

2025

THIRD SESSION

MARCH 6, 2025

The Board convened at 10:30 A.M. in the Supervisors' Chambers at the Court House, Lake Pleasant, New York, with the Chairman, Clay J. Arsenault presiding. Mr. Arsenault 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	Chris D. Rhodes
Benson	Phillip C. Snyder
Hope	Steven M. Tomlinson
Indian Lake	Brian E. Wells
Inlet	John Frey (<i>via ZOOM</i>)
Lake Pleasant	Betsy A. Bain
Long Lake	Clay J. Arsenault
Morehouse	Anthony Fernandez
Wells	ABSENT

Also present: County Attorney (Zoom), Lisa Johnson-Deputy Public Works Superintendent, Brian Weaver-GPI (Consulting Firm for Big Brook Bridge Project), Alison Webbinaro-Governor's Representative for North Country Region, Sterling Goodspeed-Public Defender, Bidders, and Carole Ruiz-Personnel Officer

A motion was made to accept the minutes of November 7th and 13th, 2024 by Mr. Wells, seconded by Mr. Rhodes. Carried.

Public Comment: No one present

County Attorney: No report.

Reports of Standing/Special Committees:

Mr. Rhodes: Stated that they are continuing work on the emergency communication towers. The Chairman and Mr. Wells attended the APA meeting on February 13th to speak during public comment. He thanked them both. The restrictions in Hamilton County were presented as well as the hardships that they face. Both the Chairman and Mr. Wells asked for suggestions on how to make this process easier. From what he was told it was very well received. They are very close to submitting the latest NIPA (Notice of Incomplete Permit Application) replies. This is a painstakingly long process that requires many hours of emails, meetings and conversations. Not to mention, the engineering and attorney expenses. Timothy O'Neill, Emergency Services Manager, had quite a project getting propane up East Mountain. They were getting dangerously low because of the weather and solar panels being covered. The Town of Lake Pleasant provided

one of their groomers with an operator to take County staff and propane up the mountain. He thanked the Town of Lake Pleasant, Randy LaVarnway, Town of Lake Pleasant Highway Superintendent, and Matt Seifts, Town of Lake Pleasant Highway Employee.

Mr. Rhodes stated that he has met with Sheriff Abrams about numerous things he has going on. He will most likely be at the next Committee meeting to discuss some of the topics. One of which is the jail and the requirements that he must meet. He has always had hurdles with the jail because of the age and what we face here but the new standards and requirements just add to the list, so he is working with them for a solution.

Mr. Rhodes stated that the Inlet tower site is on hold now due to some antenna brackets that are back ordered. Most everything is done except for the antennas going on tower 2. C&S, Contracted Engineering Firm, has started work on getting the contract documents together and the technical specifications book for the County to review. This will be kind of a blanket document specification for all the 3 towers and they are going to go out to bid for Morehouse, as soon as they get that. At the monthly meeting for DANC fiber build they had a few setbacks waiting for National Grid and Frontier. Right now, they have a completion date of December 2025. He's hoping that will work in getting the towers done and online in connection with that.

Mr. Snyder: Stated that Board of Elections is still waiting for the contract for new machines to be approved by the Attorney. The Clerk of the Board stated that they just worked out some details so that should be moving forward.

Mr. Wells: Stated that himself and the Chairman attended the APA meeting on February 13th. He believes it was well received. He did get APA's 2024 Annual Report so if anyone would like a copy. It was a good report and meeting. He thinks that they understand some of Hamilton County's concerns. He thanked Mr. Rhodes for the information he puts out to them daily. They are trying to get the NIPAs resolved and he thinks they understand it. He stated that it worked out well because on February 26th they had Local Government Review Board (LGRB) in Long Lake. Barbara Rice, APA Executive Director and Keith McKeever, APA Director of Information, attended as well as the Chairman and himself. In this LGRB they have a lot more supervisors there from different areas of the park that were all dealing with the same things. He thinks it was eye-opening to the Director on how some of this procedure moves through the APA and what they deal with. He doesn't think they fully understood. At her level she wasn't getting all the information and what they deal with so it was a very good meeting. It was one of the best meetings that he has attended

Mr. Wells stated that there was a big presentation on lithium-ion batteries and the issues they are having. One of the Supervisors is heavily involved in the NYS Fire Safety and he attended a conference. He thinks it is something they are going to look at because it's quite a hazard. He had discussed this with the Deputy Chairman.

Ms. Bain: Stated that Roberta Bly, Commissioner of DSS, contacted her. They were scheduled to do the Kindness Program for County seniors on March 3rd. It was cancelled due to the delay in school opening in Indian Lake. It is now rescheduled for March 10th and there are 100 seniors around the County to deliver these packages to and visit.

Ms. Bain asked for the Board's support for the resolutions on the agenda.

Mr. Fernandez: Thanked everyone for supporting the hiring of the Deputy Director. She should start by the end of the month.

Mr. Tomlinson: Gave a recap from the Public Works Committee meeting the week before. There are some building projects. The Sheriff's Office renovation project that will be done in-house. Community Services building renovation project in Indian Lake that will be done in-house as well. They wanted to do an upgrade to the Indian Lake Highway Garage. Get a new overhead door and lift. They discussed doing a storage building for Public Health and the first-floor renovation project for the Treasurer's, Board Chambers and hallway. They did meet with CPL this week via ZOOM and discussed the LaBella Group as well. They are all in agreement that they should go with CPL. They came back with some numbers which were a little bit lower than LaBella and are comfortable with them. He would like to move forward with the process. They had the cold storage bid opening and there is a resolution on the agenda awarding that. Also, they discussed the Toolcat. Tracy Eldridge, Highway Superintendent, made some phone calls to dealerships. He went to the Town of Indian Lake Highway garage to look at theirs. Mr. Eldridge is recommending that the County go with the Toolcat. It does come with a 1year bumper to bumper warranty. It has a 2-year warranty on the power train. There is a 3-year bumper-to-bumper warranty available for \$2,200 which he highly recommends. It comes with forks, sander, the bucket and snowblower. He is looking for the Board's support for this resolution on the agenda. He also stated that there is a bid opening today.

Bid Opening:

Big Brook Road Bridge Replacement over Big Brook

Lisa Johnson, Deputy Highway Superintendent, stated that the bid was the Big Brook Road Bridge Project. It is Bridge NY project with Federal Aid. She will be opening bids with Brian Weaver who is the contracted engineer from GPI and he will be reviewing the bids after as well.

1. ING CIVIL, Inc.
11 Arch Street
Watervliet NY, 12189

Total Bid for All Unit Prices: \$2,134,400.00

2. BP Excavation LLC
764 Burt Rd
Little Falls NY, 13365

Total Bid for All Unit Prices: \$1,658,882.88

3. Luck Bros., Inc.
73 Trade Road
Plattsburgh, NY 12901

Total Bid for All Unit Prices: \$1,630,710.00

A motion was made by Mr. Tomlinson to accept the bids and refer it to committee, seconded by Mr. Wells. Carried.

PRESENTATION:

The Chairman introduced and welcomed Alison Webbinaro. He stated that she is the Governor's Regional Representative of the North Country.

Ms. Webbinaro thanked the Board for the invitation. She stated that she is a North Country person serving in this role. She wanted to share what she does, how she can be helpful and how they can connect with her.

Ms. Webbinaro stated that she serves as a liaison for the Governor's Office to the North Country. She does a lot of communication with counties and is available to support municipalities for issues that arise. She works very closely with the agency heads of the region. She works very closely with the second floor of the Governor's Office. Her role is to stay connected to the North Country and then share what's happening in Albany. Right now, she is waiting and very excited for the budget proposal that the Governor shared. She thinks that it is very pro people, and it will really benefit the constituents in the North Country. She thinks that she is most helpful with for communities if they are having some type of issue with an agency. If they are waiting to hear about the next step of a grant application and it's just taking a little longer than they thought, they can reach out to her. She can reach out to the agency and see where they are at.

Mr. Wells stated that Ms. Webbinaro was instrumental in the Town of Indian Lake's pollinator project. He told her that he really appreciated the outreach that she did. He also stated that they are working on a proposed land swap project, and he will be reaching out to her shortly.

Mr. Rhodes stated that he had a brief request. He is the Emergency Preparedness/Emergency Response Committee Chair. Hamilton County is very fortunate to have a well-run Sheriff's Office and Emergency Management Division. The towns within Hamilton County have had their struggles in retaining First Responders. Many of whom are volunteers. They all put their lives on the line and are called out for seasonal and full-time residents as well as traveling public. A huge struggle that they face in Hamilton County regarding emergencies and the protection of the residents is radio communication. They are very restricted in putting up Emergency Communication Towers within the County. Hamilton County is comprised of 70% state land with one of the towns, the town he represents, Arietta, being 94% state land so the tower option location is few. With those limitations in addition to being entirely within the Adirondack Park they are many years behind the times. These limitations were not created by Hamilton County. They got here from the decisions made by NYS with no planning for infrastructure needs. The plan was created to give people a place to experience the Adirondacks without any thought of emergency and the necessary communications needed during an emergency. This lack of communication puts the first responders in even further danger whenever they are called out and protect the visitors, residents and travelers in and through the County. There are many times when the First Responders must leave the scene of a call to be able to communicate with the dispatch resources. This puts

lives in further danger. For instance, an officer conducting a traffic stop cannot radio in data and location. That officer wouldn't know if the driver is wanted. The vehicle may be stolen, or the vehicle and driver may be a part of an Amber Alert. He sees a lot of flexibility with green power permits. He sees huge solar farms getting permitted. Electric storage facilities getting approved, but nothing affects the First Responders. He requests that the Governor help Hamilton County get towers permitted promptly. Some flexibility with these substantial and visible requirements among other stringent criteria they must meet. Fill the seats on the agency board with people who can see the whole picture and allow them to use common sense. He thanked her for coming and hopes this doesn't die in this room. Ms. Webbinaro stated that she heard him 100%. She thought it was very well said. She would like to request that he share that with her in an email. She thinks that Hamilton County is in a tough spot with the agency restrictions. She does think that message is being heard, and they are making efforts, but she thinks that they need to keep pushing on that because you are right. She saw it in Hamilton County last summer with the flooding where there were people without power and were not able to reach them. Those are examples that were elevated, big enough for her to see but she knows that Hamilton County is dealing with it on a regular basis. She is happy to help elevate, push and escalate that because Hamilton County is not the only County that is going through this in the North Country but certainly this whole county is dealing with it. Mr. Rhodes stated that they are on their 3rd NIPA from the APA with 3 towers. He has been working on this since he got into the office 3 years ago and it had been worked on for many years before that. From what he understood they started 12 tower projects in 2018, and they have gotten 2 of them completed. They have spent almost \$700,000 on engineering fees alone. He stated that they haven't gotten anywhere to speak of. Ms. Webbinaro asked him to email her again and said that she would start working on that. Mr. Tomlinson stated he supports Mr. Rhodes fully from the Town of Hope and he is thankful to Mr. Rhodes for writing the letter. He is spot on. There is no coverage in Hope. They have been trying and are awaiting an APA permit right now for a tower. Everything is ready to go. There has been a lot of hard work done by the County and Mr. Rhodes and the APA is the only thing holding it up right now. Mr. Fernandez and the Chairman stated that the towers are the issue. The Chairman stated that they are a united front on this. Ms. Webbinaro stated that she read that loud and clear. This will be her priority when she gets back to the office. She will start escalating it.

Ms. Webbinaro stated that if there are things that she can be helpful with it's sometimes helpful to CC her on things and they are welcome to do that. Emergencies or frustrating issues that they are dealing with NYS please feel free to make her aware and she is always happy to come when invited.

The Chairman thanked her.

Lisa Johnson and Brian Weaver left the meeting.

Mr. Tomlinson stated that Mr. Eldridge is not here today. He is meeting with Assemblyman Smullen and pushing for more CHIPS funding for our County.

RESOLUTIONS:

RESOLUTION NO. 106-25

**AUTHORIZING CONTRACT WITH C&L ENTERPRISES FOR COMPUTER,
SERVER, NETWORK AND ADVISORY SERVICES**

DATED: MARCH 6, 2025

BY MR. WELLS:

WHEREAS, Hamilton County has determined that there is a need for a Hamilton County IT Department, and

WHEREAS, C&L Enterprises has over 30 years experience in government IT services, and

WHEREAS, C&L Enterprises not only has the expertise to provide basic PC and network support for the County, but also has the knowledge to advise on the creation and training of a new IT position within Hamilton County, be it

RESOLVED, that with the approval of the County Attorney, the Chairman of the Board of Supervisors is hereby authorized to enter into a contract with C&L Enterprises for computer, server, network and advisory services for a term of April 1, 2025 through March 31, 2026.

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

AYES: RHODES, SNYDER, TOMLINSON, WELLS, BAIN, ARSENAULT, AND
FERNANDEZ

NAYS: NONE

ABSENT: FREY AND HUNT

After the following resolution was placed on the floor; Mr. Wells thanked the Clerk of the Board and the Personnel Officer for working on this and moving so quickly. It's appreciated and it's needed. Thank you.

RESOLUTION NO. 107-25

AUTHORIZING CREATION OF NEW FULL-TIME IT POSITIONS

DATED: MARCH 6, 2025

BY MR. WELLS:

WHEREAS, Hamilton County Board of Supervisors has determined that the County is in need of establishing an internal IT Department, and

WHEREAS, the Board of Supervisors will be entering into a contract with C&L Enterprises for computer, server, network and advisory services, and

WHEREAS, as part of the contract, C&L Enterprises will train a Hamilton County employee in IT Services for a municipality, and

WHEREAS, the Personnel Officer has established the necessary job specifications for an entry level position and a promoted title to work under the advisement of C&L Enterprises and the Chairman of the Board, and that under Civil Service Law §22, the appropriate civil service titles for these positions are: Network and PC Trainee at a Grade 10, and Network and PC Specialist at a Grade 12, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the Board of Supervisors approve the Personnel Officer to create the full-time positions, Network and PC Trainee and Network and PC Specialist effective immediately, and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Personnel Officer be authorized to advertise for the Network and PC Trainee position immediately, and the Personnel Officer and Treasurer be so notified.

Seconded by Ms. Bain and adopted by the following vote:

AYES: RHODES, SNYDER, TOMLINSON, WELLS, BAIN, ARSENAULT, AND
FERNANDEZ

NAYS: NONE

ABSENT: FREY AND HUNT

RESOLUTION NO. 108-25

AUTHORIZING CHAIRMAN TO SIGN AMENDMENT TO THE SECOND STATEWIDE EXPANSION OF HURRELL-HARRING GRANT

DATED: MARCH 6, 2025

BY MR. SNYDER:

WHEREAS, Hamilton County has received an amendment to the Second Statewide Expansion of Hurrell-Harring Grant, Contract No. CSTWIDE220 with a term of April 1, 2023 through March 31, 2026, and

WHEREAS, said amendment increases the amount of the Second Statewide Expansion of Hurrell-Harring Grant from \$1,165,574.34 to \$1,665,574.34, be it

RESOLVED, that the Chairman of the Board of Supervisors is hereby authorized to sign the amendment to the Second Statewide Expansion of Hurrell-Harring Grant.

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

AYES: RHODES, SNYDER, TOMLINSON, WELLS, BAIN, ARSENAULT, AND
FERNANDEZ

NAYS: NONE

ABSENT: FREY AND HUNT

After the following resolution was placed on the floor, the Clerk of the Board asked Sterling Goodspeed, Public Defender, if he wanted to add anything. Mr. Goodspeed stated that it's going well. Basically, they are 99% funded by NYS and NYS has decided that they have underfunded them in almost every line. He received an email from his NYS contact in January that they were looking to increase their budget lines. They wanted them to establish some new programming, new research technology, new technology hardware, salary changes and a paid summer internship program. This is no cost to Hamilton County. The only cost to Hamilton County is \$12,000 towards family court salary. The Clerk of the Board added the panel as well. Mr. Goodspeed explained that if they have a conflict in their office where they can't take a criminal defense case, they run the panel as well, they find an attorney who can do that work. They get paid from a separate account. Everything is going well, and the office is going smoothly. They are headed towards their busy season when the weather gets warmer. If anyone has any questions feel free to reach out.

RESOLUTION NO. 109-25

**2025 SALARY AND BUDGET INCREASES - PUBLIC DEFENDER – AMENDED
SECOND STATEWIDE EXPANSION OF HURRELL-HARRING GRANT**

DATED: MARCH 6, 2025

BY MR. SNYDER:

WHEREAS, the NYS Office of Indigent Legal Services has amended Hamilton County's Second Statewide Expansion of Hurrell-Harring Grant, Contract No. CSTWIDE220, and

WHEREAS, NYS Office of Indigent Legal Services has increased the budget of said grant for Hamilton County in order to reach or maintain compliance with Executive Law §832(4), be it

RESOLVED, that the salaries for the following positions in the Public Defender's Office be created and/or set for 2025 as follows, with said salaries being prorated effective April 1, 2025:

ACP Admin./Public Defender - \$141,000.00 (includes \$1,000.00 Family Court Admin.)

Confidential Legal Administrator (Formally Admin Staff) - \$66,102.00

Account Clerk (New) - \$45,000.00

First Assistant Public Defender (PT) - \$85,500.00 (includes \$1,000.00 Family Court Admin.)

Second Assistant Public Defender (FT) - \$91,454.00 (includes \$10,000.00 Family Court Cases)
Arraignment Stipend CSTWIDE220 (New) \$20,000.00
Intern (New)- \$20,000.00

and be it further

RESOLVED, that the following expenditure accounts be created and/or set for 2025 as follows:

18-B Panel Specialized Services - \$53,445.75
Training - \$9,000.00
Legal Reference Materials - \$16,000.00
PD Specialized Services - \$58,000.28
Rent - \$15,000.00
Supplies & Phones - \$47,240.00
Benefits - \$208,528.00

and be it further

RESOLVED, that the County Treasurer is hereby authorized to increase Revenue Account No. 3025.0100 State Aid Public Defender by \$462,282.03 to be totally offset by increasing/creating the following payroll/expenditure accounts:

A.1170.0101 ACP Admin./Public Defender	\$19,332.00
A1170.0102 Confidential Legal Administrator	\$19,538.00
A1170.0103 Account Clerk	\$45,000.00
A1170.0104 First Assistant PD (PT)	\$14,104.00
A1170.0105 Second Assistant (FT)	\$13,391.00
A1170.0107 Arraignment Stipend CSTWIDE220	\$20,000.00
A1170.0108 Intern	\$20,000.00
A1170.0402 18-B Panel Specialized Services	\$53,445.75
A1170.0403 Training	\$8,000.00
A1170.0404 Legal Reference Materials	\$16,000.00
A1170.0405 PD Specialized Services	\$58,000.28
A1170.0406 Rent	\$6,600.00
A1170.0407 Supplies & Phones	\$39,240.00
A1170.0801 Benefits	\$129,631.00

and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Public Defender, Personnel Officer and the Clerk of the Board be so notified.

Seconded by Ms. Bain and adopted by the following vote:

AYES: RHODES, SNYDER, TOMLINSON, WELLS, BAIN, ARSENAULT, AND

FERNANDEZ

NAYS: NONE

ABSENT: FREY AND HUNT

RESOLUTION NO. 110-25

**AUTHORIZING CREATION OF NEW FULL-TIME ACCOUNT CLERK POSITION IN
THE PUBLIC DEFENDER'S OFFICE**

DATED: MARCH 6, 2025

BY MR. SNYDER:

WHEREAS, Hamilton County has received an amendment to the Second Statewide Expansion of Hurrell-Harring Grant, and

WHEREAS, the NYS Office of Indigent Legal Services has requested that a full-time Account Clerk position be created within the Hamilton County Public Defender's Office and is being funded by the Hurrell-Harring Grant, be it

RESOLVED, that the Board of Supervisors approve the Personnel Officer to create the position Account Clerk in the Public Defender's Office effective immediately, and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Personnel Officer be authorized to advertise for the position, and the Personnel Officer and Treasurer be so notified.

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

AYES: RHODES, SNYDER, TOMLINSON, WELLS, BAIN, ARSENAULT, AND
FERNANDEZ

NAYS: NONE

ABSENT: FREY AND HUNT

RESOLUTION NO. 111-25

**AUTHORIZING CREATION OF NEW FULL-TIME CONFIDENTIAL LEGAL
ADMINISTRATOR POSITION IN THE PUBLIC DEFENDER'S OFFICE**

DATED: MARCH 6, 2025

BY MR. SNYDER:

WHEREAS, Hamilton County has received an amendment to the Second Statewide Expansion of Hurrell-Harring Grant, and

WHEREAS, the NYS Office of Indigent Legal Services has requested that the part-time Administrative Assistant position be changed to a full-time position, and

WHEREAS, Susan Goodspeed has served in the part-time Administrative Assistant position since April 9, 2019 and she is willing and able to work a full-time 35-hour work week, and

WHEREAS, the Personnel Officer has determined that under Civil Service Law §22, the appropriate civil service title for this position is Confidential Legal Administrator at a Grade 14, be it

RESOLVED, that the Board of Supervisors approve the Personnel Officer to create the full-time position, Confidential Legal Administrator in the Public Defender's Office and remove the part-time Administrative Assistant position effective April 1, 2025, and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Public Defender is authorized to appoint Susan Goodspeed as Confidential Legal Administrator, and the Personnel Officer and Treasurer be so notified.

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

AYES: RHODES, SNYDER, TOMLINSON, WELLS, BAIN, ARSENAULT, AND
FERNANDEZ

NAYS: NONE

ABSENT: FREY AND HUNT

RESOLUTION NO. 112-25

FUNDING NEW YORK STATE DIVISION OF CRIMINAL JUSTICE SERVICES (DCJS) FOR STATE'S LAW ENFORCEMENT TECHNOLOGY (LETECH) GRANT

DATED: MARCH 6, 2025

BY MR. RHODES:

WHEREAS, Hamilton County Sheriff's Office has been awarded a NYS DCJS grant for State's Law Enforcement Technology (LETECH) in the amount of \$25,000.00, and

WHEREAS, the funds have not been spent, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the County Treasurer be authorized to fund Account No. A3110.0419 – DCJS LETECH at \$25,000.00 to be totally offset by funding Revenue Account No. A3389.0200 – DCJS LETECH at \$25,000.00 and the Sheriff be so notified.

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

AYES: RHODES, SNYDER, TOMLINSON, WELLS, BAIN, ARSENAULT, AND
FERNANDEZ

NAYS: NONE

ABSENT: FREY AND HUNT

RESOLUTION NO. 113-25

**AUTHORIZATION FOR PURCHASE OF DJI M30T DRONE WITH ACCESSORIES -
NYS DCJS LETECH GRANT**

DATED: MARCH 6, 2025

BY MR. RHODES:

WHEREAS, Hamilton County Sheriff's Office was awarded a NYS DCJS grant for State's Law Enforcement Technology (LETECH) in the amount of \$25,000.00, and

WHEREAS, Hamilton County Sheriff's Office is requesting to purchase a drone and has received three quotes for DJI M30T Thermal Drone with accessories as follows:

Dominion Drones	\$14,098.00
DSLR Pros	\$14,144.00
Advexure	\$14,144.00

be it

RESOLVED, that Sheriff is authorized to purchase the DJI M30T Thermal Drone with accessories from Dominion Drones, 215 High Street, Portsmouth, VA 23704 for \$14,098.00 to be charged against Account No. A3110.0419 – DCJS LETECH.

Seconded by Ms. Bain and adopted by the following vote:

AYES: RHODES, SNYDER, TOMLINSON, WELLS, BAIN, ARSENAULT, AND
FERNANDEZ

NAYS: NONE

ABSENT: FREY AND HUNT

RESOLUTION NO. 114-25

HAMILTON COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE RECORDS REQUEST FEE

DATED: MARCH 6, 2025

BY MR. RHODES:

WHEREAS, the Sheriff's Office has seen an increase in requests for records, pictures, bodycam footage and other data that would be collected by this office, and

WHEREAS, when a request is made to the Sheriff's Office for records it takes staff time to search, print and in some cases redact sensitive information by hand to ensure it is not released, and

WHEREAS, the Sheriff's Office would like to implement a fee schedule and formalize the procedure in regards to any request for all reports, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the Board of Supervisors approve the following fee schedule and procedure for any record requests made to the Sheriff's Office:

1. All requests for records of the Sheriff's Office will be made in writing.
2. Each written request will be accompanied by a \$5.00 fee for the initial report.
 - a. Each additional page beyond the initial report shall be \$1.00 per page.
 - b. If the written request is to include any digital media, then an additional \$5.00 fee will be assessed for a USB.
3. If a report requires redaction, the Sheriff will reserve the right to have 30 days to review and complete the redaction before issuing the report.

and be it further,

RESOLVED, that the Sheriff's Office Records Request Fee Schedule and Procedure take effect immediately.

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

AYES: RHODES, SNYDER, TOMLINSON, WELLS, BAIN, ARSENAULT, AND
FERNANDEZ

NAYS: NONE

ABSENT: FREY AND HUNT

RESOLUTION NO. 115-25

**AUTHORIZING PAYMENT FOR 25-YEAR RETIREMENT PLAN SPECIFIC FOR
PROBATION DEPARTMENT PEACE OFFICERS**

DATED: MARCH 6, 2025

BY MS. BAIN:

WHEREAS, Resolution No. 36-25 adopted January 8, 2025 authorized the pension benefit of Sections 89-t and 603(p) of the Retirement and Social Security Law, and

WHEREAS, the County Treasurer has received the invoices from the Office of the New York State Comptroller for said benefit, be it

RESOLVED, that the County Treasurer is hereby authorized to transfer \$43,900.00 from Account No. A3140.0406 DCJS Pretrial Services Grant to Account No. A9010.0801 Employee Benefits-State Retirement, and be it further

RESOLVED, that the County Treasurer is hereby authorized to issue a check from Account No. A9010.0801 Employee Benefits-State Retirement to the New York State and Local Employees' Retirement System in the amount of \$43,900.00 for Invoice No. 7150 (\$6,800.00) and Invoice No. 7151 (\$37,100.00) and the Personnel Office and Probation Office be so notified.

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

AYES: RHODES, SNYDER, TOMLINSON, WELLS, BAIN, ARSENAULT, AND
FERNANDEZ

NAYS: NONE

ABSENT: FREY AND HUNT

After the following resolution was on the floor; Ms. Bain stated a change is needed for this resolution. The Clerk of the Board explained that Ms. Greene has requested that the term be changed from ending December 2025 to December 2026. The County Attorney's standard contract has a 30-day termination clause and Ms. Greene has requested a 90-day termination clause due to the difficulty with health contracts. They decided the original term was too short for a 90-day termination clause. The motioner and seconder agreed to the change.

RESOLUTION NO. 116-25

**CONTRACT FOR PSYCHIATRIC SERVICES AT COMMUNITY SERVICES –
RACHEL JONES, MD**

DATED: MARCH 6, 2025

BY MS. BAIN:

WHEREAS, it has been determined that there is a need for psychiatric services, and

WHEREAS, psychiatric services were budgeted in the 2025 Community Services budget for a Psychiatric Nurse Practitioner at \$155/hr, and

WHEREAS, that provider is no longer available to serve Hamilton County, and

WHEREAS, Dr. Rachel Jones is available to provide in-person care and treatment to individuals in Hamilton County, be it

RESOLVED, that Psychiatrist Rachel Jones, MD, of 252 South Main St, Northville, NY 12134, who provides this service, be paid \$250.00 per hour not to exceed an amount of \$70,000.00 during this contractual period, and be it further

RESOLVED, that said contract would be in effect from May 1, 2025 until December 31, 2026, and be it further

RESOLVED, that \$34,920.00 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. A4310.0420 Telepsychiatry to cover the increased expense and the County Treasurer be so authorized, and be it further

RESOLVED, that upon the approval of the County Attorney, the Chairman of the Board of Supervisors is hereby authorized to execute a contract on behalf of the Hamilton County Community Services with Dr. Rachel Jones.

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

AYES: RHODES, SNYDER, TOMLINSON, WELLS, BAIN, ARSENAULT, AND
FERNANDEZ

NAYS: NONE

ABSENT: FREY AND HUNT

RESOLUTION NO. 117-25

INCREASE OF FUNDS - SOCIAL SERVICES

DATED: MARCH 6, 2025

BY MS. BAIN:

WHEREAS, funds were exhausted in Hamilton County Department of Social Services Day Care Account No. A6055.0401 at the end of December 2024, be it

RESOLVED, that Appropriation Account No. A6055.0401, Day Care, be increased by Eighteen Dollars and Ninety-five cents (\$18.95) to be totally offset by increasing Revenue Account No. A4689, Federal Aid - Day Care, by Eighteen Dollars and Ninety-five Cents (\$18.95) and the County Treasurer be so authorized.

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

AYES: RHODES, SNYDER, TOMLINSON, WELLS, BAIN, ARSENAULT, AND
FERNANDEZ

NAYS: NONE

ABSENT: FREY AND HUNT

RESOLUTION NO. 118-25

**AGREEMENT WITH TOGETHER FOR YOUTH FOR NON- SECURE DETENTION
SERVICES**

DATED: MARCH 6, 2025

BY MS. BAIN:

WHEREAS, the County of Hamilton, on occasion is required to place juveniles in a non-secured detention facility, and

WHEREAS, Together for Youth operates two (2) non-secured detention facilities for juveniles placed with the Department of Social Services, and

WHEREAS, Together for Youth requires an agreement in order to place juveniles in their facility,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT

RESOLVED, that upon approval of the County Attorney, the Chairman of the Hamilton County Board of Supervisors is hereby authorized to enter into an unreserved usage agreement with Together for Youth for the purposes of placing appropriate juveniles with a per diem rate for an unreserved bed of \$740.00 and will be effective from January 1, 2025 through December 31, 2025.

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

AYES: RHODES, SNYDER, TOMLINSON, WELLS, BAIN, ARSENAULT, AND
FERNANDEZ

NAYS: NONE

ABSENT: FREY AND HUNT

RESOLUTION NO. 119-25

**AUTHORIZATION TO ENTER INTO CONTRACT WITH TOGETHER FOR YOUTH
FOR CERTIFIED FOSTER CARE HOMES**

DATED: MARCH 6, 2025

BY MS. BAIN:

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 Certified Foster Family Boarding homes, and

WHEREAS, these foster homes are certifies 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 said Foster Family Boarding Homes.

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

AYES: RHODES, SNYDER, TOMLINSON, WELLS, BAIN, ARSENAULT, AND
FERNANDEZ

NAYS: NONE

ABSENT: FREY AND HUNT

After the following resolution was placed on the floor; Mr. Rhodes asked when they planned on starting. Mr. Tomlinson stated as soon as the ground is ready. Mr. Wells confirmed that Mr. Tomlinson sat in on these. Mr. Wells asked what the big discrepancy was. Mr. Tomlinson thought it was just profit. They were all good bids. He had even heard from a couple of the high bidders wondering why it was so low because they thought the material was that much.

RESOLUTION NO. 120-25

AWARD OF BID SPECIFICATION – COLD STORAGE BUILDING

DATED: MARCH 6, 2025

BY MR. TOMLINSON:

WHEREAS, the Public Works Committee authorized the County DPW Superintendent to advertise for bids for the construction of a Cold Storage Building at the Lake Pleasant Public Works garage location, and

WHEREAS, five (5) bids were received for Cold Storage Building in accordance with the Specification as advertised by the DPW Superintendent and Public Works Committee, and

WHEREAS, the following bids were received:

1. Rozell Industries Inc.
129 Park Road
Queensbury, NY 12804 - Bid Price - \$465,000.00
2. D.C. Building Systems, Inc.
1015 Water Street
Watertown, NY 13601 - Bid Price - \$529,800.00
3. Stephen Miller General Contractors, Inc.
PO Box 291
Mayfield, NY 12117 - Bid Price - \$710,370.00
4. Borderline Excavating & Fence
149 Thumb Road
St. Johnsville, NY 13452 - Bid Price – 782,990.00
5. Plank, LLC
2165 Technology Drive
Schenectady, NY 12308 - Bid Price - \$754,927.00

and

WHEREAS, Andrew S. Bell, P.E. has reviewed the bids and recommends awarding to the low bidder, and

WHEREAS, the DPW Superintendent recommends awarding the bid to Rozell Industries Inc. of Queensbury, NY, be it

RESOLVED, that the award be made to Rozell Industries Inc., 129 Park Road, Queensbury, NY 12804, and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Chairman of the Board of Supervisors is hereby authorized to enter into a contract for the said Cold Storage Building Construction in the amount of \$465,000.00 with the approval of the County Attorney, and be it further

RESOLVED, that the County Treasurer is hereby authorized to create Account No. A1620.0415 Cold Storage Building Project and transfer \$480,000.00 from the Unappropriated General Fund Balance in accordance with Section 366 Subdivision 1 of the County Law to Account No. A1620.0415 Cold Storage Building Project for construction and engineering and the County Attorney, Clerk of the Board and DPW Superintendent be so advised.

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

AYES: RHODES, SNYDER, TOMLINSON, WELLS, BAIN, ARSENAULT, AND
FERNANDEZ

NAYS: NONE

ABSENT: FREY AND HUNT

After the following resolution was placed on the floor; Mr. Snyder asked if they wanted to add the additional warranty. Mr. Tomlinson stated that Mr. Eldridge has money in his budget to purchase it and they have 2 years to purchase it when the warranty is up. They have a 1 year bumper to bumper on the machine and the power train is covered for 2 years. He can purchase it at any time. It was decided to not add it at this time.

RESOLUTION NO. 121-25

AUTHORIZING PUBLIC WORKS SUPERINTENDENT TO PURCHASE A BOBCAT UW56 TOOL CAT

DATED: MARCH 6, 2025

BY MR. TOMLINSON:

WHEREAS, the Public Works Superintendent has spoken with the Public Works Committee to purchase a Bobcat UW56 Tool Cat with attachments under New York State Purchase Contract PC69396, and

WHEREAS, the Superintendent feels this would be an advantageous piece of equipment for use by the Buildings and Highway Divisions, and

WHEREAS, the said equipment purchase price is \$87,970.93 delivered, be it

RESOLVED, that the Superintendent is hereby authorized to purchase one (1) new and unused Bobcat UW56 per written quote LR1005039 from Finke H. Finke & Sons Inc., 1569 Selkirk, NY 12158 delivered for a total of \$87,970.93 delivered and it shall be a charge to Account No. DM5130.0201 Road Equipment and the Superintendent, County Treasurer and Clerk of the Board be so notified.

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

AYES: RHODES, SNYDER, TOMLINSON, WELLS, BAIN, ARSENAULT, AND
FERNANDEZ

NAYS: NONE

ABSENT: FREY AND HUNT

After the following resolution was placed on the floor; the Chairman stated that it was good that Mr. Eldridge was disposing of excess vehicles often.

RESOLUTION NO. 122-25

AUTHORIZING DISPOSITION OF EXCESS VEHICLES

DATED: MARCH 6, 2025

BY MR. TOMLINSON:

WHEREAS, certain vehicles/equipment have become excess and no longer needed by certain County Agencies, and

WHEREAS, the County Fleet Coordinator has recommended that the following vehicle be disposed of from the County inventory:

Year	Make/Model	VIN	Plate#	Dept	FN
2013	Ford E350 Van	1G1ZC5ST3MF0852	AB6922	CS	911

be it

RESOLVED, the above vehicles/equipment be sold by auction online by Auctions International and the funds from the auction shall be a revenue credit to Account No. A2665 Sale of Equipment, be it further

RESOLVED, that the Fleet Coordinator see that proper inventory notes be recorded when the transactions are accomplished, and the Fleet Coordinator, Director of Fixed Assets, and the County Treasurer be so notified.

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

AYES: RHODES, SNYDER, TOMLINSON, WELLS, BAIN, ARSENAULT, AND
FERNANDEZ

NAYS: NONE

ABSENT: FREY AND HUNT

RESOLUTION NO. 123-25

AUTHORIZING PAYMENT FOR PURCHASE OF VEHICLE – DPW

DATED: MARCH 6, 2025

BY MR. TOMLINSON:

WHEREAS, the Fleet Coordinator was authorized to order a new 2024 Ram 4500 Crew Cab with Dump Body from Main Motorcar for the Public Works Department under State Contract #68941 pricing, and

WHEREAS, the said vehicle has been delivered, be it

RESOLVED, that the Treasurer be authorized to make payment to Main Motorcar, 224 West Main Street, Johnstown, NY 12095 in the amount of \$82,806.00 out of Account No. DM5130.0201 Road Equipment and the Clerk of the Board and Fleet Coordinator be so advised.

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

AYES: RHODES, SNYDER, TOMLINSON, WELLS, BAIN, ARSENAULT, AND
FERNANDEZ

NAYS: NONE

ABSENT: FREY AND HUNT

After the following resolution was placed on the floor; Mr. Snyder abstained and recused himself. He stepped out of the room. Mr. Rhodes asked how they were making out with the conflict. The Clerk of the Board asked if the County Attorney would like to discuss it now. The County Attorney informed the Board that he will update in executive session next month. He thinks he may be in a better position to give the Board more meaningful information then.

RESOLUTION NO. 124-25

**EXTENSION OF CONTRACT FOR BRIDGE REPAIR & PNEUMATICALLY
PROJECTED CONCRETE FOR 2025**

DATED: MARCH 6, 2025

BY MR. TOMLINSON:

WHEREAS, Hamilton County DPW solicited bids for Bridge Repair & Pneumatically Projected Concrete per Specification No. 4-2024, and

WHEREAS, by Resolution No. 146-24, the Hamilton County Board of Supervisors awarded the Bridge Repair & Pneumatically Projected Concrete bid to R&B Construction, L.L.C., and

WHEREAS, the referenced bid provides the bid pricing for a one-year contract with the option of extending the contract by one year if both parties (Hamilton County and R & B Construction, L.L.C.) agree that terms and conditions remain the same for the duration of the extension, and

WHEREAS, the DPW Superintendent has contacted R&B Construction, L.L.C. and they will agree to a contract extension of the same terms and conditions for a one (1) year period, and

WHEREAS, the DPW Superintendent believes it is in Hamilton County's best interest to extend the current contract with R&B Construction, L.L.C. due to price stabilization, be it

RESOLVED, that the Chairman of the Board of Supervisor be so authorized to enter into a contract extension with R&B Construction, L.L.C. for the period of one (1) Year with approval of the County Attorney and the County Treasurer and Clerk of the board be so notified.

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

AYES: RHODES, TOMLINSON, WELLS, BAIN, ARSENAULT, AND FERNANDEZ

NAYS: NONE

ABSENT: FREY AND HUNT

ABSTAIN: SNYDER

Mr. Snyder rejoined the meeting.

RESOLUTION NO. 125-25

RESOLUTION PROCLAIMING APRIL AS DONATE LIFE MONTH IN HAMILTON COUNTY

DATED: MARCH 6, 2025

BY MR. RHODES:

WHEREAS, through their membership in New York State Association of Counties (NYSAC), New York Counties have come together to collectively support many important causes, and

WHEREAS, in New York, there are approximately 7,940 people waiting for an organ transplant which represents the fourth highest need in the nation and there is an estimated 360 New Yorkers that die every day while waiting for an organ transplant, and

WHEREAS, a single individual's donation of the heart, lungs, liver, pancreas and small intestine can save up to eight lives; donation of tissue can save and heal the lives of 75 others, and

WHEREAS, organ, eye and tissue donation are life-giving and healing acts recognized worldwide as expressions of compassion to those in need, and

WHEREAS, New York State's County Governments play a key role in raising awareness of the need of these organ donations through the interactions that county officials have with the public and through local DMV offices that have championed this cause for years on how individuals can help their fellow New Yorkers by signing up as organ donors or donating financially, and

WHEREAS, counties across New York are proclaiming the month of April 2025 as “Donate Life Month” and engaging in various activities to promote awareness and increase the number of donors, and

WHEREAS, the Hamilton County Clerk's Office, through its Department of Motor Vehicles wishes to promote the month of April 2025 as “Donate Life Month” in Hamilton County,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Hamilton County Board of Supervisors hereby proclaims the month of April 2025 “Donate Life Month” in Hamilton County and encourages all Hamilton County Departments and agencies to promote this life saving cause with the hopes of increasing the number of organ and tissue donations by enrolling in the New York State Donate Life Registry and to promote the awareness and need of these donations throughout all counties in New York State.

Seconded by Ms. Bain and adopted by the following vote:

AYES: RHODES, SNYDER, TOMLINSON, WELLS, BAIN, ARSENAULT, AND
FERNANDEZ

NAYS: NONE

ABSENT: FREY AND HUNT

RESOLUTION NO. 126-25

FY2022 CYBERSECURITY GRANT APPLICATION – SHERIFF’S OFFICE

DATED: MARCH 6, 2025

BY MR. RHODES:

WHEREAS, the Sheriff recommends the County apply for the 2025 Cybersecurity Grant Program for Hamilton County with the amount to be determined by DHSES at the time of award, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the Hamilton County Board of Supervisors hereby approves the Hamilton County Sheriff to complete and submit said grant application by the deadline of March 12, 2025.

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

AYES: RHODES, SNYDER, TOMLINSON, WELLS, BAIN, ARSENAULT, AND
FERNANDEZ

NAYS: NONE

ABSENT: FREY AND HUNT

RESOLUTION NO. 127-25

FY2022 EXPLOSIVE DETECTION CANINE TEAM GRANT APPLICATION

DATED: MARCH 6, 2025

BY MR. RHODES:

WHEREAS, the Sheriff recommends the County apply for the 2025 Explosive Detection Canine Team Grant Program for Hamilton County with the amount to be determined by DHSES at the time of award, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the Hamilton County Board of Supervisors hereby approves the Hamilton County Sheriff to complete and submit said grant application by the deadline of March 12, 2025.

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

AYES: RHODES, SNYDER, TOMLINSON, WELLS, BAIN, ARSENAULT, AND
FERNANDEZ

NAYS: NONE

ABSENT: FREY AND HUNT

RESOLUTION NO. 128-25

**AUTHORIZING CHAIRMAN TO SIGN GRANT AGREEMENT BETWEEN OFFICE
FOR AGING AND PUBLIC HEALTH NURSING SERVICE FOR TITLE III-E
FUNDING**

DATED: MARCH 6, 2025

BY MR. FERNANDEZ:

WHEREAS, Warren/Hamilton Counties Office for the Aging has grant monies available to provide respite Home Health Aide Services under Title III-E for seniors who are patients of the Certified Home Health Agency and require these services to provide respite for caregivers, and

WHEREAS, this agreement is for the period commencing January 1, 2025– December 31, 2025 for a total of \$10,000.00, and

WHEREAS, this anticipated funding was appropriated in the 2025 Municipal budget as a part of the budget development process, be it

RESOLVED, that the Chairman of the Board of Supervisors is hereby authorized to sign the grant agreement between the Office for the Aging and the Hamilton County Public Health Nursing Service upon approval of the County Attorney, and the County Treasurer be so notified.

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

AYES: RHODES, SNYDER, TOMLINSON, WELLS, BAIN, ARSENAULT, AND
FERNANDEZ

NAYS: NONE

ABSENT: FREY AND HUNT

RESOLUTION NO. 129-25

**AUTHORIZING TEMPORARY INCREASE IN SCHEDULED WORK HOURS FOR
LYNETTE GREENE FROM THIRTY-FIVE TO FORTY HOURS PER WEEK**

DATED: MARCH 6, 2025

BY MS. BAIN:

WHEREAS, Lynette Greene is employed by Hamilton County Community Services for thirty-five (35) hours per week as the Director of Community Services, and

WHEREAS, Hamilton County Community Services is currently experiencing a staff shortage due to multiple vacant positions while demand for services has increased, and

WHEREAS, Ms. Greene is willing to temporarily increase her work week to forty (40) hours per week to meet the demands, be it

RESOLVED, that Ms. Greene's regularly scheduled work, effective pay period beginning March 2, 2025, will be expanded to forty (40) hours per week for a period of six months, and be it further

RESOLVED, that \$8,457.00 be transferred from Federal Salary Sharing currently in the unappropriated general fund in accordance with Section 366 Subdivision 1 of the County Law to Account No. A4310.102 when needed to cover the expanded hours during 2025.

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

AYES: RHODES, SNYDER, TOMLINSON, WELLS, BAIN, ARSENAULT, AND
FERNANDEZ

NAYS: NONE

ABSENT: FREY AND HUNT

RESOLUTION NO. 130-25

APPROVAL OF AUDITS IN COUNTY HIGHWAY FUNDS

DATED: MARCH 6, 2025

BY MR. TOMLINSON:

RESOLVED, that the bills in the Machinery Fund amounting to \$173,458.88 and bills in the County Road Fund amounting to \$133,241.18 presented by the County Superintendent of Highways and audited this day by the County Public Works Committee, be, and the same hereby are approved and audited.

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

AYES: RHODES, SNYDER, TOMLINSON, WELLS, BAIN, ARSENAULT, AND
FERNANDEZ

NAYS: NONE

ABSENT: FREY AND HUNT

RESOLUTION NO. 131-25

**APPROVAL OF AUDITS IN THE COUNTY GENERAL FUND, CAPITAL PROJECT
2022-1 BIG BROOK BRIDGE, AND CAPITAL PROJECT ELBOW CREEK BRIDGE**

DATED: MARCH 6, 2025

BY MR. TOMLINSON:

RESOLVED, that the bills audited this day in the County General Fund in the amount of \$352,331.38 the following committees:

Public Works (Buildings) Committee.....	\$ 44,683.08
Public Works (Solid Waste).....	17,080.75
Finance Committee	97,255.45
Health Committee.....	14,482.88
Human Services Committee.....	34,911.45
Central Government Committee	17,537.38
Emergency Prep./Emergency Response.....	123,767.63
Internal Management Committee	2,612.76

be it further

RESOLVED, that the bills audited this day in the following Capital Projects:

Big Brook Bridge.....	\$2,214.04
Elbow Creek Bridge.....	\$17,516.82

are hereby approved.

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

AYES: RHODES, SNYDER, TOMLINSON, WELLS, BAIN, ARSENAULT, AND
FERNANDEZ

NAYS: NONE

ABSENT: FREY AND HUNT

Mr. Wells asked the Chairman with his permission, he would like to bring a resolution to the Board. Resolution No. 27. The Chairman agreed. The Personnel Officer handed out the resolution. The Chairman read the title. Resolution No. 27 Reinstating Building Project Supervisor. Moved by Mr. Wells and Seconded by Mr. Tomlison.

After the following resolution was placed on the floor; Mr. Fernandez stated that he didn't understand. The Personnel Officer stated that when she was preparing her civil service audit, she found with the change in title that they did back in 2023 for Mark Stuart it affected his competitive status. She has discussed this with Mr. Eldridge, and he discussed it with Mr. Stuart. They had two options. He would have to take another civil service exam or reinstate him to the previous title. It doesn't change anything else. Mr. Stuart was fine with going back to the original title, that will fix the issue. Mr. Fernandez thanked her for the information.

Mr. Rhodes asked if they had made any progress on the law they are trying to pass. If someone has competitive status, like Mr. Stuart, and they must do a civil service exam, and the exam isn't provided within 90 days they become a permanent hire? The Personnel Officer stated that she hadn't heard anything official about that. Mr. Rhodes knew it was a discussion, and he thought it was a good idea. It would encourage the state to get the tests out. The Personnel Officer stated that she hasn't heard anything from Civil Service regarding it. She discussed another program civil service has. She has submitted several of the County's titles into that for long standing exam request that have not come through.

RESOLUTION NO. 132-25

REINSTATING BUILDING PROJECT SUPERVISOR

DATED: MARCH 6, 2025

BY MR. WELLS:

WHEREAS, the Hamilton County Board of Supervisors adopted Resolution 365-23 which approved the title change of Mark Stuart from Building Project Supervisor to Buildings & Grounds Manager, and

WHEREAS, the Personnel Officer has identified that this title change has affected his permanent Civil Service status, and

WHEREAS, the Highway Superintendent has requested that the employee be reinstated to his previous title of Building Project Supervisor in lieu of holding a new Civil Service Examination, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the Board of Supervisors approve the Personnel Officer to reinstate Mark Stuart to Building Project Supervisor effective immediately, and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Personnel Officer and Treasurer be so notified.

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

AYES: RHODES, SNYDER, TOMLINSON, WELLS, BAIN, ARSENAULT, AND
FERNANDEZ

NAYS: NONE

ABSENT: FREY AND HUNT

Other Reports:

Mr. Rhodes: Stated that he appreciated that Ms. Webbinaro came. It was good to know that they were being heard.

Mr. Wells: Stated that they have a new NYSDEC Commissioner, Amanda Lefton. She was named in February. The 5 Towns and other organizations will be reaching out to NYSDEC to hopefully be able to get a meeting with her.

Mr. Wells stated that the Essex County Board of Supervisors passed a resolution at their March 3rd meeting declaring full confidence in the APA Director Barb Rice. He isn't sure if everyone is aware but there have been issues going on there with staff and administration. As many of them know he has been involved with a lot of the land issues and dealt with the Adirondack Park for a very long time. He very rarely has anything nice to say about them, but he will say that he thinks that Ms. Rice has done an outstanding job. He thought that the Commissioners they have in place, some on expired term, should be reappointed. He knows that there is one open seat and hopefully he believes it's Saratoga County they are looking at. He is hoping that they won't bow to the pressure that is coming from the environmental groups to start looking for professional environmental advocates to be put on these boards. He hopes that they reach out to municipal government for their input. He would like to draft a resolution of support, similar to Essex County's, he will be doing one for the Town of Indian Lake and with the Board and the Chairman's consent he would like to offer his services to do that for the County. Chairman agreed.

Ms. Bain: Stated that they had discussed bed tax and short-term rentals (STR) on Committee Day and was wondering if they would be discussing or waiting until next Committee Day. The Chairman stated that Ms. Hunt is the Chair for Finance and she should probably be there for that and it should be in Committee. Ms. Bain stated that he has asked them to go around to their local motel and hotels and talk to all the business owners. She was wondering if the ones that hadn't done it will before their next meeting. The Chairman thought it was a good idea.

Mr. Tomlinson: Gave a recap of the project for the Treasurer's Office and Board Chambers. When they do the construction in the Treasurer's Office their office will be working out of the Board Chambers. Our meetings will be upstairs in the conference room. The work in the Board Chambers will be new lighting, paint, floors and wireless sound system. The Treasurer's Office will get new tall ceilings, hiding the wiring, floors, paint, workstations and countertops. It sounds like the same thing out in the hallway. The Clerk of the Board asked if they knew how long it would take. Mr. Tomlinson started roughly 2 months. The Clerk of the Board asked what time of the year are they planning. Mr. Tomlinson stated that they would like to do it at the end of summer. Mr. Tomlinson stated that the parking lot would be this summer too. He stated that they discussed the tennis courts being closed for 2025.

The Chairman stated that he and Mr. Wells attended the APA meeting in Raybrook to get their feelings out about the permitting process regarding emergency services towers and the number of NIPA's in Hamilton County. He stated that he is sure that other counties are getting them as well. Hamilton County isn't exclusive. Both Supervisor Wells and he spoke during the public comment period. They had several people thank them for speaking on such an important topic and for coming to the meeting. Jerry Delaney had called him that same evening and stated that their speeches were very well received, just as Mr. Rhodes had said. He attended the NYSAC

Conference on February 24th and 25th. There were a lot of different workshops that they could choose from. Supervisor Hunt was there, and they got to attend some of these together. One of the workshops was, Understanding the Latest in Artificial Intelligence (AI). This one was quite interesting. It was regarding how counties in NYS and across the country are implementing AI use policies. Most of these county's form working groups to start and use AI ChatGPT for a rough draft of their AI use policy. They are using AI to draft an AI policy. They have their IT Departments take the lead on this. The timing of Hamilton County, possibly starting an IT department, could be at a good time if the Board decides to move in this direction. The Chairman thanked the Clerk of the Board for pushing them to make this important move for the County to go to an IT Department. He thinks it's really important. He thinks it's going to be a very important part of their structure in the future. He thinks that this will be a very positive change for the County.

The Chairman stated that he and Ms. Hunt spoke to Deckard Technologies about their software which creates much more than a STR registry. Deckard is one of the few software companies in the state. They can data mine 1,000 of STR listings on a daily basis for new calendar activity. The address is verified in each property and tied back to the parcel number of the local taxing authority including the owner and the owners mailing address. They monitor and analyze compliance activities daily by looking for occupancy compliance and self-check-in compliance. They provide historical views of properties and a weekly pdf of every advertisement on each platform that the property is being listed on to detect changes in rate or advertisement. They told them that most counties and towns charge a fee \$250-\$500 per year for registration.

The Clerk of the Board interrupted the Chairman and stated that there was a package in the office from Birdsall Excavation. The package was thought to be a contract we were waiting for, the envelope wasn't marked. It was not opened. Birdsall has just called Mr. Eldridge stating that it was a bid. The Chairman confirmed that it was for the bid earlier. The Clerk of the Board stated, yes. She confirmed with the County Attorney that they should open it. The package was received and stamped yesterday. The County Attorney responded, yes.

Ms. Johnson joined the meeting and was aware.

Ms. Johnson stated that they let the engineer know that they had one more. Ms. Johnson opened the bid.

Bid Opening (*Continued*)

Big Brook Road Bridge Replacement over Big Brook

4. Birdsall Excavation and Construction LLC
15 Tower Lane
Clarksville, NY 12041

Total Bid for All Unit Prices: \$1,547,783.50

A motion was made by Mr. Tomlinson to accept the bid and refer it to committee, seconded by Mr. Arsenault. Carried.

Ms. Johnson stated that this bid would also be sent to the engineer for his review.

Lisa Johnson left the meeting.

The Chairman continued his discussion on Deckard Technologies. The Board discussed contracting for this service or handling it in-house.

The Chairman stated that at the PW Committee meeting they discussed parking lot improvements slated for the summer of 2025. The Committee agreed that they felt it was in the best interest of the public's safety to close the tennis courts for this season. After discussing with Mr. Tomlinson, Mr. Wells, Mr. Rhodes and the Clerk of the Board he thought it was important to get the information out and put it on record that it was what they had decided.

The Chairman discussed Venison for Veterans' Volunteers. Congresswoman Stefanik is sponsoring the program this year. She has offered the assistance of her office to gather information of the veterans of the 21st district to receive roughly 7lbs of frozen venison each. This venison has been donated by hunters that was harvested last fall. Last year there was roughly 3,000 lbs of venison donated to multiple counties and delivered right to the veteran's doorstep. They reached out to Hamilton County to see if we would like to participate. They are trying to get all 9 counties in the Congresswoman's district to participate. The Sheriff's Office will be sending someone to collect the meat and they will distribute it to the resident veterans who have signed up for it. If they need individual towns' help with the delivery he will reach out. Mr. Wells asked if they were working with Ian Pitcavage, contracted Veterans Services Director, on this. The Clerk of the Board stated that she would discuss this with him. She further stated that Mr. Pitcavage is coming on Committee Day to do an update.

The Chairman stated that he would like to pass out a letter that the Board asked him to draft regarding Supervisor Frey's request to legally attend County meetings virtually by passing a local law. This is just a letter summarizing the Board's decision not to move forward with the local law. He asked the Board to review. He stated that if the Board agreed with it, it would be signed, and Supervisor Frey will receive a copy.

As there was no further business, motion to adjourn by Mr. Arsenault, seconded by Mr. Fernandez. Carried.