

*\*\*Pursuant to the State of Emergency Executive Order 202.1 Article 7, Suspension of Law  
Allowing the Attendance of Meetings Telephonically or Other Similar Service\*\**

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

**SUSPENSION OF THE RULES:** Ms. Curran moved to suspend the Rule of Procedure to allow the attendance of Legislators telephonically, seconded by Mr. Lightfoot, and carried unanimously by a voice vote with fifteen (15) yes votes.

**ROLL CALL:** All Legislators were present. Mr. Arquiett, Mr. Burke, Ms. Curran, Mr. Fay, Ms. Fiacco, Mr. Forsythe, Ms. Haggard, Mr. Reagen, and Ms. Terminelli attended telephonically.

Mr. Denesha said a prayer, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

**APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA:** Mr. Lightfoot moved to amend the agenda to add a resolution to be presented under Suspension of the Rules as Number 16 to Presentation of Resolutions, seconded by Mr. Perkins, and carried unanimously by a voice vote with fifteen (15) yes votes.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** Mr. Denesha moved to approve the minutes of January 4, 2021, seconded by Mr. Smithers, and carried unanimously by a voice vote with fifteen (15) yes votes.

#### **CONGRESSWOMAN ELISE STEFANIK**

**COVID-19 UPDATE:** Dr. McGuire and Dr. Williams

**COMMUNICATIONS:** There were no communications.

#### **CITIZEN PARTICIPATION:**

Brett Blackburn of Clifton said he is a member of the Cranberry Lake Mountaineer Snowmobile Club, and asked the legislators to reconsider how the payments from the NYS Office of Parks and Recreations are administrated back to the snowmobile association.

Heather Wilson of Sevey Corners said there are 365 members and 82 volunteers in the Cranberry Lake Mountaineer Club, and she said there are some disparities in the way the funds are dispersed. Located in the southern part of the County, there is a lot of snow and great trails that generated a lot of income. Twenty-five percent of the trails are located in the southern part of the County, and that is where the oldest equipment for the upkeep of the trails is. She is requesting fair and equitable treatment.

Brooke Larrabee of Canton; Caleb D'Arienzo of Massena; Talynn Wylie of Fort Covington; Trent Sargent of Ogdensburg; Angela Frost of Massena; Cassie Hayes of Parishville; and Michael Trimboli of Massena advocated for student athletes and asked the Board of Legislators to support allowing students to play Section X sports.

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The following correspondence from citizens were emailed to the Board and read by the Deputy Clerk:

The Leadership Team of the New York State Poor Peoples Campaign-North Country Committee: John Tenbusch of Waddington, Jamey Merkel of Canton, Raamitha Pillay of Colton, Jacyln Ryan of Colton, Gary VanKennen of Massena, and Teresa Veramendi of Canton expressed their concerns via email regarding police reform and they asked the Board to make sure its police reform review process has engaged evidence of disproportionate policing.

Raamitha Pillay wrote in an email that she has concerns over the rush to vote to accept changes proposed by the Sheriff regarding police reform to fulfill the requirements of the Governor's Executive Order No. 203.

Jamey Merkel wrote in an email that it was negligent to not wait a few weeks to receive additional community input before voting on the resolution regarding police reform.

Jane Lammers wrote in an email that it would do well to solicit more community input on the policy regarding police reform.

Becky Allen of South Colton wrote in an email that the leaders of the County need to lead by example and wear masks, trust the experts, promote vaccinations, collaborate with State leadership, work across party lines, follow protocols, and focus on responding to the pandemic.

Jennifer Mitchell of Colton wrote in an email that Representative Stefanik should stop attacking the media and Governor Cuomo, and take responsibility for her role in claims of a stolen election. She asked the Legislators to make responsible statements on the media, Governor, and presidential election.

**PRESENTATION OF RESOLUTIONS:**

Operations Committee: 1-11-2021

RESOLUTION NO. 23-2021

**AUTHORIZING THE PURCHASE OF BODY CAMERAS FOR THE SHERIFF'S OFFICE AND MODIFYING THE 2021 BUDGET FOR THE SHERIFF'S OFFICE**

By Ms. Curran, Chair, Operations Committee

**WHEREAS**, Executive Order No. 203, New York State Police Reform and Reinvention Collaborative, requires all police agencies to perform a comprehensive review of deployments, policies, procedures, and practices, and develop an improvement plan, and

**WHEREAS**, an implementation Plan was adopted by the Board of Legislators by Resolution No. 356-2020 on December 21, 2020, and part of the Plan included equipping the Sheriff's Deputies with body cameras, and

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**WHEREAS**, it has been determined that body cameras will improve police accountability and performance, help address reports of police misconduct, aid in documenting evidence, assist with officer training, and prevent and resolve complaints brought by members of the public, and

**WHEREAS**, body cameras will also help ensure that all citizens are treated equally, fairly, and justly before the law and with greater transparency, and

**WHEREAS**, the 2021 Budget includes \$50,000 in the Contingency Account for the purchase of body cameras for the Sheriff’s Office, and the Sheriff’s Office will utilize forfeiture/EQSH funds to cover the balance of the costs,

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Board of Legislators authorizes the purchase of body cameras for the Sheriff’s Office, and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Treasurer is authorized to modify the 2021 Budget for the Sheriff’s Office, as follows:

**DECREASE APPROPRIATIONS:**

B1019904 49700                      B SPEC Contingency Account                      \$50,000

**INCREASE APPROPRIATIONS:**

S1031102 25000                      S CRIM Technical Equipment                      \$50,000

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Ms. Curran moved to adopt Resolution No. 23-2021, seconded by Mr. Denesha, and carried by a roll call vote with fifteen (15) yes votes.

Services Committee: 1-11-2021

**RESOLUTION NO. 24-2021**

**AUTHORIZING THE CHAIR TO SIGN THE STOP-DWI 2021 PLAN FOR THE NEW YORK STATE GOVERNOR’S TRAFFIC SAFETY COMMITTEE**

By Mr. Lightfoot, Chair, Services Committee

**WHEREAS**, Vehicle and Traffic Law §1197 requires the Chair of the Board of Legislators to approve the STOP-DWI 2021 Plan which has been submitted to the New York State Governor’s Traffic Safety Committee, and

**WHEREAS**, the STOP-DWI Plan was requested by the Governor’s Traffic Safety Committee for the time period of January 1, 2021 through December 31, 2021, and

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**WHEREAS**, the STOP-DWI Program Budget was approved by the Board of Legislators on November 2, 2020,

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Board of Legislators to authorize the Chair to sign the STOP-DWI 2021 Plan for the New York State Governor's Traffic Safety Committee, and any other documents necessary to carry out the terms of the program, upon approval of the County Attorney.

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Mr. Lightfoot moved to adopt Resolution No. 24-2021, seconded by Mr. Smithers and Mr. Perkins, and carried unanimously by a voice vote with fifteen (15) yes votes.

Services Committee: 1-11-2021

RESOLUTION NO. 25-2021

**ACCEPTING A DONATION FROM SEAWAY VALLEY PREVENTION COUNCIL  
FOR THE COMMUNITY SERVICES CHEMICAL DEPENDENCY CLINICS**

By Mr. Lightfoot, Chair, Services Committee

**WHEREAS**, the Community Services Chemical Dependency Clinics has received a donation of two Dell Laptop Computers with docking stations from Seaway Valley Prevention Council, and

**WHEREAS**, the donation will enable Peer Services to concurrently document notes during tele-practice sessions which will improve efficiency and accuracy,

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Board of Legislators authorizes accepting a donation from Seaway Valley Prevention Council for the Community Services Chemical Dependency Clinics.

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Mr. Lightfoot moved to adopt Resolution No. 25-2021, seconded by Mr. Smithers, and carried unanimously by a voice vote with fifteen (15) yes votes.

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Services Committee: 1-11-2021

RESOLUTION NO. 26-2021

**MODIFYING THE 2020 BUDGET FOR THE PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT FOR THE HEALTH RESEARCH, INC. (HRI) COVID-19 RESPONSE GRANT**

By Mr. Lightfoot, Chair, Services Committee

**WHEREAS**, Resolution No. 208-2020 authorized the Chair to sign an agreement with the Health Research, Inc. (HRI) for COVID-19 Response and modified the 2020 Budget for Public Health, and

**WHEREAS**, the Public Health Department is responsible for expenses associated with a Grant, and there have been lower than anticipated contractual expenses within the Grant, and

**WHEREAS**, there has been higher than anticipated personnel expenses and fringe benefits within the Grant,

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Board of Legislators authorizes the Treasurer to modify the 2020 Budget for the Public Health Department for the Health Research, Inc. (HRI) COVID-19 Grant as follows:

**INCREASE APPROPRIATIONS:**

PP040101 11000 CVD	Direct Service Worker	\$438
PP040101 18000 CVD	P CVD Overtime	10,939
PP040101 19501 CVD	Longevity Payments	7
PP040101 19504 CVD	Holiday Pay CVD	4,725
PP040101 19508 CVD	P CVD On Call Pay	7,680
PP040104 41901 CVD	I/D Central Printing	500
PP040104 42000 CVD	P CVD Office Supplies & Expenses	1,000
PP040104 42402 CVD	P CVD I/D Postage	2,000
PP040104 42800 CVD	P CVD Other Supplies	4,000
PP040104 43005 CVD	P CVD Advertising Fees & Expenses	4,189
PP040108 81000 CVD	P CVD Retirement	2,857
PP040108 83000 CVD	P CVD Social Security	1,561
PP040108 84000 CVD	P CVD Workmens Compensation	<u>461</u>
		\$40,357

**DECREASE APPROPRIATIONS:**

PP040104 43007 CVD	P CVD Other Fees and Services	\$25,168
PP040108 84500 CVD	P CVD Group Life Insurance	92
PP040108 86000 CVD	P CVD Hospital & Medical Insurance	14,200
PP040108 86500 CVD	P CVD FB Dental Insurance	607

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PP040108 89000 CVD	P CVD Vision Insurance	<u>290</u>
		\$40,357

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Mr. Lightfoot moved to adopt Resolution No. 26-2021, seconded by Mr. Denesha and Ms. Curran, and carried unanimously by a roll call vote with fourteen (14) yes votes, and one (1) absent (Forsythe).

Services Committee: 1-11-2021

RESOLUTION NO. 27-2021

**MODIFYING THE 2020 BUDGET FOR THE PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT FOR THE EPIDEMIOLOGY AND LABORATORY CAPACITY (ELC) COVID-19 GRANT**

By Mr. Lightfoot, Chair, Services Committee

**WHEREAS**, Resolution No. 257-2020 authorized the Chair to sign a contract with Health Research, Inc. /New York State Department of Health (HRI/NYSDOH) for Epidemiology and Laboratory Capacity (ELC) COVID-19 Enhanced Detection and modified the 2020 Budget for the Public Health, and

**WHEREAS**, the Public Health Department is responsible for expenses associated with the Epidemiology and Laboratory Capacity (ELC) COVID-19 Grant, and

**WHEREAS**, there have been lower than anticipated contractual expenses within the Epidemiology and Laboratory Capacity (ELC) COVID-19 Grant, and

**WHEREAS**, there has been higher than anticipated personnel expenses and fringe benefits within the Epidemiology and Laboratory Capacity (ELC) COVID-19 Grant,

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Board of Legislators authorizes the Treasurer to modify the 2020 Budget for the Public Health Department for the Epidemiology and Laboratory Capacity (ELC) COVID-19 Grant as follows:

**INCREASE APPROPRIATIONS:**

PPZ40101 18000 CVD	P ELC CVD Overtime	\$38,691
PPZ40101 19000 CVD	P ELC CVD Temp and Part Time	21,233
PPZ40101 19504 CVD	P ELC CVD Holiday Pay	12,768
PPZ40101 19508 CVD	P ELC CVD On Call Pay	2,790
PPZ40108 81000 CVD	P ELC CVD Retirement	10,710
PPZ40108 83000 CVD	P ELC CVD Social Security	5,775
PPZ40108 84000 CVD	P ELC CVD Workmens Comp	<u>2,120</u>
		\$94,087

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**DECREASE APPROPRIATIONS:**

PPZ40104 43007 CVD	P ELC CVD Other Fees and Services	\$94,087
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Mr. Lightfoot moved to adopt Resolution No. 27-2021, seconded by Mr. Smithers and Mr. Perkins, and carried unanimously by a roll call vote with fourteen (14) yes votes, and one (1) absent (Forsythe).

Finance Committee: 1-25-2021

RESOLUTION NO. 28-2021

**AUTHORIZING THE CHAIR TO SIGN A CONTRACT WITH THE NEW YORK POWER AUTHORITY FOR THE INSTALLATION OF A CULVERT ON COUNTY ROUTE 39 TO FACILITATE THE SMART PATH MOSES-ADIRONDACK TRANSMISSION LINES PROJECT AND MODIFYING THE 2021 BUDGET FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF HIGHWAYS**

By Mr. Acres, Chair, Finance Committee

**WHEREAS**, the New York Power Authority (NYPA) is managing the Smart Path Moses-Adirondack Transmission Lines Project, and

**WHEREAS**, the vital transmission infrastructure project will rebuild and strengthen the 86-mile long Moses-Adirondack transmission line, which will lead to long-term benefits and support future upgrades in voltage allowing for greater transmission of energy from renewable sources developed in Northern New York, and

**WHEREAS**, the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYS DEC) has expressed concerns over the impact of construction on animal passage in the area, and

**WHEREAS**, in efforts to facilitate the project, the NYPA has agreed to reimburse St. Lawrence County for expenses to construct a culvert on County Route 39 in the Town of Louisville to alleviate the impact on animal passage,

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Board of Legislators authorizes the Chair to sign an agreement with the New York State Power Authority for the installation of a culvert on County Route 39 to facilitate the Smart Path Moses-Adirondack Transmission Lines Project, upon approval of the County Attorney, and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Treasurer is authorized to modify the 2021 Budget for the Department of Highways, as follows:

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**INCREASE APPROPRIATIONS:**

HM551104 454BS C1	H Misc. Bridge Supplies C1	\$15,000
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**INCREASE REVENUE:**

HM027705 55000	H LR MR Other Revenues	\$15,000
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Mr. Acres moved to adopt Resolution No. 28-2021, seconded by Mr. Lightfoot and Mr. Smithers, and carried by a roll call vote with twelve (12) yes votes, two (2) abstained (Arquiett and Terminelli), and one (1) absent (Forsythe).

Finance Committee: 1-25-2021

RESOLUTION NO. 29-2021

**AUTHORIZING THE CHAIR TO SIGN A CONTRACT WITH THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, ANIMAL AND PLANT HEALTH INSPECTION SERVICE WILDLIFE SERVICES FOR AN INTER-GOVERNMENTAL COOPERATIVE PROGRAM**

By Mr. Acres, Chair, Finance Committee

**WHEREAS**, it is the responsibility of the Department of Highways to maintain safe roadways in St. Lawrence County, and

**WHEREAS**, beaver activity has caused significant damage to County roads, including flooding of roads, erosion of roadbeds, blocked road culverts, and other related property damage as well as indirect threats to human health and safety, and

**WHEREAS**, the Department of Highways has requested assistance from the United States Department of Agriculture, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service Wildlife Services (APHIS WS) to reduce damage caused by beavers at a cost not to exceed \$7,000 (HM351104 43007), and

**WHEREAS**, the purpose of this Inter-governmental Agreement is to establish and administer a cooperative program between the Department of Highways and APHIS WS to reduce roadway damage along with the risk to human health and safety from beavers, and

**WHEREAS**, to mitigate damage caused by beaver, APHIS WS may install and maintain water control structures to reduce flooding and prevent beaver dams from restricting water flows where appropriate, as well as reduce local, site specific beaver numbers at locations where beaver activities are causing or threatening to damage roads or other properties managed or identified by the Department of Highways, and



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**WHEREAS**, this cooperative agreement will become effective on March 1, 2021, and expire on December 31, 2021,

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Board of Legislators authorizes the Chair to sign a contract with the United States Department of Agriculture, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service Wildlife Services for an Inter-Governmental Cooperative Program, upon approval of the County Attorney.

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Mr. Acres moved to adopt Resolution No. 29-2021, seconded by Mr. Smithers, and carried by a voice vote with fourteen (14) yes votes, and one (1) absent (Forsythe).

Finance Committee: 1-25-2021

**RESOLUTION NO. 30-2021**

**MODIFYING THE 2020 BUDGET FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF HIGHWAYS FOR OVERTIME, EQUIPMENT REPAIR, AND MAINTENANCE**

By Mr. Acres, Chair, Finance Committee

**WHEREAS**, the Department of Highways budgets appropriation and revenue accounts to reflect current and projected operations, and

**WHEREAS**, engineering overtime, equipment repairs, and maintenance expenses for work done for other County Departments are projected to exceed the 2020 Budget, and

**WHEREAS**, the Department would like to amend the budget to more closely reflect actual operations for 2020,

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Board of Legislators authorizes the Treasurer to modify the 2020 Budget for the Department of Highways for overtime, equipment repair, and maintenance, as follows:

**INCREASE APPROPRIATIONS:**

HE050201 18000	H EGR Overtime	\$500
HD051304 42200	H ER Equipment Repairs & Maintenance	<u>25,000</u>
		\$25,500

**DECREASE APPROPRIATIONS:**

HE050204 42202	H EGR Equip Repair & Maintenance	\$500
HR051304 42200	H RM Equipment Repairs & Maintenance	<u>25,000</u>
		\$25,500

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Mr. Acres moved to adopt Resolution No. 30-2021, seconded by Mr. Smithers, and carried by a roll call vote with fourteen (14) yes votes, and one (1) absent (Forsythe).

Finance Committee: 1-25-2021

RESOLUTION NO. 31-2021

**AUTHORIZING REAL PROPERTY TAX LAW CORRECTION OF ERRORS**

By Mr. Acres, Chair, Finance Committee

**WHEREAS**, Section 554 of the Real Property Tax Law allows for certain corrections of errors to be made with regard to the assessment and tax rolls, and

**WHEREAS**, the Director of the Real Property Tax Office has investigated and determined that clerical errors have occurred pursuant to section 554 or 556 of the Real Property Tax Law, and

**WHEREAS**, the Director of the Real Property Tax Office has provided a list of such errors, which shall be known as Correction of Errors - Real Property Tax Law List # 1 for the Year 2021,

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Board of Legislators authorizes Real Property Tax Law Correction of Errors, as follows:

Correction of Errors - Real Property Tax Law List # 1 for the Year 2021

<b>Name</b>	Downtown Massena LLC
St. Lawrence County	Town of Massena
Tax Roll Year	2021
Tax Map No.	9.059-9-8.1
Original Bill	\$18,805.06
Corrected Bill	\$15,014.59
Reason	Wrong Amount For Mixed Use Property Exemption
Refund	
Chargeback Total	\$3,790.47

<b>Name</b>	Zhengang Cheng
St. Lawrence County	Town of Norfolk
Tax Roll Year	2020
Tax Map No.	17.003-1-2.211
Original Bill	\$4,646.21
Corrected Bill	\$937.73
Reason	House Assessed on Parcel in Error
Refund	
Chargeback Total	\$3,708.48

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<b>Name</b>	Zhengang Cheng
St. Lawrence County	Town of Norfolk
Tax Roll Year	2021
Tax Map No.	17.003-1-2.211
Original Bill	\$4,771.75
Corrected Bill	\$963.06
Reason	Wrong Amount For Mixed Use Property Exemption
Refund	
Chargeback Total	\$3,808.69

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Director of Real Property and Treasurer make the recommended corrections.

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Mr. Acres moved to adopt Resolution No. 31-2021, seconded by Ms. Curran, and carried by a voice vote with fourteen (14) yes votes, and one (1) absent (Forsythe).

Finance Committee: 1-25-2021

RESOLUTION NO. 32-2021

**MODIFYING THE 2020 BUDGET FOR THE TREASURER'S OFFICE  
FOR ADDITIONAL SALES TAX DISTRIBUTION**

By Mr. Acres, Chair, Finance Committee

**WHEREAS**, the Treasurer's Office has received more sales tax revenue than budgeted for the fiscal year 2020, and

**WHEREAS**, a budget modification is necessary in order to pay additional shares to the municipalities and the City of Ogdensburg,

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Board of Legislators authorizes the Treasurer to modify the 2020 Budget for the Treasurer's Office for additional sales tax distribution, as follows:

**INCREASE APPROPRIATIONS:**

T3019854 465ST                      T Distribution of Sales Tax                      \$1,879,000

**INCREASE REVENUE:**

T3011105 55000                      T LR Sales and Use Tax                      \$1,879,000

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Mr. Acres moved to adopt Resolution No. 32-2021, seconded by Mr. Denesha, and carried by a roll call vote with fourteen (14) yes votes, and one (1) absent (Forsythe).

Mr. Forsythe returned to the meeting at 8:25 p.m.

Finance Committee: 1-25-2021

RESOLUTION NO. 33-2021

**MODIFYING THE 2020 BUDGET FOR SOCIAL SERVICES FOR  
FOSTER CARE, SAFETY NET, AND HEAP**

By Mr. Acres, Chair, Finance Committee

**WHEREAS**, due to higher than anticipated costs in Foster Care and Adoption Services, additional HEAP expenditures, additional technology expenditures related to the health crisis, and lower than expected costs in Safety Net, it is necessary to modify the 2020 Social Services Budget,

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Board of Legislators authorize the Treasurer to modify the 2020 Budget for Social Services, as follows:

**INCREASE APPROPRIATIONS:**

DAH60104 420GE HEAP	D HEAP Office Supplies	\$16,769
DSC61094 465BC CCEA	D EAF Board & Care	80,000
DSC61094 465IB CCEA	D EAF Institutional Board	218,089
DSC61194 465YA RTA	D RTA Youth Advocacy Program	15,000
DSG60704 46500 ADOP	D Adoption Services Indirect G	<u>13,000</u>
		\$342,858

**DECREASE APPROPRIATIONS:**

DAA60104 499CB	D ADM CBIC Chargeback	\$638
DAC60104 49900	D SCU Miscellaneous Expense	6,726
DAC60104 499CC	D SCU Central Collection Char	4,113
DAP60104 499CN	D TA Client Notices	5,476
DAP60104 499DC	D TA Legal Svc for Disabled	12,422
DPS61404 46100	D HR Directs	210,000
DPS61404 46500	D HR Indirects	55,000
DSJ61234 465IS EAJD	D EAF JD/PINS Institution Tuition	<u>18,627</u>
		\$313,002

**INCREASE REVENUE:**

DAH46105 57000 HEAP	D FA HEAP Admin	\$16,769
DPA18425 55000	D LR Emergency Aid for Adults	853
DPF18095 55000	D LR Family Assistance	23,321

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DPH27015 55000 HEAP	D LR HEAP Prior Year Refunds	226
DSC18195 55000	D LR Child Care	23,563
DSC18195 550CE	D School District CSE Payments	26,501
DSC27015 55000	D LR CC Prior Year Refunds	473
DSC36195 56000 RTA	SA Emer Assistance Family RTA	<u>15,000</u>
		\$106,706

**DECREASE REVENUE:**

DPS36405 56000	D SA Safety Net	\$76,850
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Mr. Acres moved to adopt Resolution No. 33-2021, seconded by Mr. Perkins, and carried unanimously by a roll call vote with fifteen (15) yes votes.

Finance Committee: 1-25-2021

**RESOLUTION NO. 34-2021**

**CALLING UPON THE STATE OF NEW YORK TO PROVIDE RELIEF TO  
INDIVIDUAL INVESTORS OF RENTAL PROPERTIES IMPACTED BY REDUCED  
RENT COLLECTIONS DUE TO THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC EVICTION  
RESTRICTIONS AND THE EVICTION MORATORIUM**

By Mr. Acres, Chair, Finance Committee  
Co-Sponsored by Mr. Burke, District 12,  
Mr. Lightfoot, District 3 and Ms. Curran, District 15

**WHEREAS**, from the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic, according to analysis of Lending Tree from Census Bureau data, it is estimated nearly one (1) in six (6) renters are not caught up on rent payments, and more than one (1) in four (4) renters say they have no confidence or only slight confidence in making rent payments, and

**WHEREAS**, data from the U.S. Census Bureau shows around 22.7 million units in 16.7 million rental properties are owned by individual investors nationwide, compared to 25.8 million units owned by businesses, and

**WHEREAS**, unlike businesses that are more likely to own giant apartment complexes and multi-family units, individual investors are more likely to own single family homes or duplexes, and

**WHEREAS**, most of these individual investors are what are traditionally referred to as “mom and pop” operations, where the individual investor has secured ownership of their rental property through traditional loan financing, and

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**WHEREAS**, since March 7<sup>th</sup>, 2020, executive orders and laws have been put in place prohibiting landlords from utilizing means to secure rent payments from tenants or securing judgments against tenants where the tenant fails to pay any rent, destroys the rental property, and/or engages in other harmful activities to the property, and

**WHEREAS**, most recently, a New York State law was enacted that placed a moratorium on residential evictions until May 1, 2021, for tenants who endured a "COVID-related hardship," and

**WHEREAS**, the extension of the landlord restrictions by statute results in many individual investors facing a realistic prospect of receiving no rental income for more than a year, while simultaneously leaving them responsible to cover the maintenance, taxes, and upkeep on these properties still inhabited by tenants, and

**WHEREAS**, the COVID-19 pandemic has created many hardships for all levels of the economy, and

**WHEREAS**, the eviction moratorium has resolved the issue of housing insecurity for tenants but it has done so at the expense of individual investors who are also facing financial insecurity due to the enacted process, and

**WHEREAS**, it is patently unfair to the individual investors to force them to shoulder the burden of individually funding the eviction moratorium without providing avenues for financial relief, and

**WHEREAS**, a comprehensive plan needs to be developed to assist these individual investors, and

**WHEREAS**, an unintended consequence of the enactment of the current eviction moratorium without appropriate support to individual investors is likely to be the reduction in the number of available housing opportunities in the future, which is also likely to lead to housing insecurity and potential financial insecurity for the individual investors,

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Board of Legislators calls upon the State of New York to provide relief to individual investors of rental properties impacted by reduced rent collections due to the COVID-19 pandemic eviction restrictions and the eviction moratorium, and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that certified copies of this resolution be forwarded to Governor Andrew Cuomo, Senator Joseph Griffo, Senator Patricia Ritchie, Senator Dan Stec, Assemblyman Ken Blankenbush, Assemblyman Billy Jones, Assemblyman Robert Smullen, and Assemblyman Mark Walczyk.

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Mr. Burke moved to adopt Resolution No. 34-2021, seconded by Ms. Curran.

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Mr. Acres said he will not vote in favor of this resolution as he feels it is discriminatory towards corporations.

Mr. Fay said he will abstain from voting.

Resolution No. 34-2021 carried by a voice vote with thirteen (13) yes votes, one (1) no vote (Acres), and one (1) abstained (Fay).

Finance Committee: 1-25-2021

RESOLUTION NO. 35-2021

**ESTABLISHING A STANDARD WORK DAY FOR  
NEW YORK STATE RETIREMENT SYSTEM REPORTING PURPOSES**

By Mr. Acres, Chair, Finance Committee

**WHEREAS**, the New York State and Local Employees' Retirement System established 315.4, a new regulation on retirement reporting for elected and appointed officials which became effective August 12, 2009, and

**WHEREAS**, on August 19, 2015 there were revisions made to the regulations to help ensure elected and appointed officials receive appropriate service credit, and

**WHEREAS**, all newly elected or appointed positions that report to the New York State Retirement System are required to complete a 90-day log providing daily time worked and attest to its accuracy, and

**WHEREAS**, only officials who do not participate in the St. Lawrence County time-keeping system is required to be included on the standard workday resolution,

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Board of Legislators establishes a standard work day for New York State Retirement System reporting purposes for the following elected and appointed officials:

Title	Name	Standard Workday	Term	Social Security Number (last 4 digits)	Registration Number	Tier 1 (Check only if member is Tier 1)	Record of Activities Result	Not Submitted (Check only if official did not submit ROA)
Treasurer	Renee Cole	7 hours	1/1/2021-12/31/2024	██	██████		26.42	
Legislator	Suzanne Fiacco	6 hours	1/1/2021-12/31/2022	██	██████			X

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Mr. Acres moved to adopt Resolution No. 35-2021, seconded by Mr. Smithers, and carried unanimously by a voice vote with fifteen (15) yes votes.

**RESOLUTION NO. 36-2021**

**AUTHORIZING FILLING OF VACANCIES**

By Mr. Denesha, District 6 and Ms. Haggard, District 10

**WHEREAS**, Resolution Nos. 281-2008 and 198-2011 implemented a non-essential hiring freeze and created a thirty day delay of filling positions and implemented emergency measures that provided an exception for positions completely funded by an outside source to be filled, respectively in response to the fiscal challenges faced by the County, and

**WHEREAS**, Resolution No. 222-2015 that affirmed the 2008 hiring freeze and extended the standard delay for filling vacancies to 60 days, and Resolution No. 226-2015 reinstated the Vacancy Review Committee to be inclusive of Legislators and staff to return recommendations for filling vacancies going forward, and

**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,

**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:

<b>Department/Unit:</b>	<b>Title:</b>	<b>Position</b>	<b>Type</b>	<b>Duration</b>	<b>Timeline</b>
Governmental Services	Building Maintenance Worker	304200001	FT	Permanent	90 days
District Attorney	Chief Assistant District Attorney	270000001	FT	Permanent	Immediate
Community Services	Account Clerk	100100040	FT	Permanent	Immediate
Community Services	Fiscal Manager (new)	101200003	FT	Permanent	Immediate
Public Health	Public Health Specialist (new)	504300006	FT	Provisional	Immediate
Public Health	Public Health Nurse (new)	504100003	FT	Permanent	Immediate
Public Health	Community Health Nurse	502000004	FT	Permanent	Immediate
Social Services	Director of Services	817300001	FT	Provisional	Immediate

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the following positions be abolished: Position No. 501000029, Registered Nurse, in Public Health, and Position No. 819500001, Deputy Commissioner in Social Services, and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that if the grant funding goes away for Position No. 101200003, Fiscal Manager, the position will be abolished, and



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

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Mr. Denesha moved to adopt Resolution No. 36-2021, seconded by Ms. Curran and Mr. Smithers, and carried unanimously by a voice vote with fifteen (15) yes votes.

**RESOLUTION NO. 37-2021 (TABLED)**

**URGING THE STATE OF NEW YORK TO PROMPTLY DISBURSE THE PREVIOUSLY AWARDED STATEWIDE INTEROPERABLE COMMUNICATIONS TARGETED GRANT FUNDING TO ST. LAWRENCE COUNTY**

By Mr. Sheridan, District 4

**WHEREAS**, in 2018, the NYS Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Services (DHSES), Office of Interoperable and Emergency Communication, announced a Statewide Interoperable Communications Targeted Grant Program, and

**WHEREAS**, NYS Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Services (DHSES) has conveyed that Statewide Interoperable Communications Grant (SICG) funding, in the amount of \$6 million, was earmarked for St. Lawrence County, and

**WHEREAS**, this grant will allow the County to upgrade its antiquated County-wide radio communications system while ensuring the capability to support multijurisdictional response, and

**WHEREAS**, the funding would provide critical improvements necessary to fix unsafe distorted signals between dispatch and responders and will ensure a safe environment for the public,

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Board of Legislators urges the State of New York to promptly disburse the previously awarded Statewide Interoperable Communications Targeted Grant Funding to St. Lawrence County, and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that certified copies of this resolution be forwarded to Governor Andrew Cuomo, Senator Joseph Griffo, Senator Patricia Ritchie, Senator Dan Stec, Assemblyman Ken Blankenbush, Assemblyman Billy Jones, Assemblyman Robert Smullen, and Assemblyman Mark Walczyk, and Robert Mujica, NYS Budget Director.

\*\*\*

Mr. Smithers moved to adopt Resolution No. 37-2021, seconded by Mr. Acres, Mr. Lightfoot, Mr. Denesha, and Ms. Curran.

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Mr. Arquiett said he received word just prior to the meeting that the Department of Budget will be moving forward with this allocation.

Mr. Burke asked if the resolution is necessary at this time due to the information Mr. Arquiett provided.

Mr. Arquiett asked to be removed as seconding the motion of the resolution as he was raising his hand for discussion, and not as a second motion.

Mr. Denesha said he is in favor of this resolution, but agrees with Mr. Burke and wonders if there is a need to carry through with the resolution.

Mr. Acres said the money was supposed to be received in 2018, and the County still has not received the funding.

Mr. Denesha moved to table this resolution to the next full Board meeting, seconded by Mr. Acres, Mr. Arquiett, Ms. Haggard, Mr. Smithers, Mr. Perkins, Ms. Curran, and Mr. Fay, and carried unanimously by a voice vote with fifteen (15) yes votes.

**PRESENTED UNDER SUSPENSION OF THE RULES**

RESOLUTION NO. 38-2021

**RECOGNIZING JANUARY AS HUMAN TRAFFICKING AWARENESS MONTH**

By Ms. Curran, District 15

**WHEREAS**, human trafficking is a form of abuse in which force, fraud, or coercion is used to control victims for the purpose of commercial, sexual or labor exploitation, affecting individuals of all genders, ages, and backgrounds, and

**WHEREAS**, human trafficking can occur in any industry, and is the fastest growing criminal industry in the world using violence and exploitive tactics to target vulnerable members of society, and

**WHEREAS**, due to the systematic use of physical, emotional, sexual, psychological and economic exploitation, control and abuse, the crimes of human trafficking violates the privacy, dignity, security, and humanity of individuals, and

**WHEREAS**, the impact of human trafficking is wide-ranging, directly affecting foreign nationals, as well as citizens of the United States, and society as a whole with victims experiencing trauma, violence, manipulation, fraud, and coercion at the hands of their traffickers, and it is often the most vulnerable members of our communities who are affected by human trafficking, and

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**WHEREAS**, from January 1, 2018 to December 31, 2018, there have been 10,949 human trafficking cases reported nationally to the National Human Trafficking Resource Center, a number that has increased each year since 2003,

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** the Board of Legislators recognizes January as Human Trafficking Awareness Month, and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that all residents are encouraged to actively participate in the efforts to both raise awareness of, and to end, all forms of human trafficking in our communities, in the State of New York, and in the United States.

\*\*\*

Ms. Curran moved to adopt Resolution No. 38-2021, seconded by Mr. Perkins, and carried unanimously by a voice vote with fifteen (15) yes votes.

### **COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT**

Ms. Doyle said the State of Emergency for St. Lawrence County will be extended through March 10<sup>th</sup> and staffing levels will remain at fifty percent (50%). Vaccinations are underway with 1b. A number of County employees have volunteered their time to staff the sites. Dr. Williams reported that St. Lawrence Health Systems received the Rheonix machine and staff are being trained on the machine, after which all testing will be done in-house. The County must prepare a Pandemic Plan. The plan will be drafted, shared with the unions and will be submitted to New York State by April 1<sup>st</sup>.

A. Fourth Quarter Financial Update – Ms. Doyle said seventeen (17) departments came in over budget and eight (8) departments came in under budget. Ms. Doyle requested for future reports to provide the fourth quarter report in February for more accuracy.

B. Transfer of Funds- no report was given at this time.

Ms. Doyle reported that the Standard and Poor's rating for St. Lawrence County was upgraded to an A plus (A+), with an outlook of stable.

The bank reconciliations for November are posted on Google Drive.

The Vacancy Review Committee will meet tomorrow to review twenty-four (24) positions.

Barton and Loguidice will come to an upcoming committee meeting to present to the Board on the five-year Hazardous Mitigation Plan.

### **OLD/NEW BUSINESS**

Ms. Curran said a resolution to extend the Sales Tax Agreement with the City of Ogdensburg was voted down last week, and she asked if there was any interest by the Board to reintroduce the

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resolution to extend the Sales Tax Agreement for one (1) year.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS** – There were no Committee Reports

Mr. Smithers moved to go to Executive Session at 8:59 p.m., to discuss litigation, negotiations, personnel, and appointments, seconded by Mr. Perkins, and carried unanimously by a voice vote with fifteen (15) yes votes.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Mr. Acres moved to go to Open Session at 9:28 p.m., seconded by Mr. Lightfoot, and carried by a voice vote with twelve (12) yes votes and three (3) no votes (Smithers, Curran, and Terminelli).

Ms. Curran moved to appoint the following individuals to the **St. Lawrence County Fair Housing Task Force (Terms to expire: 12/31/2023)**, seconded by Mr. Perkins and Mr. Lightfoot, and carried unanimously by a voice vote with fifteen (15) yes votes.

Connie Jenkins, 632 Champlain Street, Ogdensburg 13669  
Amy Plumadore, 1037 Old DeKalb Road, Canton 13617  
Chris Nyman, 5 Foley Lane, Colton 13625

Ms. Curran moved to reappoint the following individual to the **Environmental Management Council (Term to expire: 12/31/2022)**, seconded by Mr. Perkins and Mr. Lightfoot, and carried unanimously by a voice vote with fifteen (15) yes votes.

Joseph Brant, 516 County Route 35, Potsdam 13676

Ms. Curran moved to reappoint the following individuals to the **Fire Advisory Board (Terms to expire: 2-29-2024)**, seconded by Mr. Perkins and Mr. Lightfoot, and carried unanimously by a voice vote with fifteen (15) yes votes.

Erik Johnson, 6385 US Highway 11, Canton 13617  
Scott McRobbie, 4689 State Highway 56, Colton 13625  
Richard Rusaw, 1035 Oswegatchie Trail, Star Lake 13690  
Steve Parker, 82 County Route 49, Hopkinton 12965  
Larry Whitton, Post Office Box 14, 136 Main Street, Hailesboro Road, Hailesboro 13645

Ms. Curran moved to reappoint the following individual to the **St. Lawrence County Planning Board (Term to expire: 12/31/2023)**, seconded by Mr. Perkins and Mr. Lightfoot, and carried unanimously by a voice vote with fifteen (15) yes votes.

Kim G. Bisonette, 1005 State Highway 310, Canton 13617

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Mr. Acres moved to reappoint the following individual to the **St. Lawrence County Industrial Development Agency (Term to expire: 2/28/21)**, seconded by Mr. Perkins and Mr. Lightfoot, and carried unanimously by a voice vote with fifteen (15) yes votes.

Steven Morrill, 118 Jeffers Road, Dekalb Junction 13630

Mr. Acres moved to reappoint the following individual to the **St. Lawrence County Soil & Water Conservation District Board of Directors**, seconded by Mr. Perkins and Mr. Lightfoot, and carried unanimously by a voice vote with fifteen (15) yes votes.

Robert G. Andrews, Jr., 258 Hull Road, Gouverneur 13642

Ms. Doyle reported on three transfers of funds: \$150 for the Treasurer's Office for postage; \$4,415 for the County Attorney's Office for professional liability insurance and \$1,755 for the County Attorney's Office for the self-insurance program.

Ms. Doyle said there is a request for a letter of support for a program at the Massena Transfer Station.

**CHAIR'S APPOINTMENTS:** Chair Sheridan made the following appointments to the 2021 Appointment of Board Members to various committees, boards, and councils:

Fiscal Stability/Budget Review Committee – **Suzanne Fiacco**  
Board of Trustees for Supreme Court Library – **Suzanne Fiacco**  
Buildings and Grounds Committee – **Kevin Acres (Chair)\***  
Consolidation – **Margaret Haggard**  
Highway/Solid Waste Committee – **Harry Smithers (Chair) and Suzanne Fiacco**  
Labor Management Committee – **Harry Smithers**  
Legislative Liaison Committee – **Kevin Acres, Joe Lightfoot**  
Recreational and Trails Advisory Board – **Rick Perkins**  
Youth Advisory Board – **Bill Sheridan (Ex Officio)**

\*Mr. Sheridan said he announced Mr. Acres in error for the Buildings and Grounds Committee. Legislator Denesha will remain as Chair of the Buildings and Grounds Committee.

**ADJOURNMENT:** Chair Sheridan adjourned the February Full Board Meeting at 9:36 p.m., as there was no further business.