

Office of the Onondaga County Legislature

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FISCAL WAYS AND MEANS COMMITTEE

March 13, 2006

CHAIRMAN WILLIAM MEYER

MEMBERS PRESENT: Mrs. Rapp, Mr. Kraft, Mr. Farrell, Mrs. Baker, Mr. Corbett, Mr. Warner, Mr. Stanczyk,

ALSO PRESENT: *see attached list*

Chairman Meyer made a motion, seconded by Mr. Corbett to waive the reading and approve the minutes of the previous committee meeting. MOTION CARRIED.

QUARTERLY UPDATE: Mr. Joe Mareane, Chief Fiscal Officer

Mr. Mareane distributed copies of the 2005 fourth quarter report (***attachment 1***) and highlighted key points.

- Unemployment rate finished at 4.4%; much better than 2004; 226,700 people are employed in Onondaga County; up 3,600 from 2004
- Weighted County Average Interest Rate: up 3.88% in 2005 from 2.24% in 2004
- Car sales: down a little; effects sales tax revenues
- Gasoline prices: up; county pays \$1.70/gallon, up from \$1.15 in 2004
- Energy prices: up
- Home Sales: good year, even though mortgage interest rates are up, refinancing went down
- Public Assistance Case loads: Welfare caseloads are down in 1994 when they were nearly 14,000 and are now down to 4,800. He feels a lot of them are working. Most PA programs begin with work.

Mr. Farrell asked about the comparison to other upstate cities; Mr. Mareane believes our numbers compare favorably; same general trend nationwide. Monroe County is stated that Onondaga County is the benchmark for this type of work. Chairman Meyer said that Mr. Warner will be having some of this discussion at the Social Services Committee meeting.

Mr. Mareane referred to 2005 year-end totals as of 3/10/2006. He said the Comptroller's staff gets numbers out quicker than any other county in NYS. There are still some numbers pending; this is the first look at 2005. The year will finish with around \$13.6 million general fund surplus. He explained that \$3.4 million is there because contracts were not settled; will ask that it be designated in fund balance and support retroactive wage settlements this year. With that surplus out of 2005, unreserved general fund balance will be \$60 million, 10%. If you take the \$3.4 million out, it is about 9.75% of revenues.

Mr. Mareane said there were 2 good things that had the greatest effect on how the year ended. Sales tax was strong - final collections were less than budget because \$6.9 million of receipts and give to city, towns, villages and schools as part of the Medicaid sharing plan--County kept about \$5.5 million. The other item was the one-time Medicaid phenomenon.

- Sales tax - based budget on overall countywide sales tax collection would growth of 2.25%; actual was 4.6%. Used share to pay supplement sales tax due to Medicaid windfall.
- Property tax collections - deferred/uncollected, prior year, interest, & penalties on prior years: finished about \$500,000 short; about \$200,000 was due to a one-time occurrence for a certiorari. The rest of collection rates remain strong. Still trying to get projection models right.
- Interest and earnings were up--projected a surplus of \$700,000.
- Clerk's revenues: \$400,000 short because of smaller refinancing volume

- PILOTS: about \$600,000 higher than projected. Comptroller's Office did an audit of PILOTS by the City; have had accelerated activity as a result.

Mr. Farrell asked if the \$6 million sales tax is a net disbursement related to Medicaid; Mr. Mareane said "yes. .

Mr. Corbett referred to the \$600,000 in PILOTS, were there some major ones or is this cumulative. Mr. Mareane said some was linked to the Comptroller's audit and some were owed to us that weren't paid. Mr. Colon said that they were not paid in a timely fashion and were received in 2005 instead of 2004.

Mr. Stanczyk asked what interest rate is being earned for 2006; Mr. Mareane said it was 3.33% and thought currently at 4%. Mr. Stanczyk said if it stays at 4%, what surplus would exist for 2006; Mr. Mareane said about \$800,000. Mr. Stanczyk questioned the percentage increase in sales in 2005; Mr. Mareane replied 4.6%. Mr. Seitz said the 2006 projection is 2.25%. Mr. Mareane said that is on top of project 2005. Mr. Seitz said they are little higher than the budget right now for 2006. Mr. Stanczyk asked what the forecast is for surplus in sale tax; Mr. Mareane said they don't have that yet. Mr. Seitz said the first 2 checks of the quarter are estimated; and they finalize their projection with the April check. **Mr. Stanczyk asked Mr. Seitz to determine what a 3% sales tax growth would be for 2006; how much surplus would exist.** Mr. Stanczyk said the legislature was not told in September that there would be 4% plus in sales tax. Mr. Mareane stated that when they prepared budget, they said that the 2005 sales tax revenue was doing much better than budgeted.

EXPENDITURES:

- Salaries & Wages: \$800,000 surplus; result of holding about 20 positions vacant. County workforce has been significantly reduced over the last several years; 7% fewer today than 4 years ago; about 4,250 employees; 10 years ago there were 5,100.
- Anticipated Salary Settlements: \$2.9 million surplus, as contracts were not settled--need to add to that money from reserves for 2004 retro contracts.
- Debt Service - on target
- Employee Benefits: \$1.5 million surplus; benefits tied to salary levels-salaries weren't increased so saved on benefits side. Retirement rate was little less than budgeted.
- Maint., Util. & Rents: \$200,000 shortfall result of an amalgam of things; utilities came in less partly because of what Carrier is doing.
- DSS Admin: saved by holding roster positions vacant; received a one-shot payment from State for cost in excess of cap in prior year; State changed the way it reimburses us for administrative costs. \$1.7 million local level surplus.
- Medicaid: \$12.4 million savings; most was from accruals at end of year; some was baseline savings in costs. This is good news as capped payment in future is based on actual 2005 Medicaid expenses.
- IGT - wash
- Safety Net and Family Assistance: Surplus in Safety Net; little overage in Family Assistance due to moving State revenue to Foster Care; it is a paper transaction. Caseloads are down significantly; the lowest since records have been kept for 30 years.

Mr. Farrell asked about employee benefits surplus and other expenditures associated with level of salaries; Mr. Mareane said it is significantly pensions. Mr. Seitz said that there was \$500,000 savings on how charged interest in arrears, which could not have been forecasted.

Mr. Farrell suggested that the report include a column of percentage change.

Mr. Corbett questioned the certiorari line; Mr. Mareane said there was a certiorari awarded to North Medical, \$200,000 impact. Mr. Corbett questioned the juvenile delinquency line - \$900,000 deficit; Mr. Mareane said there are a lot of revenues tied to that program; \$600,000 was Juvenile delinquency. Had budgeted \$79,000 per case, and actual was \$89,000 per case.

Mrs. Rapp questioned the status of salary settlements: Mr. Mareane said that OCSA is in binding arbitration; both sides have presented the bulk of their cases; may not have results until summer. CSEA is in mediation; have had 2 meetings. One issue for the county is the cost of co-pays; County is asking that co-pays go from \$10 to \$25/visit. The contribution of health insurance would remain the same; 10% of health and 15% of RX.

Mr. Stanczyk question how much is projected for employee benefits for 2006; Mr. Mareane replied \$59.1 million. **Mr. Stanczyk asked to be provided with a breakdown of that number.** There was discussion on trends for 2006 and pension costs. Mr. Seitz stated that 2006 budget was less than 2005 regarding pension costs, as there are smaller increases in salary base. Mr. Stanczyk questioned the proposed copay increase; Mr. Mareane said it would save \$400,000 from CSEA and \$500,000 with all employees combined and go against 2007 budget. Mr. Mareane pointed out that this is general fund only; employee health costs were \$46.3 million in 2005; projected to be \$49.05 in 2006. Mr. Stanczyk questioned taking \$500,000 from employees when there is a significant balance in 2005 and anticipated for 2006.

Mr. Colon reiterated that this is general fund snap shot and does not include Highway, WEP, MWB, Van Duyn, and library. When those numbers are plugged in, it takes on a radical change; \$7 million for Van Duyn.

Mr. Stanczyk asked about actual Medicaid costs; Mr. Mareane said he will have the numbers in 3 or 4 weeks.

Mrs. Baker referred to Mr. Colon's comments of the other county services not including in the general fund and asked what they total. Mr. Colon said that he will have the numbers in 4 weeks. Mr. Mareane said Van Duyn will finish with a deficit of approximately \$7.8 million; \$7.9 million was expected. WEP will finish with approximately \$1 million surplus because ammonia/phosphorous did not get started as early as expected.

Mr. Warner referred to Correctional Health; there have been a few studies done on cost of pharmaceuticals; CSEA has taken an interest.

WOMEN'S BOWLING TOURNAMENT:

Mr. Mareane reported the Women's Bowling Championship Tournament has been awarded here in 2011. The sponsor fee is \$950,000, \$500,000 has to be paid by July. This is a 3 month event, April - June, 2011 with 65,000 participants; will generate an impact of \$50 million. *(see attachment 2)*. Discussion followed regarding the validation of the \$950,000 bid. Mr. Farrell questioned how it is determined to be the right number. Mrs. Baker believes that Mr. Doug Small is clear on what is being looked for; she will entertain discussion at a Planning committee meeting.

Mr. Corbett questioned impact from the DestiNY outcome; Mr. Mareane said that any kind of arrangement made with the city, will be proposed to be made with County. Mr. Mareane said that Pyramid has been notified that the County expects the same treatment.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:22 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

DEBORAH L. FICHERA, Clerk

Onondaga County Legislature

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ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION COMMITTEE MINUTES

March 14, 2006

CHAIRMAN JAMES C. CORBETT

MEMBERS PRESENT: Mrs. Chaplin, Mr. Whelan, Mr. Kraft, Mr. Rhinehart, Ms. Winslow, Mr. Farrell*

ALSO PRESENT: Mr. Meyer, see also attached list

Chairman Corbett called the meeting to order at 9:35 a.m.

Chair Corbett stated that Mr. Clare, LIPO, has submitted a letter indicated changes to minutes of the previous committee meeting. *(attachment 1)*.

A motion was made by Mr. Whelan, seconded by Mr. Rhinehart to waive the reading and approve the minutes of the previous meeting as amended. MOTION CARRIED.

1. LAKE IMPROVEMENT: Ms. Sue Miller

a. ACJ Update

- Midland Phase II construction continuing, 58.8% of concrete is poured; total spent for 4 main contractors is \$43.4% of funding, \$23.1 million; concrete pouring now focused on treatment facility & underground storage tank which holds 2.5 million gallons.
- Phase III started; properties may have to be acquired; letters gone to adjacent property owners along pipeline route; over 25% of design is complete

- Public Hearings held 2/22 on Clinton Facility Plan environmental document, 60-70 people attended; public comment ends 3/23
- Ambient Monitoring starts 4/1; plan submitted to DEC for approval
- Ready to start next sewer separation in Bissell, South Ave, Centennial area (attachment 2); bids close 3/23; letters send out to residents and property owners to be affected; projected to start in May

Discussion - South Ave: will have to come up with a traffic maintenance plan; will be a lane open at least for local traffic; will be an Onondaga Avenue detour. Construction will be disruptive; has been done previously on Brighton and Genesee Streets; will do 20' -30' per day - about 2 months of construction. Mr. Clare discussed pipe sizes.

**Mr. Farrell arrived at the meeting.*

Traffic was rerouted when Midland Ave was done. Ms. Chaplin said dust, noise were problems; banging heard from blocks away. Commissioner Elander said that the South Ave work has to be done; will be as quick as possible; it was selected for sewer separation rather than other mediation. Ms. Chaplin referred to excavation along the creek and a future walkway there. Mr. Elander said it is better to coordinate what it would look like in the beginning. There is coordination with City, water and National Grid; when road is done it will have new curbs, pavement, new gas lines, and water service replaced.

2. WATER ENVIRONMENT PROTECTION: Mr. Richard Elander, Commissioner

a. Authorizing the acquisition of real property to enable the County of Onondaga to comply with requirements set forth in the Onondaga Lake Amended Consent Judgment (ACJ) for the construction, operation, and maintenance of Phase III of the Midland Avenue Regional Treatment Facility and Conveyances Project (\$38,000)

Five houses need to be purchased and demolished; will bring them to committee as a package. Property owners have been contacted. The Horton property is separated, as the owner is 91 years old, willing to sell; it was appraised at \$38,000. Department desire to expedite this acquisition. There was discussion about standard language Mrs. Tarolli explained they could report back if there are changes to the course at hand. No homes have been pursued with eminent domain.

A motion was made Mr. Whelan, seconded by Mr. Rhinehart to approve this item. Ayes: 5 (Kraft, Rhinehart, Winslow, Whelan, Corbett) Noes: 0; Abstaining: 2 (Farrell, Chaplin). MOTION CARRIED.

b. Authorizing an intermunicipal agreement with the City of Syracuse for sewer separation for CSO basins 047 and 048

For every sewer separation project the county enters into an intermunicipal agreement with City.

A motion was made by Mr. Kraft, seconded by Mrs. Winslow to approve this item. Passed unanimously; MOTION CARRIED.

4. Appointment to Region 7 Practice Board - James Rhinehart

A motion was made by Mr. Kraft, seconded by Mr. Whelan to approve this item. Passed unanimously; MOTION CARRIED.

3. Discussion: Metropolitan Water Board/Onondaga County Water Authority Consolidation

Chairman Corbett stated that at the last meeting and at session this was discussed. Mr. Sweetland and Mr. Ryan have sponsored resolutions.

Chairman Sweetland distributed a revised resolution entitled ***Establishing the Central New York Water System Task Force***. His goal is to look at the total water delivery system in this county and the region; would like a full-fledged extensive study of the entire system to see if appropriate for next years. He asked the committee to approve the resolution and move to session.

Chairman Corbett questioned if the appointments from MWB and OCWA should not be staff members. Discussion continued. Mr. Whelan suggested the resolution read: *...one board member appointed by OCWA and one board member appointment by MWB*. Chairman Sweetland stated that if that is desired, he would have Mrs. Tarolli work out the language.

Mr. Farrell expressed concern about the mandate of the committee based on language in the resolution and the reporting process. Chairman Corbett suggested that the Task Force provide a report prior to the committee meeting every 2 months.

Mr. Kraft said that he has concerns about authorities. Chairman Sweetland said there is new legislation in NYS and has asked an attorney to look at how it affects agencies. It is on the agenda for the IDA meeting on Thursday to discuss all the requirements that authorities have to abide by. A synopsis will be provided.

A motion was made by Mr. Whelan to approve Mr. Sweetland's resolution as amended with language indicating that appointments not be staff members, seconded by Mr. Kraft.

Discussion occurred about the number of members appointed in each resolution and the dates included.

Mr. Farrell suggested that conversations between now and session occur to define the mandate of the task force.

Mrs. Winslow suggested that the title of Mr. Sweetland's resolution include more direction for perspective task force members.

The Task Force meeting will be public meetings and staffed by the Clerk's office.

Legilator Meyer feels it is important for towns and villages to be involved. He asked that consideration be given to hiring experts.

A vote was taken on the motion: Ayes: 5 (Kraft, Whelan, Rhinehart, Farrell, Corbett) Noes: 0; Abstaining: 2 (Winslow, Chaplin). MOTION CARRIED.

A motion was made by Mrs. Winslow, seconded by Mrs. Chaplin to approve Mr. Ryan's resolution, Establishing a Water Services Consolidation Committee to Review and Make Recommendations regarding the possible consolation of the Metropolitan Water Board and the Onondaga County Water Authority

There was discussion about April 21st being the date for a status report in the resolution. Mrs. Winslow stated that the date could be changed.

A vote was taken on the motion: Ayes: 2 (Chaplin, Winslow) Noes: 4 (Kraft, Whelan, Farrell, Rhinehart) Abstaining: 1 (Corbett). MOTION DEFEATED.

The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

DEBORAH L. FICHERA, Clerk

Onondaga County Legislature

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HEALTH COMMITTEE MINUTES

March 15, 2006

KATHLEEN A. RAPP, CHAIR

MEMBERS PRESENT: Mr. Warner, Mrs. Baker, Mr. Meyer, Ms. Mulroy, Mr. Laguzza

ALSO PRESENT: *see attached list*

Chair Rapp called the meeting to order at 9:05 a.m.

A motion was made by Mrs. Baker, seconded by Mrs. Warner to waive the reading and approve the minutes of proceedings of the previous committee meeting. MOTION CARRIED.

1. HEALTH: Mrs. Jean Smiley, Mr. Russ Nemecek, Mr. Gary Sauda

a. Authorizing an application for an aquatic invasive species eradication grant and authorizing the County Executive to execute agreements to implement this resolution

Need legislative approval to apply. A fact sheet was provided (***attachment 1***); \$33,000 over 3 years from state. Treatment will be sprayed on; not put in water; harvesting will continue; can be mulched for farm use. It will be in the Horseshoe Island are between River and Gaskin Roads.

A motion was made by Mrs. Baker, seconded by Mr. Warner to approve this item. Passed unanimously. MOTION CARRIED.

b. Pandemic Flu Preparation - Mrs. Jean Smiley, Dr. Morrow,

- Dr. Morrow gave global update (**attachment 2**). Not currently dealing with a pandemic; dealing with the threat of one as a result of Avian Flu.
- 101 people have died; 181 diagnosed; 55% mortality rate - those that have gotten virus from birds
- Will have Avian Flu sooner rather than later because of the way birds migrate
- \$3.3 billion allocated to Health and Human Services (pie graph provides breakdown)
- Good evidence that anti-virals will be effective; can develop prototypes that can speed vaccine production once the virus emerges
- \$110 million distributed to the States
- Local level: educating people-it is a community undertaking; working on preparedness plans; communication plan. State Health Dept. released a plan for pandemic flu at the end of Feb. (surveillance, infection control; hand and respiratory hygiene; social distancing; hospital preparedness, workforce planning; communication.) Will make sure county plan is parallel with State and national plans. The HHS website includes pandemic flu planning checklists for: state and local government, businesses, families, school districts, home health care services, medical providers. County has conducted table top isolation and quarantine drills
- Co. Executive is developing a community wide committee
- Dr. Morrow said they have been working on this for 2 years.

Questions were asked about exposure: Dr. Morrow said the vast majority of people diagnosed were living in close proximity to birds. There is no known case of consumption of poultry being the cause of infection. It devastates domestic bird populations; the wild birds tend to live with it and spread it by excreting it. The risk to humans, at this point, is to those that live with chickens or other domestic poultry.

There was discussion about vaccine production; companies have stepped up production of flu vaccines as a result of previous shortages.

2. **Confirming the appointment of Roberta Sprague as Commissioner of Long Term Care Services**

A motion was made by Mr. Meyer, seconded by Mrs. Baker to approve this item; passed unanimously MOTION CARRIED.

Mr. Laguzza asked to be a co-sponsor.

3. **Informational - Excellus Provider Increase - Mr. Casey**

Mr. Casey reported that Excellus' main function is to process health claims for county employees and retirees; they don't make any mark up. County incurred about \$60 million worth of claims; Excellus paid about \$31 million; about \$.50 on dollar. Their money is made on fees paid to them to administer the program; in 2005 it was \$1.2 - \$1.3 million. A subsidiary of \$200,000/year is also paid for generation of bills for retirees those that are not payroll deduction and to administer retirees indemnity program.

Mr. Warner discussed "fat paychecks" and questioned who controls it. Mr. Casey said that the county doesn't have any control over it; it is an internal function; would suspect they have a board committee to make those decisions.

There was discussion regarding rules for non-profits. Mr. Casey said the county can chose to do business with them or not. There is an RFP in the works now; focus on administration fees; and the reimbursement rate they pay to the physician. The county will go with whichever provider can give us the most favorable reimbursement rates. **Mr. Warner asked to be provided with a copy of the RFP.** Mr. Casey said that there are no stockholders with a not-for-profit. Whatever surplus they have had end of year is not distributed to shareholders; it can be retained internally.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:15 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

DEBORAH L. FICHERA, Clerk

Onondaga County Legislature

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PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE MINUTES - MARCH 16, 2006

MARTHA E. MULROY, CHAIR

**MEMBERS PRESENT: Mr. Ryan, Mr. Rhinehart, Mr. Warner, Mr. DiBlasi, *Mr. Holmquist, **Mr. Kinne
ALSO PRESENT: Mr. Meyer, see also attached list**

The meeting was called to order at 9:00 a.m.

A motion was made by Mr. Warner, seconded by Mr. Rhinehart to waive the reading and approve the minutes of proceedings of the previous committee meeting. MOTION CARRIED.

1. Confirming appointment to the Onondaga County Fire Advisory Board (Mr. Falcone)

A motion was made by Mr. Ryan, seconded by Mr. Rhinehart to approve this item. Passed unanimously; MOTION CARRIED.

* Mr. Holmquist arrived at the meeting.

2. HILLBROOK: Ms. Jackie DeNero

a. Amending the 2006 County Budget to provide additional funds for Hillbrook Detention Center and authorizing the County Executive to enter into contracts to implement this resolution (\$5,000)

A motion was made by Mr. Warner, seconded by Mr. Rhinehart to approve this item. Passed unanimously; MOTION CARRIED.

Ms. DeNero gave a brief update on Hillbrook's renovations:

- On target; pre-phase 1 began in March § Dividing the building in half; work on have at a time for 6 months each.
 - Working the Sheriff; have a plan in place for transport if need to use Erie § Non-secure detention facility in Auburn; contract for 16 beds; hopeful that lower to moderate risk juveniles can go there.
- Chair Mulroy asked to be notified of the meetings with Sheriff, as she would like to be part of them.

Discussion re: capacity - capacity is 32 juveniles; currently have 19; 3 are out of county. Mr. Ryan asked about using jjail pods, penitentiary, or trailers. Ms. DeNero reported regulations exist against housing juveniles with adult population; the State would not certify trailer use, even on a temporary basis.

***Mr. Kinne arrived at the meeting.*

3. EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS: Mr. John Balloni, Deputy Commissioner

a. Approving a cooperative agreement between the County of Onondaga and the NYS Office for Technology to promote the development of a statewide wireless network for use by public safety an public service agencies and authorizing the County Executive to enter into additional agreements to further the intent of this resolution

Mr. Balloni said this would be a mutual benefit; no money attached; hopefully provide savings in future. Commissioner Wisely will work closely on this; is on State's advisory board. Onondaga is the first county to enter into an agreement.

A motion was made by Mr. Ryan, seconded by Mr. Rhinehart to approve this item. Passed unanimously; MOTION CARRIED.

Mr. Warner asked that the issue of cost of public defenders vs. assigned counsel be put on the agenda next month. Chair Mulroy agreed; may have to be executive session if it is in litigation.

Mr. Rhinehart asked for clarification of 207C status for Sheriff's civil deputies. Chair Mulroy said that Chief Pevelry should address that and will put on the agenda for next month. The meeting will be held at the Justice Center.

A motion was made by Mr. Rhinehart, seconded by Mr. Warner to adjourn at 9:16 a.m. MOTION CARRIED.

Respectfully submitted,

DEBORAH L. FICHERA, Clerk

Onondaga County Legislature

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EDUCATION AND LIBRARIES COMMITTEE MINUTES

MARCH 14, 2006

JAMES DIBLASI, CHAIRMAN

MEMBERS PRESENT: Mr. Corbett, Mr. Holmquist, Ms. Mulroy, Mr. Kinne, Mrs. Chaplin, *Mrs. Winslow

ALSO PRESENT: Mr. Sweetland and see attached list (Attachment 1)

Chairman DiBlasi called the meeting to order at 11:15 a.m.

1. OCPL: Ms. Kate McCaffrey, Ms. Elaine Walter

a. Amending the 2006 County Budget to accept Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) funds for the Onondaga County Public Library and authorizing the County Executive to enter into contracts to implement this resolution (\$6,000)

Ms. McCaffrey said this is money to buy programming support and promotional materials for the summer reading Program, and is shared by all the libraries in the County (Central, branches and member) based on a formula regarding participation in each library last year.

A motion was made by Mr. Kinne, seconded by Ms. Mulroy to approve this item. A vote was taken and passed unanimously. MOTION CARRIED.

**Mrs. Winslow arrived at the meeting.*

b. Amending the 2006 County Budget to accept CNY Library Resources Council funds for the Onondaga County Public Library and authorizing the County Executive to enter into contracts to implement this resolution (\$10,000)

Ms. McCaffrey said this money would be used to hire a librarian cataloger to make unique items available from the Library's Local History Department (town histories, annual reports of businesses, government and organizations, feasibility studies, environmental impact studies, church records, programs and conference reports for Syracuse and Onondaga County). Ms. McCaffrey said the Library Resource Council is a cooperative of libraries in the area made up of academic and public.

A motion was made by Mr. Kinne, seconded by Ms. Mulroy to approve this item.

Mr. Kinne requested a one-page report be submitted to the Legislature this fall, before budget, regarding money accepted by the library after budget time in years past.

A vote was taken and passed unanimously. MOTION CARRIED.

c. To re-allocate two rates of pay for the title "Page" (grade 31 - 103 payroll) (1) at \$6.25 per hour (flat) and (2) \$7.00 per hour (flat), and to delete the two rates, \$5.50 per hour (flat) and \$6.00 per hour (flat) of pay for the title "Page" (Grade 31 - 103 payroll) effective April 17, 2006.

Ms. Walter said there are about 60 to 75 pages on the library payroll - steady group of people who work part-time (less than half time) - as of January, the State minimum wage went up to \$6.75 an hour. They propose to start the pages at \$6.25, and once trained, go to \$7.00 an hour (training usually takes approximately one year).

A motion was made by Ms. Mulroy, seconded by Mr. Corbett to approve this item.

Mr. Kinne asked why the County is exempt from paying the State minimum wage, and Ms. Water explained that the State Labor Law only applies to the private sector; not to any levels of government. Ms. Walter noted they have always paid minimum wage to 103 employees, except seasonal employees.

A vote was taken on this item. Ayes: Mr. Corbett, Mr. Holmquist, Ms. Mulroy, Mrs. Chaplin, Mrs. Winslow; Noes: 1 (Mr. Kinne).

d. Amending the 2006 County Budget to accept funds from the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation for the Onondaga County Public Library and authorizing the County Executive to enter into contracts to implement this resolution (\$81,000)

A motion was made by Mr. Corbett, seconded by Mr. Kinne to approve this item.

Ms. McCaffrey said this invitational grant is based on a formula attached to participation in the School Lunch Program - will be used to replace computers purchased with the original grant in 1999. Due to the favorable rates, they will be able to purchase more than those that need to be replaced.

A vote was taken on this item and passed unanimously. MOTION CARRIED.

2. ERIE CANAL MUSEUM: Ms. Michelle Keib, Mr. Kitzmann

a. Authorizing the County Executive to enter into an agreement containing a preservation covenant relating to the Erie Canal Museum with New York State by and through the New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and

Historic Preservation

A motion was made by Corbett, seconded by Mr. Holmquist to approve this item.

Mr. Kitzmann said they received a \$77,000 matching grant from the NYS Environmental Protection Fund that they have successfully matched. The project is to rebuild the canalboat bow section, build replica lock gates, and provide interpretive signage. Mr. Kitzman said there is a contract to secure the funds and a Preservation Covenant (15 year guarantee for the project) that need to be signed by the County.

Mr. Giardine, Facilities Management, said they are in support of this project - puts the exterior displays back in top form.

Mr. Corbett said he is pleased to see that by accepting this grant, the museum will remain open to the public for the next fifteen years.

A vote was taken on this item and passed unanimously. MOTION CARRIED.

Ms. Mulroy asked about the possibility of the Erie Canal Museum and Onondaga Historical Association combining efforts (mentioned in Mr. Pirro's 2006 State of the County speech). Ms. Kieb said the Boards have had preliminary discussions, and have formed a committee to review this. Mr. Sweetland mentioned that organizations that depend on contributions and fundraising have had a difficult time in the last several years; that is what drives a lot of discussion regarding two entities that are similar and going after the same folks to raise funds.

Ms. Mulroy asked for a one-page report about what has been done.

Mr. Clark, Producing Director - Syracuse Stage, invited the committee to view a performance by a professional actor who reenacted the historical figure of Harriet Tubman - an example of what Syracuse Stage does with their Educational Outreach program.

The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Johanna H. Robb

Deputy Clerk

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SOCIAL SERVICES COMMITTEE MINUTES

MARCH 15, 2006

ROBERT D. WARNER, CHAIRMAN

MEMBERS PRESENT: Mr. Rhinehart, Mr. DiBlasi, Mr. Holmquist, Mr. Laguzza

ALSO PRESENT: Mr. Meyer, Mrs. Rapp and see attached list (Attachment 1)

Chairman Warner called the meeting to order at 11:15 a.m.

Chairman Warner announced that two of the main objectives he has for this committee would be to address Medicaid fraud and criminal activity that is going on with the system.

1. Discussion: 2006 - 2007 Social Services Committee Perspectives - David Sutkowy, Steve Morgan

Mr. Sutkowy distributed a fact sheet - Program Caseloads/Expenditures and budget numbers (Attachment 2).

Two major families in Social Services:

1. Public Benefits Programs (money collected from taxpayers - federal, state and local and distributed to low-income residents). Programs: Medicaid, Welfare, Food Stamps, Day Care and Home Energy Assistance.
2. Protective Service Programs - responsible to provide protective services on behalf of vulnerable children and adults (persons over 18 with a physical or mental infirmity who cannot provide for themselves).

Regarding reorganization:

Do not do major reorganization - throughout the course of the year they make hundreds of decisions and make adjustments along the way (more effective to steadily make changes to strengthen what they are doing). Mr. Pirro, in his State of the County, noted that Monroe County Executive cited Onondaga County's system as a model of efficiency and effectiveness.

War on Poverty:

- Public Benefits Programs designed to help individuals and families get out of poverty - county has been involved in providing support for over a century - structure of the system really took hold in the 60s.
- If a person doing everything possible to meet their needs, Social Services will do everything possible to raise their family out of poverty.
- Have done a lot to make their services very assessable, and try to be as efficient as possible, making benefits quickly without a lot of hassle.
- Federal Welfare Reform Legislation Personal Responsibility Act - Mr. Sutkowy's believes is that it is not only structural, it is decisions people are making - they may have skills that they are not exercising - they may not know how to get into the workforce - whatever personal barriers exist for them (education, motivation, chaotic personal life), their goal is not to provide money and benefits, but to change behavior.
- Temporary Assistance Program works closely with JOBS Plus program - expectations are that a person on welfare will either work, prepare for work or address whatever personal issues exist in their lives that prevent them from preparing to work.

They want to communicate to the public that to receive a public benefit (Welfare), there is a reciprocal relationship between the public and them - Social Services needs to be an organization that makes benefits available, but can't simply waive regulations, can't open themselves up to misuse of systems.

60,000 County residents receive Medicaid benefits (\$550,000,000 paid through local Medicaid program).

- State Medical Management Information System (MMIS) historically has been inadequate in providing management data, but has now made information more available to counties; it is hard to manipulate.
- DDS has signed a contract for a software program that will allow them to take demographic information about recipients in the MMIS system, compare that information with billing records, will be able to look at service utilization compared by individuals, by providers - very sophisticated system.
- Ten licenses to use the software - sharing the licenses with Health, Mental Health and Budget Office.
- Fraud is one thing they will look at.
- Have talked with other counties and Managed Care plans to see how they are using the data.
- Data is a trigger to identify potential problems.
- Working with Health, Mental Health departments and the DA's office to see if they can do this analytical work with simply county resources.

Mr. Rhinehart asked what estimates the software company gave them regarding savings; Mr. Morgan replied that they did not give estimates - DDS has a ninety day pilot agreement that starts once they are trained. Aside from fraud, Mr. Sutkowy said by using this data, they can start identifying both services and populations that are high users of care that are currently exempt from Managed Care, and try to proceed in a more managed care format - a lot of care people get outside of Managed Care is not good care - take ambulances and wheelchair cabs to emergency rooms because they don't have primary care available.

Mr. DiBlasi asked about people who may have moved from county to county and end up in Onondaga - could information concerning them be traced back. Mr. Morgan said they only have access to Onondaga County data - thinks the goal is to eventually be able to work with other counties.

Protecting the children:

- Not all parents have the ability or wherewithal to protect their children.
- DSS responds to 5,000 calls a year where there is some allegation that the parent or guardian is mistreating their child (neglect, not adequate food and clothing, not going to school, and small minority is the abuse where a child is physically or sexually mistreated (1/3 of calls founded, other 2/3 - doesn't mean there are not issues).
- Number one issue - the safety of the child; if the child is not safe, the child is removed. Goal is to address what's causing the maltreatment and get the kids back with the parents with the necessary supports; if they can't do that, need to act and file termination of parental rights and get the child into a permanent situation - last thing they want is a child to stay long term in foster care or be bounced around in foster care.
- State regulations have created a system that is virtually impossible to maneuver - caseworkers spend 50 percent of their time at their desks simply documenting what they are doing instead of being out in the field.

In early 90s, DSS staff was at about 1,000 now at about 740 - the appropriation for technology about seven years ago helped immensely - with computers, they save staff time, time in general and have become a lot more efficient. Mr. DiBlasi asked if they foresee a need for another big computer upgrade in the near future; Mr. Sutkoway said they are OK right now.

Chairman Warner noted that the budget is \$253,011,823 (\$129,830,399 local dollars and the rest grants) - asked if Social Services has the largest budget in the County; Mr. Sutkoway replied yes. Mr. Warner reviewed the 621 issue (names of patients who have been released by the State from mental hospitals that the State is suppose to pick up Medicaid costs for). Mr. Sutkoway said the State generated names of individuals who met 621, and made a settlement offer to all counties (data goes from today back to 1996). The State offered Onondaga County \$840,000 with stipulation that the County waives all rights to other claims. Mr. Sutkoway said they have information on these clients on Microfiche from 1996 back to 1988, have identified \$1.2 million dollars of appropriate claims, and amended the State offer of \$840,000 with the additional \$1.2 million (have accepted state offer, but will not waive rights to \$1.2 million). They are waiting for the State to respond.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Johanna H. Robb

Deputy Clerk

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COUNTY FACILITIES COMMITTEE MINUTES

JAMES W. FARRELL, CHAIRMAN

MARCH 16, 2006

MEMBERS PRESENT: Mr. Rhinehart, Mr. Kraft, Mr. Holmquist, Mr. Whelan, Mr. Kinne, Mr. Laguzza

ALSO PRESENT: Mr. Sweetland, Mr. Meyer and see attached list (Attachment 1)

Chairman Farrell called the meeting to order at 11:00 a.m.

A motion was made by Mr. Whelan, seconded by Mr. Rhinehart to waive reading of minutes and approve minutes as presented. MOTION CARRIED.

The Chairman announced that the agenda would be taken out of order.

TRANSPORTATION: Mr. Mark Lynch

a. Amending the 2006 County Budget to accept funds from the United States Government for reimbursement of costs relative to the installation of a new traffic signal at the Air National Guard Airbase entrance on Hosman Road as a part of a Federal Aid Project, PIN 375330 and authorizing the County Executive to enter into an agreement to implement this resolution and accept ownership of said traffic signal (\$92,000).

Hosman Road Project - resurfacing and road widening - resolution allows them to enter into an agreement with federal government, through the Air National Guard, to accept funds to install a traffic signal at the entrance to the Air National Guard Base at Hancock Airport. Increased security checks since 911 have created problems on Hosmann Road with traffic backing up. The County will be placing turn lanes (County responsible to pay for 5%) and federal government will pay for the traffic signal that will be owned, operated and maintained by the County.

A motion was made by Mr. Kraft, seconded by Mr. Kinne to approve this item. A vote was taken and passed unanimously. MOTION CARRIED.

b. Advancing 100% of the federal and state aid eligible costs for the construction and construction inspection phases for the Hosman Road Project, PIN 375330 at a maximum cost of \$2,299,000

Approves the construction and inspection phases for the Hosman Road Project (runs east of Townline Road to Northern Blvd. - repaving project with installation of lanes at the airbase and intersection work at Thompson Rd. and at Kinne Rd.). \$2,420,000 project with a County share of \$121,000 (this 5% share is already in the Operating Work Plan).

A motion was made by Mr. Whelan, seconded by Mr. Kinne to approve this item.

In answer to Mr. Whelan, Mr. Lynch said there is no Right-of-Way cost. In answer to Mr. Kraft, Mr. Lynch said construction will happen this year, and it is funded in the TIP. Mr. Lynch said more paving jobs are getting on the TIP and less major reconstruction because the cost is so high. Roads with great distress have to be funded locally unless there are safety issues causing accidents; it is tough to get into the program.

Chairman Farrell suggested that Mr. Lynch explain to the committee how the whole process works regarding funding for road construction and paving at the April committee meeting. Chairman Farrell asked about the average cost per mile to rebuild a road. Mr. Morgan replied \$1,750,000. There was discussion regarding the ratio of cost - federal and local dollars and the maintenance program versus reconstruction. **Chairman Farrell asked to meet prior to committee next month to discuss this in depth.** Mr. Lynch said the cost has gone through the roof on reconstruction projects; if they can maintain the highway system with overlays, that is the way to go - much cheaper. Mr. Whelan asked for assurance that utilities are being given a long enough lead time to get their preventative maintenance done before a project starts. Mr. Lynch said they have an annual meeting with all the utilities to present their Work Plan for the year as well as anything they know of for the future.

A vote was taken on this item and passed unanimously. MOTION CARRIED.

PARKS: Mr. Geraci

Mr. Geraci introduced Chuck Doyle, recently appointed Director of the Zoo.

a. Amending the 2006 County Budget to accept a grant from the New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation and authorizing the County Executive to enter into contracts to implement this resolution (\$94,000)

Accepting annual pass-through money that is dispersed by the County to the Snowmobile Association to maintain the trails.

A motion was made by Mr. Rhinehart, seconded by Mr. Laguzza to approve this item.

In answer to Mr. Kraft, Mr. Geraci is not aware of any County liability in regard to this. **Mr. Geraci will supply the latest report by the Snowmobile Association regarding how they spent the money to the committee.**

A vote was taken and passed unanimously. MOTION CARRIED.

b. Approving program improvements to be funded from the Onondaga County Parks Special Events Account as set forth by Resolution 354-99

There is need for more Automated External Defibrillators - this will allow them to purchase units out of the Special Events Account for use at Pratt's Falls, Onondaga Lake Park, Parks main office and by Park Rangers. Mr. Whelan suggested talking with Undersheriff Darby regarding information on vendors and civic minded groups who have donated defibrillators. Mr. Whelan questioned it being earmarked for just two defibrillators; Chairman Farrell said the resolution would be changed to four, not to exceed \$3,200.

A motion was made by Mr. Whelan, seconded by Mr. Kinne. A vote was taken and passed unanimously. MOTION CARRIED.

c. Amending the 2006 County Budget and advancing 100% of the federal and state aid eligible costs at a maximum amount of \$550,000, authorizing the acceptance of federal and state aid and authorizing the County Executive to enter into agreements for the repair of Pratt's Falls Park improvements damaged by storms and flooding

Flash flooding in August of 2004 damaged trails, culverts, pond walls, roads, channels, and stone retaining walls. Project is eligible for 87.5 percent reimbursement for repairs - local share \$68,750 (From County Insurance Fund). Mr. Geraci doesn't anticipate cost going higher, but if so, FEMA and SEMO would be on board to continue the 87.5 percent reimbursement. Work has to be done within an eighteen-month time period backdated to November, 2005.

Mr. Geraci said they are still finalizing the plans for the new building with two restrooms - directed by SHIPO to do an archeological survey (cost of \$3,500). Mr. Whelan asked how much the new building will cost, and Mr. Geraci replied \$370,000.

Mr. Kraft mentioned that Pratt's Falls isn't heavily utilized, and asked how it fits in with priorities. Mr. Geraci said Pratt's Falls is a classic green space park, highest waterfall in Central New York, 30,000 people a year visiting - it is minimally staffed - part of the Parks responsibility is to protect green space parks. Camp Brockway, a reserved seasonal facility, brings in \$20,000 a year.

A motion was made by Mr. Whelan, seconded by Mr. Laguzza to approve this item.

Chairman Farrell suggested that the committee tour Pratt's Fall's and Highland Forest in the first week of April.

A vote was taken on this item and passed unanimously. MOTION CARRIED.

d. Amending the 2006 County Budget to enable host obligations for Bass Tour, not to exceed \$30,000

Presented by Mr. Geraci and Mr. Small (CVB). Mr. Geraci distributed an information sheet regarding the 2006 BASS Pro Tour Budget (*Attachment 2*). County Parks and CVB are Hosting the Bass Tour coming to Oneida Shores on July 7, 2006. Resolution asks for an additional \$30,000 (not to exceed) to come out of Room Occupancy Tax - they are working on sponsors to the event, but are requesting the \$30,000 because they need to spend the money now to get ready for the event.

A motion was made by Mr. Kinne, seconded by Mr. Whelan to approve this item.

Chairman Farrell asked about the Bid & Hotel Expenses for \$34,200. Mr. Small said they are required by Bass to pay a \$25,000 bid fee, the rest is to pay for staff rooms for the group (not unusual for sporting events or conventions). Chairman Farrell asked about the \$6,400 - for Gate Revenue. Mr. Geraci replied that it is the revenue for admission to the park that he would be losing on a normal summer weekend of same number of days.

Mr. Whelan asked why the \$30,000 isn't coming out of the Special Events Account instead of ROT. Mr. Geraci explained that money they take out of Special Events is money they can reasonably expect to come back - they are not sure if they will make this money; the flip side is that the County is getting at least \$1.5 million in return on investment of the various things that will impact the community from this event happening - it is what the ROT money was designed for. They will try to get underwriting.

Mr. Kraft questioned the equipment expenses for the event. Mr. Geraci said the tournament brings in a lot of its own equipment; if you want this event, this is what you have to provide (not unlike other events that come to town). Regarding Mr. Kraft's question about return on investment, Mr. Small said there would be about a \$1.9 million economic impact. Mr. Cooley said promotionally, there will be a one-hour national TV show on the Syracuse event on July 14, 2006. Mr. Laguzza asked if there is a chance to get this for '07. Mr. Cooley replied yes, if the do a good job.

Chairman Farrell noted that the Special Events fund and ROT are both appropriate sources that should be considered for this type of event. Mr. Geraci replied that \$6,750 is coming from the Special Events Account -there is not a lot left in the account.

A motion was made by Mr. Whelan, seconded by Mr. Laguzza to approve this item.

Mr. Kinne asked to be provided with a breakdown of ROT for 2004 and 2005 and projection for 2006. Mr. Meyer said this would be addressed at the next Ways and Means meeting (March 28, 2006).

In answer to Mr. Rhinehart, Mr. Cooley replied that ESPN has the TV rights, and the food concessions are built into a package with Buckley Communications (food revenue will be paid to the County by Buckley Communications).

Chairman Farrell asked for an accounting in the end of August along with the original budget page handed out today. Mr. Kraft asked for a wrap-up report from Mr. Small also.

Mr. Sweetland suggested the money should be listed in a 2006 Bass Pro Tour Special Project Account on the resolution instead of 2006 Tourism/Promotions in the Parks Department budget. Mr. Geraci said he could rework it for Ways and Means.

Chairman Farrell suggested acceptance of the resolution as it stands with the caveat that it is going to be reworked to reflect the intention that only the net amount of the expenses be used, and the balance be transferred back to the original account.

A vote was taken on this item. Ayes: Mr. Rhinehart, Mr. Holmquist, Mr. Whelan, Mr. Kinne, Mr. Laguzza, Mr. Farrell; Abstained: Mr. Kraft. MOTION CARRIED.

e. A local law providing for the establishment of fees collected by the Department of Parks and Recreation and amending Local Law No. 1-2005.

Mr. Miller, Operations Committee chair, explained that when the volunteers assumed operation responsibilities for Ste. Marie, they lowered the rates - weren't sure they could do the kind of programming that was done before. Volunteers are operating Ste. Marie with \$14,000 - increased fees will enable them to expand the programs. Now have school tours four days a week (double sessions) and are at a phase where they are developing programming and exhibits that were not there before. They have added a new rate for Motor Coach so they can work with the tour bus industry. Mr. Miller noted that they are publishing materials - a series of six workbooks. Regarding curatorial area - seeking to link all resources at Ste. Marie with OCPL.

A motion was made by Mr. Rhinehart, seconded by Mr. Holmquist to approve this item. A vote was taken and passed unanimously. MOTION CARRIED.

Chairman Farrell asked to have the Special Events Report passed out (*Attachment 3*) - will be discussed at next month's meeting.

f. Discussion: Status of Friends agreements

Mr. Geraci said there are three remaining Friends agreements that are completed - Boards will be voting on Friends of Beaver Lake and Carpenter's Brook agreements in April, and Friends of Historic Onondaga Lake should take action tonight (3/16/06).

Chairman Farrell asked Mr. Geraci to provide the Clerk with a copy of the agreement with the Friends of the Zoo for distribution to the committee.

g Discussion Plans for each park

Mr. Geraci distributed a report laying out what each park does, cost, and various ideas in terms of philosophy and mission of each park.

Chairman Farrell advised that the committee will focus on different parks each month - the first two will be Pratt's Falls and Highland Forest for the April committee meeting. Chairman Farrell noted that his intention is to continue to build on this binder concerning the various parks.

h. Discussion: Interagency Marketing

An update on Onondaga County Parks Marketing and Promotions was distributed (*Attachment 4*). Mr. Cooley said they have met in January and February with attractions in town including MOST, Everson, Erie Canal Museum, historic sites and the CVB in terms of what we can do better and awareness for local and out of town markets. Some things that have been addressed - better presentation of promotional exhibits - exchanging of promotional exhibits by taking advantage of existing space at one attraction to promote other attractions. **Chairman Farrell asked to be informed of the next meeting so that someone from the Legislature can attend. Chairman Farrell will have Interagency Marketing on the April committee agenda.**

i. Discussion: Interim Zoo Director - Chuck Doyle

Chairman Farrell asked about the elephant program. Mr. Geraci said they have been waiting for a Director to be appointed, and will now have discussions at the Executive level and also with the Legislature. **Chairman Farrell advised that a discussion of the future of the Elephant Program will be on the April committee agenda.** Mr. Doyle agreed that it is time to talk about it - the American Association of Zoos and Aquariums has put out recommendations for institutions showing different levels of commitment to elephants.

Mr. Geraci distributed a matrix concerning what County Parks does concerning pesticides and herbicides (requested by Mr. Rhinehart). **Chairman Farrell advised that this item will be added to April's agenda, unless Mr. Rhinehart feels further discussion is not needed after he has time to look over the summary. Committee members' questions should be directed to Mr. Rhinehart.**

Mr. Whelan distributed an article from Business Facilities magazine concerning Syracuse entitled "Central New York's Rising Star".

Chairman Farrell adjourned the meeting at 12:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Johanna H. Robb

Deputy Clerk

WAYS AND MEANS COMMITTEE MINUTES

March 28, 2006

WILLIAM E. MEYER, CHAIRMAN

MEMBERS PRESENT: **Mr. Stanczyk, Mr. Ryan, Mr. Kraft, Mr. Corbett, Mrs. Baker, Mr. Warner,

Mr. Farrell, *Mrs. Rapp

ALSO PRESENT: Chairman Sweetland, *see also attached list*

Chairman Meyer called the meeting to order at 9:33 a.m.

A motion was made by Mr. Corbett, seconded by Mrs. Baker to waive the reading and approve the minutes of the proceedings of the previous committee meeting; MOTION CARRIED.

1. ERIE CANAL MUSEUM: Ms. Diane Keib

a. Authorizing the County Executive to enter into an agreement containing a preservation covenant relating to the Erie Canal Museum with NYS by and through the NYS Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation

A grant from NYS for \$77,400 to reconstruct canal boat, outdoor exhibit. There is a preservation covenant that it must be on public display for 17 years; County owns the building.

A motion was made by Mr. Corbett, seconded by Mrs. Baker to approve this item. Voting Aye: (7) Mr. Corbett, Mrs. Baker, Mr. Stanczyk, Mr. Ryan, Mr. Kraft, Mr. Warner, Chairman Meyer; Noes: 0 Out of Room: (2) Mrs. Rapp, Mr. Farrell. MOTION CARRIED.

**Mrs. Rapp arrived at the meeting.*

2. WATER ENVIRONMENT PROTECTION: Mr. Richard Elander

a. Authorizing the acquisition of real property to enable the County of Onondaga to comply with requirements set forth in the Onondaga Lake Amended Consent Judgment (ACJ) for the construction, operation, and maintenance of Phase III of the Midland Avenue Regional Treatment Facility and Conveyance Project (\$38,000)

Part of Midland Phase III - there are 5 properties with houses on to be acquisitioned. The other 4 will be presented as a package in the next month or two. The property today is owned by Mr. and Mrs. Horton, who are anxious to sell. Mr. Horton is 91 years old and in poor health; he does not live there; it is a rental. There is one tenant who will relocate; federal relocation costs are associated.

A motion was made by Mr. Ryan, seconded by Mr. Corbett to approved this item. Passed unanimously; MOTION CARRIED.

b. Authorizing an intermunicipal agreement with the City of Syracuse for sewer separation for CSO basins 047 and 048

Intermunicipal agreements are developed with the city for each of these; estimated cost will be \$2 million.

A motion was made by Mr. Corbett, seconded by Mr. Farrell to approve this item. Passed unanimously; MOTION CARRIED.

3. HILLBROOK: Mrs. Mary Winter

a. **Amending the 2006 County Budget to provide additional funds for Hillbrook Detention Center and authorizing the County Executive to enter into contracts (\$5,000)**

Syracuse City School Dist. allocated \$5,000 for 60 hours of staff development for math, science, & technology.

A motion was made by Mr. Warner, seconded by Mr. Ryan to approve this item. Passed unanimously; MOTION CARRIED.

4. **PARKS: Ms. Cheri Haskins, Mr. Cooley, Mr. Eallonardo**

a. **Amending the 2006 County Budget to accept a grant from the NYS Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation and authorizing the County Executive to enter into contracts to implement this resolution (\$94,000)**

A motion was made by Mrs. Rapp, seconded by Mr. Corbett to approve this item. Passed unanimously; MOTION CARRIED.

b. **Approving program improvements to be funded from the Onondaga County Parks Special Events Account as set forth by Resolution No. 354-99**

Mr. Cooley said this is to purchase 4 AEDs, not to exceed \$3,200. They will be used Pratt's Falls; are looking at grants or cooperation with Sheriff's to get a better package than previously. All other county parks have them.

A motion was made by Mrs. Baker, seconded by Mr. Farrell, to approve this item. Passed unanimously; MOTION CARRIED.

c. **Amending the 2006 County Budget and advancing 100% of the federal and state aid eligible costs at a maximum amount of \$550,000, authorizing the acceptance of federal and state aid and authorizing the County Executive to enter into agreements for the repair of Pratt's Falls Park improvements damaged by storms and flooding**

Mr. Eallonardo said in 2004 there was a flood at Pratt's Falls Park, damaged roadways, culverts, retaining, walls around pond, sluice ways, trail structures, pedestrian bridge - State Historic Preservation and FEMA are involved - can provide up to \$481,250 in federal and state aid; a local dollar match of \$68,750. The deadline to complete work is May 2007.

A motion was made by Mr. Warner, seconded by Mr. Farrell to approve this item.

An RFP will be done, will hire someone qualified in historical preservation as State Historic Preservation has determined there are historical landscape features. Construction will be in late summer; the deadline is Spring 2007. Mr. Farrell said that County Facilities Committee will tour Pratts Falls and Highland Forest on April 11th.

A vote was taken on the motion to approve; passed unanimously. MOTION CARRIED.

d. **Amending the 2006 County Budget to enable host obligations for BASS tour, not to exceed \$30,000**

Mr. Farrell said a detailed budget and schedule is available (*attachment 1*). There was desire at program committee for the department to pursue local sponsorship for money and awareness in community. Mr. Cooley said they are in the process with partners: Oswego CVB, Brewerton and Cicero Chamber of Commerce's, Buckley Communications. Expenses will be reduced by some of these groups, but the bulk of sponsorship comes from national sponsors.

Mr. Ryan asked about Gander Mountain's ability to be involved. Mr. Cooley said that due to the sporting good entities that are national sponsors, Gander Mountain cannot have presence on site.

Chairman Meyer asked to be a co-sponsor.

A motion was made by Mr. Farrell, seconded by Mr. Warner to approve this item. Voting Ayes: (8) Mr. Farrell, Mr. Warner, Mrs. Baker, Mr. Corbett, Mr. Stanczyk, Mr. Ryan, Mrs. Rapp, Mr. Meyer: Noes: 0; Abstaining: Mr. Kraft. MOTION CARRIED.

e. **A Local Law providing for the establishment of fees collected by the Department of Parks and Recreation and amending Local Law No. 1-2005**

Mr. Farrell said that the volunteer group at Ste. Marie deliberately underpriced admission when they opened Ste. Marie, with the intent to grow visitors. Now they need to grow revenue to continue.

Mr. Stanczyk questioned where the money will go, what the estimate for the year was and the projection. Mr. Cooley said the intent is that the monies will be used by the Friends Group; last year their total operating budget was \$14,000; and this year it is around \$20,000. Mr. Stanczyk expressed concern that a Friends group is running this and there is an

increase to a historical, education site; feels this is extorting money from the people who will go. Also concerned about an agreement with Friends. Mr. Cooley said that formal agreements are being completed with Friends groups. Attendance in 2005 exceeded 10,000; virtually sold out on group tours; are doing well with special event tours.

Mrs. Baker, Mr. Corbett, and Mr. Farrell spoke in favor of the program and supports the local law.

A motion was made by Mr. Farrell, seconded by Mrs. Rapp to approve this item. Voting Aye: (7) Mrs. Baker, Mrs. Farrell, Mrs. Rapp, Mr. Corbett, Mr. Kraft, Mr. Warner, Mr. Meyer; Voting No: (1) Mr. Stanczyk; Abstaining: (1) Mr. Ryan. MOTION CARRIED.

5. **TRANSPORTATION: Mr. Mark Lynch**

a. **Amending the 2006 County Budget to accept funds from the US Government for reimbursement of costs relative to the installation of a new traffic signal at the Air National Guard Airbase entrance on Hosman Road as a part of a Federal Aid Project, PIN 375330 and authorizing the County Executive to enter into an agreement to implement this resolution and accept ownership of said traffic signal (\$92,000).**

Mrs. Rapp asked to be a co-sponsor.

Mr. Lynch explained that Hosman Road (official name) is East Molloy Road (common name); this is for a signal to be installed at the airbase. Items 5a & 5b are reconstruction projects being done with federal reimbursement--includes resurfacing, traffic signal improvements, additional turn lane at air base entrance. The resolution allows County to accept money from Federal Government. Following installation, the County assumes ownership. The rest of the project includes repaving, minor improvements to drainage. County will pay for addition of turn lanes. The project is funded through FHWA - paying 80%, 15% reimbursement from State; 5% is local share. The signal is funded through National Defense monies.

A motion was made by Mr. Farrell, seconded by Mrs. Rapp to approve this item. Passed unanimously and MOTION CARRIED.

5b. **Advancing 100% of the federal and state aid eligible costs for the construction and construction inspection phases for the Hosman Road Project, PIN 375330 at a maximum cost of \$2,299,000**

Total project will be \$2.420 million, 80% federal reimbursement, 15% state; 5% local (\$121,000). It should be start this spring and be finished by fall; it will be contracted.

A motion was made by Mr. Ryan, seconded by Mrs. Rapp, to approve this item. Passed unanimously; MOTION CARRIED.

6. **SOCPA: Mrs. Megan Costa**

a. **Amending the 2006 County Budget and authorizing the County Executive to enter into an agreement with the Village of Solvay for completion of the Milton Avenue Corridor Study by the Syracuse-Onondaga County Planning Agency (\$23,625).**

Mr. Corbett asked to be a co-sponsor.

Mrs. Costa explained that this was in 2005 budget; due to scheduling conflicts wish to move to 2006; it is money from Community Development to Village of Solvay, who is contracting with the SOCPA. All existing conditions will be looked at along the corridor, look at zoning; enhance corridor and gateways; get a vision for what the land uses should look like and implement the correct zoning.

Mr. Stanczyk felt that this was a lot of money; requested a **report on amount spent in villages**. Mrs. Costa said that this is an extensive study; rendering infrastructure projects, marketing analysis, GIS work.

A motion was made by Mrs. Baker, seconded by Mr. Corbett to approve this item. Passed unanimously; out of room: Mr. Warner.

7. **EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS: Mr. John Balloni**

a. **Approving a cooperative agreement between the County of Onondaga and the NYS Office for Technology to promote the development of a statewide wireless network for use by public safety and public service agencies and authorizing the County Executive to enter into additional agreements to further the intent of this resolution**

Mr. Balloni explained that this is a cooperative agreement with the State to promote wireless network; no money is involved.

A motion was made by Mr. Ryan, seconded by Mr. Stanczyk to approve this item.

Mr. Farrell questioned why legislation is needed. Mr. Balloni explained that it will enable them to get into future agreements, i.e. negotiate putting equipment on each other's towers. It also works to the County's advantage for grants; shows working cooperatively, regionally and statewide. Mr. Gabriel said that it is formality between the state and counties; the State requires it from local governments. There was discussion concerning the authority it gives the County Executive to go further; Mr. Seitz explained that to accept or to appropriate any money would have to come back to the legislature.

A vote was taken on the motion. Voting Ayes: (8) Mrs. Baker, Mr. Corbett, Mr. Ryan, Mrs. Rapp, Mr. Warner, Mr. Stanczyk, Mr. Farrell; Mr. Meyer; Noes: 0 Abstaining: 1 (Kraft); MOTION CARRIED.

8. HEALTH: Mrs. Jean Smiley, Mr. Gary Sauda

a. Authorizing an application for an aquatic invasive species eradication grant and authorizing the County Executive to execute agreements to implement this resolution

Mrs. Rapp said that this is for the water chestnuts eradication in Seneca River. Mrs. Smiley said this resolution authorize application for a grant to DEC; it is a 3-year project, expected to be \$33,000; in 5 areas in the River. Harvesting will continue also.

*****Mr. Stanczyk left the meeting.***

Mr. Sauda said this is a comprehensive effort; a task force is in place to address various ways or eradicating - - chemicals, harvesting, hand pulling-in part by trial to see what works in the river environment. Will apply to DEC for permit to spray a herbicide. Hoping to get the grant awarded this season for \$11,000; no local dollars.

Legislators Baker, Warner and Meyer asked to be co-sponsors.

A motion was made by Mrs. Baker, seconded by Mr. Warner to approve this item. Passed unanimously; MOTION CARRIED.

9. OCPL: Ms. Kate McAffrey

a. Amending the 2006 County Budget to accept Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) funds for the Onondaga County Public Library and authorizing the County Executive to enter into contracts (\$6,000)

Will benefit all 31 libraries in the county; portion will go to supplies; incentive-based on participation last year.

A motion was made by Mr. Corbett, seconded by Mr. Warner to approve this item. Passed unanimously; MOTION CARRIED.

b. Amending the 2006 County Budget to accept CNY Library Resources Council funds for the Onondaga County Public Library and authorizing the County Executive to enter into contracts (\$10,000)

Ms. McAffrey stated this will be used to hire a part-time librarian with catalog experience, which is highly technical. All material will be in local history but also on the web-based catalog.

A motion was made by Mr. Farrell, seconded by Mrs. Baker to approve this item. Passed unanimously; MOTION CARRIED.

c. To re-allocate two rates of pay for the title "Page" (Grade 31 - 103 payroll) (1) at \$6.25 per hour (flat) and (2) \$7.00 per hour (flat) and to delete the two rates, \$5.50 per hour (flat) and \$6.00 per hour (flat) of pay for the title "Page" (Grade 31 - 103 Payroll) effective April 17, 2006

Ms. McAffrey said this can be done within budget: there are 20 filled at Central; 40 at branches; 7 at State.

A motion was made by Mr. Corbett, seconded by Mrs. Baker to approve this item. Passed unanimously; MOTION CARRIED.

d. Amending the 2006 County Budget to accept funds from the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation for the Onondaga County Public Library and authorizing the County Executive to enter into contracts (\$81,000)

Ms. McAffrey said that this is for public access computers; these are being funded at \$1,500 each; can get on state contract for about \$700; can nearly double the amount. \$54,000 will go to branches, rest will go to Central Library.

A motion was made by Mr. Ryan, seconded by Mr. Warner to approve this item. Passed unanimously; MOTION CARRIED.

10. WAYS & MEANS MISCELLANEOUS: Mr. Joe Mareane, Mr. Doug Small

a. Amending the 2006 County Budget by appropriating \$600,000 from the Tourism Fund to be applied toward the County contribution to the United States Bowling Congress and authorizing the County Executive to enter into agreements with the United States Bowling Congress and the Greater Syracuse Chamber of Commerce to effectuate the provisions of this resolution (\$600,000).

A motion was made by Mr. Ryan, seconded by Mr. Corbett to approve this item.

Mr. Mareane said that \$500,000 needs to be paid in July; balance of \$100,000 will be paid at beginning of event in 2011; \$250,000 from CVB; \$100,000 from revenue share of concession from ONCenter. Need to sign contract with Bowling Congress during the month of April.

Mr. Mareane explained the money is coming from prior years room tax money - approximately \$1.2 million (***attachment 2***); noted that \$30,000 was just allocated for the Bass Tournament.

Mr. Doug Small, CVB, stated that this is large event and not taken lightly; has a large economic impact attached to it. Supported by hotels; for every \$1 spent as a county on this; there is about \$50 return. CVB is committing \$250,000 funds. There is also some investment on the Hotel's part. The tournament will be April 17 - July 15, 2011.

A motion was made by Mr. Ryan, seconded by Mr. Corbett to approve this item; Passed unanimously. MOTION CARRIED.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:50 a.m.

**Respectfully submitted,
DEBORAH L. FICHERA, CLERK
Onondaga County Legislature**

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Related Documents

- [3-13-06 Fiscal W&Ms Attach 2](#)
- [3-13-06 Fiscal W&MS Attach 1](#)
- [3-14-06 Env Prot Attach 1](#)
- [3-14-06 Env Prot Attachment 2](#)
- [3-15-06 Health Attachment 1](#)
- [3-15-06 Health Attacment 2](#)
- [3-15-06 Soc Serv Attachment 1](#)
- [3-15-06 Soc Serv Attachment 2](#)
- [3-28-06 W&MS Attachment 1](#)
- [3-28-06 W&MS Attachment 21](#)
- [3-16-06 Co. Fac. Attach 1](#)
- [3-16-06 Co. Fac. Attach 2](#)