St. Lawrence County
Board of Legislators
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Finance Committee
Monday, August 25, 2025
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

**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. Perkins, and carried by a voice vote with twelve (12) yes votes and three (3) absent votes (Fay, Haggard, Webster).

Mr. Hull announced that Legislator Fay and Legislator Haggard were excused from the meeting.

**2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES –** Mr. Burke moved to approve the minutes of July 28, 2025, seconded by Mr. Sheridan, and carried by a voice vote with twelve (12) yes votes and three (3) absent votes (Fay, Haggard, Webster).

**3. COUNTY ATTORNEY – STEVE BUTTON**

A. Authorizing the Chair to Sign an Agreement for the Conveyance of 926 South Water Street, Ogdensburg, in Lieu of Foreclosure Pursuant to Real Property Tax Law §1170 – Mr. Lightfoot moved to forward this resolution to Full Board, seconded by Mr. Forsythe and Mr. Reagen, and carried by a voice vote with twelve (12) yes votes and three (3) absent votes (Fay, Haggard, Webster).

B. Authorizing the Chair to Sign a Settlement Agreement between Alvogen, Amneal, Apotex, Hikma, Indivior, Mylan, Sun, and Zydus Opioid Manufacturers and St. Lawrence County with Respect to an Action Relating to the Opioid Crisis – Mr. Smithers moved to forward this resolution to Full Board, seconded by Mr. Forsythe, Mr. Lightfoot, Mr. Reagen, and Ms. Curran.

Mr. Smithers made a friendly amendment to eliminate the "Be It Further Resolved" paragraph and adjust the "Now Therefore Be It Resolved" paragraph to remove the "and" at the end and replace the comma after "Opioid Crisis" with a period.

Motion carried by a voice vote with twelve (12) yes votes and three (3) absent votes (Fay, Haggard, Webster).

C. Authorizing the Chair to Sign the New Restructuring Plan and Settlement Proposal Related to Litigation Regarding the Manufacture and Distribution of Opioids – Mr. Smithers moved to forward this resolution to Full Board, seconded by Mr. Lightfoot and Ms. Curran, and carried by a voice vote with twelve (12) yes votes and three (3) absent votes (Fay, Haggard, Webster).

D. Authorizing the Chair to Sign a Contract with Odin Environmental LLC for Phase 1 Environmental Assessment with Respect to Property Owned by Emerson and Eleanor Walker as well as Property Owned by Struick Holdings, LLC – Mr. Smithers moved to forward this resolution to Full Board, seconded by Ms. Curran and Mr. Denesha.

Mr. Webster arrived to the meeting at 5:45 p.m.

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

E. Authorizing the Chair to Sign a Contract with Jeda Environmental Services under the Blighted Property Program for the Demolition and Abatement of Two (2) Condemned Structures in the Towns of Fine and Potsdam – Ms. Curran moved to forward this resolution to Full Board, seconded by Mr. Denesha and Mr. Forsythe, and carried by a voice vote with thirteen (13) yes votes and two (2) absent votes (Fay, Haggard).

F. Authorizing the Chair to Sign a Contract with GCA Excavating & Land Clearing, LLC, under the Blighted Property Program for the Demolition and Abatement of Two (2) Condemned Structures in the Town of Fowler and City of Ogdensburg – Ms. Curran moved to forward this resolution to Full Board, seconded by Mr. Smithers, Mr. Lightfoot, Mr. Forsythe, and Mr. Reagen, and carried by a voice vote with thirteen (13) yes votes and two (2) absent votes (Fay, Haggard).

G. Real Property Tax Law Cancellation of Delinquent Tax Liens – Mr. Perkins moved to forward this resolution to Full Board, seconded by Ms. Curran and Mr. Smithers, and carried by a voice vote with twelve (12) yes votes, one (1) no vote (Burke), and two (2) absent votes (Fay, Haggard).

H. Real Property Tax Law Prospective Cancellation of Future Tax Liens – Ms. Curran moved to forward this resolution to Full Board, seconded by Mr. Smithers and Mr. Forsythe, and carried by a voice vote with twelve (12) yes votes, one (1) no vote (Terminelli), and two (2) absent votes (Fay, Haggard).

Ms. Curran left the meeting at 6:29 p.m.

**4. TREASURER – RENEE COLE**

A. Authorization to Abolish an Assistant Accounting Supervisor Position and Create and Fill an Accounting Supervisor Position in the Treasurer's Office – Mr. Perkins moved to forward this resolution to Full Board, seconded by Mr. Burke and Mr. Forsythe.

Ms. Curran returned to the meeting at 6:31 p.m.

Ms. Curran made a friendly amendment to add the salary range from the previous position and the new position to the resolution.

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

Ms. Terminelli left the meeting at 6:41 p.m.

B. Sales Tax Update (Discussion) – Ms. Cole

Ms. Terminelli returned to the meeting at 6:44 p.m.

**5. REAL PROPERTY – BRUCE GREEN**

A. Setting a Date for a Public Hearing on Proposed Local Law G (No.__) for the Year 2025, "Senior Citizen Exemption Amending Local Law No. 1 for the Year 2010" – Ms. Curran moved to forward this resolution to Full Board, seconded by Mr. Webster, Mr. Forsythe, and Mr. Reagen, and carried by a voice vote with thirteen (13) yes votes and two (2) absent votes (Fay, Haggard).

B. Setting a Date for a Public Hearing on Proposed Local Law H (No. __) for the Year 2025, "Amending Local Law No. 1 of the Year 2005, "A Local Law Establishing Real Property Tax Exemption for Persons with Disabilities and Limited Incomes in Accordance with Section 459-C of the New York State Real Property Tax Law"" – Mr. Perkins moved to forward this resolution to Full Board, seconded by Ms. Curran and Mr. Lightfoot, and carried by a voice vote with thirteen (13) yes votes and two (2) absent votes (Fay, Haggard).

C. Adopting Local Law F (No. _) for the Year 2025, "To Allow Enrolled Volunteer Firefighters and Volunteer Ambulance Workers to be Eligible for a Real Property Tax Exemption Under RPTL §466-a" – Ms. Curran moved to forward this resolution to Full Board, seconded by Mr. Denesha, Mr. Perkins, Mr. Webster, and Mr. Reagen, and carried by a voice vote with thirteen (13) yes votes and two (2) absent votes (Fay, Haggard).

D. Correction of Errors for New York State Department Exempt – Ms. Curran moved to forward this resolution to Full Board, seconded by Mr. Perkins and Mr. Burke, and carried by a voice vote with thirteen (13) yes votes and two (2) absent votes (Fay, Haggard).

E. Correction for the Town of Potsdam - Veteran's Exemption (Discussion) – Mr. Green

**6. HIGHWAY – DON CHAMBERS**

A. Authorization to Abolish Two (2) Laborer Positions and Create Two (2) Motor Equipment Operator Positions in the Department of Highways – Mr. Burke moved to forward this resolution to Full Board, seconded by Mr. Smithers, Ms. Curran, and Mr. Forsythe, and carried by a voice vote with thirteen (13) yes votes and two (2) absent votes (Fay, Haggard).

**7. TRAILS – DON CHAMBERS**

A. Modifying the 2025 Budget for the County Administrator's Office for Maintenance of the

Multi-Use Trail System – Mr. Webster moved to forward this resolution to Full Board, seconded by Mr. Forsythe and Mr. Perkins, and carried by a voice vote with thirteen (13) yes votes and two (2) absent votes (Fay, Haggard).

B. Accepting Funds from the Industrial Development Agency for the Multi-Use Trail System and Modifying the 2025 Budget for the County Administrator's Office – Mr. Burke moved to forward this resolution to Full Board, seconded by Mr. Perkins.

Mr. Gennett left the meeting at 7:17 p.m.

Motion carried by a voice vote with twelve (12) yes votes and three (3) absent votes (Fay, Haggard, Gennett).

C. Authorizing the Chair to Sign a Contract with Barton & Loguidice, D.P.C. to Provide Environmental Services Needed to Prepare Appendix A for the Town of Lawrence for the Multi-Use Trail Capital Project – Mr. Perkins moved to forward this resolution to Full Board, seconded by Mr. Sheridan and Mr. Webster, and carried by a voice vote with twelve (12) yes votes and three (3) absent votes (Fay, Haggard, Gennett).

**8. SOLID WASTE – DON CHAMBERS**

A. Modifying the 2025 Budget for the Solid Waste Department for Equipment Repairs, Building and Property Maintenance, Supplies, Credit Card Fees, and the Fleet Lease – Mr. Smithers moved to forward this resolution to Full Board, seconded by Ms. Curran.

Mr. Gennett returned to the meeting at 7:19 p.m.

Chair Hull recognized Ellen Hooker, Deputy Director of Solid Waste, to speak to the resolutions.

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

B. Authorizing the Chair to Sign a Contract with Barton & Loguidice, D.P.C. for Engineering Services for the Ogdensburg Transfer Station Improvement Project and Modifying the 2025 Budget for the Solid Waste Department – Mr. Smithers moved to forward this resolution to Full Board, seconded by Mr. Perkins and Mr. Webster.

Ms. Curran moved to table this resolution until the next Finance Committee Meeting, seconded by Mr. Burke. The motion failed by a roll call vote with four (4) yes votes, nine (9) no votes (Reagen, Forsythe, Lightfoot, Sheridan, Smithers, Denesha, Perkins, Hull, Webster), and two (2) absent votes (Haggard, Fay).

Mr. Reagen moved to forward the resolution to the Solid Waste and Buildings & Grounds Committees, seconded by Mr. Denesha, Mr. Perkins and Mr. Forsythe.

Ms. Terminelli moved to table the resolution until the Board hears back from the Buildings & Grounds Committee and Solid Waste Committee, seconded by Ms. Curran, and carried by a voice vote with thirteen (13) yes votes and two (2) absent votes (Haggard, Fay).

C. Authorizing the Chair to Sign an Agreement with NCC Systems for the Procurement, Installation, and Maintenance of New Fire Monitoring Systems at County Transfer Stations – Ms. Curran moved to forward this resolution to Full Board, seconded by Mr. Burke.

Mr. Webster left the meeting at 7:49 p.m.

Motion carried by a voice vote with twelve (12) yes votes and three (3) absent votes (Haggard, Fay, Webster).

**9. WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD – PAM LEWIS**

A. Authorizing the Chair to Sign an Amendment to the Contract with the St. Lawrence County Workforce Development Board to Reappoint the Executive Director for a Term of July 1, 2025 - June 30, 2028 – Mr. Forsythe moved to forward this resolution to Full Board, seconded by Mr. Reagen, and carried by a voice vote with twelve (12) yes votes and three (3) absent votes (Haggard, Fay, Webster).

**10. AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT (ARPA) UPDATE**

A. Summary of Totals (Info) – Ruth Doyle

Mr. Webster returned to the meeting at 7:52 p.m.

B. Utilities (Info) – Ms. Doyle

C. Broadband (Info) – Ms. Terminelli

**11. COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT – RUTH DOYLE**

A. 2025 Annual Vacancy Report and Recommendations (Discussion) – Ms. Doyle

B. Modifying the 2025 Budget for the County Administrator's Office for Upfitting a Vehicle for Safely Moving Furniture, Equipment, and Supplies – Ms. Curran moved to forward this resolution to Full Board, seconded by Mr. Denesha, Mr. Lightfoot, and Mr. Gennett.

Chair Hull recognized Don Chambers, Superintendent of the Department of Highways and Solid Waste, to provide more context to the resolution.

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

A short recess was taken to set up the presentation.

C. Courthouse Improvement Capital Project Presentation - Corey Mousaw, Project Manager and John Clark, Designer – Mr. Mousaw and Mr. Clark

**12. OLD/NEW BUSINESS**

There was no old business.

Mr. Gennett brought forward new business about the need to update the County website regarding the Ethics Board.

**13. COMMITTEE REPORTS**

Mr. Hull announced that at Mr. Webster's request, the Chamber of Commerce Committee Report would be going first.

I. St. Lawrence County Chamber of Commerce (Webster) – Chair Hull recognized Ben Dixon, Executive Director of the Chamber of Commerce, to provide the report.

A. Cornell Cooperative Extension Board (Denesha) – No report

B. Fish and Wildlife Management Board, Region 6 (Sheridan) – No report

C. Fisheries Advisory Board (Terminelli) – No report

D. Gouverneur Fair Board (Smithers) – No report

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

F. Industrial Development Agency (Reagen) – No report

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

H. St. Lawrence River Valley Redevelopment Agency (RVRDA) (Forsythe) – No report

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

K. Buildings & Grounds Committee (Denesha) – Mr. Denesha

Ms. Curran moved to go to Executive Session at 9:07 p.m., to discuss litigation, negotiations, personnel, and appointments, seconded by Mr. Smithers, and carried by a voice vote with thirteen (13) yes votes and two (2) absent votes (Haggard, Fay).

**14. EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Mr. Smithers moved to go to Open Session at 9:51 p.m., 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).

## 15. ADJOURNMENT

Chair Hull adjourned the Finance Committee Meeting at 9:52 p.m., as there was no further business.