

Members Attending: Mr. Burke, Ms. Curran, Mr. Denesha, ~~Mr. Fay~~, Mr. Forsythe, Mr. Gennett, ~~Ms. Haggard~~, **Mr. Hull**, Mr. Lightfoot, Mr. Perkins, Mr. Reagan, Mr. Sheridan, Mr. Smithers, Ms. Terminelli, and Mr. Webster

Due to extenuating circumstances, Legislator Sheridan will attend remotely from 2098 Seminole Blvd, Largo, Florida, and Ms. Haggard is excused.

1. CALL TO ORDER AND APPROVAL OF AGENDA – Mr. Hull called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. Ms. Curran moved to approve the agenda, seconded by Mr. Webster, and carried by a voice vote with thirteen (13) yes votes, and two (2) absent votes (Haggard, Fay).

Mr. Denesha moved to amend the agenda to include a presentation from Pat Suprenant, Vice President for Fuels and Transportation at Stewart's Shops, seconded by Ms. Curran, and carried by a voice vote with thirteen (13) yes votes, and two (2) absent votes (Haggard, Fay).

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – Mr. Gennett moved to approve the minutes of February 24, 2025, seconded by Mr. Burke, and Mr. Webster, and carried by a voice vote with thirteen (13) yes votes, and two (2) absent votes (Haggard, Fay).

Mr. Hull recognized Pat Suprenant, Vice President for Fuels and Transportation at Stewart's Shops, to give his presentation addressing gas prices in St. Lawrence County.

Mr. Webster left the meeting at 6:11 p.m.

Mr. Webster returned to the meeting at 6:13 p.m.

3. COUNTY ATTORNEY – STEVE BUTTON

A. Setting a Date for a Public Hearing on Proposed Local Law E (No. __) for the Year 2025, “A Local Law Superseding County Law Section 215 to Extend a Lease to Empire State Mines, LLC. for Exploration and Development of County Owned Mineral Rights” – Mr. Smithers moved to forward this resolution to Full Board, seconded by Ms. Curran, and carried by a voice vote with thirteen (13) yes votes, and two (2) absent votes (Haggard, Fay).

B. Authorizing the Chair to Sign an Application to the St. Lawrence River Valley Redevelopment Agency Community Development and Environmental Improvement Program – Ms. Curran moved to forward this resolution to Full Board, seconded by Mr. Perkins, and carried by a voice vote with thirteen (13) yes votes, and two (2) absent votes (Haggard, Fay).

4. TREASURER – RENEE COLE

A. Authorizing the Chair to Sign a Contract with Venesky & Co. to Prepare the Annual Indirect Cost Allocation Report for St. Lawrence County for the Fiscal Years 2024, 2025, and 2026 – Ms. Curran moved to forward this resolution to Full Board, seconded by Mr. Perkins, and Mr. Lightfoot, and Mr. Forsythe, and carried by a voice vote with thirteen (13) yes votes, and two (2) absent votes (Haggard, Fay).

B. Authorizing the Chair to Sign an Extension to the Agreement Authorizing Drescher & Malecki, LLP to Prepare the Annual Audits for Fiscal Years 2024 and 2025 – Mr. Lightfoot moved to forward this resolution to Full Board, seconded by Mr. Forsythe, and Ms. Curran, and carried by a voice vote with thirteen (13) yes votes, and two (2) absent votes (Haggard, Fay).

5. REAL PROPERTY – BRUCE GREEN

A. Authorizing a Correction of Errors for Gouverneur Wrestling Club, Inc. – Mr. Smithers moved to forward this resolution to Full Board, seconded by Mr. Burke, and carried by a voice vote with thirteen (13) yes votes, and two (2) absent votes (Haggard, Fay).

B. 2025 County Tax Bill Errors Corrective Action Plan Presentation (Info) – Bruce Green

6. HIGHWAY – DON CHAMBERS

A. Authorizing the Chair to Sign a Contract for the Department of Highways to Provide Fuel Services to the Village of Canton – Mr. Lightfoot moved to forward this resolution to Full Board, seconded by Mr. Forsythe, and carried by a voice vote with thirteen (13) yes votes, and two (2) absent votes (Haggard, Fay).

B. Rescinding Resolution No. 296-2024 and Authorizing the Chair to Sign a Five (5) Year Contract Extension with the New York State Department of Transportation for the Snow and Ice Control Agreement on State Highways – Mr. Burke moved to forward this resolution to Full Board, seconded by Ms. Curran, and Mr. Perkins, and carried by a voice vote with thirteen (13) yes votes, and two (2) absent votes (Haggard, Fay).

7. AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT (ARPA) UPDATE

A. Broadband Development Update (Info) – Jason Pfotenhauer

Ms. Curran left the meeting at 6:54 p.m.

Ms. Curran returned to the meeting at 6:57 p.m.

B. Status Update (Discussion) – Jason Pfotenhauer

8. OLD/NEW BUSINESS

A. Authorizing the Chair to Sign an Agreement between the Department of Social Services and the Sheriff's Office for the Provision of Security Services at the Harold B. Smith Building – Mr. Smithers moved to forward this resolution to Full Board, seconded by Mr. Burke, and Mr. Webster, and Ms. Curran, and carried by a voice vote with thirteen (13) yes votes, and two (2) absent votes (Haggard, Fay).

9. COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT – RUTH DOYLE

A. Authorizing the Chair to Sign an Application to the Empire State Development County Infrastructure Grant Program and Committing Matching Funds – Ms. Curran moved to forward this resolution to Full Board, seconded by Mr. Perkins, and Mr. Lightfoot.

Mr. Hull recognized Mike Dalton, Mayor of Canton, to speak to the scope of the project.

Motion carried by a voice vote with thirteen (13) yes votes, and two (2) absent votes (Haggard, Fay).

B. Option to Realign the Indigent Defense Structure in St. Lawrence County: Pause Operations of the Office of the Conflict Defender; and Consider the Consolidation of Staff to the Public Defender's Office, and Consideration of Authorizing the Opening of a Public Defender's Satellite Office in Ogdensburg (Discussion) – Ruth Doyle and James McGahan

Mr. Hull recognized Amy Dona, St. Lawrence County Conflict Defender, to provide additional context to the discussion.

Ms. Terminelli left the meeting at 7:42 p.m.

Ms. Terminelli returned to the meeting at 7:44 p.m.

Mr. Gennett left the meeting at 7:47 p.m.

10. COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. Cornell Cooperative Extension Board (Denesha) – Mr. Denesha

B. Fish and Wildlife Management Board, Region 6 (Sheridan) – Mr. Sheridan

Mr. Gennett returned to the meeting at 7:53 p.m.

C. Fisheries Advisory Board (Terminelli) – No report

D. Gouverneur Fair Board (Smithers) – Mr. Smithers

E. Highway/Solid Waste Committee (Smithers) – Mr. Smithers

Mr. Hull recognized Ellen Hooker, Deputy Director of Solid Waste, to give a report regarding Solid Waste.

F. Industrial Development Agency (Reagen) – Mr. Reagen

G. Recreational and Trails Advisory Board (Perkins/Webster) – No report

H. St. Lawrence River Valley Redevelopment Agency (RVRDA) (Forsythe) – Mr. Forsythe

I. St. Lawrence County Chamber of Commerce (Webster) – Mr. Webster

J. Soil & Water Conservation District Board of Directors (Burke/Fay) – Mr. Burke

Mr. Smithers moved to go to Executive Session at 8:10 p.m., to discuss litigation, negotiations, personnel, and appointments, seconded by Mr. Webster, and Ms. Curran, and carried by a voice vote with thirteen (13) yes votes, and two (2) absent votes (Haggard, Fay).

11. EXECUTIVE SESSION

Ms. Curran moved to go to Open Session at 8:48 p.m., seconded by Mr. Perkins, and Mr. Smithers, and carried by a voice vote with thirteen (13) yes votes, and two (2) absent votes (Haggard, Fay).

12. ADJOURNMENT

Chair Hull moved to adjourn the Finance Committee Meeting at 8:49 p.m., as there was no further business.