

WARREN COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

COMMITTEE: FINANCE

DATE: JUNE 10, 2015

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COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:

SUPERVISORS: CONOVER  
TAYLOR  
SOKOL  
MONROE  
WOOD  
KENNY  
MERLINO  
FRASIER  
DICKINSON

OTHERS PRESENT:

MIKE SWAN, COUNTY TREASURER  
KEVIN B. GERAGHTY, CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD  
AMY BARTLETT, FIRST ASSISTANT COUNTY ATTORNEY  
PAUL DUSEK, COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR  
AMANDA ALLEN, CLERK OF THE BOARD  
FRANK E. THOMAS, BUDGET OFFICER  
SUPERVISORS BROCK  
GIRARD  
SEEBER  
LLOYD COTE, ADMINISTRATOR OF THE WESTMOUNT HEALTH FACILITY  
REPRESENTING SUNY ADIRONDACK:  
DR. KRISTEN DUFFY, PRESIDENT  
ANN MARIE SOMMA, VICE PRESIDENT FOR ADMINISTRATIVE  
SERVICES AND TREASURER  
LARRY PALTROWITZ, LEGAL COUNSEL FOR WARREN COUNTY  
DAN KANE, TOWN OF QUEENSBURY RESIDENT  
DON LEHMAN, *THE POST STAR*  
SARAH MCLENITHAN, DEPUTY CLERK OF THE BOARD

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Mr. Conover called the meeting of the Finance Committee to order at 9:25 a.m.

Motion was made by Ms. Wood, seconded by Mr. Kenny and carried unanimously to approve the minutes of the prior Committee meeting, subject to correction by the Clerk of the Board.

Copies of the meeting Agenda were distributed to the Committee members and a copy of same is on file with the minutes.

Mr. Conover noted that Section III, Item 2B would be discussed at the end of the meeting, as an executive session was required for this, as well as for a discussion on the PBA (Police Benevolent Association) collective bargaining negotiations as referred to the Finance Committee by the Personnel Committee at their meeting held earlier this morning.

Commencing the Agenda review with Section III, Item 1, Mr. Conover addressed a request to authorize transfers of funds, as included in the Agenda packet for Committee approval.

Motion was made by Ms. Wood, seconded by Mr. Monroe and carried unanimously to approve the request and the necessary resolution was authorized for the June 19, 2015 Board meeting.

Moving on to Agenda Item 2A, Mr. Conover presented a request from the Treasurer's Office for a transfer of funds in the amount of \$500,000 from Budget Code A.1325 2530 to Budget Code A.1325 3014 to accomplish an account code change required by

the State Comptroller for Indian Gaming Compact and Settlement Agreement Revenue as per a bulletin issued in February of 2015. Mike Swan, County Treasurer, advised this related to an accounting change requested by the State. He said the revenue was being received and the State requested they place the funding into a specific item code number so that it was easier for them to track.

Mr. Monroe asked what time period the \$500,000 figure represented and Mr. Swan replied that it represented one year of funding. Mr. Monroe queried whether this was the second year for the allocation and Mr. Swan replied affirmatively, explaining 2015 was the second year for the funding; he noted all of the funding for 2014 had not been received as of yet. Mr. Dickinson questioned the total dollar amount for 2014 and Mr. Swan responded that it was about \$400,000. He advised that they had budgeted for \$500,000 in 2015; therefore, he said, when the funding was received they would be placing it into a different itemized account than it had previously been allocated to.

Mr. Dickinson interjected that he felt he had made the point several times that the Indian money was "found money" and there was a substantial amount of potential to use it for specific things. He continued, he believed the funding should have been set aside so that they could do that. He emphasized it was not taxpayer funding, it was "found money". Mr. Monroe commented that the funds were payment for giving up an opportunity because the County had been shut out of the compacts.

Mr. Dickinson asked where the funding was being allocated to and Mr. Swan replied that he was unsure. He explained that it was budgeted as revenue but he was unsure where it was being allocated to.

Motion was made by Ms. Wood, seconded by Mr. Monroe and carried unanimously to approve the request and the necessary resolution was authorized for the June 19<sup>th</sup> Board Meeting.

Agenda Item 3, Mr. Conover announced, pertained to a referral from the Community College Committee requesting support of the NSTEM Building proposed for construction on the SUNY Adirondack Campus.

Dr. Kristen Duffy, SUNY Adirondack President, advised that they had done a full presentation regarding the project on Monday at the joint meeting of the Community College and Finance Committees. She thanked the Committee for allowing them the opportunity to share the project request with them. She gave a brief overview of the presentation; a copy of which is on file with the minutes.

Dr. Duffy commented that the College would like to be partners with the County and determine the most creative way to finance the project. She mentioned if the County was unable to provide financial support at this time then it was necessary to determine when they would be able to, as she believed this project could not be delayed much longer. She pointed out delaying the project had increased the deferred maintenance required exponentially. She emphasized the necessity to address the project needs and she noted they were happy to work creatively with the County in order to address these needs.

Mr. Taylor mentioned it was not clear to him when the College would like to construct the WORC (Workforce Readiness Center) Building, which was a separate project. Dr. Duffy reminded the Committee last year they had applied for the SUNY 20/20 Grant, which was a grant program the Governor had supported for the last few years. She said the intent of the grant was for colleges to be able to build capital projects on campuses specifically to demonstrate economic development. She indicated their grant application for the full \$20 million to construct the NSTEM Building was denied because they could not demonstrate that renovating a science building was truly going to have a job creation aspect, which was what the Governor was interested in. In response to this, she apprised they submitted the \$20 million as a regular capital project.

Dr. Duffy mentioned in order to address their other needs they submitted an application for grant funding in this rounds SUNY 20/20 program. She said they determined how they could continue to meet their needs based on the guidelines that the State provided that they would consider important priorities for funding. She noted although the NSTEM Building met a portion of their needs, there were other space needs on campus. She indicated they identified in the SUNY 20/20 grant program that applied learning was an area that the State was very interested in supporting and therefore, she said, they reviewed how the college currently supported workforce needs; how were they interacted with the business community with business being very broadly defined; what facilities they had, or could they have, to better support workforce and particularly internships and applied learning for their students. She advised all of these items were compiled into the WORC that would be a cap on the other end of the science building. She reported the application was submitted May 1<sup>st</sup> for \$9.7 million. She noted it would have no severe impact on what their able to accomplish, as the only effects it would have would be to not allow them to increase their assimilation labs footprint, provide more space for workforce training, etc. She added the NSTEM and WORC Projects were separate but they did have some linkages. She estimated they would receive notification as to whether their application was accepted or denied in the fall of this year.

Dr. Duffy reiterated these were two separate projects that were linked, but they did not have to be, which was important to note. She continued, they wanted to ensure they did not have to rely on one particular project to address some of the renovation and space needs that they had right now, but rather this was an opportunity to expand some of the other programs that they offered on campus. As an example, she cited, their SUNY Adirondack Assimilation Lab used by nursing students, which was very state of the art, and offered the capacity to partner with GFH (Glens Falls Hospital) and HHHN (Hudson Headwaters Health Network) to assist them with workforce education. She mentioned both GFH and HHHN had indicated they were very interested in pursuing this ability; therefore, she stated, the WORC would allow the College to expand the assimilation labs to offer it as a community asset and a workforce readiness asset.

Mr. Conover requested that either Larry Paltrowitz, Special Counsel for SUNY Adirondack and Warren County, or Ann Marie Somma, Vice President for Administrative Services and Treasurer, explain the proposed funding scenarios for the project. Mr. Paltrowitz gave a brief overview of the funding proposals; a copy of which is on file with the minutes.

Mr. Paltrowitz advised that the County would incur no costs during 2015 because the chargebacks identified for other projects would be deferred so that cash would be available to pay for the upfront costs in 2015. He explained that the chargebacks would have to be paid in 2016. He estimated the costs in 2015 to be about \$500,000; therefore, he said, there was enough funding available to meet the financial needs of the project in 2015 requiring payment from the County.

Mr. Conover asked whether the payments could be reduced if the County were to provide a portion of the cost up front and Mr. Paltrowitz replied affirmatively. As an example, Mr. Conover stated, if the sale of Westmount Health Facility was finalized they could utilize some of the funding from the sale to reduce the debt service payments substantially. He noted they were still unsure of what the total cost of the Court Space Expansion Project would be. He asked Paul Dusek, County Administrator to estimate when the final figures would be available to determine whether it was feasible to move forward with the NSTEM Project without going over the tax cap set by the State. Ms. Wood interjected that the Committee needed to keep in mind that there were other projects requiring a source of funding, such as the Communications Project that would be discussed later in the meeting.

Mr. Sokol requested that Mr. Swan provide his input on the matter. Mr. Swan advised he had only briefly reviewed the figures but noted it presented some serious financial issues for the County in the future that would have to be reviewed. He stated if the County were to move forward with this Project and the Court Expansion, the County would be required to come up with about \$1.5 million in 2017 for payments. He said he was unsure how the County could remain under the tax cap with that kind of payment due without withdrawing funding from other areas in the budget. He commented he had very grave concerns about this.

Mr. Kenny commented he also had considerable concerns about the impact this would have on the County Budget. He pointed out the latest budget report from the Treasurer's Office displayed how revenues were lagging behind in every department with the exception of occupancy tax. He requested that the Budget Officer provide his opinion on the matter.

Frank Thomas, Budget Officer, apprised he was concerned with the impact this would have on the County Budget, as well. He stated he calculated some preliminary figures on the debt that was expiring, as well as the payments on the Court Expansion project. He stated the County would need to come up with an additional \$400,000 in revenue to cover the payments in 2017; an additional \$200,000 in 2018; and an additional \$550,000 in 2019. He commented funding this project would make it difficult to remain under the tax cap.

Ms. Seeber advised she felt everyone agreed this was an important project. Given the concerns facing the County from the Budget Officer and the Treasurer's Office, Ms. Seeber suggested there might be a way to look at giving some commitment to the project such as creative financing or considering a scaled down version of the project.

Mr. Brock questioned whether the bond could be issued for 25 years instead of 20 to decrease the payments and Mr. Paltrowitz replied affirmatively. He said there were many different options to consider such as extending out the maturity for the bond or

review the long term debt service and structure a bond payment so that no payment could be adjusted more than 50% than another payment. He continued, this meant the payment could be structured so the County was paying less principle in the beginning and more towards the end. He apprised this would increase the overall cost of the bond but from a cash flow standpoint it might line up better with other debt that was due. He suggested reviewing the financial picture of the County as a whole to see what debt services were due to explore whether the County could restructure their share to a point where the debt payments would be much more level than what was previously stated by Mr. Swan. He pointed out anytime debt was added to a business there would be a cash requirement need. He reiterated there were options to restructure the debt so that it made more sense from a cash flow analysis perspective.

Mr. Brock queried whether it would be possible to extend the maturity of the bond to 30 years and Mr. Paltrowitz replied they would have to review whether the useful life of this project could be for 30 years, as he was unsure. He explained it was dependent upon the actual construction. He continued, local finance law dictated depending upon the type of structure built, the useful life can be from 20-30 years. He mentioned assuming the construction met the criteria, the maturity of the bond could possibly be spread out to 30 years.

Mr. Merlino commented his issue was with the equalization formula wherein one County paid a higher percentage of the cost than the other. He mentioned it was important to consider the County still had payments due for unions, insurance, oil, electric, etc. that were required to manage the County. He said he was concerned that the County could reach a point in the future where they could no longer cover the costs of the payroll.

Mr. Taylor apprised he felt this was a great plan, as he was well aware of the need for nursing since the County had difficulty filling their vacant nursing positions. He indicated the Board had a fiduciary responsibility to the taxpayers of the County; therefore, he stated, he would not be prepared to vote on this matter until Mr. Dusek adjusted the Multi-Year Budget Plan to determine whether the County could in fact support it. He advised he felt it was important to notify the college as soon as possible when the County would be in a position to make a final determination on the matter.

Mr. Monroe stated he was a big supporter of the Multi-Year Budget Plan because it considered the budget from the long term perspective and not on a short time basis. He commented he would not be able to vote on the matter until he was able to review the effect it would have on the Multi-Year Budget Plan. He questioned why the 26,000 square foot addition only resulted in 31,580 square feet of assignable space, as he felt the existing building was much larger than that. Mr. Somma advised that assignable square feet did not factor in bathrooms, walls, hallways, maintenance closets, etc.

Mr. Brock indicated he felt it was imperative that they consider the maintenance costs for the roads, as they were a vital part of the economy. He said in the comprehensive review of the finances it was also necessary to review the items that were not part of it such as the roads. He wondered whether they were going to continue to let the condition of the County roads deteriorate or would this be addressed. He asked whether this could be included in the Multi-Year Budget Plan.

Mr. Dusek stated that they had been working on the Multi-Year Budget Plan for several years now, improving upon it each year in terms of getting a better handle on what the County's financial outlook appeared to be over the next several years. He mentioned he had commenced the Multi-Year process by requesting certain information from the departments so he could develop projections for the next few years. He apprised if the process progressed comfortably he was optimistic he could provide some figures available within the next month. In response to the various comments that had been made, he advised his staff would review all the potential revenues while keeping several factors in mind, such as: staying within the tax cap; all the demands on the Counties funds and every project they were aware that the County had an interest in undertaking or funding at some point such as the Communications needs, Westmount, etc. He noted even if there was some sort of a profit from the sale of Westmount Health Facility they also had to take into consideration the future legacy costs, which at one point were around \$350,000 a year. Other matters that needed to be considered, he advised, consisted of the following: the small town tax base issue they were trying to resolve with some additional funds; a PBA (Police Benevolent Association) contract that had not been settled as of yet and what the financial implications from this would be; the roads, which did have projections and the type of funding required to bring them up to certain standards; unplanned emergencies such as the wash out of County Route 11; health insurance costs in terms of not only Westmount but unfunded health insurance for retirees going forward that would impact the budget; retirement costs that may not be as favorable as were originally anticipated, etc.

Mr. Dusek reported indicated that when he brought forth the Multi-Year Budget Plan the full Board could determine what was important and what their priorities should be. He continued, once this was determined his office would calculate different ways to manage the funds and plan the projects. He stated it would be up to the full Board to determine how they would like to move forward. He advised his Office's goal was to develop options for the full Board to consider that kept the budget within the confines of the tax cap if that was their desire. He pointed out they could exceed the tax cap if they chose to. He commented the purpose of the Multi-Year Budget Plan was to ascertain what all the potential future costs were, all the potential future revenues, the list of the projects and what the impact was concerning the cash flow future of the County so the fund balance remained a stable amount. He mentioned at this point he was unsure whether the County would be able to complete all of the projects. He reiterated he hoped the information would be available in about a month.

Chairman Geraghty commented he did not feel it was possible to meet SUNY Adirondack's preferred timeline of July. He stated he believed it was more realistic that they would make a determination on the matter in September of this year. He mentioned the potential for errors increased if they rushed to develop the Multi-Year Budget Plan.

Ms. Seeber apprised she felt projects such as the Commutations Upgrade were imperative, as they related to public health and safety. She inquired whether the Multi-Year Budget Plan took into consideration grant funding that may be available and Mr. Dusek replied affirmatively. Ms. Seeber mentioned from her perspective she would like to see the County be as creative as possible and talk to State representatives inquiring whether there was grant funding available for projects such as the radios, the NSTEM Building, etc. She said including this in the Multi-Year Plan would assist them in determining the costs that would be offset by grant funding.

Mr. Dusek advised the Multi-Year Plan would not include any grant funding unless they had a reasonable expectation that the funding would be received. As an example, he stated, there was \$1.9 million in grant funding available to apply for the radio upgrades. He added in the case of the NSTEM Project, he was unaware of any solid grant leads for this particular building other than the \$10 million the State had already committed.

Mr. Brock queried whether it would be possible for Mr. Dusek to include the 30 year maturity bond as an option in the Multi-Year Plan and Mr. Dusek responded that they would review all of the options. He asked the Committee to keep in mind that the law may not permit the use of a 30 year maturity bond for the project. He added since it was a long term bond the costs needed to be considered, as well as whether or not the bonds would be marketable at a reasonable cost. He emphasized all of these factors needed to be contemplated when considering a 20 or 30 year maturity bond.

In regards to the idea of advancing funds to reduce bond repayments, Mr. Dusek apprised they would need to determine a source of funding; he reminded the Committee that they were attempting to sell the property across the street from the Municipal Center campus and he if this property was sold it could provide a potential revenue source that may assist with offsetting some of the future costs.

Mr. Dusek mentioned that it was probably more realistic that the Multi-Year Budget Plan would be available in August rather than July. He said he believed that the College had indicated they could wait until August for a response; however, he stated, he felt September was past their deadline. He advised he was being optimistic and aggressive when he indicated earlier he could try and have something available in July. He apprised he would attempt to meet this time frame, but he may require additional time.

Mr. Sokol questioned whether Washington County had approved the NSTEM project at the meeting on Monday and Dr. Duffy replied that their Community College Committee had approved the Project and referred same to their Finance Committee for further discussions. She stated Washington County had not voted to provide the funding. She explained that their decision would be contingent upon approval of a request to increase their mortgage tax by  $\frac{1}{4}$  of one percent by the State Legislature.

Mr. Monroe noted he had recently reviewed some information indicating the tax cap would be .61% rather than 2%. Mr. Dusek explained the tax cap was based on inflation factor. He said they were currently calculating the figure and he was unsure what it would be.

Mr. Conover advised given the pending sale of Westmount Health Facility it was difficult to determine the financial picture for the County going forward and what the future demands would be relative to the fund balance. He commented once the sale was finalized they would have a better idea of what projects the County could take on. He mentioned he would like to have a firm answer for the College, Washington County and the State whether the County could provide any form of support to the project while still meeting the other obligations such as the roadway maintenance, etc. He advised he felt the project was worthwhile and would provide both educational and economic development benefits to the region.

Mr. Monroe mentioned another thing to consider was what impact the addition would have on the College in regards to staffing needs and the operating budget. He pointed out it could increase the Counties' annual monetary contribution. Mr. Conover suggested that the College provide this information to the County so it could be included in the Multi-Year Budget Plan.

Dr. Duffy and Ms. Somma exited the meeting at 10:18 a.m.

Mr. Conover announced Agenda Item 4 referred to a referral from the County Facilities Committee, *Airport*, requesting to establish Capital Project H359.9550 280, Airport-Upgrade Fuel Farm, in the amount of \$605,000.

Motion was made by Mr. Sokol, seconded by Ms. Wood and carried unanimously to approve the request and the necessary resolution was authorized for the June 19<sup>th</sup> Board Meeting.

Continuing, Mr. Conover noted that Agenda Item 5 pertained to a referral from the Economic Growth & Development Committee, *Planning*, requesting to amend the 2015 County Budget to adjust revenues in Capital Project H313.9550 280, First Wilderness 2009, in the amount of \$1,153.25.

Mr. Kenny made a motion to approve Agenda Item 5, as outlined above, as well as Agenda Items 6 and 7, as follows:

- Agenda Item 6- Request to amend the 2015 County Budget to increase estimated revenues and appropriations in the amount of \$27,225 to reflect receipt of grant funding from the New York State Office of Alcoholism and Substance Abuse Services; and
- Agenda Item 7- Request to amend the 2015 County Budget to increase estimated revenues and appropriations in the amount of \$82,916 to add State TANF (*Temporary Assistance for Needy Families*) grant funds for the Summer Youth Employment Program.

Mr. Taylor seconded Mr. Kenny's motion which was carried unanimously to approve the necessary resolutions for the June 19<sup>th</sup> Board Meeting.

In regards to Agenda Item 4, Mr. Dickinson questioned where the funding originated from to establish Capital Project H359.9550 280, Airport-Upgrade Fuel Farm and Mr. Dusek replied that it was grant funding. He noted the local match portion required was available within the Airport Budget.

Agenda Item 8A, Mr. Conover advised, consisted of referral from the Public Safety Committee, *Office of Emergency Services*, pertaining to a request for a contingent fund transfer in the amount of \$2,800 to fund the continued use of the USGS river gauge on the Schroon River. Mr. Conover queried whether this was a gauge the USGS was going to discontinue and Ms. Wood replied affirmatively. Mr. Monroe noted at the June 9<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Legislative & Rules Committee action had been taken to request that the Federal Government continue to fund the gauge; however, he said, it was doubtful a response would be received.

Motion was made by Mr. Dickinson, seconded by Ms. Wood and carried unanimously to approve the request and the necessary resolution was approved for the June 19<sup>th</sup> Board Meeting.

Mr. Conover apprised Agenda Item 8B referred to a request from the Public Safety Committee, *Sheriff*, pertaining to a request to determine a source of funding for Phase 1 of the Communications Radio Upgrades project at an estimated cost of \$959,000. Chairman Geraghty advised that this was Phase 1 of the larger plan that Televate put together for the County, He noted the amount could be reduced to \$598,600, which would permit them to take care of the sites in the Towns of Warrensburg and Lake Luzerne, as well as purchase repeaters for the patrol vehicles. He reminded the Committee a grant application had been submitted for the project in the amount of \$1.9 million. He mentioned the site in the Town of Stony Creek was included in the grant application; however, he advised, they did not have time to erect a tower this year. He reiterated this was a portion of the plan to improve radio communications within the County. He commented it had been a difficult year for emergency responders and he noted that Warren County dispatch was not used in the Town of Lake Luzerne for fire. He apprised the system needed to be fixed. He reported the staff in the Sheriff's Office indicated they could complete this portion of the project in 2015, which was why they were putting forth the request today.

Mr. Conover questioned whether there would be any impact to Phase I of the project if it was determined the County would not be awarded grant funding for the project and therefore could not move forward into the next phase. Chairman Geraghty advised that they would be moving forward with completing the work in Phase 1 regardless of whether or not grant funding was awarded.

Mr. Kenny commented that he believed this project needed to be completed not only for the safety of public but the employees, as well. Chairman Geraghty reported that the \$100,000 spent in Phase I to install repeaters in the Sheriff's Office patrol vehicles was worthwhile due to the enhanced amount of safety it would provide to Sheriff's Road Patrol employees. He explained they would receive a stronger signal when they used their portable radios.

Mr. Taylor asked whether the \$100,000 was in addition to the \$598,600 and Chairman Geraghty replied in the negative. He explained the \$598,600 price tag included working on the towers in the Towns of Warrensburg and Lake Luzerne and installing repeaters in the patrol vehicles for the Sheriff's Office.

Mr. Conover requested that Mr. Dusek advise of a source of funding for the project. Mr. Dusek apprised the only source of funding available was the surplus fund balance. He reminded the Committee that there was more funding available than was originally projected in the surplus fund balance at the end of last year. He said ideally it would be better to wait to make a determination as to whether to move forward with the project until the impact on the budget could be determined; however, he said, in cases such as this when public and employee safety was involved he believed they were justified in moving forward with the project so it could be completed prior to the end of the year. He added since there was more funding than originally anticipated in the fund balance he believed there was more than enough money in the surplus fund balance to cover the cost of Phase I.

Mr. Dusek requested that Mr. Swan provide his input on the matter. Mr. Swan apprised while he was hesitant to expend funding from the surplus fund balance he felt this was a good cause and noted there was more than enough funding available to cover the cost. Although the initial cost was minimal, he cautioned the Committee that it was necessary to ensure that any future costs associated with this project did not grow to an uncontrollable level. He continued, he was aware that the \$598,600 only covered the cost of Phase 1 of the project and there was uncertainty as to whether grant funding would be awarded.

Chairman Geraghty stated that they would not receive notification as to whether their grant application was successful until December of this year; therefore, he said, he felt it was prudent to move forward with Phase I now so that they did not have to wait another year to get this phase of the project completed. He mentioned the full Board was aware of the issue with radio communication, as Televate had made a presentation to them last fall. He said the Sheriff's Office employees had indicated that they could complete the work on the towers in the Towns of Lake Luzerne and Warrensburg, and install the repeaters in the patrol vehicles prior to the end of the year.

Mr. Swan interjected his concern was that the next phases of the project would require funding from the surplus fund balance, as well, since the costs were substantial. Chairman Geraghty advised that they would be applying for grant funding to complete the remainder of the work. Mr. Thomas commented he felt the project should move forward, as it related to the safety of the public and employees. Mr. Conover mentioned there was the possibility that other funding sources could become available for other projects to reduce the impact on the surplus fund balance.

Motion was made by Mrs. Frasier, seconded by Ms. Wood and carried unanimously to authorize an appropriation in the amount of \$598,600 from the General Fund Unappropriated Surplus to the Sheriff's Budget to fund Phase 1 of the Communications Radio Upgrades project and the necessary resolution was authorized for the June 19<sup>th</sup> Board Meeting.

Continuing to Agenda Item 9A, Mr. Conover read aloud a referral from the Public Works Committee, *DPW*, requesting to amend the 2015 County Budget to transfer local match fund for Palisades Road (CR26) over Brant Lake Inlet Bridge Project (H322) in the amount of \$42,488.36.

Motion was made by Mr. Merlino, seconded by Ms. Wood and carried unanimously to approve the request and the necessary resolution was authorized for the June 19<sup>th</sup> Board Meeting.

Mr. Conover advised Agenda Item 9B consisted of a referral from the Public Works Committee, *DPW*, requesting to amend the 2015 County Budget in the amount of \$4,072 to reflect the receipt of Federal and State Aid to reimburse for the purchase of Airport snow equipment purchased with 2014 encumbrance.

Motion was made by Mr. Taylor, seconded by Mrs. Frasier and carried unanimously to approve the request and the necessary resolution was authorized for the June 19<sup>th</sup> Board Meeting.

Agenda Item 9C, Mr. Conover apprised, was a referral from the Public Works Committee, *DPW*, requesting to decrease Capital Project H272.9550 280, Harrington Road Over Mill Creek Bridge Replacement, in the amount of \$420,064. Mr. Monroe asked how such a substantial decrease could occur and Ms. Wood pointed out according to the resolution request form it was due to the reconciling the project funding shares with the final project costs.

Motion was made by Mr. Kenny, seconded by Mr. Monroe and carried unanimously to approve the request and the necessary resolution was authorized for the June 19<sup>th</sup> Board Meeting.

Agenda Item 9D, Mr. Conover announced, pertained to a referral from the Public Works Committee, *DPW*, requesting to increase Capital Project H322.9550 280, Palisades Road (CR 26) over Brant Lake Inlet Bridge Repairs, in the amount of \$42,488.36 to include the Local Share. Mr. Dickinson queried whether this bridge was located in the Town of Horicon and Mr. Conover replied affirmatively.

Motion was made by Mrs. Frasier, seconded by Mr. Taylor and carried unanimously to approve the request and the necessary resolution was authorized for the June 19<sup>th</sup> Board Meeting.

Moving along, Mr. Conover apprised that Agenda Item 9E consisted of a referral from the Public Works Committee, *DPW*, requesting to authorize closure of several capital projects and to return any remaining funds to the funding source, as follows:

- H220, *Railroad Stations/Improvements*, return \$14,110 to Debt Service Fund;
- H259, *Grist Mill Road over Stony Creek*, return \$42,512 to General Fund;
- H262, *Renovate Addition, Municipal Center*, no funds remaining;
- H327, *Tropical Storm Irene*, return \$107,042 to General Fund; and
- H328, *West Mountain Road Bicycling Improvements*, return \$.10 to General Fund.

Motion was made by Mr. Merlino, seconded by Mr. Sokol and carried unanimously to approve the request and the necessary resolution was authorized for the June 19<sup>th</sup> Board Meeting.

Mr. Conover stated Agenda Item 9F was a referral from the Public Works Committee, *DPW*, requesting to determine a funding source for the proposed Hazardous Materials Pick-up Program. Mr. Dusek said a firm cost was not available for the program; therefore, he stated, he felt this matter could be deferred until next month when more information would be available. He mentioned this was the Household Hazardous Waste Program that was being considered for Warren County. He apprised that there was a 50% NYS DEC (New York State Department of Environmental Conservation) grant available for the program. He indicated the Town of Clifton Park had a program in place that cost about \$30,000 a year; however, he said, since Warren County had not done anything in a number of years they felt the cost would be substantially more. He added they were considering utilizing two locations in the County which would also increase the costs. He estimated the cost on the high side to be about \$100,000 for each site which would equate to \$200,000; however, he stated, he felt the costs would be lower than this. He suggested holding off on making a decision until next month when more information was available regarding the cost.

Mr. Conover apprised he would like to see some form of contribution on the part of people disposing of the items. He said he had talked to a number of individuals regarding this and they were not necessarily looking to dispose of the items for free, but rather where and how to dispose of them. He mentioned perhaps a portion or all of the cost of the program could be paid for by charging a fee for the items that were being disposed of.

Chairman Geraghty advised that the electronics recycler for the Towns of Horicon and Warrensburg was discontinuing the service at the end of the month. He said this would place the burden of disposing these items back on to the Towns. He mentioned the local landfills may have to stop taking TV sets and computers from residents or they would have to pay a fee to dispose of them. Mr. Monroe stated that it was his understanding that the electronics recycler in the Town of Chester was going to continue to operate. Chairman Geraghty stated the Town of Warrensburg may want to utilize the operation in the Town of Chester. Mr. Monroe advised he would find out more information and report back.

Mr. Conover apprised that he felt it was a good idea to solicit quotes from the operation in the Town of Chester to see if it would be feasible for other Towns to utilize their services since many towns were in the same position as Horicon and Warrensburg. He suggested the possibility of including this cost in the cost of the transfer stations in regards to their budgets. Ms. Wood stated the electronics recycler in the Town of Thurman charged a fee for a few TV sets; however, she said, the cost was so minimal they had been able to absorb the cost within their budget. Mr. Conover questioned whether they based the fee on the weight of the equipment and Ms. Wood replied affirmatively. She added many electronics were disposed of for free.

It was the consensus of the Committee to table the request until next month when more information would be available.

Mr. Conover reported Agenda Item 10 referred to the Journal Report identifying transfers authorized by the County Administrator. Mr. Dusek apprised the Journal Report listed the transfers approved by his Office, as required by the Committee. He indicated that most of the transfers listed were small, with the exception of the \$25,000 transfer in Social Services. He said this was due to the fact that the Emergency Aid for Adult was higher than what was budgeted; however, he said, the expenditures for Medicaid were lower which allowed them to transfer it from one account to another. He commented because Employment & Trainings Budget Year was ending they had a number of transfers that were required. In regards to Westmount, he stated the transfers were based upon the needs of the facility. He commented he felt the reason most of the transfers were relatively small related to the fact that the budget process for the County was tight. He said having tight budgets assisted with ensuring there was better oversight and review of the County's finances.

Resuming the Agenda review, Mr. Conover stated that Item 11 consisted of a request for Finance Committee action on the following items as approved by the Personnel Committee: Personnel Agenda Items 2A-B.

Motion was made by Ms. Wood, seconded by Mrs. Frasier and carried unanimously to approve the request and the necessary resolution was authorized for the June 19<sup>th</sup> Board Meeting.

Mr. Conover advised an executive session was necessary to discuss the potential or proposed litigation concerning two Westmount collection matters, as well as to address PBA collective bargaining negotiations.

Motion was made by Mr. Sokol, seconded by Ms. Kenny and carried unanimously to enter into executive session pursuant to Sections 105(e) and (f) of the Public Officer's Law.

Executive session was held from 10:40 a.m. until 11:07a.m.

Upon reconvening Mr. Conover announced no action was taken during the executive session.

There being no further business to come before the Finance Committee, on motion made by Mr. Taylor and seconded by Mr. Kenny, Mr. Conover adjourned the meeting at 11:07 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Sarah McLenithan, Deputy Clerk of the Board