

WARREN COUNTY TREASURER

Michael R. Swan
County Treasurer

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Deputy Treasurer

To: All Supervisors
From: Michael R. Swan, Treasurer
Date: November 24, 2021
Subject: Budget Analysis Report

Budget Analysis Report

The purpose of the monthly budget analysis report is to make the County Supervisors and Administration aware of certain issues that may present a problem in the near future or are currently a problem. It is important that appropriate action be taken to address these issues or concerns before they become a problem.

We have analyzed the revenue and expenditure budgets for the County departments as of October 31, 2021 and have noted the following items Supervisors should be aware of.

Revenues

County Clerk

County Clerk Fees – As of October 31, the department has received \$981,484 in County Clerk Fees in 2020 and \$1,210,644 in 2021 which is an increase of 23%. It should be noted that the 2021 amount is at 95% of the budget for this account so the actual revenue received is on target to exceed the budget.

Mortgage Tax – As of October 31, the department has received \$1,981,380 in Mortgage Tax in 2020 and \$2,453,324 in 2021 which is an increase of 24%. It should be noted that the 2021 amount is at 123% of the budget for this account so the actual revenue received has already exceeded the budget.

Automobile Use Tax – As of October 31, the department has received \$351,686 in Automobile Use Tax in 2020 and \$395,098 in 2021 which is an increase of 12%. It should be noted that the 2021 amount is through September and is at 83% of the budget for this account, so the actual revenue amount received is on target to exceed the budget.

County Treasurer

Sales Tax – It has been noted that we have collected \$8,578,507 more in sales taxes as of October 31, 2021 than we did for the period as of October 31, 2020 which is a 19.0% increase. This increase would have been far greater if \$413,456 had not been withheld by the State for fiscally distressed health care facilities and \$10,386 had not been withheld by the State for the AIM funding to the Village of Lake George.

VLT/Tribal Compact Moneys (Casino) – We have not received our 4th quarter 2019 payment from the State as of the date of this report. We typically receive this payment in April. We have estimated the payment to be \$88,841. We have contacted the NYS Gaming Commission and they noted that they have not yet received the payment from the Mohawk Indians. We have also not received any payments for 2020 which is budgeted for \$420,000. It has been noted that the casino closed on March 17, 2020 and did not reopen until August 28, 2020 so there was no revenue to share for this time period. **We have also not received any payments for 2021 as of the date of this report. We budgeted \$375,000 in 2021 and \$0 for 2022 for this revenue.**

Tourism

Occupancy Tax – The department has collected \$1,902,172 more in occupancy taxes as of October 31, 2021 than we did as of October 31, 2020 which is a 55% increase which relates to the COVID pandemic. The department has collected \$1,264,680 more in occupancy taxes as of October 31, 2021 than we did as of October 31, 2019 which is a 31% increase.

Sheriff's Correction Division

Jail Services, Other Government – As of October 31, the department has received \$180,911 in Jail Services, Other Government in 2020 and \$349,836 in 2021 which is an increase of 93%. It should be noted that the 2021 amount is at 175% of the budget for this account so the actual revenue received has already exceeded the budget.

Building & Fire Code

Building Permits – As of October 31, the department received \$156,448 in building permits in 2020 and \$209,883 in 2021 which is an increase of 34%. It should be noted that the 2021 amount is at 102% of the budget for this account so that actual revenue received has already exceeded the budget.

Health Services

Home Nursing Charges – As of October 31, the department has received \$2,259,393 in Home Nursing Charges in 2020 and \$2,061,835 in 2021 which is a decrease of 9%. It should be noted that the 2021 amount is through September and is at 50% of the budget for this account, so the actual revenue amount received is significantly below the budget.

COVID Grants – The department has not submitted any claims for its various COVID grants covering expenditures in 2020 and 2021. There are unclaimed expenditures of \$167,922 in 2020 and \$201,974 as of October 31, 2021 for a total of \$369,896.

Expenditures

Please see the attached Budget Exception report which summarizes budgeted expenditure line items where there is currently a problem or there may be a problem in the future. We are reporting on an exception basis only. **Over expended budget line items are highlighted in red.**

Community College - Tuition

This expenditure code represents charges made by other NYS community colleges for Warren County resident students that attend their community college instead of attending SUNY Adirondack. Below are the tuition costs charged to Warren County over a five-year period. As noted there have been significant increases in 2020 and 2021. A determination should be made as to the cause of this significant increase in light of the fact that the 2016 NSTEM project funded by Warren and Washington Counties was supposed to reduce the number of Warren County resident students that go to colleges outside of the county.

2017	314,673
2018	318,414
2019	385,979
2020	493,417
2021 (Estimated)	617,790

Capital Projects

Departments are responsible for administering their capital projects and making sure that they are closed in a timely manner after completion. The following are capital projects where there has not been any recent activity and a determination should be made by the responsible department whether or not the project should be closed. This has been a recurring issue and the County has been written up in the past by our auditors. **Planning has stated that they will address the closure of their projects before year end.**

<u>Office of Emergency Services</u>	<u>Date of Last Activity</u>	<u>Cash</u>	<u>Balance owed to Other funds/Govt</u>
H358-Hazard Mitigation Grant Program	10/2017	-	2,152
<u>Planning</u>			
H292-FWHC-Making the Connection	4/2018	-	21,189
H312-First Wilderness 2008	12/2017	14,194	-
H313-First Wilderness 2009	11/2018	8,032	-
H334-First Wilderness 2011	11/2017	6,931	109
H347-Invasive Species Boat Washing	12/2018	-	257

Notes:

1. H358, H292, H334 and H347 all have balances owed to other funds or other governments and will need funding transferred into the project so that the liabilities can be paid.
2. H334 is over budget and will need a budget amendment before it can be closed.

County Debt Balances

The following shows the County's current debt outstanding as of October 31, 2021 along with ending debt balances for future years:

	<u>Current Balance</u>	<u>End of 2021 Balance</u>	<u>2022</u>	<u>2023</u>	<u>2024</u>	<u>2025-2029</u>	<u>2030-2034</u>
<u>Bonds</u>							
Pub Safety Bldg & Com Upgrade	2,165,000	2,165,000	1,085,000	-	-	-	-
Recovery Act Bonds, Various Proj	12,305,000	11,630,000	10,935,000	10,205,000	9,445,000	5,200,000	-
Court Expansion - 2015	6,260,000	6,260,000	5,890,000	5,510,000	5,120,000	2,995,000	530,000
Court Expansion - 2017	7,030,000	7,030,000	6,665,000	6,290,000	5,910,000	3,865,000	1,550,000
SUNY Adirondack NSTEM - 2017	4,765,000	4,765,000	4,515,000	4,260,000	4,000,000	2,615,000	1,050,000
<u>Capital Leases</u>							
Municipal Center Energy Project	539,914	279,883	-	-	-	-	-
Countryside Adult Home Energy Proj	7,630	7,630	-	-	-	-	-
Total Outstanding	<u>33,072,544</u>	<u>32,137,513</u>	<u>29,090,000</u>	<u>26,265,000</u>	<u>24,475,000</u>	<u>14,675,000</u>	<u>3,130,000</u>

Again, we invite comments from Supervisors and department heads to expand this into a more useful management tool in these critical financial times.