

WAYS & MEANS COMMITTEE
January 8, 2018

ALLEGANY COUNTY
BOARD OF LEGISLATORS

Committee Members Present: P. Stockin, D. Fanton, P. Curran, D. Decker, S. Havey, J. Hopkins, D. Root, C. Crandall (Absent: D. Healy)

Others Present: L. Ballengee, G. Barnes, T. Boyde, B. Budinger, J. Budinger, T. Boyde, W. Dibble, L. Edwards, V. Grant, K. Graves, L. Gridley, S. Grusendorf, B. Harris, K. Hollis, K. Hooker, C. Knapp, J. Ricci, B. Riehle, T. Ross, T. Shaw, M. Washer, R. Whitney

Media Present: C. Potter – *Wellsville Daily Reporter*, K. Kellogg – *Olean Times Herald*

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 1:02 p.m. by Ways & Means Committee Chairman Philip Stockin.

Approval of Minutes

The December 20, 2017, Ways & Means Committee minutes were approved on a motion made by Legislator Curran, seconded by Legislator Decker, and carried.

The December 26, 2017, Ways & Means Committee minutes were approved on a motion made by Legislator Havey, seconded by Legislator Curran, and carried.

SolarCity Agreement

County Administrator Timothy Boyde requested a resolution approving the termination of our agreement with SolarCity approved by Resolution No. 184-15 on August 24, 2015. Mr. Boyde stated they have had a discussion with individuals at SolarCity and based on cost projections and the inability to meet terms and conditions within the agreement, SolarCity has requested we terminate our agreement. Legislator Hopkins asked what expectations are not being met. Mr. Boyde stated the original projections estimated \$2 million in savings; however, with activities that have occurred as well as a decline in returns coupled with expenses the County will incur continuing with this agreement put us in a negative situation. Chairman Crandall stated at first glance this agreement was a good decision, but it has now declined to the point where it is no longer a feasible option for us. The request to terminate the agreement with SolarCity was approved on a motion made by Legislator Fanton, seconded by Legislator Curran, and carried. **Prepare Resolution**

Alternative Tax Exemption for Cold War Veterans

Real Property Tax Director Joe Budinger requested a resolution amending Local Law No. 3 of 2008, entitled "A Local Law to Adopt Certain Benefits Under §458-b of the Real Property Tax Law Authorizing an Alternative Tax Exemption for Cold War Veterans," entitled "An Amended Local Law to provide certain benefits under RPTL 485-b of the Real Property Tax Law Authorizing an Alternative Tax Exemption for Cold War Veterans." Mr. Budinger stated the ten-year limitation is coming up, and they are requesting to extend the exemption another ten years. Mr. Budinger noted that currently there are 149 individuals receiving the exemption Countywide which totals approximately \$700,000. Legislator Harris asked if there are any dates that are not covered by either the Combat Veteran Exemption or the Cold War Exemption. Mr. Budinger stated, no, everything is covered. Chairman Crandall asked if this is an exemption that is optional to the towns. Mr. Budinger stated this is just for the County. The towns and villages have to adopt their own. Legislator Root asked if there are any towns that opt out. Mr. Budinger stated there were a lot of towns and villages that opted out in 2008, but are now looking to opt in. This request was approved on a motion made by Legislator Fanton, seconded by Legislator Root, and carried.

Prepare Resolution

Senior Map Technician

Real Property Tax Director Joe Budinger requested permission to fill one full-time Senior Map Technician (PEF, Grade 6, Step: 11) and all subsequent positions including hiring from the outside. This position is responsible for creating and maintaining tax map parcels and is a mandated function of the County. The annual salary of this position is estimated between \$40,189 and \$54,023 with benefits estimated between \$17,964 and \$24,148. This position is funded 100 percent with County dollars. Legislator Fanton asked if this request has been reviewed by the County Administrator. Mr. Boyde stated, yes, he and Mr. Budinger discussed this position prior to it being brought forward. This request was approved on a motion made by Legislator Hopkins, seconded by Legislator Curran, and carried. **Notify Human Resources**

NYS Community Development Block Grant

Clerk of the Board Brenda Rigby Riehle requests a resolution authorizing the Chairman of the Board of Legislators to enter into a contract with the state Office of Community Renewal in order to receive a NYS Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Housing award in the amount of \$850,000 in partnership with Cattaraugus Community Action Agency. Allegany County will serve as the grantee and Cattaraugus Community Action Agency will administer the grant. The funds should be accepted and appropriated as follows:

<u>Appropriation:</u>	<u>Amount:</u>
CB8669.409 (Fees – Admin)	\$ 42,500
CB8669.492 (Contractual – Loans/Grants)	\$705,500
CB8669.493 (Contractual – Program Delivery Costs)	<u>\$102,000</u>
	Total: \$850,000

<u>Revenue:</u>	<u>Amount:</u>
CB8669.3989.CDMH (State Aid – CDBG NYS Housing Project #20MH309-17)	\$850,000

This grant will commence on December 14, 2017, and expire December 13, 2019. The major benefits of accepting this grant are the improved health, safety, and living standards by replacing seven to eight manufactured homes in Allegany County targeting vulnerable populations included the elderly, disabled, and Veterans. Committee Chairman Stockin stated this topic was discussed several months ago, and we just received notification that we received the grant. Chairman Crandall stated this is the second time the County has received these funds, adding there are no County dollars required, and it brings in monies to the County that helps upgrade our housing. Legislator Hopkins stated this program greatly improves the lives of those receiving a new home, adding there have been no complaints received from those involved in the process, and she fully supports this. Legislator Harris asked for some background on the application and eligibility process. Mr. Boyde stated while he does not have all of the details, the applications come through Office for the Aging as well as Social Services, and is primarily the replacement of less than ten mobile homes that have become inhabitable. Legislator Dibble stated he is in favor of this grant but would like to know where the \$42,000 admin costs go. County Administrator Boyde and County Treasurer Ross indicated that both the Cattaraugus Community Action Agency and Allegany County receive a small portion of the admin money. This request was approved on a motion made by Legislator Fanton, seconded by Legislator Hopkins, and carried. **Prepare Resolution**

Acceptance of Insurance Check

Clerk of the Board Brenda Rigby Riehle requests a resolution accepting a check in the amount of \$230 from New York Municipal Insurance Reciprocal (NYMIR) representing the cost to replace the windshield on our 2014 Jeep Patriot (#4808) assigned to our Office for the Aging. A small chip in the windshield caused it to crack across the entire windshield on or around December 5, 2017. These funds will be credited as a refund of expense for 2017. No budget adjustment is necessary. This request was

approved on a motion made by Legislator Curran, seconded by Legislator Root, and carried. **Prepare Resolution**

REFERRALS FROM OTHER COMMITTEES

Human Services Department

Social Welfare Examiner

Social Services Commissioner Vicki Grant requested permission to fill one full-time Social Welfare Examiner (AFSCME, Grade 11, Step: Base – Step 7) due to a promotion. This position is responsible for interviewing clients and determining eligibility for Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF), Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), Medicaid, and Home Energy Assistance Program (HEAP) benefits. The annual salary of this position is estimated between \$33,858 and \$41,152 with benefits estimated at 48 percent. This position is funded 21 percent with State funds, 52 percent with Federal funds, and 27 percent with County funds. This request was approved on a motion made by Legislator Hopkins, seconded by Legislator Root, and carried. **Notify Human Resources**

Planning & Economic Development

Planning & Development Specialist

Planning Director Kier Dirlam requested permission to fill a second Planning & Development Specialist (AFSCME, Grade 13, Step: Base – 7) position. This position will be responsible for local small to midsize business outreach and support, development administration support, marketing design and layout, and public relations coordination and implementation. This position is funded 100 percent with County dollars and has been included in the 2018 Budget. The filling of the position is contingent on the passing of the Resolution to create the position that is being considered at the January 8 Board meeting. Legislator Root commented that this position is greatly needed to keep the County on the fast track for economic development. This request was approved on a motion made Legislator Root, seconded by Legislator Fanton, and carried. **Notify Human Resources (contingent on the passing of the Resolution to create the position)**

Public Safety Committee

E-911 Dispatchers

The Sheriff's Office requested to fill two full-time E-911 Dispatchers (AFSCME Council 66 Bargaining Unit, Grade 13, Step: Base). The annual salary of these positions is \$74,141.06 (\$36,070.53 x2) with benefits estimated at \$32,247.06 (\$16,123.53 x2). These positions are funded 100 percent with County dollars. This request was approved on a motion made by Legislator Curran, seconded by Legislator Havey, and carried. **Notify Human Resources**

Approval of Audit

Committee members reviewed the January 8, 2018, audit of claims in the amount of \$3,236,567.85 (including prepaid bills). A motion was made by Legislator Root, seconded by Legislator Curran, and carried to forward the audit to the full Board for approval of payment.

Approval of Legislative Expenses

Committee members reviewed the Legislative expense vouchers for the month of December 2017 as well as a few from previous months. A motion was made by Legislator Havey, seconded by Legislator Fanton, and carried to approve the vouchers for payment.

Good of the Order

Committee Chairman Philip Stockin announced a caucus in Room 220 at 1:35 p.m.

Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the Committee, the meeting was adjourned at 1:25 p.m. following a motion by Legislator Fanton, seconded by Legislator Hopkins, and carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Meghan Washer, Confidential Secretary to Clerk of the Board
Allegany County Board of Legislators