

***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. Acres, and carried unanimously by a voice vote with fifteen (15) yes votes.

ROLL CALL: All Legislators were present. Mr. Arquiett, Mr. Burke, Ms. Fiacco, Mr. Forsythe, and Ms. Terminelli attended telephonically.

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

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA: Ms. Curran moved to approve the agenda, seconded by Mr. Smithers, and carried unanimously by a voice vote with fifteen (15) yes votes.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Mr. Denesha moved to approve the March 1st Full Board and March 8th Special Board minute meetings, seconded by Ms. Curran, and carried unanimously by a voice vote with fifteen (15) yes votes.

RECOGNITION CEREMONY:

Legislator Perkins welcomed the attendees and their families to the ceremony.

A moment of silence was held for the two lives lost, Ricky and Lena Gollinger.

The St. Lawrence County Sheriff's Office, New York State Police, and St. Lawrence County Emergency Services recognize the following First Responders for their roles in a fatal fire in Pierrepont, New York, on January 24, 2021:

- Deputy Gregory J. Anderson, St. Lawrence County Sheriff's Office
- Trooper Robert Latimer, New York State Police
- Trooper Alexander Williamson, New York State Police
- Mackenzie Barse, Dispatcher, St. Lawrence County Emergency Services
- Jarred Dailey, Dispatcher, St. Lawrence County Emergency Services
- Bradley Francis, Dispatcher, St. Lawrence County Emergency Services
- Charles Lamica, Dispatcher, St. Lawrence County Emergency Services
- Colin Myers, Dispatcher, St. Lawrence County Emergency Services
- Dominick Sassone, Dispatcher, St. Lawrence County Emergency Services
- Zac Cole, Firefighter, Pierrepont Fire Department
- James Hughes, Firefighter, Pierrepont Fire Department

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Jolene Munger, Interim Public Health Director, gave a COVID-19 update.

COMMUNICATIONS: The Deputy Clerk read the following correspondence:

1. A resolution was received from Hamilton County urging the Governor and Federal Government to expand broadband and rural cellular coverage to all New Yorkers.
2. A resolution was received from Fulton County calling upon New York State Legislators to curtail Governor Andrew Cuomo’s emergency powers authority.
3. A letter was received from Laurie Kaplan requesting the Legislators to pass a resolution declaring St. Lawrence County a sanctuary county for the Constitution and Bill of Rights, which reserves citizens the right to decide on matters which concern their lives, liberty and property in the ordinary course of business.

CITIZEN PARTICIPATION: There was no citizen participation.

PRESENTATION OF RESOLUTIONS:

Operations Committee: 3-8-2021

RESOLUTION NO. 68-2021

DECLARING APRIL SEXUAL ASSAULT AWARENESS MONTH

By Ms. Curran, Operations Committee

WHEREAS, the month of April has been designated Sexual Assault Awareness Month (SAAM) in the United States, and

WHEREAS, the goal of SAAM is to raise public awareness about sexual violence and to educate communities and individuals on how to prevent sexual violence, and

WHEREAS, the 2021 Sexual Assault Awareness Month Campaign theme focuses on “Building Safe Online Spaces,” and

WHEREAS, sexual harassment, assault, and abuse can happen anywhere, including online spaces, and as we connect online we can learn how to practice digital consent, intervene when harmful content or behaviors are seen, and ensure that online spaces – whether they be workspaces, classrooms, social media platforms, or otherwise – are respectful and safe, and

WHEREAS, St. Lawrence Valley Renewal House provides St. Lawrence County with services which range from prevention, crisis intervention, counseling, and advocacy and includes a Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner Program, and

WHEREAS, sexual assault is a serious and widespread problem and St. Lawrence County can highlight sexual violence as a major public health, human rights, and social justice issue and reinforce the need for prevention efforts by working together to educate our community

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about sexual violence prevention, supporting survivors, and speaking out against harmful attitudes and actions, and

WHEREAS, through the month of April there are several events planned throughout St. Lawrence County to highlight Sexual Assault Awareness Month,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Legislators declares April Sexual Assault Awareness Month, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of Legislators encourages all citizens of the County to join advocates and communities across the country in playing an active role to raise awareness to help prevent sexual assault.

Ms. Curran moved to adopt Resolution No. 68-2021, seconded by Mr. Perkins, and carried unanimously by a voice vote with fifteen (15) yes votes.

Operations Committee: 3-8-2021

RESOLUTION NO. 69-2021

APPROVAL OF BAD DEBT WRITE OFF FOR THE PROBATION DEPARTMENT

By Ms. Curran, Chair, Operations Committee

WHEREAS, Resolution No. 87-2014 authorized the Chair to sign a contract with Falcon Recovery Systems, LLC for St. Lawrence County in an effort to consolidate collection work under one contract, and

WHEREAS, although the amount owed is written off, the amount due is placed in the file of the client in an effort to collect payment should they return for services in the future, and

WHEREAS, in 2019 bad debt accounts were \$6,455 for Drug Testing Fees, \$0 for Custody and Visitation Fees, and \$11,493 for Supervision Fees, for a total of \$17,948, written off last year by Resolution No. 96-2020, and

WHEREAS, in 2020 bad debt accounts from 2014, 6 years uncollectible, were \$5,515 for Drug Testing Fees, \$0 for Custody and Visitation Fees, and \$9,257 for Supervision Fees, for a total of \$14,772,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Legislators approves the bad debt write offs for the Probation Department, as follows:

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DECREASE CONTRA ASSET ACCOUNT:

01TG0389 501Q0 T Allowance for Receivables Probation \$14,772

DECREASE ASSET ACCOUNT:

01TG0380 501Q0 T Q Accounts Receivable \$14,772

Ms. Curran moved to adopt Resolution No. 69-2021, seconded by Mr. Perkins, and carried by a voice vote with fourteen (14) yes votes, and one (1) no vote (Acres)

Operations Committee: 3-8-2021

RESOLUTION NO. 70-2021

**AUTHORIZING THE CHAIR TO SIGN THE ALTERNATIVES TO
INCARCERATION (ATI) SERVICE PLAN CONTRACT**

By Ms. Curran, Chair, Operations Committee

WHEREAS, the St. Lawrence County Alternatives to Incarceration Advisory Board approved an extension of the Alternatives to Incarceration (ATI) Plan Contract No. CL17-1038-D04/C523950 for St. Lawrence County for July 1, 2020 through June 30, 2021, and

WHEREAS, pre-trial services were funded in the prior year, 2019-2020 contract term, with \$28,421, and

WHEREAS, the pre-trial services will be funded with \$28,421 in ATI funds (Q1033105 56000 ATI), and

WHEREAS, the total cost of the ATI Program for 2020 is \$96,547, of which \$28,421 is ATI grant funded, leaving a County cost of \$68,126,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Legislators authorizes the Chair to sign the Alternatives to Incarceration (ATI) Services Plan Contract, upon approval of the County Attorney.

Ms. Curran moved to adopt Resolution No. 70-2021, seconded by Mr. Perkins, and carried unanimously by a voice vote with fifteen (15) yes votes.

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Operations Committee: 3-8-2021

RESOLUTION NO. 71-2021

AUTHORIZING THE CHAIR TO SIGN A CONTRACT WITH THE NEW YORK STATE DIVISION OF CRIMINAL JUSTICE SERVICES TO ACCEPT A FY21 ALTERNATIVE TO INCARCERATION, PRE-TRIAL, AND ELECTRONIC HOME MONITORING GRANT

By Ms. Curran, Chair, Operations Committee

WHEREAS, the New York State Division of Criminal Justice Services has renewed the Alternatives to Incarceration (ATI) Programs and Services, Pre-Trial, Electronic Home Monitoring Program Grant for a fourth year, with a contract period of January 1, 2021 through December 31, 2021, and

WHEREAS, the Grant will be used to employ a Probation Officer, pay the cost of two mobile devices, vendor equipment, and rental fees for jail inmates that are considered moderate to high risk who would otherwise not be eligible for pretrial release and would remain in jail while their case remains pending, and

WHEREAS, offenders could be released under supervision on either Electronic Home Monitoring or Alcohol Monitoring during any given month, and it is anticipated this could alleviate a portion of the burden placed on the County Correctional Facility, and

WHEREAS, inmates in need of community-based services, as referred by Probation or the Courts, could utilize the walk-in clinics for immediate evaluations and engagement in outpatient services, thus providing significant savings to the County and alleviating Addiction Services from completing evaluations at the County Correctional Facility,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Legislators authorizes the Chair to sign a contract with the New York State Division of Criminal Justice Services to accept a FY21 Alternative to Incarceration, Pre-Trial, and Electronic Home Monitoring Grant (Q1033105 56000 EM), upon approval of the County Attorney, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that if the funding source for this position ends, the position will be abolished.

Ms. Curran moved to adopt Resolution No. 71-2021, seconded by Mr. Denesha, and carried unanimously by a voice vote with fifteen (15) yes votes.

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Operations Committee: 3-8-2021

RESOLUTION NO. 72-2021

AUTHORIZING THE CHAIR TO SIGN A CONTRACT WITH THE NEW YORK STATE OFFICE OF INDIGENT LEGAL SERVICES TO ACCEPT THE UPSTATE QUALITY IMPROVEMENT AND CASELOAD REDUCTION GRANT FOR 2020 THROUGH 2023

By Ms. Curran, Chair, Operations Committee

WHEREAS, the New York State Office of Indigent Legal Services has made a practice of providing competitive grant opportunities associated with the Upstate Quality Improvement and Caseload Reduction, and

WHEREAS, the purpose for applying for the Quality Improvement and Caseload Reduction Grant was to reduce the caseload burden for indigent defense in St. Lawrence County, and

WHEREAS, the extraordinary number of indigent defense cases in conjunction with the number of courts in St. Lawrence County, places the Office of the Public Defender in jeopardy of being able to provide even the most basic representation to its current clientele without additional staff, and

WHEREAS, in 2020, the New York State Office of Indigent Legal Services announced its intention to request proposals for a third round of funding associated with the Upstate Quality Improvement and Caseload Reduction, and

WHEREAS, the Office of the Public Defender applied for and was awarded a total of \$300,000 over three years (July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2023) to provide continued funding for an Assistant Public Defender Position in the Office of the Public Defender to support the burgeoning caseload, and

WHEREAS, the continued efforts of the Public Defender and county staff to find new sources of revenue to support mandated efforts is as important as maintaining existing revenue sources that have now become competitive,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Legislators authorizes the Chair to sign a contract with the New York State Office of Indigent Legal Services to accept the Upstate Quality Improvement and Caseload Reduction Grant for 2020 through 2023, upon approval of the County Attorney.

Ms. Curran moved to adopt Resolution No. 72-2021, seconded by Mr. Perkins, and carried unanimously by a voice vote with fifteen (15) yes votes.

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Operations Committee: 3-8-2021

RESOLUTION NO. 73-2021

DESIGNATING APRIL 2021 AS FAIR HOUSING MONTH

By Ms. Curran, Chair, Operations Committee

WHEREAS, April 11, 1968 marked signing of the Fair Housing Act into law, which proclaims a national policy of equal housing opportunity for all citizens without regard to race, color, national origin, religion, sex, familial status or disability, and

WHEREAS, since the Board of Legislators established the St. Lawrence County Fair Housing Task Force in 1991, the Task Force has implemented a variety of activities to promote equal access to housing for all persons without regard to race, color, religion, national origin, sex, familial status, disability (physical or mental), creed, age, sexual orientation, marital status, or military status,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Legislators designates April 2021 as Fair Housing Month, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED the Board of Legislators reaffirms its commitment to promote equal housing so that all County residents are given the opportunity to live in safe, decent housing of their choice.

Ms. Curran moved to adopt Resolution No. 73-2021, seconded by Mr. Acres, and carried unanimously by a voice vote with fifteen (15) yes votes.

Operations Committee: 3-8-2021

RESOLUTION NO. 74-2021

PROCLAIMING EARTH DAY IN ST. LAWRENCE COUNTY

By Ms. Curran, Chair, Operations Committee
Co-Sponsored by Ms. Terminelli, District 14

WHEREAS, the Board of Legislators has traditionally emphasized the preservation and improvement of the quality of the natural and man-made environment within the County, and

WHEREAS, April 22, 2021 marks the 51st anniversary of Earth Day, and since 1970 Earth Day has increased awareness of pollution, climate change, endangered species, and many other environmental issues of the planet we live on, and

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WHEREAS, since its establishment by the Board of Legislators in 1971 the Environmental Management Council (EMC) has worked to advise the Board of Legislators about, and to foster public understanding of, environmental matters affecting the County, and

WHEREAS, in conjunction with "Earth Day", the EMC will sponsor and encourage public participation in environmentally responsible activities and educational programs,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Legislators proclaims April 22, 2021 to be Earth Day in St. Lawrence County, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of Legislators encourages all persons throughout the County to participate in programs and activities, on Earth Day and throughout the year, that promote a healthy environment in conjunction with a stronger economy, and that improve awareness about the interactions between people and the environment.

Ms. Curran moved to adopt Resolution No. 74-2021, seconded by Mr. Fay, and carried unanimously by a voice vote with fifteen (15) yes votes.

Operations Committee: 3-8-2021

RESOLUTION NO. 75-2021

AUTHORIZING THE PLANNING OFFICE TO APPLY FOR COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT FUNDING AND FOR THE CHAIR TO SIGN NECESSARY APPLICATION DOCUMENTATION AND A CONTRACT WITH THE NEW YORK STATE OFFICE OF COMMUNITY RENEWAL

By Ms. Curran, Chair, Operations Committee

WHEREAS, funds are available from the New York State Office of Community Renewal (OCR) to provide for housing activities under the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program, and

WHEREAS, applicants for CDBG Funds must be units of local government, specifically including counties, and

WHEREAS, the County has experience in preparing CDBG applications and administration of the programs,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Legislators authorizes the Planning Office to apply for Community Development Block Grant Funding, and for the Chair to sign necessary application documentation and a contract with New York State Office of Community Renewal, upon approval of the County Attorney, and

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BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED upon the grant be awarded, the Board of Legislators will consider a resolution to accept the grant, modify the budget, and authorize the Planning Office to engage in requisite activities to provide grant administration and program delivery services, both which are reimbursable through the grant, and to close out this grant as may be required, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that, upon the grant being awarded, and the grant administration and program delivery continue into subsequent fiscal years, the Board of Legislators authorizes the Treasurer to roll-over any remaining funds to future budgets until the grant is fully expended.

Ms. Curran moved to adopt Resolution No. 75-2021, seconded by Mr. Lightfoot, and carried unanimously by a voice vote with fifteen (15) yes votes.

Operations Committee: 3-8-2021

RESOLUTION NO. 76-2021

**RECOGNIZING THE MONTH OF APRIL
AS NATIONAL CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION MONTH**

By Ms. Curran, Chair, Operations Committee

WHEREAS, in 1983, then President Ronald Reagan, declared April as “Child Abuse Prevention Month,” and

WHEREAS, the month is a time to collectively raise awareness of child abuse, to learn to recognize signs of abuse, and to empower people across the Nation to play a role in making great childhoods happen, and

WHEREAS, child abuse or neglect includes physical, emotional, or sexual abuse of minors, as well as exploitation, and

WHEREAS, the COVID-19 pandemic has created a need for increased awareness of child abuse,

WHEREAS, according to the Center for Disease Control (CDC), heightened stress, school closures, loss of income, and social isolation resulting from the COVID-19 pandemic have increased the risk for child abuse and neglect, and

WHEREAS, furthering the complications, the COVID-19 pandemic has disconnected people from their resources and support systems,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED the Board of Legislators recognizes the month of April as National Child Abuse Prevention Month.

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Ms. Curran moved to adopt Resolution No. 76-2021, seconded by Mr. Burke, and carried unanimously by a voice vote with fifteen (15) yes votes.

Services Committee: 3-15-2021

RESOLUTION NO. 77-2021

**PROCLAIMING MARCH AS COVID-19 MEMORIAL MONTH
IN ST. LAWRENCE COUNTY AND EXTENDING THE APPRECIATION OF THE
COUNTY TO ALL INVOLVED IN THE COVID-19 RESPONSE**

By Mr. Lightfoot, Chair, Services Committee

WHEREAS, the first case of COVID-19 was identified in New York State on March 1, 2020, and in St. Lawrence County on March 25, 2020, and

WHEREAS, since these historic dates, coronavirus has claimed the lives of thousands of New Yorkers, including 91 people in St. Lawrence County, and

WHEREAS, many families could not be with their loved ones in hospitals and nursing homes, even during their final moments, due to risk of contracting and spreading the highly contagious virus, leaving patients lonely and family members heartbroken, and

WHEREAS, the Public Health Department has worked countless hours, evenings and weekends, and holidays to mitigate the spread of the virus in St. Lawrence County by diligently carrying out case investigation, contact tracing, and providing guidance to the community and to those in isolation and quarantine, and

WHEREAS, healthcare workers and other essential workers have continued to work throughout the pandemic at significant risk to their own health, in order to provide lifesaving medical care, and necessary services to the citizens of St. Lawrence County, and

WHEREAS, partnerships between staff from County departments, hospitals, schools, colleges, businesses, religious institutions, non-profit organizations, and community members aided the Public Health Department in the fight against the pandemic by offering their valuable time, resources, and skills to assist with case investigation, contact tracing, isolation and quarantine support, and modifying daily practices to prevent the transmission of COVID-19, and

WHEREAS, the COVID-19 Vaccine Points of Distribution (PODs), located at various locations throughout St. Lawrence County could not have been possible without the assistance of County employees, area hospitals and nursing homes, the National Guard, and a host of dedicated volunteers from the community,

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NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Legislators proclaims March as COVID-19 Memorial Month in St. Lawrence County and extending the appreciation from the County for all who have been involved with the COVID-19 Response, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of Legislators calls on Governor Andrew Cuomo and the New York State Legislature to name March as COVID-19 Memorial Month as an annual and ongoing commemoration to collectively recognize all the lives lost to COVID-19, the grief and loss New Yorkers have felt, and the sacrifices of those on the front line throughout the pandemic,

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.

Ms. Lightfoot moved to adopt Resolution No. 77-2021, seconded by Ms. Curran, Mr. Denesha, and Ms. Terminelli, and carried unanimously by a voice vote with fifteen (15) yes votes.

Services Committee: 3-15-2021

RESOLUTION NO. 78-2021

PROCLAIMING APRIL 5th – 11th, 2021 AS “NATIONAL PUBLIC HEALTH WEEK”

By Mr. Lightfoot, Chair, Services Committee

WHEREAS, the Public Health Department is observing National Public Health Week April 5th – 11th, 2021 and becoming part of a growing movement to create the healthiest nation in one generation, and

WHEREAS, rural communities face a range of health disparities, from higher burdens of chronic disease to limited access to primary care and prevention services, and

WHEREAS, compared to people living in urban areas, rural Americans face a greater risk of death from the five leading causes of death – heart disease, cancer, unintentional injury, chronic lower respiratory disease, and stroke, and

WHEREAS, during this week we will celebrate the power of prevention, advocate for healthy and fair policies, share strategies for successful partnerships and champion the role of a strong public health system,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Legislators proclaims April 5th – 11th, 2021 as National Public Health Week.

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Ms. Lightfoot moved to adopt Resolution No. 78-2021, seconded by Ms. Curran, and carried unanimously by a voice vote with fifteen (15) yes votes.

Services Committee: 3-15-2021

RESOLUTION NO. 79-2021

AUTHORIZING THE CHAIR TO SIGN AN AMENDMENT TO THE IMMUNIZATION ACTION PLAN GRANT WITH THE NEW YORK STATE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH FOR THE PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

By Mr. Lightfoot, Chair, Services Committee

WHEREAS, the New York State Department of Health has amended the Immunization Action Plan Grant to include supplemental flu funding, and

WHEREAS, the term of the grant will be June 5, 2020, through June 30, 2021, with the total grant amount of \$24,038 (PP034752 56000 IMM), and

WHEREAS, these funds will be utilized to expand and enhance influenza vaccine outreach of local health departments, promotion, and mass vaccination activities for the 2020-2021 flu season,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Legislators authorizes the Chair to sign an amendment to the Immunization Action Plan Grant with the New York State Department of Health for the Public Health, upon approval of the County Attorney.

Ms. Lightfoot moved to adopt Resolution No. 79-2021, seconded by Ms. Curran, and carried unanimously by a voice vote with fifteen (15) yes votes.

Services Committee: 3-15-2021

RESOLUTION NO. 80-2021

MODIFYING THE 2021 BUDGET FOR PUBLIC HEALTH TO ACCEPT PERFORMANCE INCENTIVE ACHIEVEMENT AWARD FUNDS

By Mr. Lightfoot, Chair, Services Committee

WHEREAS, the Public Health Department has received a Performance Incentive Achievement Award from the New York State Department of Health in the amount of \$21,893, and

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WHEREAS, the 2020 achievement award is based on the completion of the expedited partner therapy for the treatment of infection response portion of the initiative of the Local Health Department (LHD), and submitting the required documentation for this performance incentive project, and

WHEREAS, this achievement award must be used to support costs associated with Article 6 eligible services,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Legislators authorizes the Treasurer to modify the 2021 Budget for Public Health to accept performance incentive achievement award funds, as follows:

INCREASE APPROPRIATIONS:

PP040104 43007	P PREV Other Fees and Services	\$21,893
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INCREASE REVENUE:

PP034015 56000	P SA Public Health Prevent and Clinic	\$21,893
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Mr. Lightfoot moved to adopt Resolution No. 80-2021, seconded by Ms. Curran, and carried unanimously by a roll call vote with fifteen (15) yes votes.

Services Committee: 3-15-2021

RESOLUTION NO. 81-2021

**APPROVAL OF RATES FOR RELATED SERVICES FOR THE
PRESCHOOL SPECIAL EDUCATION PROGRAM**

By Mr. Lightfoot, Chair, Services Committee

WHEREAS, the Public Health Department engages the services of several individuals and agencies to provide Preschool Special Education Program needs, and

WHEREAS, the rates paid to providers for Related Services (PK040504 47700) are set by the County and reflect cost from the agency providing services for the period July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2022,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Legislators approves the rates for Related Services for the Pre-School Special Education Program, as follows:

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<u>Service:</u>	<u>Maximum Rate per Half Hour:</u>
Audiology	\$75
Counseling	\$64
Teacher of Hearing Impaired	\$58
Occupational Therapy	\$69
Physical Therapy	\$61
Speech Therapy	\$63
Group Rates (OT, PT, ST – per child)	\$45
Teacher of Visually Impaired	\$50
1:1 Aide	\$14
Interpreter	\$16
Teaching Assistant	\$15
Psychological Services	\$60
1:1 Medical Aide	\$17
Orientation & Mobility	\$66
Parent Training	\$64
School Health Services/Nurse	\$55
School Social Work	\$64
Coordination 2 or more related services	\$64
Assisted Technology Service	\$54
Nutritional Services Home Visit	\$60

Mr. Lightfoot moved to adopt Resolution No. 81-2021, seconded by Ms. Curran, and carried unanimously by a voice vote with fifteen (15) yes votes.

Services Committee: 3-15-2021

RESOLUTION NO. 82-2021

AUTHORIZING THE CHAIR TO SIGN A CONTRACT WITH VOLUNTEER TRANSPORTATION CENTER, INC. FOR MANAGEMENT OF NON-EMERGENCY TRANSPORTATION FOR CHILD WELFARE AND ADULT SERVICES

By Mr. Lightfoot, Chair, Services Committee

WHEREAS, the Department of Social Services wants to obtain a qualified agent for coordination and management of non-emergency transportation trip requests for Child Welfare and Adult Services recipients, and

WHEREAS, the Department of Social Services would like to enter into a contract with the Volunteer Transportation Center, Inc. (DSC61094 445VD; DSC61194 445VD ADFC; DSC61194 445VD ADJD; DSC61194 445VD CC; and DSG60704 445VD) to commence January 1, 2021 through December 31, 2023, and

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WHEREAS, in accordance with the Department of Social Services, Volunteer Transportation Center, Inc. will manage and supervise transportation requests by the Department of Social Services for non-emergency Child/Adult Service trips, and

WHEREAS, Volunteer Transportation Center, Inc. will utilize volunteer drivers using their own vehicles, along with Volunteer Transportation Center agency-owned vehicles,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Legislators authorizes the Chair to sign a contract with Volunteer Transportation Center, Inc. for management of Non-Emergency Transportation for Child Welfare and Adult Services, upon approval of the County Attorney.

Mr. Lightfoot moved to adopt Resolution No. 82-2021, seconded by Mr. Denesha, and carried unanimously by a voice vote with fifteen (15) yes votes.

Services Committee: 3-15-2021

RESOLUTION NO. 83-2021

**MODIFYING THE 2020 BUDGET FOR SOCIAL SERVICES
FOR STATE TRAINING SCHOOLS**

By Mr. Lightfoot, Chair, Services Committee

WHEREAS, due to higher than anticipated costs in State Training Schools it is necessary to modify the 2020 Budget for Social Services,

WHEREAS, State Training School supports the Division of Juvenile Justice and Opportunities for Youth, and are considered a Residential Center for court-ordered juveniles,

WHEREAS, 2018 and 2019 state training school expenses were underestimated by \$38,534 and \$269,910, respectively, and

WHEREAS, the 2020 appropriation of \$400,000 will also not be sufficient to cover the estimated 2020 cost of \$568,909, therefore, a budget modification is needed to properly record these expenses,

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

INCREASE APPROPRIATIONS:

DSS61294 46500	D STS Other Payment	\$477,353
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DECREASE APPROPRIATIONS:

B1019904 49700	B SPEC Contingency Account	\$477,353
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Mr. Lightfoot moved to adopt Resolution No. 83-2021, seconded by Ms. Curran, and carried unanimously by a roll call vote with fifteen (15) yes votes.

Services Committee: 3-15-2021

RESOLUTION NO. 84-2021

AUTHORIZING THE CHAIR TO SIGN ADIRONDACKS ACO COMPLIANCE PROGRAM GUIDELINES PROVIDER ATTESTATION

By Mr. Lightfoot, Chair, Services Committee

WHEREAS, Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) and the NYS Department of Health require First Tier, Downstream, and Related Entities that provide administrative and/or health care services for Medicaid, Medicare Parts C and D plans meet specific CMS and NYS compliance program expectations, and

WHEREAS, Community Services is committed to complying with the CMS and NYS Department of Health requirements,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Legislators authorizes the Chair to sign the Adirondacks ACO Compliance Program Guidelines Provider Attestation, upon approval of the County Attorney.

Mr. Lightfoot moved to adopt Resolution No. 84-2021, seconded by Ms. Curran, and carried unanimously by a voice vote with fifteen (15) yes votes.

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Services Committee: 3-15-2021

RESOLUTION NO. 85-2021

**AUTHORIZING THE CHAIR TO SIGN AMENDED CONTRACTS
AND MODIFYING THE 2021 BUDGET FOR COMMUNITY SERVICES FOR
FUNDING RECEIVED FROM NYS OASAS TO ST. LAWRENCE COUNTY AS PASS
THROUGH FUNDING TO APPROVED AGENCIES**

By Mr. Lightfoot, Chair, Services Committee

WHEREAS, Community Services has received an updated NYS OASAS state aid funding authorization 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,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Legislators authorizes the Chair to sign amended contracts, upon approval of the County Attorney, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED the Treasurer is authorized to modify the 2021 Budget for Community Services for funding received from NYS OASAS to St. Lawrence County as pass through funding to approved agencies, as follows:

INCREASE APPROPRIATIONS:

A2142304 46500	A St. Joe’s Rehab Center	\$5,169
A2342504 46500	A NCFH Canton Other Advances	1,607
A2442504 46500	A SEACAP Other Advances	<u>1,465</u>
		\$8,241

INCREASE REVENUE:

A2134865 56000	A SA St. Joe’s Rehab Center	\$5,169
A2334865 56000	A SA NCFH Canton Alcohol Addiction	1,607
A2434865 56000	A SA SEACAP Alcohol Addiction	<u>1,465</u>
		\$8,241

Mr. Lightfoot moved to adopt Resolution No. 85-2021, seconded by Mr. Fay, and carried unanimously by a roll call vote with fifteen (15) yes votes.

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Services Committee: 3-15-2021

RESOLUTION NO. 86-2021

AUTHORIZING THE CHAIR TO SIGN AMENDED CONTRACTS AND MODIFYING THE 2021 BUDGET FOR COMMUNITY SERVICES FOR FUNDING RECEIVED FROM NYS OMH TO ST. LAWRENCE COUNTY AS PASS THROUGH FUNDING TO APPROVED AGENCIES

By Mr. Lightfoot, Chair, Services Committee

WHEREAS, Community Services has received an updated NYS OMH state aid funding authorization 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,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Legislators authorizes the Chair to sign amended contracts, upon approval of the County Attorney, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Treasurer is authorized to modify the 2021 Budget for Community Services for funding received from NYS OMH to St. Lawrence County as pass through funding to approved agencies, as follows:

INCREASE APPROPRIATIONS:

A4143224 465AR	A CSS Arc	\$703
A4143224 465SS	A CSS Step By Step Advances	13,171
A4243224 465AR	A CRV ARC Advances	3,997
A4243224 465RO	A CRV Reachout Advances	11,855
A4243224 465SS	A CRV Step By Step Advances	1,564
A4243224 465UH	A CRV United Helpers Advances	35
A4343224 465RO	A CPP Reachout Advances	1,140
A4443224 465AR	A OFS ARC Advances	2,314
A4443224 465NR	A OFS NRCIL Advances	12,241
A4443224 465TL	A OFS NCTLS Advances	56
A4443224 465UH	A OFS United Helpers Advances	<u>2,557</u>
		\$49,633

INCREASE REVENUE:

A4134905 56000	A SA CSS Mental Health	\$13,874
A4234905 56000	A SA CR Other Mental Health PR	17,451
A4334905 56000	A SA CPP Other Mental Health P	1,140
A4434905 56000	A SA OFS Other Mental Health P	<u>17,168</u>
		\$49,633

April 5, 2021

Mr. Lightfoot moved to adopt Resolution No. 86-2021, seconded by Ms. Curran, and carried unanimously by a roll call vote with fifteen (15) yes votes.

Services Committee: 3-15-2020

RESOLUTION NO. 87-2021

AUTHORIZING THE CREATION OF THE ST. LAWRENCE COUNTY EMPLOYEE PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT AND TUITION REIMBURSEMENT PROGRAM FOR THE TRAINING AND RETENTION OF SKILLED EMPLOYEES

By Mr. Lightfoot, Chair, Services Committee
Co-Sponsored by Ms. Haggard, District 10

WHEREAS, St. Lawrence County employs approximately 800 employees, establishing it as one of the largest employers in the North Country Region, and

WHEREAS, the County is routinely challenged when attempting to attract and retain positions and specialized employment titles to assume and maintain long tenured employment, and

WHEREAS, in a 2019 survey, by the National Federation of Independent Businesses, a quarter of those surveyed reported that their single biggest problem is finding workers with the skillset employers need, and

WHEREAS, the development of an employer-sponsored employee education or tuition reimbursement program is a tool that may assist in both the ability to develop and encourage existing staff, while also acting as a recruiting tool to incentivize new staff, and

WHEREAS, while paying for college costs for an employee can be expensive, tuition-reimbursement programs can be an effective way to ensure commitment to the program, and to recruit and retain good workers while also fostering employee job satisfaction, improving productivity, and contributing to the overall success of the County, and

WHEREAS, education assistance and tuition reimbursement offers a significant return on investment, and according to various studies helps to motivate and make employees more capable of completing tasks necessary for the organization to be successful, and

WHEREAS, employers who have established an employee education/tuition reimbursement program report to have established a more flexible pool of workers, which can attract more talent by recognizing the value of employees by supporting education opportunities to develop their careers, and

April 5, 2021

WHEREAS, the Human Resources Director and the County Administrator are best suited to analyze the options and make recommendations to the Board regarding impact and funding of the establishment of an employer-based professional development and tuition reimbursement program, and

WHEREAS, while the Board of Legislators may provide for the creation of such a benefit for the employees of the County, who may be eligible for educational reimbursement; what type of educational resource the County has the capacity to reimburse (Class Type. e.g.// vocational, technical, or academic); and how much of said education will be reimbursed are among several questions that the County Administrator and County Human Resources Director are uniquely suited to review and advise the Board of Legislators,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Legislators authorizes the establishment of the St. Lawrence Employee Professional Development and Tuition Reimbursement Program, as established and designed by the County Administrator, in consultation with the Human Resources Director, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the County Administrator shall promulgate rules and policies establishing the Program and advising the Board of Legislators on appropriate funding required to continue the offering to eligible employees, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Program will be available to qualified county employees who beginning in the fall of 2021.

Mr. Lightfoot moved to adopt Resolution No. 87-2021, seconded by Mr. Fay and Mr. Acres, and carried by a voice vote with fourteen (14) yes votes, and one (1) no vote (Forsythe).

Finance Committee: 3-22-2021

RESOLUTION NO. 88-2021

AUTHORIZING THE CHAIR TO SIGN A CONTRACT WITH J.E. SHEEHAN CONTRACTING CORP. FOR REPLACEMENT OF TWO BRIDGES ON JONES ROAD OVER WEST BRANCH OF ST. REGIS RIVER, BIN 3366590 AND BIN 3341150

By Mr. Acres, Chair, Finance Committee

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

WHEREAS, the Department of Highways has solicited bids for the replacement of two bridges on Jones Road over the West Branch of St. Regis River, BIN 3366590 and BIN 3341150, and

April 5, 2021

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, and all necessary documents, with J.E. Sheehan Contracting Corp. for replacement of two bridges on Jones Road over West Branch of St. Regis River, BIN 3366590 and BIN 3341150, upon approval of the County Attorney, as follows:

Contractor: J.E. Sheehan Contracting Corp.
Contract Title: Jones Road Bridges over W. Branch of the St. Regis River
BIN 3366590, BIN 3341150, Town of Hopkinton
Contract Amount: Not to Exceed \$975,650
HM551124 465CO B24

Mr. Acres moved to adopt Resolution No. 88-2021, seconded by Mr. Lightfoot and Ms. Curran, and carried by a voice vote with fourteen (14) yes votes, and one (1) abstention (Perkins).

Finance Committee: 3-22-2021

RESOLUTION NO. 89-2021

**MODIFYING THE 2021 BUDGET FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF HIGHWAYS
FOR THE ST. LAWRENCE COUNTY BRIDGE PRESERVATION PROJECT,
BIN 3340980, BIN 3341780, PIN 775396**

By Mr. Acres, Chair, Finance Committee

WHEREAS, St. Lawrence County is responsible for maintaining its infrastructure for the safety of the traveling public, and

WHEREAS, construction is scheduled in 2021 for the St. Lawrence County Bridge Preservation Project, BIN 3340980 and BIN 3341780, and

WHEREAS, the construction/construction inspection phase for this project is funded with eighty-percent (80%) federal funds and twenty-percent (20%) non-federal funds, and

WHEREAS, the construction/construction inspection phase for this project was not included in the 2021 Budget for the Department of Highways,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Legislators authorizes the Treasurer to modify the 2021 Budget for the Department of Highways for the St. Lawrence County Bridge Preservation Project, BIN 3340980, BIN 3341780, PIN 775396, as follows:

April 5, 2021

DECREASE UNAPPROPRIATED FUND BALANCE:

03TG0911 50300	Fund Balance, Unreserved Unappropriated	\$24,540
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INCREASE APPROPRIATED FUND BALANCE:

03TG0910 50300	Fund Balance, Unreserved Appropriated	\$24,540
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INCREASE APPROPRIATIONS:

HM299509 90600	H CR Transfers to Capital Fund	\$490,804
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INCREASE REVENUE:

HM035915 560MA	H SA Marchiselli Aid	\$209,888
HM045975 57000	H F/A Transportation Capital P	<u>256,376</u>
		\$466,264

Mr. Acres moved to adopt Resolution No. 89-2021, seconded by Mr. Denesha, and carried unanimously by a roll call vote with fifteen (15) yes votes.

Finance Committee: 3-22-2021

RESOLUTION NO. 90-2021

AUTHORIZING THE CHAIR TO SIGN A CONTRACT WITH THE NEW YORK STATE DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION (NYS DEC) FOR A WATER QUALITY IMPROVEMENT PROJECT (WQIP) PROGRAM GRANT

By Mr. Acres, Chair, Finance Committee

WHEREAS, St. Lawrence County was awarded \$400,000 through the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYS DEC) Water Quality Improvement Project (WQIP) Program, and

WHEREAS, the Department of Highways will use these funds toward a salt storage facility at the Russell Outpost,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Legislators authorizes the Chair to sign a contract with the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYS DEC) for a Water Quality Improvement Project (WQIP) Program Grant, upon approval of the County Attorney, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Chair will execute all necessary Agreements, certifications or reimbursement requests for State funding, upon approval of the County

April 5, 2021

Attorney, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Highways will engage in requisite activities to carry out the scope of work, provide grant administration, and close out this grant as required.

Mr. Acres moved to adopt Resolution No. 90-2021, seconded by Mr. Smithers, and carried unanimously by a voice vote with fifteen (15) yes votes.

Finance Committee: 3-22-2021

RESOLUTION NO. 91-2021

AUTHORIZING THE CHAIR TO SIGN A SUPPLEMENTAL AGREEMENT #1 WITH STANTEC CONSULTING SERVICES FOR ADDITIONAL ENGINEERING AND DESIGN SERVICES FOR COUNTY ROUTE 35 BRIDGE OVER TROUT BROOK, BIN 3341700, PIN 775394 AND MODIFYING THE 2021 BUDGET FOR THE HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT

By Mr. Acres, Chair, Finance Committee

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

WHEREAS, Resolution No. 168-2020 authorized the Chair to sign a contract with Stantec Consulting Services for consulting services for engineering and design services for County Route 35 Bridge over Trout Brook Project, (the "Project"), and

WHEREAS, an additional supplemental agreement is now required due to additional engineering and design services required above the original contract estimate,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Legislators authorizes the Chair to sign a Supplemental Agreement #1 with Stantec Consulting Services for additional engineering and design services for County Route 35 Bridge over Trout Brook, BIN 3341700, PIN 775394, upon approval of the County Attorney, and

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

DECREASE UNAPPROPRIATED FUND BALANCE:

03TG0911 50300 Fund Balance, Unreserved Unappropriated \$3,100

INCREASE APPROPRIATED FUND BALANCE:

03TG0910 50300 Fund Balance, Unreserved Appropriated \$3,100

April 5, 2021

INCREASE APPROPRIATIONS:

HM299509 90600	H CR Transfers to Capital Fund	\$62,000
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INCREASE REVENUE:

HM035915 560MA	H SA Marchiselli Aid	\$9,300
HM045975 57000	H F/A Transportation Capital P	<u>49,600</u>
		\$58,900

6-Mr. Acres moved to adopt Resolution No. 91-2021, seconded by Ms. Curran and Mr. Smithers, and carried unanimously by a roll call vote with fifteen (15) yes votes.

Finance Committee: 3-22-2021

RESOLUTION NO. 92-2021

**MODIFYING THE 2021 BUDGET FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF HIGHWAYS
FOR STATE RESILIENCY AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT INITIATIVE (REDI)
GRANT FUNDS FOR THE NORTHUMBERLAND STREET BRIDGE PROJECT,
BIN 3341380, SJ.3, TOWN OF MORRISTOWN**

By Mr. Acres, Chair, Finance Committee

WHEREAS, Governor Andrew Cuomo launched the Resiliency and Economic Development Initiative (REDI) in May of 2019 in order to meet the needs of New Yorkers living in the eight (8) counties impacted by Lake Ontario and St. Lawrence River flooding, and

WHEREAS, under REDI, St. Lawrence County was awarded \$2,100,000 in project costs (HM299509 90600) for the Northumberland Street Bridge, BIN 3341380, in the Town of Morristown, asset SJ.03, and

WHEREAS, the project is financed through REDI grant assistance at ninety-five percent (95%) of project costs, and a local project cost match of five percent (5%), and

WHEREAS, on March 2, 2020, the Board passed Resolution No. 75-2020 authorizing the Chair to sign agreements for the State REDI Grant and the Treasurer to modify the 2020 Budget for the total cost of the project, and

WHEREAS, the project was not completed in 2020, and

WHEREAS, only a portion of the construction/construction inspection funds for this project was included in the 2021 Budget for the Department of Highways,

April 5, 2021

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Legislators authorizes the Treasurer to modify the 2021 Budget for the Department of Highways for State Resiliency and Economic Development Initiative (REDI) Grand Funds for the Northumberland Street Bridge Project, BIN 3341380, SJ.3, Town of Morristown, as follows:

DECREASE UNAPPROPRIATED FUND BALANCE:

03TG0911 50300	Fund Balance, Unreserved Unappropriated	\$40,604
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INCREASE APPROPRIATED FUND BALANCE:

03TG0910 50300	Fund Balance, Unreserved Appropriated	\$40,604
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INCREASE APPROPRIATIONS:

HM299509 90600	H CR Transfers to Capital Fund	\$812,066
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INCREASE REVENUE:

HM035915 56000	H SA Highway Capital Projects	\$771,462
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Mr. Acres moved to adopt Resolution No. 92-2021, seconded by Mr. Lightfoot, and carried unanimously by a roll call vote with fifteen (15) yes votes.

Finance Committee: 3-22-2021

RESOLUTION NO. 93-2021

AUTHORIZING THE CHAIR TO SIGN ROADSIDE MOWING CONTRACTS

By Mr. Acres, Chair, Finance Committee

WHEREAS, the 2021 Budget provides for the approval and funding of the 2021 Roadside Mowing, and

WHEREAS, the Department of Highways will contract with five (5) towns for roadside mowing on 62.30 miles of County Roads (HM351104 430RM),

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Legislators authorized the Chair to sign Roadside Mowing Contracts, upon approval of the County Attorney, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of Legislators does hereby approve the following contracts to:

April 5, 2021

Towns: Clifton
Fine
Hopkinton
Piercefield
Stockholm

Contract Title: Roadside Mowing

Contract Amount: \$271.50/mile

Mr. Acres moved to adopt Resolution No. 93-2021, seconded by Mr. Perkins and Ms. Curran, and carried unanimously by a voice vote with fifteen (15) yes votes.

Finance Committee: 3-22-2021

RESOLUTION NO. 94-2021

**AUTHORIZING THE CHAIR TO SIGN A CONTRACT WITH FRANKLIN COUNTY
HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT FOR ROAD SALT**

By Mr. Acres, Chair, Finance Committee

WHEREAS, the St. Lawrence County Superintendent of Highways has advised the Franklin County Highway Superintendent that Franklin County will be able to purchase road salt though the 2021-2022 St. Lawrence County salt bid, and

WHEREAS, including road salt estimates for Franklin County, the bidding process will likely lower the cost per ton for both counties, and

WHEREAS, the St. Lawrence County Superintendent of Highways recommends that permission be granted,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Legislators authorized the Chair to sign a contract with Franklin County Highway Department for Road Salt, upon approval of the County Attorney, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED the terms of terms of the contract will be August 1, 2021 to April 30, 2022.

Mr. Acres moved to adopt Resolution No. 94-2021, seconded by Ms. Curran, and carried unanimously by a voice vote with fifteen (15) yes votes.

April 5, 2021

Finance Committee: 3-22-2021

RESOLUTION NO. 95-2021 (TABLED)

DETERMINING THAT CONSTRUCTION OF EQUIPMENT GARAGES AND SALT/SAND STORAGE BUILDINGS IN THE TOWNS OF RUSSELL, LISBON, AND POTSDAM, NEW YORK, WILL NOT RESULT IN ANY SIGNIFICANT ADVERSE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS

By Mr. Acres, Chair, Finance Committee

WHEREAS, the Board of Legislators intends to construct three new truck equipment garages and three new sand/salt storage buildings for the Highway Department in Russell, Lisbon, and Potsdam – all on parcels currently owned by the County (Russell and Lisbon) or shared with the County (Town of Potsdam DPW) – in order to enhance the effectiveness of the County Highway Department operations in and throughout the County, and

WHEREAS, the County intends to initiate this activity by an award of contract for the construction of these buildings, and

WHEREAS, such award of contract constitutes an "action" as delineated in 6 NYCRR Part 617 and requires that the County comply with the requirements of the New York State Environmental Quality Review Act (SEQRA), and

WHEREAS, Short Environmental Assessment Forms (SEAF) identifying and assessing the potential adverse environmental impacts associated with the proposed construction at each of these three sites has been prepared and distributed to the Board of Legislators in an electronic version for review, and

WHEREAS, the preparation of the SEAF incorporated data was collected from the following sources: NYS Department of Environmental Conservation critical habitats data bases, NYS Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation information on archeological sites and concerns, FEMA FIRM maps for each town, state and federal wetlands delineation maps, a state and federal wetland delineation study, internal engineering assessments, highway sufficiency ratings, soils maps, a site survey and assessment of local land use regulations and design considerations that may be incorporated to minimize adverse impacts, and

WHEREAS, the County provided notice of its intent to serve as lead agency for purposes of environmental review to the affected jurisdictions and determined that there are no other “involved” agencies as defined in § 617.3 (b) (4),

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Legislators determines that construction of equipment garages and salt/sand storage buildings in the Towns of Russell, Lisbon, and Potsdam, New York, will not result in any significant adverse environmental impacts, and

April 5, 2021

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that based upon the environmental assessment and supporting materials, the ultimate development of these projects will not result in any significant adverse environmental impacts, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of Legislators directs the County Administrator to prepare a "Negative Declaration" which indicates that the Board determines that the no adverse environmental impacts will result from these projects based upon the upon the summary of environmental impacts as described in the SEAF and incorporating the points noted in the presentation and discussion of this resolution, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the County Administrator is directed to file the "Negative Declaration" in compliance with the requirements of § 617.12; determines that completion of this environmental review fulfills the requirement of the Board under SEQRA; and further determines that the Board is free to take "actions" on the project as defined under 6 NYCRR Part 617, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of Legislators will fully comply with any and all permit conditions to mitigate environmental damage both during construction and occupancy of the building as may be required by other permitting agencies subject to the conclusions of their SEQRA reviews and/or in compliance with applicable environmental requirements or standards.

Mr. Acres moved to table Resolution No. 95-2021 to a Special Board Meeting to be held on May 24th, seconded by Ms. Curran, and carried unanimously by a voice vote with fifteen (15) yes votes.

Finance Committee: 3-22-2021

RESOLUTION NO. 96-2021

**AUTHORIZING THE ACQUISITION OF A PERMANENT EASEMENT FOR
CONSTRUCTION OF A COUNTY HIGHWAY FACILITY
IN THE TOWN OF POTSDAM**

By Mr. Acres, Chair, Finance Committee

WHEREAS, the St. Lawrence County Department of Highways plans to construct a new Highway facility in the Town of Potsdam, Tax Map No. 64.049-1-16, and

WHEREAS, the land upon which the County wants to construct the new Highway facility is currently owned by the Town of Potsdam, and

WHEREAS, several meetings have been held between the Town of Potsdam and St. Lawrence County to discuss cooperation at the proposed site, and

April 5, 2021

WHEREAS, in furtherance of this joint endeavor, the Town of Potsdam has indicated that there is support for the conveyance of a permanent easement on land owned by the Town of Potsdam whereat the County would be permitted to construct appropriate facilities as envisioned for the project, and

WHEREAS, prior to construction the County must obtain an ownership interest over the land, which would be satisfied by obtaining a permanent easement, and

WHEREAS, the Town of Potsdam has agreed to issue a permanent easement to St. Lawrence County for the construction of the new Highway facility on Tax Map No. 64.049-1-16,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Legislators authorizes the acquisition of a permanent easement for construction of a County Highway Facility in the Town of Potsdam, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Chair is authorized to execute any documents necessary to complete the transfer of the permanent easement to the County, upon approval of the County Attorney, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this resolution will take effect immediately.

Mr. Acres moved to adopt Resolution No. 96-2021, seconded by Ms. Curran, and carried unanimously by a voice vote with fifteen (15) yes votes.

Finance Committee: 3-22-2021

RESOLUTION NO. 97-2021

**AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF A NEGATIVE DECLARATION
RELATED TO THE SJ.03 NORTHUMBERLAND BRIDGE PROJECT
IN MORRISTOWN, NEW YORK**

By Mr. Acres, Chair, Finance Committee

WHEREAS, Resolution No. 75-2020, adopted March 2, 2020, authorized the Chair to sign an agreement for State Resiliency and Economic Development Initiative (REDI) Grand fund for the Northumberland Bridge Project, BIN 3341380, SJ.03, in the Town of Morristown, and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Article 8 of the Environmental Conservation Law, as amended, the New York State Environmental Quality Review Act (“SEQRA”) and the implementing regulations at 6NYCRR Part 617 (the “Regulations”), the County desires to comply with SEQRA and the Regulations with respect to the Project, and

April 5, 2021

WHEREAS, pursuant to the State Environmental Quality Review Act (“SEQRA”) and the implementing regulations at 6 NYCRR Part 617, the County previously completed the SEQRA process and passed a Negative Declaration (Resolution No. 113-2020) for the proposed Project on April 6, 2020, and

WHEREAS, the previously reviewed project scope included the removal of the closed Northumberland Bridge over Morristown Bay, and existing water and sewer utility lines on the bridge will be relocated under the bay using directional drilling techniques, and

WHEREAS, the Project now involves the installation of a wastewater pump station along Bay Street, and the existing vacuum sewer does not have the capacity to transport wastewater under the bay; therefore a pump station with a force main system will be installed to adequately service the existing sewer district, and

WHEREAS, as lead agency, the County has updated Parts 1, 2, and 3 of the Full Environmental Assessment Form (FEAF) to reflect the change in project scope, and subsequently notified all interested and involved agencies of the amendments made to the project, in support of re-issuing a Determination of Significance, and

WHEREAS, pursuant to the SEQRA Regulations, the County, as lead agency, considered the significance of the potential environmental impacts of the amended Project by (a) using the criteria specified in Section 617.7 of the SEQRA Regulations, (b) examining the amended FEAF for the Project, including the facts and conclusions in Parts 1, 2 and 3 of the FEAF and Part 3 Evaluation Document, together with other available supporting information, to identify the relevant areas of environmental concern, and (c) thoroughly analyzing the identified areas of environmental concern,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Legislators authorizes the issuance of a negative declaration related to the SJ.03 Northumberland Bridge Project, in the Town of Morristown, New York, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that based upon the environmental assessment and supporting materials, the Board of Legislators has determined that the development of this project will not result in any significant adverse environmental, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the County Administrator is directed to prepare a "Negative Declaration" which indicates that the Board of Legislators determines that the no adverse environmental impacts will result from this project based upon the summary of environmental impacts as described in the full EAF, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of Legislators directs the County Administrator to file the “Negative Declaration” in compliance with the requirements of SEQRA; to determine that completion of this environmental review fulfills the requirement of the Board under SEQRA; and further determines that the Board is free to take "actions" on the project.

April 5, 2021

Mr. Acres moved to adopt Resolution No. 97-2021, seconded by Mr. Lightfoot, and carried unanimously by a voice vote with fifteen (15) yes votes.

Finance Committee: 3-22-2021

RESOLUTION NO. 98-2021

AUTHORIZING THE TREASURER TO MODIFY THE PY20 WORKFORCE INNOVATION OPPORTUNITY ACT (WIOA) BUDGET TO TRANSFER FORMULA FUNDS FROM DISLOCATED WORKER ACCOUNTS TO ADULT ACCOUNTS

By Mr. Acres, Chair, Finance Committee

WHEREAS, the Notice of Authorization PY20-3 was issued with the remaining allocation of funding for Program Year 2020 WIOA Title IB Adult and Dislocated Worker programs, and

WHEREAS, a transfer of funds would provide more flexibility and ensure that WIOA is able to provide services to as many eligible participants as possible, and

WHEREAS, that all participants eligible for the Dislocated Worker Program will be enrolled in the Dislocated Worker Program, and no eligible participant will be denied services, including training services, due to transfer of funds, and

WHEREAS, WIOA Notice of Proposed Rulemaking, Section 683.130, allows Local Workforce Development Boards (LWDB) the authority to transfer one-hundred percent (100%) of a program year allocations between the Adult and Dislocated Worker Programs, and

WHEREAS, the LWDB authorized, with Resolution Number 21-A13-01, the transfer of funds from the Dislocated Worker to Adult,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Legislators authorizes the Treasurer to modify the PY20 Workforce Innovation Opportunity Act (WIOA) Budget to transfer formula funds from Dislocated Worker Accounts to Adult Accounts, as follows:

INCREASE APPROPRIATIONS:

UA062924 461TU TRAN	Adult Tng Tuition Fees	\$35,000
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DECREASE APPROPRIATIONS:

UE062911 11000	Disc Core Direct Service Worker	\$6,145
UE062911 14000	Disc Core Clerical	2,238
UE062911 19501	Disc Core Longevity Pay	225
UE062918 81000	Disc Core Retirement	1,505
UE062918 83000	Disc Core Social Security	807

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UE062918 84000	Disc Core Workmen Compensation	307
UE062918 84500	Disc Core Group Life Insurance	14
UE062918 86000	Disc Core Hospital & Medical I	1,926
UE062918 86500	Disc Core Dental Insurance	107
UE062918 89000	U Vision Insurance	52
UE062924 461OJ	Disc Tng OJT Employer Reimbursement	16,000
UE062924 461PM	Participant Travel	142
UE062924 461TU	Disc Tng Tuition Fees	<u>5,532</u>
		\$35,000

INCREASE REVENUE:

UA047905 57000 TRAN	U FA Adult Training	\$35,000
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DECREASE REVENUE:

UE047905 57000	Dislocated Worker Revenue	\$35,000
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BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that any remaining fund be rolled over to future years until fully expended.

Mr. Acres moved to adopt Resolution No. 98-2021, seconded by Ms. Curran, and carried unanimously by a roll call vote with fifteen (15) yes votes.

Finance Committee: 3-22-2021

RESOLUTION NO. 99-2021

AUTHORIZING THE SUBMISSION OF A JOINT APPLICATION FOR INTERVENOR FUNDS WITH THE TOWNS OF BRASHER, NORFOLK, AND MASSENA RELATED TO A PUBLIC SERVICE LAW ARTICLE 10 PROCEEDING REGARDING THE SITING OF AN INDUSTRIAL SCALE SOLAR GENERATING FACILITY AND AUTHORIZING THE CHAIR TO SIGN SERVICE AGREEMENTS

By Mr. Acres, Chair, Finance Committee
Co-Sponsored by Mr. Arquiett, District 13

WHEREAS, North Side Solar Energy Center, LLC (“North Side”), a wholly owned subsidiary of NextEra Energy Resources, LLC, filed an application before the New York State Board on Electric Generation Siting and the Environment (“Siting Board”) for a certificate of environmental compatibility and public need (“Certificate”) to construct and operate a 180 megawatt (“MW”) solar electric generating facility (“Facility”) on or about February 19, 2021, and

April 5, 2021

WHEREAS, the Facility is to be sited on approximately 1,200 to 1,400 acres of land located in County of St. Lawrence (“County”) and the Towns of Massena, Brasher and Norfolk (collectively, “Towns”) (A copy of the mapping associated with the project is attached hereto as Exhibit ‘A’), and

WHEREAS, before the Siting Board issues a certificate, North Side’s application is subject to a statutorily prescribed review and evaluation process, pursuant to Article 10 of the New York Public Service Law (“Article 10”) and applicable Siting Board regulations, and

WHEREAS, in addition to certain regulatory agencies of the State of New York, other eligible parties, including the County and Towns, may participate in this Article 10 siting process, and

WHEREAS, preliminary meetings have been held between representatives of the Towns and the County wherein the Towns have expressed interest in participating jointly with the County in this Article 10 proceeding, and

WHEREAS, the County believes it is in the best interests of both the Towns and the County that the municipal entities work collaboratively on the review of this project, and

WHEREAS, on March 4, 2021, the Siting Board issued a Notice indicating that intervenor funds in the amount of \$180,000 was available to all eligible municipal and other eligible parties for the purpose of funding the activities of legal, engineering and other consultants to assist such parties in actively and meaningfully participating in the Article 10 proceeding, and

WHEREAS, the Towns and the County wish to jointly apply for Intervenor Funds in order to pay for the consulting services of Barton & Loguidice to perform a detailed technical review and evaluation of North Side’s Article 10 application, participate in meetings, prepare interrogatory requests and provide expert witness testimony on behalf of the Towns and the County at a future adjudicatory hearing, if deemed necessary by the Siting Board, and

WHEREAS, the County wishes to also apply for Intervenor Funds to pay for the services of Gary S. Bowitch, Esq., to assist the County Attorney and the County Planning Office, in coordination with the attorneys for the Towns, in all aspects of this Article 10 proceeding, including participation in procedural conferences and meeting, negotiations with North Side, oversight of the activities of Barton & Loguidice, preparation of legal documents and pre-filed direct testimony, as needed, and representation in a future adjudicatory hearing, if deemed necessary by the Siting Board,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED the Board of Legislators authorizes the submission of a joint filing with the Towns of Massena, Brasher, and Norfolk for Intervenor Funds related to a Public Service Law Article 10 proceeding regarding the siting of an industrial scale solar generating facility and authorizing the chair to sign service agreements, and

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BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED the Board of Legislators authorizes the Chair to execute any agreements necessary to apply for Intervenor Funds in order to pay for and retain engineering and legal services related to this Article 10 proceeding and to execute any other agreements necessary to effectuate the terms of the collaborative submission of an application for Intervenor Funds, upon approval of the County Attorney, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED the Board of Legislators authorizes the County Attorney, Gary S. Bowitch Esq., the County Planning Office and any other staff deemed necessary by the County Administrator, to participate in all aspects of the North Side Solar Energy Center, LLC Article 10 Facility siting process, including applying for Intervenor Funding, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this resolution will be retroactive to April 2, 2021.

Mr. Acres moved to adopt Resolution No. 99-2021, seconded by Mr. Perkins.

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

Resolution No. 99-2021 carried unanimously by a voice vote with fifteen (15) yes votes.

Finance Committee: 3-22-2021

RESOLUTION NO. 100-2021

REQUESTING THE NEW YORK STATE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION (NYS DOT) PERFORM A TRAFFIC STUDY AND INVESTIGATION ON A PORTION OF U.S. ROUTE 11 IN THE TOWN OF DEKALB AND SUPPORTING A REQUEST BY THE TOWN OF DEKALB FOR ENACTMENT OF SENATE BILL S1868 AND ASSEMBLY BILL A4201 “TO REDUCE THE MAXIMUM SPEED LIMIT ON CERTAIN PUBLIC ROADWAYS”

By Mr. Acres, Chair, Finance Committee
Co-Sponsored by Mr. Denesha, District 6

WHEREAS, in New York State, the statutory speed limit on all roads is 55 mph unless otherwise posted on an authorized regulatory sign, and

WHEREAS, Vehicle and Traffic Law, Sections 1620, 1622 and 1624, give the New York State Department of Transportation (NYS DOT) the authority to establish speed limits on county and town roads and on state highways, and

WHEREAS, should a town wish to change the speed limit on one of their town roads, the proper procedure is for the town to pass a resolution for the change and submit this to the NYS DOT for an engineering study, and

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WHEREAS, there are three types of permanently established speed limits: linear, area, and school zone, and

WHEREAS, a linear speed limit is one which applies only on a specific highway or road; an example of a linear speed limit is a 35 mph speed limit through a small community on a state highway, like the 35 mph limit on U.S. Route 11 through the Town of DeKalb, and

WHEREAS, while a linear speed limit has been established within the Town of DeKalb on U.S. Route 11, it does not extend to the area directly adjacent to the Hermon-DeKalb School, and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Article IX of the New York State Constitution, the Town of DeKalb has requested the enactment of Senate Bill S1868 and Assembly Bill A4201, "To reduce the maximum speed limit on certain public roadways" which would permit the reduction of the posted maximum speed limit in the area of concern, and

WHEREAS, the request seeks to establish maximum speed limits at not less than forty-five (45) miles per hour along U.S. Route 11, beginning one quarter mile North of the United States Route 11 and East DeKalb Road intersection and ending one quarter mile South of the entrance to the Hermon-DeKalb Central school athletic fields, and

WHEREAS, in order to enable the Town of DeKalb to be able to impose a speed limit less than 55 mile per hour, it is likely that the State will have to perform a traffic engineering study and a traffic investigation made in accordance with established traffic engineering practices, and

WHEREAS, the County is supportive of the efforts of the Town of DeKalb to seek a reduction of the maximum speed capable of being traveled by motor vehicles leading to and in front of, the Hermon-DeKalb School,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Legislators requests the New York State Department of Transportation (NYS DOT) perform a traffic study and investigation on a portion of U.S. Route 11 in the Town of DeKalb and supporting a request by the Town of DeKalb for enactment of Senate Bill S1868 and Assembly Bill A4201 "to reduce the maximum speed limit on certain public roadways," and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED upon review of the study, Senate Bill S1868 and Assembly Bill A4201 be passed, if required, to permit the reduction of the posted speed to allow for safe access to Hermon-DeKalb Central School, 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 NYS DOT Region 7 Director, Kenneth Bibbins, P.E.

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Mr. Denesha moved to adopt Resolution No. 100-2021, seconded by Mr. Forsythe, and carried unanimously by a voice vote with fifteen (15) yes votes.

Finance Committee: 3-22-2021

RESOLUTION NO. 101-2021

**PROCLAIMING MARCH 21-27, 2021, AS “NATIONAL AGRICULTURE WEEK”
IN ST. LAWRENCE COUNTY**

By Mr. Acres, Chair, Finance Committee

WHEREAS, the Agriculture Council of America (ACA) and the National Ag Day Program was started in 1973; the ACA is an organization uniquely composed of leaders in the agriculture, food, and fiber communities dedicated to increasing public awareness of the vital role agriculture plays in our society, and

WHEREAS, March is designated as Agriculture Month, and is celebrated for the importance that agriculture provides almost everything we eat, wear, and use on a daily basis in the United States, and this year, March 23rd, is recognized as National Ag Day celebrating the variety and abundance provided by farms throughout the United States, New York, and St. Lawrence County, and

WHEREAS, there are 33,400 farms in New York State and 6,900,000 acres of operated farmland with each American farmer feeding more than 165 people, and as the world population soars there is an even greater demand for food and fiber produced in the United States, and

WHEREAS, the agricultural industry in New York State contributes more than \$5.4 billion in agricultural sales to the New York economy each year, and

WHEREAS, with farmland occupying nearly one-quarter (1/4) of all land area in New York State agriculture promotes quality of life in many ways, including providing access to fresh, locally-sourced food, preserving open space, and maintaining a strong economy,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Legislators proclaims March 21-27, 2021, as National Agriculture Week in St. Lawrence County, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of Legislators encourages all citizens of the County to participate in programs and activities on National Ag Day and throughout the year, to learn about and appreciate the role agriculture plays in all our daily lives, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED the Board of Legislators encourages young people to understand how food and fiber products are produced, to value the essential role of agriculture in maintaining a strong economy, and to consider career opportunities in the agriculture, food and fiber industry.

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Mr. Acres moved to adopt Resolution No. 101-2021, seconded by Ms. Curran and Mr. Smithers, and carried unanimously by a voice vote with fifteen (15) yes votes.

Finance Committee: 3-22-2021

RESOLUTION NO. 102-2021

AUTHORIZING THE CONSOLIDATION OF THE DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES LEGAL UNIT WITH THE OFFICE OF THE COUNTY ATTORNEY

By Mr. Acres, Chair, Finance Committee
Co-Sponsored by Mr. Lightfoot, District 3

WHEREAS, prior to 1984 all Department of Social Services legal matters were handled by attorneys in the Office of the County Attorney, and

WHEREAS, in 1984, due to growing responsibilities the Board of Legislators decided to divest the County Attorney of the responsibility of providing representation to the Department of Social Services in Family Court cases and create Social Services Attorney positions pursuant to Social Services Law, Section 66, and

WHEREAS, since 1984 the Department of Social Services has seen an increase in the number of cases with a growing need for additional staff assistance, and

WHEREAS, the DSS Legal Unit has grown to include management personnel of a General Counsel, a Senior Attorney, three (3) Assistant Social Services Attorneys, a Paralegal, and approximately nine (9) support staff positions, and

WHEREAS, recent information from the Department of Social Services management personnel has raised concerns regarding appropriate staffing levels they see as needed to handle the workload associated in the Legal Unit, and

WHEREAS, the Commissioner of the Department of Social Services and the General Counsel have alleged that the failure to provide appropriate support to the Department has resulted in a financial loss to the County, and

WHEREAS, due to a staffing shortage at the end of 2019, the Deputy County Attorney provided assistance beginning December 16, and the County Attorney assumed responsibility on all matters of DSS Legal Unit from January 28, 2020 through April 5, 2020, and on support matters again from July 27, 2020 through August 7, 2020, and

WHEREAS, from July 27, 2020 through August 7, 2020, the DSS General Counsel notified the St. Lawrence County Family Court that the Office of the County Attorney would henceforth be responsible for all current and future child support matters in Family Court, and

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WHEREAS, Resolution No. 333-2020, adopted December 7, 2020, authorized the Chair to sign a contract for Support Cases between the Department of Social Services and the Office of the County Attorney, and

WHEREAS, a pattern of assistance from the Office of the County Attorney has emerged wherein the Office of the County Attorney has provided needed assistance to the DSS Legal Unit to support their efforts, and

WHEREAS, the Board of Legislators believes consolidation of these offices through abolishing the management positions and re-establishing the filled positions as Assistant County Attorneys and a Paralegal while maintaining all support staff titles in the Department of Social Services is consistent with past actions and renders immediate aid to the DSS Legal Unit by making the County Attorney and Deputy County Attorney, as well as their staff, eligible to immediately assist with all DSS Legal Unit work,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED the Board of Legislators authorizes the consolidation of the Department of Social Services Legal Unit with the Office of the County Attorney, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the County Attorney will assume responsibility for the oversight of legal matters of the Department of Social Services, pursuant to the authority vested in Social Services Law, Section 66, effective on Monday, May 3, 2021, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED the Board of Legislators authorizes the abolition of the management classified positions in the DSS Legal Unit and the creation of those positions as Assistant County Attorneys and Paralegal in the Office of the County Attorney as follows:

ABOLISH:

DAA60101 13000	Social Services Attorney	\$76,812
	Social Services Attorney	\$76,812
	Senior Social Services Attorney	\$87,909
	General Counsel to DOSS	\$102,665
	Paralegal	\$50,469
	Social Services Attorney (vacant)	\$63,234

CREATE:

Assistant County Attorney	TBD*
Assistant County Attorney	TBD*
Assistant County Attorney	TBD*
Assistant County Attorney	TBD*
Paralegal	\$50,469

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the County Administrator and the Director of Human Resources are directed to review the process for consolidation and to prepare a budget

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modification to reflect all changes in a manner consistent with the purpose and direction included in this resolution.

*2021 Band V Range \$74,663 - \$92,503

Mr. Acres moved to adopt Resolution No. 102-2021, seconded by Mr. Lightfoot.

Mr. Lightfoot moved to amend the resolution to delete the word “and” on the first Be it Further Resolved and add the language “effective on Monday, May 3, 2021, seconded by Ms. Curran, and carried by a voice vote with ten (10) yes votes, four (4) no votes (Arquiett, Burke, Fiacco, and Terminelli) and one (1) recuse (Haggard).

Mr. Lightfoot called the Question with four (4) no votes (Arquiett, Burke, Fiacco, and Terminelli).

Resolution No. 102-2021 was adopted by a roll vote with eight (8) yes votes, six (6) no votes (Arquiett, Burke, Fiacco, Forsythe, Reagen, and Terminelli), and one (1) recuse (Haggard).

Finance Committee: 3-22-2021

RESOLUTION NO. 103-2021 (TABLED)

ADOPTING PROPOSED LOCAL LAW A (NO.) FOR THE YEAR 2021, “A LOCAL LAW RE-ESTABLISHING THE ST. LAWRENCE COUNTY MULTI-USE RECREATIONAL TRAIL SYSTEM AND ESTABLISHING A TRAIL PERMITTING PROCESS”

By Mr. Acres, Chair, Finance Committee
Co-Sponsored by Mr. Sheridan, District 4; Mr. Denesha, District 6;
Mr. Perkins, District 7; and Mr. Arquiett, District 13

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

SECTION 1. TITLE

This local law shall be known as “Re-Establishing the St. Lawrence County Trail System and establishing the St. Lawrence County Trail Permitting Process”

SECTION 2. STATUTORY AUTHORITY

This local law is enacted pursuant to the following authority:

A. Municipal Home Rule Law (“MHL”) §10(1)(i) provides that a county may adopt local laws relating to its property, affairs or government provided it is not inconsistent with the provisions of the constitution or any general law.

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B. County Law § 219(1) provides that a county may utilize its reforestation properties “for recreation and kindred purposes.” This has been interpreted as authorizing a county to designate reforestation lands for use by all-terrain vehicles (“ATVs”), provided that such use is consistent with forest and wildlife conservation and watershed protection. Opinion Atty. Gen. Op. No. 2002-1.

C. Vehicle and Traffic Law § 2405(2) states that: “a municipality, by ordinance or local law, may designate any appropriate public lands, waters and properties other than highways under its jurisdiction as a place open for travel by ATVs upon written request for such designation by any person, and may impose restrictions and conditions for the regulation and safe operation of ATVs on such public property. . .”

SECTION 3. PURPOSE

A. The purpose is to establish Local Law No. ____, “A Local Law Re-Establishing the St. Lawrence County Trail System and Establishing the St. Lawrence County Trail Permitting Process”, by incorporation of reference to the Local Laws adopted thereto since 2006, and to update by amendment various provisions of the Local Law and thereby Re-Establish the St. Lawrence County Trail System.

B. This Local Law is to:

1. Establish a network of trails and interconnecting roads (“Trail System”) that is available for ATV operation throughout St. Lawrence County.
2. Establish a set of guidelines for the potential expansion of such ATV trail system.
3. Establish a methodology for managing the trail system and implementing appropriate procedures to mitigate environmental impacts and provide for the long-term preservation of natural resources.

SECTION 4. LEGISLATIVE FINDINGS

The Board of Legislators hereby restates and makes the following findings in support of this Local Law:

A. That the Board of Legislators received and reviewed and adopted Resolution No. 149-2011, on May 2, 2011 that determined that the St. Lawrence County Multi-use Trail Plan DGEIS (“Trail Plan”) was complete and as a result, the DGEIS was deemed adequate for the purpose of commencing public review of the document, which set forth a resource management plan for the development of a network of interconnecting trails throughout St. Lawrence County for outdoor enthusiasts who enjoy the use and operation of all-terrain vehicles (“ATVs”). The Trail Plan contemplates the creation of a St. Lawrence County Trail System (“Trail System”), which is an identified and designated system of trails and interconnecting roads. The Trail System may include:

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1. Trails located on County Reforestation Lands and/or other lands the County may own.
2. Trails located on private lands that are designated as open to the public.
3. Railroad Corridors.
4. Utility Corridors.
5. Recreation Easements.
6. Interconnecting Town Roads (as authorized by local law by the respective townships).
7. Interconnecting County Roads (as authorized by local law).

B. The goal of the Trail Plan was to set out the management objectives and guidelines for the development of the Trail System so that the interests of ATV operators could be balanced with the long-term preservation of the environment and the County's natural resources for future generations.

C. Before taking action with respect to the proposed Trail Plan, the Board of Legislators, acting as lead agency, conducted an extensive review of the potential impacts to the environment pursuant to Article 8 of the Environmental Conservation Law of the State of New York, as amended, and Title 6, Part 617 of the New York Codes, Rules and Regulations ("NYCRR") implementing Article 8 (collectively referred to hereinafter as "SEQRA").

D. The Board of Legislators further determined that pursuant to Part 6 NYCRR § 617.6(a)(4), preparation of a draft Generic Environmental Impact Statement ("GEIS") would better serve the Board in assessing potential environmental impacts.

E. The Board of Legislators has heretofore accepted the Final GEIS and has adopted a Findings Statement in accordance therewith.

F. That the Trail Plan has been reviewed and revised, where necessary, in order to assure that it conforms to the GEIS and its related Findings. Contemporaneously, the Board of Legislators formally approved and adopted by resolution the Trail Plan in its final form.

G. The Board of Legislators further finds that one of the key elements of the Trail System is the development of trails on County-owned reforestation lands. The Board is equally aware that the reforestation lands are valuable assets to the County and its residents both now and for generations to come. Therefore, the Board finds that it is incumbent upon them to set forth clearly defined rules and regulations as to the use of the reforestation lands, and more particularly the use of the trails thereon.

H. The Board of Legislators further finds that similar considerations pertain to the use of trails that are now or may hereafter become available to the County for incorporation into the Trail System, whether such trails are located on private property, along former railroad beds or utility

corridors.

I. Furthermore, the Board of Legislators finds that this Local Law is necessary in order to set forth certain procedures for the development of the Trail System in order to assure that both present and future development complies with the GEIS and its related Findings.

SECTION 5. DEFINITIONS

As used in this Local Law:

A. All-Terrain Vehicles (ATVs): Shall have the same meaning as an All-Terrain Vehicle (ATV) set forth in § 2281 of the Vehicle & Traffic Law. ATV as defined under VTL §2281, including registered dirt bikes, ATVs, UTVs under the weight and length limits set forth in the VTL, and as may be amended

B. St. Lawrence County Highway Superintendent (SLCHS): Shall refer to the individual who holds the position of St. Lawrence County Highway Superintendent, as defined under Highway Law § 100

C. County: Shall mean the County of St. Lawrence.

D. County Reforestation Lands: Lands purchased, acquired, or accepted by gift by the County of St. Lawrence for purposes of reforestation. Pursuant to County Law § 219, County reforestation lands may be used for “watershed protection..., the production of timber and forest products and for recreation and kindred purposes.”

E. Current Trail Development: Shall refer to:

1. Trails and logging roads located upon County Reforestation Lands or any other County land identified herein and designated by operation of this Local Law as open and available for ATV trail development, subject to the rules and regulations set forth herein and the management guidelines set forth in the Trail Plan, and
2. Trails located in, on or upon private property that heretofore have permitted ATV trails to be developed for use by the public pursuant to an agreement with the landowner, and
 - a) Have been reviewed by the County in connection with the DGEIS and FGEIS, and
 - b) Are authorized by this local law to be incorporated into the St. Lawrence County Trail System by mutual agreement between the landowner and the County.

F. Amendments to the Trail System: Shall refer to amendments to the Trail System as the result of:

1. County Reforestation Lands that may be designated in the future as being available for ATV development, subject to the rules and regulations set forth herein and the management guidelines set forth in the Trail Plan, or

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2. New ATV trails to be constructed where none existed previously on or across County Reforestation Lands that are identified by this Local Law as being available for ATV trail development, or
3. Newly identified trails to be located on or across private lands, including railroad corridors or public or private utility rights-of-way.

G. Hazards: Obstacles in the trail corridor making travel unsafe; something causing unavoidable danger, peril, risk, or difficulty.

H. Non-Trail Areas: Property located directly adjacent to the designated trails in the Trail System. Only those trails that are designated as part of the St. Lawrence County Trail system are open to the public. Adjacent property and/or private trails that are not so designated are to be respected as private property and should not be encroached by ATV users.

I. Operate: shall mean to ride in or on, other than as a passenger, or use or control the operation of an ATV in any manner, whether or not said ATV is under way.

J. Operator: means every person who operates or is in actual physical control of an ATV.

K. Railroad Corridors: existing RR lines no longer in use by the railroads. These corridors of land are vast stretches of land, which can be utilized for recreational trails, provided that permission is granted by the owner of the rail lines.

SECTION 6. DESIGNATION OF COUNTY REFORESTATION LANDS FOR CURRENT TRAIL DEVELOPMENT

A. The Board of Legislators hereby declares that all the trails and logging roads located in and upon County Reforestation Lands previously designated and approved by Local Law and by subsequent addition by Resolution, shall be open for the use and operation of ATVs, subject to the rules and regulations herein set forth and the management guidelines set forth in the St. Lawrence County Trails Plan.

B. The opening of any County Reforestation Land to trail development does not imply that ATV use and operation is permitted in any non-trail area within the parcel of land. The use and operation of ATVs on County Reforestation Lands shall be strictly limited to the designated and signed trails within such parcel, as hereinafter set forth.

SECTION 7. DEVELOPMENT OF ATV TRAILS ON DESIGNATED COUNTY REFORESTATION LANDS:

A. Upon the designation of any County Reforestation Land by the Board of Legislators, upon consultation with the St. Lawrence County Multi-use Trail Committee, through this Local Law or any future local law, as available for Trail Development, the Board of Legislators hereby authorizes the St. Lawrence County Highway Superintendent (SLCHS) or their designee to develop ATV trails in and upon such land in the following manner:

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1. The SLCHS or their designee to personally inspect the proposed parcel of land and/or the proposed trail and map out with as much specificity as possible where any proposed ATV trails would be located on the parcel of land (including GPS coordinates for such proposed trails, where possible).
2. Designate such existing truck trails, logging roads or similar trails as open for use by ATVs by marking the same with appropriate signs, provided that:
 - a) The SLCHS, or their designee, determines, that such use is consistent with forest and wildlife conservation and watershed protection and does not otherwise interfere with the County's reforestation plans; and
 - b) Each such truck trail, logging road or similar trail is clearly marked with signs to be placed thereon by the SLCHS, or their designee.
3. All signs to be used by the SLCHS for the purposes set forth in this Local Law shall be of uniform size, shape, lettering, and marking; shall include the St. Lawrence County official logo; and shall clearly and concisely inform the public that the trail is open for the operation of ATVs, or restricted by ATV classification as determined by the SLCHS, or their designee.

B. Nothing contained herein shall be construed to obligate the SLCHS, or their designee, to open any particular truck trail, logging road or similar trail or any part thereof for use by all classifications of ATVs on a trail. Such determination, including classification of ATV for access on any or all trails shall be at the sole discretion of the SLCHS or their designee.

SECTION 8. AMENDMENTS TO THE TRAIL SYSTEM

A. In the event that the SLCHS receives (i) a written request from an individual or organization to open additional County Reforestation Lands or any other land owned or controlled by the County to trail development, or (ii) a written request from an individual or organization to construct a new trail upon a County Reforestation Land that is herein or hereafter being opened for trail development, or (iii) a written request from an individual or organization to open trails on private parcels of land or railroad or utility right-of-ways or corridors, the SLCHS, or their designee, shall take the following steps:

1. Perform an initial evaluation of the application, assessing the feasibility of admitting the property based upon several factors, including: the property's overall potential for enhancing the existing trail system; proof of property ownership; the property owner's willingness to execute an access agreement with the County; the property's ability to safely host ATV travel; and such other factors as deemed reasonable and prudent by the SLCHS.
2. the initial evaluation of the application of the SLCHS or the designee indicates that it may be feasible to admit the property, he/she can authorize the performance of a more detailed environmental review pursuant to SEQRA, with the Board of Legislators or the

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St. Lawrence County Soil and Water Conservation District serving as Lead Agency for such review.

3. Upon completion of a substantive environmental review, the SLCHS will forward to the Board of Legislators the results of such review, plus a recommendation on property admission. The Board of Legislators will then finalize its own review of the available information, complete its SEQRA Lead Agency responsibilities, if required, and ultimately decide whether or not to admit the property.
4. In the event that the Board of Legislators deems it appropriate to admit the property to the Trail System, the Board shall amend the Trail System as follows:
 - a) If County Reforestation Land, by local law designating any or all County land as open for the use and operation of ATVs, subject to the rules and regulations herein set forth and the management guidelines set forth in the St. Lawrence County Trails Plan.
 - b) If private property, by resolution of the Board of Legislators approving an access agreement between the landowner and the County, and subject to the rules and regulations herein set forth and the management guidelines set forth in the St. Lawrence County Trails Plan.

B. Upon admission to the Trail System as set forth above, the property shall be identified and mapped by the SLCHS, or their designee, as described in Section 7 above.

SECTION 9. INTERCONNECTING PUBLIC HIGHWAYS

A. It is anticipated that the Trail System may include one or more public highways that will interconnect with the trails located on County Reforestation Lands or any other County land, and the off-road trails on private property that have been identified and signed as incorporated into the St. Lawrence County Trail System. Interconnecting public highways may be incorporated into the St. Lawrence County Trail System under the following conditions:

1. The highway in question has been designated for use by ATV traffic by appropriate government action pursuant to Vehicle and Traffic Law § 2405 by the governmental agency having jurisdiction.
2. In the case of a town highway, the SLCHS has received a concurring resolution or local law from the town board setting forth their consent or designation that said portion of the town highway is open to ATV access, and therefore can be included as a designated highway into the St. Lawrence County Trail System.
3. In the event that either a town road or County Highway has not been reviewed pursuant to the GEIS performed by the County and identified on the map attached to the FGEIS, the SLCHS initiates the procedures set forth in subparagraphs “b” and “c” of Section 7, Paragraph 1 above.

4. The SLCHS, or their designee, identifies the highway as being incorporated into the Trail System by placing or causing to be placed thereon appropriate St. Lawrence County Trail signs as well as identifying such highway on maps produced by the Trails Department for public use.

SECTION 10. OPERATION OF ATVs ON THE ST. LAWRENCE COUNTY TRAIL SYSTEM

- A. No person shall operate an ATV on the Trail System except in conformance with this Local Law, the St. Lawrence County ATV Code and any other applicable law, rule or ordinance.
- B. No person shall operate an ATV on the Trail System except where designated and marked for such classified use by appropriate signage as hereinafter provided.
- C. No person shall operate an ATV in or on a non-trail area as defined herein, or on a trail not designated for that ATV classification. Any person who operates an ATV on the Trail System:
 1. Upon a trail that is marked and signed as “closed” or otherwise has not been designated and marked as being “open” for such use and or classification, or
 2. Operates an ATV outside of the designated and signed trail shall be guilty of trespass and any other identified violation(s) of law, and shall be subject to prosecution under civil and criminal laws, as appropriate.

SECTION 11. ST. LAWRENCE COUNTY ATV TRAIL PERMITS

- A. Except as hereinafter provided, no person shall operate any ATV on any County Reforestation Land, County Property, or any trail on private property that has been incorporated into the St. Lawrence County Trail System unless such ATV has received a St. Lawrence County Trail Permit in accordance with the provisions of this Local Law, and the St. Lawrence County Trail Permit number for such ATV is in full force and effect and displayed as provided under this Local Law and regulations promulgated hereunder.

An ATV which is to be operated and have access to the St. Lawrence County Trail System shall provide for coverages required of an “owner’s policy of liability insurance”, issued by an insurance carrier authorized to do business in the State of New York. The owner or operator of the ATV shall carry a copy of said insurance coverage at all times while accessing the Trail System, and produce same upon the request of any person having authority to enforce the provisions of this Local Law and NYS VTL §2407, and any person(s) who claims to have suffered personal injury or property damage as a result of the operation of such ATV, as more fully set forth in VTL § 2407.

- B. The St. Lawrence County SLCHS or her/his designee is hereby authorized to issue a St. Lawrence County Trail Permit or a Trail Pass and assign a St. Lawrence County Trail Permit or Trail Pass number to each such ATV, upon the receipt of a completed application and payment of appropriate permit fee(s) as hereinafter provided.

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1. The ATV Permit Season shall run from May 15th through September 15th of each year, unless otherwise established by the Board of Legislators on or before its March Board meeting. Notwithstanding the foregoing, the SLCHS, after consultation with the Board of Legislators, is authorized to delay the opening date of any or all of the trails within the Trail System based upon weather and environmental conditions. In such event, the SLCHS, or their designee, shall post the trails accordingly, provide notice of the date of opening on the County website, Chamber of Commerce website, and provide other means of notification as deemed reasonable and appropriate.
2. A Trail Permit shall be valid from the date of issuance through and including the last day of the Permit Season for which it was issued, except that a trail permit purchased on or after the Tuesday after Labor Day shall be valid for the following Permit Season.
3. A Trail Pass shall be valid for a period not to exceed three (3) consecutive days, provided that in no event shall a Trail Pass allow use of the Trail System beyond the closing date of the Permit Season as set forth above.
4. The SLCHS, or their designee, is authorized to provide for and post a free Three (3) Day Pass weekend the first full weekend of August (Friday, Saturday, Sunday), as determined by the Director and the Board of Legislators.
5. The Board of Legislators may license designated outlets who shall be authorized to receive permit applications, receive permit fees and transmit the same to the SLCHS, and issue permits to the applicant, all in accordance with the terms of such license agreement as approved by the Board of Legislators.
6. The Board of Legislators authorizes the SLCHS and/or her designated vendor to provide for the receipt of permit applications and permit fees through a secure internet site to be administered by the Director or her designee.
7. Notwithstanding the above, the SLCHS and Board of Legislators shall have the discretion to open and/or close any part of the trail system at any time for environmental and safety concerns, trail maintenance, and for any other reason.

C. Fees. Fees for the issuance of a St. Lawrence County Trail Permit to be collected by the St. Lawrence County under this Local Law are as follows.

1. A fee of sixty-five dollars (\$65) for the first ATV applicant who is not a current, registered member of an ATV club with an active ATV Trail Agreement with St. Lawrence County.
2. A fee of forty-five (\$45) dollars for the first ATV for which a Trail Permit is requested where the applicant must present proof of current, registered membership in an ATV Club with an active ATV Trail Agreement with the County.

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3. In the event that an applicant wishes to obtain permits for more than one ATV, the applicant must show proof that all additional ATVs are owned/registered to the same address. The permit fee for each additional ATV shall then be \$20 per machine.
4. Fees shall not be pro-rated for the Permit Season, and such fees shall be applicable to the year in which the permit is issued, except that permits purchased on or after the Tuesday after Labor Day shall be valid the following Permit Season.
5. The provisions of paragraphs a. and b. of this subdivision shall not apply to any landowner who has entered into and has an active access agreement with the County to permit the development of one or more ATV trails on his/her property.
6. As an alternative to obtaining a Trail Permit, an ATV operator may purchase a three (3) day Trail Pass. The fee for the Trail Pass shall be twenty (\$20) dollars each. The trail pass shall allow the holder thereof use of the appropriate Trail System for the classification of the ATV for a period of no longer than three (3) consecutive days.
 - a) The Trail Pass shall be of such design and material as determined by the SLCHS.
 - b) To obtain a Trail Pass, an ATV operator must complete an application and provide the same information as is required to obtain a Trail Permit.
 - c) The SLCHS may establish such other rules and regulations for administering the purchase and sale of Trail Passes as deemed necessary and consistent with the regulations provided in these local laws. All other rules and regulations that apply to Trail Permits shall equally apply to Trail Passes.

D. Application. The owner of each ATV requiring St. Lawrence County Trail Permit or Trail Pass under this Local Law shall present an application for a St. Lawrence County Permit or Trail Pass to the St. Lawrence County Highway Superintendent, or her/his designee as provided in Paragraph 2 above, on a form to be prepared and furnished by the St. Lawrence County SLCHS for that purpose. Such application shall contain, but not be limited to the following information:

1. Vehicle Identification Number (VIN#) and/or License Plate Number;
2. Check off of all appropriate information, including that the applicant has proper insurance coverage for the vehicle (s);
3. Proper execution of agreement with any and all waivers, including but not limited to knowledge and understanding of all requirements for operation of ATVs and New York State ATV Laws;
4. Payment of appropriate fee(s) as provided in Paragraph 4 above.

Upon receipt of a completed application, the SLCHS, or their designee, shall issue a St. Lawrence County Trails Permit or Trail Pass, with the appropriate identifying receipt and/or sticker. The Trail Permit/Pass receipt must be carried by the ATV operator at all times, and any issued sticker properly affixed. No duplicate for lost or damaged Permits/stickers will be issued.

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No ATV shall be considered as validly using or accessing the St. Lawrence County Trail System within the meaning of this section unless a current St. Lawrence County Trail Permit and sticker are issued, possessed, and affixed.

E. Renewal. Every owner of an ATV shall renew his or her St. Lawrence County Trail Permit each calendar year by submitting an application together with the appropriate information, attestations, fees and waivers. The Owner is to keep a copy of the permit renewal receipt.

F. Exemption. No Trail Permits shall be required for the following described ATVs:

1. ATVs owned and operated by St. Lawrence County and used by the St. Lawrence County SLCHS, St. Lawrence County Sheriff, or any deputy, special patrolman or peace officer employed thereby; St. Lawrence County Emergency Management Services Director and Assistant.
2. ATVs owned and operated by NYS Police, Department of Environmental Conservation, Department of Parks and Recreation or any other department thereof.
3. Search and Rescue Responders and Fire Department Responders to an emergency.

G. Special events. The person(s) or entity in charge of a special event involving the operation of ATVs shall comply with the provisions of section twenty-four hundred eight of the Vehicle and Traffic Law, including but not limited to providing the SLCHS with at least thirty (30) days prior Notice of the scheduled special event. Governmental agencies having jurisdiction over the proposed special event shall either grant or deny authorization to hold a special event within thirty days after receipt of a full and complete application for authorization as described in VTL §2408. The event shall not be conducted without prior written authorization from the governmental agencies having jurisdiction over the site(s). ATVs participating in a properly Noticed and Approved special event may be exempted from the provisions of this Local Law concerning Trail Permits, at the discretion of the Board of Legislators.

H. Responsibility for operation by minors. No owner or other person in possession of any ATV shall authorize or knowingly permit any person under eighteen years of age to operate such ATV in violation of any provisions of this section.

I. Violations.

1. Any person who rides on the St. Lawrence County Trail System without a valid Permit, shall be fined the sum of \$125 for the first offense, \$250 for the second offense, and shall be subject to the offending ATV being impounded; these fines shall also apply to the record owner of the machine;
2. Any person who enters upon property other than the trail system shall be subject to trespass and any other appropriate violations of the law. Such person(s) shall be fined the sum of \$125 for the first offense and shall be banned from the Trail System for the remainder of the Season with the Trail Permit revoked. Such person(s) shall be fined the

sum of \$250 for the second offense and may be permanently banned from the Trail System.

3. Any person who is convicted of violation of the speed limit (25 miles per hour) within the trail system shall receive a fine of \$250 for the first offense, \$500 for the second offense and with the immediate revocation of the Trail Permit(s) issued to that person.
4. Any person who violates any other provisions of this the Local Law, the St. Lawrence County ATV Code Local Law, or any other State or Local Law or regulation shall be guilty of a traffic infraction and/or all other appropriate laws and regulations so violated. A person guilty of a first offense shall receive a fine of \$125 in addition to any other fines specifically set forth in the VTL, ECL or other relevant statute. Upon conviction of a second offense occurring within one calendar year, the offender shall receive a fine of \$250, and all Trail Permits issued to the owner and operator thereof shall be revoked for a period of one calendar year from the date of conviction. The aforesaid is in addition to any other appropriate fines and remedies at law.

J. Rules and regulations. The SLCHS shall promulgate such other rules and regulations as he or she may deem necessary to carry out the provisions of this article, and submit same to the Board of Legislators for approval and adoption as an amendment to this Local Law.

K. Disposition of fees. The SLCHS shall deposit all monies received from the issuance of St. Lawrence County Trail Permits for ATVs and all fees otherwise collected under this Local Law to the credit of a Recreational Trails Fund established by the St. Lawrence County Treasurer. All such funds shall be dedicated exclusively to the establishment, maintenance and operation of the St. Lawrence County Trail System.

SECTION 12. REFERENCE TO ATV

Reference to “ATV” in all other ATV Local Laws subsequent thereto, including all Amendments and Additions by Local Law and/or by Resolution, shall be deemed to refer to “ATV” in accordance with this Local Law.

SECTION 13. SEVERABILITY

In the event that any part or provision of this Local Law or the application thereof to any person or circumstance is adjudged invalid by any court of competent jurisdiction, such judgment shall be confined in its operation to the part or provision or application directly involved in the controversy in which such judgment shall have been rendered and shall not affect or impair the validity of the remainder of the Local Law or the application thereof to other persons or circumstances. Moreover, the Board of Legislators of the County of St. Lawrence hereby declares its intent that it would have passed this Local Law or the remainder thereof had such invalid provision or invalid application been apparent.

SECTION 14. EFFECTIVE DATE

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This Local Law shall take effect immediately upon filing with the Secretary of State.

Mr. Acres moved to table Resolution No. 103-2021 to the May Finance Committee Meeting, seconded by Mr. Arquiett, and carried unanimously by a voice vote with fifteen (15) yes votes.

RESOLUTION NO. 104-2021

AUTHORIZING FILLING OF VACANCIES

By Mr. Burke, District 12 and Ms. Curran, District 15

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:

<u>Department/Unit:</u>	<u>Title:</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Type</u>	<u>Duration</u>	<u>Timeline</u>
Highway	Bridge Construction Mechanic	312300001	FT	Permanent	Immediate
Emergency Services	Senior Dispatcher	612400003	FT	Provisional	Immediate
Emergency Services	Dispatcher	612100022	FT	Provisional	Immediate
Social Services/CPS	Senior Caseworker (new)	815400003	FT	Permanent	30 days
Social Services/Legal	Clerk	002300051	FT	Permanent	Immediate
Social Services/ <small>Children's Services</small>	Social Welfare Examiner	814000052	FT	Permanent	Immediate
Social Services/ <small>Children's Services</small>	Caseworker	815000007	FT	Permanent	Immediate
Social Services/ <small>Children's Services</small>	Keyboard Specialist (new)	003100103	FT	Permanent	30 days
Social Services/ <small>Children's Services</small>	Caseworker (new)	815000061	FT	Permanent	30 days
Social Services/ <small>Children's Services</small>	Caseworker (new)	815000062	FT	Permanent	30 days
Social Services/ <small>Children's Services</small>	Caseworker (new)	815000063	FT	Permanent	30 days
Social Services/ <small>Children's Services</small>	Caseworker (new)	815000064	FT	Permanent	30 days
Social Services/ <small>Children's Services</small>	Caseworker (new)	815000065	FT	Permanent	30 days
Social Services/ <small>Children's Services</small>	Caseworker (new)	815000067	FT	Permanent	30 days
Social Services/ <small>Children's Services</small>	Case Supervisor, Grade B (new)	816100009	FT	Permanent	30 days
Social Services/ <small>Children's Services</small>	Caseworker	815000025	FT	Permanent	Immediate

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

Ms. Curran moved to adopt Resolution No. 104-2021, seconded by Mr. Denesha, and carried unanimously by a voice vote with fifteen (15) yes votes.

RESOLUTION NO. 105-2021

TRANSFERRING AN ENVIRONMENTAL EASEMENT TO THE NEW YORK STATE DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION OVER A PORTION OF THE FORMER J&L SITE

By Mr. Denesha, District 6

WHEREAS, the County of St. Lawrence is the record title owner of 54 + acres of land in the Town of Clifton, formerly owned by the Jones and Laughlin Steel Company and commonly referred to as the J&L Site, having taken title through tax foreclosure proceeding in 2014, and

WHEREAS, the County of St. Lawrence, along with the Town of Clifton and Town of Fine (Towns), would like to see this industrial zoned property in the Adirondack Park returned to productive use, and

WHEREAS, the County of St. Lawrence subdivided the original single lot into four (4) separate and distinct lots, known as parcels 'A', 'B', 'C', and 'D', and

WHEREAS, for almost ten (10) years, the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC) has been coordinating a targeted clean-up of contaminants at the J&L Site, in cooperation with the County, the Towns, and the United States Environmental Protection Agency, and

WHEREAS, the Legislature of the State of New York has declared that it is in the public interest to encourage the remediation of abandoned and contaminated properties that threaten the health and vitality of the communities they burden while at the same time ensuring the protection of public health and the environment, and

WHEREAS, the Legislature of the State of New York has declared that it is in public interest to establish within the NYSDEC Brownfield Cleanup and State Superfund Program that includes the use of environmental easements, which shall be recorded and which will run with the land, as an enforceable means of ensuring the restriction of certain future uses of the land, when an environmental remediation project leaves residual contamination at levels that have been determined to be safe for a specific use, but not all uses and/or the use of engineering controls that must be maintained or protected against damage to perform properly and be effective, and/or which the use of a site management plan which specifies groundwater use or soil management restrictions, and

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WHEREAS, the Legislature of the State of New York has declared that Environmental Easement shall mean an interest in real property, created under and subject to the provisions of Article 71, Title 36 of the New York State Environmental Conservation Law which contains a use restriction and/or a prohibition on the use of land in a manner inconsistent with engineering controls which are intended to ensure the long term effectiveness of a site remedial program or eliminate potential exposure pathways to hazardous waste or petroleum, and

WHEREAS, the County previously transferred an environmental easement to the State of New York with respect to parcels ‘A’, ‘B’, and ‘C’ following a determination that the parcels had met clean-up standards satisfactory to the State of New York, and

WHEREAS, the State of New York now seeks a similar environmental easement with respect to the fourth parcel, parcel ‘D’, to establish similar restrictions which are intended to ensure the long term effectiveness of the J&L Site remediation and protection of the environment and public health,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Legislators authorizes the transfer of an Environmental Easement to the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation over a portion of the former J&L Site, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Chair is authorized to sign all documents necessary for the environmental easement on the J&L Site, upon approval of the County Attorney.

Mr. Denesha moved to adopt Resolution No. 105-2021, seconded by Mr. Acres, Mr. Lightfoot, and Ms. Curran, and carried unanimously by a voice vote with fifteen (15) yes votes.

RESOLUTION NO. 106-2021

ACCEPTING THE HERSHEY’S HEARTWARMING YOUNG HEROES GLOBAL YOUTH SERVICE DAY (GYSD) GRANT FROM YOUTH SERVICE AMERICA AND MODIFYING THE 2021 BUDGET FOR THE YOUTH BUREAU

By Ms. Terminelli, District 14

WHEREAS, Youth Service America (YSA) has awarded the Hershey’s Heartwarming Young Heroes Global Youth Service Day (GYSD) Grant in the amount of \$250 to the St. Lawrence County Youth Bureau, and

WHEREAS, the mission of Youth Service America (YSA) is to support initiatives that foster meaningful connections, teach empathy, and promote inclusion, and

WHEREAS, the Youth Committee of the Youth Bureau is sponsoring its first annual “Trash Dash” on April 24 - 25, 2021, to recognize Global Youth Service Day, and

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WHEREAS, youth and residents of the County will build connections by coming together to protect the environment by picking up roadside trash, and

WHEREAS, this grant will increase the budget of the Youth Bureau by \$250, and be used to offset costs associated with the Trash Dash,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Legislators authorizes the acceptance of the Hershey’s Heartwarming Young Heroes Global Youth Service Day (GYSD) Grant from Youth Service America, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Treasurer is authorized to modify the 2021 Budget for the Youth Bureau, as follows:

INCREASE APPROPRIATIONS:

Y2073104 42000 Y SYCC Office Supplies & Expenses \$250

INCREASE REVENUE:

Y2027055 55000 Y LR Gifts & Donations \$250

Mr. Acres moved to adopt Resolution No. 106-2021, seconded by Ms. Curran, and carried unanimously by a roll call vote with fifteen (15) yes votes.

COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR’S REPORT: Ms. Doyle said there has been an increase in daily number of COVID-19 cases. There will be approximately 302 appointments available this week at the City of Ogdensburg Golden Dome. The County started a vaccine wait list and 577 names are on the list at this time. Vaccine eligibility will expand tomorrow, and vaccines will be made available to anyone who wishes to receive one. The County should receive the first of the Johnson & Johnson (J&J) vaccines this week, and these will be used for homebound people. It is a one shot vaccine, and potentially Public Health staff members will be going into home to vaccinate the homebound. There is no longer a mandated quarantine for domestic travel. All County employees are expected return to in-office work on April 21st and County Offices will open to the Public in May.

The NYS DOT has requested information be made available to the public through April 30th allowing the public to comment on the County Route 35 project. Normally a public meeting would be held to allow public comment, but due to COVID-19 and socially distancing, public, in-person, meetings are not being held at this time.

Ms. Doyle reported one transfer of funds: \$94.86 for Human Resources for shredding.

The Vacancy Review Committee will meet tomorrow at 1 p.m. to discuss sixteen (16) positions.

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The Search Committee for Public Health Director will meet on Thursday.

There is no meeting scheduled next Monday. The Chamber of Commerce will present at the April 19th Services Committee. There will be a B&G Committee meeting on April 19th at 4:30 p.m. A First Quarter Financial Update will be provided at the April 26th Finance Committee Meeting, and the Audit Committee will meet prior to that meeting.

St. Lawrence County was selected to participate in a wage compensation study this week.

OLD/NEW BUSINESS: Mr. Reagen thanked everyone for attending the ceremony tonight, but he would like to give plaques to the attendees and for any future recognition ceremonies.

Mr. Denesha said he will be bringing forward a resolution regarding a snowmobile bridge to an upcoming Finance Committee Meeting. Mr. Arquiett said he will co-sponsor the resolution.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Cornell Cooperative Extension – Mr. Denesha
Youth Bureau – Ms. Terminelli

M. Acres moved to go to Executive Session at 8:50 p.m. to discuss appointments, seconded by Mr. Smithers, and carried unanimously by a voice vote with fifteen (15) yes votes.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mr. Acres moved to go to Open Session at 9:00 p.m., seconded by Mr. Perkins, and carried unanimously by a voice vote with fifteen (15) yes votes.

Mr. Lightfoot moved to appoint the following individual to the **Community Services Board (Terms to Expire: 12/31/2024)**, seconded by Mr. Perkins, and carried unanimously by a voice vote with fifteen (15) yes votes.

Ryan Beshaw, 44 Sparrowhawk Point Road, Lisbon 13658 (Replacing Kimberly McKnight)

Mr. Lightfoot moved to appoint the following individuals to the **ASA Subcommittee (Term to Expire: 12/31/2024)**, seconded by Mr. Perkins, and carried unanimously by a voice vote with fifteen (15) yes votes.

Courtney Frank, 4 Ashbury Place, Massena 13662 (vacant position)
Sheena Smith, 12754 State Highway 37, Waddington 13694 (Replacing Kevin Berry)
Courtne Toms, 47 West Orvis Street #4, Massena 13662 (Replacing Sean Vitali)

Mr. Lightfoot moved to appoint the following individuals to the **Office of Mental Health Subcommittee (Terms to Expire: 12/31/2024)**, seconded by Mr. Perkins, and carried unanimously by a voice vote with fifteen (15) yes votes.

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Brenda A. Moulton, 211 Noyes Road, Potsdam 13676 (Replacing Megan Castell)
Kathy Connor, Post Office Box 784, Brownville 13615 (Replacing Keith Mitchell)
David Nelson, LCSW-R, 1181 County Route 25, Canton 13617 (Replacing Susan Englert)
Amy L Richardson, 429 Front Street, Rensselaer Falls, 13680 (Replacing Kristine Webber)

Mr. Lightfoot moved to appoint the following to the **OFA Advisory Council (Term to Expire: 5/3/2025)**, seconded by Mr. Perkins, and carried unanimously by a voice vote with fifteen (15) yes votes.

Brenda Sanderson, 105 Maple Street, Post Office Box 121, Hermon 13652

Mr. Lightfoot moved to appoint the following individuals to the **Youth Advisory Board (Terms to Expire: 3/1/2023)**, seconded by Mr. Perkins, and carried unanimously by a voice vote with fifteen (15) yes votes.

Jenna Ellinger, 18660 Owens Road, Adams Center 13606 (no voting member) (vacant position)
Alaina Goodrich, 20 Green Meadows Road, Winthrop 13697 (Replacing Jerry Mahoney)
Mattie Lomoglio, 281 Morgan Road, Potsdam 13676 (vacant position)
Isabelle Vaccaro, 5279 State Highway 56, Post Office Box 215, Colton 13625 (vacant position)

Mr. Lightfoot moved to reappoint the following individuals to the **Community Services Board (Terms to Expire: 12/31/2024)**, seconded by Mr. Perkins, and carried unanimously by a voice vote with fifteen (15) yes votes.

Mary K. Jones, 240 County Route 59, Potsdam 13676
Courtne Toms, 47 West Orvis Street #4, Massena 13662

Mr. Lightfoot moved to reappoint the following individual to the **St. Lawrence County Traffic Safety Board (Term to Expire: 4/30/2023)**, seconded by Mr. Perkins, and carried unanimously by a voice vote with fifteen (15) yes votes.

Richard McDougall, Post Office Box 204, Madrid 13660

Mr. Acres move to appoint the following individual to the **St. Lawrence County Workforce Development Board (Term to expire: 4/5/2024)**, seconded by Mr. Perkins, and carried unanimously by a voice vote with fifteen (15) yes votes.

Kendra Martin, 59 E. Main Street, Canton 13617 (Replacing Margaret (Peggy) Fockler)

Mr. Acres moved to reappoint the following individual to the **St. Lawrence County Workforce Development Board (Term to expire: 3/4/2024)**, seconded by Mr. Perkins, and carried unanimously by a voice vote with fifteen (15) yes votes.

Ruth A. Doyle, 48 Court Street, Canton 13617

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Mr. Acres moved to reappoint the following individuals to the **St. Lawrence County Ethics Board (Term to expire: 12/31/2021)**, seconded by Mr. Perkins, and carried unanimously by a voice vote with fifteen (15) yes votes.

David Hornung, Post Office Box 211, Canton 13617

CHAIR'S APPOINTMENTS: There were no Chair's Appointments

ADJOURNMENT: Chair Sheridan adjourned the April Full Board Meeting at 9:04 p.m., as there was no further business.