St. Lawrence County
Board of Legislators
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Finance Committee
Monday, November 24, 2025
5:30 PM

Members Attending: Mr. Burke, Ms. Curran, Mr. Denesha, Mr. Forsythe, Mr. Gennett, Ms. Haggard, Mr. Hull, Mr. Levato, 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.

Mr. Gennett moved to approve the agenda, seconded by Ms. Curran, and carried by a voice vote with fourteen (14) yes votes, and one (1) absent (Terminelli.)

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Mr. Forsythe moved to approve the minutes of October 27, 2025, seconded by Mr. Burke, and carried by a voice vote with fourteen (14) yes votes, and one (1) absent (Terminelli.)

3. TREASURER – RENEE COLE

A. Adopting Mortgage Tax Report – Mr. Gennett moved to forward this resolution to Full Board, seconded by Ms. Curran, and carried by a voice vote with fourteen (14) yes votes, and one (1) absent (Terminelli.)

B. Charging Tax Items & Omitted Tax Paid – Mr. Forsythe moved to forward this resolution to Full Board, seconded by Mr. Gennett and carried by a voice vote with fourteen (14) yes votes, and one (1) absent (Terminelli.)

4. HIGHWAY – DON CHAMBERS

A. Modifying the 2025 Budget for the Department of Highways for Machinery Rental and Equipment Repair and Maintenance – Mr. Smithers moved to forward this resolution to Full Board, seconded by Mr. Lightfoot and Ms. Curran, and carried by a voice vote with fourteen (14) yes votes, and one (1) absent (Terminelli.)

B. Authorizing the Solicitation of Bids for the Highway Maintenance and Administration Facility and Authorizing the Highway Superintendent to Execute and Submit the Environmental Assessment Form – Mr. Smithers moved to forward this resolution to Full Board, seconded by Mr. Forsythe and Ms. Curran, and carried by a voice vote with fourteen (14) yes votes, and one (1) absent (Terminelli.)

Ms. Curran called the question, seconded by Mr. Forsythe, and carried by a voice vote with fourteen (14) yes votes, and one (1) absent (Terminelli.)

5. LEGISLATOR HAGGARD, LEVATO, AND BURKE

A. Authorizing the Chair to Sign an Agreement with the Food Bank of Central New York to Replenish Depleted Food Banks in St. Lawrence County and Modifying the 2025 Budget for the County Administrator's Office – Mr. Forsythe moved to forward this resolution to Full Board, seconded by Ms. Haggard, and Mr. Levato, and carried by a voice vote with fourteen (14) yes votes, and one (1) absent (Terminelli.)

Mr. Reagen moved to table this resolution to the December Finance Committee meeting, seconded by Mr. Sheridan and Ms. Curran, and carried by a roll call vote with eight (8) yes votes, and six (6) no votes (Smithers, Hull, Levato, Haggard, Burke, and Gennett.)

6. COUNTY ATTORNEY - STEVE BUTTON

A. Authorizing the Chair to Sign an Agreement with the National Grid Brownfield Redevelopment Program Accepting Grant Award Funds for Demolition of a Building at 18 Main Street in the Town of Hammond and Modifying the 2025 Budget for the County Attorney's Office – Mr. Sheridan moved to forward this resolution to Full Board, seconded by Ms. Curran, and carried by a voice vote with fourteen (14) yes votes, and one (1) absent (Terminelli.)

Mr. Sheridan moved to amend the resolution to add a BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED stating to roll over funds to future budgets until the funding is fully expended, seconded by Ms. Haggard, and carried by a voice vote with fourteen (14) yes votes, and one (1) absent (Terminelli.)

7. AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT (ARPA) UPDATE

A. Broadband Project

B. Utility Projects

C. Total Spent

D. Timeline for Closeout

8. 2026 TENTATIVE BUDGET REVIEW

A. Department Reviews: Board of Legislators, County Attorney, Highway, Treasurer's Office, Real Property, and Solid Waste – Ms. Doyle

B. Adopting Local Law I (No._) for the Year 2025, "Tax Cap Override for FY 2026" – Mr. Forsythe moved to forward this resolution to Full Board, seconded by Ms. Curran, and carried by a voice vote with fourteen (14) yes votes, and one (1) absent (Terminelli.)

C. The Finance Committee Delivers the 2026 Tentative Budget to the Board of Legislators for Final Consideration and Approval (Note: If there are no additional amendments to be made, this action begins the formal approval process to adopt the 2026 Budget) – Mr. Hull hereby presents the 2026 Tentative Budget to the Board of Legislators.

9. COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT – RUTH DOYLE

A. Authorizing the Chair to Sign a Contract with the New York State Unified Court System to Provide Cleaning and Minor Repair Services for Court Facilities at the County Complex – Ms. Curran moved to forward this resolution to Full Board, seconded by Mr. Forsythe, and carried by a voice vote with fourteen (14) yes votes, and one (1) absent (Terminelli.)

B. Modifying the 2025 Budget for the County Administrator's Office for Advertising – Mr. Forsythe moved to forward this resolution to Full Board, seconded by Ms. Curran and Mr. Lightfoot, and carried by a voice vote with fourteen (14) yes votes, and one (1) absent (Terminelli.)

C. Authorizing the Creation of a Capital Reserve for the Purpose of the Management of Repairs – Ms. Curran moved to forward this resolution to Full Board, seconded by Mr. Webster, and carried by a voice vote with fourteen (14) yes votes, and one (1) absent (Terminelli.).

D. Authorizing the Chair to Sign a Contract with Summit Shred Lab for Shredding Services – Ms. Curran moved to forward this resolution to Full Board, seconded by Mr. Forsythe, and carried by a voice vote with fourteen (14) yes votes, and one (1) absent (Terminelli.)

E. Authorizing the Chair to Sign a Contract with Soil and Water Conservation District, if Awarded, to Administer the Invasive Species Grant Program Round 4 2025 and Provide a Twenty-Five Percent Match to Support the Grant – Mr. Levato moved to forward this resolution to Full Board, seconded by Ms. Haggard, and carried by a voice vote with fourteen (14) yes votes, and one (1) absent (Terminelli.)

F. Capital Projects Update – Ms. Doyle

Ms. Doyle expresses her gratitude to the legislators for granting permission to bid out the Highway project. She reminds them that when the bids are available, they will have the chance to review them and decide whether all or part of the project should move forward, as well as to be informed of the financial recommendations for the project.

The steps project at the Surrogate Building is making good progress, with a projected substantial completion date of December 15, 2025. The windows have begun to arrive, and they will be installed first while the building remains unoccupied.

A kickoff meeting for the courthouse will be scheduled soon and will take place in the Board of Legislators Chambers.

An announcement is being prepared to inform the public about where to find the various departments, during renovations and relocations.

Ms. Doyle reported on two transfers of funds for the Office of the Aging for document management amounting to $214.88, and a second transfer for $39.00.

10. OLD/NEW BUSINESS

A. Rick Rusaw, Director of Emergency Services

1. Authorizing the Chair to Sign a Five-Year Agreement with Motorola Solutions for the Purchase of Rapid Notification Software for the Office of Emergency Services – Ms. Curran moved to forward this resolution to Full Board, seconded by Mr. Denesha and Mr. Webster, and carried by a voice vote with fourteen (14) yes votes, and one (1) absent (Terminelli.)

B. Jonnie Dorothy, Director of Human Resources

1. Authorizing the Chair to Sign a Contract with Pro-Act to Provide Administrative Services for the St. Lawrence County Employer Group Waiver Plan – Ms. Curran moved to forward this resolution to Full Board, seconded by Mr. Sheridan, and carried by a voice vote with fourteen (14) yes votes, and one (1) absent (Terminelli.)

C. Arming of Probation Officers Update - Tim LePage, Director of Probation

D. Artificial Intelligence (AI) Monthly - Rick Johnson, Director of Information Technology

11. COMMITTEE REPORTS

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) – Mr. Smithers

F. Industrial Development Agency (Reagen) – No report

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

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

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

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

12. EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mr. Forsythe moved to go to Executive Session at 8:06 p.m., to discuss negotiations and personnel, seconded by Ms. Curran and Mr. Smithers, and carried by a voice vote with fourteen (14) yes votes, and one (1) absent (Terminelli.)

Ms. Curran moved to go to Open Session at 8:48 p.m., seconded by Mr. Denesha and Mr. Smithers, and carried by a voice vote with fourteen (14) yes votes, and one (1) absent (Terminelli.)

13. ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Perkins moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Ms. Curran, and carried by a voice vote with fourteen (14) yes votes, and one (1) absent (Terminelli.)

Chair Hull adjourned the Finance Committee Meeting at 8:48 p.m., as there was no further business.