that all departments can proceed with advertising, canvassing, and communication efforts with prospective hires as soon as notice of a position vacancy is known to the appointing authority, although the hire cannot occur until the Board of Legislators approves the position, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Highway Department, as a process prescribed through the CSEA Contract, Addendum A, will continue the practice of filling all positions, following approval of the first vacancy all the way through to the entry level title.

September 11, 2023

Ms. Haggard moved to adopt Resolution No. 291-2023, seconded by Ms. Curran and Mr. Perkins, and carried by a voice vote with fourteen (14) yes votes, and one (1) absent (Gennett).

RESOLUTION NO. 292-2023

**PROCLAIMING SEPTEMBER 17-23, 2023, AS SHERIFF'S WEEK
IN ST. LAWRENCE COUNTY**

By Ms. Curran, Chair, Operations Committee

WHEREAS, the Office of Sheriff has been an integral part of the criminal justice system in New York State and in St. Lawrence County throughout history, having been established in the State's first Constitution of 1777 and continued in every succeeding Constitution, and having been one of the original Constitutional offices guaranteed to the People upon the founding of our County, and

WHEREAS, despite changes in its function, status and powers during its long history, the Office of Sheriff has maintained a continuous existence, preserved its distinguishing heritage, and continued to be an essential component of our criminal justice community, and

WHEREAS, the Office of Sheriff has evolved into a modern, professional, full-service law enforcement agency, manned by fully trained police officers, using state-of-the-art technology and applying the latest and most advanced theories and practices in the criminal justice field, and

WHEREAS, the Office of Sheriff is unique in the community, and the duties of the Office go far beyond the traditional role of "Keeper of the Peace" extending into many facets of public service including maintaining the county jail, serving and executing civil process for courts, and providing criminal justice services for the community that builds trust, reduces crime, creates a safe environment, and enhances the quality of life, and

WHEREAS, as a Constitutionally empowered Office directly responsible to the People, the ancient Office of Sheriff remains, even today, responsive and accountable to the public it serves, and

WHEREAS, it is fitting to celebrate the historical contributions of the Office of Sheriff and the significant role that the Sheriffs play in our modern criminal justice system,

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Legislators proclaims September 17-23, 2023, as Sheriff's Week in St. Lawrence County, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of Legislators recognizes the important services provided to the citizens of St. Lawrence County by the Sheriff and members of the Sheriff's Office.

September 11, 2023

Ms. Curran moved to adopt Resolution No. 292-2023, seconded by Mr. Burke, Mr. Perkins, and Mr. Hull and carried by a voice vote with fourteen (14) yes votes, and one (1) absent (Gennett).

RESOLUTION NO. 293-2023

**URGING FEDERAL AND STATE GOVERNMENT REPRESENTATIVES TO
ADVOCATE FOR INCREASED FUNDING LEVELS FOR OLDER ADULTS IN THE
FEDERAL AND STATE BUDGETS TO ALLOCATE TO LOCAL GOVERNMENT
ALLOWING AREA AGENCIES ON AGING TO PROVIDE CRITICAL SERVICES TO
OLDER ADULTS SO THEY MAY AGE SAFELY IN PLACE**

By Mr. Burke, District 12

WHEREAS, the Older Americans Act, enacted in 1965, provided regulatory parameters and services to assist older individuals and their caregivers, and New York State is home to 4.8 million older New Yorkers and is currently fourth in the nation for the over-60 population, and

WHEREAS, over the course of the past 58 years, area agencies on aging have provided valuable services and support, such as: home delivered meals, home care services, transportation, legal services, home modifications, evidence-based interventions, case management, information and assistance, social adult day services, respite, health promotion and wellness, health insurance information and assistance, elder abuse prevention and mitigation, senior center programming, volunteer opportunities, ancillary services, and operates the NY Connects No Wrong Door infrastructure, and

WHEREAS, although these services are mandated by Federal and State regulations in order to accept Older Americans Act Funding, the burden of the cost of these services is heavily dependent on local government funding, and Federal and State contributions to Older New Yorkers have not kept pace with the growing needs of the population, and

WHEREAS, Older New Yorkers comprise forty-three percent (43%) of the national Gross Domestic Product (GDP), and the current budget from New York State Office for the Aging is less than one-percent (1%) over the State Budget, and Older New Yorkers provide social, economic, and intellectual capital and provide over 495 million hours of volunteer services at an economic value of \$13.8 billion per year and unpaid caregivers provide uncompensated care worth over \$32 billion per year, and

WHEREAS, St. Lawrence County is home to 26,000 individuals over the age of 60 and one third (1/3) of senior citizens are living in poverty or just above poverty levels and are struggling to afford food, medications, home heating fuel, rent, mortgages, and utilities due to the high cost of inflation while living on extremely limited incomes,

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NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Legislators urges local, Federal, and State Government Representatives to advocate for increased funding levels for older adults in the Federal and State budgets to allocate to local government to allow local Area Agencies on Aging to provide critical services to older adults so they may age safely in place, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this resolution be forwarded to Governor Kathy Hochul; Senator Chuck Schumer; Senator Kristen Gillibrand; Congresswoman Elise Stefanik; Senator Mark Walczyk; Senator Dan Stec; Assemblyman Ken Blankenbush; and Assemblyman Scott Gray.

Mr. Burke moved to adopt Resolution No. 293-2023, seconded by Ms. Curran, and carried by a voice vote with fourteen (14) yes votes, and one (1) absent (Gennett).

RESOLUTION NO. 294-2023

OBJECTING TO THE INCLUSION OF ST. LAWRENCE COUNTY ON THE LIST OF “SANCTUARY COUNTIES” RELATED TO IMMIGRATION AS MAINTAINED BY THE CENTER FOR IMMIGRATION SERVICES AND DIRECTING ACTION TO SEEK DELISTING OF THE COUNTY FROM ANY SUCH DESIGNATION

By Ms. Curran, District 15

WHEREAS, on August 29th, 2023, a list released by Director Mayorkas of the United States Department of Homeland Security outlined eleven (11) locations within the State of New York as appropriate to house illegal migrants, and

WHEREAS, included on the list is the Massena International Airport, a small regional airport consisting of a main terminal and an uninsulated hangar, and

WHEREAS, the local municipalities, elected representatives, and County government were completely caught off guard by the Department of Homeland Security designation, and

WHEREAS, the activities of the City of New York and the Department of Homeland Security run counter to that of the New York State Constitution, and

WHEREAS, upon information and belief, the designation of St. Lawrence County as an appropriate place to house illegal immigrants arises from a clerical error made by the Center for Immigration Studies in 2017, and

WHEREAS, despite the Board of Legislators’ and the Sheriff’s public objection to inclusion on the list and public pronouncement of enforcement of immigration measures against illegal aliens when initially discovered in 2017, the County remains listed as of today, and

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WHEREAS, St. Lawrence County has been listed on a website affiliated with a non-profit organization known as the Center for Immigration Studies (CIS), an organization that touts itself as “low immigration, pro-immigrant”, as failing to cooperate with federal Immigrations and Customs Enforcement Detainers since 2017, and

WHEREAS, St. Lawrence County was grouped in with so-called “sanctuary cities” compiled by Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) as a result of the CIS listing, and

WHEREAS, Immigration Detainers issued by ICE allow local law enforcement officers to detain individuals who have been arrested on criminal charges and who ICE has probable cause to believe are removable non-citizens, and

WHEREAS, the detainer asks the other law enforcement agency to notify ICE before a removable individual is released from custody and to maintain custody of the non-citizen for a brief period of time so that ICE can take custody of that person in a safe and secure setting upon release from custody of that agency, and

WHEREAS, St. Lawrence County has had a long history of honoring the requests of Immigration and Customs Enforcement to detain individuals believed to have violated United States laws and believed to be present in this Country illegally, and

WHEREAS, should migrants be sent to this County and detainers lodged for their detention and transfer to ICE custody, St. Lawrence County shall continue to comply with such detainers, and

WHEREAS, the continued identification of St. Lawrence County on the list of Sanctuary Counties propagated by ICE and CIS is inaccurate and may expose the County to harm,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED the Board of Legislators objects to the inclusion of St. Lawrence County on the list of “sanctuary counties” related to immigration as maintained by the Center for Immigration Services and directing action to seek delisting of the County from any such designation, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED the Board of Legislators directs the County Attorney to take appropriate steps to seek the de-listing of St. Lawrence County from the lists as a designated “Sanctuary County”, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this resolution be forwarded to Governor Kathy Hochul; Senator Chuck Schumer; Senator Kristen Gillibrand; Congresswoman Elise Stefanik; Senator Mark Walczyk; Senator Dan Stec; Assemblyman Ken Blankenbush; Assemblyman Scott Gray; and Secretary Alejandro Mayorkas, Department of Homeland Security.

Ms. Curran moved to adopt Resolution No. 294-2023, seconded by Mr. Sheridan, Mr. Lightfoot, Mr. Webster, Mr. Fay, and Mr. Perkins.

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Ms. Curran said St. Lawrence County was listed as a sanctuary county in 2017, which is inaccurate information.

Mr. Forsythe asked the County Attorney how this happened. County Attorney Button said the listing came from a not-for-profit organization in 2017 that identified that the St. Lawrence County Sheriff's Office did not cooperate with immigration, which was not true.

Resolution No. 294-2023 was adopted by a voice vote with thirteen (13) yes votes, one (1) no vote (Haggard), and one (1) absent (Gennett).

RESOLUTION NO. 295-2023

IN OPPOSITION TO THE PLACEMENT OF MIGRANTS IN THE TOWN OF MASSENA AND AUTHORIZING THE COUNTY ATTORNEY TO RENDER LEGAL AID TO THOSE MUNICIPALITIES DESIGNATED AS POTENTIAL PLACEMENT LOCATIONS BY THE DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY AND THE CITY OF NEW YORK

By Mr. Reagen, District 1; Mr. Forsythe, District 2; and Ms. Curran, District 15

WHEREAS, invited by the New York City Sanctuary City Policy for migrants with non-declared or non-determined legal status, nearly 100,000 migrants have arrived in New York City since the spring of 2022 as of early August 2023, and

WHEREAS, New York City has struggled to respond to the growing crisis as many have sought shelter with the city, which has a legal obligation to give beds to anyone who asks, and

WHEREAS, New York City Mayor Eric Adams has called it a humanitarian crisis that will cost the city about \$12 billion over three (3) years, prompting the City of New York to declare a State of Emergency, and

WHEREAS, as New York City has struggled to respond to the arrival of over 96,000 new migrants, Mayor Adams has begun discouraging migrants from seeking refuge in New York City and has sought help from the State of New York in moving the migrants to other areas around New York State, and

WHEREAS, in May of 2023, the State of New York declared an emergency to respond to the growing migrant crisis and to assist as they seek federal funding, and

WHEREAS, following the issuance of the State of New York declaration and after the City of New York sought to place migrants in communities while leaving the local communities to cover the expenses of those placed after December 31, 2023, thirty (30) of the fifty-seven (57) counties outside of New York City declared their own emergencies, and

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WHEREAS, in response to limited options for housing, there have been several legal battles between localities and the City of New York, and on Wednesday, August 23rd, 2023, Mayor Adams encouraged Governor Kathy Hochul to use an executive order to foist migrants on suburban and upstate communities, as well as pay the City \$6.5 billion in aid, and

WHEREAS, lawyers for New York City also recommended several state-controlled locations for temporary new shelters in Brentwood, Newburgh, King Parks, Manhattan, Queens, and Staten Island, according to a filing in Manhattan Supreme Court filed on Wednesday, August 23rd, 2023, and

WHEREAS, on August 29th, 2023, a list released by Director Mayorkas of the United States Department of Homeland Security outlined eleven (11) locations within the State of New York as appropriate to house migrants, and

WHEREAS, included on the list is the Massena International Airport, a small regional airport consisting of a main terminal and an uninsulated hangar, and the local municipalities, elected representatives, and County government were completely caught off guard by the Department of Homeland Security designation, and

WHEREAS, the activities of the City of New York and the Department of Homeland Security run counter to that of the New York State Constitution, and

WHEREAS, Section 2 of Article IX of the State Constitution details the responsibility of the New York State legislature to "...provide for the creation and organization of local governments in such manner as shall secure to them the rights, powers, privileges and immunities granted to them by this constitution," and

WHEREAS, Section 2c of Article IX gives the legislature the ability to provide additional powers to local governments to adopt local laws relating to issues other than "...the property, affairs or government of such local government," and

WHEREAS, the Massena International Airport, while regulated by federal authorities, is owned and operated by the Town of Massena, making it a local concern, and

WHEREAS, pursuant to County Law § 501(3), "the county attorney shall perform such additional and related duties as may be prescribed by law and directed by the Board of Legislators, and

WHEREAS, pursuant to County Law § 501(4), "the Board of Legislators may include in such directions the rendering of advice and service to town boards and town officers when not in conflict with the interests of the County, Board of Legislators or an officer whose compensation is paid from County funds," and

WHEREAS, the Board of Legislators is united with the Town of Massena and Village of Massena in its opposition to the Department of Homeland Security's and City of New York's plan to house migrants at the Massena International Airport,

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NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED the Board of Legislators opposes the placement of migrants in the Town of Massena and authorize the County Attorney to render legal aid to those municipalities designated as potential placement locations by the Department of Homeland Security and the City of New York, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED the Board of Legislators opposes any attempt by the City of New York to shift its shelter obligations for migrants onto any community within St. Lawrence County without consent, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED pursuant to County Law §§ 501(3) & (4), the Board of Legislators determines that it is united in interest with the Town of Massena and the Village of Massena and directs the County Attorney to render aid to the Town of Massena and the Village of Massena in the form of legal services, where the County Attorney determines in his professional judgment that it is possible, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this resolution be forwarded to Governor Kathy Hochul; Senator Chuck Schumer; Senator Kristen Gillibrand; Congresswoman Elise Stefanik; Senator Mark Walczyk; Senator Dan Stec; Assemblyman Ken Blankenbush; Assemblyman Scott Gray; and Secretary Alejandro Mayorkas, Department of Homeland Security.

Ms. Curran moved to adopt Resolution No. 295-2023, seconded by Mr. Lightfoot, Mr. Webster, and Mr. Reagen.

Ms. Curran said she has concerns about migrants being brought to stay at the Massena airport in a hanger that is not insulated and not suitable to house anyone, especially during the upcoming winter months. There is no sewer and water on site, and no ability to feed people there. She said she would hate to have people come here and be failed by the system.

Mr. Lightfoot said he looks at this as a doorway being opened, not only in St. Lawrence County, but the entire north country. He has many concerns with migrants being placed here, and he is scared of what may happen if this goes through. He said it is a wise and prudent thing for the Board of Legislators to voice concerns and he hopes the citizens of the County will speak up as well.

Mr. Reagen said he echoes the concerns of Mr. Lightfoot and Ms. Curran that migrants may be brought here unwillingly and then abandoned at the airport. He said the notion of bringing people hundreds of miles from where they really wanted to be is an inhumane policy and it is deplorable that officials far from here are making these wild suggestions when they obviously have not done any investigation on where people would be staying. He said he hopes the Governor sticks by her views of this.

Mr. Webster said there are elderly people in St. Lawrence County who have to decide whether to turn on their heat or buy their medication. Those are the folks we should be taking care of, not opening our doors to people who are here illegally. We need to take care of our own first

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before taking care of others.

Mr. Smithers said the United States of America has accepted many immigrants over the years, and there are laws in place with guidelines for people seeking asylum. This resolution says these are migrants with non-declared or non-determined legal status so they are not declared legal. The laws need to be followed.

Ms. Haggard said there is a difference between people who enter the Country seeking asylum and an immigrant who chooses to leave their country of origin.

Mr. Perkins said he does not believe these individuals are asylum seekers. He said there are legal ways to come into this Country, and they are coming into the Country illegally. It is treasonous of the federal government to not protect the borders.

Ms. Curran said it is her understanding that if a person is seeking asylum, they seek asylum in the first country they arrive.

Mr. Hull said this is a complex issue. Over 110,000 unauthorized immigrants have arrived in New York City this year; this number exceeds the population of St. Lawrence County. We are witnessing the repercussions of a grossly irresponsible federal immigration policy. Mr. Hull said he wants to address the mischaracterization that those who might resist the idea of untold numbers of unauthorized migrants coming to St. Lawrence County, and that this might be considered cold-hearted, but it is possible to advocate for functional immigration while also believing it is a terrible idea of vetting our Country with unauthorized persons. Our Nation boasts a rich and diverse culture. The Department of Homeland Security does try to track the number of unauthorized immigrants, the travel patterns, and risk to security, and the number has skyrocketed from 3,600 a few years ago to 75,000 this year. Last month the FBI scrambled to find a dozen illegal immigrants smuggled by an operation linked to the Islamic States, and at the same time a humanitarian crisis is unfolding. Hundreds of thousands of women and children, many drawn here under false pretenses, are facing dire convictions and lack basic necessities. He said he believes the American people are the most charitable, self-sacrificing, and welcoming people in the world and he believes the federal government is taking advantage of that charitable spirit. As elected officials, he said our duty to the citizens that reside in St. Lawrence County. There is nothing cold-hearted about pointing out that this is a federal policy failure.

Mr. Webster said it is his understating that an asylum seeker comes through legally; they do not cross the border in a boat in the middle of the night. In the last eleven (11) months alone, there have been 6,000 immigrants come across the border illegally that have been caught, and he wonders how many more have not been caught. He asked for a roll call vote.

Mr. Forsythe said \$12 million was dedicated to the crisis fund in NYC, and there was a resolution brought forward tonight by Mr. Burke advocating for increased funding levels for older adults in the federal and state budgets. That money could help a lot of senior citizens. Also it is constitution week, and citizens have the right to be protected from all enemies

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Resolution No. 295-2023 was adopted by roll call vote with thirteen (13) yes votes, one (1) no vote (Haggard), and one (1) absent (Gennett).

RESOLUTION NO. 296-2023

**PROCLAIMING THE WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 17 – 23, 2023
AS CONSTITUTION WEEK**

By Mr. Denesha, District 6

WHEREAS, September 17, 2023, marks the two hundred and thirty-sixth (236th) anniversary of the drafting of the Constitution of the United States of America by the Constitutional Convention, and

WHEREAS, recognizing the enduring strength of our Constitution and reaffirming our commitment to the rights and obligation of citizenship of this great Nation, it is fitting to honor this magnificent document and its memorable anniversary, and

WHEREAS, Public Law 915 guarantees the issuing of a proclamation each year by the President of the United States of America designating September 17th through 23rd as Constitution Week, and

WHEREAS, the Preamble of the Constitution, the summation of what the document contains and basis of the guiding principles of our Nation, was written by Gouverneur Morris, landowner, statesman, and for whom the villages of Gouverneur and Morristown in St. Lawrence County are named, and

WHEREAS, the first 10 amendments are known as the “Bill of Rights” and is a list of basic human rights guaranteed by law, and

WHEREAS, the Constitution of the United States of America gives every citizen a foundation for a free, prosperous and independent life, but each generation must work for and claim it; otherwise, through carelessness or indifference the rights and liberties we enjoy may vanish, and

WHEREAS, throughout this week let us honor the values the Framers stood by rededicating ourselves to carry forward the spirit first embodied in their achievements, and to pay tribute to those who shaped the land we love while working to secure everlasting peace, prosperity, and opportunity for all who call America home,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED the Board of Legislators proclaims the week of September 17 – 23, 2023, as Constitution Week and encourages St. Lawrence County citizens to reaffirm commitments to the rights and obligations of citizenship of the United States of America.

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Mr. Denesha moved to adopt Resolution No. 296-2023, seconded by Mr. Perkins, Ms. Curran, Mr. Smithers, Mr. Lightfoot, Mr. Hull, and Mr. Reagen.

Ms. Curran asked to be added as a co-sponsor to this resolution.

Resolution No. 296-2023 was adopted by a voice vote with fourteen (14) yes votes, and one (1) absent (Gennett).

RESOLUTION NO. 297-2023

**PROCLAMATION RECOGNIZING THE 100TH BIRTHDAY OF
MRS. ETHEL BOYD FOOTE**

By Mr. Lightfoot, District 3

WHEREAS, longevity of life is a blessing for an individual and for the community which benefits from the knowledge and experiences this individual brings to all, and

WHEREAS, the Town of Canton and County of St. Lawrence recognizes with great respect and admiration the contributions all people, including senior citizens, give to our communities, and

WHEREAS, Ethel Boyd was born on September 13, 1923 to her parents, Esmond and Edith (McKenzie) Boyd, and was raised on the Kelly Road in Rensselaer Falls, NY, along with her three siblings, and

WHEREAS, Ethel attended a one-room schoolhouse as a child then attended Rensselaer Falls High School graduating in 1940, and going on to college in Massachusetts, and

WHEREAS, after finishing college, Ethel taught church school in Jamestown, NY, while being courted by William Foote of Canton, and they were married on June 24, 1945, purchasing a farm in Rensselaer Falls that is now known as Applewood Orchards, and

WHEREAS, in 1958 William and Ethel moved to the Old DeKalb Road in Canton and completed their family in 1963 with eight children, and

WHEREAS, Ethel loved to can fruits and vegetables each year, and was known to make five loaves of bread a week to feed her large family, and when her children left home she worked for Canton Central School as a cafeteria and playground monitor, and

WHEREAS, when her husband, William, passed away in December 2003, Ethel continued to live on the Old DeKalb Road, planting and caring for a garden until she reached 90 years old, and now she currently resides at Maplewood Nursing Home in Canton,

WHEREAS, now at the blessed age of 100 years old, Mrs. Foote is to be commended for distinguishing herself not only for the length of her incredible life but the impact she undoubtedly had on many lives in her community, and

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WHEREAS, the Board of Legislators wishes to honor the newest centenarian in the County with sincerest congratulations and best wishes for many more happy productive years,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED the Board of Legislators recognizes the 100th birthday of Mrs. Ethel Boyd Foote.

Mr. Lightfoot moved to adopt Resolution No. 297-2023, seconded by Ms. Curran, Mr. Smithers, Mr. Burke, and Mr. Webster, and carried by a voice vote with fourteen (14) yes votes, and one (1) absent (Gennett).

RESOLUTION NO. 298-2023

**DISCOURAGING IMPLEMENTATION OF RESTRICTIVE COVID PROTOCOLS
DUE TO THEIR ADVERSE IMPACTS ON CHILDHOOD EDUCATION,
PUBLIC HEALTH, AND THE ECONOMY**

By Mr. Hull, District 8

WHEREAS, in recent weeks, cases and hospitalization rates of COVID-19 have trended upward in New York State and nationally, and

WHEREAS, according to the Centers for Disease Control, the number of hospitalized patients with confirmed COVID-19 on August 19, 2023 was 937, which is double the number from a month earlier, but well below the 2023 high of 3,672 in January, and

WHEREAS, many government entities, schools, clinical organizations, and businesses are now considering reinstating restrictions and mandates designed to control the spread of COVID-19, and

WHEREAS, the current epidemiologic landscape regarding COVID-19 differs drastically from the outlook in 2020 due to the substantial amount of immunity from both vaccination and naturally occurring infection as well as the availability of medication and expertise to treat severe cases, and

WHEREAS, aided by three (3) years of hindsight, we have observed the tragic consequences brought about by restrictive COVID-19 policies on childhood education, public health, and the local economy, and

WHEREAS, school closures and restrictions have harmed the educational development and emotional well-being of children across our county, as evidenced by unprecedented levels of mental illness in our children coupled with significant drops in academic achievement, and

WHEREAS, mandatory lockdowns and burdensome restrictions led to the unnecessary closure of innumerable small businesses in our community (many family-owned), resulting in severe economic and social hardships, and

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WHEREAS, government-led restrictions and mandates drove skilled workers from the healthcare field resulting in severe shortages in clinical staff, a deficiency felt in our own community, and

WHEREAS, restrictive visitation policies in hospitals and other clinical settings have caused harm to patients with the International Journal of Nursing Studies reporting reduced nutrition intake, increased physical pain, loneliness, depressive symptoms, reduced cognitive ability, and overall dissatisfaction, and

WHEREAS, the individual rights of citizens across our county were violated by mandatory isolation orders, confining them to no less than home arrest under threat of fines and criminal charges, and

WHEREAS, the people of St. Lawrence County are wise and well-enough informed to evaluate risks and take appropriate measures to protect themselves and their families,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED the Board of Legislators strongly discourages the New York State government from implementing reactionary, restrictive, and detrimental COVID-19 protocols including lockdowns, school closures, coercive isolation measures, universal indoor masking requirements, and mandatory COVID-19 immunization requirements, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED the Board of Legislators urges the New York State Commissioner of Health to never again misuse isolation orders to confine citizens infected with or exposed to COVID-19, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED the Board of Legislators encourages local organizations and institutions to be circumspect in their effort to promote the safety of their patrons and customers and to consider carefully the potential negative impacts of restrictive COVID-related policies, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this resolution be forwarded to Governor Kathy Hochul; Senator Mark Walczyk; Senator Dan Stec; Assemblyman Ken Blankenbush; and Assemblyman Scott Gray.

Mr. Hull moved to adopt Resolution No. 298-2023, seconded by Mr. Lightfoot, Mr. Smithers, Mr. Perkins, and Ms. Curran.

Ms. Curran said implementing strict Covid rules causes challenges to health care staffing.

Mr. Burke said he understands the reasoning behind this resolution, but he does not want to go against Public Health laws.

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Ms. Haggard said she does not feel like it is a violation of her rights when she was told to stay inside during the pandemic; she considered that rule Public Health Law that she would comply with. Covid protocols are for the greater good and she said she will not be supporting this resolution.

Mr. Denesha said he believes that people have rights, but when those rights impact his health, he has a problem with that. He said he will not support this resolution.

Ms. Curran said it is the right of individuals to choose to wear masks and to get the Covid shots. Her concern with this is health care staffing, and said there needs to be some sort of middle ground.

Mr. Smithers said it is a matter of trust in the government, and that the government made some bad decisions during the pandemic and went too far. He said he did not have a problem with choosing to wear a mask to protect himself, but he does have a problem with mandates and closing schools. Closing schools did a lot of harm to children that will take years to correct. He said the government needs to be more cautious when issuing mandates and also learn from history so the same mistakes are not made.

Mr. Hull said this issue should not be single-threaded as a purely medical issue. What is important to talk about are the restriction that have broad society-wide implications. The impact these restrictions had on school-aged children will take generations to recover from. There is now the benefit of hindsight and research with three (3) years of data and information, along with a broad level of community immunity through infections, vaccines, and boosters, to consider. He encourages all Legislator to thoughtfully consider voting in favor of this resolution.

Mr. Webster said the Suicide Awareness Coalition was just here discussing the fact that the numbers of suicide increased, along with mental health issues, during Covid. It seems as if, once again, some citizens are being forced to follow rules while others do not. He said he will vote for this resolution.

Resolution No. 298-2023 was adopted by a roll call vote with ten (10) yes votes, four (4) no votes (Haggard, Burke, Terminelli, and Denesha), and one (1) absent (Gennett).

RESOLUTION NO. 299-2023

**AUTHORIZING THE TRANSFER OF PROPERTY FROM ST. LAWRENCE-LEWIS
BOCES TO ST. LAWRENCE COUNTY AT 2695 WHITE HILL ROAD IN THE
TOWN OF HOPKINTON, COUNTY OF ST. LAWRENCE**

By Mr. Forsythe, District 2

WHEREAS, for many years St. Lawrence County has leased space on a radio tower owned and operated by St. Lawrence-Lewis Board of Cooperative Education Services (BOCES) on a 4+ acre area located in the Town of Hopkinton and known as the “White Hill Tower”, and

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WHEREAS, the White Hill Tower is located at 2695 White Hill Road, identified as Tax Map No. 53.026-1-64, in the Town of Hopkinton, County of St. Lawrence, and

WHEREAS, BOCES indicated an interest in transferring ownership of the White Hill Tower to St. Lawrence County in recognition of the substantial need associated with Emergency Management Systems tower coverage in the County, and

WHEREAS, the Board of Legislators reviewed the options available and sought input from those who utilize the tower, and

WHEREAS, on December 1, 2022, the Board of BOCES voted in favor of putting the issue of the real property transfer of White Hill Tower to St. Lawrence County to a public referendum, and

WHEREAS, on or about February 8, 2023, a public referendum was held authorizing the transfer of the White Hill Tower to St. Lawrence County by a vote of 435 in favor, 24 opposed, and 29 voided votes, and

WHEREAS, the Board of Legislators believes that it is imperative to acquire the White Hill Tower property for the development of the Emergency Management Services operations,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Legislators authorizes the transfer of property from St. Lawrence-Lewis BOCES to St. Lawrence County at 2695 White Hill Road in the Town of Hopkinton, County of St. Lawrence, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Chair is authorized to sign and accept a transfer of ownership of the Tower, located at 2695 White Hill Road, in the Town of Hopkinton, identified as Tax Map No. 53.026-1-64, to the ownership of St. Lawrence County, upon approval of the County Attorney.

Mr. Lightfoot moved to adopt Resolution No. 299-2023, seconded by Ms. Curran, Mr. Burke, and Mr. Smithers, and carried by a voice vote with fourteen (14) yes votes, and one (1) absent (Gennett).

RESOLUTION NO. 300-2023

AMENDING RESOLUTION NO. 197-2013 EXTENDING THE AUTHORIZATION OF ST. LAWRENCE COUNTY TO IMPOSE AN ADDITIONAL ONE PERCENT OF SALES AND COMPENSATING USE TAXES

By Mr. Forsythe, District 2

WHEREAS, in 2013, St. Lawrence County was one of few remaining counties in the State that had not previously increased its sales tax over the three (3%) percent sales tax authorized by Tax Law Section 1210, and

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WHEREAS, subparagraph (iii) of the opening paragraph of Tax Law Section 1210 was amended effective July 31, 2013 to include St. Lawrence County in the group of counties authorized to impose sales and compensating use taxes at a rate that was one percent additional to the three percent rate for the period beginning December 1, 2013 and ending November 30, 2015, and

WHEREAS, on May 4, 2015, the Board of Legislators adopted Resolution No. 157-2015 requesting Home Rule Regulation of Sales and Compensating Use Tax to extend the sales tax rate as previously authorized from three percent (3%) to four percent (4%), and

WHEREAS, the economic environment at that time required the County to continue to impose the sales tax rate as previously authorized and extend through 2017 and again through 2020, and

WHEREAS, on or about April 5, 2020 New York State Senate Bill No. S7508B and New York State Assembly Bill No. 9508A, which constituted a portion of the New York State Budget, was passed and included “Item NN”, and

WHEREAS, Item NN states, “Clause 41 of subparagraph (i) of the opening paragraph of section 1210 of the tax law, as amended by section 1 of subpart NN of part A of chapter 61 of the laws of 2017, is amended to read as follows: (41) The County of St. Lawrence is hereby further authorized and empowered to adopt and amend local laws, ordinances or resolution imposing such taxes at a rate that is one percent additional to the three percent rate authorized above in this paragraph for such county for the period beginning December first, two thousand thirteen and ending November thirtieth, two thousand [twenty] TWENTY-THREE;...”, and

WHEREAS, on April 17, 2023, the Board of Legislators once again passed a resolution requesting enactment of New York State Senate Bill No. S4567A and New York State Assembly Bill No. A5021A to extend the authorization of St. Lawrence County to impose an additional one percent (1%) of sales and compensating use taxes from December 1, 2023 through November 30, 2025, and

WHEREAS, on July 28, 2023, Senate Bill No. S4567A and Assembly Bill No. A5021A were signed into law, and

WHEREAS, the legislation states, “Clause 41 of subparagraph (i) of the opening paragraph of section 1210 of the tax law, as amended by section 1 of item NN of subpart C of part XXX of chapter 58 of the laws of 2020, is amended to read as follows: (41) The County of St. Lawrence is hereby further authorized and empowered to adopt and amend local laws, ordinances or resolutions imposing such taxes at a rate that is one percent additional to the three percent rate authorized above in this paragraph for such county for the period beginning December first, two thousand thirteen and ending November thirtieth, two thousand [twenty-three] TWENTY-FIVE,” and

WHEREAS, the revenue anticipated from the extension of the additional one percent (1%) sales and compensating tax will provide the County with an opportunity to continue to

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deliver locally preferred services deemed vital to the community while continuing to fund mandates imposed by New York State,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Legislators approves extending the authorization of St. Lawrence County to impose an additional one percent of Sales and Compensating Use Taxes for the period of December 1, 2023 through November 30, 2025 as follows:

Section 1. Resolution No. 197-2013, adopted by the Board of Legislators of St. Lawrence County, on August 19, 2013, imposing sales and compensating use taxes, as amended, is amended by deleting the current Section 1, and replacing it with the following language to become effective immediately upon expiration of the prior section.

Section 1. Imposition of general sales and compensating use taxes. There are hereby imposed in this County and there shall be paid all of the sales and compensating use taxes described in Article twenty-eight of the New York Tax Law as authorized by subdivision (a) of section twelve hundred ten of the Tax Law, at the rate of three percent. Pursuant to the authority of Section 1210 of the Tax Law, there is hereby imposed and there shall be paid an additional one percent rate of sales and compensating use taxes, for the period beginning December 1, 2013 and ending November 30, 2025. All the provisions of this resolution relating or applicable to the administration and collection of the taxes imposed by this section, including the applicable transitional provisions, limitations, special provisions, exemptions, exclusions, refunds and credits as set forth in this resolution, have the same force and effect as if those provisions had been incorporated in full into this section and had expressly referred to the additional taxes imposed by this section.

Section 2. Subdivision (e) (2) of Section 6 of Resolution 197-2013 enacted by the St. Lawrence County Board of Legislators on August 19, 2013 imposing sales and use taxes, as amended, is deleted in its entirety.

Section 3. This resolution shall take effect on December 1, 2023.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to Governor Kathy Hochul, Senator Mark Walczyk, Senator Dan Stec, Assemblyman Scott Gray, Assemblyman Kenneth Blankenbush, Assemblyman Robert Smullen, Assemblywoman Billy Jones, Deborah R. Liebman, Esq., Deputy Counsel, New York State Department of Taxation and Finance, New York State Secretary of State, New York State Office of State Comptroller, and St. Lawrence County Clerk Sandra Santamoor.

Mr. Lightfoot moved to adopt Resolution No. 300-2023, seconded by Mr. Smithers and Ms. Curran, and carried by a voice vote with fourteen (14) yes votes, and one (1) absent (Gennett).

September 11, 2023

COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT:

Ms. Doyle said there are lapel pins on desks for Legislators. Also, business cards are being redesigned with new email addresses.

Ms. Doyle reported on one (1) transfer of funds: \$3,800 for the Treasurer's Office for a check folding machine.

Ms. Doyle thanked the Board for considering time-sensitive resolutions this evening that did not pass through committee.

Work on the 2024 Tentative Budget continues.

An update on Election Inspectors was provided: Two hundred twenty-two (222) inspectors have been paid as employees and seventeen (17) inspectors still need to be paid. Six percent (6%) of the inspectors elected not to be paid as employees.

Forty-nine percent (49%) of incarcerated individuals are enrolled in the MAT Program at the Jail.

The NYSAC Conference is being held this week in Oneida County.

The Vacancy Review Committee will meet tomorrow to consider fourteen (14) positions.

Advocate Drum held its meeting in St. Lawrence County at the Gouverneur Community Center this week.

Next Monday the Services and Operations Committees will be combined meetings.

OLD/NEW BUSINESS:

Mr. Forsythe asked if the number of people who viewed the meetings online could be tracked. He also asked about checking into wireless microphones to improve the audio.

COMMITTEE REPORTS: There were no Committee Reports.

Ms. Curran moved to go to Executive Session at 8:05 p.m., to discuss litigation, negotiations, personnel, and appointments, seconded by Mr. Smithers, and carried by a voice vote with fourteen (14) yes votes, and one (1) absent (Gennett).

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Ms. Curran moved to go to Open Session at 8:45 p.m., seconded by Mr. Perkins and Mr. Fay, and carried by a voice vote with fourteen (14) yes votes, and one (1) absent (Gennett).

September 11, 2023

Mr. Hull moved to appointed the following individual to the **Community Services Board OPWDD Subcommittee**, seconded by Mr. Smithers, Ms. Haggard, and Ms. Curran, and carried by a voice vote with fourteen (14) yes votes, and one (1) absent (Gennett).

Curtis Lyon, 402 State Route 95, Moira, New York 12957 (Replacing Heather Wenzel)

Mr. Perkins moved to appoint the following individual to the **St. Lawrence County Workforce Development Board (7/15/2026)**, seconded by Mr. Smithers, Ms. Haggard, and Ms. Curran, and carried by a voice vote with fourteen (14) yes votes, and one (1) absent (Gennett).

David Ferris, 4540 State Highway 812, Heuvelton 13654

Mr. Gennett moved to reappoint the following individuals to the **St. Lawrence County Industrial Development Agency (Terms to expire: 9/30/2026)**, seconded by Ms. Curran, Mr. Reagen, and Ms. Haggard, and carried by a voice vote with fourteen (14) yes votes, and one (1) absent (Gennett).

Ernest LaBaff, 6975 State Highway 56, Potsdam 13676

Brian W. Staples, 17 Gouverneur Street, Canton 13617

CHAIR'S APPOINTMENTS: Chair Forsythe appointed the following individuals to the Public Health Director Search Committee: Mr. Hull (Chair), Ms. Curran, and Mr. Burke

ADJOURNMENT: Chair Forsythe adjourned the September Full Board Meeting at 8:48 p.m., as there was no further business.