

Finance & Rules Committee
July 31, 2018
Minutes

Members Present: Committee Chair Michael Montigelli, Legislators William Johnson, Allen Drake, Daniel McBride, James Nabywaniec, Carolyn Fitzpatrick and Board Chair Scott Gray

Others Present: Legislators Philip Reed, John Peck, Jeremiah Maxon, Robert Ferris and Anthony Doldo, County Administrator Robert Hagemann, Deputy Administrator Sarah Baldwin, County Attorney David Paulsen, Conf. Asst. for Fiscal Affairs and Information Technology Director Gregory Hudson, Human Resources Director Valerie Nugent, Public Health Director Ginger Hall, Probation Director Martin Morrison, Watertown Daily Times Reporter Abraham Kenmore, Confidential Secretary Jill Jones

Chairman Montigelli called the meeting to order at 6:05 p.m. and offered privilege of the floor, however no one present wished to speak. The Committee approved the minutes of the June meeting as presented.

Thompson Park Conservancy Board Chair Mark Irwin and Thompson Park Zoo Executive Director and CEO Larry Sorel made a presentation to the Committee concerning their recent efforts to make improvements at the Zoo. Mr. Irwin thanked the Board for their continued annual support of the Zoo and stated that in surveys of the community the Zoo is recognized as a critical piece that adds to the quality of life in the community. He said the organization has struggled for about 10 years but they are on a good path now and are excited about where they are going. Over the last year improvements have been made in signage at each exhibit, in the children's farm area, and new staff leadership is in place providing stability that will bode well for the coming years. Mr. Irwin stated that their focus is on conservation and education, and they are hoping to increase memberships as well as the number of people that visit the Zoo annually by reaching out to Fort Drum residents as well as people from outside Jefferson County.

Mr. Sorel also thanked the Board for what they have done for the Zoo historically and hoped to see that support continue. He said a marketing plan has been put together in collaboration with the Gary DeYoung, Executive Director of the Thousand Islands International Tourism Council and his staff focusing on Fall, 2018 - Spring, 2019. He said the Zoo is a tourist destination and can be a greater one that brings money in not only from the Thousand Islands area, but from outside the area and turning that money over within the community. Their focus will be the Fort Drum population, people in neighboring counties and the tourists that visit those counties. The plan includes collecting and producing marketing assets (high quality photos, video and other elements) that can be used in collateral material for advertising in print as well as video, and incorporated into social media. If the funds are approved by the Board a portion of the funding will be used this fall to supplement ongoing special events, and the remainder will be used for asset development, and then a big push in the Spring.

Chairman Montigelli introduced a resolution for payment of legislators' expenses and entertained a motion for consideration. A motion was duly made by Legislator McBride seconded by Legislator Drake and there being no discussion, the Committee agreed to sponsor the resolution as presented.

Chairman Montigelli introduced a resolution appointing Election Commissioner and entertained a motion for consideration. A motion was duly made by Legislator Nabywaniec seconded by Legislator Fitzpatrick and there being no discussion, the Committee agreed to sponsor the resolution as presented.

Chairman Montigelli introduced a resolution appointing County Historian and entertained a motion for consideration. A motion was duly made by Legislator McBride seconded by Legislator Drake and there being no discussion, the Committee agreed to sponsor the resolution as presented.

Administrator Hagemann advised that there was an additional resolution for consideration by the Committee regarding a tax certiorari proceeding, a copy of which is on legislators desks. He advised the refund is for 342 Hotel Associates in the Town of Leray in the total amount of \$36,733.81 which is over what can be approved by the County Auditor and it needs to be addressed right away in order to avoid having to pay any interest on top of the refund. Chairman Montigelli introduced a resolution concurring in settlement of tax certiorari proceedings and authorizing refund of taxes in connection therewith (342 Hotel Associates, LLC) and entertained a motion for consideration. A motion was duly made by Legislator Nabywaniec seconded by Legislator Drake and there being no discussion, the Committee agreed to sponsor the resolution as presented.

On a motion by Legislator Nabywaniec seconded by Legislators Fitzpatrick, Johnson McBride, and Drake the Committee approved the following General Services Committee sponsored resolutions:

- ☐ Amending the 2018 County Budget and Capital Plan to Recognize 2017 Revenue from Passenger Facility Charges at Watertown International Airport and 2017 and 2018 Revenue from Fort Drum Residential Communities Initiative
- ☐ Authorizing Agreements with the FAA, NYS DOT and McFarland Johnson for the Aircraft Rescue Fire Fighting Building Design and Amending the 2018 County Budget and Capital Plan in Relation Thereto
- ☐ Authorizing Agreements with the FAA, NYS DOT, McFarland Johnson and M-B Companies, Inc. and Amending the 2018 County Budget and Capital Plan in Relation Thereto
- ☐ Authorizing Agreements with the FAA, NYS DOT and McFarland Johnson, for Runway 7/25 and Intersection Rehabilitation Design and Amending the 2018 County Budget and Capital Plan in Relation Thereto
- ☐ Authorizing Agreements with the FAA, NYS DOT and McFarland Johnson for the Terminal Access Road and Amending the 2018 County Budget and Capital Plan in Relation Thereto
- ☐ Authorizing Agreements with NYS DOT and McFarland Johnson for the Air Ambulance Hangar at the Watertown International Airport and Amending the 2018 County Budget and Capital Plan in Relation Thereto

- ☐ Authorizing the Implementation and Funding of the Federal Aid and State "Marchiselli" Program Aid Eligible Costs of a Transportation Federal-Aid Project (County Road 152 (Stony Creek Rd) over Stony Creek), Appropriating Funds Therefor and Amending the 2018 County Budget and Capital Plan
- ☐ Amending the 2018 County Budget in Relation to the Highway Department CHIPS Funding
- ☐ Accepting Donations for Sheriff's Department K-9 Unit and Amending the 2018 County Budget in Relation Thereto
- ☐ Amending the 2018 County Budget to Recognize Insurance Recovery and Allocating Same in Sheriff's Department Budget
- ☐ Recognizing NYS Division of Criminal Justice Services Program Grant and Amending the 2018 County Budget in Relation Thereto

On a motion by Legislator McBride seconded by Legislator Johnson and unanimously carried, the Committee approved the following Health & Human Services Committee sponsored resolution:

- Amending the 2018 County Budget to Recognize Additional State Aid and Authorizing Amended Agreement with the Children's Home in Relation Thereto

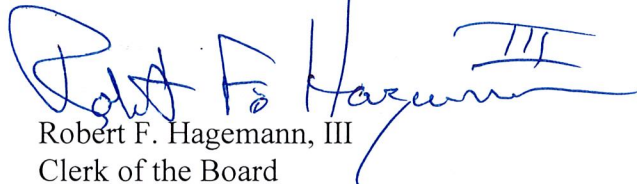
Chairman Montigelli entertained a motion to go into executive session for the purpose of discussing collective bargaining negotiations pursuant to Article 14 of Civil Service Law. Such motion was made by Legislator Nabywaniec seconded by Legislator Drake and unanimously carried. The Committee entered executive session at 6:20 p.m. The Committee returned to open session at 7:00 p.m. on a motion by Legislator Nabywaniec seconded by Legislator Drake and unanimously carried.

Chairman Montigelli introduced a resolution accepting funding in connection with north country initiative nursing recruitment and retention and amending the 2018 County Budget in relation thereto and entertained a motion for consideration. A motion was duly made by Legislator Nabywaniec seconded by Legislator Drake and there being no discussion, the Committee agreed to sponsor the resolution as presented.

Legislator Johnson asked if the presentation from the Zoo was a formal request for additional funding or if it was related to a request they made previously. Chairman Gray stated that it was part of the standing request that was made earlier in the year. Mr. Hagemann clarified that it was for the request that is on the table in the amount of \$25,000 for the current fiscal year. He said they are only looking for \$11,500 for the Fall season, but no action is required tonight.

There being no further business of the Committee, on a motion by Legislator McBride seconded by Legislator Drake and unanimously carried, the meeting was adjourned at 7:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,


Robert F. Hagemann, III
Clerk of the Board