

Finance & Rules Committee
July 30, 2024
Minutes

Members Present: Committee Chair Michael Montigelli, Legislators Robert Cantwell, Philip Reed, Daniel McBride, John Peck, Robert, Ferris, Frances Calarco, Board Chair William Johnson

Others Present: Legislators Tina Bartlett-Bearup, Patrick Jareo, Christopher Boulio, Steel Potter, Corey Grant, and Anthony Doldo, Interim County Administrator Dylan Soper, County Attorney David Paulsen, Conf. Asst. for Fiscal Affairs Ashley Durham, Director of Aviation Grant Sussey, Human Resources Director Valerie Nugent, Information Technologies Director Sean Vincent, Deputy Treasurer Christine Ingersoll, County Treasurer Brian Peck, Confidential Secretary Jill Jones

Chairman Montigelli called the meeting to order at 7:28 p.m. The Committee approved the minutes of the June meeting as presented.

Charles Trottier, Director, Drescher & Malecki made a presentation to the Committee concerning their audit of Jefferson County's 2023 financial statements. He said their opinion regarding the financial statements is clean/unmodified and their opinion regarding the effectiveness of internal controls is also unmodified/clean with no material weaknesses or significant deficiencies. There were also no question costs on the Single Audit which is required of governments using over \$750,000 in federal awards; they tested six programs this year including Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds, child support enforcement, foster care, adoption assistance social services block grant, and Medicaid and they were all clean. Their opinion was also unmodified and there were no findings in the required audits they performed for: New York State Department of Transportation (CHIPS), and the Passenger Facility Charge Report (Airport).

Mr. Trottier outlined graphics of five year trends for revenues and other sources vs. expenses and other uses for the General Fund noting that for 2023, revenue gains were largely due to receiving increased sales tax, and if you don't consider the pandemic (ARPA) funds, he said revenue growth each year for the five years was 4.6%. Expenses for that five year period increased by 3.3 % annually. He said the net gain, or difference in revenues vs. expenditures for 2023 is \$15.9 million. The fund balance policy provides that the Board stay within the calculation of two months expenditures (approximately 16.7%) +/- 10%, and the ratio of unassigned fund balance to current year expenditures was 40.7% at the end of 2021, was 35.2% at the end of 2022, and is 40.8% at the end of 2023, which is acceptable considering the uncertainties. He further outlined a five year overview of the Solid Waste Enterprise Fund key trends. Mr. Trottier provided his contact information as well as Manager Kyle Patronik for questions after tonight. Mr. Trottier answered questions of legislators related to the statements.

Chairman Montigelli introduced a resolution Amending 2024 County Budget Relative to County Administration Accounts and entertained a motion for consideration. A motion was duly

made by Legislator Reed seconded by Legislator Ferris and there being no debate, the Committee agreed to sponsor the resolution as presented.

Chairman Montigelli introduced a resolution Amending the 2024 County Budget in Relation to County Attorney Account and entertained a motion for consideration. A motion was duly made by Legislator Cantwell seconded by Legislator Reed and there being no debate, the Committee agreed to sponsor the resolution as presented.

Chairman Montigelli introduced a resolution Authorizing an Agreement with the New York State Office of Information Technology Services and the New York State Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Services in Relation to an Event Information and Event Management Solution and entertained a motion for consideration. A motion was duly made by Legislator Ferris seconded by Legislator Cantwell and there being no debate, the Committee agreed to sponsor the resolution as presented.

Chairman Montigelli introduced a resolution Authorizing an Addendum with the New York State Office of Information Technology Services and the New York State Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Services in Relation to Endpoint Detection Response Service and entertained a motion for consideration. A motion was duly made by Legislator Ferris seconded by Legislator McBride and there being no debate, the Committee agreed to sponsor the resolution as presented.

Chairman Montigelli introduced a resolution Amending the 2024 County Budget in Relation to Treasurer's Office Accounts and entertained a motion for consideration. A motion was duly made by Legislator Calarco seconded by Legislator Cantwell and there being no debate, the Committee agreed to sponsor the resolution as presented.

Chairman Montigelli introduced a resolution Authorizing an Agreement with Development Authority of the North Country in Relation to Broadband and Amending the 2024 County Budget in Relation Thereto and entertained a motion for consideration. A motion was duly made by Legislator McBride and seconded by Legislator Reed. In response to a question, Administrator Soper advised that the section of the Town of Leray that Legislator Nabywaniec expressed concerns about at the Finance & Rules Committee will be addressed by this project. There being no further debate, the Committee agreed to sponsor the resolution as presented.

Chairman Montigelli introduced a resolution Authorizing the Purchase of Real Property at 1000 Coffeen Street in the City of Watertown and Amending the 2024 County Budget in Relation Thereto and entertained a motion for consideration. A motion was duly made by Legislator Cantwell seconded by Legislator Ferris and there being no debate, the Committee agreed to sponsor the resolution as presented.

Chairman Montigelli introduced a resolution Authorizing Agreements and Amending the 2024 County Budget in Relation to NYSWIMS Grant Application to Incentivize Lifeguard Recruitment and Retention for Eligible Municipalities and entertained a motion for

consideration. A motion was duly made by Legislator Ferris seconded by Legislator Calarco and there being no debate, the Committee agreed to sponsor the resolution as presented.

Chairman Montigelli introduced a resolution Authorizing Agreements in Relation to Construction of the Airport Fuel Farm at the Watertown International Airport and Modifying the 2024 Budget and Capital Plan in Relation Thereto and entertained a motion for consideration. A motion was duly made by Legislator Ferris seconded by Legislator Calarco and there being no debate, the Committee agreed to sponsor the resolution as presented.

Chairman Montigelli introduced a resolution Authorizing Agreements with Arnold K. Crump, Patrick K. Crump, Christine Spencer, Margaret Moore, Daniel and Rebecca Crosby, the Federal Aviation Administration, and the New York State Department of Transportation in Relation to Watertown International Airport Land Acquisition Services (Runways 7, 10, 25, and 28) and Amending the 2024 County Budget and Capital Plan and entertained a motion for consideration. A motion was duly made by Legislator Reed seconded by Legislator Calarco and there being no debate, the Committee agreed to sponsor the resolution as presented.

Chairman Montigelli introduced a resolution Authorizing an Agreement with Jefferson County Soil and Water Conservation District Relative to Management of and Recreation in County Forest Lands and entertained a motion for consideration. A motion was duly made by Legislator McBride seconded by Legislator Cantwell and there being no debate, the Committee agreed to sponsor the resolution as presented.

Chairman Montigelli introduced a resolution Authorizing an Agreement with Jefferson County Soil and Water Conservation In Relation to the Harvest of White Ash on County Lands and entertained a motion for consideration. A motion was duly made by Legislator McBride seconded by Legislator Reed and there being no debate, the Committee agreed to sponsor the resolution as presented.

Chairman Montigelli introduced a resolution Authorizing an Amendment to the Civil Service Employees Association Collective Bargaining Agreement and a Memorandum of Understanding in Relation to Caseworker Recruitment and Retention and entertained a motion for consideration. A motion was duly made by Legislator Ferris and seconded by Legislator Reed. Legislator McBride said that the Board should be informed if a department loses 30% of its workforce before we get into these situations, he remains concerned about what is going on at the Department of Social Services and will be voting no on the resolution. There being no further discussion, the Committee agreed to sponsor the resolution as presented with Legislators McBride and Calarco voting no.

Chairman Montigelli introduced a resolution Authorizing a Retention Bonus for Certain Childrens Services Management Titles and entertained a motion for consideration. A motion was duly made by Legislator Cantwell seconded by Legislator Reed and there being no debate, the Committee agreed to sponsor the resolution as presented with Legislator McBride voting no.

On a motion by Legislator Cantwell seconded by Legislator McBride and unanimously carried, the Committee approved the following General Services Committee sponsored resolutions:

- ✓ Authorizing Agreements with the Federal Aviation Administration and New York State Department of Transportation for the Watertown International Airport Runway 10-28 Rehabilitation Construction, State Environmental Quality Review Determination and Amending the 2024 County Budget and Capital Plan Related Thereto
- ✓ Authorizing Agreements with McFarland Johnson and Baseline King Corporation in Relation to the Installation of Backup Weather Equipment, State Environmental Quality Review Determination, and Amending the 2024 County Budget and Capital Plan in Relation Thereto
- ✓ Amending the 2024 County Budget in Relation to the Highway Office Complex
- ✓ Authorizing Intergovernmental Agreement with the Town of Henderson to Exchange Ownership and Jurisdiction of County Road 123 and Military Road with said Town and Amending the County Highway Map and Amending the 2024 County Budget in Relation Thereto.
- ✓ Recognizing NYS Division of Criminal Justice Services GIVE Grant Award to the Probation Department and Amending the 2024 County Budget in Relation Thereto

On a motion by Legislator Ferris seconded by Legislator Reed and unanimously carried, the Committee approved the following Health & Human Services Committee sponsored resolutions:

- ✓ Amending the 2024 County Budget Relative to Community Services Department Court Commitments and Calling for New York State to Enact Necessary Reforms for Determining the Capacity of a Defendant to Stand Trial
- ✓ Accepting Donation on Behalf of the Jefferson County Public Health Service and Amending the 2024 County Budget
- ✓ Amending 2024 County Budget Relative to Social Service Department Accounts

On a motion by Legislator Cantwell seconded by Legislator Reed and unanimously carried, the Committee approved an additional Health & Human Services Committee sponsored resolution not listed on the agenda for review by the Finance & Rules Committee:

- ✓ Reclassifying a Position in the Office for the Aging

There being no further business of the Committee, on a motion by Legislator Ferris seconded by Legislator McBride and unanimously carried, the meeting was adjourned at 8:03 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Dylan M. Soper
Clerk of the Board