

**WARREN COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
REGULAR MEETING
FRIDAY, JANUARY 19, 2007**

The Board of Supervisors of the County of Warren convened at the Supervisors' Room in the Warren County Municipal Center, Lake George, New York, at 10:00 a.m.

Mr. William Thomas presiding.

Salute to the flag was led by Supervisor Monroe.

Roll called, the following members present:

Supervisors Gabriels, Monroe, Girard, Sheehan, Mason, O'Connor, Kenny, Belden, Bentley, W. Thomas, Tessier, Merlino, Stec, Caimano, Champagne, VanNess, Sokol, F. Thomas, Haskell, and Geraghty - 20.

Motion was made by Mr. Mason, seconded by Mr. Belden and carried unanimously, to approve the minutes of the December 15, 2006 Board Meeting, the December 22, 2006 Special Board Meeting and the January 3, 2007 Organization Meeting, subject to correction by the Clerk.

Chairman Thomas declared the Public Hearing on proposed Local Law No. 2 of 2007 open at 10:01 a.m. and requested the Clerk read the Notice of Public Hearing.

Clerk read Notice of Public Hearing.

Chairman Thomas requested Supervisor Sheehan to come forward.

Mr. Sheehan presented Marjorie Swan, Warren County Historian, with a certificate of appreciation for her dedicated years of service to the County, and wished her a happy retirement. The Board members responded with applause.

Mrs. Swan thanked the Board and stated she would miss everyone very much.

Chairman announced that in honor of Marge Swan and her retirement, there would be cake and coffee in Room 6-103 following the Board Meeting from 11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Chairman Thomas recognized Supervisor Monroe. Mr. Monroe commented he had known Mrs. Swan for a number of years and had also served on the Chester Town Board with her for many years. He congratulated Ms. Swan and thanked her for her years of service to both the County and the Town of Chester.

Chairman Thomas extended privilege of the floor to Paul Kaza of Paul Kaza Associates, who requested to address the Board. Mr. Kaza said his primary reason for coming to the meeting today was to express a debt of gratitude to the Board of Supervisors for the opportunity to serve Warren County over the past two and a half years, as the County actively undertook the work of marketing the community. He noted that the transition process was complete and he had been able to conclude the work he had been doing and passed it along to the new and existing staff in the Tourism Department. He added that he felt his company

had laid a great foundation for the County's work to move forward and he was very proud of the work that was accomplished. Mr. Kaza said he also looked forward to continuing to serve as an available resource to the County, when needed.

Mr. Caimano apprised he appreciated everything that Paul Kaza and Associates had done for the County. He further stated that on behalf of the Board, he wished to thank Mr. Kaza for all of his efforts.

Chairman Thomas extended privilege of the floor to Pam Vogel, County Clerk. Mrs. Vogel expounded Mrs. Swan was a very special lady who served a lifetime of community and business services. She said Mrs. Swan had a love of people and she was a great historian who will be missed very much.

There being no one wishing to speak, Chairman Thomas declared the public hearing on Local Law No. 2 of 2007 closed at 10:14 a.m.

Chairman Thomas declared the Public Hearing on proposed Local Law No. 3 of 2007 open at 10:15 a.m. and requested the Clerk read the Notice of Public Hearing.

Clerk read Notice of Public Hearing.

Chairman Thomas extended privilege of the floor to John Kearney, who requested permission to address the Board regarding the 2007 County Budget. Mr. Kearney stated he had been involved in government activities for a long time and he recognized the difficult decisions that the Board members faced each day. He further stated as a resident of the Town of Lake George, he was facing a tax increase this year of approximately 25%. He said he realized that many of the problems came from the State of New York which mandated services without providing the funds to implement those services. He recommended further researching a 1% increase in sales tax to specifically reduce property taxes, not for additional spending. He added that representatives of the State should be contacted and urged to revise the property taxes.

Chairman Thomas thanked Mr. Kearney for his comments.

There being no one wishing to speak, Chairman Thomas declared the public hearing on Local Law No. 3 of 2007 closed at 10:20 a.m.

Chairman called for reports by Committee chairmen on past activities and the following gave verbal reports:

Supervisor Monroe, Solid Waste and Recycling, in particular the Negotiating Committee with the Town of Hartford with regard to the landfill; Supervisor Gabriels, Personnel.

Mr. Gabriels said in relation to the Personnel Committee, the County had been in the process of creating a Human Resources Department, as separate and distinct from a

department that dealt with civil service matters. He added that the Committee had also been in the process of conducting interviews to hire a Director of Human Resources. He further stated that the Committee had made a recommendation for an individual to fill that position, and that resolution would be presented to the Board later in the meeting.

Mr. Gabriels noted that Resolution No. 41 included in the Board members packet, was a change in titles only, there were no changes to the organizational structure.

Mr. Haskell expounded in relation to the County Facilities Committee, a meeting had been held with Richard Schermerhorn, of Schermerhorn Commercial Properties, with regard to the building project. He further explained that following that meeting a number of Supervisors had approached him with questions about the necessity of the comparisons of buildings. He said he had outlined some of the items that had increased the cost of the building, such as the Point of Entry, security and furniture, etc. He noted that Mr. Schermerhorn would be giving a revised presentation on February 8, 2007.

Chairman Thomas requested that the meeting be changed from February 8th to possibly February 6th or 7th. Joan Sady, Clerk, said she would contact Mr. Schermerhorn to try and re-schedule the meeting.

Chairman Thomas advised there was a Space Committee, which he was a member of, and they had recently met and determined that there was retail space available in the Log Jam Restaurant Plaza. He noted that they had toured the building a few years ago, and he suggested that the Board re-visit that site again. He added that the retail cost would be twenty dollars per square foot for leasing. Mr. O'Connor stated he had toured that building a few years ago and the space was adequate; however, he questioned the parking availability.

Mr. Mason acknowledged he was recently appointed Chairman of the Health Services Committee and would no longer Chair the Insurance Committee. He thanked Amy Clute, Administrator of Self-Insurance, for her help, as well as the other members of the Insurance Committee.

Chairman called for reading of communications.

Clerk read communications, including the following:

Minutes from:

- Community Services Board Chemical Dependency Subcommittee;
- Warren County Soil & Water and Water Quality Strategy Committee;
- Warren County Planning Board;
- Warren and Washington Counties IDA (Industrial Development Agency).

Monthly Reports from:

- Probation;
- Veterinarian;
- Weights & Measures.

Annual Report from:
Weights & Measures.

New York State Division of Housing and Community Renewal - Performance Report for Program Year 2005.

New York State Permanent Judicial Commission on Justice for Children, 2006 Child Welfare Data Book.

New York State Department of Environmental Conservation Public Hearing and Public Information Meetings to Amend Water Quality Regulations.

New York State Assemblywoman Sayward, letter to Governor-Elect Spitzer regarding the New York State Office of Children and Family Services rate increase of 47% for state training school placements for 2006, as well as retroactive bills dating back to January 1, 2001.

State of New York, Department of State, announcing funding in the amount of \$400,000 for the Warren/Washington Emergency Training Center under the Shared Municipal Services Incentive Grant Program.

New York State Sheriff's Association, Inc. advising of a settlement agreement with the Office of the Attorney General of the State of New York.

2007 State of the State Staff Analysis prepared for Members of The Assembly Republican Conference.

State of New York Department of Transportation advising of SEQRA (State Environmental Quality Review Act) Negative Declaration, Adoption of New York State Department of Transportation Guidelines for the Adirondack Park.

Capital District Regional Off-Track Betting Corporation - Financial Reports dated October 31, 2006 and November 30, 2006, as well as October, November and December surcharge totaling \$34,904.

Susan Hoellrich - Letter of resignation from the Warren County Youth Board, as the Stony Creek representative, effective January 12, 2007.

Letter from Cornell University and from Warren County Conservation Council, recognizing the efforts of Tom Coe, an employee at the Warren County Fish Hatchery.

Communications, resolutions and reports ordered placed on file.

Chairman called for reading of resolutions and discussion.

Motion was made by Mr. Gabriels , seconded by Mr. Sheehan and carried unanimously to waive the rules requiring a proposed resolution be in writing.

Mr. Gabriels apprised Resolution No. 44 was regarding the appointment of a Human Resource Director, as discussed earlier in the meeting.

Motion was made by Mr. Gabriels, seconded by Mr. Caimano and carried unanimously to approve Resolution No. 44 as presented.

Clerk announced that Resolution Nos. 26 through 41 were mailed and a motion was necessary to bring Resolution Nos. 42 and 43 to the floor. Motion was made by Mr. Bentley, seconded by Mr. Haskell, and carried unanimously to bring Resolution Nos. 42 and 43 to the floor.

Chairman Thomas called for a vote on the resolutions.

Mr. Caimano referred to Resolution No. 30, Authorizing Agreement with Warren County and Adirondack North Country Association (ANCA) for Promotional and Economic Development. He questioned why \$1,915 was being spent on promotional work when we had the Occupancy Tax for that. Mrs. Sady explained it was an annual contract of support that the County contributed to. Mr. Monroe further explained that ANCA had been active for more than thirty years with regard to economic development in the Adirondacks. He noted that ANCA was also a co-applicant with the Town of Chester, the Town of Arietta and the Adirondack Association of Towns and Villages, for a Quality Communities Grant.

Mr. Stec requested a roll call vote on Resolution No. 30, Authorizing Agreement with Warren County and Adirondack North Country Association (ANCA) for Promotional and Economic Development.

Mr. Monroe requested a roll call vote on Resolution No. 31, Authorizing Agreement with Warren County and Adirondack Park Local Government Review Board for Funding of Operating Costs.

Joan Parsons, Commissioner of Administrative and Fiscal Services, announced an amendment to Resolution No. 41, Amending Table of Organization and Warren County Salary and Compensation Plan for 2007. She apprised the 'change from' should be Deputy Commissioner of Administrative Services, not Deputy Commissioner of Fiscal Services and the employee number needed to be removed under 'from and to' because it was a vacant position. She added that this was a correction that was required under Civil Service regulations. She concluded that the title and the salary were incorrect.

Chairman Thomas stated that this resolution had not been voted on yet today, and requested a motion to amend the resolution as stated.

Motion was made by Mr. VanNess, seconded by Mr. Gabriels and carried unanimously to amend Resolution No. 41 as outlined above.

Resolution Nos. 26 through 44 were approved.

Sheriff Cleveland informed the Board members that Harold Robillard was still in the Glens Falls Hospital and was having a tough time.

Chairman Thomas requested an executive session in order to discuss matters pertaining to the employment history of a particular individual.

Motion was made by Mr. Caimano, seconded by Mr. Gabriels and carried unanimously that executive session be declared pursuant to Section 105 (f) of the Public Officers Law.

Executive session was declared from 11:00 a.m. to 11:25 a.m.

Board reconvened.

Chairman Thomas expounded no action was necessary pursuant to the executive session.

There being no further business, on motion by Mr. Haskell and seconded by Mr. O'Connor, Chairman Thomas adjourned the meeting at 11:26 a.m.