

**WAYS AND MEANS COMMITTEE
MINUTES**

**TUESDAY, JULY 23, 2019
3:30 P.M.**

PRESENT: Leigh J. Benton, Chairman
Mike Anagnostakis, Katie Bonelli, Kevin W. Hines,
James M. Kulisek, Michael D. Paduch

ALSO

PRESENT: L. Stephen Brescia, Chairman
Barry J. Cheney, Legislator
Thomas J. Faggione, Legislator
Antoinette Reed, Legislative Counsel
Steven M. Neuhaus, County Executive
Harry Porr, III, Deputy County Executive
Matthew Nothnagle, Chief Asst. County Attorney
Anthony Mele, Corrections Administrator
Lawrence Catletti, Jail Administrator
Karin E. Hablow, Commissioner of Finance
Kerry Gallagher, Deputy Commissioner of Finance
Bonnie Degennaro, Accounting Technician II, Department of Finance
Erin Sztendor, Senior Accountant, Department of Finance
Erik A. Denega, Commissioner, Department of Public Works
Laurence LaDue, Commissioner, Valley View Center
Donna Strecker, Director of Finance, Valley View Center
John McCarey, Director, Real Property Tax Service
Deborah Slesinski, Budget Director
Deanna Crawford, Budget Analyst
Gretchen Riordan, Budget Analyst
Nicholas DeSantis, Partner, O'Connor Davies LLP
Chris Kopf, Partner, O'Connor Davies LLP
Noah Nadelson, Chief Executive Officer, Munistat Services, Inc.

Chairman Benton opened the committee meeting at 3:47 p.m. by asking everyone to stand for the Pledge of Allegiance. All committee members were present with the exception of Legislators Minuta and Sutherland who were absent.

Mr. Paduch moved to discuss the Overview
of 2018 Financials, seconded by Mr. Benton.

Mr. DeSantis addressed the committee with an overview of the 2018 Financials for the year end December 31, 2018. Before reviewing the Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR), Mr. DeSantis referred the committee to page XII (see original minutes). The county received a Certificate of Excellence for financial reporting. There are only 44 other municipalities in the State of New York that get the award which is a compliment to the Finance Department, Legislature and

Budget Department. Some of the information in the report provides a ten-year analysis of certain things such as sales tax, revenue, assessment value, etc. He referred to the **Independent Auditors Report** (page 1) which included a Report on the Financial Statements, Management's Responsibility for the Financial Statements, Auditors' Responsibility, Opinions, Other Matters and Other Reporting Required by Government Auditing Standards. He stated that Mr. Kopf will give the committee an abbreviated version of the CAFR.

Mr. Kopf distributed a handout, **Orange County, New York, Report to the Board of Legislators** which highlights the CAFR (see original minutes). He reviewed the following with the committee which included: financial statement highlights of the general fund revenue and expenditure summary, major general fund revenues 5-year history, general fund revenues vs. budget, analytical points, DSS local share 5-year history, general fund balance sheet, and enterprise fund year ended December 31st.

Mr. DeSantis pointed out that the county is in a good financial situation.

County Executive Neuhaus commented that the fund balance dollar amount increases, and the county is at 7% which is where it should be and there are a lot of unfunded mandates coming up. He reiterated that the county needs to continue to stay at 7% or increase to keep the money in the fund balance for a "rainy day."

Mrs. Bonelli moved the request to accept/recognize as revenue the premium on bonds for certain capital projects and to lower the budget of the authorized bonds by the same amount, seconded by Mr. Paduch.

Ms. Hablow stated that this request is to accept the premium on the bond result from back in February; however, she invited Mr. Noah Nadelson, Chief Executive Officer of Munistat Services, Inc. to educate the committee on premiums on bonds.

Mr. Nadelson gave the committee a brief explanation and insight into the bond process and the premium on bonds and how it works. He also distributed a handout (see original minutes).

Motion carried. All in favor.

Mrs. Bonelli moved the request for supplemental appropriation to the capital project budget in the amount of \$350,000.00 for the building expansion at the Orange County Sheriff's Office. This project has been approved under the 2019 Capital Plan as Project No. 76 (bonding), seconded by Mr. Hines.

Mr. Catletti stated this is for the initial cost of engineering, designing plans and SEQRA for the expansion of the Sheriff's portion of the jail facility.

Motion carried. All in favor.

Mr. Paduch moved the request to approve and appropriate funds in the amount of \$40,000.00 for a proposed 2019 capital expenditure to continue with residential unit refurbishments. Room finishes (wallcovering, handrails, signage) are dated. Upgrading amenities provides residents with a modern home-like environment and allows the facility to remain competitive in the marketplace (interfund revenue), seconded by Mr. Benton.

Mr. LaDue stated the funds are specifically earmarked for unit enhancement, televisions, signage, privacy curtains, etc.

Motion carried. All in favor.

Mr. Kulisek moved request supplemental appropriation from fund balance (surplus) into major repair service. Multiple fire door replacements are necessary to meet CMS life safety code compliance and annual inspection, \$40,000.00, seconded by Mr. Paduch.

Mr. LaDue explained that during an internal audit they discovered doors in need of repair and after further inspection from a door company, it was determined that the doors could not be repaired but needed to be replaced. The fire doors are required in certain areas for compliance.

Motion carried. All in favor.

Mr. Kulisek moved the request for supplemental appropriation of funds in the amount of \$60,000.00 for a 2019 proposed capital expenditure to replace various flooring. Flooring in high traffic areas and other locations has reached economic life (interfund revenue), seconded by Mrs. Bonelli.

Mr. LaDue stated this request is up-keep and modernization of the facility.

Motion carried. All in favor.

Mr. Paduch moved the request to accept and appropriate a grant from the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) in the amount of \$92,250.00 to Construct Snow Removal Equipment Building (Design) Phase I at the Orange County Airport. This project has been approved under the 2019 Capital Plan as Project No. 2. Upon approval a new capital project number will be created: Federal Share \$83,025; State Share \$4,612; County Share \$4,613 (bonding), seconded by Mr. Kulisek.

Mr. Denega stated they purchased a large piece of snow removal equipment in 2018, so this structure that is being requested would house the equipment amongst other maintenance equipment for the maintenance crews. The SEQRA was completed and they have a commitment and agreement with the FAA.

Motion carried. All in favor.

Mr. Kulisek moved the request to accept and appropriate a grant from the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) in the amount of \$543,192.00 to Prepare Master Plan Update and Pavement Management Program at the Orange County Airport. Upon approval a new capital project number will be created: Federal Share (90%) \$488,872; State Share (5%) \$27,160; County Share (5%) \$27,160 (bonding), seconded by Mr. Hines.

Mr. Denega explained the update of the Masterplan is required every so often by the FAA so the county can continue to receive grant money. The monies are the same that were requested in June.

Motion carried. All in favor.

Mr. Paduch moved the request to accept and appropriate a grant from the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) in the amount of \$100,000.00 for the Transient Apron Rehabilitation at the Orange County Airport. Upon approval a new capital project number will be created: Federal Share (90%) \$90,000; State Share (5%) \$5,000; County Share (5%) \$5,000 (bonding), seconded by Mr. Kulisek.

Mr. Denega stated this is an existing transient area within the airport which will have select reconstruction areas of pavement that have failed as well as an asphalt overlay with any necessary drainage improvements that may be needed based on any changes in the elevation or failed drainage in the area. He added that this is federal funding.

Motion carried. All in favor.

Mrs. Bonelli moved the request to accept and appropriate a grant from the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) in the amount of \$134,750.00 for Apron A Rehabilitation and Expansion (Design) at the Orange County Airport. This project has been approved under the 2019 Capital Plan as Project No. 7. Upon approval a new capital project number will be created: Federal Share (90%) \$121,275; State Share (5%) \$6,737; County Share (5%) \$6,738 (bonding), seconded by Mr. Hines.

Mr. Denega explained there are two parts to this project; one being the rehabilitation of a certain apron area just as the previous request stated and then there is the expansion which will include the design of a full depth asphalt concrete paving section for aircraft taxiing and parking as well as a new aircraft tiedown with anchors. The new area is approximately 35,000 square yards.

Motion carried. All in favor.

Mrs. Bonelli moved to adopt a resolution authorizing the County Executive, in conjunction with the Orange County Department of Public Works/Airport, to accept a grant from the New York State Department of Transportation for the construction for a bulk hangar at the Orange County Airport Pin 8903.98. This project has been approved under the 2019 Capital Plan as Project No. 28. Upon approval, a new capital project will be created, \$1,452,940.00 (bonding), seconded by Mr. Kulisek.
(WITHDRAWN BY DEPARTMENT HEAD AT 6/24/19 PHYSICAL SERVICES AND 6/25/19 WAYS AND MEANS COMMITTEES AS LEGISLATIVE REQUEST NO. 157)

Mr. Denega stated this request includes the construction of a bulk hangar large enough to accommodate the growth based on the transient traffic (corporate jets) at the airport. It is almost 12,000 square feet and is a NYSDOT grant as opposed to FAA. There is a waiting list for corporate jets trying to come into the airport which is anticipated to increase fuel sales.

Motion carried. All in favor.

Mr. Paduch moved the request to amend Resolution No. 92 of 2019 due to payments for two (2) deed sale parcels (Montgomery 308-1-11.43 & 207.1-47) were taken after the required date of May 6, 2019, seconded by Mr. Benton.

Mr. McCarey explained that payments for these two parcels were received on May 7th and May 8th which was after the deadline; therefore, legally, the Finance Department could not accept the payment due to the resolution stating that all payments must be submitted by a specific date. He would like to amend the resolution, so the monies can be accepted.

Mr. Benton clarified that the owners would be able to keep their property if this is approved.

Mr. McCarey stated that is correct. They are buyers through a deed sale, so they would be able to obtain the property.

Motion carried. All in favor with the exception of Legislator Anagnostakis who abstained.

Mr. Hines moved to discuss deed sale parcels, seconded by Mr. Benton.

The first deed sale parcel was in the Town of Deerpark (29-8-2) and has a minimum bid of \$500.00 (deed restrictions) and an amount bid of \$400.00. Mr. McCarey recommended that it be approved. Deed sale parcels Nos. 2, 3, 4, and 5 are in the Town of Warwick (73-4-8, 77-8-3, 309-7-8.1, 313-53.1) and have the same bidder. Mr. McCarey recommended that they all be approved.

Motion carried. All in favor of accepting Mr. McCarey's recommendation to approve deed sale parcels Nos. 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5.

Mr. McCarey stated that parcel No. 6 is in the Town of Hamptonburgh (15-1-54.1, 15-1-54.2). The minimum amount bid is \$1,000.00 and the right-of-way issue was approved by the Department of Public Works to retain all rights. He recommended that the committee entertain the offer.

Mrs. Reed clarified that these are not deed sale parcels.

Mr. McCarey stated that is correct.

Mrs. Reed pointed out that they will need a separate resolution for it.

Mr. Benton clarified that the committee can approve the concept.

Mrs. Reed stated that is correct. She then asked Mr. McCarey if he is giving them a right-of-way or title.

Mr. McCarey replied they are giving them the title with all the rights remaining intact for any highway improvements.

Mrs. Reed stated the property would have to be declared surplus.

Mr. Benton commented that this needs further review; therefore, the committee will not vote on it today. He pointed out that they need to revisit the previous request (VI.a.), the Montgomery deed sale parcel (308-1-11.43) because he thinks they should divide properties into two groups. He then asked that the committee to have a revote because he needs to abstain.

Motion carried 5-2-2 (Montgomery 308-1-11.43) with Legislators Bonelli, Hines, Kulisek, Paduch, and Chairman Brescia voting in favor of, Legislators Benton and Anagnostakis abstaining and Legislators Sutherland and Minuta absent.

The meeting adjourned at 5:17 p.m.