

2014

SECOND ANNUAL SESSION

NOVEMBER 12, 2014

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	Richard A. Wilt
Benson	Phillip C. Snyder
Hope	Robert C. Edwards
Indian Lake	Brian Wells
Inlet	John Frey
Lake Pleasant	Neil P. McGovern
Long Lake	Clark J. Seaman
Morehouse	William G. Farber
Wells	Brian E. Towers

Also present: Frank Mezzano, Kate Fish, Katlyn Margo, Elizabeth Mangle, Caitlyn Stewart and Lenny Croote

Public Comment: No one present

Reports of Standings/Special Committees:

Mr. Frey: The Finance Committee met this morning with Board of Elections and Sheriff to review their budgets. He has recommendations for the budget review today.

The Chairman introduced Ms. Kate Fish from ANCA for a presentation.

Ms. Fish handed out information and gave an overview of ANCA. Next year will be their 60th year. They are a fairly small organization with an annual budget of 1 million dollars a year and 14 county members. The \$25,000 they receive from the 14 counties helps to offset things that come up that were not budgeted for. Most of their funding is grant based and specific to certain things. Their work focuses on three areas; sustainability, local economies, and connected communities.

Ms. Fish described how they helped fund the local movie theaters in switching to digital.

Ms. Fish reported that she met with International Paper in Ticonderoga and the issue came up about moving towards energy base systems and promoting more and more bio mass and how that is having an impact on existing businesses, such as the paper industry. They have put together a new project called "The Wood Basket". This is an analysis of future infrastructure both forest

capacity and the supply chain infrastructure needs. It is not the lack of wood supply, it's the lack of enough loggers and forest managers.

Ms. Fish requested \$2,000 from Hamilton County for 2015. They are very grateful for Hamilton County's support in the past and they hope it continues. She also reported that they are committed to Long Lake for Common Ground Alliance.

Ms. Fish thanked everyone again and left.

The Chairman asked for a five minute break to allow Hamilton County Soil & Water to setup for their presentation.

Soil & Water Director Ms. Elizabeth Mangle passed out handouts and started her presentation. She wanted to mention in 2004 they only had six press releases and this year so far they have had fifty four in area newspapers thanks to Caitlyn. Lenny has done a lot more erosion control projects this year and the hydro seeding is a huge program. Director Mangle continued with her presentation. 2004 was the last time that Soil & Water asked for an increase from the county. They are struggling to get money to replace one of their two eight year old vehicles and she is asking for an increase of \$12,000 to make this possible.

Director Mangle reviewed the wide variety of programs that they offer.

Conservation Educator Ms. Caitlyn Stewart took the podium and did a presentation on how to protect our national resources and how that balusters a thriving economy. Educator Stewart discussed certain projects that they did along with other agencies and new invasive species.

Educator Stewart reported the hemlocks and balsams in southern and western New York are now seeing signs of woolly adelgid symposium. The Chairman asked what kinds of devastation they are seeing. Educator Stewart stated not as great as in the south. The warmer climate has more activity, but it is spreading. Director Mangle stated there are things that can be done, so early detection is important so that it can be treated; there are herbicides that are very effective.

The Chairman asked if they know what DEC's planning if the forest preserve has an infestation. Educator Stewart stated they do have a plan for forest preserve for Emerald Ashbore and Asian Longhorn beetles, something along those lines could possibly be used for the hemlock woolly adelgid.

The Board members watched a short video and then the staff from Soil & Water left.

Review of the 2015 tentative budget:

Budget Officer Mezzano thanked everyone involved in putting this tentative budget together. Also all the departments stepped up again and took our budget letter very seriously and tried to hold their budgets.

Treasurer – 1325.409 – Lien Searches - was changed to \$7,500.

Mr. Wilt asked what is in line 1325.405 - Maintenance of Machines - the Chairman stated he thinks that has the two software contracts in that amount.

Mr. Wilt asked about Personnel – 1430.403 – Telephone - the Chairman stated he thinks she has more than one phone line. This is one of the offices that has a dedicated fax line and a roll over line.

The Chairman stated this is related to the conversation concerning changing the phone system, working with Frontier. Superintendent Eldridge and Clerk of the Board Ms. Abrams attended a meeting this morning regarding a new phone system. We are looking to reduce the total number of lines by using a Frontier phone system. So rather than each department having roll-over lines, you have a max number of lines for the complex and so long as not everyone is on their phones at the same time the system is capable of rolling it to any open line. We will be looking at the idea on November 18th at the Finance Committee meeting and continued to explain.

Mr. Wilt again asked Budget Officer Mezzano to review the changes for Board of Elections. Budget Officer Mezzano stated there are basically two changes. One is to add a new line 1450.108 titled Programmers and budget it at \$1,000. The other is to decrease 1450.409 General Elections Ballot line \$1,000 to make it \$12,000.

The Chairman stated moving forward they will do a resolution to determine the methodology of how much we pay the programmers.

Mr. Wells asked why under Buildings - Temporary Help - 1620.104 was removed. Budget Officer Mezzano thought that was when they hired the laborer for Indian Lake. The Chairman stated no. Mr. Towers asked if this is the account they are charging to clean the court room in the afternoons. The Chairman stated they need to confirm with Superintendent Eldridge where he is getting the money to pay Anastasia and Diana. He thinks Superintendent Eldridge put in money for his staff making them 40 hours a week and requesting the change in grade for one of his office staff; he believes that was all together in his budget request under County Road.

Mr. Frey stated they met with the Sheriff this morning and there is possibly some changes there.

Budget Officer Mezzano stated he and the Chairman will schedule a meeting with the Sheriff and have something concrete for the November 18th meeting.

A short discussion took place on community college chargebacks.

Recessed until 1:00 PM for budget review.

Re-Convene at 1:00 PM

Budget Review:

Budget Officer Mezzano wanted everyone to go back to Buildings 1620.104 and change the name from Temporary to Part-Time Cleaner and the amount should be \$15,718.

Mr. Wilt asked about the amount under the Homeland Security grant. The Chairman stated that is the real number and Mr. Dinolfo might want to setup the 2.5 million dollar grant differently.

Budget Officer Mezzano reported a couple of title changes as follows for Social Services; 6010.105 - Social Welfare Examiner D and 6010.109 - Child Support Specialist. Then under 6070.404 - STSJP Grant - amount should be \$48,822.

Mr. McGovern questioned account 6055.401 Day Care. The Chairman stated that money is not a place holder it gets used.

Mr. Towers asked about line item 6290.405 – Tuition/Education Assistance – is that a new program? The Chairman explained this is due to the transition we made when transferring the WIA from Personnel to Social Services. Now we are budgeting more of the program costs as part of our budget and this is 100% reimbursable.

The Chairman stated for the Center for the Arts and ANCA we do need to make a determination with respect to their budget requests.

Mr. Frey stated that they have been asking for an increase for a few years now.

The Chairman reported they actually were at a number that was closer to \$2,000. We took them out during the harsh budget times; when we initially took them out is when we dissolved the LDC and the LDC sent them a check. Then it was left out entirely one year which prompted them to come in and give a presentation. The timing last year when they did their presentation was post budget adoption. That is why you see a transfer of \$1,000 into the account which happened in January of 2014.

Mr. Wilt stated he doesn't have any strong feeling one way or the other.

Mr. McGovern stated he would like to stay where we have it in the budget.

A short discussion continued on whether they warrant the \$2,000. Mr. Frey suggested \$1,500 for ANCA and it was agreed upon.

Mr. Towers asked under 4310.422 – Mobile Treatment – what comes out of that. The Chairman reported the Psychologist, because the services are provided in multiple locations.

7010.401 Council of the Arts – Their request was \$7,000. Mr. Towers suggested leaving it at \$6,500 and it was agreed to keep it at that.

7510 – Historian – They will be advertising for a new Historian and they need to think about how they want to advertise this, whether it's a salary range or a specific amount.

Mr. McGovern stated \$7,000 to \$10,000, Mr. Edwards agreed with that. It was agreed to put the Historian budget at \$10,000.

Budget Officer Mezzano wanted everyone to look at 8160.201 and 8161.202 it appears over time that there has been some confusion where the revenue should go. He and Mr. Farber discussed and feels that it should be put in Solid Waste Capital Reserve 8189.401 and that will clear up any confusion and this will give a place for equipment that needs to be purchased.

The Chairman stated in different years it has been spent out of different lines and it made it confusing.

8730 – Soil and Water – Mr. Wilt stated this is a tough one, he reviewed their budget last week and they are starting to use up their fund balance and in a couple of years they are going to be in trouble. They will need to start coming up with creative ways to fund it.

Mr. McGovern asked what other opportunities they have for revenues besides us.

Mr. Wilt stated that the Town of Arietta has been working on doing septic inspections when you sell your house or when someone requests one. You can't have the Code Enforcement Officer do the inspection and Lenny from Soil & Water has had training and he feels that could lead to some good revenues for them.

Mr. Frey stated that they have three different contractors that do it for them, the discussion continued.

It was decided to increase Soil and Water \$2,500 for a total of \$106,074.

Revenues:

In 2012 and 2013 24% of our total sales tax came in the 4th quarter. If we apply the same 24% for this year, we are going to be over slightly.

The Chairman asked for a five minute recess.

Reviewed Highway Revenue

Mr. Towers asked Mr. Frey under the state retirement contribution line on Superintendent Eldridge's worksheet it shows the 2014 actual and it's a substantially lower number and he was wondering if we have been billed for 2014.

The Chairman stated the way we account for it is when we pay the state retirement bill in December we are paying nine months in 2014 and we prepaid three months so you are seeing the three month amount that was a prepayment last December.

Discussion took place on how to build back up the fund balance for Highway.

Mr. Wells asked about line item 5010.103 – Account Clerk/Computer Support Aide. Salaries will be discussed on the 18th and also decide if the 5 additional hours should be budgeted under Buildings.

The Committee reviewed the DM funds.

The Chairman stated regarding the new phone system, Superintendent Eldridge will meet with us on November 21st but he will give the Chairman a number to plug into the budget on the 18th.

Recessed until November 18th.