

SECOND SPECIAL SESSION
June 16, 2025
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, June 16, 2025 at 9:00 A.M. for the purpose of considering a subrecipient agreement with the Village of Speculator for the NYS ESD County Infrastructure Grant and for any other business that may come before said Board.

Arietta _____	Chris D. Rhodes
Benson _____	Phillip C. Snyder
Hope _____	Steven M. Tomlinson
Indian Lake _____	Brian E. Wells
Inlet _____ ABSENT	John Frey
Lake Pleasant _____	Betsy A. Bain
Long Lake _____	Clay J. Arsenault
Morehouse _____	Anthony Fernandez
Wells _____	Beth Hunt

Public Comment: No one present

Reports of Standing/Special Committees:

Mr. Rhodes: Stated that the Sheriff has a request for an Account Clerk position. Mr. Rhodes stated he will be presenting it from the floor.

Mr. Rhodes stated that the public comment period has ended for the Spy Lake tower site. The comments were largely and strongly supportive of the project. There were only a few in opposition and 1 neutral with curiosity. The opposing ones were off base as they demonstrated lack of understanding of the project process and submittal to date. Therefore, they expect that the Agency will not require any further input from the County, but he hasn't heard that as a definite yet. He thanked Supervisor Wells for his letter of support. The owners of the Spy Lake Corporation property have received the updated lease documents.

Mr. Rhodes thanked Tracy Eldridge, Highway Superintendent, and his staff for the work on the Morehouse tower road. They have the stream crossing done and road roughed in along with the tower site cleared. They did a lot of work in bad weather, but they did a great job.

Mr. Snyder: Stated that the Board of Elections stated that the new voting machines are working well and that they only had 6 early voters.

Ms. Bain: Stated they are doing Community Services interviews today for Clinical Social Worker and also Deputy Director.

Ms. Bain stated that Roberta Bly, DSS Commissioner, had sent out an email that she discussed with the Committee. They have a state grant from ARPA for \$11,000. They still have \$8,000 unspent. They will lose the money at the end of the month if it's not used. Ms. Bain stated that this money could be used for anything for someone from 21 years old to senior citizen. She had suggested that she spend the money using the County credit card with the Board's approval because her credit limit will need to be increased. She also suggested buying items to make boxes for each town. The Supervisors know best whom in the community need it. When Ms. Bly did the bags for the seniors in the winter, Ms. Bain had delivered a couple and there were some very nice items in them. Mr. Tomlinson stated that it was a great idea and that he would be glad to help out. The Chairman confirmed with the Clerk of the Board that he could approve the credit card increase for Ms. Bly. The Clerk of the Board stated yes. The Chairman confirmed that the Board approved increasing Ms. Bly's credit card limit to \$8,000 so she could expend this grant in a timely manner.

Mr. Fernandez stated that he attended the PAC meeting and everything seemed to be running smoothly. During budget time he will want to discuss salary increases for the Director of CHHA as well as the Public Health Director. He thinks they have done a very good job. They have done what they have said they would and he would like to have it addressed.

Mr. Tomlinson: Stated that he is going to present a resolution from the floor for Mr. Eldridge. It is to extend employment for a highway employee.

RESOLUTIONS:

After the following resolution was placed on the floor; Mr. Wells stated that he assumed the County Attorney reviewed and approved the agreement. The Clerk of the Board stated yes, and she sent the amendments to the Committee.

The Chairman stated that he thought it went well having the Mayor meet with the Board to discuss the grant. He thought it had worked out for the best.

RESOLUTION NO. 233-25

AUTHORIZING SUBRECIPIENT AGREEMENT WITH THE VILLAGE OF SPECULATOR FOR NYS ESD COUNTY INFRASTRUCTURE GRANT

DATED: JUNE 16, 2025

BY MR. RHODES:

WHEREAS, the Empire State Development (ESD) County Infrastructure Grant Program focuses on small and moderate-scale priority infrastructure projects identified by the county which directly or indirectly support economic development, support the creation of housing, contribute to placemaking, or encourage tourism, and

WHEREAS, the Hamilton County Board of Supervisors identified a housing development project in the Village of Speculator by LBI Developer LLC that directly supports the creation of ten (10) new housing units which is eligible for an award up to \$1,000,000.00, or 50% of the project funding. The grant award would be for the construction of road, water, sewer and/or utilities in support of the housing development, in addition to the rehabilitation of the municipal water and sewer infrastructure to support such developments, and

WHEREAS, the Village of Speculator has identified municipal water and wastewater projects that would support the creation of these ten (10) new housings units that includes the proposed improvements to Village infrastructure if the project is funded, including but not limited to upgrades to the Village Well Control Building, well pumps, water system piping and sewer system including a new generator, and

WHEREAS, the ESD County Infrastructure Grant Program requires a minimum 50% non-ESD match which would be up to \$1,000,000, of which up to \$500,000 is for the municipal portion of the grant program and will be committed by available funds from the Village of Speculator Water/Sewer Funds, and up to \$500,000 will be committed by available funds from LBI Developer LLC, and

WHEREAS, the Village of Speculator intends on completing the proposed improvements to the Village infrastructure if the project is funded, including but not limited to upgrades to the Village Well Control Building, well pumps, water system piping and sewer system including a new generator, and

WHEREAS, the Village of Speculator is seeking concurrence from Hamilton County to apply for and administer grant funds for the NYS ESD County Infrastructure Grant Funds, and

WHEREAS, the NYS ESD County Infrastructure Grant requires that the County is the lead contact for the grant to receive and administer these funds with the Village as a subrecipient of the grant funds, now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, by the Hamilton County Board of Supervisors as follows:

1. The Hamilton County Board of Supervisors is in support of assisting the Village of Speculator with the submission of this grant application, and

2. The Hamilton County Board of Supervisor is in agreement of applying for these funds on behalf of the Village with the assumption that the Village will complete all grant administration tasks on behalf of the County, and
3. Hamilton County will not be responsible for providing any funds towards the project, and
4. The Hamilton County Board of Supervisor authorizes the Board Chairman to execute any grant documents as requested.

and be it further

RESOLVED, that upon approval of the County Attorney, the Chairman of the Hamilton County Board of Supervisors is hereby authorized to sign a subrecipient agreement with the Village of Speculator for said NYS ESD County Infrastructure Grant.

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

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

NAYS: NONE

ABSENT: FREY

After the following resolution was placed on the floor; the Chairman confirmed that this is grant funded. The Clerk of the Board stated yes, it is.

RESOLUTION NO. 234-25

**AUTHORIZING HIRING OF SUMMER INTERN FOR PUBLIC DEFENDER'S
OFFICE**

DATED: JUNE 16, 2025

BY MS. BAIN:

WHEREAS, the Hamilton County Public Defender's Office has established a summer internship program in conjunction with Albany Law School, and

WHEREAS, the Appellate Division Third Department has approved of the internship program through 2027, and

WHEREAS, the internship program is funded by New York State's Office of Indigent Legal Services, and

WHEREAS, the program anticipates payments to interns of up to \$30 per hour plus mileage for all travel associated with the internship program, and

WHEREAS, the Hamilton County Public Defender's Office has conducted a detailed search and interview process and has identified a successful applicant for the internship, and

WHEREAS, Res. No. 109-25 created an Intern position and Account No. A1170.0108 Intern in the amount of \$20,000.00, be it

RESOLVED, the Hamilton County Board of Supervisors hereby approves of the establishment of the Public Defender's Internship Program and hereby authorizes the Public Defender to hire Andreas Gukeisen as an Intern for the summer of 2025 for the Hamilton County Public Defender's Office at a payment rate of \$30.00 per hour for a minimum of 20 hours per week plus mileage reimbursement for all travel associated with the internship at the standard Hamilton County rate and the County Treasurer and Personnel Officer be so notified.

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

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

NAYS: NONE

ABSENT: FREY

Supervisor Rhodes presented the following resolution authorizing the creation of a full-time Account Clerk position for the Sheriff's Office.

RESOLUTION NO. 235-25

**AUTHORIZING CREATION OF NEW FULL TIME ACCOUNT CLERK POSITION –
SHERIFF'S OFFICE**

DATED: JUNE 16, 2025

BY MR. RHODES:

WHEREAS, the Hamilton County Sheriff's Office has determined that they need a full-time Account Clerk to help with the administration duties in the office, and

WHEREAS, the Personnel Officer has established the necessary job specifications for an Account Clerk, and that under Civil Service Law §22, the appropriate civil service title for this position is: Account Clerk, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the Board of Supervisors hereby authorizes the Personnel Officer to create the full-time position Account Clerk, and be authorized to advertise for Account Clerk in the Sheriff's Office effective immediately, and be it further

RESOLVED, that the County Treasurer be hereby authorized to create Account No. A.3110.0108 Account Clerk and to fund said account by transferring \$19,612 from the Unappropriated General Fund Balance in accordance with Section 366 Subdivision 1 of the County Law.

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

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

NAYS: NONE

ABSENT: FREY

Supervisor Tomlinson presented the following resolution authorizing DPW to extend employment of a Highway employee.

RESOLUTION NO. 236-25

AUTHORIZING DPW TO EXTEND EMPLOYMENT OF EMPLOYEE HIGHWAY

DATED: JUNE 16, 2025

BY MR. TOMLINSON:

WHEREAS, the DPW has two full-time openings within the highway division, and

WHEREAS, John Walker, Road Supervisor II is retiring on July 4, 2025, and

WHEREAS, the Superintendent has spoken with this employee to see if he would be interested in staying on as a Heavy Equipment Operator (HEO) for the summer construction because of the workload and the open positions within the department, and

WHEREAS, the employee expressed interest, and the Superintendent recommends hiring John Walker as a Temporary Full Time HEO at \$30.00 per hour until November 15, 2025, be it

RESOLVED, that hereby the Superintendent is authorized to hire John Walker of Long Lake to HEO effective July 7, 2025, at \$30.00 per hour until November 15, 2025 and the Public Works Superintendent, Personnel Officer, 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, FERNANDEZ,
AND HUNT

NAYS: NONE

ABSENT: FREY

Other Reports

Mr. Wells: Stated that the AATV meeting scheduled for June 18th has been moved to Minerva and it is at 2PM. He also stated that the Local Review Board meeting scheduled for June 25th in Keene Valley is now in Long Lake.

Mr. Wells stated that DANC had a good onsite with the APA. It went rather well. They would still like to meet with himself, Ms. Bain and the Mayor of Speculator. He had asked them for a schedule of dates, but he hasn't received them yet. The Chairman stated that it was good news.

Mr. Wells stated that Indian Lake just received pro housing designation. They are now eligible for more state grants; he added that it's not as easy as they say it is.

Mr. Wells attended the library meeting in Lake Pleasant. It is a beautiful building. They are very concerned about federal funding cuts. They are looking for support from the Hamilton County Board and individual Supervisors. His recommendation is for the County to pass a resolution. He will draft one and get it to the Clerk of the Board.

Mr. Fernandez: Stated that he has been asked by the Personnel Officer to do a review of Junie Delizo, Public Health Director. He had spoken with Mr. Tomlinson about ever doing it and he also asked the other Board members. The Chairman stated that he hadn't heard of it. Mr. Fernandez stated that when he looked at the review process a lot of it isn't applicable and he wouldn't know. He does see the importance of having it done. He could do his own write up but it wouldn't be in line with the questions asked on that review. The Board discussed the history of Department Head evaluations. The Chairman stated that he would speak with the Personnel Officer. The Board further discussed doing evaluations of new Department Heads.

The Chairman thanked the Board for coming to the Special Meeting. He also thanked the Clerk of the Board for setting everything up. He further stated that they had good conversations and ended up passing a few good resolutions to better serve their communities in the County.

Ms. Bain asked the Clerk of the Board if she would be taking care of Ms. Bly's County credit card limit increase. The Clerk of the Board stated yes, she can do it immediately.

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