

AGENDA

SIXTH SESSION

JUNE 6, 2018

10:30 AM Call to Order
Pledge to Flag
Opening Prayer
Roll Call

Accepting Minutes of May 2, 2019

Public Comment Period

Reports of Standing/Special Committees

10:45 AM Deanna Park - Director of Office for the Aging presentation for Senior
Citizens Month

Seniors of the Year

Avis Warner, Wells, NY

Leon "Lee" Smith, Wells, NY

Lunch to follow at the Oxbow Inn, Piseco, NY

RESOLUTIONS:

- No. 1 TABLED – Adoption of Changes to Hamilton County Employee Handbook
- No. 2 Resolution in Opposition to State Legislative Proposals that Could Undermine the Careful Balance that Exists in State Law Related to the Tax Foreclosure Process in New York State as Proposed in S.4676/A.4863
- No. 3 Policy Change for Distribution of State Land School Taxes to Schools
- No. 4 Authorizing Acceptance of Back Taxes in Town of Long Lake
- No. 5 Set Up Accounting for Village Tax Collection
- No. 6 Creating and Advertising a New Full-Time Motor Vehicle Clerk Position in the Hamilton County Clerk's Office
- No. 7 Authorizing Equipment Purchases – Community Services Federal Salary Sharing Funds

- No. 8 Authorizing Regional Meeting – Hamilton County Community Services Board
- No. 9 Approval of and Authorizing Chairman to Sign Resource Allocation Plan
- No. 10 Increasing the Summer Youth Employment Program Budget
- No. 11 Authorization to Enter into Contract with Mountain Lake Academy for Residential Treatment
- No. 12 Award of Bid for Purchase and Installation of Generators Per Bid Specification No. 9-2019

TABLED

RESOLUTION NO.

ADOPTION OF CHANGES TO HAMILTON COUNTY EMPLOYEE HANDBOOK

DATED: MAY 2, 2019

BY MR. WELLS:

WHEREAS, there was a need to upgrade and add to the Hamilton County Employee Handbook, and

WHEREAS, after reviewing suggested changes to the handbook, the committee has recommended the adoption of said changes to handbook, be it

RESOLVED, that the provisions and policies contained in the Employee Handbook are intended to supersede any and all prior manuals, guidelines or related policies issued by Hamilton County, and be it further

RESOLVED, that unless specified, this Employee Handbook supersedes and replaces any previous personnel policies issued by the County concerning all policies contained in the Employee Handbook.

Seconded by Mr. D. Wilt.

RESOLUTION NO.

**RESOLUTION IN OPPOSITION TO STATE LEGISLATIVE PROPOSALS THAT
COULD UNDERMINE THE CAREFUL BALANCE THAT EXISTS IN STATE LAW
RELATED TO THE TAX FORECLOSURE PROCESS IN NEW YORK STATE AS
PROPOSED IN S.4676/A.4863**

DATED: JUNE 6, 2019

BY

WHEREAS, the current real property tax law process to ensure tax compliance and limit tax foreclosure has been on the books for decades, and

WHEREAS, the real property tax foreclosure process is designed to strike a balance for a strong enforcement mechanism to ensure critical property tax revenues are protected to provide vital state mandated and local services in our communities, while providing property owners important alternatives and additional time to make payments to avoid foreclosure, and

WHEREAS, legislative proposals in S.4676 and A.4863 would eliminate certain tax enforcement fees and penalties, allow for lower interest rates in tax delinquencies, and eliminates the current law “reverse chronological order” of satisfying tax liens, and

WHEREAS, reducing these fee, penalty and interest tax enforcement measures will likely reduce the effectiveness and balance of the current system, and

WHEREAS, eliminating the current law “reverse chronological order” provisions will allow property owners to potentially abuse the system and remain perpetually in arrears on their property taxes, significantly damaging tax compliance, and

WHEREAS reduced tax compliance can jeopardize the delivery of critical state and local services in the community, and will unfairly shift the burden of these unpaid property taxes to other property owners, and

WHEREAS, county government is the primary governmental unit, along with some cities and other municipalities, charged by the State with ensuring real property tax law compliance and enforcement at the local level, and

WHEREAS, under this charge, counties are required to fully reimburse all school districts and most towns and villages for any property taxes they cannot collect in the first instance, which often requires counties to borrow tens of millions of dollars annually while tax recoupment is commenced, all with the primary goal of ensuring fairness and avoiding tax foreclosure, and

WHEREAS, the real property law provides an extensive notification process for property owners that fall into arrears to help them understand what is happening and their options, and

WHEREAS, the real property tax law also allows installment payment plans for up to 24 months for tax delinquency to ease the burden, and provides special allowances for farm property and military personnel – combined these items can prevent tax foreclosure or extend the timeline for several years, and

WHEREAS, many counties use these statutory allowances to ease the tax foreclosure process and burden, and they also provide additional help including:

- Allowing partial payments, monthly and/or quarterly property tax payments for initial property taxes due to ease the payment burden;
- Encourage property owners to seek legal advice on other options so they can retain their property;
- Engage family members, especially for senior citizens, to allow for family members to receive duplicate copies of property tax bills, delinquency notices and other real property items;
- Guide property owners to local and state programs that may offer them assistance to clear up their delinquent taxes;
- Allow property owners to repurchase their property in cases of tax foreclosure, under specified timelines and parameters.

now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, Hamilton County opposes state legislation that can undermine the careful balance that exists in state law related to the tax foreclosure process in New York State, including S.4676/A.4863 currently being considered in the State Legislature, and be it further

RESOLVED, Hamilton County is especially concerned of the unintended consequences this legislation may cause by eliminating the current law reverse chronological order for paying tax liens and loosening penalties and interest, that could reduce taxpayer compliance, which can jeopardize the delivery of state and local services, and will unfairly shift the burden of unpaid property taxes to other property owners in the community.

Seconded by

RESOLUTION NO.

POLICY CHANGE FOR DISTRIBUTION OF STATE LAND SCHOOL TAXES TO SCHOOLS

DATE: JUNE 6, 2019

BY

WHEREAS, the County Treasurer has been contacted by the Indian Lake Central School Superintendent in regards to distribution of State Land School Taxes, and

WHEREAS, the Superintendent was questioning the receipt date from New York State Comptroller's Office and the distribution date to the Schools, and

WHEREAS, the County Treasurer researched the dates of receipt of the NY State Land School Taxes over the past ten years and found the receipt date to be varied from year to year, be it

RESOLVED, that based on the research of receipt of the State Land School Taxes, the Hamilton County Treasurer will change the date of distribution to the Schools from December 15 of each year to November 15 of each year, and be it further

RESOLVED, that in any year the State fails to send the State Land School taxes prior to November 15, the County Treasurer will inform the Schools and the distribution will be made when the taxes are received from NY State, and be it further

RESOLVED, that the County Treasurer and the School Districts be so notified.

Seconded by

RESOLUTION NO.

AUTHORIZING ACCEPTANCE OF BACK TAXES IN TOWN OF LONG LAKE

DATED: JUNE 6, 2019

BY

WHEREAS, the Board of Supervisors has been contacted Steven Mignoli on property located in the Town of Long Lake, with parcel ID #25.011-1-27/28 concerning the 2017 and 2018 back taxes owed, and

WHEREAS, Steven Mignoli has submitted a written request as to why the taxes have not been paid to date and a request to pay the back taxes, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the Hamilton County Treasurer is hereby authorized to accept payment of the taxes owed in the amount of \$9,023.47 together with an administrative charge of \$500.00 for a total of \$9,523.47 due by June 30, 2019.

Seconded by

RESOLUTION NO.

SET UP ACCOUNTING FOR VILLAGE TAX COLLECTION

DATE: JUNE 6, 2019

BY

WHEREAS, the Hamilton County Board of Supervisors passed Resolution No. 170-19 authorizing the Hamilton County Treasurer to be the Collection Officer for the Village of Speculator Taxes for 2019, and

WHEREAS, a revenue and expenditure line need to be created to account for service, be it

RESOLVED, that Expenditure line A1330.402-Village Tax Collection Expenses be created for \$1,000.00 to be totally offset by creating Revenue account A2210.400-Village Tax Collection in the amount of \$4,200.00 and be it further

RESOLVED, that the County Treasurer so authorized and Clerk of the Board be so notified.

Seconded by

RESOLUTION NO.

**CREATING AND ADVERTISING A NEW FULL-TIME MOTOR VEHICLE CLERK
POSITION IN THE HAMILTON COUNTY CLERK'S OFFICE**

DATED: JUNE 6, 2019

BY

WHEREAS, the County Clerk's Office is experiencing an increased work load for all the employees, and

WHEREAS, the additional hours authorized for the employees is still not meeting the demands of the workload, be it

RESOLVED, that the Personnel Officer is authorized to advertise for a new full-time Motor Vehicle Clerk position and the County Treasurer and County Clerk be so notified.

Seconded by

RESOLUTION NO.

**AUTHORIZING EQUIPMENT PURCHASES – COMMUNITY SERVICES FEDERAL
SALARY SHARING FUNDS**

DATED: JUNE 6, 2019

BY

WHEREAS, the Hamilton County Community Services Department has received Federal Salary Sharing funds that can be used to support services provided by the Department, and

WHEREAS, equipment upgrades and other improvements to the program would enhance operational effectiveness and efficiency, be it

RESOLVED, that Community Services purchase a generator for its main office in Indian Lake at a cost of \$33,650.00, network backup equipment for its computers at a state contract cost of \$2,278.61 and 5 Laptop computers at a state contract cost of \$6,000 for a total of \$41,928.61, and be it further

RESOLVED, that \$41,928.61 from Federal Salary Sharing currently in the unappropriated general fund balance be transferred from the Unappropriated General Fund Balance in accordance with Section 366 Subdivision 1 of the County Law to Account No. A4310.0202 Equipment to purchase said items.

Seconded by

RESOLUTION NO.

AUTHORIZING REGIONAL MEETING – HAMILTON COUNTY COMMUNITY SERVICES BOARD

DATED: JUNE 6, 2019

BY

WHEREAS, Hamilton County Community Services is the sole provider of behavioral health service in Hamilton County, and

WHEREAS, the Hamilton County Community Services Board (CSB) has identified the impact on Hamilton County of recent healthcare transformation initiatives by the State of New York as representing significant challenge to its ability to continue to provide adequate behavioral health services to all of its residents, and

WHEREAS, the Hamilton CSB has recommended that a regional meeting be held with other counties in the North Country that would include each counties Director of Community Services, CSB Chair and relevant CSB members to develop both regional and local strategies to ensure that behavioral health services can continued to be provided to all Hamilton County residents, and

WHEREAS, representatives of the NYS Office of Mental Health’s Central Office and the NYS Office of Alcohol and Substance Abuse Services Central Office, as well as representation from the Regional Field Office of the NYS Office of Mental Health, the NYS Conference of Mental Hygiene Directors and representatives of the regions state operated Psychiatric Hospitals would also participate in this meeting, and

WHEREAS, the Hamilton County CSB would sponsor this meeting in Hamilton County, be it

RESOLVED, that a meeting be held at the Minnowbrook Conference Center in Blue Mt. Lake, NY on the 12th and 13th of September, 2019, for the purpose stated above, and be it further

RESOLVED, that Hamilton County Community Services will cover the cost of Hamilton County participants at an amount not exceed \$700.00 to be charged to Mental Health Account No. A4320.407 Outreach.

Seconded by

RESOLUTION NO

**APPROVAL OF AND AUTHORIZING CHAIRMAN TO SIGN RESOURCE
ALLOCATION PLAN**

DATED: JUNE 6, 2019

BY

WHEREAS, the County of Hamilton is in receipt of the Resource Allocation Plan for the County's Youth Board funding provided by the Office of Children and Family Services for 2019, and

WHEREAS, the plan identifies the program and project applications as part of the required components of the County's Comprehensive Youth Service Plan as approved by the Office of Children and Family Services, and

WHEREAS, this plan will qualify the County for State reimbursement for the program year, be it

RESOLVED, that the Hamilton County Board of Supervisors hereby approves the 2019 Resource Allocation Plan and authorizes the Chairman to sign and the County Treasurer be so advised.

Seconded by

RESOLUTION NO.

INCREASING THE SUMMER YOUTH EMPLOYMENT PROGRAM BUDGET

DATED: JUNE 6, 2019

BY

WHEREAS, the Hamilton County Summer Youth Employment Program (SYEP), administered by the Hamilton County Department of Social Services, has been awarded the amount of Eleven Thousand Two Hundred Seventy-Five Dollars (\$11,275.00) for the administration of the 2019 SYEP, and

WHEREAS, the amount to be awarded for SYEP was not known at the time the 2019 budget was adopted, no amount was put in the 2019 Hamilton County budget for Account No. A6290.103, Job Training Participating Summer Youth, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that Account No. A6290.103, Job Training Participating Summer Youth, be increased by Eleven Thousand Two Hundred Seventy-Five Dollars (\$11,275.00) to be totally offset by increasing Revenue Account No. A4089.100, Federal Aid, WIA, by same amount and the County Treasurer be so authorized.

Seconded by

RESOLUTION NO.

**AUTHORIZATION TO ENTER INTO CONTRACT WITH MOUNTAIN LAKE
ACADEMY FOR RESIDENTIAL TREATMENT**

DATED: JUNE 6, 2019

BY

WHEREAS, children placed in the care and custody of the Commissioner of Social Services as a result of abuse, neglect, maltreatment or voluntary surrender require out-of-home placement in residential treatment centers, and

WHEREAS, these residential treatment center are certified by the New York State Office of Children and Family Services (OCFS), and

WHEREAS, maximum state reimbursable rates are established by OCFS, be it

RESOLVED, the Chairman of the Board of Supervisors, upon review and approval of the County Attorney, is hereby authorized and directed to enter into agreements with Mountain Lake Academy for Residential Treatment.

Seconded by

RESOLUTION NO.

**AWARD OF BID FOR PURCHASE AND INSTALLATION OF GENERATORS PER
BID SPECIFICATION NO. 9-2019**

DATED: JUNE 6, 2019

BY

WHEREAS, Hamilton County DPW has solicited bids for the purchase and installation of generators for the Community Services Building and the Indian Lake and Lake Pleasant Transfer Stations, and

WHEREAS, one (1) bid was received in response to the said invitation to bidders, as follows:

1. Gentech Emergency Power
6804 Duanesburg Road
Duanesburg, NY 12056

Bid:	A. Community Services Building -	\$33,650.00
	B. Indian Lake Transfer station -	\$23,030.00
	C. Lake Pleasant Transfer Station -	\$24,671.00

Total Bid - \$81,351.00

and

WHEREAS, C&S Engineers, Project Engineer has reviewed the bid to confirm that bid specifications were met and are satisfactory, and

WHEREAS, the County Highway Superintendent recommends the award be made, be it

RESOLVED, the award of the bid for Generators in the amount of \$81,351.00 for three (3) Generators Installed at the locations stated herein from Gentech Emergency Power of Duanesburg, NY, be it further

RESOLVED, that charges for the generator purchase and install be as follows:

A. Community Services Building – Account No. A4310.202 Equipment
B & C. Transfer Stations – Account No. 8189.401 Solid Waste Reserve

and be it further

RESOLVED, the Chairman of the Board be authorized to enter into an agreement for the said Generators with Gentech Emergency Power subject to the approval of the County Attorney and the County Treasurer, Highway Superintendent and Clerk of the Board be so notified.

Seconded by