

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, Mr. Denesha, Mr. Forsythe, Mr. Lightfoot, Mr. Perkins, Mr. Reagen and Mr. Smithers

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

Others Attending Via Videoconference: Kelly Pearson, Steve Button, Don Chambers, Bruce Green, Renee Cole, and Cindy Ackerman

1. CALL TO ORDER AND APPROVAL OF AGENDA – Chair Acres called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. Mr. Forsythe moved to approve the agenda, seconded by Mr. Denesha, and carried unanimously by a voice vote with fifteen (15) yes votes.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – Mr. Perkins moved to approve the December 21st meeting minutes, seconded by Mr. Forsythe, and carried unanimously by a voice vote with fifteen (15) yes votes.

3. COVID-19 UPDATE – Dr. Dana McGuire and Dr. Andrew Williams

4. HIGHWAY – DON CHAMBERS

A. Authorizing the Chair to Sign a Contract with the New York Power Authority for the Installation of a Culvert on County Route 39 to Facilitate the Smart Path Moses-Adirondack Transmission Lines Project and Modifying the 2021 Budget for the Department of Highways (Res) – Mr. Forsythe moved to forward this resolution to full Board, seconded by Mr. Denesha and Mr. Smithers, and carried by a voice vote with thirteen (13) yes votes, and two (2) abstained (Arquiett and Terminelli).

B. Modifying the 2020 Budget for the Department of Highways for Overtime, Equipment Repair, and Maintenance (Res) – Mr. Burke moved to forward this resolution to full Board, seconded by Ms. Curran and Mr. Arquiett, and carried unanimously by a voice vote with fifteen (15) yes votes.

C. Authorizing the Chair to Sign a Contract with the United States Department of Agriculture Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service Wildlife Services for an Inter-Governmental Cooperative Program (Res) – Mr. Denesha moved to forward this resolution to full Board, seconded by Mr. Perkins and Mr. Smithers, and carried unanimously by a voice vote with fifteen (15) yes votes.

D. Outpost Facilities (Discussion) – Mr. Chambers

5. REAL PROPERTY – BRUCE GREEN

A. Authorizing Real Property Tax Law Correction of Errors (Res) – Mr. Perkins moved to forward this resolution to full Board, seconded by Mr. Burke, and carried unanimously by a voice vote with fifteen (15) yes votes.

6. TREASURER – RENEE COLE

A. Modifying the 2020 Budget for the Treasurer’s Office for Additional Sales Tax Distribution (Res) – Mr. Perkins moved to forward this resolution to full Board, seconded by Mr. Forsythe and Ms. Curran, and carried unanimously by a voice vote with fifteen (15) yes votes.

7. SOCIAL SERVICES – CINDY ACKERMAN

A. Modifying the 2020 Budget for Social Services for Foster Care, Safety Net, and HEAP (Res) – Mr. Forsythe moved to forward this resolution to full Board, seconded by Mr. Perkins, and carried unanimously by a voice vote with fifteen (15) yes votes.

8. LEGISLATOR JOHN BURKE

A. Calling upon the State of New York to Provide Relief to Individual Investors of Rental Properties Impacted by Reduced Rent Collections Due to the COVID-19 Pandemic Eviction Restrictions and the Eviction Moratorium (Res) – Mr. Burke moved to forward this resolution to full Board, seconded by Mr. Forsythe, Ms. Curran, and Mr. Sheridan.

Mr. Lightfoot and Ms. Curran asked to be added as a co-sponsors to this resolution.

Motion carried by a roll call vote with thirteen (13) yes votes, one (1) no vote (Acres), and one (1) abstained (Fay).

9. COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR’S REPORT – RUTH DOYLE

A. Establishing a Standard Work Day for New York State Retirement System Reporting Purposes (Res) – Mr. Perkins moved to forward this resolution to full Board, seconded by Ms. Curran, and carried unanimously by a voice vote with fifteen (15) yes votes.

B. 2020 Fourth Quarter Financial Update (Info) – This report will be given at the next full Board Meeting.

10. COMMITTEE REPORTS

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

J. Soil & Water Conservation District Board of Directors – Mr. Burke

11. OLD AND NEW BUSINESS

A. Approving a Tentative Agreement between the County of St. Lawrence and the City of Ogdensburg in Relation to the Allocation and Distribution of Money Collected from the Sales And Compensating Use Taxes Imposed Pursuant to Articles 28 and 29 of the Tax Law for the Term of December 1, 2021 through November 30, 2030 (Res) *(Note: This was tabled at the December Finance Committee Meeting and needed a motion to remove it from the Table for discussion and consideration.)*

Mr. Forsythe moved to remove this resolution from the Table, seconded by Mr. Denesha and Mr. Reagen, and carried unanimously by a voice vote with fifteen (15) yes votes.

Ms. Haggard moved to amend the resolution to change the term from two (2) years to one (1) year, seconded by Mr. Burke, and failed by a roll call vote with eight (8) no votes and seven (7) yes votes (Haggard, Fiacco, Burke, Arquiatt, Terminelli, Lightfoot, and Acres).

Motion failed by a roll call vote with seven (7) yes votes (Curran, Reagen, Forsythe, Sheridan, Smithers, Denesha, and Perkins), and eight (8) no votes. (Haggard, Fiacco, Burke, Arquiatt, Terminelli, Lightfoot, Acres, and Fay).

Mr. Sheridan said he has changed his position on a previous statement he made to the newspapers regarding the Democratic Commissioner of Jurors. After discussions with the County Attorney, and learning there is not sufficient evidence to sustain the belief that Ms. Bacon violated any St. Lawrence County ethics rules, he will not make the recommendation to refer the matter to the Board of Ethics. The findings from the County Attorney support that the actions of Ms. Bacon was entirely accidental.

Mr. Forsythe moved to go to Executive Session at 8:19 p.m. to discuss negotiations, litigation, and appointments, seconded by Mr. Smithers, and carried unanimously by a voice vote with fifteen (15) yes votes.

12. EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mr. Forsythe moved to go to Open Session at 9:02 p.m., seconded by Mr. Lightfoot, and carried unanimously by a voice vote with fifteen (15) yes votes.

13. ADJOURNMENT – Chair Acres moved to adjourn the January Finance Committee Meeting at 9:02 p.m., as there was no further business.