

2021

TENTH SESSION

OCTOBER 7, 2021

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 | John M. Stortecky |
| Hope | Steven M. Tomlinson |
| Indian Lake | Brian Wells |
| Inlet | John Frey via ZOOM |
| Lake Pleasant | Betsy A. Bain |
| Long Lake | Clay J. Arsenault |
| Morehouse | William G. Farber |
| Wells | Nick Mauro |

Also present: County Attorney and Tracy Eldridge-Highway Superintendent

A motion was made to accept the minutes of September 2, 2021 by Mr. Wilt, seconded by Mr. Stortecky. Carried.

Public Comment: No one present.

Reports of Standing/Special Committees:

Mr. Wells: Stated that he attended the September AATV meeting in Tupper Lake. The Supervisor for Keene discussed the Towns parking issue. There was also a discussion regarding the two Constitutional Amendments per the Chairman's request. He thought that it was informative. He stated that he also attended the September Government Review Board meeting via ZOOM. They discussed transferrable development rights. They polled the Board regarding the yearly appointment of the Executive Director. They also discussed the Whitney Property and land management issues.

Mr. Frey: Stated budget, budget, budget. The Chairman stated that he and Mr. Frey have been discussing upcoming meetings. Prioritizing those departments that want early feedback.

Mr. Wilt: Stated that the tower projects are moving forward. The Morehouse site is getting ready to be surveyed. The Chairman discussed lease agreements, documents needed to lock in Cathead Mountain and the need to nail down the Hope site. He further discussed the Constitutional Amendments, as well as ORDA and Cathead. He is hoping that local governments and the

organizations can stand together in a united way behind these. He would like to have Benson, Hope and Wells do resolutions in their towns that can flow up to the County and AATV. Mr. Wilt stated that as far as Hope goes, they are going to get the site up in Wells first. The equipment is ordered and the fiber should be close. Mr. Tomlinson stated that they had already built a road up and cleared the site in Hope. Mr. Wilt stated that some people stated the coverage, with the Wells site, would include most of Hope but will wait and see. Ms. Bain asked about feedback regarding the towers in Speculator and Lake Pleasant. Is anyone saying there is better service? Mr. Wilt stated that he hasn't heard anything. He stated that after he checked the meter here, he wasn't sure that the Lake Pleasant tower was running all the time. Ms. Bain stated that she has been getting a lot of negative reports. The Chairman stated that it has been progressively because the more the demand the more the cone of service shrinks. He will ask Verizon the status.

Bruce Misarski, Executive Director of HAPEC, entered meeting.

Mr. Wilt further stated that Long Lake had requested an interest to have Hamilton County dispatch instead of Essex County. He wasn't sure how to get everything changed over for that. The Chairman asked if anyone had approached Essex County; they have equipment with intent to provide that coverage. If they aren't going to be doing that, then Hamilton County might want to work with them to just simply adopt, takeover and/or buy some of it rather than duplicate. Mr. Wilt stated he will have Don Purdy, Emergency Services Director, look into it.

Angel Marvin, HAPEC of Essex County, entered meeting.

Mr. Tomlinson: Stated that Ms. Bain had an update on Public Health and he is in support of anything she will say. He also asked for the Board's support in regards to the Department as it has been very stressful for them.

Mr. Stortecky: Asked if there was a way that the County could create a resolution that showed the unity of Hope, Wells and Benson in support of Cathead Mountain. The Chairman stated that they would try to get Mr. Purdy and the Sheriff on a ZOOM call with Mr. Wilt to figure out a resolution. He feels that Mr. Purdy and the Sheriff can add the layers of specifics of what happens.

Ms. Bain: Stated that she had a meeting with Erica Mahoney, Public Health Director, Monday and they are all stressed. They have guidelines regarding COVID that they have to follow from NYS. They don't always deal with people that are nice and patient. She asked the Board to be more understanding and reach out in a positive way. The morale of the department is very low. The Chairman stated that the support needs to be more than saying "Attaboy". It needs to be coming from the community as well. Ms. Bain stated that once they start doing the booster pods, they will be needing volunteers from the community again. She thinks that this time around everyone isn't going to be as receptive. She also stated the department is having an audit. Mr. Arsenaault asked if there was anything they could do specifically. Ms. Bain stated that Ms. Mahoney had said she felt better after their meeting. She had asked what they could do and she feels that the support is important. She suggested the Supervisors reach out to the department directly. Mr. Arsenaault and Ms. Bain both feel the department can't take much more. Mr. Stortecky stated that he has heard nothing but absolute support for them. He thinks the morale issue isn't being generated from what's going on down the line. It's being generated by the leadership and directive they are receiving.

They are being tasked with impossible goals that shift on a daily basis and it's their job to implement insanity. He doesn't believe that our department is the only one experiencing this. It has to be all of them. The Chairman stated that he disagrees with Mr. Stortecky. He has talked to numerous people and amongst them some teachers that are talking about taking early retirement. Some people are getting off school boards. They may feel one way or the other about the rules but it's the vitriol within the communities, within board meetings, phone calls and rants that is destroying morale that the County is going to lose people over. Mr. Tomlinson stated that he knows of someone calling the staff at Public Health and screaming at them. Demanding that they pay for their loss wages because they would be missing work for a day. He feels that they absolutely need the Board's support and the problems are coming from grassroots. Ms. Bain stated that she also knew of a person calling Ms. Mahoney to yell at her about the silly regulations and rules that she was making up just because the person was unvaccinated. Mr. Tomlinson stated that he did go and speak to the person that he knew of that called the department screaming. He felt that it helped and he thinks that was a small example of something the Supervisors could do.

11:00AM – The Chairman asked to open the Public Hearing on the 2021 Community Development Block Grant Application.

A motion was made to open the Public Hearing on the 2021 Community Development Block Grant Application by Mr. Wilt, seconded by Mr. Tomlinson. Carried.

The Chairman introduced Bruce Misarski, Executive Director, HAPEC.

Mr. Misarski introduced himself and stated that Essex County HAPEC is the administrator for the County's housing rehab program. There have been two successful applications so far. They have just finished the 2019 program. He stated that there is another funding round for CDBG funding and presented the Board with a handout. It gave some information on the program and the amount of money that is available through the allocation. He further discussed how the money flows. This application will be submitted to Office of Community Renewal and has to be submitted by October 29th. The goal with the CDBG is to serve a population that is below 80% of the area median income for the County. They have to at least spend 51% of the funds towards that. The application was not successful last year. They had spoken with the Office of Community Renewal and reviewed the application. One of the things that they are going to do when they leave is a windshield survey of the County. He introduced Ms. Marvin. She is the new Community Development Director.

Ms. Marvin stated that the application submitted in April was for a little under \$300,000. With that money they had a plan for five rehabs and one apartment building. She further discussed how NYS likes to see a bulky waitlist. She had the Clerk of the Board give each Supervisor brochures and applications to have at their towns. The Chairman reminded everyone that when they are talking with people that they create a reasonable expectation for them of what the County is really doing. That it unfortunately takes a while for the funding to catch up with the need. Ms. Marvin stated that another challenge is that they have a hard time getting contractors.

Mr. Misarski and Ms. Marvin left the meeting.

RESOLUTIONS:

After the following resolution was placed on the floor; the Chairman asked that the Supervisors skim through the dates to see if there were any conflicts. Mr. Wilt asked if they could attend via ZOOM. The Chairman stated yes, they could. The Executive Order allows a legal meeting to occur via ZOOM now until January. His understanding of the Board's position thus far has been that they have made a conscious decision to meet in person.

RESOLUTION NO. 227-21

SETTING ANNUAL SESSION DATES

DATED: OCTOBER 7, 2021

BY MR. ARSENAULT:

RESOLVED, the following dates have been designated as the annual session for 2021:

November 4 10:30 A.M.
November 8 10:30 A.M.
November 10 10:30 A.M.
November 16 10:30 A.M.
November 19 10:30 A.M.
PUBLIC HEARING 11:00 A.M.
December 2 AUDIT 10:30 A.M.
December 17 AUDIT 10:30 A.M.

and be it further

RESOLVED, that any necessary changes will be subsequently arranged.

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

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

NAYS: NONE

RESOLUTION NO. 228-21

AUTHORIZING AND APPROVING OPIOID SETTLEMENTS

DATED: OCTOBER 7, 2021

BY MR. STORTECKY:

WHEREAS, there are numerous pending matters on behalf of Hamilton County, whether via litigation and/or bankruptcy, in which Hamilton County is a named Plaintiff in the litigation or a creditor in the bankruptcy, such litigation/bankruptcy matters involving the ongoing opioid addiction crisis, and

WHEREAS, opioid litigation counsel on behalf of Hamilton County are subject to judicial deadlines and bankruptcy plan voting time periods which may fail to permit timely consideration by the Hamilton County Board of Supervisors except by emergency meetings, now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the Hamilton County Board of Supervisors hereby authorizes the Chairman of the Board of Supervisors, together with the confirmation of the County Attorney, to authorize and approve opioid litigation settlement agreements and/or bankruptcy plans, as recommended by the Hamilton County opioid litigation counsel, with the understanding that the foregoing authorization being hereby granted contain the requirement that the Board of Supervisors be advised in writing of any such settlement agreement/bankruptcy plan approval by the Chairman and County Attorney no later than the next regularly scheduled meeting of the Board of Supervisors.

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

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

NAYS: NONE

After the following resolution was placed on the floor; Mr. Wells stated that Rhode Island and a few others weren't accepting some of these and asked the County Attorney if that would impact New York. The County Attorney stated there was a range of payment that could be made and the more participation in the settlements the more the defendants are willing to upfront the money. Yes, it could have an effect in reducing the amount that would be paid to municipalities as part of the settlement. The Chairman thought he had seen the explanation where it would almost be off setting. They were willing to pay more money with more settlements which they thought was clearly good for them but because that would be adding more people to the pie that was being split up there was a possibility the money might not be that dissimilar. The County Attorney stated that it was possible but he thought the way that it was presented they were trying to incentivize participation.

RESOLUTION NO. 229-21

**AUTHORIZING AND APPROVING MALLINCKRODT BANKRUPTCY PLAN:
OPIOID LITIGATION**

DATED: OCTOBER 7, 2021

BY MR. WELLS:

WHEREAS, Mallinckrodt, a company operating a business known as Specialty Generics, is one of the largest controlled substance pharmaceutical businesses in the US offering generic products for pain management which are powerful and addictive opioid pain killers, and

WHEREAS, Mallinckrodt filed for bankruptcy in October 2020 after being named as a defendant in thousands of civil lawsuits seeking damages for asserted opioid related injuries to governments, and

WHEREAS, Mallinckrodt has filed a bankruptcy plan whereby an opioid plaintiff recovery trust will establish an abatement fund to offset the costs of combatting opioid addiction and provide support to communities impacted by opioid use, and

WHEREAS, upon advice of opioid litigation counsel, and upon the recommendation of the County Attorney, Hamilton County is requested to authorize and approve the Mallinckrodt Bankruptcy Plan which incorporates an abatement fund and release, and

WHEREAS, it is in the best interest of Hamilton County upon the opinion of counsel as aforesaid to resolve the bankruptcy proceeding with respect to Mallinckrodt without further negotiations/bankruptcy litigation and approve the bankruptcy plan incorporating the abatement fund and release, now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the County of Hamilton hereby authorizes and approves the bankruptcy plan of Mallinckrodt, d/b/a Specialty Generics, which plan provides for the aforesaid abatement fund and release, and the Chairman of the Board of Supervisors and/or the County Attorney, or designee, are authorized and directed to execute such documents as may be required to effectuate the foregoing.

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

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

NAYS: NONE

RESOLUTION NO. 230-21

**AUTHORIZING ASHLEY GADWAY TO COMPLETE RN CLINICAL AT PUBLIC
HEALTH**

DATED: OCTOBER 7, 2021

BY MR. TOMLINSON:

WHEREAS, Hamilton County Public Health Nursing Service has been asked by SUNY Plattsburg to be a public health clinical site for registered nurses who are working towards their master's degree in nursing, and

WHEREAS, Ashley Anderson Gadway has requested to complete her public health clinical in our department consisting of 50 hours of clinical care, including COVID testing and vaccination clinics, be it

RESOLVED, that the Chairman of the Board of Supervisors is authorized to sign the clinical training affiliation agreement with SUNY Plattsburg to allow Ashley Anderson Gadway to do her public health clinical at the Hamilton County Public Health Nursing Service.

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

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

NAYS: NONE

RESOLUTION NO. 231-21

**AUTHORIZING CONTRACT WITH PEER COUNSELOR FOR WOMEN, INFANTS,
AND CHILDREN (WIC) PROGRAM**

DATED: OCTOBER 7, 2021

BY MR. WILT:

WHEREAS, according to the NYS Department of Health, the local health department provides administration of WIC program initiatives, and

WHEREAS, according to WIC program requirement, the Hamilton County Nursing Service (HCPHNS) must provide a Peer Counselor to assist mothers in the successful breast feeding of their children, and

WHEREAS, Elizabeth Speece, 1774 NYS Route 8, Lake Pleasant, has agreed to provide Peer Counselor services to mothers living in Hamilton County, and

WHEREAS, Elizabeth Speece has agreed to maintain any ongoing training required of her to maintain her Peer Counselor designation, and

WHEREAS, Elizabeth Speece will be reimbursed at a rate of \$15.00 per hour plus travel reimbursement at the prevailing county mileage rate, be it

RESOLVED, that the Chairman of the Board of Supervisors is authorized to enter into a contract with Elizabeth Speece to provide Peer Counselor services to mothers in Hamilton County,

as described above, to begin October 1, 2021 to September 30, 2022 upon approval of the County Attorney and the County Treasurer be so notified.

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

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

NAYS: NONE

RESOLUTION NO. 232-21

2021 TRANSFER OF FUNDS – CHHA

DATED: OCTOBER 7, 2021

BY MR. TOWERS:

WHEREAS, there are shortages in the CHHA On-Call account, be it

RESOLVED, that the County Treasurer be authorized to make the following transfers:

| | |
|----------------------------------|--------------|
| FROM: A4010.404 CHHA Contractual | \$ 10,000.00 |
| TO: A4010.110 CHHA On-Call | \$ 10,000.00 |

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

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

NAYS: NONE

RESOLUTION NO. 233-21

**AUTHORIZATION TO ENTER INTO CONTRACTS WITH BERKSHIRE FARM FOR
QUALIFIED INDIVIDUAL (QI) ASSESSMENT SERVICES**

DATED: OCTOBER 7, 2021

BY MR. STORTECKY:

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 Qualified Residential Treatment Programs (QRTP), and

WHEREAS, these QRTP's are certified by the New York State Office of Children and Family Services (OCFS), and

WHEREAS, pursuant to the Family First Prevention Services Act (FFPSA) [P.L. 115-123], an independent assessment of a child in foster care placed in a QRTP is required to make determinations, including, but not limited to, whether the QRTP is appropriate, and

WHEREAS, the assessment must be completed within 30 days of placement of the child in the QRTP, and

WHEREAS, Berkshire Farm Center and Services for Youth has been approved as a Qualified Individual (QI) program to provide assessments through 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 Berkshire Farm to complete comprehensive assessments of youth placed in QRTP's within 30 days as required by the FFPSA.

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

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

NAYS: NONE

RESOLUTION NO. 234-21

APPROVAL OF AND AUTHORIZING CHAIRMAN TO SIGN RESOURCE ALLOCATION PLAN

DATED: OCTOBER 7, 2021

BY MR. ARSENAULT:

WHEREAS, the County of Hamilton is in receipt of the Resource Allocation Plan for the County's Youth Board funding provided by the Office of Children and Family Services for 2021, and

WHEREAS, the plan identifies the program and project applications as part of the required components of the County's Comprehensive Youth Service Plan as approved by the Office of Children and Family Services, and

WHEREAS, this plan will qualify the County for State reimbursement in the amount of \$25,677.00 for the program year, be it

RESOLVED, that the Hamilton County Board of Supervisors hereby approves the 2021 Resource Allocation Plan and authorizes the Chairman to sign, and be it further

RESOLVED, that Special Delinquency Revenue Account A3820.0000 be increased from \$2,000.00 by \$23,677.00 to \$25,677.00 and Account No. A7310.0401 Youth Programs Spec. Delinquency be increased from \$2,500.00 by \$23,177.00 to \$25,677.00 and the County Treasurer be so advised.

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

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

NAYS: NONE

RESOLUTION NO. 235-21

AMEND COUNTY CONTRACT WITH CITIZENS ADVOCATES

DATED: OCTOBER 7, 2021

BY MR. STORTECKY:

WHEREAS, the County of Hamilton has approved the 2021 contract with Citizens Advocates to provide Substance Use Disorder treatment to the residents of Hamilton County, and

WHEREAS, the current contact does not reflect the restored funding in the County's 2021 budget effective in April of 2021 in the amount of \$352.00 (Res. No. 121-21), be it

RESOLVED, that the Hamilton County Board of Supervisors hereby approves amending the County's 2021 contract with Citizens Advocates from \$3,158.00 to \$3,510.00 and the Treasurer be so advised.

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

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

NAYS: NONE

RESOLUTION NO. 236-21

**AMEND COUNTY BUDGET AND CONTRACT WITH THE HAMILTON, FULTON,
MONTGOMERY PREVENTION COUNCIL**

DATED: OCTOBER 7, 2021

BY MR. STORTECKY:

WHEREAS, the County of Hamilton has approved the 2021 contract with the Hamilton, Fulton, Montgomery Prevention Council to provide Prevention Services to the residents of Hamilton County, and

WHEREAS, NYS OASAS funding was increased in the most recent State Aid Letter by \$712.00, and

WHEREAS, the current contract does not reflect this increase nor the restored funding in the County's 2021 budget effective in April of 2021 in the amount of \$7,352.00 (Res. No. 121-21), be it

RESOLVED, that Revenue Account No. A3484.100 OASAS Prevention and Expenditure Account No. A.4310.0425 HFM Prevention both be increased by \$712.00, and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Hamilton County Board of Supervisors hereby approves amending the County's 2021 contract with Hamilton, Fulton, Montgomery Prevention Council from \$66,181.00 to \$74,245.00 and the Treasurer be so advised.

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

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

NAYS: NONE

After the following resolution was placed on the floor; Tracy Eldridge, Highway Superintendent, stated that he had talked with Bob Kleppang, Community Services Director, about this and doesn't think they will be able to complete it this year. They might be able to encumber the work and move it to next year. The Chairman stated that he would talk to Mr. Kleppang to make sure that worked for him. He also discussed doing reclamation this year and pave it next year.

RESOLUTION NO. 237-21

AUTHORIZATION FOR PAVING PARKING LOT AND PURCHASING COMPUTERS FOR COMMUNITY SERVICES

DATED: OCTOBER 7, 2021

BY MR. STORTECKY:

WHEREAS, it has been recommended by the DPW Superintendent that the parking lot at the Community Services Building needs to be repaved, and

WHEREAS, it has been recommended by Hamilton County's IT provider that the computers used by Community Services staff to perform their duties need to be upgraded, and

WHEREAS, the DPW Superintendent has provided the Community Services Department with an estimate to repave the parking lot at a cost of \$51,866.26, and

WHEREAS, upgraded computers can be purchased under state contract at the cost of \$12,263.52, be it

RESOLVED, the Board of Supervisors hereby authorize a transfer of \$64,129.78 from 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. A4310.403 Supplies and Services to cover the said cost and the County Treasurer be so authorized and the Community Service Director, Clerk of the Board and the DPW Superintendent be so advised.

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

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

NAYS: NONE

RESOLUTION NO. 238-21

AWARD OF BID FOR SPECIFICATIONS 11-2021 AND 13-2021

DATED: OCTOBER 7, 2021

BY MR. MAURO:

WHEREAS, Hamilton County DPW solicited bids for the superstructure and related items for Cramer Bridge, Spec 11-2021 and Burnham Mill Bridge, Spec 13-2021, and

WHEREAS, one (1) bid was received for both specifications as follows –

| | |
|-------------------------------------|-------------|
| 1. Jeffords Steel & Engineering Co. | |
| Spec 11-2021 Cramer Bridge - | \$50,875.00 |
| Spec 13-2021 Burnham Mill Bridge - | \$58,591.00 |

and

WHEREAS, Andrew S. Bell of A.S. Bell Engineering design engineer for Hamilton County has reviewed the said bids and recommends that the award be made to Jeffords Steel and Engineering Co., 4398 Route 22, Plattsburgh, NY, be it

RESOLVED, the Hamilton County Board of Supervisors hereby award the bids received for Specification 11-2021 Cramer Bridge and Specification No. 13-2021 Burnham Mill Bridge to Jeffords Steel and Engineering Co., 4398 Route 22, Plattsburgh, NY 12901 in the amounts shown hereon, and be it further

RESOLVED, the Board of Supervisors hereby authorize the Chairman of the Board to enter into an agreement with Jeffords Steel and Engineering Co. for the purchase of the said bids with the approval of the County Attorney, and the County Treasurer, Highway Superintendent and Clerk of the Board be so notified.

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

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

NAYS: NONE

RESOLUTION NO. 239-21

AWARD OF BID FOR SPECIFICATIONS 12-2021 AND 14-2021

DATED: OCTOBER 7, 2021

BY MR. TOMLINSON:

WHEREAS, Hamilton County DPW solicited bids for the decking and related items for Cramer Bridge, Spec 12-2021 and Burnham Mill Bridge, Spec 14-2021, and

WHEREAS, one (1) bid was received for both specifications as follows –

1. Laminated Concepts, Inc.

| | |
|------------------------------------|-------------|
| Spec 12-2021 Cramer Bridge - | \$28,630.00 |
| Spec 14-2021 Burnham Mill Bridge - | \$59,773.00 |

and

WHEREAS, Andrew S. Bell of A.S. Bell Engineering design engineer for Hamilton County has reviewed the said bids and recommends that the award be made to Laminated Concepts, Big Flats, NY, be it

RESOLVED, the Hamilton County Board of Supervisors hereby award the bids received for Specification 12-2021 Cramer Bridge and Specification No. 14-2021 Burnham Mill Bridge to Laminated Concepts, PO Box 369, Big Flats, NY 14814 in the amounts shown hereon, and be it further

RESOLVED, the Board of Supervisors hereby authorize the Chairman of the Board to enter into an agreement with Laminated Concepts for the purchase of the said bids with the approval of the County Attorney, and the County Treasurer, Highway Superintendent and Clerk of the Board be so notified.

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

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

NAYS: NONE

RESOLUTION NO. 240-21

**AUTHORIZING PAYMENT TO PECKHAM MATERIALS CORP. FOR HMA ON
COUNTY ROUTE 9, LAKE SHORE DRIVE IN INDIAN LAKE**

DATED: OCTOBER 7, 2021

BY MR. WELLS:

WHEREAS, Resolution No. 117-21 authorizes the paving of County Route 9, Lake Shore Drive, and

WHEREAS, payment is due to Peckham Materials Corp. for Superpave 12.5 MM Hot Mix Asphalt (HMA) that was placed on September 29, 2021, be it

RESOLVED, that the County Treasurer is hereby authorized to make payment as follows:

\$65,200.46 from Account No. D5112.2527 Lake Shore Dr. made payable to:

Peckham Materials Corp
PO Box 1055
Albany, NY12201-1055

and the Highway Superintendent and Clerk of the Board be so notified.

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

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

NAYS: NONE

RESOLUTION NO. 241-21

**AUTHORIZING PAYMENT TO PECKHAM MATERIALS CORP. FOR HMA ON
COUNTY ROUTE 12, CEDAR RIVER ROAD IN INDIAN LAKE**

DATED: OCTOBER 7, 2021

BY MR. STORTECKY:

WHEREAS, Resolution No. 117-21 authorizes the paving of County Route 12, Cedar River Road, and

WHEREAS, payment is due to Peckham Materials Corp. for Superpave 19.0 MM Hot Mix Asphalt (HMA) that was placed on September 27 and September 28, 2021, be it

RESOLVED, that the County Treasurer is hereby authorized to make payment as follows:

\$107,389.85 from Account No. D5112.2529 Cedar River Road, made payable to:

Peckham Materials Corp
PO Box 1055
Albany, NY12201-1055

and the Highway Superintendent and Clerk of the Board be so notified.

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

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

NAYS: NONE

RESOLUTION NO. 242-21

**AUTHORIZING PAYMENT TO SOUTHWORTH-MILTON, INC. FOR 2021
CATERPILLAR 906M WHEEL LOADER WITH ATTACHMENTS**

DATED: OCTOBER 7, 2021

BY MR. TOMLINSON:

WHEREAS, Resolution No. 89-21 authorizes the order of a new 2021 Caterpillar 906M Wheel Loader with Attachments from Milton Cat under New York State Contract PC66988 with extended warranty delivered for \$100,383.08, and

WHEREAS, the aforesaid has been delivered and approved by the Highway Superintendent, and

WHEREAS, payment is now due to Milton Cat, be it

RESOLVED, that the County Treasurer is hereby authorized to make payment as follows:

\$100,383.08 from Account No. D5112.0202 Permanent Improvements, made payable to:

Southworth-Milton, Inc.
PO Box 3851
Boston, MA 02241-3851

and the Highway Superintendent and Clerk of the Board be so notified.

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

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

NAYS: NONE

RESOLUTION NO. 243-21

AUTHORIZING PAYMENT FOR REPAIRS TO EJECTOR TRAILER #959

DATED: OCTOBER 7, 2021

BY MR. STORTECKY:

WHEREAS, Resolution No. 221-21 authorizes the repair of solid waste trailer #959 at an estimated cost of \$4,800.00, and

WHEREAS, the repairs were completed to trailer #959 and because the suspension springs needed to be replaced the final cost of the repairs were \$5,820.89 and the said trailer is back in service, be it

RESOLVED, that hereby the County Treasurer is hereby authorized to send payment to Dunhams Spring Shop, Inc. in the amount of \$5,820.89 for trailer #959 and the funds be taken out of Account No. DM5130.401 Repairs and Clerk of the Board and Highway Superintendent be so notified.

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

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

NAYS: NONE

RESOLUTION NO. 244-21

AUTHORIZING COUNTY HIGHWAY SUPERINTENDENT TO PURCHASE ROAD GRADER

DATED: OCTOBER 7, 2021

BY MR. ARSENAULT:

WHEREAS, the Highway Department is in need of replacing the departments road grader, and

WHEREAS, 2022 Road Graders are available for purchase on State Contract with associated options, and

WHEREAS, the vendor of the road grader has offered \$30,000.00 for the currently county owned 2008 John Deere 772D in as is condition (VIN DW772DX619604) as trade in value toward the purchase of the 2022 John Deere 772G, and

WHEREAS, the County Highway Superintendent is recommending approval to purchase the said road grader under State Contract pricing, be it

RESOLVED, that hereby the County Highway Superintendent is authorized to order said Road Grader under New York State Contract 03119-JDC, Award #PGB-22792 pricing from United Construction and Forestry, be it further

RESOLVED, the County Highway Superintendent is hereby authorized to trade in the 2008 John Deere 772D VIN No.DW772DX619604 road grader currently owned by Hamilton County and that the trade in value is \$30,000.00 and the final cost for the purchase of the 2022 John Deere 772G is \$300,660.45 with 60 month extended warranty delivered, be it further

RESOLVED, that \$300,660.45 be transferred from the Unappropriated Machinery Fund Balance in accordance with Section 366 Subdivision 1 of the County Law to Account No. DM5130.401 Equipment and hereby the County Treasurer is authorized to make the said transfer and the Clerk of the Board and DPW Superintendent be so notified.

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

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

NAYS: NONE

11:25AM – The Chairman asked to close the Public Hearing on the 2021 Community Development Block Grant Application.

A motion was made to close the Public Hearing on the 2021 Community Development Block Grant Application by Mr. Stortecky, seconded by Ms. Bain. Carried. No public attended.

After the following resolution was placed on the floor; the Chairman stated that Hamilton County needs help lining up both applicants and contractors. He further discussed the reason for the windshield survey.

RESOLUTION NO. 245-21

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE SUBMISSION OF
A COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT APPLICATION**

DATED: OCTOBER 7, 2021

BY MR. WELLS:

WHEREAS, Hamilton County has identified housing and assisting low/moderate income homeowners, as its most severe community development need, and

WHEREAS, the proposed program area is hereby defined as having many substandard structures occupied by low/moderate income families, substandard is defined as: A structure or dwelling unit which has one or more major structural defect, but can still be repaired for a reasonable amount, and

WHEREAS, the only affordable means of financing a program designed to meet these needs is to secure funding from the NYS Office of Community Renewal Community Development Block Grant Program, and

WHEREAS, due to the sparsely populated character of the proposed program area with homes scattered over a large geographical area, a non-target methodology is to be employed to assist only low- and moderate-income persons, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the Hamilton County Board of Supervisors authorizes its Chairman to execute and submit an application to the NYS Office of Community Renewal for a community development program for housing rehabilitation and to act in connection with the submission of the application and to provide such additional information as may be required, and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Housing Assistance Program of Essex County, Inc. will perform administrative services as a sub recipient for Hamilton County, and be it further

RESOLVED, that Hamilton County is committed to affirmatively furthering fair housing within the county's jurisdiction, will substantially comply with all Federal, State, and local laws, rules, and regulations applicable in the effort of furthering fair housing, and names Christy Wilt, Fair Housing Officer, to be the primary point of contact for all fair housing related issues, and be it further

RESOLVED, that Hamilton County has adopted the following: Citizen Participation Plan, Residential Anti-Displacement and Relocation Assistance Plan, Excessive Force Policy, Lead Based Paint Plan, Drug-Free Workplace Program, and the Housing Rehabilitation Program Policy and Procedures, and that they are on file at Hamilton County.

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

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

NAYS: NONE

After the following resolution was placed on the floor; the Chairman stated that this was a simple resolution that adds two financial institutions so that Hamilton County can invest some of the Fund Balance differently and get a little better of a return. Mr. Stortecky asked about the County's Investment Policy and the Chairman stated that it is something the Board adopts annually at the Organizational Meeting. This is an amendment to add two new banks. He stated he would send a copy of the policy to Mr. Stortecky.

RESOLUTION NO. 246-21

INVESTMENT POLICY AMENDMENT

DATED: OCTOBER 7, 2021

BY MR. WELLS:

WHEREAS, the County Treasurer has been investigating new banks for County deposits, and

WHEREAS, several banks have been identified as good investment opportunities with the help of three+one, and

WHEREAS, the County Treasurer recommends the County Investment policy be amended to add the following banks where monies are deposited and the maximum amounts as follows:

Bank of the Finger Lakes-Wayne Bank \$2,000,000.00 (Two Million)
Bank on Buffalo-Division of CNB Bank: \$2,000,000.00 (Two Million)

be it

RESOLVED, that the above listed amendments be adopted and the County Treasurer be so advised.

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

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

NAYS: NONE

RESOLUTION NO. 247-21

RESCINDING RES. NO. 216-21 AND AUTHORIZING 2021-2022 HRI AIDS INSTITUTE SCHOOL ELC GRANT 6896-01

DATED: OCTOBER 7, 2021

BY MR. TOMLINSON:

WHEREAS, Res. No. 216-21 needs to be rescinded as it was adopted prior to the finalized budget for the 2021-2022 HRI AIDS Institute School ELC Grant 6896-01, and

WHEREAS, the New York State Department of Health through Health Research, Inc. (HRI) has been awarded a grant from the Center Disease Control Prevent and would like to contract with Hamilton County Public Health Nursing Service for Public Health Emergency Preparedness and School ELC COVID-19 Enhanced Detection Response for the period 7/1/21-7/31/22, and

WHEREAS, the total grant contract is for \$638,615, with \$420,272 being restricted funds, and

WHEREAS, Hamilton County Public Health Nursing Service can request additional funds from the restricted funds to fund the budget lines through a budget modification, and

WHEREAS, the Maximum Reimbursable Amount for this contract is \$191,585.00, be it

RESOLVED, that Res. No. 216-21 is hereby rescinded, and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Chairman of the Board of Supervisors be authorized to sign the Health Research, Inc. (HRI) Contract No. 6896-01, pending approval by the County Attorney, and be it further

RESOLVED, that the County Treasurer be hereby authorized to create and fund the following accounts:

| | |
|---------------------------------------------------------------|--------------|
| A4189.1104 - Personal Service – HRI COVID ELC EP/SCHOOL | \$ 31,039.00 |
| A4189.4105- Supplies& Miscellaneous - HRI COVID ELC EP/SCHOOL | \$143,440.00 |
| A4189.8720 - Fringe - HRI COVID ELC EP/SCHOOL | \$ 17,106.00 |

To be total offset by creating and funding Revenue Account Number: A4401.0300 HRI COVID ELC Emerg.Prep/School in the amount of \$191,585.00.

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

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

NAYS: NONE

RESOLUTION NO. 248-21

NBT CARDMEMBER SERVICES PAYMENT – SOCIAL SERVICES

DATED: OCTOBER 7, 2021

BY MS. BAIN:

WHEREAS, the Hamilton County Department of Social Services pays NBT Cardmember Services \$5.00 monthly for the department's SAGE Software and it was not submitted in time for the regular audit, be it

RESOLVED, that the County Treasurer is hereby authorized to pay NBT Cardmember Services \$5.00 from Department of Social Services Account A6010.405, All Other Direct, for the SAGE Accounting Software.

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

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

NAYS: NONE

RESOLUTION NO. 249-21

**AUTHORIZATION TO ENTER INTO CONTRACT WITH LASALLE SCHOOL FOR
RESIDENTIAL TREATMENT**

DATED: OCTOBER 7, 2021

BY MR. STORTECKY:

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 residential treatment centers, and

WHEREAS, these residential treatment centers are certified 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 Residential Treatment Center.

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

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

NAYS: NONE

RESOLUTION NO. 250-21

**RESCINDING RES. NO. 75-21 AND AUTHORIZING CHAIRMAN TO SIGN AID TO
PROSECUTION GRANT**

DATED: OCTOBER 7, 2021

BY MR. TOMLINSON:

WHEREAS, Res. No. 75-21 needs to be rescinded as it was adopted with the incorrect term and grant project number, and

WHEREAS, Hamilton County has an annual State Aid agreement with NYS Division of Criminal Justice Services, and

WHEREAS, said agreement needs to be renewed, and

WHEREAS, the agreement is proposed for \$45,300.00 and the contract period will be for 18 months, be it

RESOLVED, that Res. No. 75-21 is hereby rescinded, and be it further

RESOLVED, the Chairman of the Board of Supervisors is hereby authorized to sign Aid to Prosecution Grant Project No. AP19-1020-R03 for the period of October 1, 2019 – March 31, 2021 in the amount of \$45,300.00 on behalf of the County of Hamilton and the County Treasurer be so advised.

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

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

NAYS: NONE

After the following resolution was placed on the floor; the Chairman discussed the process. It was decided that Hamilton County should do this because of what was going on in Board of Elections; the closeness to the actual election cycle, having a brand-new commissioner and the fact that they have grant monies available to cover the cost. Mr. Wells asked if Board of Elections had reached out to Fulton County. The Chairman stated they had and it was a matter of difference between staff and the Board. The amount wasn't acceptable to the Board at that price. Hamilton County isn't in a good position to do a lot of negotiating around this but there is space to talk about it for the future. Ms. Bain stated that she felt better knowing that the conversation was made with Fulton County. She wasn't sure after the conversation with Cathy Rogers, Democratic Commissioner. The Chairman stated that is the downside to an email exchange. He wasn't excited about how it went but thinks the County is in a decent spot to get through the year.

RESOLUTION NO. 251-21

**AMENDING RES. NO. 206-21 - AUTHORIZING INTERMUNICIPAL AGREEMENT
WITH FULTON COUNTY TO PROVIDE HAMILTON COUNTY BOARD OF
ELECTIONS SERVER AND SUPPORT SERVICES**

DATED: OCTOBER 7, 2021

BY MR. STORTECKY:

WHEREAS, Res. No. 206-21 which authorizes an intermunicipal agreement with Fulton County to provide Hamilton County Board of Elections server and support services was adopted prior to the amount being authorized by the Fulton County Board of Supervisors, and

WHEREAS, the Fulton County Board of Supervisors proposes an agreement with a term of 11/1/21-12/31/21 at an annual price of \$12,000.00 with on-site charges of \$60.00 per hour, be it

RESOLVED, that Res. No. 206-21 is hereby amended to authorize said agreement with a term of 11/1/21-12/31/21 at an annual price of \$12,000.00 with on-site charges of \$60.00 per hour.

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

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

NAYS: NONE

The Chairman explained the process with the Constellation Energy Services contract. The price as of right now is .09998kWh. The price changes as of 12:00PM. Mr. Eldridge stated that they have been changing the price three times a day. The Chairman further discussed other options such as using a not to exceed price. Mr. Eldridge stated that the contract is electronically signed. The amount was added in the resolution and the Chairman asked for it to be moved.

After the following resolution was placed on the floor; Mr. Eldridge stated that the current contract expires on November 4th. Mr. Wilt stated that the price fluctuates so much and National Grid has been cheaper this year.

The following resolution fails per Rule 5 of the Hamilton County Board of Supervisors' Rules of Order.

RESOLUTION NO.

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING CHAIRMAN TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH
CONSTELLATION ENERGY SERVICES OF NEW YORK, INC. FOR 2021-2022**

DATED: OCTOBER 7, 2021

BY MR. STORTECKY:

WHEREAS, the County agreement with Constellation Energy Services for purchase of electricity for all County facilities expires on November 5, 2021, and

WHEREAS, Constellation Energy Services has given a proposal to the County to enter into a fixed price agreement for a period of twelve (12) months beginning November 6, 2021, be it

RESOLVED, that the Chairman of the Hamilton County Board of Supervisors is hereby authorized to enter into a contract with Constellation Energy Services of New York, Inc. for a fixed price of .09998kWh for a period of twelve (12) months.

Seconded by Mr. Mauro and failed by the following vote:

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

NAYS: WILT

After the following resolution was placed on the floor; Mr. Eldridge stated that he would like to add Town of Lake Pleasant to the contract. He has been talking with the Town Highway Superintendent in regards to staffing issues and if he should need them to plow the back side of the lake he would be able to reimburse the town. It shouldn't change the wording.

RESOLUTION NO. 252-21

SNOW AND ICE CONTRACTS WITH TOWNS FOR THE 2021-2022 SEASON

DATED: OCTOBER 7, 2021

BY MS. BAIN:

WHEREAS, Article 6, Section 135a of the Highway Law provides that the County Highway Superintendent may contract with any town in the County for the removal of snow and ice from the County roads and for sanding or otherwise treating said roads, be it

RESOLVED, that the County Highway Superintendent be authorized to contract with the various towns of the County, upon the approval of the County Attorney, for said purposes for the said period of :

November 1, 2021 – October 31, 2022

and the County Treasurer be so advised.

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

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

NAYS: NONE

RESOLUTION NO. 253-21

APPROVAL OF AUDITS IN COUNTY HIGHWAY FUNDS

DATED: OCTOBER 7, 2021

BY MR. WELLS:

RESOLVED, that the bills in the Machinery Fund amounting to \$74,802.17 and bills in the County Road Fund amounting to \$289,141.69 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. Stortecky and adopted by the following vote:

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

NAYS: NONE

RESOLUTION NO. 254-21

**APPROVAL OF AUDITS IN THE COUNTY GENERAL FUND AND CAPITAL
PROJECT 2019-1 HALLOWEEN STORM**

DATED: OCTOBER 7, 2021

BY MR. MAURO:

RESOLVED, that the bills audited this day in the County General Fund in the amount of \$274,092.69 by the following committees:

| | |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------|
| Public Works (Buildings) Committee..... | \$17,567.90 |
| Public Works (Solid Waste) Committee | 82,397.54 |
| Finance Committee | 16,727.30 |
| Health Committee..... | 23,677.03 |
| Human Services Committee..... | 32,337.75 |
| Central Government Committee | 20,309.96 |
| Emergency Prep./Emergency Response..... | 79,277.71 |
| Publicity, Tourism, Economic Development & Planning Committee..... | 1,000.50 |
| Internal Management Committee | 797.00 |

be it further

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

| | |
|---------------------------------------------|-------------|
| Halloween Storm Capital Project 2019-1..... | \$85,886.30 |
|---------------------------------------------|-------------|

are hereby approved.

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

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

NAYS: NONE

Other Reports:

County Attorney: Stated that he had reviewed the draft road tractor resolution that Mr. Eldridge had sent him. It contained a provision that, in his opinion, violates the County Law. The advice he had given on bidding and the requirements is the law but the Board can authorize to enter into that contract if they choose. It may generate an audit exception in so far as it's technically a violation. Mr. Eldridge thanked the County Attorney. Mr. Eldridge asked if he should rescind the resolution or was it as simple as just telling the vendor. They had already canceled his order. Mr. Eldridge discussed his frustration.

The Chairman discussed long term leases. As the County gets into the situation of leasing more tower sites, he doesn't want to have problems. He would like to take a more scrutinizing look at that and see if there is a way to better codify the County's right to the property. He stated that they should sure it up with Jacqueline Murray.

Mr. Arsenault: Stated that they had the official opening to their mountain bike trails on Mount Sabattis. There were about 25 people who attended. He thanked the ROOST team that came to help with the opening. He also thanked Bill Farber. The Chairman thanked him and said it was a fantastic asset to add to the community.

Mr. Stortecky: Thanked everyone involved with North Point Road in Benson. It was a job well done.

Ms. Bain: Asked what the Supervisors thoughts were on Airbnbs. Coming from the town side she feels it's a safety issue. They are not regulated at all and since most of them don't live here, there isn't anyone to oversee. There was an article out that was very educational. Mr. Wilt stated that he was in the article. It discussed the fact that he went to court in 2015 and lost. He feels that it is out of control. Mr. Tomlinson stated that the Town of Mayfield bought a new program to monitor the Airbnbs. Each Airbnb has to be registered and the town's building inspector is inspecting them. Mr. Arsenault feels that it should be a town-by-town issue not county. Mr. Wells has a committee for short term rentals. Mr. Frey stated that Inlet, for the last 11 years, has done a permit. They are treated as commercial enterprises. Ms. Bain stated that it has been coming up every meeting at the town and she feels that they are going to start out slow. The Chairman stated that it was a great idea for them to discuss and share expertise. Mr. Stortecky stated that Lenny Croote, District Technician for Soil and Water, is fully trained in septic systems and has purchased a lot of equipment. They have a program set up to do this within the County. Somewhere along the line they might be of value.

Recess at Noon.

Reconvened at 1:30PM

Present: William Farber, Brian Wells, Nick Mauro, Steve Tomlinson, Clay Arsenault, John Stortecky, Betsy Bain, John Frey-via ZOOM

Absent: Rick Wilt

Also Present: Beth Hunt-Treasurer, Barry Baker-Real Property Director, Tracy Eldridge-Highway Superintendent, Roberta Bly-DSS Commissioner and Kimberly Byrne-Personnel Officer

The Chairman stated that they have come back to meet with the Department Head Committee.

Tracy Eldridge, Highway Superintendent, thanked the Board for meeting with them. They appreciate it. He stated that the press had called him to see what the proposal was. He had not returned their call. The Committee had been asked to come up with items to discuss and they now have four. He stated that the Committee really understands the challenges behind change and tried to keep them simple.

1. Grade & Title Schedule: Put everyone up 2 grades.
The Committee felt that would correct salary issues.
2. Step System: Stop the steps at 10 years and do longevity.

The Committee has done the calculations.

3. Department Head Compensation:

Mr. Eldridge stated this created a lot of discussion and they weren't sure what they wanted to do. The Committee felt they would go with what the normal practice was. In 2022 they would like Committee meetings set up either monthly or bi-monthly just so the Committee really gets to know the department and what they do. It would help open communication. The Department Head Evaluations were never well received. They felt that if the Committee knew their Departments and Department Heads better it would help justify or not justify salaries. The thought was to let the Department Head reach out to the Committee to set these meetings up. The hope is to create a more positive work place and get the morale up.

4. Recognition:

The Committee feels that longtime employees need to be recognized for their service. When the person retires there should be a resolution, certificate or plaque. If there is some program created for this then someone should be in charge of it to be consistent.

Barry Baker, Real Property Director, hopes that the Board will make a committee to continue to meet.

Beth Hunt, Treasurer, stated that the Committee had worked out numbers for longevity as well as the scales of where the employees are. The Chairman stated that the sooner the Committee could get it to the Board the better because they are in the midst of budget. He discussed whether they should continue to do these big meetings and have Finance cover some items or setup a formal Committee. He doesn't feel there is a right or a wrong way to do this.

Mr. Wells stated that he liked Mr. Eldridge's idea of Committee meetings with the Department Heads but wanted to know the rules on the Clerk of the Board having to record them. The Clerk of the Board stated that she or her Deputy would be able to. The Chairman stated that he thought it was stated pretty specifically that the Clerk of the Board's Office is responsible to keep the minutes. He was not sure how they would do that. Mr. Wells stated that if they had a meeting scheduled in Indian Lake, the Clerk of the Board is busy enough, is there a way that someone else could do the meeting for her so it's not something extra put on her. The Clerk of the Board stated that she thought it would have to be by her office; she could always have her Deputy go. Roberta Bly, DSS Commissioner, stated that it didn't have to be complicated. It could just be the Committee Chair stopping into the office to check in.

Mr. Stortecky stated how the players can change based on election year. So, any communication that had been done has to be re-done. Mr. Eldridge stated that the Department Heads have to do a better job with educating when there is turnover too. Mr. Stortecky stated that every Department Head has a different job and he assumed got paid differently. Someone has already determined what that Department Head is paid at time of hire. Going forward trying to determine what a Department Head gets for a raise is hard enough with 2 people let alone 9 deciding. Mr. Stortecky threw out the idea of every person has been hired at a certain scale. They have to assume they want to do the best possible job. They are there for a reason. They are doing the job. The

Committee can't now let people outside the realm decide good job or bad job. He asked what about a flat raise based on what the Board determines for the budget. That way Department Heads can't say one got more of a raise than another. Delegate that same authority where the Department Heads hash out, in Committee, what percent of a raise they get and present it during budget time. Then the Department Heads are the ones that come up with what their employees get. They are the ones that advocate for them by coming to the Board. The Board has to of course trust and believe in the Department Heads to give the right answers. Mr. Eldridge stated that he understood the difficulty and Mr. Stortecky stated that he was trying to eliminate that. Mr. Eldridge stated that it is a different view from a private business to a municipality.

Mr. Eldridge stated that there are some problems here and they need to move forward. They need to be creative and think outside of the box the best they can with the taxpayers in mind. Both fiscally and with the services the County provides. He shared what he had learned from working at International Paper and that was continuing improvement. It is important for the Department Heads to be on the same page and that is what they are trying to do.

Mr. Stortecky stated how great and how huge the responsibilities have become at the town level. They are not in the position to look to grow more committees or more meetings. They are actually saying they have a hard enough time to make the regular meetings. Mr. Eldridge stated that he understood that it was tough but they won't know until they try. Mr. Stortecky stated that they could try but he doesn't have high hopes at the moment. Ms. Bly reiterated that it didn't have to be a recorded meeting they could just stop by the office. Ask what is going on. That way when they come back to update the Board, they would have something to say. She stated that she couldn't tell them the ins and outs but she could tell the challenges. She discussed how civil service plays a part and complicates things. Mr. Stortecky asked how the Board would uncomplicate that. The Chairman stated that there was nothing in civil service that dictates how the County does remuneration. He understands that it has become a flawed system. Having a star employee is exactly how the County got to a merit system. A lot of these things run their course. He further discussed what he has seen through the years such as the grade and step system capping out after 7-years. He stated that it is time to make adjustments and in order to do that they need to start with a more robust conversation. He likes the work the Committee has done and he totally gets the idea that the Board has the responsibility for salaries. There are too many factors to delegate that to the Department Heads. The one thing this discussion has done is reminded them all of both sides. He likes that all of them are at that stage of the process. He is apprehensive about setting up a smaller Committee. There is value with having everyone in the room. Everyone is a Committee Chair. He thinks that they should keep these conversations going at the monthly Board meetings for now and/or Committee Day. He feels that the recognition piece could clearly have the Department Head group or designee work on that with Ms. Bain as Internal Management Chair. He wondered if they were doing the right thing by recognizing employees on the way out the door. Is it too late by then? Do they need a structure that thinks about recognizing the employee better along the way? They need to get those numbers and structures to Mr. Frey and himself so they can start looking at it with respect to budget. If the Committee could then go back to their colleagues; tell them what they presented to the Board and that they are willing to try. Try to set up times with their Committee Chairs to stop in their offices. With the finite number of additional Committee meetings, north and south, he feels that they can cover them in the interim. He feels

that some of this could be moved forward quickly. He also stated that there will be the conversation on how the County Manager will play a role in all that.

Mr. Tomlinson stated that he is for it and feels it's a step in the right direction.

Mr. Stortecky stated he wanted to leave the Committee with a thought. Asking them all to think of themselves as what they should be. The very best at their profession. Doing what they want to do and in the County they love. Wanting to be successful and expect to be fairly compensated for that. So, coming in with the idea of telling the Board what they need to be happy in a sense.

Ms. Bain stated that they have come a long way in a short amount of time. She had a suggestion that maybe one representative from the Committee always be there at the Board meetings just so they can overhear what's going on. Then that person can go back to the Department Heads with the information. She feels that this is part of the problem. After their meetings they don't always remember to share the information with the Department Heads.

Mr. Eldridge stated that they would get out their numbers. The Chairman stated that they would set up a Finance Committee meeting pretty quickly to meet on them. He knows that Ms. Bain is more than willing to set up a meeting to discuss recognition. He asked that they please reinforce to their colleagues that they are open to the idea of being more engaged. Everyone will make a conscious effort to be more available.

Mr. Frey stated how they would try to find the best solution for this year and thanked the Committee for their hard work.

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