

St. Lawrence County
BOARD OF LEGISLATORS
48 Court Street, Court House
Canton, New York 13617-1169
(315) 379-2276
FAX (315) 379-2463

RUTH A. DOYLE
County Administrator

WILLIAM J. SHERIDAN
Chair, Board of Legislators

FINANCE COMMITTEE AGENDA
KEVIN ACRES, CHAIR
MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 27, 2021
*****BOARD ROOM AND LIVE VIA YOUTUBE *****
*****5:30 P.M. *****

****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****

- 1. CALL TO ORDER AND APPROVAL OF AGENDA**
- 2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – August 23**
- 3. BROADBAND SURVEY RESULTS – Dave Wolf, Telecom Division Manager, DANC and Laurie Marr, Director of Communications & Public Affairs, DANC**
- 4. HIGHWAY – DON CHAMBERS**
 - A. Modifying the 2021 Budget for the Department of Highways for the Acquisition and Construction of an Equipment Garage and Sand/Salt Storage Building in the Town of Potsdam (Res)
 - B. Authorizing the Acceptance of Real Property Obtained by the State of New York Relative to the County Route 35 (Slab City) over Trout Brook Bridge Replacement Federal Pass-Through Project, PIN 775394, BIN 3341700 (Res)
- 5. REAL PROPERTY – BRUCE GREEN**
 - A. Authorizing Collection of Omitted Taxes (Res)
 - B. Adoption of the Equalization Rates for 2022 County Taxes (Res) (Info)
 - C. Authorizing Real Property Tax Law Correction of Errors (Res)
- 6. COUNTY ATTORNEY – STEVE BUTTON**
 - A. Authorizing a Settlement Agreement between McKesson Corporation; Cardinal Health, Inc.; Amerisourcebergen Drug Corporation; PSS World Medical, Inc.; Kinray, LLC; Bellco Drug Corporation; American Medical Distributors, Inc.; and St. Lawrence County with Respect to an Action Relating to the Opioid Crisis (Res)
- 7. TREASURER – RENEE COLE**
 - A. Amending Resolution No. 14-2021, “Bank Depositories and Investment of County Funds” (Res)

8. WORKFORCE INNOVATION OPPORTUNITY ACT

- A. Authorization to Modify the PY20 Budget for the Workforce Innovation Opportunity Act (Res)
- B. Authorizing the Chair to Sign the St. Lawrence County Local Workforce Development Area Local Plan (Res)

9. HUMAN RESOURCES – JONNIE DOROTHY

- A. Authorizing the Group Health Plan Administrator for St. Lawrence County to Submit a Claim against Blue Cross/Blue Shield Regarding a Class Action Settlement (Res)

10. INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY – RICK JOHNSON

- A. Proclaiming October 2021 as Cybersecurity Awareness Month in St. Lawrence County (Res)

11. LEGISLATOR JIM REAGEN

- A. Calling upon New York State Governor Kathy Hochul and the Commissioner of the Office of Temporary Disabilities Assistance to Expedite the Release of Emergency Rental Assistance Program (ERAP) Funding to Provide Relief to those Impacted by the COVID-19 Pandemic Eviction Restrictions and the Eviction Moratorium (Res)

12. VACANCY REVIEW COMMITTEE

- A. Solid Waste
 - 1. Fill Heavy Equipment Operation, Position 309800005
 - 2. Fill Heavy Equipment Operation, Position 309800003
- B. Highway
 - 1. Fill Bridge Construction Mechanic, Position 312300001
 - 2. Fill Sign Maintenance Crew Leader, Position 312900001
 - 3. Fill Motor Equipment Operator, Position 310000003
 - 4. Fill Motor Equipment Operator, Position 310000002
- C. One Stop/WIOA
 - 1. Fill Employment & Training Counselor, Position 701000014

13. COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT – RUTH DOYLE

- A. Calling on the State of New York to Increase and Fully Fund County Law 18B Assigned Counsel Statutory Pay Levels (Res)
- B. Calling on the Governor to Complete Affordable Care Act Enhanced Federal Medicaid Assistance Percentage Reconciliations that are Years Overdue and Immediately Release the Federal Funds Owed to Counties and New York City (Res)
- C. Calling on the Governor and the Legislature to Suspend any Further State Diversion of Local Sales Tax for Distressed Health Facilities and Work to Immediately Sunset the Law (Res)
- D. Urging the State of New York and Federal Government to Expand True Broadband Coverage to all New Yorkers (Res)

- E. Calling for an Increase in the Share of Revenue Counties Retain for Providing State Department of Motor Vehicle Services (Res)
- F. Calling on the State of New York to Immediately make all Municipalities Whole in the Saint Regis Mohawk Tribal Gaming Region that have been Impacted by the Lack of Payment by New York State (Res)
- G. Calling on the State of New York to Fully Reimburse Counties for District Attorney Salary Increases that are Set and Controlled by the State (Res)
- H. Supporting a Collaboration between the NYS Office of Mental Health (OMH) and the Counties in Planning and Implementing a National 988 Suicide Prevention Hotline (Res)
- I. Calling on Governor Kathy Hochul to Restore the State-County Share of the Cost of 730.20 Competency Restoration Services and make Reforms to the Program Thereto (Res)
- J. Calling on the Governor and Legislature to End the Diversion of County Sales Tax to Pay for the State AIM Program and Begin Work to Reform the AIM Program while Restoring State Funding Responsibility (Res)
- K. Authorizing the Chair to Sign an Agreement with United Helpers, Inc. for Space Located at 100 Ford Street, Ogdensburg, New York, Sign a Business Associate Agreement, and Modifying the 2021 Budget for the Department of Social Services (Res)
- L. Declaring October 2021 as the First St. Lawrence County History Month (Info)

14. OLD AND NEW BUSINESS

- A. Adopting proposed Local Law C (No.__) for the Year 2021, "Setting the Salary for the County Attorney"

*****Note:** *Please allow a few minutes for the electronic transition to executive session****

15. EXECUTIVE SESSION

- A. Negotiations
- B. Litigation
- C. Personnel
- D. Appointments

*****Note:** *Please allow a few minutes for the electronic transition to open session****

16. ADJOURNMENT – If there is no further business.

October 4, 2021

Finance Committee: 9-27-2021

RESOLUTION NO. _____

**MODIFYING THE 2021 BUDGET FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF HIGHWAYS
FOR THE ACQUISITION AND CONSTRUCTION OF AN EQUIPMENT GARAGE
AND SAND/SALT STORAGE BUILDING IN THE TOWN OF POTSDAM**

By Mr. Acres, Chair, Finance Committee

WHEREAS, Resolution No. 184-2021 authorized the acquisition of a parcel of land, and a permanent easement on the adjoining property, for construction of a County Highway Facility in the Town of Potsdam, and

WHEREAS, the County Highway Facility in the Town of Potsdam, which includes equipment storage and salt/sand storage buildings, is to be funded in the amount of \$3.4 million by utilizing the fund balance from the Department of Highways Road and Machinery Fund,

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 acquisition and construction of an equipment garage and sand/salt storage building in the Town of Potsdam, as follows:

DECREASE UNAPPROPRIATED FUND BALANCE:

03TG0911 50300	Fund Balance, Unreserved, Unappropriated	\$1,612,750
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INCREASE APPROPRIATED FUND BALANCE:

03TG0910 50300	Fund Balance, Unreserved, Appropriated	\$1,612,750
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INCREASE APPROPRIATIONS:

HM299509 90600	H CR Transfers to Capital Fund	\$1,612,750
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DECREASE UNAPPROPRIATED FUND BALANCE:

04TG0911 50300	Fund Balance, Unreserved, Unappropriated	\$1,787,250
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INCREASE APPROPRIATED FUND BALANCE:

04TG0910 50300	Fund Balance, Unreserved, Appropriated	\$1,787,250
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INCREASE APPROPRIATIONS:

HR099509 90600	DM Transfers to Capital Fund	\$1,787,250
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October 4, 2021

Finance Committee: 9-27-2021

RESOLUTION NO. _____

AUTHORIZING THE ACCEPTANCE OF REAL PROPERTY OBTAINED BY THE STATE OF NEW YORK RELATIVE TO THE COUNTY ROUTE 35 (SLAB CITY) OVER TROUT BROOK BRIDGE REPLACEMENT FEDERAL PASS-THROUGH PROJECT, PIN 775394, BIN 3341700

By Mr. Acres, Chair, Finance Committee

WHEREAS, the County of St. Lawrence has a project for the bridge replacement on County Route 35 (BIN 3341700) in the Town of Potsdam, and

WHEREAS, this project requires acquisition of real property and St. Lawrence County requests New York State Department of Transportation acquire the necessary lands as shown on attached Map 1, Parcel 1; Map 2, Parcel 2; Map 3, Parcels 3 and 4; Map 4, Parcel 5; Map 5, Parcel 6; Map 6, Parcel 7; Map 7, Parcel 8; Map 8, Parcel 9; Map 9, Parcel 10, and

WHEREAS, the County of St. Lawrence owns and maintains the affected portion of County Route 35, and

WHEREAS, the State of New York has requested that the County agree to accept the real property,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Legislators authorizes the acceptance of real property obtained by the State of New York relative to the County Route 35 (Slab City) over Trout Brook Bridge replacement federal pass-through project, PIN 775394, BIN 3341700, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the County agrees to accept all responsibility, maintenance, and jurisdiction of the right-of-way to the property, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Chair is authorized to enter into agreements or any other documents to carry out the intent of this resolution, upon approval of the County Attorney.

October 4, 2021

Finance Committee: 9-27-2021

RESOLUTION NO. _____

AUTHORIZING COLLECTION OF OMITTED TAXES

By Mr. Acres, Chair, Finance Committee

WHEREAS, Sections 520 and 551 of the Real Property Tax Law make provisions for the taxation of exempt property upon transfer of title and addition of omitted parcels from the roll of the previous year, and

WHEREAS, Section 520 states that the property shall be taxed pro rata for the unexpired portion of any fiscal year during which said transfer of title occurred, and

WHEREAS, for purposes of any fiscal year or years during which title to such property is transferred, such property shall be deemed to have been omitted,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Legislators authorizes the addition of omitted taxes to the 2022 tax roll pursuant to Sections 520 and 551 under Title 3 of Article Five of the Real Property Tax Law.

October 4, 2021

Finance Committee: 9-27-2021

RESOLUTION NO. _____

ADOPTION OF THE EQUALIZATION RATES FOR 2022 COUNTY TAXES

By Mr. Acres, Chair, Finance Committee

WHEREAS, Section 900 of the New York State Real Property Tax Law requires that county taxes be levied upon the basis of the full valuation of taxable real property determined in accordance with Article 8 of that law, and

WHEREAS, Article 8 requires the apportionment of county taxes upon the aggregate full value of taxable real property in each city and town determined by dividing the assessed valuation thereof by the county equalization rate established for each city and town by the county equalization agency, and

WHEREAS, Section 804 of the New York State Real Property Tax Law requires the adoption of the county equalization rates by the county legislature,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Legislators adopts the equalization rates for 2022 County Taxes, as follows:

<u>MUNICIPALITY</u>	<u>EQUALIZATION RATE</u>
Ogdensburg	100.00
<i>Brasher</i>	<i>100.00</i>
Canton	90.00
<i>Clare</i>	<i>2.99</i>
Clifton	90.00
Colton	100.00
Dekalb	93.00
<i>Depeyster</i>	<i>59.50</i>
Edwards	86.00
Fine	100.00
Fowler	11.80
Gouverneur	93.00
Hammond	96.00
Hermon	100.00
Hopkinton	94.00
<i>Lawrence</i>	<i>100.00</i>
<i>Lisbon</i>	<i>75.00</i>
Louisville	81.00
<i>Macomb</i>	<i>48.50</i>
<i>Madrid</i>	<i>84.00</i>
Massena	100.00
Morristown	100.00
Norfolk	79.00
Oswegatchie	100.00
Parishville	6.09
Piercefield	100.00
<i>Pierrepoint</i>	<i>88.00</i>

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Pitcairn	100.00
<i>Potsdam</i>	<i>90.00</i>
Rossie	100.00
<i>Russell</i>	<i>70.00</i>
<i>Stockholm</i>	<i>83.00</i>
<i>Waddington</i>	<i>86.00</i>

Central
County of St Lawrence

New York State Department of Taxation and Finance
Office of Real Property Tax Services
WA Harriman State Campus
Albany, New York 12227
2021 Equalization Rate Status

Page: 1 of 1
Date: Aug 4, 2021
Time: 11:54 AM

Municipal Code	Municipal Name	(A) 2020 State Equalization Rate	(B) 2021 State Equalization Rate and Status	(C) Percentage Change in Estimate of Full Value
401200	City of Ogdensburg	100.00	100.00 Final	0.00%
402000	Town of Brasher	78.00	100.00 Final	3.95%
402200	Town of Canton	90.00	90.00 Final	0.00%
402400	Town of Clare	2.98	2.99 Final	-0.33%
402600	Town of Clifton	90.00	90.00 Final	0.00%
402800	Town of Colton	100.00	100.00 Final	0.00%
403000	Town of Dekalb	93.00	93.00 Final	0.00%
403200	Town of De Peyster	68.00	59.50 Final	14.29%
403400	Town of Edwards	86.00	86.00 Final	0.00%
403600	Town of Fine	100.00	100.00 Final	0.00%
403800	Town of Fowler	11.80	11.80 Final	0.00%
404000	Town of Gouverneur	93.00	93.00 Final	0.00%
404200	Town of Hammond	96.00	96.00 Final	0.00%
404400	Town of Hermon	100.00	100.00 Final	0.00%
404600	Town of Hopkinton	94.00	94.00 Final	7.30%
404800	Town of Lawrence	99.00	100.00 Final	-1.00%
405000	Town of Lisbon	77.00	75.00 Final	2.67%
405200	Town of Louisville	81.00	81.00 Final	0.00%
405400	Town of Macomb	49.00	48.50 Final	1.03%
405600	Town of Madrid	86.00	84.00 Final	2.38%
405800	Town of Massena	100.00	100.00 Final	0.00%
406000	Town of Morristown	100.00	100.00 Final	0.00%
406200	Town of Norfolk	79.00	79.00 Final	0.00%
406400	Town of Oswegatchie	100.00	100.00 Final	0.00%
406600	Town of Parishville	6.09	6.09 Final	0.00%
406800	Town of Piercefield	100.00	100.00 Final	0.00%
407000	Town of Pierrepoint	90.00	88.00 Final	2.27%
407200	Town of Pitcairn	100.00	100.00 Final	0.00%
407400	Town of Potsdam	94.00	90.00 Final	4.44%
407600	Town of Rossie	100.00	100.00 Final	0.00%
407800	Town of Russell	69.00	70.00 Final	-1.43%
408000	Town of Stockholm	85.00	83.00 Final	2.41%
408200	Town of Waddington	87.50	86.00 Final	1.74%

Column C is the percentage change in the estimate of full value between the 2020 State equalization rate and the 2021 State equalization rate due to the change in full value standard.

This percentage change is important because county and school taxes are apportioned according to a municipality's share of the full value of the county or the school. A municipality will be apportioned a larger share of the tax levy if its full value increases by a larger percentage than others, or if its full value decreases less than the decrease for other municipalities in the county or school.

The information shown in columns B and C is subject to change as other rates are established in the county. You will be sent a complete report when we have established 2021 State equalization rates for all municipalities in your county.

October 4, 2021

Finance Committee: 9-27-2021

RESOLUTION NO. _____

AUTHORIZING REAL PROPERTY TAX LAW CORRECTION OF ERRORS

By Mr. Acres, Chair, Finance Committee

WHEREAS, Section 553 of the Real Property Tax Law allows for certain corrections of errors to be made with regard to the assessment and tax rolls, and

WHEREAS, the Director of the Real Property Tax Office has investigated and determined that omitted taxes have occurred pursuant to section 553 of the Real Property Tax Law, and

WHEREAS, the Director of the Real Property Tax Office has provided a list of such errors, which shall be known as Correction of Errors - Real Property Tax Law List # 3 for the Year 2021,

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

Correction of Errors - Real Property Tax Law List # 3 for the Year 2021

<u>Name</u>	NYS transition assessment c/o SLC Treasurer
St. Lawrence County	Town of Fine
Tax Roll Year	2022
Tax Map No.	336.000-01, 336.001-02, 336.001-03, 336.001-05 & 336.001-06
Original Bill	\$0.00
Corrected Bill	\$112,240.17
Reason	Revised transition assessment list from July 17, 2020 was not keyed on the 2020 final assessment roll
Omitted Town & County Tax	\$112,240.17

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

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Finance Committee: 9-27-2021

RESOLUTION NO. _____

AUTHORIZING A SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT BETWEEN MCKESSON CORPORATION; CARDINAL HEALTH, INC.; AMERISOURCEBERGEN DRUG CORPORATION; PSS WORLD MEDICAL, INC.; KINRAY, LLC; BELLCO DRUG CORPORATION; AMERICAN MEDICAL DISTRIBUTORS, INC.; AND ST. LAWRENCE COUNTY WITH RESPECT TO AN ACTION RELATING TO THE OPIOID CRISIS

By Mr. Acres, Legislator District 8

WHEREAS, in 2017, St. Lawrence County, through its law firm Simmons, Hanly, Conroy, P.C. joined a class action lawsuit with numerous other municipal entities against Pharmaceutical companies, drug manufacturers and distributors, which included Purdue Pharma, and

WHEREAS, Purdue Pharma, Abbott Laboratories, Johnson & Johnson (also known as “Janssen”), McKesson Corporation, Cardinal Health, Inc., as well as others, were alleged to have created damages as a result of the usage and prescription of OxyContin to the general public, and

WHEREAS, St. Lawrence County has already reached terms of an agreement with manufacturer Purdue Pharma, and

WHEREAS, in addition to the settlement reached with Purdue Pharma, St. Lawrence County has already reached terms of an agreement with manufacturer Johnson & Johnson (also known as “Janssen”), and

WHEREAS, there is pending the matter of County of Suffolk v. Purdue Pharma L.P., et al., under Index No. 400001/2017 in the Supreme Court, Suffolk County, regarding the opioid addiction crisis, in which the County of St. Lawrence is the named plaintiff in the action (the “Action”), and

WHEREAS, the Action is against several defendants, including manufacturers of opioids, distributors of opioids and chain pharmacies, and

WHEREAS, the Action alleges several causes of action against defendants McKesson Corporation, Cardinal Health, Inc., AmerisourceBergen Drug Corporation, PSS World Medical, Inc., Kinray, LLC, Bellco Drug Corporation, and American Medical Distributors, Inc. (the “Distributors”) based on claims that the Distributors contributed to the opioid epidemic by failing to comply with their obligations under the federal Controlled Substances Act and the New York Controlled Substances Act to implement adequate measures to prevent diversion of the prescription opioids they distributed to pharmacies and others in St. Lawrence County, all of which contributed to a public health crisis in St. Lawrence County, and

WHEREAS, the Distributors have offered to settle the claims of St. Lawrence County against them by paying the sum of between approximately \$1,833,554.32 and \$3,238,947.45, with said sum dependent on the number of municipal plaintiffs ultimately agreeing to the settlement over eighteen (18) years and agreeing to implement injunctive relief under a controlled substance monitoring program, and

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WHEREAS, should the Board of Legislators adopt this settlement, and maximum participation occur, St. Lawrence County is projected to receive \$666,589.63 in an unrestricted manner over the lifetime of the agreement with the remainder of the funds (between \$1,166,964.69 and \$2,572,357.82) being paid and directed towards designated functions of government, including Treatment of Opioid Use Disorder, Addressing the Needs of Criminal-Justice Involved persons, law enforcement, or emergency response, and

WHEREAS, it is in the best interest of the County of St. Lawrence to resolve this matter with respect to the Distributors without further litigation and enter into the proposed Agreement as it shall settle all allegations against the Distributors and avoid protracted litigation,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Legislators authorizes a Settlement Agreement between McKesson Corporation; Cardinal Health, Inc.; Amerisourcebergen Drug Corporation; PSS World Medical, Inc.; Kinray, LLC; Bellco Drug Corporation; American Medical Distributors, Inc.; and St. Lawrence County with respect to an Action Relating to the Opioid Crisis, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the execution and delivery on behalf of and in the name of the St. Lawrence County by the Chair of the Board, or his designee, of the proposed Agreement is hereby authorized, and the Chair of the Board, or his designee, is hereby authorized, subject to County Attorney approval, to execute the proposed Agreement in a form substantially similar thereto and execute such other documents as may be necessary and appropriate to effectuate the settlement with the Distributors.

October 4, 2021

Finance Committee: 9-27-2021

RESOLUTION NO. _____

AMENDING RESOLUTION NO. 14-2021, "BANK DEPOSITORIES AND INVESTMENT OF COUNTY FUNDS"

By Mr. Acres, Chair, Finance Committee

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that in accordance with County Law and General Municipal Law the following banks be and hereby are designated as depositories for County funds received by the County Treasurer with permitted maximum deposits at any one time listed below:

<u>Depository Name</u>		<u>Maximum</u>
Community Bank N.A.	\$35,000	\$75,000,000
Key Bank N.A.		\$60,000,000
Upstate National Bank		\$10,000,000
NBT		\$10,000,000
Citizens Bank		\$10,000,000
Municipal Investors Service Corporation		\$10,000,000
First Empire Securities		\$10,000,000
NYCLASS		\$30,000,000
Webster Bank		\$10,000,000
Tioga State Bank		\$10,000,000
TD Bank		\$10,000,000

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the County Treasurer is authorized to deposit money in accordance with the St. Lawrence County Investment Policy, and this policy authorizes the Treasurer to deposit funds, not needed temporarily, in certificates of deposit, Money Market Accounts, United States Treasury Bills, repurchase agreements, and day-of-deposit to day-of-withdrawal savings account, at prevailing interest rates in any bank authorized for the deposit of County funds as per this resolution, and that the County Treasurer may use his/her discretion in selecting any allowable bank under NY General Municipal Law for investment purposes only, up to a limit of \$10,000,000 per bank unless otherwise noted in this policy, a report of such investments must be provided to the Board of Legislators at the subsequent Finance Committee meeting, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the total deposits, excluding United States Treasury Bills, are not to exceed the amounts authorized by this resolution, and are to be secured as required by Article 10 of the General Municipal Law and as outlined by the County's Investment Policy.

INVESTMENT POLICY FOR ST. LAWRENCE COUNTY

I. SCOPE

This investment policy applies to all moneys and other financial resources available for investment by the County or on behalf of any other entity or individual.

II. OBJECTIVES

The primary objectives of the County's investment activities are, in priority order:

- * to conform with all applicable federal, state and other legal requirements;
- * to adequately safeguard principal;
- * to provide sufficient liquidity to meet all operating requirements;
- * to obtain a reasonable rate of return.
- * to make every effort to invest locally.

III. DELEGATION OF AUTHORITY

The County Legislature's responsibility for administration of the investment program is delegated to the County Treasurer, who shall maintain written procedures for the operation of the investment program consistent with these investment guidelines. Such procedures shall include an adequate internal control structure to provide a satisfactory level of accountability based on a database or records incorporating description and amount of investments, transaction dates, and other relevant information and regulate the activities of subordinate employees.

IV. PRUDENCE

All participants in the investment process shall seek to act responsibly as custodians of the public trust and shall avoid any transaction that might impair public confidence in the St. Lawrence County Legislature to govern effectively.

Investments shall be made with judgment and care, under circumstances then prevailing, which persons of prudence, discretion and intelligence exercise in the management of their own affairs, not for speculation, but for investment, considering the safety of the principal as well as the probable income to be derived.

All participants involved in the investment process shall refrain from personal business activity that could conflict with proper execution of the investment program, or which could impair their ability to make impartial investment decisions.

V. DIVERSIFICATION

It is the policy of the County to diversify its deposits and investments by financial institution, by investment instrument, and by maturity scheduling.

VI. INTERNAL CONTROLS

It is the policy of the County for all moneys collected by any officer or employee of the government to transfer those funds to the Treasurer within 5 days of deposit, or within the time period specified in law, whichever is shorter.

The Treasurer is responsible for establishing and maintaining an internal control structure to provide reasonable assurance that deposits and investments are safeguarded against loss from unauthorized use or disposition, that transactions are executed in accordance with management's authorization and recorded properly, and are managed in compliance with applicable laws and regulations.

VII. DESIGNATION OF DEPOSITORIES

The County Legislature, at its annual organizational meeting each January, shall designate the banks authorized for the deposit of moneys and the maximum amount, which can be deposited at each bank. Additionally, the County Treasurer may select any bank allowable under New York General Municipal Law for investment purposes only, up to a limit of \$10,000,000 per bank, unless otherwise noticed in this policy. Should the Treasurer invest in any bank not already designated at the annual organizational meeting, yet allowable under New York Municipal Law, the Treasurer must provide a report to the Board of Legislators at the monthly Finance Committee following any such investment.

VIII. COLLATERALIZING OF DEPOSITS

In accordance with the provisions of General Municipal Law, all deposits of St. Lawrence County, including certificates of deposit and special time deposits, in excess of the amount insured under the provisions of the Federal Deposit Insurance Act shall be secured:

1. By a pledge of eligible securities with an aggregate market value as provided by General Municipal Law, equal to aggregate amount of deposits.

2. By an eligible irrevocable letter of credit issued by a qualified bank other than the bank with the deposits in favor of the government for a term not to exceed 90 days with an aggregate value equal to 140% of the aggregate amount of deposits and the agreed upon interest, if any. A qualified bank is one whose commercial paper and other unsecured short-term debt obligations are rated in one of the three highest rating categories by at least one nationally recognized statistical rating organization or by a bank that is in compliance with applicable federal minimum risk-based capital requirements.

3. By an eligible surety bond payable to the government for an amount at least equal to 100% of the aggregate amount of deposits and the agreed upon interest, if any, executed by an insurance company authorized to do business in New York State, whose claims-paying ability is rated in the highest rating category by at least two nationally recognized statistical rating organizations.

IX. SAFEGUARDING AND COLLATERALIZATION

Eligible securities used for collateralizing deposits shall be held by the depository or a third party bank or trust company subject to security and custodial agreements.

The security agreement shall provide that eligible securities are being pledged to secure County deposits together with agreed upon interest, if any, and any costs or expenses arising out of the collection or such deposits upon default. It shall also provide the conditions under which the securities may be sold, presented for payment, substituted or released and the events, which will enable the County to exercise its rights against the pledged securities. In the event that the securities are not registered or inscribed in the name of the County, such securities shall be delivered in a form suitable for transfer or with an assignment to the County or its custodial bank.

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The custodial agreement shall provide that securities held by the bank or trust company, or agent of and custodian for, the County, will be kept separate and apart from the general assets of the custodial bank or trust company and will not, in any circumstances, be commingled with or become part of the backing for any other deposit or other liabilities. The agreement should also describe that the custodian shall confirm the receipt, substitution or release of the securities. The agreement shall provide for the frequency of revaluation of eligible securities and for the substitution of securities when a change in the rating of a security may cause ineligibility. Such agreement shall include all provisions necessary to provide the County a perfected interest in the securities.

X. PERMITTED INVESTMENTS

As authorized by General Municipal Law Section 11, the County Legislature authorizes the County Treasurer to invest moneys not required for immediate expenditure for terms not to exceed its projected cash flow needs in the following types of investments:

- Special time deposit accounts
- Certificates of deposits
- Obligations of the United States of America
- Obligations guaranteed by agencies of the United States
- Obligations of the State of New York
- Obligations issued by a municipality, school district or district corporation in New York State, other than the County
- Obligations of public authorities, public housing authorities, urban renewal agencies and industrial development agencies where the general state statutes governing such entities or whose specific enabling legislation authorizes such investments
- Through a Deposit Placement Program, certificates of deposit in one or more "banking institutions", as defined in Banking Law Section 9-r
- **General obligation bonds and notes of any state other than this state, provided that such bonds and notes receive the highest rating of at least one independent rating agency designated by the state comptroller.**
- **Obligations of any corporation organized under the laws of any state in the United States maturing within two hundred seventy days, provided that such obligations receive the highest rating of two independent rating services designated by the state comptroller and that the issuer of such obligations has maintained such ratings on similar obligations during the preceding six months, provided, however, that the issuer of such obligations need not have received such rating during the prior six month period if such issuer has received the highest rating of two independent rating services designated by the state comptroller and is the successor or wholly-owned subsidiary of an issuer that has maintained such ratings on similar obligations during the preceding six month period or if the issuer is the product of a merger of two or more issuers, one of which has maintained such ratings on similar obligations during the preceding six month period, provided, however, that no more than two hundred fifty million dollars may be invested in such obligations of any one corporation.**
- **Bankers' acceptances maturing within two hundred seventy days which are eligible for purchase in the open market by federal reserve banks and which have been accepted by a bank or trust company which is organized under the laws of the United States or of any state thereof and which is a member of the federal reserve system and whose short-term obligations meet the criteria outlined in clause (7).**

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Provided, however, that no more than two hundred fifty million dollars may be invested in such bankers' acceptances of any one bank or trust company; or

- Obligations of, or instruments issued by or fully guaranteed as to principal and interest by, any agency or instrumentality of the United States acting pursuant to a grant of authority from the Congress of the United States, including but not limited to, any federal home loan bank or banks, the Tennessee valley authority, the federal national mortgage association, the federal home loan mortgage corporation and the United States postal service, provided, however, that no more than two hundred fifty million dollars may be invested in such obligations of any one agency.
- No-load money market mutual funds registered under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, and operated in accordance with Rule 2a-7 of the Investment Company Act of 1940, as amended, provided that such funds are limited to investments in obligations issued or guaranteed by the United States of America or in obligations of agencies or instrumentalities of the United States of America where the payment of principal and interest are guaranteed by the United States of America (including contracts for the sale and repurchase of any such obligations) and are rated in the highest rating category by at least one nationally recognized statistical rating organization, provided, however, that no more than two hundred fifty million dollars may be invested in such funds.

All investment obligations shall be payable or redeemable at the option of the County within such times as the proceeds will be needed to meet expenditures for purposes for which the monies were provided and, in the case of obligations purchased with the proceeds of bonds or notes, shall be payable or redeemable at the option of the County within two years of the date of purchase. When applying this requirement to repurchase agreements, the repurchase date and not the maturity of the underlying maturity, shall govern.

XI. AUTHORIZED FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS AND DEALERS

The County shall maintain a list of financial institutions and dealers approved for investment purposes and establish appropriate limits to the amount of investments, which can be made with each financial institution or dealer. All financial institutions with which the local government conducts business must be credit worthy. Banks shall provide their most recent Consolidated Report of Condition (Call Report) at the request of the County. Security dealers not affiliated with a bank shall be required to be classified as reporting dealers affiliated with the New York Federal Reserve Bank, as primary dealers. The Treasurer is responsible for evaluating the financial position and maintaining a listing of proposed depositories, trading partners and custodians. Such listing shall be evaluated at least annually.

XII. PURCHASE OF INVESTMENTS

The Treasurer is authorized to contract for or place orders for the purchase of investments:

1. Directly, including through a repurchase agreement, from an authorized trading partner.
2. By participation in a cooperative investment program with another authorized governmental entity pursuant to Articles 5G and 3A of the General Municipal Law where such program meets all the requirements set forth in the Office of the State Comptroller Opinion No. 88-46, and the specific program has been authorized by the governing board.

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3. By utilizing an ongoing investment program with an authorized trading partner pursuant to a contract authorized by the governing board.

4. By utilizing an ongoing investment program with an authorized investment adviser provided that all investments are directed by authorized personnel of the County, all trading partners are authorized by the designated Bank and the investment advisory agreement is approved by the Treasurer.

All purchased obligations, unless registered or inscribed in the name of the County, shall be purchased through, delivered to and held in the custody of a bank or trust company. Such obligations shall be purchased, sold or presented for redemption or payment by such bank or trust company only in accordance with prior written authorization from the officer authorized to make the investment. All such transactions shall be confirmed in writing to the Treasurer by the bank or trust company. Any obligation held in custody of a bank or trust company shall be held pursuant to a written custodial agreement as described in General Municipal Law.

The custodial agreement shall provide that securities held by the bank or trust company, as agent of and custodian for, the County, will be kept separate and apart from the general assets of the custodial bank or trust company and will not, in any circumstances, be commingled with or become part of the backing for any other deposit or other liabilities. The agreement shall describe how the custodian shall confirm the receipt and release of the securities. Such agreement shall include all provisions necessary to provide the County a perfected interest in the securities.

XIII. REPURCHASE AGREEMENTS

Repurchase agreements are authorized subject to the following restrictions:

- * All repurchase agreements must be entered into subject to a Master Repurchase Agreement.
- * Trading partners are limited to banks or trust companies authorized to do business in New York State and primary reporting dealers.
- * Obligations shall be limited to obligations of the United States or guaranteed by agencies of the United States.
- * No substitution of securities will be allowed unless the substitute securities are delivered to an independent custodian for the account of the County before the previously purchased securities are released.
- * The custodian shall be a party other than the trading partner.

Note: Amendments made in strikeouts and bolds.

October 4, 2021

Finance Committee: 9-27-2021

RESOLUTION NO. _____

**AUTHORIZATION TO MODIFY THE PY20 BUDGET FOR THE
WORKFORCE INNOVATION OPPORTUNITY ACT**

By Mr. Acres, Chair, Finance Committee

WHEREAS, St. Lawrence County is the designated Grant Recipient for Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) funds and establishes budgets in accordance with obligations received, and

WHEREAS, the Local Workforce Development Area received notice that it has been awarded additional funding via increased allotments to states per the USDOL TEGL No. 15-20, and

WHEREAS, Dislocated Worker funds were recaptured from multiple states and are being re-allotted to the remaining states, and

WHEREAS, the funds were approved at the September meeting of the St. Lawrence County Workforce Development Board,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Legislators authorizes the Treasurer to modify the PY20 Budget for the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act, as follows:

INCREASE APPROPRIATIONS:

UE062924 461TU	Disc Training Tuition Fees	\$927
UG062901 12000	ADM Supervisory/Administrative	<u>103</u>
		\$1,030

INCREASE REVENUE:

UE047905 57000	Dislocated Worker	\$927
UG047905 57000	Administrative Pool	<u>103</u>
		\$1,030

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

October 4, 2021

Finance Committee: 9-27-2021

RESOLUTION NO. _____

**AUTHORIZING THE CHAIR TO SIGN THE ST. LAWRENCE COUNTY LOCAL
WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT AREA LOCAL PLAN**

By Mr. Acres, Chair, Finance Committee

WHEREAS, on April 2, 2021 the New York State Department of Labor (“DOL”) published Technical Advisory # 21-02 (the “TA”), titled “Local and Regional Planning under the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act” (the “Act” or “WIOA”), and

WHEREAS, the TA requires the State’s Local Workforce Development Areas (“LWDA”) submit draft local plans for the period 2021-25 to DOL no later than June 30, 2021, and

WHEREAS, at its June 9, 2021 meeting the St. Lawrence County Workforce Development Board (WDB) was provided the draft of the Local Plan for its review, and

WHEREAS, the TA requires that a 30-day comment period on the draft Local Plan precede action to adopt the Plan by the WDB and the CEO’s execution, and

WHEREAS, the staff of the WDB published the Draft Plan on its website on June 9, 2021 and hosted a meeting to take public comment on the Draft Plan on June 29, 2021, pursuant to notices that appeared in the required local newspapers, and

WHEREAS, the WDB received no additional comment on the Draft Plan at the public comment meeting or by any other means prior the June 28, 2021 closing date, and

WHEREAS, the St. Lawrence County full Local Plan of the LWDA must be executed by both the Chair of St. Lawrence County Workforce Development Board (“WDB”) and St. Lawrence County’s Chief Elected Official (“CEO”), and

WHEREAS, the St. Lawrence County Local Plan of the LWDA was approved by the WDB at its September 8, 2021 meeting,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Legislators authorizes the Chair to sign the St. Lawrence County Local Workforce Development Local Plan, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED once approved, the Executive Director of the St. Lawrence County Workforce Development Board is authorized to submit the Final Local Plan to the DOL.

October 4, 2021

Finance Committee: 9-27-2021

RESOLUTION NO. _____

**AUTHORIZING THE GROUP HEALTH PLAN ADMINISTRATOR FOR
ST. LAWRENCE COUNTY TO SUBMIT A CLAIM AGAINST
BLUE CROSS/BLUE SHIELD REGARDING A CLASS ACTION SETTLEMENT**

By Mr. Acres, Chair, Finance Committee

WHEREAS, there was a class action law suit filed against Blue Cross/Blue Shield (BC/BS) Association for violating antitrust laws by entering into an agreement not to compete with each other and to limit competition among themselves in selling health insurance and administrative services for health insurance, and

WHEREAS, BC/BS Association settled prior to litigation in the amount of \$2.7 billion, and

WHEREAS, St. Lawrence County has had a contract for Third Party Administration services with BC/BS for their self-insured health plan since April 1, 2014 during the settlement class period of September 1, 2015 through October 16, 2020, and

WHEREAS, St. Lawrence County may receive a cash payment from the Net Settlement Fund if we submit a valid claim by November 5, 2021,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED the Board of Legislators authorizes the Group Health Plan Administrator for St. Lawrence County to submit a claim against Blue Cross/Blue Shield regarding a class action settlement.

October 4, 2021

Finance Committee: 9-27-2021

RESOLUTION NO. _____

**PROCLAIMING OCTOBER 2021 AS CYBERSECURITY AWARENESS MONTH
IN ST. LAWRENCE COUNTY**

By Mr. Acres, Chair, Finance Committee

WHEREAS, Cybersecurity Awareness Month was launched by the National Cyber Security Alliance & the U.S. Department of Homeland Security in October 2004, and

WHEREAS, the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA) co-leads Cybersecurity Awareness Month, and

WHEREAS, the theme for 2021 is ‘Do Your Part, #BeCyberSmart’, helping to empower individuals and organizations to own their role in protecting their part of cyberspace, and

WHEREAS, Cybersecurity Awareness Month continues to raise awareness about the importance of cybersecurity across our nation, ensuring that all Americans have the resources they need to be safer and more secure online,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Legislators proclaims October 2021 as Cybersecurity Awareness Month in St. Lawrence County.

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Finance Committee: 9-27-2021

RESOLUTION NO. _____

CALLING UPON NEW YORK STATE GOVERNOR KATHY HOCHUL AND THE COMMISSIONER OF THE OFFICE OF TEMPORARY DISABILITIES ASSISTANCE TO EXPEDITE THE RELEASE OF EMERGENCY RENTAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (ERAP) FUNDING TO PROVIDE RELIEF TO THOSE IMPACTED BY THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC EVICTION RESTRICTIONS AND THE EVICTION MORATORIUM

By Mr. Acres, Chair, Finance Committee
Co-Sponsored by Mr. Reagen, District 1

WHEREAS, between March 7th, 2020 and August 30th, 2021, executive orders and laws were put in place prohibiting landlords from utilizing means to secure rent payments from tenants or securing judgments against tenants where the tenant fails to pay any rent, and

WHEREAS, on September 2, 2021 the New York State Legislature enacted a second moratorium on residential evictions until January 15, 2022 for tenants who endured a "COVID-related hardship," and

WHEREAS, the extension of the eviction moratorium by statute has resulted in many individual property owners receiving no rental income for more than a year, while simultaneously leaving them responsible to cover the maintenance, taxes, and upkeep on these properties still inhabited by their tenants, and

WHEREAS, in response to concerns about the economic effects of the COVID-19 pandemic on renters and their landlords, Congress created a \$25 billion Emergency Rental Assistance Program (ERAP) in the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2021 (Division (N) of P.L. 116-260) in January of 2021 and authorized a second round of ERAP funding—\$21.55 billion—in Section 3201 of the American Rescue Plan Act (P.L. 117-2) which authorized the distribution of money to State and Local governments to provide support to delinquent renters and help landlords receive the unpaid rent accrued during the eviction moratorium, and

WHEREAS, New York State undertook the obligation of the rollout of these funds through the Office of the Temporary Disability Assistance for all local communities except seven, and

WHEREAS, United States Treasury data on spending of the first round of ERAP funds showed that less than \$5 billion of the \$25 billion funding allocated to states and localities had been spent on household rent, utilities, and arrears during the first seven months of the program (Through the end of July 2021), and

WHEREAS, the rate of expenditure of ERAP funds has caused some to raise concerns about the effectiveness of the program and Grantees with excess unobligated ERAP funds may be subject to recapture and reallocation of those funds beginning September 30, 2021, and

WHEREAS, despite having significant notice of the anticipated release of the funds and the availability of the funds, the State of New York just (September 15th, 2021) opened the portal for applications for the release of the funding, and

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WHEREAS, given the extreme delay in releasing these funds, efforts should be undertaken by Governor Hochul and the Commissioner for the Office of Temporary Disability Assistance to expedite the release of funding, and

WHEREAS, the failure to the State of New York to effectively administer the program in a timely fashion may result in the federal government reclaiming those funds without benefit to New York State tenants and landlords,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED the Board of Legislators calls upon New York State Governor Kathy Hochul and the Commissioner of the Office of Temporary Disabilities Assistance to Expedite the Release of Emergency Rental Assistance Program (ERAP) Funding to Provide Relief to those Impacted by the COVID-19 Pandemic Eviction Restrictions and the Eviction Moratorium, and

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

St. Lawrence County Vacancy Authorization Form

Solid Waste



Type: Fill

Heavy Equipment Operator SW

Subunit (If Applicable):

Date Submitted: 8/12/21

Reason Vacated: Retirement

Position Number: 309800005

Date Vacated: 8/27/21

Position # Abolished:

Position Will Be: Fulltime

Last Fill Date: 7/6/1993

Hours Per Week: 40

Appointee Will Be: Permanent

Budget

Fill Request Timeline: Immediately

Temporary Position? No

Salary of Person Leaving: \$56,005

Revenue Generating: No 0 %

Benefits: Yes \$26,966

Reimbursed by State or Federal Funds: No 0 %

Base Salary: \$40,123

Budget Mod Attached, If Required?

Grade: SWD2

Net County Cost: \$82,971

Detailed Justification

What is the impact on your department if this position is not filled? Please provide, in detail, the need to fill the position. Please include the service provided, if it is mandated, number of people (clients) affected, and what you will do if the position is not filled.

The Department is frequently short-staffed due to military and medical leaves. Failure to fill this vacant position would severely impede the ability to provide adequate customer service at the four (4) Solid Waste transfer stations.

Department Head:

Donald R. Chatham

Approved?

Yes No

County Administrator:

Resolution #:

St. Lawrence County Vacancy Authorization Form

Solid Waste



Type: Fill

Heavy Equipment Operator SW

Subunit (If Applicable):

Date Submitted: 09/13/2021

Reason Vacated: Other

Position Number: 309800003

Date Vacated: 9/23/2021

Position # Abolished:

Position Will Be: Fulltime

Last Fill Date: 03/03/2014

Hours Per Week: 40

Appointee Will Be: Other

Budget

Fill Request Timeline: Immediately

Temporary Position? No

Salary of Person Leaving: \$51,913

Revenue Generating: No 0 %

Benefits: Yes \$24,996

Reimbursed by State or Federal Funds: No 0 %

Base Salary: \$40,123

Budget Mod Attached, If Required?

Grade: SWD2

Net County Cost: \$76,909

Detailed Justification

What is the impact on your department if this position is not filled? Please provide, in detail, the need to fill the position. Please include the service provided, if it is mandated, number of people (clients) affected, and what you will do if the position is not filled.

This vacancy is the result of military deployment. The employee is being granted a 1-year leave of absence to serve.

The Department is frequently short-staffed due to military and medical leaves. Failure to fill this vacant position would severely impede the ability to provide adequate customer service at the four (4) Solid Waste transfer stations.

Department Head: *Donald R. Cheatham*

Approved?
Yes No

County Administrator:

Resolution #:

St. Lawrence County Vacancy Authorization Form

Highway



Type: Fill

Bridge Construction Mechanic

Subunit (If Applicable):

Date Submitted: 09/09/2021

Reason Vacated: Resignation

Position Number: 312300001

Date Vacated: 9/23/2021

Position # Abolished:

Position Will Be: Fulltime

Last Fill Date: 04/17/2021

Hours Per Week: 40

Appointee Will Be: Permanent

Budget

Fill Request Timeline: Immediately

Temporary Position? No

Salary of Person Leaving: \$37,855

Revenue Generating: No 0 %

Benefits: Yes \$18,227

Reimbursed by State or Federal Funds: No 0 %

Base Salary: \$37,855

Budget Mod Attached, If Required?

Grade: 18

Net County Cost: \$56,082

Detailed Justification

What is the impact on your department if this position is not filled? Please provide, in detail, the need to fill the position. Please include the service provided, if it is mandated, number of people (clients) affected, and what you will do if the position is not filled.

This position is responsible for operating bridge construction equipment such as front end loaders, backhoes and trucks; installs I beams, steel decks, posts, and ribbon railings; installs decking stringers, braces, hand rails, and headings on bridges; builds forms, footings, foundations, walls, and abutments; assists in setting up and maintaining traffic control devices, flagging traffic, and in the overall safety of the work area. This position also participates in snow and ice control activities.

Department Head:

Daniel R. Chenoweth

Approved?

Yes No

County Administrator:

Resolution #:

St. Lawrence County Vacancy Authorization Form

Highway



Type: Fill

Sign Maintenance Crew Leader

Subunit (If Applicable):

Date Submitted: 8/12/2021

Reason Vacated: Retirement

Position Number: 312900001

Date Vacated: 8/19/21

Position # Abolished:

Position Will Be: Fulltime

Last Fill Date: 4/11/2016

Hours Per Week: 40

Appointee Will Be: Permanent

Budget

Fill Request Timeline: Immediately

Temporary Position? No

Salary of Person Leaving: \$53,862

Revenue Generating: No 0 %

Benefits: Yes \$25,935

Reimbursed by State or Federal Funds: No 0 %

Base Salary: \$47,108

Budget Mod Attached, If Required?

Grade: 24

Net County Cost: \$79,797

Detailed Justification

What is the impact on your department if this position is not filled? Please provide, in detail, the need to fill the position. Please include the service provided, if it is mandated, number of people (clients) affected, and what you will do if the position is not filled.

The Sign Maintenance Crewleader position, which requires a CDL, is needed for overseeing a crew engaged in the erection and maintenance of traffic signs and traffic control devices and in striping and painting of roads and highways. This position is also needed for the operation of snow plow trucks and equipment. This position is also needed to maintain crew size for safety.

Department Head:

Donald R. Chatham

Approved?

Yes No

County Administrator:

Resolution #:

St. Lawrence County Vacancy Authorization Form

Highway



Type: Fill

Motor Equipment Operator

Subunit (If Applicable):

Date Submitted: 8/12/2021

Reason Vacated: Resignation

Position Number: 310000003

Date Vacated: 8/26/21

Position # Abolished:

Position Will Be: Fulltime

Last Fill Date: 2/15/2021

Hours Per Week: 40

Appointee Will Be: Permanent

Budget

Fill Request Timeline: Immediately

Temporary Position? No

Salary of Person Leaving: \$42,133

Revenue Generating: No 0 %

Benefits: Yes \$20,287

Reimbursed by State
or Federal Funds: No 0 %

Base Salary: \$37,855

Budget Mod Attached, If Required?

Grade: 18

Net County Cost: \$62,420

Detailed Justification

What is the impact on your department if this position is not filled? Please provide, in detail, the need to fill the position. Please include the service provided, if it is mandated, number of people (clients) affected, and what you will do if the position is not filled.

The Motor Equipment Operator (MEO) position, which requires a CDL, is needed for the operation of snow plow trucks and equipment. This position is also needed for road construction and maintenance. Due to the reduction in staff and the need to mechanize operations, MEO positions reflect actual Department of Highways operations. The MEO position's duties also include, but are not limited to, tree cutting, road patrolling, culvert/bridge repairs and painting. This position is also needed to maintain crew size for safety.

Department Head:

David R. Cheabon

Approved?

Yes No

County Administrator:

Resolution #:

St. Lawrence County Vacancy Authorization Form

Highway



Type: Fill

Motor Equipment Operator

Subunit (If Applicable):

Date Submitted: 9/2/2021

Reason Vacated: Resignation

Position Number: 310000002

Date Vacated: 9/16/2021

Position # Abolished:

Position Will Be: Fulltime

Last Fill Date: 9/24/2018

Hours Per Week: 40

Appointee Will Be: Permanent

Budget

Fill Request Timeline: Immediately

Temporary Position? No

Salary of Person Leaving: \$40,580

Revenue Generating: No 0 %

Benefits: Yes \$19,539

Reimbursed by State or Federal Funds: No 0 %

Base Salary: \$37,855

Budget Mod Attached, If Required?

Grade: 18

Net County Cost: \$60,119

Detailed Justification

What is the impact on your department if this position is not filled? Please provide, in detail, the need to fill the position. Please include the service provided, if it is mandated, number of people (clients) affected, and what you will do if the position is not filled.

The Motor Equipment Operator (MEO) position, which requires a CDL, is needed for the operation of snow plow trucks and equipment. This position is also needed for road construction and maintenance. Due to the reduction in staff and the need to mechanize operations, MEO positions reflect actual Department of Highways operations. The MEO position's duties also include, but are not limited to, tree cutting, road patrolling, culvert/bridge repairs and painting. This position is also needed to maintain crew size for safety.

Department Head:

Donald R. Chatham

Approved?

Yes No

County Administrator:

Resolution #:

St. Lawrence County Vacancy Authorization Form

One-Stop/WIOA



Type: Fill

Employment & Training Counselor

Subunit (If Applicable):

Date Submitted: 8/19/21

Reason Vacated: Retirement

Position Number: 701000014

Date Vacated: 8/19/21

Position # Abolished:

Position Will Be: Fulltime

Last Fill Date: 12/7/1987

Hours Per Week: 35

Appointee Will Be: Permanent

Budget

Fill Request Timeline: Immediately

Temporary Position? No

Salary of Person Leaving: \$57,197

Revenue Generating: No 0 %

Benefits: Yes \$27,540

Reimbursed by State or Federal Funds: Yes 100 %

Base Salary: \$47,108

Budget Mod Attached, If Required?

Grade: 24

Net County Cost: \$0

Detailed Justification

What is the impact on your department if this position is not filled? Please provide, in detail, the need to fill the position. Please include the service provided, if it is mandated, number of people (clients) affected, and what you will do if the position is not filled.

The One Stop would like to request to fill an Employment and Training Counselor position. The position was vacated due to a retirement as of August 19, 2021. The Employment and Training Counselor that left had 33+ years of experience with the JTPA/WIA/WIOA programs. The counselor typically had a case load of 40-50 WIOA participants. During the Summer Youth Employment Program they would typically have an additional case load of 70-75 youth. The Employment and Training Counselor determined eligibility, maintained participant files and data bases, communicated with training providers and employers, job developed, attended job fairs, conducted workshops, gave presentations for employers or school districts as requested, etc... They also assisted in the coverage of the Resource Room. This involved assisting with resumes, job searches, on-line applications, providing information or giving referrals for job openings.

This vacancy leaves our unit with 2.5 counselors. Of the remaining Counselors, one starts August 24th and another has been with us less than six months. The WIOA program is a complicated program with a long learning curve and filling this vacancy now would allow our Senior Employment and Training Program Coordinator, who has 30+ years of experience with the JPTA/WIA/WIOA programs, the opportunity to work with the Counselor before his retirement which is anticipated to happen within the next year. If this position is left unfilled we would not be able to serve as many participants which could result in a recapture of funding as we would not be able to meet the benchmarks set by the Department of Labor.

Department Head:

Genny Taylor

Approved?

Yes No

County Administrator:

Resolution #:

October 4, 2021

Finance Committee: 9-27-2021

RESOLUTION NO. _____

**CALLING ON THE STATE OF NEW YORK TO INCREASE AND FULLY FUND
COUNTY LAW 18B ASSIGNED COUNSEL STATUTORY PAY LEVELS**

By Mr. Acres, Chair, Finance Committee

WHEREAS, the United States Constitution established, and the Supreme Court decision *Gideon v. Wainwright* clarified, that credible counsel must be provided for all those accused of a crime, regardless of their ability to pay, and

WHEREAS, New York State took legislative action to establish a criminal indigent defense legal system that passed the responsibility of providing these criminal defense services, and many of the costs associated with it, to counties and local property taxpayers, and

WHEREAS, in 2007, the New York State Civil Liberties Union sued the State of New York in *Hurrell-Harring v. State of New York*, which showed indigent criminal defense services were underfunded by the State and failed to meet constitutionally required standards, and

WHEREAS, prior to *Hurrell-Harring*, the 57 New York counties spent \$164 million annually on public defense while the state provided the 57 counties with only \$39 million in indigent defense support, and

WHEREAS, the New York State Legislature recognized that the State needed to provide more funding and in 2017 passed historic legislation increasing state funding by upwards of \$250 million per year to directly improve indigent defense services, and

WHEREAS, while counties are still funding the same amount, the State's 2017 legislative influx of funding has made New York State a leader in indigent defense services, and

WHEREAS, due to different county demographics and needs, counties have flexibility in how to provide criminal defense by using a combination of public defenders, conflict defense offices, and privately contracted attorneys known as 18B counsel (named after the applicable section of County Law), and

WHEREAS, all counties rely on the services of 18B attorneys to perform these services to both handle the overflow of work as well as handling conflicts that come into the public defender's office, and

WHEREAS, unfortunately, while the 2017 State legislation that helped vastly improve the indigent defense system, one area that was not addressed was the pay rate of 18B attorneys, and

WHEREAS, Article 18B establishes compensation paid to attorneys for assigned counsel work at \$60/hour for misdemeanor matters and \$75/hour for felony defense, and

WHEREAS, these rates have remained unchanged since 2004 and in that same time period the United States has experienced wage growth of 58 percent for highly skilled labor, and

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WHEREAS, counties across the State have had difficulty in recent years attracting and retaining quality 18B attorneys and the stagnant pay has been identified as a major contributing factor, and

WHEREAS, without properly funding 18B attorneys, the work by the State to improve indigent defense services could be in jeopardy of regressing,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Legislators calls upon the State of New York to increase and fully fund County Law 18B Assigned Counsel Statutory pay levels, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED the State needs to fully fund this increase in keeping with the logical reasoning of the Hurrell-Harring case, as well as building on the historic 2017 legislation of the State, and

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

October 4, 2021

Finance Committee: 9-27-2021

RESOLUTION NO. _____

**CALLING ON THE GOVERNOR TO COMPLETE AFFORDABLE CARE ACT
ENHANCED FEDERAL MEDICAID ASSISTANCE PERCENTAGE
RECONCILIATIONS THAT ARE YEARS OVERDUE AND IMMEDIATELY
RELEASE THE FEDERAL FUNDS OWED TO COUNTIES AND NEW YORK CITY**

By Mr. Acres, Chair, Finance Committee

WHEREAS, the funding to support the Medicaid program is provided by a combination of federal, state and local resources, and

WHEREAS, the state requires the counties and New York City to contribute \$7.6 billion annually to pay for the federal and state defined and controlled program, and

WHEREAS, the locally required share of Medicaid funding paid in New York is the highest of any state in the country, and

WHEREAS, this large local funding share for Medicaid and other state programs is a major contributor to high local tax burden in New York as compared to other states, and

WHEREAS, under the Affordable Care Act (ACA), the federal government provided an enhanced Medicaid matching share (eFMAP), which has saved New York state billions of dollars, and

WHEREAS, the State is required under federal law to share these savings with counties and New York City based on the proportionate share localities pay of the nonfederal match, and

WHEREAS, the State has utilized a methodology that provides eight percent (80%) of these estimated federal savings to counties in the year the costs accrue, and

WHEREAS, the balance of savings owed to counties is required to be reconciled annually to ensure the withheld savings are transferred to county budgets and local taxpayers, as well as meeting the intent of federal law, and

WHEREAS, the last completed reconciliation and transfer of federal savings owed to counties was for state fiscal year 2015-16, and

WHEREAS, individual counties and NYSAC have made numerous requests, over multiple years, regarding the status of outstanding Medicaid ACA eFMAP reconciliations and the federal funds withheld from counties, and

WHEREAS, due to the lack of a meaningful response from state officials, dozens of counties have submitted Freedom of Information Law (FOIL) requests to the New York State Department of Health (DOH), and

WHEREAS, DOH has been providing detailed responses to county FOIL inquiries and initial responses indicate, if current trends continue, that well over \$1 billion in federal funding is owed to counties and New York City for SFY's 2017, 2018, 2019 and 2020, and

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WHEREAS, because the State is withholding these federal funds, it requires counties and New York City to reserve funds locally to make up for the loss, meaning local taxes have been kept higher than they need to be over multiple years, or local services are scaled back or eliminated, and

WHEREAS, in the years leading up to the last completed ACA eFMAP reconciliation, counties were provided an estimate of their coming year Medicaid costs by September, in time to incorporate the savings in their budgets, which ceased when regular reconciliations ended,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED the Board of Legislators calls on the Governor to complete Affordable Care Act enhanced federal Medicaid assistance percentage reconciliations that are years overdue and immediately release the federal funds owed to counties and New York City, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED the State should also renew its practice of providing timely notice to counties of coming year Medicaid costs so they can appropriately budget those savings for local taxpayers and to preserve highly desired local quality of life services provided in our communities, and

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

October 4, 2021

Finance Committee: 9-27-2021

RESOLUTION NO. _____

CALLING ON THE GOVERNOR AND THE LEGISLATURE TO SUSPEND ANY FURTHER STATE DIVERSION OF LOCAL SALES TAX FOR DISTRESSED HEALTH FACILITIES AND WORK TO IMMEDIATELY SUNSET THE LAW

By Mr. Acres, Chair, Finance Committee

WHEREAS, over the last two budget cycles the State has enacted legislation to divert local sales tax so it can be spent in support of state programs or to backfill state budget shortfalls, and

WHEREAS, the State diversion of county and New York City sales tax is approaching \$1 billion since first enacted three (3) years ago, and

WHEREAS, in addition to the state sales tax diversions, counties were subject to a five percent (5%) state reimbursement cut of \$160 million in SFY 2021, while also being required to fund expanded state programs with no state fiscal support, and, when combined, these state funding cuts and new local costs are approaching \$1 billion annually for the counties outside of New York City, and

WHEREAS, sales tax is the number one revenue source for many counties across the state and the primary local revenue to support services in our communities, especially for frontline workers responding to and facilitating recovery efforts from the pandemic, and

WHEREAS, sales tax is also the number one local revenue source for counties that help keep property taxes lower, including those of hundreds of cities, towns and villages across the state that receive a share of the county sales tax, and

WHEREAS, the largest state diversion of county and New York City sales tax was enacted to support a temporary, two (2) year, \$250 million annual fiscally distressed health facilities pool to help them with fiscal impacts caused by the pandemic with this diversion scheduled to sunset at the end of SFY 2022, and

WHEREAS, as of September 2021, \$375 million in local sales tax has been diverted by the State with none of this funding being distributed to health facilities in New York, and

WHEREAS, the support of fiscally distressed health facilities has been a federal and state responsibility for decades as they set nearly all the rules of operation for the healthcare system, as well as the reimbursement levels for Medicare, Medicaid and other public health programs which account for nearly half of all health care expenditures in the United States, and

WHEREAS, the State Legislature does not support the diversion of local sales tax to pay for what they view as a state responsibility if they feel such assistance becomes necessary, and

WHEREAS, Congress recognized the fiscal stress that health facilities shouldered during the pandemic, and

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WHEREAS, Congress has authorized \$178 billion in direct payments to health care facilities and providers through several different federal COVID response bills, and

WHEREAS, healthcare facilities and providers in New York State have received \$11.6 billion in federal assistance so far, with \$40 billion of the federal funding still to be distributed, and

WHEREAS, according to press statements from Senators Schumer and Gillibrand, these federal payments replaced eighty-seven percent (87%) of the lost revenues for health facilities in New York through the first half of 2020,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED the Board of Legislators Calls on the Governor and the Legislature to Suspend any Further State Diversion of Local Sales Tax for Distressed Health Facilities and Work to Immediately Sunset the Law, and

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

October 4, 2021

Finance Committee: 9-27-2021

RESOLUTION NO. _____

**URGING THE STATE OF NEW YORK AND FEDERAL GOVERNMENT TO
EXPAND TRUE BROADBAND COVERAGE TO ALL NEW YORKERS**

By Mr. Acres, Chair, Finance Committee

WHEREAS, former Governor Andrew Cuomo, in his 2021 State of the State address, stated that more than ninety-eight percent (98%) of residences and businesses in New York have access to one or more high-speed wired and/or wireless broadband services, and

WHEREAS, in reality, based on data gathered directly from schools, municipalities, and other organization, there are large gaps in broadband service across rural and upstate New York, and

WHEREAS, maps developed by the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) misrepresent the accessibility of broadband service and these inaccurate maps are often referenced by agencies and grantees, and

WHEREAS, even in areas where broadband is purported to be available, the level of service is not sufficient to constitute true broadband access, and

WHEREAS, the prices for access to broadband in areas where it might be available is at a price point that continues to make it inaccessible to many New Yorkers, and

WHEREAS, our residents need access to reliable and affordable broadband service for school, employment, telehealth, retail, and social aspects of life, and

WHEREAS, as we have seen in the face of this pandemic, broadband serves a vital need for breaking down the digital divide that creates groups of haves and have-nots within our State, and

WHEREAS, H.R. 3684, the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act, includes \$42.45 billion for broadband expansion, to be allocated to states throughout the United States, and

WHEREAS, this legislation also mandates that states establish a process for allowing local coordination of funds, and

WHEREAS, the local coordination requirements established under this legislation shall include, at a minimum, an opportunity for political subdivisions to submit plans for consideration by the state and allow political subdivisions to comment on the initial proposal of the state before it is submitted to the federal government, and

WHEREAS, broadband access provides a critical public infrastructure need for New York residents, towns, municipalities, counties, emergency services, and more,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Legislators urges the State of New York and Federal Government to Expand True Broadband Coverage to all New Yorkers, and

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BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the FCC finalizes broadband availability maps to both reflect the true need, and also provide for a rapid vehicle to deploy these funds, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Governor Kathy Hochul work expeditiously with our federal partners to maximize funds for the State of New York so together, we can expand true broadband access to all areas of New York State, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Governor Kathy Hochul and our Federal and State legislative delegations work to ensure this vital economic development infrastructure need is available to all New Yorkers to prevent the further isolation those in need, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED the state of New York must reduce the cost of fiber rights-of-way and infrastructure upgrades for providers working to expand broadband in communities across the state, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this resolution be forwarded to President Joseph R. Biden, Jr., Governor Kathy Hochul, Senator Joseph Griffo, Senator Patricia Ritchie, Senator Dan Stec, Assemblyman Ken Blankenbush, Assemblyman Billy Jones, Assemblyman Robert Smullen, and Assemblyman Mark Walczyk.

October 4, 2021

Finance Committee: 9-27-2021

RESOLUTION NO. _____

CALLING FOR AN INCREASE IN THE SHARE OF REVENUE COUNTIES RETAIN FOR PROVIDING STATE DEPARTMENT OF MOTOR VEHICLE SERVICES

By Mr. Acres, Chair, Finance Committee

WHEREAS, St. Lawrence County, along with 51 of the 62 counties in New York State, is mandated to operate a local Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) Office, and

WHEREAS, under current law the State of New York takes 87.3 percent of all fees collected from the work performed by the county operated DMV, and

WHEREAS, the remaining 12.7 percent county share has not been increased since 1999, yet the amount of work required by the local DMV offices has increased in that same time period, and

WHEREAS, in recent years, increasingly, DMV fee transaction work has been moved online, and for transactions of this type counties receive little to no funding, and

WHEREAS, the move to online transactions has not decreased the county DMV workload as the transactions selected for this are quick processing in nature, leaving the more difficult and often no fee workload to the county, and

WHEREAS, this dichotomy of the State taking easier fee transactions online, while not sharing any revenues generated from these transactions with most counties and for those that receive a share it is less than one percent, has created an unnecessary and confusing campaign by which counties encourage residents to go to the local DMV counter to ensure local spending stays local, and

WHEREAS, the Governor and the State Legislature have repeatedly stated that lowering the property tax burden on local residents is a key priority, and

WHEREAS, increasing the county DMV revenue over the counter or internet-based sharing rate from the State DMV will not result in any increased costs or fees to residents or taxpayers and will provide counties with revenue to support necessary local government services, and

WHEREAS, it is inequitable when a county DMV provides DMV services for our residents, including overhead and staffing, yet the State takes 87.3 percent of the revenue generated from these services,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Legislators calls for an increase in the share of revenue counties retain for providing State Department of Motor Vehicle Services, and

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

October 4, 2021

Finance Committee: 9-27-2021

RESOLUTION NO. _____

CALLING ON THE STATE OF NEW YORK TO IMMEDIATELY MAKE ALL MUNICIPALITIES WHOLE IN THE SAINT REGIS MOHAWK TRIBAL GAMING REGION THAT HAVE BEEN IMPACTED BY THE LACK OF PAYMENT BY NEW YORK STATE

By Mr. Acres, Chair, Finance Committee

WHEREAS, On October 15, 1993 the St. Regis Mohawk Tribe and the State of New York signed a compact paving the way for casino gaming; the Akwesasne Mohawk Casino opened on April 12, 1999, and

WHEREAS, under agreement and codification in New York law the St. Regis Mohawk Tribe pays 25 percent of all gaming revenue to the State of New York in return for, in part, exclusivity regional gaming rights, and

WHEREAS, under the agreement, the State of New York shares with local governments, including seven counties and numerous towns, in Northern New York, a portion of revenue they receive from the St. Regis Mohawk Tribe, and

WHEREAS, the counties and local governments rely on that revenue to maintain infrastructure and provide public safety for all residents as well as provide services needed to help support this growing gaming industry, and

WHEREAS, in March 2020, the State of New York, under a State of Emergency, closed many businesses, especially ones where crowds gathered, including casinos, causing the Akwesasne Mohawk Casino from making any revenue at this time, and

WHEREAS, in August 2020, casinos including the Akwesasne Mohawk Casino were allowed and did reopen with a limited capacity and began making revenue once again that is to be shared with the State and local governments, and

WHEREAS, to date, there have been no payments by the State to the 7 Northern Region Counties since the last quarter of 2019, and

WHEREAS, this revenue loss amounts to millions of dollars in lost revenue annually to the 7 Northern Region Counties, and

WHEREAS, this funding is needed by the counties to fix roads, support social services, and provide for public health and safety, and

WHEREAS, the St. Regis Mohawk Tribe and the counties of New York have a long history of productive partnerships and respect, and

WHEREAS, New York State has not been receptive to the resolution of these upstate county needs by easing the financial burden created by the State's failure to resolve the issue, and

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WHEREAS, the State of New York has created a system by which vital local services are dependent on continued revenue being received and distributed to local governments through casino gaming, yet the State has not made a contingency plan and/or ignored the needs of local governments when this revenue is lowered or even not received, and

WHEREAS, a new governor, Governor Hochul with a fresh perspective which is informed with a deep understanding of upstate issues offers an opportunity to move the issue to completion,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Legislators calls on the State of New York to immediately make all municipalities whole in the Saint Regis Mohawk Tribal Gaming Region that have been impacted by the lack of payment by New York State, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED in the alternative if the State is unwilling to make the local governments whole, and the if St. Regis Mohawk Tribe desires to assist local governments directly, the State will not see this as a violation, nor will this act be subject to the terms of the St. Regis Mohawk Tribe and New York State Compact, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this resolution be forwarded to Governor Kathy Hochul, Senator Joseph Griffo, Senator Patricia Ritchie, Senator Dan Stec, Assemblyman Ken Blankenbush, Assemblyman Billy Jones, Assemblyman Robert Smullen, Assemblyman Mark Walczyk, and the St. Regis Mohawk Tribe.

October 4, 2021

Finance Committee: 9-27-2021

RESOLUTION NO. _____

**CALLING ON THE STATE OF NEW YORK TO FULLY REIMBURSE COUNTIES
FOR DISTRICT ATTORNEY SALARY INCREASES THAT ARE SET AND
CONTROLLED BY THE STATE**

By Mr. Acres, Chair, Finance Committee

WHEREAS, on December 24, 2015, the New York State Commission on Legislative, Judicial, and Executive Compensation voted to recommend increasing all state judge salaries in 2016 and 2018, and

WHEREAS, on April 1, 2016, the State Legislature approved the recommendation of the Commission and placed the salaries of Supreme Court Judges at \$193,000 in 2016 and approximately \$207,000 in 2018 and placed County Court Judges at ninety-five percent (95%) of a salary of Supreme Court Justice, and

WHEREAS, with Cost-of-Living Adjustment increases in 2019 the salaries of New York Supreme Court Judges were set at \$210,900, and

WHEREAS, New York State Judiciary Law Section 183-a links judicial salaries to county District Attorney (D.A.) salaries, requiring them to be equal or higher than either the County Court Judge or Supreme Court Judge in a county, depending on county size and full-time or part-time status, and

WHEREAS, historically when the State increased State Judge salaries in the 1980s and 1990s, the State fully funded all D.A. salary increases imposed on the counties, recognizing without this funding the increase would be an unfunded mandate, and

WHEREAS, the District Attorneys Association of the State of New York (DAASNY), recognizing the automatic nature of these increases and its effect on local county budgets, and further to support the position of the counties, requested in correspondences with state officials that the State fund this salary increase, and

WHEREAS, the State Legislature has stated they understand the importance of not shifting more State generated costs to the local tax base, mindful of the impact locally with the State-imposed property tax cap, and

WHEREAS, the State Legislature has recognized lowering property taxes is the main priority to ensure a healthy Upstate New York economy, and

WHEREAS, for smaller counties, the D.A. salary increase can represent nearly one-third (1/3) of their total allowable property tax growth for all government operations,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED calling on the State of New York to fully reimburse counties for district attorney salary increases that are set and controlled by the State, and

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

October 4, 2021

Finance Committee: 9-27-2021

RESOLUTION NO. _____

SUPPORTING A COLLABORATION BETWEEN THE NYS OFFICE OF MENTAL HEALTH (OMH) AND THE COUNTIES IN PLANNING AND IMPLEMENTING A NATIONAL 988 SUICIDE PREVENTION HOTLINE

By Mr. Acres, Chair, Finance Committee

WHEREAS, the U.S. Federal Communications Commission (FCC) approved a proposal to implement a new resource that will serve as a national suicide prevention and mental health crisis hotline, entitled the “National Suicide Hotline Improvement Act of 2018,”

WHEREAS, this Act designates 988 as “a simple, easy-to-remember, 3-digit dialing code” for a national suicide prevention and mental health crisis hotline to help increase the effectiveness of suicide prevention efforts, ease access to crisis services, and reduce the stigma surrounding suicide and mental health conditions, and

WHEREAS, the FCC ruling requires activation of 988 by July 2022 and involves sufficient local crisis center capacity to answer the projected significant increase in contact volume, which in turn, requires comprehensive state and local collaboration, and

WHEREAS, the Local Governmental Units (LGUs)/Directors of Community Services (DCSs) have specific responsibilities and authority under the Local Services provisions of Article 41 of the NYS Mental Hygiene Law (MHL) for planning, development, implementation, and oversight of services to adults and children in their counties affected by mental illness, addiction, and intellectual/developmental disabilities (I/DD), and

WHEREAS, the LGUs/DCSs have reported increases to inpatient/outpatient needs, calls to crisis services lines, homelessness, overdose deaths, addiction relapse, and suicide attempts, and

WHEREAS, county governments already plan for and implement comprehensive crisis response plans that may involve local crisis hotlines/call centers operated by either the county or through various contracted providers and in collaboration of these services with neighboring counties, and

WHEREAS, the LGUs/DCSs strongly support OMHs leadership and continued collaboration and involvement of the County Mental Health Commissioners in the planning and implementation in the rollout of the 988 response through the 988 State Planning Coalition, and

WHEREAS, the NYS Conference of Local Mental Hygiene Directors (CLMHD) supports the planning and successful implementation of this new crisis response 63 throughout NYS and looks to OMH and other relevant state agencies for continued partnership and funding,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVE that the Board of Legislators supports a collaboration between the NYS Office of Mental Health (OMH) and the counties in planning and implementing a national 988 suicide prevention hotline, and

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

October 4, 2021

Finance Committee: 9-27-2021

RESOLUTION NO. _____

CALLING ON GOVERNOR KATHY HOCHUL TO RESTORE THE STATE-COUNTY SHARE OF THE COST OF 730.20 COMPETENCY RESTORATION SERVICES AND MAKE REFORMS TO THE PROGRAM THERETO

By Mr. Acres, Chair, Finance Committee

WHEREAS, the SFY 2020-21 budget required counties to pay one-hundred percent (100%) of the OMH State Operations costs for individuals receiving court-ordered mental health competency restoration services at State-operated Forensic Psychiatric Centers, and

WHEREAS, historically, counties have paid fifty percent (50%) of the per diem rate set by OMH, which has now reached an unsustainable cost burden on county budgets, and

WHEREAS, the derivation of Section 43.03 of Mental Hygiene Law (MHL) dates back to 1907 and allows the State to offset the costs of operating its Forensic Psychiatric Centers at county expense, and

WHEREAS, this statute no longer reflects the current mental hygiene system or the NYS Unified Court System and needs to be updated to be consistent with other statutes that makes the State responsible for its own costs for the treatment of mentally ill individuals in State-operated Forensic Psychiatric Centers, and

WHEREAS, OMH has also taken the position that the county mental health commissioners are to receive limited information on the clients ordered to restoration,

WHEREAS, as the full payers of these services, the commissioners must have timely access to any pertinent client information as deemed necessary to effectively manage their responsibilities under the mental hygiene law,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Legislators calls on Governor Kathy Hochul to restore the state-county share of the cost of 730.20 competency restoration services and make reforms to the program thereto, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that counties must be allowed to participate in the restoration and planning process for restorative care of individuals during the duration of their stay at an OMH facility, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that there must be a statutory timeframe and determination as to when an individual is unable to be restored through forensic services (CPL § 730.50), and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED Criminal Procedure Law (CPL) § 730.10 be modified to make clear that restoration is not mental health treatment so that the judiciary is better informed that a 730 order does not treat underlying mental health needs, and

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BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED CPL § 730.20 must be reformed to establish specific criteria for 730 examiners, streamlining the process to establish equity across the system, and that the psychiatrist or psychologist conducting the psychiatric exam tells the court whether or not there is a reasonable chance of restoration, thereby granting the court an opportunity to allow diversion to mental health treatment, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of Legislators calls on New York State to ensure that county directors of community services have timely access to any patient clinical information necessary to effectively manage the responsibilities of the county directors of community services under mental hygiene law,

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

October 4, 2021

Finance Committee: 9-27-2021

RESOLUTION NO. _____

**CALLING ON THE GOVERNOR AND LEGISLATURE TO END THE DIVERSION
OF COUNTY SALES TAX TO PAY FOR THE STATE AIM PROGRAM
AND BEGIN WORK TO REFORM THE AIM PROGRAM WHILE RESTORING
STATE FUNDING RESPONSIBILITY**

By Mr. Acres, Chair, Finance Committee

WHEREAS, three (3) years ago New York State shifted \$59 million annually of the cost of the State AIM Program to counties, implemented through a state diversion of county sales tax, and

WHEREAS, the local sales tax has become the number one source of revenue for an increasing number of counties, and

WHEREAS, the local sales tax is the primary revenue source available to counties and other local governments to help offset property tax increases and to lower property taxes in many instances, and

WHEREAS, state elected leaders have made controlling and lowering property taxes a key priority in efforts to reduce the tax burden for homeowners and small businesses, and to lower the ranking of New York as one of the highest property tax burden states in the nation, and

WHEREAS, the diversion of local revenues for State purposes ultimately results in higher property taxes, further damaging the economic competitiveness of New York and weakening the balance sheet of homeowners and small business, and

WHEREAS, both chambers of the legislature proposed ending the diversion of county sales tax to pay for the State AIM Program in their respective budget bills, and

WHEREAS, the legislature also passed a bill this session (A.6601-A/S.5418-C) that calls for the formation of a task force to examine the AIM Program and make recommendations for reforms and improvements including a review of financing,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Legislators calls on the Governor and Legislature to end the diversion of county sales tax to pay for the State Aim Program and begin work to reform the AIM Program while restoring state funding responsibility, and

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

October 4, 2021

Finance Committee: 9-27-2021

RESOLUTION NO. _____

AUTHORIZING THE CHAIR TO SIGN AN AGREEMENT WITH UNITED HELPERS, INC. FOR SPACE LOCATED AT 100 FORD STREET, OGDENSBURG, NEW YORK, SIGN A BUSINESS ASSOCIATE AGREEMENT, AND MODIFYING THE 2021 BUDGET FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES

By Mr. Acres, Chair, Finance Committee

WHEREAS, Resolution Nos. 66-2021, 104-2021, and 169-2021, "Authorizing Filling of Vacancies" demonstrated an investment by the St. Lawrence County Board of Legislators in the Department of Social Services and the communities it serves by creating a total of 20 new positions, and

WHEREAS, with this investment, there is a need for additional office space for the Department and an opportunity to create efficiencies through a pilot program of placement of staff in key locations testing the effectiveness of a satellite type office structure designed to root employees in the community and bring employees closer to clients and families, and

WHEREAS, United Helpers, Inc. has office space available at its 100 Ford Street location in the City of Ogdensburg and is willing to offer necessary flexibility to provide approximately 2,100 square feet at a rental rate of \$12.12 per square foot, and

WHEREAS, due to the confidential nature of the work to be performed at the 100 Ford Street location a Business Associate Agreement will be required, in accordance with the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) set forth at 45 CFR Parts 142, 160, and 164,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Legislators authorizes the Chair to sign an agreement with United Helpers, Inc. for space located at 100 Ford Street, Ogdensburg, New York, upon approval of the County Attorney, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED the rental rate will be \$12.12 per square foot and will run October 1, 2021 through September 30, 2022, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Chair is authorized to sign a Business Associate Agreement with United Helpers, Inc., and

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

INCREASE APPROPRIATIONS:

DAS60104 40700	D SG Building and Property Rent	\$6,363
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INCREASE REVENUE:

DA036105 56000	D SA General Administration	178
DA046105 57000	D FA General Administration	584
DAS36105 560CW	D SA Child Welfare Funding	<u>1,752</u>
		\$2,514

DECREASE APPROPRIATIONS:

DPS61404 46100	D HR Directs	\$5,421
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DECREASE REVENUE:

DPS36405 56000	D SA Safety Net	\$1,572
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Finance Committee: 9-27-2021

RESOLUTION NO. _____

**ADOPTING PROPOSED LOCAL LAW C (NO. __) FOR THE YEAR 2021,
"SETTING THE SALARY FOR THE COUNTY ATTORNEY"**

By Mr. Acres, Chair, Finance Committee
Co-Sponsored by Mr. Sheridan, District 4

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

Section 1. For the Year 2021, the salary for the following title shall be increased to the amount listed below and the increase will be retroactive to May 3, 2021.

County Attorney \$158,000

Section 2. Should there be a reduction in duties such that the responsibility for the Legal Unit in the Department of Social Services is relocated, a review of the compensation will occur and the salary will be returned to the prior level.

Section 3. This Local Law shall take effect in accordance with the Municipal Home Rule Law of the State of New York.