Finance, Ways and Means Committee
Meeting Minutes
September 26, 2019

PRESENT: Chairman John A. Reinhardt
Vice Chairman Yvonne Nirelli
Supervisor Clifford Moses
Supervisor Mary Cavanagh
Supervisor Richard Bargabos

ALSO: County Clerk Michael Keville
Finance Director Lou Anne Randall
Treasurer Cindy Edick
County Administrator Mark Scimone
County Attorney Tina Wayland-Smith
Deputy Director Real Property Karin Richmond
Deputy County Clerk Sandy Jordan
Assistant Finance Director Keith Lummis
Director of Emergency Management Services Ted Halpin (9:15)
Public Information Officer Samantha Field (9:15 am)
Board Chairman John Becker (9:15 am)

Chairman John Reinhardt called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. in the Supervisors Large Conference Room.

I. Approval of Minutes:
Motion by C. Moses to approve the minutes of the August 29, 2019 meeting; seconded by M. Cavanagh. Motion unanimously carried.

II. County Clerk:
Department Update
County Clerk Michael Keville discussed installing TV monitors in the DMV to inform run commercial advertisements for local businesses and services offered by Madison County. This has the potential to draw revenue to the county approaching $15,000. With the skill set within the county, Keville is confident that this can be done at Madison County without utilizing a third party vendor as Cayuga, Cortland Genesee and Sullivan counties do. The County Attorney cautioned of a 1992 Attorney General’s opinion which discourages municipalities from generating revenue in any manner other than taxes, fees and assessments. Clerk Keville pointed out that no statutes or state court cases have been identified to deal with this question. He intends to submit a proposed policy for this program before the end of the year.

A part time temporary employee will start work on Monday, September 30 in the DMV and will work through December. In 2020, one full time employee will be added and one part time flex employee will be added in preparation of the peak year. NYS continues to try to rectify the peeling license plate issue moving closer to making the thruway toll-less by 2021. With the peak year of license renewals, the federal deadline for compliance with the REAL ID act in October 2020, and the desire to get all peeling plates off the road by 2021, Keville expects next year to be the busiest the office has ever seen.
III. County Treasurer:

Sales Tax Report

County Treasurer Cindy Edick reviewed the Analysis of Sales Tax Receipts with the Committee. Year-to-date sales tax receipts through September 2019 have increased by $735,566, or 3.95%, as compared to 2018.

The village of Wampsville will likely elect to start receiving their sales tax in cash, rather than as a credit, beginning in 2021. This should have only a minimal impact on the County’s tax cap calculation for budget year 2021.

Department Update

Treasurer Edick reported that the Madison County tax foreclosure sale, held on Saturday, September 21, 2019 went smoothly. The report generated by the auction company indicated a net profit of $63,455. There had been concern as to whether this year’s sale would generate a profit due to a few properties with sizeable demolition costs that were added to the tax bills. Ownership of auctioned properties is not transferred until the sale is ratified by Madison County Board of Supervisors and the deeds are filed in the County Clerk’s Office. Inability to complete the sale by the high bidder results in forfeiture of their deposit and being banned from all future tax foreclosure sales. Edick was notified that one of the high bidders will not be able to complete the sale, so the auction company will be contacting the back-up bidder.

Real Property is continuing to work on the 2020 census. Training continues within the department with employees attending farm appraisal training and the annual NYS Real Property Directors’ Conference.

Other Department Business

There was discussion regarding the County’s long-term financing plans for the Courthouse Renovation, to which the Office of Court Administration (OCA) recently voiced opposition. It was noted that the OCA should not have the authority to dictate the County’s financing plans. Edick expressed concern about the possibility of not receiving reimbursement from OCA for one-third of the interest expense on debt service as originally planned.

There was also discussion regarding the status of SEQR and the bond resolutions for the new Highway Facility.

IV. Finance Director:

Department Update

Finance Director Lou Anne Randall reported that the Payroll department has successfully worked through a very difficult payroll period while being short staffed. County Administrator Mark Scimone expressed appreciation towards everyone’s efforts.

2020 Budget preparation continues.

V. Resolutions:

1. Authorizing the Chairman to Enter into an Agreement with Systems East, Inc.
   Motion by R. Bargabos to approve the resolution; seconded by Y. Nirelli. Motion unanimously approved.

2. Authorizing Acceptance of Grant Award from NYS Office of Children and Family Services to Madison County Sheriff’s Office for Madison County Children’s Advocacy Center and Modifying of the 2019 Adopted County Budget
   Motion by R. Bargabos to approve the resolution; seconded by C. Moses. Motion unanimously approved.

3. Authorizing the Chairman to Accept a Victim Assistance Program Grant Award from the New York State Office of Victim Services for FY 2019-2020 & Modifying the 2019 Adopted County Budget.
   Motion by M. Cavanagh to approve the resolution; seconded by R. Bargabos. Motion unanimously approved.
4. Authorizing the Chairman to Accept a Supplemental Grant Award from the New York State Office of Victim Services FY 2018-19 Forensic Interviewers and Forensic Interview Equipment to the Madison County Sheriff’s Office for the Madison County Children’s Advocacy Center and Modifying the 2019 Adopted County Budget.

Motion by Y. Nirelli to approve the resolution; seconded by M. Cavanagh. Motion unanimously approved.

5. Authorizing the Modification of the 2019 Adopted County Budget (Probation)
6. Authorizing the Modification of the 2019 Adopted County Budget (Sheriffs)
7. Authorizing the Modification of the 2019 Adopted County Budget (OVS Grant)
8. Authorizing the Modification of the 2019 Adopted County Budget (Promotion of Tourism)
9. Authorizing the Modification of the 2019 Adopted County Budget (Capital Projects)
10. Authorizing the Modification of the 2019 Adopted County Budget (Mental Health)
11. Authorizing the Modification of the 2019 Adopted County Budget (Liberty Resources & ARC)
12. Authorizing the Modification of the 2019 Adopted County Budget (Liberty Resources)
13. Authorizing the Modification of the 2019 Adopted County Budget (Consumer Services)
14. Authorizing the Modification of the 2019 Adopted County Budget (Hospital & Medical Insurance)
15. Authorizing 2019 Budget Modification for the Children with Special Health Care Needs (CSHCN) Grant
16. Modifying the 2019 Budget for the Early Intervention Administration Grant
17. Authorizing the Modification of the 2019 Adopted County Budget (County Road Fund)
18. Authorizing the modification of the 2019 Adopted County Budget (Enterprise Landfill Fund)
19. Authorizing the Modification of the 2019 Adopted County Budget (General Fund)

Resolution 5-18 were reviewed and C. Moses made a motion by to approve the resolutions; seconded by R. Bargabos. Motion unanimously approved.

VI. Preferred Agenda:

A motion was made by C Moses to include resolutions 1 and 18 on the Committee’s Preferred Agenda; seconded by M. Cavanagh. Motion unanimously approved.

VII. Executive Session:

A motion was made by R. Bargabos to enter into executive session at 9:45 a.m. to discuss proposed, pending or current litigation. M Cavanagh seconded the motion and it was unanimously carried.

A motion was made by C. Moses to exit executive session at 9:52 a.m. Y. Nirelli seconded the motion and it was unanimously carried.

VIII. Next Meeting Date: Thursday, October 31, 2019 @ 9:00 a.m.

IX. Adjournment:

The Committee adjourned at 9:55 a.m. on the motion of M. Cavanagh and second of Y. Nirelli. Motion unanimously approved.

Respectfully submitted by Heidi LaSalle on behalf of Chairman John A. Reinhardt and approved on October 24, 2019.