

## **FINANCE COMMITTEE**

**August 8, 2023**

Committee members: Bill Holgate, Doug Paddock, Tim Cutler, Mark Morris, Dan Banach

Others present: Bonnie Percy, Dick Harper, Terry Button, Rick Willson, Carlie Chilson (left at 3:15 p.m.), Ed Bronson, Pat Killen (left at 3:45 p.m.), Leslie Church (Zoom), Nonie Flynn (left at 3:50 p.m.), Emilee Miller, Jessica Mullins, Meghan Kincaid, Jeff Ayers

Bill & Doug will do the audit this month.

Minutes of the July meeting were approved as submitted.

Legislative Zoom Attendees: 1 Other Zoom Attendees: 1

Steve Griffin provided an update regarding the Yates County Community Center Status.

### **Real Property: Meghan Kincaid**

Meghan reported that Small Claims petitions (SCARs) had to be filed in the County Clerk's office by 7/31 and Five SCARs were filed.

Meghan reported that she attended a meeting of the Western Region of RP Tax Services Directors on 7/21 in Batavia.

Meghan reported that the town assessors have brought her their files to use with the school districts budgets for school tax bill processing and they will come out on 9/1.

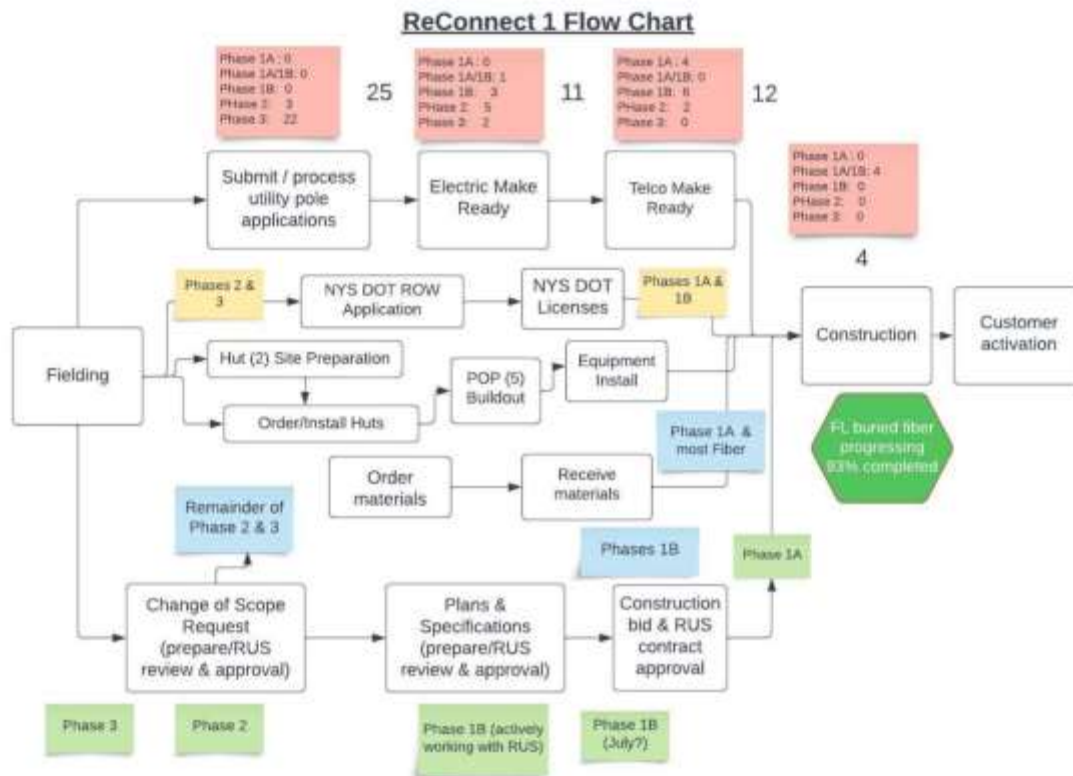
Meghan reported that if the proposed Local Law is adopted, she will be sending letters to all of the Yates County towns, villages and school districts informing them of the new law and encouraging them to increase their income limits for this exemption, as well, to match the county's new levels.

Meghan reviewed the following resolution that would be needed. After discussion the Committee approved.

- Local Law 1-2023 Entitled " A Local Law Increasing the Income Limits of the Tax Exemption for Persons 65 Years of age or Over"

### **ReConnect: Jeff Ayers**

Jeff reviewed the main paths of project activity for the ReConnect 1 Engineering & Construction:



Jeff reported on ReConnect 1 Engineering & Construction, highlighting: Phase 1A (Trunk Route), Phase 1B (Distribution in Italy/Middlesex), NYS DOT Permitting, Railway Permitting, Points of Presence (POPs) & Uplink Node.

Jeff reviewed the Overall Schedule:

Phase	Construction Window	Collect Orders	Install Orders (start)
1A Backbone	1Q 23 – 2Q 23	NA	NA
1B Middlesex	2Q 23 – 2Q 24	1Q 24	2Q 24 (target pulling forward 1Q)
2 Italy, NE Penn Yan	2Q 24 – 2Q 25	1Q 25	2Q 25
3 SE Penn Yan, Dundee	2Q 25 – 4Q25	3Q 25	4Q 25

Jeff reviewed the Financial Reporting:

Report approved 8/2/23 (FRS#24)	Total advances to date	Advances now requested	Invoices paid and waiting RUS contract
Make Ready	\$1,907,614	\$66,108	\$0
Engineering	\$900,684	\$18,055	\$0
Construction	\$404,125	\$118,573	\$0
Equipment (Nokia)	\$276,427	\$0	\$0
Materials/other	\$369,938	\$0	\$1,572,388.90 (balance)

Bidding Costs	\$616	\$0	\$0
Total	\$3,096,435	\$290,048	\$1,572,388.90 (balance)
Balance in Pledged Deposit Acct.: \$643,400.39 Project Total: \$17,159,012 which includes \$3,631,625 County match			

Jeff continued reporting on ReConnect 1 Engineering & Construction, highlighting: Supplemental Funding announcement from RUS, Materials & Storage, Make-Ready Construction (CRITICAL PATH).

Jeff reported that there is no update for the Grant Applications:

Funding	Opportunity (Mbps download / upload)	Status
ReConnect 1 (current project) - \$10.4M with \$3.6M match	~1635 Premises <10/1 Mbps plus other USDA rules	Awarded 2020 Proceeding on schedule
ReConnect 4 Grant – Funding category - if 90% of households lack access < 100/20 Mbps, no matching funds required.	Access if $\geq$ 100/20 Mbps fixed broadband.  Identified 680 unserved households across 58 PFSA's  Was NOT permitted to include Frontier RDOF areas as Frontier application is in “ready to authorize” status.	Application submitted Nov. 2, 2022  Requested \$9,087,389 with no match  Grant notification around end May 2023

Jeff reported that in regards to RDOF Awarded areas, in the news it has been reported that an unknown group of RDOF awardees are banding together and trying to get out of the contracted build outs or are asking for more money. Contact was recently made with Frontier requesting an update on their RDOF build-out plans in Potter. Based on the USDA/RUS rules, this area had to be excluded from the ReConnect 4 application.

Jeff reviewed the following resolution that would be needed. After discussion the Committee approved.

- Authorize Chair to Sign a Contract with A-Verdi, LLC for the Delivery and Rental of Up to 2 (two) 40’ Storage Containers, for a total of 4 (four)

**Planning: Jeffrey Ayers**

Jeff reported that there was one GML 239 Planning Board Referral and it was determined that it would have a negative countywide impact.

Jeff reported that in regards to the Natural and Recreational Grant, all three contracts are fully executed and no requests have been submitted for payment/invoices.

Jeff reported that Keuka Housing should have all the documents they require and Grant submissions are due Monday 8/7.

Jeff reported that in regards to the 8 Year Agricultural District Renew, 8/9 will be the close of the add/drop period. There are currently a dozen+ properties asking to come out of the district.

The Farmland Protection Committee will issue a recommendation with the report and the Legislature has broad latitudes to include or remove parcels.

Jeff reported that a draft Farmland Protection Plan has been produced and comments have been submitted by the Planning Dept. The plan has also been submitted to an informal review by NYS Ag & Markets and the comments were positive.

Jeff reported that Household Hazardous Waste Day advertising & registration started 8/1. The event will be held 9/23 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. at the Yates County Fair Grounds. The FLAME has been added to their ad campaign and Schuyler County is beginning their ad campaign.

Jeff reported that the Quarterly YTS PowerPoint should be emailed for review prior to the August Legislative Meeting. Jeff reported that the 2023 5311 Comprehensive DOT Review will have findings issued by the Federal oversight team (they haven't come out yet) but will likely include:

- Buses, funded by federal monies, not being registered under the correct name
- Several of the 5311 Grants that have been awarded in the past required a local match. The County's resolution accepting the match says Yates County will meet the local match by in-kind administrative services with no monetary outlay (like our STOA funds). That arrangement is acceptable but whether or not the in kind services equal the match is unknown at this point.
- The county may be required to increase its oversight by asking for more detailed ridership data, having a "shadow rider" program and spot checking the routes.
- Procurement Policy lacking a "Protest Procedure"

Jeff reported that Dundee requested a custom GIS map to continue to update and refine their zoning.

Jeff reported that Kenna Bradley has accepted the Assistant Planner position and she started yesterday.

Jeff reviewed the following resolutions that would be needed. After discussion/edits the Committee approved.

- Approve the Capital Improvement Plan for Fiscal Years 2024-2028
- Accept NYSDOT Funding Under New York State's 2023 Accelerated Transit Capital Program Grant
- Appoint Member to the Yates County Planning Board (David Adam, Representing the Town of Middlesex)

### **Finance: Jessica Mullins**

Jessica reported that in regards to NYCLASS Yates County has \$5,000,000 invested, to date has earned \$336,499.76 in interest. The total amount invested with NYCLASS as of 7/31 is \$5,336,499.76 and NYCLASS is yielding an interest rate of 5.1097%.

Jessica reported that the Flint Creek budget meeting was held on 7/5 and the tax levy will remain flat for the 2024 year. The next meeting is on 1/3/24 at 9:00 a.m.

Jessica reported that to date the Occupancy Back Tax Project, to date, has collected \$243,532.42 in back tax. One of the four payment plans have satisfied their debt with the County, \$14,200 is still outstanding, one property, waiting on payment.

The following seven properties to be transferred to Scott to file tax liens on STR:

9.33-1-20	69 Emerson Cove, Penn Yan, NY 14527	Charles R. Knittle	Rebecca Evangelista	Benton	1/23/2017
11.74-1-21	6364 Glenn Avenue, Middlesex, NY 14507	Spelman Family Limited Partner		Middlesex	3/28/2008
79.50-1-9	6088 Italy Valley Road, Naples, NY 14512	Joshua	Briner	Italy	11/5/2021
131.01-1-15	524 Rock Stream Road, Rock Stream, NY 14878	Hernira 524 Rock Stream, LLC	Israel Levi Hernandez	Starkey	3/3/2022
11.51-1-1	635 E Lake Road, Rushville, NY 14544	635 Lake Avenue LLC dba	Thomas Masaschi	Middlesex	4/12/2021
61.61-1-18	2259 W Lake Road, Penn Yan, NY 14527	Brian & Emily	Cook	Jerusalem	10/4/2019
81.02-1-9	3269 Italy Friend Road, Branchport, NY 14418	Myron	White	Jerusalem	12/14/2004

Jessica reviewed the 2023 Appropriations, the Sales Tax Report, and the Occupancy Tax Report.

Jessica reviewed the following resolutions that would be needed. After discussion the Committee approved.

- 2023 Budget Transfers
- Authorize Assignment of Unassigned Fund Balance
- Appropriate Additional Aid (Public Health)
- Appropriate Additional State Aid (Community Services)

**Treasurer: Marsha Devine**

Marsha was not present, but the Committee reviewed her submitted materials and Jessica was available to answer questions.

**County Administrator: Nonie Flynn**

- Nothing to report

**Airport: Dick Harper**

Dick reported that the legislature tour of Penn Yan - Yates County Airport will be on 8/14 from 10 a.m.-12:00 p.m.

Dick reported that the deice pad 2nd bid opening resulted in a bid that was double the grant amount and in turn was not accepted. They are sending out for the 3rd bid with bid opening date of 8/29. They are allowing for a smaller collection tank (2500 gallons rather than 5000 gallons) and also allowing for the option of removing the discharge piping to the sewer system.

Dick reported that the Fuel truck is on order and newest delivery date is by end of November.

Dick reported that at the request of the County Attorney, they moved 3 NYSEG accounts from Seneca Flight billing to Yates County. These were accounts that were going through Seneca Flight as the FBO, but were for the County airport and had nothing to do with Seneca Flight. Now with the accounts in Yates County's name, Yates County will sign the agreement with NYSEG which will allow for final hookup.

Dick reviewed the following resolutions that would be needed. After discussion the Committee approved.

- Authorize Chair of the Legislature to sign Consultant Agreement with C&S Companies for Terminal Apron Rehab
- Authorize Chair of the Legislature to sign agreement with NYSEG regarding Backup Power Generation
- Authorize Chair of the Legislature to sign Consult Agreement with Passer Associates a Permanent Easement (Reiff Property)

- Authorize Chair of the Legislature to Accept Final Grant Award be the FAA for a Permanent Easement

**Legislative Operations: Emilee Miller**

Emilee reported that she is still waiting on the governor to sign the bills to renew the 1% Sales Tax Increase Imposed in 2003 & the Additional County Recording Tax on Mortgages.

Meeting adjourned at 4:19 p.m.