

**2018**

**SECOND ANNUAL SESSION**

**NOVEMBER 7, 2018**

The Board convened at 10:30 A.M. in the Supervisors' Chambers at the Court House, Lake Pleasant, New York, with the Chairman, William G. Farber presiding. Mr. Farber led the members of the Board of Supervisors in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag, and an opening prayer.

The Clerk, Mrs. Laura Abrams, called the roll with the following Supervisors answering:

Arietta	Richard A. Wilt
Benson	John M. Stortecky
Hope	Steven M. Tomlinson
Indian Lake	Brian Wells
Inlet	John Frey
Lake Pleasant	Daniel Wilt
Long Lake	Clark J. Seaman
Morehouse	William G. Farber
Wells	Donald W. Beach

Also present: Frank Mezzano, Budget Officer and Tracy Eldridge, Highway Superintendent

Public Comment: No one present

Reports of Standing/Special Committees:

Mr. R. Wilt: Stated that the tower project is coming to a close. There are a few glitches but things are working out.

RESOLUTIONS:

**RESOLUTION NO. 356-18**

**RESOLUTION TO SET DATE OF ORGANIZATION MEETING**

**DATED: NOVEMBER 7, 2018**

**BY MR. R. WILT:**

RESOLVED, that the Organization Meeting of the Board of Supervisors will be held on Thursday, January 3, 2019 at 2:00 P.M.

Seconded by Mr. D. Wilt and adopted by the following vote:

AYES: R. WILT, STORTECKY, TOMLINSON, WELLS, FREY, D. WILT, SEAMAN,

FARBER AND BEACH

NAYS: NONE

**RESOLUTION NO. 357-18**

**AUTHORIZING PAYMENT OF FEE TO NYS JOINT COMMISSION ON PUBLIC ETHICS**

**DATED: NOVEMBER 7, 2018**

**BY MR. WELLS:**

WHEREAS, Hamilton County retained Strategic Development, LLC, and

WHEREAS, Strategic Development, LLC as an advocate for county grants falls under the rules for lobbying, and

WHEREAS, as such the County needs to file a report on same with Joint Commission on Public Ethics (JCOPE), and

WHEREAS, said report requires a \$50.00 filing fee, now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the Hamilton County Treasurer is hereby authorized to write a check in the amount of \$50.00 from Account No. A1010.0407 Misc. to the NYS Joint Commission on Public Ethics for submission with said report.

Seconded by Mr. Stortecky and adopted by the following vote:

AYES: R. WILT, STORTECKY, TOMLINSON, WELLS, FREY, D. WILT, SEAMAN,  
FARBER AND BEACH

NAYS: NONE

After the following resolution was placed on the floor; the Chairman explained how the State of New York, predicated on a legal action that was brought against several counties in New York, Hurrell-Harring Action, elevated the way the Public Defense system worked with in New York. In a court determination it was determined that counties being litigated were out of compliance with the constitutional obligations by providing defense to the indigent. Based on that, New York State funded fixes for those counties that the action had been brought against. Subsequent to that there were two runs at fixing the indigent defense system. One was legislature in which both houses passed a fiscal takeover of public defense for the counties in New York. This was vetoed by the Governor and in the following year they passed a 5 year phase-in which will fund shoring up of the indigent defense systems in all the other non-Hurrell-Harring counties. The Chairman pointed out to the Board that we could live within the means that have been established for the first 5 years. What this resolution proposes is step 1 in the process, which is to have central

coordination in place rather than Court Clerks having to make the calls to figure out the assignments based on who's available versus who ought to be defending a specific case. Also, an enhanced rate for after hour defense that can be totally funded within this program. The Chairman stated how the County is lucky to have somebody, like Mr. Goodspeed, who is highly regarded within the criminal justice system. On top of being well known and knowing our area and cases he also set up Warren County's public defense system. He is willing to step in and help us develop this system. The Chairman stated that it is his, Mr. Seaman's and Mr. Wells' recommendation to bring this resolution forward. He stated that a meeting is planned for the afternoon of the 14<sup>th</sup> but wanted to get Mr. Goodspeed in place so that he can do some research and have more of a presentation ready for the Board that day. Mr. Wells stated that we are very fortunate to have somebody of his caliber. Mr. Seaman agrees with that as well.

**RESOLUTION NO. 358-18**

**AUTHORIZING AND FUNDING PUBLIC DEFENDER/COORDINATOR**

**DATED: NOVEMBER 7, 2018**

**BY MR. SEAMAN:**

WHEREAS, Counties within NYS are being required to improve and enhance their Indigent Defense Systems, and

WHEREAS, NYS is providing funding to improve these systems, and

WHEREAS, Sterling Goodspeed has both experience working within the court system within Hamilton County and experience setting up Indigent Defense Systems within Warren County, and

WHEREAS, Sterling Goodspeed is willing to serve as Public Defender/Coordinator in Hamilton County, now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that Sterling Goodspeed is hereby appointed as Public Defender/Coordinator at a weekly salary of \$568 per week effective November 7, 2018, and be it also

RESOLVED, that Account No. A1170.0101 Public Defender/Coordinator is hereby funded at \$5,112.00 to be totally off set by increasing Revenue Account No. A3025 Indigent Legal Services by \$5,112.00, and be it further

RESOLVED, that the County Treasurer and the Personnel Officer be so authorized.

Seconded by Mr. Tomlinson and adopted by the following vote:

**AYES: R. WILT, STORTECKY, TOMLINSON, WELLS, FREY, D. WILT, SEAMAN,  
FARBER AND BEACH**

NAYS: NONE

**RESOLUTION NO. 359-18**

**HAMILTON COUNTY ENTITLED ADDITIONAL FUNDING – RABIES GRANT**

**DATED: NOVEMBER 7, 2018**

**BY MR. D. WILT:**

WHEREAS, the New York State Department of Health requests the renewal of the contract with Hamilton County Public Health Nursing Service for expenses associated with the Rabies Program, contract number T33995GG, and

WHEREAS, the entire contract period is April 1, 2019 to March 31, 2022, and

WHEREAS, the total grant award for the period April 1, 2019 – March 31, 2020 is \$7,329.00 and overlaps the 2019 and 2020 budget fiscal years, and

WHEREAS, there are sufficient funds for 2019 and funding will be allocated in the 2020 Municipal budget, be it

RESOLVED, that the Chairman of the Board of Supervisors be authorized to sign the contract for the period April 1, 2019 to March 31, 2022 upon approval of the County Attorney and the County Treasurer be so advised.

Seconded by Mr. Stortecky and adopted by the following vote:

AYES: R. WILT, STORTECKY, TOMLINSON, WELLS, FREY, D. WILT, SEAMAN,  
FARBER AND BEACH

NAYS: NONE

2019 Budget Review:

The Chairman stated that the Board had asked Mr. Eldridge to come in as the Board was reviewing both the Highway and Machinery budget. He did mention to Mr. Eldridge if there were specific aspects of his Building and Solid Waste budgets they could also cover that.

Mr. Eldridge stated that he has given a formal response to Fulton County on their Solid Waste Proposal. He is waiting for a response back.

The Chairman stated that as a reminder the County is still working on the Solid Waste shared services work around recycling. There still remains no great news to report in terms of an opportunity to go to single source. Most people that he has talked to have been following the state and national news in terms of China shutting down the market opportunity. Some of the

communities have questions about containers so maybe the Board and Mr. Eldridge should see when the right time is to bring Jillian Blake of Barton & Loguidice back in so we can start to talk about interim steps. It would not surprise him to see DEC put up a little extra recycling money for this next cycle so maybe we should be thinking about focusing on the kinds of investments we make into that system. He would hate to miss the opportunity. Mr. Eldridge stated that the Counties waste tires have significantly increased and the electronic recyclable costs are going up. He said hopefully the State is going to do something to offset some of this cost. He will be applying for the electronics grant again and thinks there are more enhancements to it. The Chairman asked if it was an onerous amount of work for the amount of money the County gets back. Mr. Eldridge stated that it wasn't. Mr. Eldridge stated that he will be speaking with Ms. Blake to set up a time for her to come in.

Mr. Eldridge stated that there was a change on the revenue side which is an in and out. For the last 2 years he has had to amend the State Snow. He would like to change D.2302 to \$1,000,000 and then on the appropriation side it would be \$500,000 in both D.5144.401 and D.5144.402. Would like to remove the \$2,000 in D.5144.101 because he never uses it. He's confident that the CHIPS money won't go down.

The Chairman asked if the sale of equipment was based on what he actually expects to get in 2019. Mr. Eldridge said that was correct. He would like to purchase a lowboy with CHIPS money and sell a couple of the older dump trailers. He stated how counties are starting to purchase them more because of the versatility. This can haul any aggregate besides large rock. He could utilize it more than what he is utilizing the dump trailers for. This would definitely affect the sale of equipment as the 2 dump trailers are older but in good shape. He said the revenue would go up with the expenditure staying the same.

Mr. Eldridge stated on the appropriation side that there was a question regarding the Mechanic's salary line. The adjustments made were because of merit but also the mechanics are on call for snow removal. When there is overtime that pertains to the roads he will be billing back D Fund for that.

The Chairman asked where he is with staffing patterns. Mr. Eldridge stated that it has stabilized but he feels he's having the same issues as other departments. It is hard to find qualified applicants. He has a very good temporary work force which has been very helpful. He stated that sharing between the county and towns goes really well but demands are more and more all the time. The Chairman asked if he had a couple thoughts on things that the County should look at next in terms of sharing that maybe we aren't doing. Mr. Eldridge stated that he has been listening at the Association what other counties and towns are doing regarding consolidating. Consolidation is a dirty word when it comes down to losing their job or identity. It becomes very political and difficult to do. He has looked at the numbers and thought maybe he needs to turn all the County's Snow and Ice and CHIPS over to the towns. He has looked at it both ways. It is something that the County is going to face going forward. He thinks regarding road construction we are much better off doing it ourselves than contracting it out, cost wise. The Chairman stated that you certainly hear mixed reviews around privatizing. He hasn't talked with anyone that has had success with Ice and Snow control. He absolutely agrees with the direction the County is going with Solid Waste in terms of a way to continue to do the hauling and work with someone like Fulton County.

In a lot of ways it would be easier to privatize something like Solid Waste hauling rather than spec road construction, etc. The Chairman asked about a County Road Tour; we didn't have one in the spring and there are several of the projects wrapping up. Would it make any sense to try to schedule something between now and winter? Mr. Eldridge stated that he would be happy to and could send an email out. Mr. Eldridge left the meeting.

The Chairman discussed the need to have another Finance/Internal Management Committee Meeting between now and the Public Hearing regarding compensation in general. He doesn't feel that there would be enough time to schedule the morning of an annual session date. The Board agreed on November 16<sup>th</sup> at 9:30.

The Chairman stated that the Supervisors should have received, in their town offices, a 2018 legislative agenda from AATV. Please look through that for things that you think should be priorities. Two priorities for 2018 and likely to be carried over are cellular and update of the SLMP. Legislative priorities which really evolved and were more focused on as the session went on last year were, first passage of Camp Gabriel, first passage of Cathead and the Replacement Land of Health & Safety Land Account. Mr. Wells reminded the Board that the meeting in December will be in Lake George and it is a good place to network.

Recess until November 14<sup>th</sup>.