

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

Members attending: Mr. Acres, Ms. Curran, Mr. Denesha, Mr. Fay, ~~Mr. Forsythe~~, Ms. Haggard, Mr. Lightfoot, Mr. Perkins, Mr. Reagen, and Mr. Smithers

Members Attending Via Videoconference: Mr. Arquiett, Mr. Burke, Ms. Fiacco, Mr. Sheridan, and Ms. Terminelli

Others Attending Via Videoconference: Ruth Doyle, Dylan Soper, Kelly Pearson, Steve Button, Don Chambers, Bruce Green, Renee Cole, and Barb Lashua

1. CALL TO ORDER AND APPROVAL OF AGENDA – Chair Acres called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. Mr. Perkins moved to amend the agenda to include a presentation by Patti Fisher, AFBF Promotion & Education Committee regarding resolution recognizing March as National Ag Week, seconded by Mr. Denesha, and carried by a voice vote with fourteen (14) yes votes, and one (1) absent (Forsythe).

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – Ms. Curran moved to approve the February 22nd meeting minutes, seconded by Mr. Smithers, and carried by a voice vote with fourteen (14) yes votes, and one (1) absent (Forsythe).

3. COVID-19 UPDATE – Jolene Munger and Dr. Andrew Williams

3a. PRESENTATION RECOGNIZING MARCH AS NATIONAL AG WEEK – Patti Fisher, AFBF Promotion & Education Committee

4. HIGHWAY – DON CHAMBERS

A. 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 (Res) – Ms. Curran moved to forward this resolution to full Board, seconded by Mr. Smithers and Mr. Arquiett, and carried by a voice vote with thirteen (13) yes votes, and one (1) abstention (Perkins), and one (1) absent (Forsythe).

B. Modifying the 2021 Budget for the Department of Highways for the St. Lawrence County Bridge Preservation Project, BIN 3340980, BIN 3341780, PIN 775396 (Res) – Mr. Denesha moved to forward this resolution to full Board, seconded by Ms. Curran, and carried by a voice vote with fourteen (14) yes votes, and one (1) absent (Forsythe).

C. 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 (Res) – Ms. Curran moved to forward this resolution to full Board, seconded by Mr. Perkins, and carried by a voice vote with fourteen (14) yes votes, and one (1) absent (Forsythe).

D. 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 (Res) – Ms. Curran moved to forward this resolution to full Board, seconded by Mr. Smithers, and carried by a voice vote with fourteen (14) yes votes, and one (1) absent (Forsythe).

E. 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 (Res) – Mr. Lightfoot moved to forward this resolution to full Board, seconded by Ms. Curran and Mr. Sheridan, and carried by a voice vote with fourteen (14) yes votes, and one (1) absent (Forsythe).

F. Authorizing the Chair to Sign Roadside Mowing Contracts (Res) – Ms. Curran moved to forward this resolution to full Board, seconded by Mr. Smithers, and carried by a voice vote with fourteen (14) yes votes, and one (1) absent (Forsythe).

G. Authorizing the Chair to Sign a Contract with Franklin County Highway Department for Road Salt (Res) – Ms. Curran moved to forward this resolution to full Board, seconded by Mr. Smithers, and carried by a voice vote with fourteen (14) yes votes, and one (1) absent (Forsythe).

H. 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 (Res) – Mr. Lightfoot moved to forward this resolution to full Board, seconded by Mr. Smithers and Ms. Curran, and carried by a voice vote with fourteen (14) yes votes, and one (1) absent (Forsythe).

I. Authorizing the Acquisition of a Permanent Easement for Construction of a County Highway Facility in the Town of Potsdam (Res) – Mr. Denesha moved to forward this resolution to full Board, seconded by Mr. Smithers and Ms. Curran, and carried by a voice vote with fourteen (14) yes votes, and one (1) absent (Forsythe).

J. Authorizing the Issuance of a Negative Declaration Related to the SJ.03 Northumberland Bridge Project in Morristown, New York (Res) – Mr. Perkins moved to forward this resolution to full Board, seconded by Mr. Smithers and Mr. Lightfoot, and carried by a voice vote with fourteen (14) yes votes, and one (1) absent (Forsythe).

5. REAL PROPERTY – BRUCE GREEN

A. Income Based Real Property Exemptions (Info) – Mr. Green

6. WORKFORCE INNOVATION AND OPPORTUNITY ACT (WIOA) – BARB LASHUA

A. Authorizing the Treasurer to Modify the PY20 Workforce Innovation Opportunity Act (WIOA) Budget to Transfer Formula Funds from Dislocated Worker Accounts to Adult Accounts (Res) – Ms. Curran moved to forward this resolution to full Board, seconded by Mr. Smithers and Mr. Denesha, and carried by a voice vote with fourteen (14) yes votes, and one (1) absent (Forsythe).

7. COUNTY ATTORNEY – STEVE BUTTON

A. 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 (Res) – Mr. Arquiatt moved to forward this resolution to full Board, seconded by Ms. Curran, Mr. Perkins, and Ms. Terminelli.

Mr. Perkins moved to amend the resolution to add a now, therefore, be it resolved to state that the resolution will be retroactive to April 2nd, 2021, seconded by Ms. Curran, and carried by a voice vote with fourteen (14) yes votes, and one (1) absent (Forsythe).

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

8. LEGISLATOR LARRY DENESHA

A. 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” (Res) – Mr. Denesha moved to forward this resolution to full Board, seconded by Mr. Reagen and Mr. Sheridan, and carried by a voice vote with fourteen (14) yes votes, and one (1) absent (Forsythe).

9. LEGISLATOR KEVIN ACRES

A. Proclaiming March 21-27, 2021, As National Agriculture Week in St. Lawrence County (Res) – Mr. Smithers moved to forward this resolution to full Board, seconded by Ms. Curran, and carried by a voice vote with fourteen (14) yes votes, and one (1) absent (Forsythe).

10. LEGISLATOR JOE LIGHTFOOT

A. Authorizing the Consolidation of the Department of Social Services Legal Unit with the Office of the County Attorney (Res) – Mr. Lightfoot moved to forward this resolution to full Board, seconded by Mr. Perkins and Mr. Sheridan.

Ms. Haggard recused herself from discussion and vote on this resolution.

Mr. Burke made a motion to adjourn this resolution to the April Finance Committee Meeting to allow time to seek outside council, seconded by Mr. Arquiatt, and failed by a voice vote with eight (8) no votes, five (5) yes votes, (Arquiatt, Burke, Fiacco, Terminelli, and Reagen), one (1) recuse (Haggard), and one (1) absent (Forsythe).

Motion carried by a voice vote with eight (8) yes votes, five (5) no votes (Fiacco, Burke, Arquiatt, Terminelli, and Reagen), one (1) abstention (Haggard), and one (1) absent (Forsythe).

11. VACANCY REVIEW COMMITTEE

A. Highway – Mr. Chamber requested to fill a Bridge Construction Mechanic Position (312300001) in the Department of Highways.

12. COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT – RUTH DOYLE

Ms. Doyle said one year ago on Thursday St. Lawrence County had its first case of the coronavirus, and two weeks later, on April 18th, was the first death in from COVID-19 in St. Lawrence County. There will be a vaccination clinic held at the Dome in Ogdensburg tomorrow from 9:15 a.m. to 5:15 p.m., and another clinic will be held in Massena later in the week. Everyone ages 50 and up are now eligible for vaccinations. Jefferson, Lewis, and St. Lawrence Counties are reducing their reporting of the number of daily cases to Monday through Friday as the number of cases are decreasing. The Reopening Task Force will meet on Friday at 1 p.m. The County continues to partner with the hospitals and has shared forty (40) doses of the vaccine with Clifton-Fine Hospital and three hundred forty (340) doses with St. Lawrence Health Systems.

The Youth Bureau has received a grant to be used for the Trash Dash, and a resolution will be on the April Full Board Meeting accepting the funds.

The Search Committee for the Public Health Director received information regarding seeking a recruiter to help with the search. The group will meet soon with the Board of Health.

Ms. Doyle requested the Buildings and Grounds Committee meet soon to look at renovations for the 911 Dispatch Center. The Grant start date is March of this year.

The Town of Potsdam has asked the County to be present at an upcoming meeting to discuss the outpost. Ms. Doyle said Highway Superintendent, Don Chambers, will attend.

The Town and Village of Canton are requesting the County to attend a meeting regarding the Canton Human Services Initiative, Inc. and the Human Services Center. Ms. Doyle will attend.

There will be a recognition ceremony at the April Board Meeting to honor law enforcement and the first responders who were first on scene at a fatal fire in the Town of Pierrepont in January.

Work sessions will be scheduled for the Legislative Agenda.

13. COMMITTEE REPORTS

- A. Cornell Cooperative Extension Board – no report
- B. Fish and Wildlife Management Board, Region 6 – Ms. Curran
- C. Fisheries Advisory Board – no report
- D. Gouverneur Fair Board – no report
- E. Highway/Solid Waste Committee – no report
- F. Industrial Development Agency – no report
- G. Recreational and Trails Advisory Board – Mr. Arquiett
- H. St. Lawrence River Valley Redevelopment Agency (RVRDA) – no report
- I. St. Lawrence County Chamber of Commerce – Ms. Haggard
- J. Soil & Water Conservation District Board of Directors – no report

14. OLD AND NEW BUSINESS

- A. 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” (Res) – Mr. Arquiett moved to forward this resolution to full Board, seconded by Mr. Perkins and Mr. Smithers, and carried by a voice vote with fourteen (14) yes votes, and one (1) absent (Forsythe).

B. Sales Tax Distribution Options (Discussion) – no discussion was brought forward.

Mr. Smithers moved to go to Executive Session at 8:52 p.m., to discuss litigation, personnel, and appointments, seconded by Ms. Curran, and carried by a voice vote with fourteen (14) yes votes, and one (1) absent (Forsythe).

15. EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mr. Perkins moved to go to Open Session at 9:21 p.m., seconded by Ms. Curran and Ms. Terminelli, and carried by a voice vote with fourteen (14) yes votes, and one (1) absent (Forsythe).

16. ADJOURNMENT – Chair Acres adjourned the Finance Committee Meeting at 9:22 p.m., as there was no further business.