

2019

THIRD SESSION

MARCH 7, 2019

The Board convened at 10:30 A.M. in the Supervisors' Chambers 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	ABSENT
Benson	John M. Stortecky
Hope	Steven M. Tomlinson
Indian Lake	Brian Wells
Inlet	ABSENT
Lake Pleasant	Daniel Wilt
Long Lake	Clark J. Seaman
Morehouse	William G. Farber
Wells	Donald W. Beach

Also present: County Attorney, Caitlin Stewart and Lenny Croote – Soil and Water, Christine Pouch and Chelsea Provost – ALCA and Pete Klein-Press

A motion was made to accept the minutes of January 28th and February 7th, 2019 by Mr. D. Wilt, seconded by Mr. Stortecky. Carried.

Public Comment: No one present.

The Chairman thanked the Adirondack Lake Center for the Arts (ALCA) for coming.

Ms. Chelsea Provost introduced herself as the Decentralized Grant Coordinator for ALCA covering Hamilton, Essex, Franklin and Clinton counties. She stated that this is her first year and explained how the program is intended to help promote art and cultural programs throughout NYS. Each county has a representative and they administer the grant on behalf of New York State Council on the Arts (NYSCA). She went on to say that Hamilton County was awarded \$15,767.00 which ranked 3rd out of the 4 counties. In 2019 the grants will be awarded to a total of 39 Community Art projects and 4 Arts Education projects. She gave a handout to the Board showing which projects were awarded in Hamilton County. She invited the Board, with any constituents, to the award ceremony on May 4th at 1PM at the Adirondack Lakes Center for the Arts in Blue Mountain.

Ms. Christine Pouch introduced herself as the Executive Director for the Adirondack Lake Center for the Arts. She discussed where the funding comes from; \$91,000 is given to the Art Center from NYS through the NYSCA budget. They take that money and give it out to the smaller community organizations. For as long as she has been there the NYSCA budget has remained flat.

They just got an advocacy alert the other day stating that they are worried they may cut that budget. NYSCA can't advocate for themselves. It is up to the Art Center and the County to advocate to the Governor and to our representatives to make sure the Arts programming stays in the NYS budget. It is very important for NYSCA and the Art Center to get this money because in the brochure that was handed out you can see how many programs totally across the 4 counties are getting funding. Through these programs we are serving over 17,000 people. She asked if anyone had questions.

The Chairman stated that over the last couple years he has seen a diminished number of applicants from the lower part of the County; is there something we can do to help? Ms. Pouch stated that she was glad that he had asked. She stated that Ms. Provost is the only person that goes out and holds grant seminars and meets one on one with people in all of our counties. She asked if the Board could spread the word. The Chairman asked if she could give the Board a sense of how many applicants there were from Hamilton County vs. how many funded. He thought it would be helpful for advocating. Ms. Provost stated that she thought there was only 1 that didn't get funded. The Chairman thanked them for coming and they thanked the Board for having them.

The Chairman introduced the next presentation, Hamilton County Soil and Water Conservation District.

Ms. Caitlin Stewart introduced herself as the District Manager for Hamilton County Soil & Water Conservation District. She also introduced Mr. Lenny Croote as District Technician for the department. Ms. Stewart did a departmental update sharing with the Board their spring programs and initiatives. She stated how the 25 Year State of the Lakes Report had been recently released and the background around the Board deciding to implement the program in 1993. She stated how our lakes are in very good condition. A lot of Hamilton County is forested, there aren't a lot of developed areas or a lot of pollution sources that are impacting the lakes. There is also a very clear signal that the lakes are recovering from acid deposition. Standards in the Midwest have become more strict and the pollution that blows to our Adirondack Mountains and rains out as acid rain has become much less. The lakes are becoming less transparent. Transparency is basically water clarity and it is indicated by the amount of suspended and dissolved materials that is there. She showed the Board how the staff measures that with a Secchi disk. The research indicates that this is being caused by something called dissolved organic carbon. This substance absorbs light and it is probably coming into our lakes from the increase in rain water that we see from climate change as well as acid deposition recovery. She stated how the research also showed that 91% of our lakes are impacted by road salt in some way and how this is a new concern that they started monitoring in 2015. She thanked the Board for their continued support and explained how each lake is broken down in the report. She stated how the funding had come from the NYS Environmental Protection fund as well as the Finger Lakes-Lake Ontario Watershed Protection Alliance (FOLLOWPA). She talked about what was on the Winter Newsletter like the 11th Annual Arbor Day Poetry Contest. The Adirondack Tree and Shrub sale is gearing up, she included the order form. She stated that all the trees offered are non-invasive to New York. She stated how she values the District being able to partner with the area organizations and agencies. She has been in contact with Ms. Daryl Rulison in Public Health about doing something, during National Public Health Week, outdoors and community oriented. She had reached out to the District's partner at the USDA Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service. They are going to have someone come and offer an invasive

insect forest survey hike. This is going to take place on April 3rd from 3:30-4:30. She ended the presentation with thanking the Board again and that the District is there for all their conservation needs.

The Chairman added that he and Ms. Jamila Page from Cooperative Extension were meeting with Mr. Dan Kelting, Executive Director of the Adirondack Watershed Institute, along with the staff when the report came out. During that meeting they spoke highly of Ms. Stewart and Mr. Croote and how they had done extraordinary work. They also agreed that this was the richest data because of the historic perspective that it gives of anywhere in the Adirondacks.

Mr. Wells asked Ms. Stewart if there was anywhere they could find information about private lakes that might have been purchased by the State that have had these studies done, specifically the Essex Chain. Ms. Stewart stated that she wasn't sure but the New York Federation of Lakes might be a good resource. She would send him the website address and see if she could also get a contact person for him.

Soil & Water and Center for the Arts all left after Ms. Stewart's report.

Reports of Standings/Special Committees:

Mr. Wells: Stated that there was a DPW meeting that morning concerning staffing over the next couple years and the hiring ramifications. He felt that it was a good meeting.

RESOLUTIONS:

RESOLUTION NO. 85-19

AUTHORIZING ACCEPTANCE OF BACK TAXES IN TOWN OF LAKE PLEASANT

DATED: MARCH 7, 2019

BY MR. D. WILT:

WHEREAS, the Board of Supervisors has been contacted by Sarah Minguela on property located in Lake Pleasant, with parcel ID #120.008-1-1 concerning the 2017 back taxes owed, and

WHEREAS, Sarah Minguela has submitted a written explanation of the circumstances of why the taxes have not been paid to date and a request to rectify the situation by paying the 2017 back taxes, and

WHEREAS, that the 2018 taxes have been paid in full, be it

RESOLVED, that the Hamilton County Treasurer is hereby authorized to accept payment of the taxes owed in the amount of \$2,785.83 together with an administrative charge of \$500.00 for a total of \$3,285.83.

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

AYES: STORTECKY, TOMLINSON, WELLS, D. WILT, SEAMAN, FARBER AND BEACH

NAYS: NONE

ABSENT: R. WILT AND FREY

RESOLUTION NO. 86-19

AUTHORIZING CHAIRMAN TO SIGN NYS OFFICE OF INDIGENT LEGAL SERVICES GRANT CONTRACT – STATEWIDE EXPANSION OF HURRELL-HARRING

DATED: MARCH 7, 2019

BY MR. SEAMAN:

WHEREAS, Hamilton County has received the NYS Office of Indigent Legal Services five-year Statewide Expansion of Hurrell-Harring Grant Contract No. CSTWIDEHH20 in the amount of \$769,574.34, be it

RESOLVED, that the Chairman of the Hamilton County Board of Supervisors is hereby authorized to sign said Statewide Expansion of Hurrell-Harring Grant Contract No. CSTWIDEHH20 in the amount of \$769,574.34.

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

AYES: STORTECKY, TOMLINSON, WELLS, D. WILT, SEAMAN, FARBER AND BEACH

NAYS: NONE

ABSENT: R. WILT AND FREY

After the following resolution was placed on the floor; the Clerk of the Board asked that the title be changed. The Chairman stated that the resolution wouldn't change just simply amending the title because if you look at the detail there isn't wording to setup or fund the accounts. Motioner and Secunder agreed.

RESOLUTION NO. 87-19

AUTHORIZING SUBRECIPIENT AGREEMENT FOR NYS CDBG PROJECT # 500HR345-18

DATED: MARCH 7, 2019

BY MR. WELLS:

WHEREAS, Hamilton County was awarded NYS CDBG Project # 500HR345-18 in the amount of \$240,000.00, be it

RESOLVED, that upon approval of the County Attorney, the Chairman of the Board of Supervisors is hereby authorized to sign a Subrecipient Agreement with Housing Assistance Program of Essex County, Inc. (HAPEC) for the purpose of implementing a single purpose residential rehabilitation program for said grant.

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

AYES: STORTECKY, TOMLINSON, WELLS, D. WILT, SEAMAN, FARBER AND BEACH

NAYS: NONE

ABSENT: R. WILT AND FREY

RESOLUTION NO. 88-19

AUTHORIZING PAYMENT TO R.M. DALRYMPLE COMPANY, INC. – PUBLIC WORKS

DATED: MARCH 7, 2019

BY MR. WELLS:

WHEREAS, the County Fuel Facility located in Morehouse required repairs with electronics within the tank monitoring system which included replacement of certain sensors, and

WHEREAS, the County DPW Superintendent contacted R.M. Dalrymple Company, Inc., to diagnose and repair the problem, and

WHEREAS, the repairs are complete and the configurations at the DPW main office is now able to connect via the internet to the site to monitor the system, be it

RESOLVED, that the County Treasurer is hereby authorized to make payment to R.M. Dalrymple Company, Inc., 15 Grace Moore Road, Saratoga Springs, NY 12866 in the amount of \$3,326.96 from Account No. DM5130.405 Gas & Diesel and the DPW Superintendent and Clerk of the Board be so notified.

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

AYES: STORTECKY, TOMLINSON, WELLS, D. WILT, SEAMAN, FARBER AND BEACH

NAYS: NONE

ABSENT: R. WILT AND FREY

RESOLUTION NO. 89-19

AUTHORIZING PAYMENT TO CARBONE AUTO GROUP FOR 2019 PUBLIC HEALTH VEHICLES

DATED: MARCH 7, 2019

BY MR. D. WILT:

WHEREAS, Resolution No. 28-19 duly adopted on January 3, 2019 authorized the County Fleet Coordinator to purchase two (2) 2019 Chevrolet Malibu 4 Door Sedans for use by Public Health, and

WHEREAS, the vehicles ordered were delivered, and

WHEREAS, the County Fleet Coordinator has inspected said vehicles and confirms they are accepted and meet specifications and recommends payment of said vehicles, be it

RESOLVED, the County Treasurer is hereby authorized to make payment to Carbone Auto Group, 5194 Commercial Drive, Yorkville, NY 13495 in the amount of \$35,008.00 and the funds to be taken out of Account No. A4050.201 Automobile for the Public Health Department and the Public Health Director, County Highway Superintendent and the Clerk of the Board be so notified.

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

AYES: STORTECKY, TOMLINSON, WELLS, D. WILT, SEAMAN, FARBER AND BEACH

NAYS: NONE

ABSENT: R. WILT AND FREY

RESOLUTION NO. 90-19

AUTHORIZING PAYMENT TO CARBONE AUTO GROUP FOR 2019 SOCIAL SERVICE VEHICLE

DATED: MARCH 7, 2019

BY MR. SEAMAN:

WHEREAS, Resolution No. 29-19 duly adopted on January 3, 2019 authorizes the County Fleet Coordinator to purchase one (1) 2019 Chevrolet Malibu for use by Social Services, and

WHEREAS, the vehicle ordered was delivered, and

WHEREAS, the County Fleet Coordinator has inspected the said vehicle and confirms it is accepted and meets specifications and recommends payment of said vehicle, be it

RESOLVED, the County Treasurer is hereby authorized to make payment to Carbone Auto Group, 5194 Commercial Drive, Yorkville, NY 13495 in the amount of \$17,504.00 and the funds to be taken out of Account No. A6010.202 Automobile for the Social Services Department and the Social Services Commissioner, County Highway Superintendent and the Clerk of the Board be so notified.

Seconded by Mr. D. Wilt and adopted by the following vote:

AYES: STORTECKY, TOMLINSON, WELLS, D. WILT, SEAMAN, FARBER AND BEACH

NAYS: NONE

ABSENT: R. WILT AND FREY

RESOLUTION NO. 91-19

AUTHORIZING PAYMENT TO CARBONE AUTO GROUP FOR 2019 COMMUNITY SERVICE VEHICLE

DATED: MARCH 7, 2019

BY MR. SEAMAN:

WHEREAS, Resolution No. 22-19 duly adopted on January 3, 2019 authorizes the County Fleet Coordinator to purchase one (1) 2019 Chevrolet Malibu for use by Community Services, and

WHEREAS, the vehicle ordered was delivered, and

WHEREAS, the County Fleet Coordinator has inspected the said vehicle and confirms it is accepted and meets specifications and recommends payment of said vehicle, be it

RESOLVED, the County Treasurer is hereby authorized to make payment to Carbone Auto Group, 5194 Commercial Drive, Yorkville, NY 13495 in the amount of \$17,504.00 and the funds to be taken out of Account No. A4310.201 Automobile for the Community Services Department and the Community Services Director, County Highway Superintendent and the Clerk of the Board be so notified.

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

AYES: STORTECKY, TOMLINSON, WELLS, D. WILT, SEAMAN, FARBER AND BEACH

NAYS: NONE

ABSENT: R. WILT AND FREY

RESOLUTION NO. 92-19

AUTHORIZING ACCEPTANCE OF BACK TAXES IN TOWN OF INDIAN LAKE

DATED: MARCH 7, 2019

BY MR. WELLS:

WHEREAS, the Board of Supervisors has been contacted by the Attorney of the Estate of Virginia and Thomas Korenyik on property located in Indian Lake, with parcel ID #65.015-1-16 concerning the 2017 and 2018 back taxes owed, and

WHEREAS, Attorney Stephen Baker has submitted a written request to pay the back taxes as part of the Estate process for the deceased property owners, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the Hamilton County Treasurer is hereby authorized to accept payment of the taxes owed in the amount of \$7,494.26 together with an administrative charge of \$500.00 for a total of \$7,994.26.

Seconded by Mr. D. Wilt and adopted by the following vote:

AYES: STORTECKY, TOMLINSON, WELLS, D. WILT, SEAMAN, FARBER AND BEACH

NAYS: NONE

ABSENT: R. WILT AND FREY

RESOLUTION NO. 93-19

**AUTHORIZING THE CHAIRMAN TO SIGN CONTRACTS WITH FACILITATORS,
PRESENTERS AND GUIDES AND PAYMENT FOR SPECIFIC EXPENSES FOR THE
2019 BIRDING FESTIVAL**

DATED: MARCH 7, 2019

BY MR. STORTECKY:

WHEREAS, Hamilton County is sponsoring a county-wide Birding Festival in June of 2019, and

WHEREAS, this Festival consists of numerous separate events from June 6-9, 2019 including: outings, lectures, seminars and certain events will require paid guides, facilitators or presenters, be it

RESOLVED, that the Chairman of the Board of Supervisors is hereby authorized to sign contracts with guides, facilitators and presenters approval of the County Attorney as follows:

Each guide or facilitator will receive per outing, with a daily limit of two (2) guided outings per guide as follows:

4 hours or less \$100.00
5 hours or less \$125.00
6 hours or more \$150.00

Total number of guided outings not to exceed eight (8) per each day of the festival.

Outings, Lectures, and Related Events not to exceed a total of \$5,000.00 from Publicity budget 6410.404, Event Funding and the County Treasurer be so notified.

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

AYES: STORTECKY, TOMLINSON, WELLS, D. WILT, SEAMAN, FARBER AND BEACH

NAYS: NONE

ABSENT: R. WILT AND FREY

RESOLUTION NO. 94-19

**AUTHORIZING CONTRACT BETWEEN HAMILTON COUNTY PUBLIC HEALTH
NURSING SERVICE AND PHYSICAL THERAPY ASSISTANT FOR SERVICES –
CHRISTINE CAREW**

DATED: MARCH 7, 2019

BY MR. D. WILT:

WHEREAS, the Hamilton County Public Health Nursing Service has a full-time Physical Therapist to provide services to county residents, and

WHEREAS, Christine Carew, is a duly licensed physical therapy assistant by the NYS Department of Education, Office of Professions and wishes to contract with the Public Health Nursing Service to augment the Physical Therapist's patients and help cover during her time off, and

WHEREAS, the physical therapist assistant shall provide regular visits under the supervision of a physical therapist in compliance with relevant regulations, and

WHEREAS, the term of this contract shall be from June 1, 2019 through May 31, 2020, and compensated at a rate of \$40.00 per visit plus mileage at the current county rate, be it

RESOLVED, that the Chairman of the Board of Supervisors is authorized to enter into a contract with Christine Carew, PTA residing at 49 State Route 28N, PO Box 502, North Creek, NY 12853 with compensation as described above upon approval of the County Attorney and the County Treasurer be so notified.

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

AYES: STORTECKY, TOMLINSON, WELLS, D. WILT, SEAMAN, FARBER AND BEACH

NAYS: NONE

ABSENT: R. WILT AND FREY

RESOLUTION NO. 95-19

AUTHORIZING CONTRACT WITH LICENSED SOCIAL WORKER – MELISSA COOL

DATED: MARCH 7, 2019

BY MR. WELLS:

WHEREAS, the Hamilton County Public Health Nursing Service contracts with individual providers of medical social worker services for several programs, and

WHEREAS, Melissa Cool, LMSW, of 5810 State Highway 29, St Johnsville, NY, is a duly licensed master social worker by the NYS Department of Education, Office of Professions and wishes to contract with the Nursing Service, and

WHEREAS, the term of this contract shall be from May 1, 2019 through April 30, 2020 and compensated at a rate of \$70.00 per visit plus mileage at the current county rate, be it

RESOLVED, that the Chairman of the Board of Supervisors is authorized to enter into a contract with Melissa Cool, LMSW to provide medical social work services to the residents of Hamilton County, for the period May 1, 2019 through April 30, 2020 at a rate of \$70.00 per visit plus mileage upon approval of the County Attorney and the County Treasurer be so notified.

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

AYES: STORTECKY, TOMLINSON, WELLS, D. WILT, SEAMAN, FARBER AND BEACH

NAYS: NONE

ABSENT: R. WILT AND FREY

RESOLUTION NO. 96-19

APPROVAL OF AND TRANSFER OF FUNDS FOR 2019 MERIT PAY

DATED: MARCH 7, 2019

BY MR. D. WILT:

WHEREAS, the Hamilton County Board of Supervisors has instituted a merit system for county employees, and

WHEREAS, the Personnel Officer reviewed all evaluations prior to Committee day on February 25, 2019 to determine which department heads were to meet to discuss the employee evaluations, be it

RESOLVED, that the Internal Management Committee recommends the following hourly merit increments:

HIGHWAY

George Hoffman	March 27, 2019 to March 27, 2020	\$1.54
William Hover	March 5, 2019 to March 5, 2020	\$1.32
Diana Stuart	March 10, 2019 to March 10, 2020	\$1.54

BUILDINGS

Diana Stuart	March 10, 2019 to March 10, 2020	\$1.54
--------------	----------------------------------	--------

SHERIFF

James Luck	March 20, 2019 to March 20, 2020	\$1.21
------------	----------------------------------	--------

SOCIAL SERVICES

Connie Mahoney	March 10, 2019 to March 10, 2020	\$.44
----------------	----------------------------------	--------

NURSING

Karina Elkin	March 1, 2019 to March 1, 2020	\$.44
--------------	--------------------------------	--------

and be it further

RESOLVED, that the following transfers be made to cover the above 2019 merit pay:

FROM:	A1990.402	Contingent for Merit	\$12,717.10
-------	-----------	----------------------	-------------

TO:	D5110.101	Personal Services	\$3,161.84
	D5110.101	Personal Services	\$2,280.96
	D5010.103	Acct. Clerk/Computer Support Aide	\$2,813.58
	A1620.109	Cleaner – P/T	\$401.94
	A3150.106	Correction Officer F	\$2,526.48
	A6010.105	Social Welfare Examiner	\$728.42
	A4010.104	Registered Professional Nurse #4	\$803.88

and the County Treasurer be so authorized and Personnel Officer be notified.

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

AYES: STORTECKY, TOMLINSON, WELLS, D. WILT, SEAMAN, FARBER AND BEACH

NAYS: NONE

ABSENT: R. WILT AND FREY

RESOLUTION NO. 97-19

APPROVAL OF AUDITS IN COUNTY HIGHWAY FUNDS

DATED: MARCH 7, 2019

BY MR. WELLS:

RESOLVED, that the bills in the Machinery Fund amounting to \$208,344.61 and bills in the County Road Fund amounting to \$244,336.18 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. Tomlinson and adopted by the following vote:

AYES: STORTECKY, TOMLINSON, WELLS, D. WILT, SEAMAN, FARBER AND BEACH

NAYS: NONE

ABSENT: R. WILT AND FREY

RESOLUTION NO. 98-19

APPROVAL OF AUDITS IN THE COUNTY GENERAL FUND AND CAPITAL PROJECT NO. 2017-1 HATCH BROOK BRIDGE

DATED: MARCH 7, 2019

BY MR. STORTECKY:

RESOLVED, that the bills audited this day in the County General Fund in the amount of \$172,368.81 by the following committees:

Public Works (Buildings) Committee.....	\$40,143.24
Public Works (Solid Waste) Committee	13,656.74
Finance Committee	30,846.86
Health Committee.....	27,002.81
Human Services Committee.....	22,096.07
Central Government Committee	29,521.35
Emergency Prep./Emergency Response.....	5,405.72
Publicity, Tourism, Economic Development & Planning Committee.....	1,612.02
Internal Management Committee	2,084.00

be it further

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

Hatch Brook Bridge Capital Project 2017-1.....	\$ 8,146.76
--	-------------

are hereby approved.

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

AYES: STORTECKY, TOMLINSON, WELLS, D. WILT, SEAMAN, FARBER AND BEACH

NAYS: NONE

ABSENT: R. WILT AND FREY

The Chairman stated that on the Board's desks there should be a request, received that morning, via certified mail. The way the Certificate of Need (CON) process works with respect to expanding coverage area for an ambulance service provider is that they have to notify all the impacted jurisdictions. With that it seeks in concert with this a letter on letterhead from the County. His suggestion would be just a simple resolve that authorizes him to sign the letter on letterhead and submit it on behalf of Hamilton County. He stated that he thought that most everyone was aware that a circumstance arose with respect to the fly car service provided through Fulton County Ambulance Service. Hamilton County was on Fulton County Ambulance Services CON but is not on Greater Amsterdam Volunteer Ambulance Corps., Inc.'s (GAVAC). Fulton County Ambulance Service was forced to close their doors and so people have been scrambling over the last month to fill this gap. From the County level Ms. Avis Warner, EMS Coordinator, and Don Purdy, Emergency Services Director, have been participating in these conversations and we as a County want to be as helpful as we can be.

The Chairman asked for the resolution to be moved. Moved by Mr. D. Wilt and seconded by Mr. Tomlinson.

After the following resolution was placed on the floor; Mr. Seaman asked if there was any cost to the County. The Chairman stated that there was no cost at this point in time. The way this has worked out when it was Fulton County was that it was a collaborative relationship between the participating towns where they work together to share a cost associated with this. There are a lot of conversations going on, not only here but throughout the region, around ambulance service and EMS in general. When Ms. Avis Warner, EMS Coordinator and Mr. Kenneth Kuhrt, Deputy EMS Coordinator, were in to present the EMS report he suggested that there was a need to start having more substantive planning meetings about where we all see ourselves in 10 years. Mr. D. Wilt asked if there was anything that could be done on the County level to pursue the idea of ambulance service being an essential service. The Chairman stated that the determination of an essential service is a State decision. A couple of the counties have pursued the State or pushed back saying that how can ambulance services not be an essential service. He happens to know that a couple of the legislators that were pursued with being asked if they were to make ambulance service an essential service and then the counties say that is another mandate, are you going to help us fund it. He thinks that whether it's a moral or mandated obligation we all recognize that we have a responsibility. The second thing is a leadership planning meeting at the County level and whether or not we ought to be having some of those conversations. He would be happy to make the suggestion that we ought to put it on the agenda again for next month and talk with Ms. Warner and Mr. Kuhrt.

Mr. Wells stated that the agreement is with GAVAC to supply a fly car for Hamilton County. The Chairman stated that this authorizes them to provide a fly car anywhere within Hamilton County. The issue is without having a CON authorized by the NYS Health Department they technically aren't authorized to provide that service within Hamilton County. Mr. Wells stated he thought they were contracting with the individual towns. The Chairman stated that yes they are but they still need the authority to come into Hamilton County granted by the NYS Health Department. What a CON does is it affirms that the local governments that are impacted agree that there is a need for this service and then the NYS Health Department, as part of their process, authorizes the CON and says yes you should be allowed to come in. It is a process that was set up by the State Health Department and it's designed to avoid creating unhealthy competition between ambulance services. Mr. Wells stated that he is not comfortable in doing this until he talks to his EMT people. He stated that is because he had heard that GAVAC was one of the major reasons for Johnstown going out. In the EMT field there is a lot of working here for 3 days and there for 3 days. There then was a letter put out that said if you work for both organizations you will now work for us only or you will not have a job. He stated that was the helping of Johnstown going out. If that's the way that GAVAC behaves then he doesn't feel Hamilton County should be involved with them. Mr. Stortecky stated that he would like to address that as well. He said that there was an article in the Leader Herald regarding GAVAC but as you read it whoever their spokesperson was indicated that a lot of their failure was in part that the Johnstown Fire Department also started up an ambulance service. The Chairman stated that in that valley area there are other complicating factors associated with hospital transports. Mr. Tomlinson stating there isn't any other option. The Chairman apologized that this came on the agenda late and that he felt this was the right thing to do. It doesn't force any community to work with them and he assures the Board that GAVAC or no other fly car service is going to come into a community that the community doesn't invite in. There is not money to be made under the reimbursement rates for fly car services. That is part

of what created challenges for Fulton County. If you look at Fulton Montgomery Counties landscape around Nathan Littauer, GAVAC and Fulton County Ambulance Service the competitive issue that those squads are getting into is that there is money to be made on facility transfers. The Chairman stated that our circumstance, to Mr. Tomlinson's point, is very different. Nobody is competing to come into our towns, this is a series of about a month of meetings that individual town supervisors, ambulance captains, Mr. Purdy and Ms. Warner have had with GAVAC trying to get somebody to come in and provide this service to replace the Fulton County fly car service that is no longer available. Mr. D. Wilt stated that this is the only avenue for ambulance service in the towns. Mr. Tomlinson stated that the Town of Hope contracts with the Town of North Hampton and GAVAC covers 60% of the calls because the Town of North Hampton couldn't respond to Town of Hope calls. Mr. Wells asked, then GAVAC is already coming into our County? The Chairman stated that they can come in on mutual aid. They can't come in with a fly car as the primary responder. Mr. Tomlinson stated that the Town of Hope would hopefully be contracting with GAVAC instead of Town of North Hampton in the near future. Mr. Wells asked what the cost would be. Mr. Tomlinson stated it would be less because GAVAC would be able to charge the insurance companies unlike the Town of North Hampton who only could charge the Town per call. Mr. D. Wilt stated that GAVAC is not-for-profit so they are not trying to make money they are just trying to cover costs. The Chairman asked Mr. Wells if there was something they could provide through Mr. Purdy that would put his concerns to rest so that the Board wouldn't hold up the communities. Mr. Wells stated that he wouldn't hold it up but if it came to adding cost to Hamilton County he would show concern.

RESOLUTION NO. 99-19

**AUTHORIZING CHAIRMAN TO SIGN AND SUBMIT LETTER OF SUPPORT FOR
GAVAC APPLICATION FOR PERMANENT AMBULANCE OPERATING
AUTHORITY IN HAMILTON COUNTY**

DATED: MARCH 7, 2019

BY MR. D. WILT:

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Chairman of the Hamilton County Board of Supervisors is hereby authorized to sign and submit a letter of support for Greater Amsterdam Volunteer Ambulance Corps., Inc.'s (GAVAC) application for permanent ambulance operating authority in Hamilton County.

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

AYES: STORTECKY, TOMLINSON, WELLS, D. WILT, SEAMAN, FARBER AND BEACH

NAYS: NONE

ABSENT: R. WILT AND FREY

The Chairman stated that Local Government Day conflicts with the April Meeting and his suggestion, as many of them will be consumed with that, is to move the meeting from April 4th to either Monday or Tuesday of the following week. With the Public Works Committee meeting that morning the Board knows that there will be a need for a Special Session on Committee Day so if there are things that need to happen quicker than that, they can be taken care of at that meeting. Mr. Wells and Mr. Stortecky both said Tuesday would be better.

RESOLUTION NO. 100-19

CHANGING DATE OF APRIL MEETING – HAMILTON COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

DATED: MARCH 7, 2019

BY MR. D. WILT:

BE IT RESOLVED, that the regular meeting of the Hamilton County Board of Supervisors is hereby changed from April 4th to April 9th.

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

AYES: STORTECKY, TOMLINSON, WELLS, D. WILT, SEAMAN, FARBER AND BEACH

NAYS: NONE

ABSENT: R. WILT AND FREY

Other Reports:

Chairman: Stated that Mr. D. Wilt and he got a chance to talk with Jessica from the Power Authority at the Association of Towns and Villages meeting. She has given him a contact so if people can get him the letters that they sent to National Grid to get quotes on the transition he can get them to the Public Service Commission to try to get them expedited. He is probably going to do a two-step process in that regard. He will be going back to National Grid and tell them the suggestion was to go the Public Service Commission and would rather have them just respond. There are communities like Speculator that are moving forward with the transition. We want to be able to do the one contract for the maintenance and service on this in a way that lets the contractor know how many communities will be participating. One of the things that Jessica and one of her colleagues were talking to Matt Simpson, Moe Wright and himself about was they now have smart street light technology that sits on top of the street light that is literally evolving month after month. They expect by the middle of next year that same canister now will become twice that size sitting on top of the street light providing local wifi or cell service. It is very exciting the way we may be able to use these technologies within our communities. He stated that there might be a win there that we weren't even aware of. Mr. D. Wilt stated that he had done some research and it was only 5G. The Chairman stated that the 5G technology is literally a 1 ½ year away in terms of being able to do it. The industry isn't going too automatically bring it to small rural

communities without pressure. It doesn't mean that we can't get ahead of the industry if we have the facilities to sponsor it and frankly the next part of this is that the Board authorized him to go to the National Association of Counties (NACo) because of Federal Communications Commission's (FCC's) role in cellular and 5G. NACo is very supportive in pushing an agenda that will force the industry as they seek relief from some of the siting criteria around 5G to insist that they do a better job serving rural areas. The situation is that the industry went to the FCC and got a ruling the end of 2018 which made the siting of 5G technology much easier and much more streamlined for them. The communities that have cell service and have the likelihood that they are definitely going to get 5G because of the economics of it want to be able to regulate that and tell the industry that they will make each installation look like this and this. The Mayor went so far to say in a press clipping that if you want space in Times Square that is a highly profitable site I want to be able to charge you based on the market to be there. The reality is that we have never in this country done that around utilities so what we need to recognize is this is an installation of an equivalent to a utility. Whether we make it a utility or treat it as one, which is what FCC did in their ruling, we can't allow a circumstance where people peel the profits off the profitable areas so the industry doesn't invest in the rural areas. They have to do these things in balance. There were legislative meetings along with talking with NACo and how Senator Gillibrand's office discussed making it a mandate that they do 5G across the entirety of their service delivery area and give them a finite amount of time to do it. He felt that overall the meetings were good. NACo is going to get really involved and may bring their rural caucus to the Adirondacks for a meeting to help us. NYSAC was great and was there with them as well. They made it part of their federal platform and frankly we have got some momentum going in both the House and Senate with pushing this.

The Chairman stated that Local Government Days are April 3rd and 4th and Adirondack Day is May 13th. We are going to try to elevate the stature of that through the Adirondack Association of Towns and Villages (AATV) just because we are now playing host to a whole new audience of leadership in Albany particularly in the Senate.

The Chairman stated that next Monday, March 11th, there will be the interviews associated with the RFP we put out on the Emergency Communications Project.

Mr. Seaman: Asked if that Development Authority of the North Country (DANC) provided fiber to the top of Blue Mountain Lake. The Chairman stated yes. Mr. Seaman asked how they went in. Was it from Indian Lake? Was it from Raquette Lake? The Chairman stated that when they originally came in they were partner with SLIC having fiber in Long Lake so they continued from that direction. Since then because DANC had come in to provide fiber to AT&T and Verizon on Blue Mountain and they lacked redundancy, they have now built fiber to connect the loop out the 28 Corridor through Raquette Lake and Inlet. It is part of what he thinks has helped us in Inlet in trying to get tower companies and cellular interest. Mr. Seaman stated that it was interesting because when the Town of Long Lake was meeting with representatives from NYSEG regarding their power outage problems one of the things NYSEG wanted to do to help improve the entire system was get fiber connections. NYSEG was told by DANC that there is roughly 12 miles that is dark. Mr. Seaman and the Chairman discussed the connections and didn't see where the roughly 12 miles would be that they talked about unless maybe interval monitoring. Mr. Seaman would be following up. The Chairman asked Mr. Seaman if Mr. Purdy had been part of any of the

conversations with DANC. Mr. Seaman stated that he hadn't been and maybe they would include him for the next meeting.

Mr. Wells: Stated that he had a constituent come in very upset over the Safe Act and the storage laws now as well as the Red Flag Law. Will Hamilton County be doing anything. He knows that it would be symbolic but he would like a resolution from the Board denouncing all of it. Mr. Wells told his constituent that he would bring it up. Mr. Seaman stated that he too had been approached and he promised that at the town level he would bring the old resolution passed up to date and present to the Town Board at his next meeting. At that time he will probably have a Board member ask him to forward it to the County Board for consideration. The Chairman stated that historically we have resisted the urge to do those symbolic resolutions and that we probably get somewhere in the neighborhood of 3 or 4 a week in from towns and different areas that want symbolic resolutions on this or that. He is not suggesting that we need to continue doing that but is just mentioning it. Mr. Seaman stated that he could recall local municipalities that passed resolutions opposing that before; 58 of the 62 counties also passed resolutions opposing it and we were one of them. It is a hot topic.

As there was no further business, motion to adjourn by Mr. D. Wilt, seconded by Mr. Beach.
Carried.