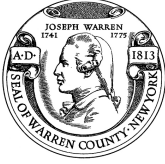
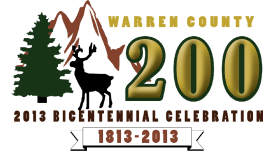


Warren County Board of Supervisors



**BOARD MEETING
FRIDAY, OCTOBER 18, 2013**



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. Kevin B. Geraghty presiding.

Salute to the flag was led by Supervisor Taylor.

Roll called, the following members present:

Supervisors Conover, Monroe, Girard, McDevitt, Taylor, Loeb, Kenny, Frasier, Bentley, Vanselow, Dickinson, Merlino, Montesi, Mason, Strainer, Westcott, Sokol, Thomas, Wood and Geraghty - 20.

Chairman Geraghty noted many activities had been planned for later that day to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the opening of the Municipal Center Building and to kick off these activities, the Board of Supervisors was honored to welcome Penny Schiek, Choral Director at Queensbury High School, and Choral students Delaney Silvernell, Hannah Smith, Drew O'Hara and Ben Rowley, who were in attendance to sing the National Anthem. Following the beautiful rendition, a round of applause was given.

Motion was made by Mr. Strainer, seconded by Mr. Bentley and carried unanimously to approve the minutes from the September 20th Board Meeting, subject to correction by the Clerk of the Board.

Continuing the agenda review, Chairman Geraghty acknowledged the retirement of Dr. Bernardo Villajuan and presented him with a Proclamation and a plaque from the Board of Supervisors thanking Dr. Villajuan for 25 years of dedicated service to the residents of Westmount Health Facility. A round of applause was given.

Chairman Geraghty declared the Public Hearing open on proposed Local Law No. 8 for the year 2013, entitled "A Local Law Authorizing the Use of a Best Value Award Methodology for Purchase Contracts" at 10:08 a.m. and he requested the Notice of Public Hearing be read aloud, which Joan Sady, Clerk of the Board, proceeded to do. Chairman Geraghty then asked Martin Auffredou, County Attorney, to provide a brief synopsis of the Local Law. Mr. Auffredou explained proposed Local Law No. 8 of 2013 would implement an amendment to Section 103 of the General Municipal Law which authorized municipalities to have a process in place for awarding competitive contracts based upon a best value methodology. He commented that this was not intended to replace the current lowest responsible bidder requirements, but rather to provide other, more flexible, standards allowing consideration for useful life span, as well as quality options and incentives for more timely performance and additional future services, when awarding contracts. Mr. Auffredou advised this new approach would not be used in every instance and he explained procedures would be set up to allow a Department Head to suggest that a best value methodology be used in awarding a particular contract and Julie Pacyna, Purchasing Agent, would then determine whether it was appropriate based on the type of contract or commodity being considered. He added that Ms. Pacyna would also be making some necessary changes to the procurement policies to incorporate the availability of best value methodology procedures.

Privilege of the floor was extended to "Joseph Warren" who was in attendance to extend invitations to

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the Warren County Bicentennial Banquet being held on October 26th at the Fort William Henry Hotel; *one of the invitations distributed is on file with the materials distributed at the Board Meeting. The part of Joseph Warren was played by John Strough, Town of Queensbury Councilman, dressed in period garb.*

There being noone wishing to speak on proposed Local Law No. 8 of 2013, Chairman Geraghty closed the Public Hearing at 10:13 a.m.

Continuing the agenda review, Chairman Geraghty provided a reporting of his activities over the past month which included attendance at many Committee meetings, the NYSAC Fall workshops, a ground breaking ceremony for the Warrensburg/Lake George Price Chopper being constructed, and the Intercounty Legislative Committee of the Adirondacks meeting held on the prior day. *A copy of the Chairman's report of activities is on file with the materials distributed at the Board Meeting.* Chairman Geraghty noted that during the upcoming November General Elections, the ballot would include several proposed constitutional amendments that were subject to public referendum, two of which were No. 4, Settling Disputed Title in the Forest Preserve, and No. 5, In Relation to a Land Exchange in the State Forest Preserve with NYCO Minerals, Inc. He advised there would also be a referendum concerning a proposal to allow casino gambling in New York State and he reported that at the recent NYSAC Fall Conference there had been some advisements that casino gambling would provide benefits to Warren County, as well as the school districts. Chairman Geraghty noted that the referendums would be listed on the back side of the ballot this year and he commented that a lot of votes might be missed if this information was not shared with the voters. With respect to the designation of the former Finch Lands, Chairman Geraghty advised the APA (*Adirondack Park Agency*) had yet to make a decision on the classification of the Lands but he noted that the Intercounty Legislative Committee of the Adirondacks had stated their support of the classification sought by the five towns located near the former Finch Lands by resolution, which would allow access for motorized vehicles on the property; he added that William Farber, Chairman of the Hamilton County Board of Supervisors, had expressed his appreciation of this support. Finally, Chairman Geraghty noted that Supervisor Thomas, Budget Officer, had been working very hard on the 2014 Budget Proposal and he said he hoped they would receive good news on the budgetary situation of the County in the near future.

Chairman Geraghty called for the reports by Committee Chairman on the past months meetings or activities and the following were given: Supervisor Taylor, Economic Growth & Development and Personnel; Supervisor Kenny, Occupancy Tax Coordination; Supervisor Dickinson, Invasive Species Sub-Committee; Supervisor Merlino, Tourism; Supervisor Strainer, Human Services; Supervisor Sokol, Health Services; Supervisor Wood, Public Safety; Supervisor Conover, Finance; and Supervisor Monroe, Gaslight Village Ad Hoc and Real Property Tax Services.

Mr. Taylor reported the Economic Growth & Development Committee had met on September 30th, approving proposed Resolution No. 546, *Authorizing Submission of Grant Application to New York State Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Services for Flood Mitigation Grant Funding for a Project in the Town of Thurman*, approving a grant application for up to \$300,000 in flood mitigation funding for which the Town of Thurman would provide the \$25,000 Local Share, as well as proposed Resolution No. 547, *Supporting the Economic Development Corporation's Efforts to Encourage General Electric to Maintain Capacitor Operations at their Fort Edward Plant*. Mr. Taylor advised the Personnel Committee had met on October 9th, approving proposed Resolution Nos. 562 - 570, which he proceeded to briefly review. He pointed out proposed Resolution No. 572, *Discontinuing the Provision of Health Insurance Coverage through New York State Health Insurance Program (NYSHIP) for Non-Bargaining Unit Employees*, which he said was approved for presentation subsequent to the Personnel Committee meeting; Mr. Taylor added this was a sensible change which would affect only two employees.

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Concerning the October 2nd meeting of the Occupancy Tax Coordination Committee, Mr. Kenny apprised of a reporting provided by Mike Swan, County Treasurer, indicating a 3.29% increase in occupancy tax revenues. Additionally, he noted the Committee had approved proposed Resolution No. 543, *Amending Resolution No. 698 of 2013; Authorizing Agreements with Various Applicants for the Disbursement of 2012 Occupancy Tax Revenues*, to award an additional \$10,000 to Adirondack Race Management for their Lake George Triathlon Festival. Mr. Kenny advised that during their August 27th meeting, the Occupancy Tax Coordination Committee had voted in favor of awarding additional funding to Adirondack Race Management specifically for their Flashlight 5K Race, but they had later found the event was ineligible for funding because it was a one-day event which did not qualify. He continued that this issue had been raised once again during the October 2nd meeting and the Committee had concurred with his suggestion that the funding be awarded to the multi-day Lake George Triathlon Festival instead.

Mr. Dickinson advised the Invasive Species Sub-Committee had taken action on two issues at their September 30th Committee meeting, the first of which had been to embark upon a mission to expand their purview to include terrestrial invasive species in response to several inquiries of this nature. He added that speakers would be invited to their next Committee meeting to talk about terrestrial invasive species already present in Warren County, as well as those that could become a threat. Secondly, Mr. Dickinson stated that the Committee continued with their quest to adopt a Local Law for mandatory boat inspections for all bodies of water in Warren County, including the Hudson River. He reported Mr. Auffredou's indications that the Local Law would require a SEQRA (*State Environmental Quality Review Act*) action and an Environmental Impact Statement, which led the Invasive Species Sub-Committee to approve proposed Resolution No. 537, *Authorizing the Issuance of a Request for Proposal (RFP) to Obtain Services of a Professional Environmental Consulting Firm to Act as a Consultant to Warren County with Regard to Aquatic Invasive Species*.

The Tourism Committee met on October 2nd, Mr. Merlino advised, approving proposed Resolution No. 544, *Authorizing Continuation of Intermunicipal Agreement with the Village of Lake George to Provide Funding for Promotion Space within the Lake George Visitor Center for the Tourism Department*. He noted that at this meeting, the Committee had learned about a new campaign entitled, "New York's Best Experiences" the concept of which centered around 15 epicenters of experience in New York State, one of which was Lake George. He noted a vehicle advertising these areas would be used to promote the campaign and he advised the Lake George Area of the Adirondacks would be showcased on the driver's side front door. Mr. Merlino continued that the I ♥ NY campaign had offered new opportunities for brochure distribution in Times Square in New York City and the Tourism Department was taking advantage of this availability for distribution of Whitewater Rafting brochures; he added that the Department was now preparing for winter commercials and publications. In closing, Mr. Merlino requested that he be permitted additional time before the close of the Board Meeting to discuss a proposal he had developed regarding the distribution of sales tax revenues to the towns of Warren County.

Mr. Strainer reported that the last Human Services Committee meeting had been held on October 6th, with the main focus being a reporting from Chris Hunsinger, Director of the Employment & Training Administration (*ETA*), about how the Government Shutdown would effect ETA programming; however, he noted, since the Shutdown had ended, these issues were no longer of immediate concern. With regards to the proposed Veterans' Court, Mr. Strainer advised since his last update he had met with Bud York, Warren County Sheriff; John Wappett, Public Defender; and Kate Hogan, District Attorney, all of whom were in favor of the program. He said their next meeting would likely be held in January and he thanked everyone for their support of the initiative. Additionally, Mr. Strainer expressed his appreciation for everyone who had volunteered to assist with the 2013 Adirondack Balloon Festival

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event, as well as the DPW staff and Patrol Officers who had done a phenomenal job. He noted that although the weather had not been conducive for balloon flights, the event had been well attended.

With respect to the October 3rd Health Services Committee meeting, Mr. Sokol apprised the meeting had begun with a review of the 2012 Auditor's Report for Westmount Health Facility as provided by Michael McCarthy, of McCarthy & Conlon, LLP. He noted that during his report, Mr. McCarthy had commented that the bookkeeping and records for the Facility were very well kept, which he credited to Betsy Henkel, Comptroller. Mr. Sokol said Westmount was in decent shape and he reported that the Agency Nurse fees had been decreased from \$45,000 per month to \$600 per month, which he attributed to the efforts of Lloyd Coté, Administrator of Westmount Health Facility, and he noted his appreciation for the excellent care Westmount's nursing staff continued to provide, regardless of the uncertain future of the Facility. Mr. Sokol pointed out proposed Resolution No. 573, *Authorizing the Amendment and Extension of the Agreement for Medical Services Between Warren County, on Behalf of Westmount Health Facility, and Hudson Headwaters Health Network*, which had been approved subsequent to the Health Services Committee meeting and would save the County about \$10,000 per year by authorizing Hudson Headwaters Health Network to provide physician, medical director and Medicare billing services for Westmount Health Facility. He added that Mr. Coté had more ideas for ways to achieve additional savings which they hoped to reveal in early 2014. Finally, Mr. Sokol advised that during the Public Health portion of the meeting, the Committee had approved a request to fill a vacant Public Health Nurse position which was referred to and later approved by the Personnel Committee, as represented in the resolution packet by proposed Resolution No. 564, *Authorizing the Director of Public Health/Patient Services to Fill the Vacant Position of Public Health Nurse #25 Due to Retirement*.

Speaking as Budget Officer, Mr. Thomas reported that a tentative proposal had been developed for the 2014 County Budget and a Budget Committee meeting had been scheduled for October 22nd at 10:30 a.m. for its presentation.

Mrs. Wood apprised that the Public Safety Committee had met on September 25th where they had addressed basic housekeeping issues. She said they had met again earlier that morning to discuss communications issues caused by narrow banding and the fact that the Town of Warrensburg seemed to be a dead area with no service. Mrs. Wood continued that in the interest of public safety, it had been determined the erection of a tower in the Town of Warrensburg would provide significant enhancement in the transmission of communications, leading the Committee to approve proposed Resolution No. 575, *Authorizing Acquisition of all Material, Machinery and Equipment and Authorizing a Force Account for all Labor Needed in Connection with the Erection of a Communications Tower in the Town of Warrensburg with Funds Appropriated from General Fund Unappropriated Surplus*, which she asked her fellow Board Members to vote in support of.

Mr. Conover advised the Finance Committee had met on October 9th, approving proposed Resolution Nos. 534 and 556 - 561, all of which addressed typical County business. He drew special attention to proposed Resolution No. 535, *Amending Resolution No. 9 of 2013 - Appointing Representative to Adirondack Park Local Government Review Board*, which would name Matthew Simpson as a second alternate representative to serve on the Adirondack Park Local Government Review Board (APLGRB). Mr. Conover noted that this recommendation had been approved by Supervisor Monroe, who served as Executive Director of the APLGRB, as the APLGRB considered many important issues and it was imperative that a quorum be maintained for these meetings.

Regarding the Gaslight Village Ad Hoc Committee meeting held on October 1st, Mr. Monroe advised the discussion had centered around the construction schedule for the Wood Park, following which the Committee had approved proposed Resolution No. 555, *Amending Resolution No. 384 of 2012*;

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Modifying the Proposed Method of Financing for Capital Project No. H338.950 280 Lake George Environmental Park, to review the allocation of grant funds received from the Wood Foundation to conform with the recent resolution adopted by the Board of Supervisors regarding the cash flow cost sharing arrangement with the Village of Lake George for Park construction costs. With respect to the September 30th meeting of the Real Property Tax Services Committee, Mr. Monroe referenced proposed Resolution No. 551 which requested to delete taxes on several parcels which had been assigned assessments based on the presence of mobile homes which were later removed. He noted that since the August 12th Real Property Tax Services "Last Chance" meeting, he had received a number of requests from the Real Property Tax Services Office to approve delinquent tax payments made by those trying to redeem their properties prior to the County Land auction, which he had approved and received ratifying approvals from the Real Property Tax Services Committee at their September 30th meeting. Mr. Monroe reported that the Committee had also discussed a request from the Town of Queensbury to assign a tax exempt status to a parcel owned by the City of Glens Falls but located within the Town of Queensbury; he advised the Committee had ultimately determined that the City of Glens Falls would need to make the request as they were the owners of the parcel.

Mr. Monroe expanded upon Chairman Geraghty's previous notation concerning two proposed Constitutional Amendments that were subject to public referendum and would be included on the November General Election ballots. Proposal No. 4, he said, pertained to Township 40 and the longstanding title dispute between the State of New York and many Raquette Lake, NY home and business owners which prevented them from mortgaging or selling property. Mr. Monroe advised that both NYSDEC (*New York State Department of Environmental Conservation*) and Governor Cuomo were in support of a settlement which would require the property owners to pay a relatively small amount into a fund that would then be used to purchase the property; he added that there seemed to be broad support for this initiative amongst the environmental groups, as well. Mr. Monroe noted that the property in question was important because it related to a 90-mile canoe route that provided for travel all the way to Saranac Lake, NY. With respect to Proposal No. 5, concerning a land exchange in the State Forest Preserve with NYCO Minerals, Inc., he explained that the exchange would allow NYCO to temporarily obtain title to 200 acres of Forest Preserve land for mining in exchange for their purchase and donation of 1,500 acres of property in the Jay Mountain Wilderness to be designated as Forest Preserve lands. Mr. Monroe further explained that this action would help to maintain many well paying mining jobs in that area. He cited a recent newspaper article which indicated the land swap would not be of significant public benefit, but stated that he disagreed with this opinion because the retention of a considerable number of jobs and the addition of 1,500 acres of land to the Forest Preserve posed a great benefit. Mr. Monroe encouraged his fellow Board Members to support both Proposal Nos. 4 and 5.

In regard to the APA's designation of the former Finch lands, Mr. Monroe advised a series of hearings on this matter had been held over the spring and summer months and the APA continued to work on responses to the letters and comments they had received in order to determine the preferred alternative proposal. He said the County had extended support for the five towns that would be affected by the land designation who sought a "wild forest" classification which would allow the use of motorized vehicles on the property. Mr. Monroe commented that Governor Cuomo had been very involved in this matter and had recently met with the Supervisors from the five towns and many other representatives; he added that he had been in attendance at this meeting and found Governor Cuomo to be very well informed on the situation, and he said he was impressed to see that Governor Cuomo had taken such a personal interest in the matter.

Returning to the topic of Constitutional Amendment Proposal No. 5, concerning a land exchange of Forest Preserve lands with NYCO Minerals, Inc., Mr. Dickinson requested further clarification as to the

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future of the 200 acres that NYCO would temporarily gain ownership of. Mr. Monroe clarified that once the mining work was completed, NYCO would return the property to the State of New York where it would remain a part of the Forest Preserve.

Mr. McDevitt noted that he had recently undergone hip replacement surgery which had required subsequent short-term home-based physical therapy that had been provided by the Warren County Public Health Home Care Nurses. He said the Visiting Nurses had been very efficient, professional and had done an outstanding job. Mr. McDevitt opined that the expenditures to support these programs were money well spent and he stated that the staff of this Division should be commended for the excellent services they provided to the public.

Resuming the agenda review, Chairman Geraghty called for the report from the County Administrator and Paul Dusek, County Administrator, advised he had nothing to report. Moving on, Chairman Geraghty called for the report from the County Attorney and Mr. Auffredou apprised that the long awaiting "Land Swap" arrangement relating to the Charles R. Wood Park had been finalized on October 8th. He noted that the County Land Auction would take place on the next morning, October 19th, and he advised the necessary judgement documentation for the parcels involved had already been obtained. Mr. Auffredou reported that as of that morning, the number of parcels to be auctioned totaled 48, including 8 parcels that had been carried over from the 2012 Land Auction; he added that the 2012 Land Auction had been a banner year for foreclosure actions, with some 70 parcels being auctioned. Mr. Auffredou stated he was pleased to report that with the assistance of the Real Property Tax Services and Treasurers Offices they had been able to reduce the number of properties included in the 2013 Land Auction and it was his hope that there might be additional redemptions later that day which would decrease the number further.

Chairman Geraghty apprised of a recent newspaper article advising of different procedures Washington County intended to introduce to allow payment of delinquent property taxes in an effort to reduce foreclosures and he said he felt it was important to note that Warren County had been implementing such things for many years, allowing for installment agreements and other arrangements to keep residents in their homes and avoid foreclosure.

Chairman Geraghty announced the next agenda item pertained to the reading of communications. Joan Sady, Clerk of the Board, read the following aloud:

Minutes from:

1. Warren/Washington Counties IDA, Executive/Park Committee and Civic Development Corporation

Monthly Reports from:

1. Probation
2. Weights & Measures

Annual Reports from:

1. County of Warren for fiscal year ending December 31, 2012
2. Westmount Health Facility for fiscal year ending December 31, 2012
3. Warren County Department of Public Works for fiscal year ending 12/31/12
4. Warren County SPCA for fiscal year ending 12/31/12

NYS Dept. of Civil Service, Second Quarter 2013 Empire Plan Experience Report;

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Office of the State Comptroller, Report of Examination pursuant to an audit entitled County Inmates Receiving Inappropriate Benefits While Incarcerated; a copy of which was provided to all supervisors;

Fitzgerald, Morris, Baker & Firth, Application for Real Property Tax Exemption for the IDA's TRIBALS, LLC Project;

New York State Homes & Community Renewal, final notice of public review and comment period regarding grant funding and activity relating to properties in the Warren County Floodplain;

Warren County Fire & EMS Advisory Board, correspondence outlining concerns with the County's current radio system, a copy of which was provided to all supervisors;

Ruth Lamb, on behalf of Tri-County Transition Initiative of Warren, Washington & Essex Counties, advising of two events of interest to County Supervisors, one on Wednesday, October 24th in Greenwich and one on Friday, October 18th at 7:00 p.m. in Glens Falls;

Chairman Geraghty recalled Mr. Merlino's prior request to address the Board and extended privilege of the floor to him. Mr. Merlino distributed a document proposing an adjustment to the distribution of sales tax revenues to the towns of Warren County, a copy of which is on file with the items distributed at the Board Meeting, and he requested that this issue be added to the agenda for the next Finance Committee Meeting for further consideration. He noted that the document provided a listing of the actual 2012 sales tax distributions and he pointed out that the amount listed for the Town of Bolton, \$3,670,835, was very close to the total 2013 operating budget for the Town of Lake Luzerne. Mr. Merlino stated that a change was necessary to help the five smaller towns which received lesser sales tax distributions (*Lake Luzerne, Stony Creek, Thurman, Warrensburg and Lake George Village*) as the distributions were based on the assessed valuations of each town and there was no way for the smaller towns to increase their valuations. As a specific example, Mr. Merlino cited the Town of Warrensburg which was the second largest town in Warren County population-wise, but received the fourth smallest sales tax distribution amount. In order to assist the towns with lower distributions, Mr. Merlino proposed that \$500,000 be removed from the total sales tax revenues collected, to be equally divided amongst the aforementioned five towns receiving the lowest amounts of sales tax revenues. He noted that the second column of the document provided listed what the effects to each town would be if this procedure had been implemented in 2012. Mr. Merlino stated that he would like to bring this issue back for further consideration and presentation of additional information at the next Finance Committee meeting, but noted that something needed to be done to update the procedure used to determine distribution procedures and assist those towns that were unable to achieve higher assessment values. He concluded that in light of higher than anticipated sales tax revenues collected for 2013, he anticipated that the distributions would not decrease from the 2012 distributions regardless of the re-appropriation of \$500,000 he had suggested.

Moving on to the reading of resolutions, Mrs. Sady announced that proposed Resolution Nos. 534 - 570 were mailed; she noted proposed Resolution Nos. 563-565 pertained to the filling of vacant positions and, unless a roll call vote was requested, all would be approved in the collective vote. Mrs. Sady advised a motion was needed to bring proposed Resolution Nos. 533 and 571 - 575 to the floor.

Motion was made by Mr. Girard, seconded by Mr. Monroe and carried unanimously to bring proposed Resolution Nos. 533 and 571 - 575 to the floor.

Chairman Geraghty called for discussion on resolutions or roll call requests. No roll call requests were

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made; however, Mr. Kenny questioned proposed Resolution No. 556, *Authorizing the Appropriation of Funds from the General Fund Unappropriated Surplus to Various Sheriff Law Enforcement Budgets; Amending 2013 Warren County Budget*, which called for an additional \$92,425 to be transferred to the Sheriff's Budget, and he questioned how this resolution correlated to the downturn in inmate populations. Bud York, Warren County Sheriff, apprised there had not been a decrease in inmate populations as they were now boarding both Federal and Jefferson County inmates at the Warren County Jail; Sheriff York added that he believed the majority of the increase was attributed to the salary adjustments provided by the recently approved Sheriff's Alliance contract. Mr. Dusek stated that Sheriff York was correct and he advised the funds for the aforementioned salary adjustments had been allocated in the Contingent Fund, but would be placed in the overtime budget.

There being no further discussion, Chairman Geraghty called for a vote on resolutions, following which Resolution Nos. 533 - 575 were approved, as presented; the Report of Committee on Assessment Rolls and a Proclamation naming the month of November 2013 as Adoption Awareness Month were submitted.

Continuing to Announcements, Chairman Geraghty advised a cake cutting ceremony would be held at noon that day in celebration of the 50th Anniversary of the opening of the Municipal Center Building, followed by a balloon release to commemorate the occasion. He also noted that it was Supervisor Loeb's birthday and he wished him happy birthday.

Mr. Dickinson announced that the 2013 Lake George car show had been tremendously successful, but was too large for the community of the Village of Lake George and the surrounding town. He said Robert Blais, Mayor of the Village of Lake George, had been working diligently with everyone involved with the event to determine what alternatives could be established to resolve this issue for the 2014 event. Mr. Dickinson thanked Sheriff York and his staff for all of their assistance with the car show, noting they had done a great job and had been very helpful.

With regards to Local Law No. 8 of 2013, *Authorizing the use of a Best Value Award Methodology for Purchase Contracts*, Mr. Conover questioned whether the towns would be able to partake of contracts awarded based on best value methodology or if they would need to adopt similar local laws before they were able to participate. Mr. Auffredou responded that he had not read anything in the Local Law which would preclude contracts from being offered to the towns; however, he added if a town wanted to enact a best value methodology for purchase contracts for itself, they would need to adopt a local law to do so.

Mr. Sokol announced that a fundraiser for the Glens Falls Hospital Cancer Center would be held that evening at The Tavern in Queensbury from 5:00 p.m. - 12:00 a.m. during which time 50% of all proceeds would be contributed to the Hospital and he invited everyone to attend.

Chairman Geraghty acknowledged the presence of New York State Assemblyman Dan Stec and invited him to address the Board. Assemblyman Stec advised that although he was no longer able to advocate for Constitutional Amendment Proposal Nos. 4 and 5, both of which he had co-sponsored, he would take the opportunity to further educate on these matters. He confirmed that Mr. Monroe had accurately outlined both propositions in his prior comments and he noted that Proposal No. 4 would settle a 100-year old property dispute in Raquette Lake, NY, while Proposal No. 5 would allow a land swap with NYCO Minerals which could extend the overall life of the mines by 8-10 years. Assemblyman Stec also confirmed that NYSDEC had identified 1,500 acres in the Jay Wilderness area which NYCO would purchase and transfer to the State of New York in return for temporary ownership of 200 acres of Forest Preserve lands which would be conveyed back to the State of New York at the end of the mining

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process. He added that although it was unclear whether all of the 200 acres would be mined, ownership of the entire 200 acres would be returned to the State. Assemblyman Stec commented that similar land swap arrangements had been made in the past, such as those with International Paper in the 1980's, successfully benefitting the local economy.

With respect to the APA classification of the former Finch lands, Assemblyman Stec advised he, along with Senator Betty Little, had also attended the meeting in North Creek which Mr. Monroe had eluded to and he noted that during this meeting many opinions had been relayed in an effort to determine the various perspectives regarding the classification issue. He said that similar to many of the town supervisors in attendance, he and Senator Little had expressed the important benefits that snowmobile trail connectivity provided to the local economy. Assemblyman Stec said it was great that Governor Cuomo was so personally engaged in this initiative and he said he believed the purpose of the Governor's meeting had been to discuss the issue with both the environmental groups and municipal representatives to gain an understanding of each groups desires. He concluded that he was encouraged by the Governor's level of involvement and was confident that in the end, a reasonable agreement would be achieved that was favorable to everyone involved.

Peter Aust, President & CEO of the Adirondack Regional Chamber of Commerce (ARCC), stated that the ARCC was strongly supportive of both Constitutional Amendment Proposal Nos. 4 and 5 and had embarked upon a campaign to encourage public support of both.

Chairman Geraghty thanked the members of the Bicentennial Committee for putting together the days celebratory events. He also thanked the County's Department Heads and staff for their assistance in the budget preparations.

Chairman Geraghty offered privilege of the floor to any members of the public wishing to address the Board of Supervisors. There being none, on motion made by Mr. Conover and seconded by Mrs. Frasier, Chairman Geraghty adjourned the meeting at 11:03 a.m.