

SECOND SPECIAL SESSION
July 27, 2020
Board of Supervisors – County of Hamilton
Lake Pleasant, New York

Mrs. Laura A. Abrams, Clerk
Board of Supervisors of Hamilton County
Lake Pleasant, New York 12108

Dear Clerk:

WHEREAS, the undersigned, we the majority of the members of the Board of Supervisors of Hamilton County, do hereby request you to call a Special Session pursuant to Section 152 of the County Law, to be held at the Chambers of the Board, in the Town of Lake Pleasant, in said County on Monday, July 27, 2020 at 11:00 A.M. for the purpose of approving antenna equipment purchase and for any other business that may come before said Board.

Arietta _____	ABSENT	Richard A. Wilt
Benson _____		John M. Stortecky
Hope _____		Steven M. Tomlinson
Indian Lake _____		Brian Wells
Inlet _____		John Frey
Lake Pleasant _____		Betsy A. Bain
Long Lake _____		Clay J. Arsenault
Morehouse _____		William G. Farber
Wells _____		Nick Mauro

Also present: No one present.

Public Comment: No Public.

Reports of Standings/Special Committees:

Mr. Frey: Stated that he is a broken record regarding Budget. The Chairman stated that the Board has moved passed it being a broken record. The budget request forms will go out to the Department Heads right after August's Board Day. After the Comptroller's Office did their calculations the tax cap will now be 1.56% instead of 2%. There needs to be a salary discussion prior to the sheets going out and stated how this was going to be tough. Mr. Frey stated that he had warned his Department Heads in Inlet that they all need to try to maintain a flat budget and possibly no COLA increase for employees. The Chairman stated that he understood that the County is in a different position than towns are. The towns don't get sales tax revenue or operate programs that are as heavily dependent on state aid. A big portion of the County budget is implicated by those down turns in a way that the town budgets are not. He stated that he wasn't sure how in good conscience the County starts off with any other position then probably not being able to do a cost of living. The County hasn't done layoffs or furloughs. It's what makes requests like Tracy Eldridge's, Highway Superintendent, and others that the Board will confront all the more difficult to deal with.

Mr. Tomlinson: Stated he would like to reiterate how good of a job Erica Mahoney, Public Health Director, is doing. He understands how hard budget time is but feels that the Board should consider giving Ms. Mahoney a raise. It is well deserved and she goes well above and beyond. The Chairman stated that he understands and knows that there are other departments with staff that are also doing more; where there are additional gaps and additional needs. The Board hears the impacts and it makes it difficult. Mr. Tomlinson stated that he had created a proposal and handed it out to the Board to review.

Mr. Stortecky: Asked what the outcome was after the Cathead Mountain ZOOM meeting. The Chairman stated that the Legislature left Albany without passing any amendments. He stated that late Thursday they were close as Steve Acquario, NYSAC Executive Director, had gotten a commitment from the two leaders that with the consent of the NYSDEC Chairs it could be put on the agenda last minute. Unfortunately, they were unsuccessful in getting a yes from Assemblyman, Steve Englebright. There is speculation that the Legislature will be coming back in August. He had heard from NYSAC that legislators are still introducing legislation. Mr. Stortecky asked if that meant the legislation was 2-years out. The Chairman stated that the best-case scenario was if Cathead Mountain were to get first passage in 2020 which then allows a subsequently elected legislature. Then in 2021 they could do second passage and that would put the ballot question on the ballot for November 2021.

The Chairman: Stated the Intercounty meeting was last Thursday. The Board has discussed most of what was covered at the meeting like sales tax, state revenues and constitutional amendments. It took place at Betterbee in Washington County. It was a great tour and very interesting. The Washington County Administrator brought up additional election expenses counties might incur if it is full absentee ballots for the upcoming General Election.

RESOLUTIONS:

After the following resolution was placed on the floor; Mr. Frey stated that the expense will be covered by a grant. The Chairman agreed but also stated that he hoped that grant money won't be adjusted by state revenue reductions.

RESOLUTION NO. 174-20

AUTHORIZING PURCHASE OF ANTENNA EQUIPMENT – DHSES GRANT SI17-1003- D00

DATED: JULY 27, 2020

BY MR. FREY:

WHEREAS, Resolution No. 242-19 authorized the Hamilton County Office of Emergency Services to submit a purchase order to Capital Digitronics for the purchase of Harris Simulcast radios for Lake Pleasant, Oak Mt., and Blue Mountain, and

WHEREAS, the radios have been installed at all 3 locations, and

WHEREAS, antenna space is limited at both Oak Mt. and Blue Mt, so that there cannot be separate antenna systems for the Law channel, the Fire channel, and the EMS channel, and

WHEREAS, by the use of a single pair of antennas at each location which are connected together through an antenna combiner system, all three entities will be able to be dispatched over the single pairs of antennas, and

WHEREAS, Capital Digitronics, under State Contract # PT68714, has submitted a quote for a total of \$100,680.00 which includes the combiner systems at both Oak Mt. and Blue Mt. as well as the installation costs, and

WHEREAS, with the lead time of delivery at 10 weeks and the difficulty of winter access at both sites, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the Hamilton County Office of Emergency Management be authorized to submit a purchase order to Capital Digitronics for \$100,680.00 for said equipment and installation with funding for said project coming from Department of Homeland Security and Emergency Services, Formula Grant SI17-1003-D00, contract # C198204, and the Hamilton County Treasurer be so informed.

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

AYES: STORTECKY, TOMLINSON, WELLS, FREY, BAIN, ARSENAULT, FARBER AND MAURO

NAYS: NONE

ABSENT: WILT

Other Reports:

Mr. Wells: Stated that he would like to discuss the County Credit Card Policy at a later date. The requests coming in for small amounts could be addressed at that time. He feels the Department Heads should have credit cards and be given a set spending limit. The Chairman stated that was a good point.

Mr. Frey: Stated there was a COVID scare at Inlet's biggest employer. He takes it very seriously and he hopes the owner of the establishment does as well. It affected more than just those employees, there are some that have more than one job in town.

As there was no further business, motion to adjourn by Mr. Stortecky, seconded by Mr. Mauro. Carried.