

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

Due to extenuating circumstances, Legislator Sheridan will attend remotely from 2098 Seminole Blvd, Largo, Florida.

1. CALL TO ORDER AND APPROVAL OF AGENDA – Ms. Curran called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. Mr. Hull moved to approve the agenda, seconded by Mr. Fay, and carried unanimously by a voice vote with fifteen (15) yes votes.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – Mr. Fay moved to approve the minutes of February 10, 2025, seconded by Mr. Forsythe, and carried unanimously by a voice vote with fifteen (15) yes votes.

3. EMERGENCY SERVICES – MATT DENNER

A. Authorizing the Chair to Sign a Contract Extension for the FY18 Statewide Interoperable Communications Targeted Grant (FY18 SICG) with New York State Office of Homeland Security and Office of Emergency Services – Mr. Fay moved to forward this resolution to Full Board, seconded by Mr. Burke, and Mr. Forsythe, and carried unanimously by a voice vote with fifteen (15) yes votes.

4. PLANNING – JASON PFOTENHAUER

A. Authorizing the Treasurer to Modify the 2025 Budget for the Transit Program through the Planning Office – Mr. Perkins moved to forward this resolution to Full Board, seconded by Mr. Forsythe, and Mr. Fay, and carried unanimously by a voice vote with fifteen (15) yes votes.

B. Proclaiming April as Fair Housing Month – Mr. Perkins moved to forward this resolution to Full Board, seconded by Mr. Smithers, and Mr. Forsythe, and carried unanimously by a voice vote with fifteen (15) yes votes.

C. Proclaiming Earth Day in St. Lawrence County – Mr. Forsythe moved to forward this resolution to Full Board, seconded by Mr. Fay, Mr. Smithers, and Mr. Denesha, and carried unanimously by a voice vote with fifteen (15) yes votes.

D. Orthoimagery Update (Info) – Update

5. PROBATION – TIM LEPAGE

A. Declaring April as Sexual Assault Awareness Month – Mr. Forsythe moved to forward this resolution to Full Board, seconded by Ms. Haggard, and Mr. Webster.

Mr. Smithers moved to amend the resolution to remove the seventh whereas, seconded by Mr. Webster, Mr. Gennett, and Mr. Perkins.

Mr. Denesha moved to amend the proposed amendment, to include additional language in the eighth whereas, seconded by Mr. Perkins.

Mr. Hull called the question to end the discussion of the amendment to the amendment, seconded by Mr. Smithers and Mr. Perkins, and carried by a voice vote with fourteen (14) yes votes and one (1) no vote (Lightfoot).

Motion carried on the amendment to the amendment related to the eighth whereas, with twelve (12) yes votes and three (3) no votes (Haggard, Burke, and Terminelli).

Mr. Sheridan called for a Roll Call vote on the amendment to remove the seventh whereas.

Motion carried by a roll call vote with ten (10) yes votes, three (3) no votes (Haggard, Burke, and Terminelli), and two (2) abstained votes (Gennett, and Curran).

Mr. Denesha called the question, seconded by Mr. Smithers, and Mr. Fay, and carried unanimously by a voice vote with fifteen (15) yes votes.

The resolution, as amended, carried unanimously by a voice vote with fifteen (15) yes votes.

B. Accepting the Recommendations from the Committee Appointed to Implement the Arming of Probation Officers in St. Lawrence County, Authorization to Acquire the Necessary Equipment and Training to Arm the Officers, and Modifying the 2025 Budget for the Probation Department – Mr. Forsythe moved to forward this resolution to Full Board, seconded by Mr. Lightfoot, and Mr. Webster, and Mr. Perkins.

Mr. Gennett made a friendly amendment to the tenth whereas to add the word “safe”, and to the eleventh whereas to add the word “safety.”

The resolution, as amended, carried unanimously by a roll call vote with fifteen (15) yes votes.

6. SHERIFF – PATRICK ENGLE

A. Accepting FY24 Operation Stonegarden Program (OPSG) Grant from New York State Division of Homeland Security and Modifying the 2025 Budget for the Sheriff’s Office – Mr. Denesha moved to forward this resolution to Full Board, seconded by Mr. Smithers, Mr. Gennett, Mr. Burke, and Mr. Forsythe, and carried unanimously by a voice vote with fifteen (15) yes votes.

7. OLD/NEW BUSINESS

A. Authorizing the St. Lawrence County Attorney to Render Legal Aid to New York State Correction Officers in Demanding Appropriate Staffing Levels and Solutions to Address the Increase in Security of Correction Officers in New York State Correctional Facilities – Mr. Hull moved to forward this resolution to Full Board, seconded by Mr. Lightfoot, Mr. Webster, Mr. Gennett, Mr. Denesha, and Mr. Perkins.

Mr. Perkins moved to amend the resolution to include the additional language “to evaluate how” to render legal aid in the Now Therefore Be It Resolved and remove the first Be It Therefore Resolved completely, seconded by Mr. Hull, and carried by a voice vote with fifteen (15) yes votes.

Mr. Perkins called the question, seconded by Mr. Denesha, Mr. Smithers, Mr. Forsythe, and Mr. Lightfoot, and carried by a voice vote with fourteen (14) yes votes and one (1) no vote (Haggard).

Mr. Sheridan asked to be added as a co-sponsor to this resolution.

The resolution, as amended, carried with thirteen (13) yes votes and two (2) no votes (Smithers, and Haggard).

Mr. Forsythe discussed the HUD-VASH program that helps pay rent for homeless veterans through vouchers. St. Lawrence County does not currently participate in this program. There are forty (40) vouchers available, but he does not know who to get in touch with about this program.

Mr. Reagen added that the Planning Office may be able to contact HUD to inquire about opportunities to help homeless veterans.

Mr. Gennett commented that you need to apply for vouchers and he will look into it as well.

Ms. Curran added that in 2023, they did a lot of paperwork and received one (1) voucher.

Mr. Forsythe said that there may be fear from landlords if they don’t know what these vouchers are, so any help would be appreciated.

Ms. Terminelli left the meeting at 7:57 p.m.

Mr. Denesha commented that there are many programs that veterans are eligible for that they don’t know about. Our Veterans Affairs Committee used to help with this.

Ms. Curran added that our Veterans Affairs Committee used to meet every three (3) months at the VA with people from other organizations and counties. They are trying to resurrect this committee.

Ms. Terminelli returned to the meeting at 7:59 p.m.

8. COMMITTEE REPORTS:

- A. Agriculture & Farmland Protection Board (Denesha) – No report
- B. Alternative to Incarceration Board (Burke) – No report
- C. Board of Trustees for Supreme Court Library (Haggard) – No report
- D. Emergency Medical Services Advisory Board (Curran) – No report
- E. Environmental Management Council (Terminelli) – No report
- F. Fire Advisory Board (Denesha) – Mr. Denesha
- G. Jury Board (Sheridan) – No report
- H. Local Government Task Force (Forsythe) – No report
- I. Planning Board (Fay) – No report

9. COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR’S REPORT – RUTH DOYLE:

The window replacement bid is being advertised to improve the windows in the County Courthouse, Surrogate Building, and County jail.

There was flooding in one of the towers that the Housing Authority oversees in Canton on Sunday. All sixty-two (62) residents in that tower had to be relocated quickly. The Housing Authority & Office of the Aging took care of relocating folks in local hotels and getting meals to those who needed it. The displaced residents are back in their homes now.

The Public Safety Complex is almost ready for move-in. We are finalizing the details for move-in, a public Open House, and when Pearl Street will be reopened.

Ms. Doyle wants to extend thanks to everyone who participated in the committee established to evaluate the arming and implementation for Probation Officers.

Mr. Forsythe moved to go to Executive Session at 8:07 p.m., to discuss appointments, seconded by Mr. Fay, and carried unanimously by a voice vote with fifteen (15) yes votes.

10. EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mr. Smithers moved to go to Open Session at 8:13 p.m., seconded by Mr. Fay, and carried unanimously by a voice vote with fifteen (15) yes votes.

11. ADJOURNMENT

Chair Curran moved to adjourn the Operations Committee Meeting at 8:13 p.m., as there was no further business.