

## WARREN COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

### COMMITTEE: BUDGET

DATE: OCTOBER 22, 2019

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#### COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:

SUPERVISORS THOMAS  
MERLINO  
WILD  
SOKOL  
BEATY  
GERAGHTY  
FRASIER  
DIAMOND  
MCDEVITT

#### OTHERS PRESENT:

RONALD F. CONOVER, CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD  
RYAN MOORE, COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR  
MARY ELIZABETH KISSANE, COUNTY ATTORNEY  
AMANDA ALLEN, CLERK OF THE BOARD

SUPERVISORS BRAYMER  
DRISCOLL  
HOGAN  
LEGGETT  
MAGOWAN  
SIMPSON

TAMMIE DELORENZO, ASSISTANT TO THE COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR

#### COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT:

SUPERVISORS: STROUGH  
DICKINSON

MICHAEL SWAN, COUNTY TREASURER

ROBERT LYNCH, DEPUTY COUNTY TREASURER

JAMES LAFARR, MAJOR

TERRY COMEAU, COUNTY CORNER

KRISTY MILLER, CONFIDENTIAL SECRETARY TO THE COUNTY  
ADMINISTRATOR

DON LEHMAN, *THE POST-STAR*

MOLLY GANOTES-GLEASON, LEGISLATIVE OFFICE SPECIALIST

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*Please note the following contains a summarization of the October 22, 2019 meeting of the Budget Committee; the meeting in its entirety can be viewed on the Warren County website using the following link: <https://www.warrencountyny.gov/gov/comm/Archive/2019/budget/>*

Mr. Thomas called the meeting of the Budget Committee to order at 12:24 p.m.

Motion was made by Mr. McDevitt, seconded by Mr. Wild and carried unanimously to approve the minutes of the previous 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.

Commencing the agenda review, Mr. Thomas stated the purpose of today's meeting was to discuss recommendations for reductions in the appropriations, as well as recommendations for changes in revenue for the 2020 Budget. Mr. Wild inquired if there was a comparison for the 2019 Budget and Mr. Thomas replied in the negative. Mr. Wild asked if there was an increase in the amount of appropriations and Mr. Thomas replied he had reduced the amount of appropriations, apprising the overall increase to the General Fund was currently \$372,412. He indicated he would sign the budget on Friday, which left time to make adjustments. He informed the amount budgeted for sales tax was \$55,015,895 which was a \$2.8 million overall increase from the prior year. He notified the Fund Balance appropriation had been reduced by \$257,422 to \$1 million. He indicated the allowable increase to the tax levy was 2.79% which equaled \$1,217,647, informing with the \$372,412 increase in the levy it brought the percentage up to .85%.

Mr. McDevitt inquired if the 2020 Budget reflected Bail Reform and Mr. Thomas replied the budget had increased through personnel requests. Mr. Diamond asked what the current balance was of the General Fund Unappropriated Surplus and Ryan Moore, *County Administrator*, replied \$19.9 million. Mr. Diamond then inquired what the anticipated amount would be if the 2020 Budget was adopted with a \$372,412 increase at the beginning of the year and Mr. Thomas replied the General Fund Unappropriated Surplus estimated balance would be \$21 million. Mr. Moore inquired if the sales tax was 2.9% ahead of last year and Mr. Thomas replied affirmatively. Mr. McDevitt asked if there would be a reduction in jail staff due to Bail Reform and Mr. Moore answered they would not cut personnel until the State was organized. Ms. Braymer opined the Planning & Community Development Department could use addition personnel, with a Senior Planner added to the 2020 Budget. Mr. Moore explained \$50,000 was assigned for capital project administration and another \$100,000 was appropriated, but yet to be assigned. Mr. Thomas informed the Senior Planner would work with a water specialist and would work on the rail corridor and economic development. Mr. Moore apprised they had to follow a process and they could submit a request in the future. Ms. Braymer expressed there were many grant opportunities that would be lost without professional staff. Mr. Leggett explained there needed to be future discussions with the Planning Department.

There being no further business to come before the Budget Committee, on motion made by Mr. McDevitt and seconded by Mr. Merlino, Mr. Thomas adjourned the meeting at 12:57 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Molly Ganotes-Gleason, Legislative Office Specialist