

**2020**

**FIFTH ANNUAL SESSION**

**NOVEMBER 20, 2020**

The Board convened at 10:30 A.M. in the Supervisors' Chambers (via ZOOM) 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	Betsy A. Bain
Long Lake	Clay J. Arsenault
Morehouse	William G. Farber
Wells	Nick Mauro

Also present: Carriann Grexa-Allen, Director of Patient Services

Public Comment: No one present.

A motion was made to go into executive session to do employee evaluations by Mr. Mauro, seconded by Ms. Bain. Carried.

A motion to open session by Mr. Stortecky, seconded by Mr. Mauro. Carried.

The Chairman reported that the committee reviewed evaluations. No action was taken.

Carriann Grexa-Allen, Director of Patient Services left the Zoom meeting at this time.

Reports of Standings/Special Committees:

Mr. Frey: Thanked all the department heads along with Bill Farber, Budget Officer, and Laura Abrams, Clerk of the Board.

Mr. Wilt: They received a Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) determination on two of the towers in Arietta. One they didn't have a problem with but the other they want to lower the height from 85ft to 45ft. He had taken pictures of the site with the tree height and emailed them back to the FAA. He is hoping to get it back up to at least the top of the trees. The Chairman asked if he had an idea of tree height. Mr. Wilt thought 60ft but also said that both sides are a ridge so they

do drop off really quickly. The Chairman stated that he thought it would be easy enough to have someone like C&S substantiate tree height and use that as evidence to get back to the 65ft. Mr. Wilt stated that it would take a couple days to hear back from his email. If it doesn't work, he will have C&S reach out to them with more engineering.

Mr. Tomlinson: Stated that there are some Public Health resolutions on the Agenda and would like the Board's support.

At 11:00AM a motion was made to open the Public Hearing on the 2021 Tentative Budget by Mr. Frey, seconded by Mr. Arsenault. Carried. No public present.

The Chairman asked if there were any questions regarding the budget. Nothing was discussed. The Chairman reviewed the resolution on the agenda that showed all the changes. He stated, as Budget Officer, he had spoken with Tracy Eldridge, Highway Superintendent, regarding the Building's budget and further discussed the changes during the review. He discussed chargebacks and how it affects the budget. Mr. Frey stated that for the Town of Inlet he almost always passes an override just in case. The Chairman stated that it was too late to do that. To do an override there needs to be a Public Hearing specifically for that. He stated that he was confident in the numbers they had so they wouldn't need to override the tax cap. Mr. Frey discussed his experience with going over the tax cap at the town level. The Chairman stated that there were similar conversations had during InterCounty. He feels that they have all had the same experience. He further discussed State Aid cuts.

RESOLUTIONS:

**RESOLUTION NO. 297-20**

**APPOINTMENT OF MARIE C. BUANNO AS REPUBLICAN COMMISSIONER OF ELECTIONS**

**DATED: NOVEMBER 20, 2020**

**BY MR. FREY:**

WHEREAS, this Board has received a recommendation from the Hamilton County Republican Committee, in accordance with the provisions of Section 3-204 of the Election Law, to appoint Marie C. Buanno, a resident and qualified voter of the Town of Arietta, Commissioner of Elections, be it

RESOLVED, that the recommendation be accepted and Marie C. Buanno is hereby appointed as Commissioner of Elections for a four year term beginning January 1, 2021.

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

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

NAYS: NONE

**RESOLUTION NO. 298-20**

**AUTHORIZING CHAIRMAN TO SIGN A CONTRACT AGREEMENT BETWEEN  
WARREN COUNTY OFFICE FOR THE AGING AND HAMILTON COUNTY  
DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES FOR CASE MANAGEMENT SERVICES**

**DATED: NOVEMBER 20, 2020**

**BY MS. BAIN:**

WHEREAS, it is necessary for the Hamilton County Department of Social Services to enter into an agreement with Warren Office for the Aging for case management services, and

WHEREAS, the contract will be for the following program:

Title III-E      January 1, 2021 – December 31, 2021      \$1,000.00

be it

RESOLVED, that the Chairman of the Board of Supervisors is hereby authorized to sign the agreement between the Department of Social Services and Warren/Hamilton County Office of the Aging, upon approval of the County Attorney, on behalf of the Hamilton County Department of Social Services.

Seconded by Mr. Mauro and adopted by the following

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

NAYS: NONE

**RESOLUTION NO. 299-20**

**AUTHORIZING CHAIRMAN TO SIGN TITLE III-D – EVIDENCED BASED HEALTH  
PROMOTION CONTRACT AGREEMENT BETWEEN WARREN-HAMILTON  
COUNTY OFFICE FOR THE AGING AND HAMILTON COUNTY PUBLIC HEALTH  
NURSING SERVICE**

**DATED: NOVEMBER 20, 2020**

**BY MR. TOMLINSON:**

WHEREAS, the Hamilton County Public Health Nursing Service maintains an agreement between Warren/Hamilton Office for the Aging, and

WHEREAS, Hamilton County Public Health Nursing Service provides services for Hamilton County residents under a Title III-D contract, and

WHEREAS, this contract has been submitted for the period January 1, 2021 – December 31, 2021 in the full amount of \$3,460.00, be it

RESOLVED, that the Chairman of the Board of Supervisors is hereby authorized to sign the agreement between the Public Health Nursing Service and Warren/Hamilton Office for the Aging, upon approval of the County Attorney, on behalf of the Hamilton County Public Health Nursing Service.

Seconded by Ms. Bain and adopted by the following

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

NAYS: NONE

**RESOLUTION NO. 300-20**

**AMENDING RESOLUTION NO. 293-20 – AUTHORIZING THE HIRING OF A FULL  
TIME HOME HEALTH AIDE**

**DATED: NOVEMBER 20, 2020**

**BY MR. TOMLINSON:**

WHEREAS, Resolution No. 293-20 adopted November 9, 2020 authorized the hiring of a full time Home Health Aide, and

WHEREAS, said position should have been created in the Public Health budget, be it

RESOLVED, that the County Treasurer is hereby authorized to create Account No. A4050.0131 Home Health Aide #4 to be funded by transferring \$10,000.00 from Account No. A4010.0120 Per Diem Home Health Aide.

Seconded by Mr. Stortecky and adopted by the following

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

NAYS: NONE

The following resolution was placed on the floor; the Chairman stated that instead of selecting a grade right now the County is advertising a range that goes from a hire rate of Grade 12 to a Grade 14. The reason why is because the job description for this title would allow the County to hire a

nurse to do the job. The challenge is that there aren't a lot of nurses out there that are really comfortable in very administrative positions. It will be clearly stated in the ad that the salary will be based on qualifications.

**RESOLUTION NO. 301-20**

**AUTHORIZING THE ADVERTISING AND HIRING OF A FULL TIME PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS AND HEALTH COORDINATOR**

**DATED: NOVEMBER 20, 2020**

**BY MR. TOMLINSON:**

WHEREAS, New York State Department of Health requires that each local health department have an Emergency Preparedness Coordinator, and

WHEREAS, the current Public Health Emergency Preparedness Coordinator position is held by a contract employee who will be retiring, and

WHEREAS, there are additional needs and funding within the Public Health Department including Coronavirus Contact Tracing, WIC Coordinator and Early Intervention Official, and

WHEREAS, the Director of Public Health met with the Health Committee to discuss this position, be it

RESOLVED, that the Director of Public Health is authorized to advertise and hire a Full Time Public Health Emergency Preparedness and Health Coordinator at a salary of \$38,581 – \$42,537, and be it further

RESOLVED, that the County Treasurer is hereby authorized to create Account No. A4050.0105 PH Emergency Preparedness and Health Coordinator to be funded by transferring \$3,400 from Account No. A4189.04510 Public Health Contractual and the Personnel Officer so notified.

Seconded by Mr. Stortecky and adopted by the following

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

NAYS: NONE

Presentation given by Caitlin Stewart, Soil and Water District Manager.

Ms. Stewart emailed the Board the update and took the time to review. She spoke about the invasive specie the Spotted Lanternfly and then shared a power point presentation. Included in her presentation was; Halloween Storm Flood Mitigation, Storm Water Control, Agricultural

Environmental Management (AEM), and Conservation Education. She thanked her staff members. Recognized Board members, Richard Wilt and John Stortecky, as they attend the monthly meetings, support their initiatives as well as give them recommendations and guide the Annual Plan of work. She then thanked the Board of Supervisors for their continued support as well.

Mr. Wells asked if there was a hemlock woolly adelgid outreach program in Hamilton County. Ms. Stewart stated that she had contacted her colleague from United States Department of Agriculture and they have discussed the idea of an online invasive insect workshop/symposium. She told the Board to be on the lookout for that in the spring. She also hopes to invite NYSDEC to give an update.

Mr. Stortecky thanked Ms. Stewart for her presentation. Mr. Frey asked for her to thank Lenny Croote, District Technician, for all the work he did in Inlet.

Ms. Stewart left the Zoom meeting after her presentation.

The Chairman stated that during Ms. Stewart's presentation Beth Hunt, Treasurer, was able to go through the process on the NYS Comptroller's website and get the paperwork done to confirm Hamilton County did not go over the tax cap. The Board will not have to recess and come back that afternoon.

At 11:55AM a motion was made to close the Public Hearing for the 2021 Tentative Budget by Mr. Frey, seconded by Mr. Wells. Carried.

RESOLUTIONS: *continued*

After the following resolution was placed on the floor; Mr. Frey stated his thanks to the Department Heads. It was a very uncomfortable year with no cost of living increases but with their actions the County was able to head into 2021 without having to do layoffs or furloughs. The Chairman talked about the limits and restrictions that have been put on hiring.

### **RESOLUTION NO. 302-20**

#### **AMENDMENTS TO AND ADOPTION OF THE 2021 COUNTY BUDGET**

**DATED: NOVEMBER 20, 2020**

**BY MR. FREY:**

WHEREAS, the tentative budget for the year 2021 has been duly presented to the Board by the Finance Committee and Budget Officer and duly advertised, and

WHEREAS, a Public Hearing was held on November 20, 2020 as required by Section 359 of the County Law, be it

RESOLVED, that the following increases and decreases be made in the 2021 Tentative Budget:

INCREASE:

A1620.0406 Bldgs. Supplies-Materials	\$1,500
A1990.0401 Contingent	\$5,000
A2490.0401 Community College Tuition	\$5,000
A4050.0131 PH Home Health Aide #4	\$28,692

DECREASE:

A1620.0402 Bldgs. Electric Expense LP	\$6,000
A1620.0403 Bldgs. Heating Expense LP	\$5,000
A1620.0407 Bldgs. Travel	\$500
A1620.0413 Bldgs. Projects	\$5,000
A3140.0409 Probation Vehicle Maintenance	\$3,240
A4010.0120 PH Per Diem Home Health Aide	\$18,000

and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Revenues be amended as follows:

INCREASE:

A2215.0000 Election Services Charges	\$25,000
A2260.0100 911 System	\$3,000

and be it further

RESOLVED, that upon the amendments, amounts as listed to be raised by tax, making a total 2021 Budget \$8,718,558 and pursuant to Section 360 of the County Law, the said tentative budget as amended be and hereby is adopted as the Budget for the year 2021.

Seconded by Mr. Stortecky and adopted by the following

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

NAYS: NONE

Other Reports:

Mr. Wells: Asked if all the other towns received a Freedom of Information Law (FOIL) Request from Protect the Adirondacks. The request was for 19 years of building permits. Lake Pleasant and Wells had also received one. The Chairman stated that this is historically done to collect data to then later talk about development. He suggested that the information be pooled at the County. Mr. Wells stated that he was considering taking it to AATV and doing something similar. Ms. Bain asked for clarification on whether they should mail the information back or wait. The

Chairman stated that with FOILs there are specific requirements in terms of responses. He feels that what everyone shares as a response should also be shared with each other.

Ms. Bain: Thanked the Nursing staff, Dr. Welch, the Chairman and everyone else that has been working non-stop keeping the communities safe.

The Chairman stated that it needs to be a team effort that is incumbent upon all of them. There is a week stretch through Thanksgiving where it is going to be critical that everyone does their part in reminding people to think seriously about doing the right thing over the Holidays. He thought that Dr. Welch and Ms. Mahoney had put together a letter that really worked hard to do that.

The Chairman discussed three meetings that were coming up as well as reminded the Board that they didn't have to come back that afternoon. The first meeting mentioned was the next Annual Session on December 3<sup>rd</sup>. The second was regarding police reform that was scheduled for that afternoon. The third was to kick off enhancing outdoor recreational amenities within Hamilton County. The first meeting for that is Monday, November 23<sup>rd</sup> at 9AM and then a second, tentatively, on Tuesday, December 15<sup>th</sup>.

Recess until December 3, 2020 at 10:30 AM.