St. Lawrence County | Finance Committee
Board of Legislators | Monday, June 23, 2025
Board Room | 5:30 PM

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, Mr. Hull attended the meeting remotely from 19310 Front Street, Leesburg, Virginia.

1. CALL TO ORDER AND APPROVAL OF AGENDA – Mr. Lightfoot called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

Mr. Smithers moved to approve the agenda, seconded by Mr. Perkins.

Mr. Forsythe moved to withdraw the resolution under number seven (7) on the agenda, titled "Expressing Strong Disapproval of Governor Kathy Hochul's Allocation of $50 Million in Taxpayer Funds for Legal Fees for Undocumentted Immigrants", and Mr. Denesha moved to add a resolution to the agenda titled "Encouraging the Congress to Reinstate the SNAP-Ed Program in the Proposed FY2026 Federal Budget", seconded by Mr. Reagen.

Ms. Terminelli arrived to the meeting at 5:32 p.m.

Motion carried by a voice vote with fourteen (14) yes votes and one (1) absent vote (Sheridan).

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – Mr. Webster moved to approve the minutes of May 19, 2025, seconded by Ms. Curran, and carried unanimously by a voice vote with fourteen (14) yes votes, and one (1) absent vote (Sheridan).

Mr. Sheridan arrived to the meeting at 5:34 p.m.

3. TREASURER – RENEE COLE

A. 2024 Unaudited Results – Renee Cole and Deb Bridges

4. HIGHWAY – DON CHAMBERS

Chair Lightfoot recognized Ryan Herron, Deputy Director for the Department of Highways, to present the resolutions.

A. Authorization to Abolish a Senior Account Clerk and Create a Fiscal Officer in the Department of Highways – Ms. Curran moved to forward this resolution to Full Board, seconded by Mr. Smithers, and carried unanimously by a voice vote with fifteen (15) yes votes.

B. Modifying the 2025 Budget for the Department of Highways to Receive Additional Capital Highway Improvement Program (CHIPS) Funding – Mr. Forsythe moved to forward this resolution to Full Board, seconded by Mr. Smithers, and carried unanimously by a voice vote with fifteen (15) yes votes.

C. Modifying the 2025 Budget for the Department Of Highways and Approving Federal Aid Local Project Agreement for Preliminary Engineering Design and Right-of-Way (ROW) Incidentals for County Route 14 Over Line Creek, Pin 775447 – Mr. Burke moved to forward this resolution to Full Board, seconded by Mr. Perkins, and carried unanimously by a voice vote with fifteen (15) yes votes.

D. Authorizing the Chair to Sign an Agreement with C & S Engineers, Inc. for Preliminary Engineering of County Route 14 Over Line Creek, Pin 775447, Town of Madrid – Mr. Denesha moved to forward this resolution to Full Board, seconded by Mr. Webster, and carried unanimously by a voice vote with fifteen (15) yes votes.

5. SOLID WASTE – DON CHAMBERS

A. Transfer Stations Status Update – Ellen Hooker

Ms. Terminelli left the meeting at 6:44 p.m.

Ms. Terminelli returned to the meeting at 6:46 p.m.

Mr. Reagen left the meeting at 7:03 p.m.

Mr. Reagen returned to the meeting at 7:05 p.m.

6. WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD – PAM LEWIS

A. Establishing the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) Budget for Program Year 2025 – Mr. Burke moved to forward this resolution to Full Board, seconded by Mr. Smithers and Ms. Curran, and carried unanimously by a voice vote with fifteen (15) yes votes.

B. Modifying the 2024 Budget for the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) PY24 Budget for the Fiscal Incentive Grant – Ms. Curran moved to forward this resolution to Full Board, seconded by Mr. Perkins, and carried unanimously by a voice vote with fifteen (15) yes votes.

C. Modifying the 2024 Budget for the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) PY24 Budget for the Program Incentive Grant – Ms. Curran moved to forward this resolution to Full Board, seconded by Mr. Smithers, and carried unanimously by a voice vote with fifteen (15) yes votes.

D. Establishing the PY24 Budget for the New York Systems Change and Inclusive Opportunities Network (NY SCION) Office of Mental Health (OMH) Initiative – Ms. Curran moved to forward this resolution to Full Board, seconded by Mr. Perkins, and carried unanimously by a voice vote with fifteen (15) yes votes.

7. LEGISLATOR – DAVE FORSYTHE – WITHDRAWN

A. Expressing Strong Disapproval of Governor Kathy Hochul's Allocation of $50 Million in Taxpayer Funds for Legal Fees for Undocumented Immigrants

7. LEGISLATOR – LARRY DENESHA – ADDITION

A. **Encouraging the Congress to Reinstate the SNAP-Ed Program in the Proposed FY2026 Federal Budget – Mr. Denesha moved to forward this resolution to Full Board, seconded by Mr. Burke and Mr. Perkins, and carried unanimously by a voice vote with fifteen (15) yes votes.**

8. AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT (ARPA) UPDATE – RUTH DOYLE

Chair Lightfoot recognized Jason Pfotenhauer to give an update.

9. OLD/NEW BUSINESS

A. Update on the Status of Arming of Probation Officers (Discussion) – Tim LePage

10. COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT – RUTH DOYLE

A. Modifying the 2025 Budget for Utilities and Maintenance Services for County Offices Located at 21 Harrowgate Commons in Massena – Mr. Smithers moved to forward this resolution to Full Board, seconded by Mr. Denseha, and carried unanimously by a voice vote with fifteen (15) yes votes.

B. 2024 Recommendations for Reserves & Fund Balance Policy (Discussion) – Ruth Doyle

Ms. Doyle reported that budget preparations are well underway. About half of departments will have their 2025 projections and 2026 requests entered by Friday, June 27. The other half, which are larger departments, will be due July 11. Budget reviews will begin July 8 and go through August 12.

The goal is to present the tentative budget at the September 29 Finance Committee Meeting, with a potential Public Hearing and approval on November 3 to give time for review. This timeline also allows for Real Property to prepare the tax bills accurately.

Ms. Doyle congratulated WIOA, since they met their goal of 80% spend, which has been rewarded with an additional $300,000 for their programs from the state.

The 2nd Quarter financial update will come at next month's Finance Meeting.

The Agriculture Tour is planned for Friday, August 15 which includes 4 stops. It will begin around 9 a.m. from the Courthouse with transportation and lunch included.

The 100th NYSAC Fall Conference is scheduled for September 8-10 in Buffalo at Niagara Falls.

Ruth Doyle and Renee Cole will attend the Government Finance Officers Association conference later this week.

There is no meeting next week, and the Full Board meeting is on July 7. As a reminder, the July 4 holiday is coming up and non-emergency County offices will be closed.

Ms. Haggard left the meeting at 8:28 p.m.

11. COMMITTEE REPORTS

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

Ms. Curran left the meeting at 8:29 p.m.

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

Ms. Haggard returned to the meeting at 8:31 p.m.

Ms. Curran returned to the meeting at 8:31 p.m.

C. Fisheries Advisory Board (Terminelli) – No report

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

E. Highway/Solid Waste Committee (Smithers) – No report

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

G. Recreational and Trails Advisory Board (Perkins/Webster) – Mr. Perkins

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

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

Chair Lightfoot recognized Ben Dixon, Director of the Chamber of Commerce, to provide additional information.

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

Ms. Curran moved to go to Executive Session at 8:53 p.m., to discuss litigation and appointments, seconded by Mr. Perkins, and carried unanimously by a voice vote with fifteen (15) yes votes.

Mr. Gennett left the meeting at 8:53 p.m.

12. EXECUTIVE SESSION

Ms. Curran moved to go to Open Session at 9:11 p.m., seconded by Mr. Smithers, and carried by a voice vote with fourteen (14) yes votes and one (1) absent vote (Gennett).

13. ADJOURNMENT

Chair Lightfoot moved to adjourn the Finance Committee Meeting at 9:13 p.m., as there was no further business.