

**WAYS & MEANS
COMMITTEE MINUTES
April 17, 2007, 6:00PM**

ATTENDANCE: Hon. Paul M. Dudley, Chair, Hon. Ray Lockwood, Vice-Chair, Hon. Francis Mitchell, Hon. Linda Murphy, Hon. Ann Petrus, Hon. Daniel Schuster and Hon. George Fearon, Chairman

EXCUSED: Hon. Steve Cuddeback

PRESENT: Wayne Allen, County Manager, Sheriff David Gould, George Daniels, Probation Director II, George Wethey, County Highway Superintendent, Alan Kozolwicz, Director of Real Property Tax Service, Elane Daly, Director of Health & Human Services, Michael Pawlenko, Superintendent of Buildings & Grounds, Gary Duckett, Park Maintenance Supervisor, Sue Dwyer, County Clerk, Meg Vanek, Director of Office of Tourism, Mary Roglaski, Cayuga Counseling, Kristina Martino, Reporter (The Citizen), Beth Beer-Cuddy, Reporter (Post Standard) and Lisa Sigona, Recording Secretary.

CALL TO ORDER: Hon. Paul M. Dudley, Chair, called the Ways & Means Committee Meeting to order on Tuesday, April 17, 2007, Cayuga County Office Building, Caucus Room 1, 6th Floor at 6:00 p.m.

MINUTES TO APPROVE: Hon. Legislator Dudley asked for a motion to approve the Ways & Means Minutes of March 21, 2007. Motioned by Hon. Legislator Lockwood, seconded by Hon. Legislator Petrus. All members present voted in favor of the motion to pass the minutes as is.

APPOINTMENTS AND RE-APPOINTMENTS:

Health & Human Services – Community Services Board (No compensation for either appointment):

James G. Stowell – new appointment – Term 1/2007 – 12/2010

Beth Dishaw – reappointment – Term 1/2007 – 12/2010

Mr. Schuster asked Mrs. Petrus regarding the previous controversy regarding the by-laws of the Community Service Board and wondered if they had been updated. Mrs. Petrus explained the by-laws have been updated. Mr. Schuster requested a copy of the updated by-laws; Mrs. Petrus will provide them to him.

RESOLUTIONS: The Committee discussed and unanimously approved the following resolutions, unless otherwise noted:

REGULAR MONTHLY RESOLUTIONS:

1. Auth. payment of **March** Audit of Claims
2. Auth. payment of Utilities.
3. Auth. payment of all Central Services for **March 07**
4. Auth. payment of claims for the Nursing Home
5. Auth. payment of Claims for the Sr. Nutrition Program.
6. Auth. payment of Claims for Thruway Tolls.
7. Auth. payment of Claims for Credit Card Charges.
8. Auth. payment of Legal Notices.
9. Auth. payment of Various Capital “H” Projects. **For 911 enhancement and the college.**
10. Auth. payment of Claims for Various Equipment Leases.
11. Auth. payment of Parcel Services.

WAYS & MEANS RESOLUTIONS:

12. Authorizing the Correction of Tax Errors in Several Towns. **Mr. Kozolwicz verified the assessors signed these.**

13. Directing the County Treasurer to Pay Dog Tax Monies as Apportioned.
14. Authorizing the County Treasurer to Pay Balloons Restaurant and Catering for Employee Recognition Lunch Expense. **Luncheon will be held on Thursday, 5/24/07 at Emerson Park, Legislators are invited to attend. Mr. Lockwood motioned.**

WAYS & MEANS SUB-COMMITTEE RESOLUTIONS:

PLANNING COMMITTEE:

15. Requesting State Home Rule Legislation to Increase the Hotel and Motel Room Tax from 3% to 5%. **Ms. Vanek presented and discussed the annual report on tourism for Cayuga County. She discussed neighboring counties and how Cayuga County is not keeping up, competing with the world is important to tourism. The County assisted with payment for a survey done by Rand Travel Marketing for a report that showed the increase in sales tax revenue could go toward promoting tourism in Cayuga County. It is appropriate to use the money for funding the same. According to the Rand report, the average stay in a hotel/motel is two (2) nights. Mr. Lockwood pointed out that really this would be giving free advertisement for hotel/motels in the area if the funding is used for promoting Cayuga County. Mr. Mitchell opposes the increase. Mr. Schuster wanted to impress upon the Committee that the performance of the Tourism Office is at the very low end with overhead and salaries, that the majority of the office's money is spent on promotion. On the April 12th meeting at the Tourism Office, it was noted that most hotel/motels aren't even going to notice the change in the tax increase. People who travel will also not notice the \$1 to \$2 dollar change. It was discussed to not go over the 5% increase because if you change it to a higher percentile it will affect the public using the services. Mr. Mitchell stated that when he is traveling he does look at the price and he looks at the tax also. Mr. Lockwood mentioned that there is a \$25.00 to \$50.00 airport tax and that it doesn't matter to him, he knows he has to pay it if he needs or wants to travel. Vote for resolution 5 to 1, with Mr. Mitchell voting nay.**

GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS:

16. Authorizing the County Clerk to Extend Computer Service Contract Between ACS and Cayuga County for One Year. **Sue Dwyer presented. This is a service contract for hardware and software on the County Clerk's database program. Cost is \$5,548.**
17. To Authorize the Director of Veterans Service Agency to Purchase a Van for the Transportation of Veterans to the Syracuse Veterans Administration Medical Center. **Budgeted \$50,000.**

PUBLIC WORKS:

18. Authorization to Adopt a Cayuga County Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration Drug and Alcohol Testing Policy. **Mr. Lockwood would like to see all employees that drive County vehicles to be subjected to drug and alcohol testing. The policy is a modification, more current within the law. Mr. Dudley asked about Health & Human Service Employees and Law Enforcement Officers are they treated differently than CDL licensed employees? Mr. Allen will check into this for the Committee.**
19. Authorizing Amendment of Resolution No. 149-07 Due to a Clerical Error. **Related to the snowmobile grant for \$1,600.**
20. Authorizing the Chairman of the Cayuga County Legislature to Consolidate all Elevator Assured Maintenance Agreements. **Mr. Pawlenko presented. This is to get all agreements into one contract that will be for three (3) years. There is a savings of \$671 a year. Once this gets onto a three (3) year contract we can then go out for competitive bids. Mr. Dudley complimented Mr. Pawlenko for his research and saving the County money.**
21. Authorize Chairman and Highway Superintendent to Sign an Intermunicipal Agreement with Onondaga County for a Traffic Flasher. **Mr. Wethey presented. This is good for all involved, cost of \$17,500. Mr. Schuster asked if the County applied for grant monies. Mr. Wethey stated the County did not apply.**
22. Authorize Chairman and Highway Superintendent to Sign an Intermunicipal Agreement with the City of Auburn. **There is no cost to the County.**
23. Authorization to Fill a Heavy M.E.O. Position within the Highway Dept. and Back Fill behind the Promotion. **There is a small savings of a few dollars. Current employee is retiring.**
24. Authorizing the Parks and trails Dept. to Hire a Well Drilling Company to Drill a Well and Hook up a New Water System for the Sterling Nature Center. **Mr. Duckett presented. Three quotes for a well driller to dig and drill for well, \$9,500.**

PUBLIC WORKS (Continued):

25. Authorizing the Parks & Trails Dept. to Purchase Pipe to Repair the Antique Light Poles along the Main Sidewalk at Emerson Park. **This will be \$3,000 to repair the old, which is approximately sixty (60) years old; a new one would cost \$16,247. The repair will last as long as the original poles.**
- 25A. **(Added 4-11-07)** Amending Resolution NO. 701-06 (The Establishment of Capital "H" Project No. 06-6 for the MGR-Scene Shop) and Awarding the Bid for the Construction for the Merry-Go-Round Playhouse New Scene Shop. **Cost is estimated at \$30,000, higher than anticipated, but there is no cost to the County. The County oversees the project through a Capital "H" project and the Merry-Go-Round gives us the money in return.**

JUDICIAL & PUBLIC SAFETY:

26. Amending the 2007 County Budget to Account for Pre-Trail Diversion, Pre-Trail Release and Alternative Sentencing Programs. **Ms. Rogalski from Cayuga County presented, amending for \$960 and it's a routine amendment to finalize the program. Hon. Legislator Murphy abstained from the vote.**
27. Authorizing the Cayuga County Treasurer to Amend the District Attorney's 2007 Budget to Provide for the Unexpended Balance of the 2006 State Aid Legislative Grant. **Mr. Lockwood presented. \$3,623.21 is available to the County. We need to use the money or lose it. It will be used for computer equipment for the District Attorney's Office. Mr. Schuster asked Mr. Allen to get a list of the equipment to Mr. Schuster.**
28. Authorizing the Cayuga County Sheriff to Transfer Funds in the Amount of \$4000.00 within the County Office Building Security Detail Budget from 3119.120.000-A (Salary) to the 3119.400.062-A (Uniforms) Budget Line. **Sheriff Gould presented. This is for uniforms, hardware, badges, etc. for the new security detail at the County Office Building, just relocating monies from one budget line to another.**
29. Authorizing the Cayuga County Sheriff to Change the Court Attendant's Per Diem Pay Structure Effective May 1, 2007. **Restructuring of pays for new scheduling of Court Attendants. \$100/day – 8 hours; \$75/day – 6 hours; \$50/day – 4 hours. 100% funded by the NYS Unified Court System.**
30. Authorization to Fund and to Fill Three (3) Additional Court Attendants Utilized in the New York State Unified Court System in Cayuga County, 100% Reimbursed by the NYS Unified Court System.
31. Authorization to Fill Two Vacant Court (Part-Time) Positions in the New York State Unified Court System in Cayuga County. **100% funded by the NYS Unified Court System.**
32. Authorizing the Creation of an Account Clerk Typist Position and Authorizing the Cayuga County Probation Director to Fill the Position by Promotion and Backfill a Position on a Part-Time Basis. **Mr. Daniels presented. Approximately \$400 cost, the employee will go to Step 3 from a Step 4. Mr. Daniels reiterated the statistics of the Probation Department and the needs of the current staff. Mr. Lockwood stated that the Judicial & Public Safety Committee approved this by majority and one (1) no vote. Ms. Murphy stated that Mr. Daniels doesn't ask for a position or other expenditures unless it's absolutely necessary. Mr. Fearon pointed out the position will not start until July 1, 2007. Mr. Lockwood motioned, Ms. Murphy seconded, unanimously passed.**
33. Authorize the Sheriff to Purchase one (1) Transport Vehicle for the Transport of Inmates from County Jail from the New York State Contract Vendor. **Budgeted monies approximately \$110,000.**
34. Authorizing the Sheriff of Cayuga County to Purchase 8 Computers and 6 Computer Monitors. **Monies are budgeted and there is a savings, \$4,000. Mr. Johnson was able to get the computers for less than originally anticipated.**

HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES:

35. Authorizing the Director of H& Human Services to Accept Additional WIC Funding for the Healthy Lifestyle Program
36. Rescinding Res. #125-07 and Authorizing the Chairman of the Legislature and the Director of Health & Human Services to Enter into a Contract with the Town of Throop Cemetery to Provide for Indigent Burials. **Mr. Schuster is not comfortable with just one (1) choice of a cemetery. He would like to make sure all cemeteries received letters. Ms. Daly explained that St. Joseph rescinded their offer and that the Town of Throop was the only other one to respond. Mr. Lockwood announced that Soule Cemetery no longer offers this service.**
37. Authorizing the Chairman of the Legislature and the Director of Health & Human Services to Enter into a Contract with Catholic Charities for Case Management/SSI Maximization.
38. Authorizing the Chairman of the Legislature and the Director of Health & Human Services to Enter into a Service Contract with John Riccione to Provide Occupational Therapy Services.
39. Authorizing the Chairman of the Legislature and the Director of Health & Human Services to Enter into a Contract with Optimum Partners to Update the Community Health Assessment.

HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES (Continued):

40. Authorizing the Chairman of the Legislature and the Director of Health & Human Services to Enter into a Contract with Carey & Daley, Physical Therapy, PC
41. Authorizing the Chairman of the Legislature and the Director of Health & Human Services to Renew a Contract with Huntington Family Center, Inc.
42. Authorizing the Chairman of the Legislature and the Director of Health & Human Services to Renew a Contract with the NYS Dept. of Health to Participate in the Healthy Men & Women's Partnership, Accept Funding for these Programs and Create/Fill P.T. Health Program Coordinator (100% Funded)

Ms. Daly presented Resolutions 35 – 42 with explanation that resolutions are either 100% funded by grants and or have had contracts in place from previous years. Mrs. Petrus stated these have all passed through committee. Mrs. Petrus motioned, Ms. Murphy seconded, Unanimously passed, all ayes.

43. Authorizing the County Legislature to Create a Sr. Typist Position in the Support Collection Unit of Human Services; Authorizing the Director of Health & Human Services to Fill the Newly Created Sr. Typist Position and to Leave Vacant a Sr. Stenographer Position in that Unit.
44. Authorizing the Director of Health & Human Services to Fill One Part-Time LPN Vacancy at CHHA.
45. Authorizing the Director of Health & Human Services to Temporarily Fill a Caseworker Vacancy in Child Welfare Unit.
46. Authorizing the Director of Health & Human Services to Fill One Part-Time RN Vacancy at the Home Care Agency.
47. Authorizing the Director of Health & Human Services to Fill a RPN Position in CHHA.

Ms. Daly presented Resolutions 43 – 47 with explanation that these positions are to fill vacancies within the department and all positions are budgeted.

48. Authorizing the Purchase of Three (3) Highband and Three (3) Lowband Mobile Radio Units for the Cayuga County Emergency Medical Services Three (3) Mass Casualty Incident (MCI) Trailers. (2/3) **Mrs. Petrus presented for Brian Dahl. The equipment is for EMS personnel and is budgeted at a cost of \$3,270. Passed through committee unanimously.**
49. Authorizing the Director of Health & Human Services to Purchase blinds for Human Services Offices.
50. **(Added 4-12-07) Rejecting the Point of Care Software System Bid for the County Health Dept's Home Care Agency and Authorizing the Clerk of the Legislature to Re-Advertise. This resolution was formulated when it was notice the bids were not notarized.**

COMMITTEE DISCUSSION: In light of recent events at Virginia Tech College, Mr. Lockwood feels there is concern for more vigilant security. Discussion about having cameras in elevators and on each floor should be considered. Right now there are only cameras on the 1st floor and the 3rd floor. Mr. Johnson stated that cameras are approximately \$1,000 each and the cost to do each elevator and floor would be approximately \$8,000 total. There was consensus that there are a lot of crimes committed in elevators and that we need the security. Mr. Dudley asked that Mr. Pawlenko, Mr. Lockwood, Sheriff Gould, Mr. Allen and Mr. Johnson continue discussions regarding public safety and additional security measures for the County. Metal detectors were discussed and Mr. Allen stated that it is an issue that once some weapon is found, what does the County do with that weapon, etc. The legalities of confiscating the weapon from the person coming through those metal detectors. Mr. Fearon stated that currently we have 9 cameras and we can take up to 32 cameras in total. Mrs. Petrus asked if we could continue these discussions at a later time and pass this back onto Mr. Dahl to look into seeing if we could get a grant to assist with the costs of the cameras. Mr. Lockwood said that a grant could be looked into to offset the costs.

Mr. Lockwood reminded everyone that there will be a 5:30 dinner meeting at the Public Safety Building on Thursday, April 19, 2007 and that there will be a presentation on pictometry during the dinner hour. Mr. Pawlenko and Mr. Allen will both be in attendance.

Mr. Allen brought to the committee the topic on the proposal(s) for the Compliance Officer and that it will be brought to the Public Works meeting in May.

Mr. Dudley mentioned that there will be a meeting of all ATV Clubs and everyone is invited. Mr. Duckett will provide maps and such for the meeting.

COMMITTEE DISCUSSION (Continued):

Mr. Fearon announced that the NYS Office of Mental Health has approved the plans for the Old Historic Post Office.

Mr. Lockwood feels the meetings being back to back are a much better way of running the government meetings. Mr. Dudley thanked Mr. Allen, Mr. Fearon and Ms. Sigona and that it is a group effort by all to make the meetings efficient. Mr. Allen asked Mr. Dudley to also recognize Department Heads with credit also for making the process easier. Mr. Dudley agreed.

Next Ways & Means Meeting is scheduled for May 15, 2007 at 6:00PM

ADJOURNMENT: Hon. Legislator Lockwood motioned to adjourn the Ways & Means Committee meeting at 6:51 p.m. All in favor of motion. So moved by the Hon. Legislator Dudley, Chair.

*Respectfully Submitted,
Lisa Sigona, Recording Secretary*

Minutes Approved: 5/15/07