

FINANCE COMMITTEE

October 6, 2020

Committee members: Bill Holgate, Tim Cutler, Dan Banach, Ed Bronson, absent, Pat Killen, Rick Willson

Others present: Jim Multer, Bonnie Percy, Terry Button, Connie Hayes, Nonie Flynn, Earl Gleason, Carlie Chilson, Leslie Church, Doug Paddock, Meghan Kincaid, Dan Long.

Bill and Pat will do the audit this month.

Minutes of the September meeting were approved as presented.

Real Property – Meghan Kincaid

Meghan reported she held a County Assessors meeting on October 1st.

Meghan reported five of our towns are doing a reassessment project this year.

Meghan reported the small claims hearings should be done by the middle of October.

Meghan reported that William Pinckney was reappointed to the Board of Assessment Review for the Town of Jerusalem. Benton, Potter and Torrey all have vacancies.

Meghan reported she has begun working on the Town and County Tax Bills.

Meghan reviewed her 2021 budget summary.

Planning – Dan Long

Dan reported the NYS DOT informed him that they are sending a revised 5311 contract to merge two pending contracts. Dan will have a resolution authorizing the signing. Also, Yates County Transit will be updating the Legislature at the monthly meeting on October 14, 2020.

Dan reported the Yates County Planning Board had 3 referrals, all received a “no county wide impact” determination. Also, John Sawers resigned his seat on the Planning Board.

Dan reported the 2018 Natural and Recreational Resources grant funding is closed out and \$21,000 was returned to the contingent fund. Dan expects the 2019 grants to be closed prior to the end of 2020. The 2020 recipient’s projects are progressing.

Dan reported the draft version of the Yates County Capital Plan was sent out and is available electronically on Planning’s webpage. Dan would like to have input on the plan and is targeting December for final adoption.

Dan reported GeoCove had a kick-off meeting on October 1st to begin working on the GIS public portal. It is estimated that the access portal will be done by mid-December maybe sooner.

Dan reported ads for the Census have been placed in the Chronicle and Observer. ProAction and the Southern Tier Library System have been performing outreach tasks and will be doing so until September 30th.

Dan reported Marian Walrath, Grant Specialist for the Broadband Committee provided a written update. Dan reported that the RFI’s for potential ISP operation partners went out on September

18th and are due October 16th. The engineering RFP's went out on September 25th and are due back October 28th.

Dan reported Clark Patterson Lee is working on data collection for the County-Wide Water Infrastructure study. He has received shared cost payments from Middlesex, Milo and Benton.

Dan reported Bergmann met with stakeholders for the Public Safety Building needs assessment on September 25th for further data collection work.

Dan reported there was a zoom meeting last Tuesday regarding zoning and the potential of marijuana shops being located next or near schools.

Dan reviewed his 2021 budget summary.

Dan reviewed the following resolution that would be needed. The Committee approved.

- Authorize Chairman To Sign Contract With New York State Department of Transportation For A Revised 5311 Capital Expenditures Grant.

Treasurer – Ashley Doyle/Deputy

Ashley reviewed the 2020 Appropriations, Sales Tax Report and the Occupancy Tax Report.

Ashley reviewed the Treasurer's 2021 budget summary.

Ashley reported public notices for 337 parcels with 2020 taxes due were put in two newspapers. On October 1st tax enforcement notices were mailed to owners and lienholders of 74 parcels with delinquent 2019 taxes.

Ashley reported Yates County received another fiscal stress score of 0.0% which gives the county a classification of "no designation". Yates County also received an environmental score of 23.3% which is within the parameters of "no designation" as well.

Ashley reviewed the following resolutions that would be needed. The Committee approved.

- 2020 Budget Transfers
- Appropriate Additional State Aid (PLN)
- Accept and Appropriate Additional State Aid (PH)
- Accept and Appropriate Additional State Aid (PH)
- Appropriate Additional State Aid (CS)
- Chargeback Election Expense
- Re-levy Delinquent School Taxes
- Re-levy Delinquent Village Taxes

County Administrator – Nonie Flynn

Nonie reported the date to receive delinquent 2018 property tax payments has been extended to February 1, 2021. There are six parcels that have delinquent 2018 taxes.

Nonie reported the Tourism Advisory Committee met October 18th. Gene Pierce will be at the legislature meeting October 13th to present on the recommendations for 2021 funding.

Nonie reported on Occupancy Tax as it relates to campgrounds. The County's authority to impose an occupancy tax is solely derived from NYS legislation. The State has limited the occupancy tax to any facility providing lodging on an overnight basis. Our occupancy tax local law applies to campgrounds only if the campground provides overnight shelter or lodging, and expressly does not apply to situations where the customer provides his/her own shelter or lodging

at the campground. If Yates County wishes to expand its occupancy tax law to allow taxation in the above recited scenario, the State would need to amend Section 1202-y of the NYS Tax law in a manner that would permit the same.

Nonie reviewed her memo on the use of Fund Balance. Nonie is recommending that \$1,400,000.00 be put into the infrastructure reserve to start saving for items in the Communications Study. If the Sheriff is able to secure grant funding for the project, the funds could be used toward any expanded broadband project that the County may wish to undertake once the ReConnect grant funding is exhausted, or some other project.

Nonie reminded everyone that budget workshops will be October 27th and 28th starting at 9:00 am in the Legislative Chambers.

Nonie reviewed the following resolution that will be needed. The Committee approved.

- Calling On The Governor And State Legislature To End The Practice Of Diverting Local Sales Tax In Order To Supplant The State's Own Funding For Longstanding State Responsibilities
- Calling On The Governor And State Legislative Leaders To Modify Enacted Across The Board Cuts In State Aid To Localities As The Primary Way To Balance The State Budget And Replace It With A More Balanced Approach That Includes Reforming State Mandated Programs So They Are Less Costly To State And Local Taxpayers.

Airport – Dick Harper

Dick reviewed the following resolution that would be needed. The Committee approved.

- Resolution Urging Legislative Approval Of S8257/A10369 To Increase The Maximum Amount Of Grants Under The Aviation Capital Grant Program.

Dick reported the sewer project is completed and the system is in use.

Dick reported NYSDOT is reviewing a proposed design, construction administration and inspection/observation agreement submitted by Passero for the Weather and Emergency Preparedness grant. A resolution to authorize signing of the agreement may be forthcoming.

Dick reported Yates County has commented on Passero's revision of the Environmental Assessment based on a second set of comments received back from the FAA. Passero will finalize the document and initiate public comment in accordance with FAA guidelines.

Dick reported Evergreen Construction has completed the cleanup of hedgerows and grading along with the seeding.

Pat moved to enter executive session to discuss the employment history of a particular person or persons with the committee, legislators and county administrator present; seconded by Rick.
VOTE: Unanimous

Meeting adjourned at 4:45pm