



**ST. LAWRENCE COUNTY
FINANCE COMMITTEE AGENDA
MR. JOHN GENNETT, CHAIR
MONDAY, AUGUST 26, 2024
BOARD ROOM AND LIVE VIA YOUTUBE
5:30 PM**



RUTH A. DOYLE
County Administrator

DAVID FORSYTHE
Chair, Board of Legislators

1. CALL TO ORDER AND APPROVAL OF AGENDA

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – July 29, 2024

3. COUNTY ATTORNEY – STEVE BUTTON

- A. Authorizing the Chair to Sign all Documents Necessary to Convey Post-Judgment Tax Foreclosure Acquired Property Back to the Redeeming Tax Delinquent (Res)
- B. Authorizing the Chair to Sign a Contract with Clean Harbors Environmental Services, Inc. to Complete Hazardous Waste Removal on Property Owned by the Reddick Revocable Trust (Res)

4. REAL PROPERTY – BRUCE GREEN

- A. Real Property Tax Law Correction of Taxes (Res)
- B. Real Property Tax Law Correction/Cancellation of Void Taxes (Res)

5. HIGHWAY – DON CHAMBERS

- A. Modifying the 2024 Budget for the Department of Highways for Temporary Emergency Road Repairs (Res)

6. INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY – RICK JOHNSON

- A. Authorizing the Chair to Sign a Contract with ComSource for Acquisition and Installation of Uninterruptable Power Supplies and Monitoring Software and Modifying the 2024 Budget for Information Technology (Res)

7. VACANCY REVIEW COMMITTEE – RUTH DOYLE

- A. Highway
 - a. Fill Motor Equipment Operator, Position No. 310000028
- B. County Attorney
 - a. Fill an Assistant County Attorney, Position No. 021900001

8. AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT (ARPA) UPDATE

9. COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR’S REPORT – RUTH DOYLE

10. COMMITTEE REPORTS

- A. Cornell Cooperative Extension Board (Denesha)
- B. Fish and Wildlife Management Board, Region 6 (Sheridan)
- C. Fisheries Advisory Board (Terminelli)
- D. Gouverneur Fair Board (Smithers)
- E. Highway/Solid Waste Committee (Smithers)
- F. Industrial Development Agency (Reagen)
- G. Recreational and Trails Advisory Board (Perkins/Webster)
- H. St. Lawrence River Valley Redevelopment Agency (RVRDA) (Forsythe)
- I. St. Lawrence County Chamber of Commerce (Webster)
- J. Soil & Water Conservation District Board of Directors (Burke/Haggard)

11. OLD/NEW BUSINESS

12. EXECUTIVE SESSION

- A. Litigation
- B. Negotiations
- C. Personnel
- D. Appointment

13. ADJOURNMENT – If there is no further business.

September 9, 2024

Finance Committee: 8-26-2024

RESOLUTION NO.

**AUTHORIZING THE CHAIR TO SIGN ALL DOCUMENTS NECESSARY TO
CONVEY POST-JUDGMENT TAX FORECLOSURE ACQUIRED PROPERTY BACK
TO THE REDEEMING TAX DELINQUENT**

By Mr. Gennett, Chair, Finance Committee

WHEREAS, on April 20, 2024, Governor Kathy Hochul signed into law the New York State 2024-2025 Budget, and

WHEREAS, the enacted budget reforms the property tax enforcement laws of New York State to bring them into compliance with a decision of the United States Supreme Court, *Tyler v. Hennepin County, Minnesota*, 598 U.S. 631 (2023), by providing that when tax-delinquent property is sold, any excess proceeds be returned to the former owner or owners, and where appropriate, to lienors, and

WHEREAS, the bill requires any surplus resulting from tax foreclosure sales to be distributed to the former owners and lienors, subject to claims incurred by the taxing authority for administrative costs and remediation, and

WHEREAS, as a result of the Tyler Decision and the passage of the State Budget with modifications to Article 11 of the Real Property Tax Law, the Board of Legislators adopted Local Law D (No. 4) for the Year 2024, which amended the policy regarding disposition of acquired tax delinquent parcels and the date of last redemption, and

WHEREAS, the Board of Legislators may permit redemption of tax delinquent parcels, after judgment has been obtained by the tax enforcing officer in the judicial tax foreclosure proceeding but prior to the auction, by passage of a resolution authorizing the Chair and tax enforcing entity to execute any and all documents necessary to convey the foreclosed property back into possession of the redeeming tax delinquent, and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Article 11 of the Real Property Tax Law, the St. Lawrence County Treasurer (as Tax Enforcement Officer) and the County Attorney protect the interests of the County with respect to tax delinquent parcels,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Legislators authorizes the Chair to sign all documents necessary to convey post-judgment tax foreclosure acquired property back to the redeeming tax delinquent, upon approval of the County Attorney, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that prior owners who have made payment of delinquent taxes to redeem property acquired by St. Lawrence County in foreclosure for the Year 2024 will be paid the amount of back taxes, plus any assessed penalties, interests, and fees, upon approval of the County Treasurer.

September 9, 2024

Finance Committee: 8-26-2024

RESOLUTION NO.

AUTHORIZING THE CHAIR TO SIGN A CONTRACT WITH CLEAN HARBORS ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES, INC. TO COMPLETE HAZARDOUS WASTE REMOVAL ON PROPERTY OWNED BY THE REDDICK REVOCABLE TRUST

By Mr. Gennett, Chair, Finance Committee

WHEREAS, the County has commenced an In Rem real property tax foreclosure proceeding for delinquent taxes pursuant to Article 11 of the Real Property Tax Law against properties owned by The Reddick Revocable Trust located at 45 Murdock St, Town of Gouverneur, County of St. Lawrence, State of New York with Tax Map No. 173.039-1-9 and 51 Owl Rd, County of St. Lawrence, State of New York with Tax Map No. 173.001-4-8 (hereinafter referred to as the “Properties”), and

WHEREAS, there are currently delinquent real property taxes due and owing in the amount of \$26,126.83, together with fees, penalties and interest in the amount of \$16,305.51 for a total of \$42,432.34 on the parcel owned by The Reddick Revocable Trust with Tax Map No. 173.039-1-9 and there are currently delinquent real property taxes due and owing in the amount of \$14,467.99 together with fees, penalties and interest in the amount of \$10,452.09 for a total of \$24,290.08 on the parcel owned by The Reddick Revocable Trust with Tax Map No. 173.001-4-8, and

WHEREAS, the Board of Legislators previously authorized the execution of a contract with Odin Environmental to perform an initial investigation on the Properties as well as Atlantic Testing Laboratories, who determined that further work was required to address and remove drum, tanks, and other storage containers located on the property which contain hazardous substances, and

WHEREAS, the County would like to retain Clean Harbors to package, transport, and dispose of waste drums and hazardous materials that are located at the Properties, and

WHEREAS, Clean Harbors has submitted proposals whereby they will perform the above-described packaging, transportation, and disposal for the total of \$55,095.25, to be paid from the Environmental Property Reserve Fund, and

WHEREAS, the County Attorney and Consultant, Gary Bowitch, Esq. have reviewed the proposals and recommend awarding the contract to Clean Harbors,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Legislators authorizes the Chair to Sign a Contract, and any other necessary documents, with Clean Harbors Environmental Services, Inc. to Complete Hazardous Waste Removal on Property Owned by the Reddick Revocable Trust, upon approval of the County Attorney.

September 9, 2024

Finance Committee: 8-26-2024

RESOLUTION NO.

REAL PROPERTY TAX LAW CORRECTION OF TAXES

By Mr. Gennett, Chair, Finance Committee

WHEREAS, Section 554 of the Real Property Tax Law allows for certain corrections over \$2,500 to be made with regard to the assessment and tax rolls, and

WHEREAS, the Director of Real Property Tax Office has determined that a cancelation of voided taxes should occur pursuant to Section 554 of the Real Property Tax Law and is recommending that the taxes be canceled, and

WHEREAS, a list of such corrections, which shall be known as Correction/Cancelation of Voided Taxes - Real Property Tax Law List #1 for the Year 2024, and

WHEREAS, the list is on file in the Board of Legislators' Office,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Legislators authorizes Real Property Tax Correction of Taxes, as follows:

Name:	New York State Department of Environmental Conservation
St. Lawrence County:	Town of Stockholm
Tax Roll Year:	2024
Tax Map No.:	65.002-4-15
Original Bill:	\$5,670.03
Corrected Bill:	\$886.54
Reason:	New York State paid school in October 2023; Error in re-levy; Remove \$4,783.49

September 9, 2024

Finance Committee: 8-26-2024

RESOLUTION NO.

REAL PROPERTY TAX LAW CORRECTION/CANCELLATION OF VOID TAXES

By Mr. Gennett, Chair, Finance Committee

WHEREAS, Section 558 of Real Property Tax Law allows for certain correction/cancellation of voided taxes to be made with regard to the assessment and tax rolls, and

WHEREAS, the Director of Real Property Tax Office has determined that a cancellation of voided taxes should occur pursuant to Section 558 of the Real Property Tax Law and is recommending that the taxes be canceled, and

WHEREAS, a list of such corrections, which shall be known as Correction/Cancellation of Voided Taxes - Real Property Tax Law List #2 for the Year 2024, and

WHEREAS, the list is filed in the Board of Legislators' Office,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Legislators authorizes Real Property Tax Law correction/cancellation of void taxes, as follows:

Name: St. Regis Mohawk Tribe
St. Lawrence County: Brasher
Tax Roll Year: 2024
Tax Map No.: 12.001-2-7
Original Bill: \$5,783.85
Corrected Bill: \$0
Reason: Deed 2023/16280 to the United States of America recorded 12/28/2023; Warrant Date 12/29/2023; Request taxes are voided per RPTL 558

Name: New York State Power Authority
St. Lawrence County: Massena
Tax Roll Year: 2023
Tax Map No.: 5.004-1-22.1
Original Bill: \$2,284.23
Corrected Bill: \$0
Reason: Deed 2022/11835 to New York State Power Authority recorded 08/19/2022; Warrant date 12/30/2022; Massena Central School warrant date 09/01/2022; Request taxes voided per RPTL 558.

Name: New York State Department of Transportation
St. Lawrence County: Potsdam
Tax Roll Year: 2023

Tax Map No.:	63.004-1-47
Original Bill:	169.19
Corrected Bill:	\$0
Reason:	New York State Acquisition Map 2022/3716 filed 03/23/2022; The parcel was transferred to New York State Department of Transportation. It was then deleted and mapped to roadway.

September 9, 2024

Finance Committee: 8-26-2024

RESOLUTION NO.

**MODIFYING THE 2024 BUDGET FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF HIGHWAYS FOR
TEMPORARY EMERGENCY ROAD REPAIRS**

By Mr. Gennett, Chair, Finance Committee

WHEREAS, the remnants of Tropical Storm Debby have caused hazardous conditions, and posed an imminent threat to transportation systems across St. Lawrence County, and

WHEREAS, New York State declared a disaster State of Emergency followed by a declaration issued by St. Lawrence County, a critical action to allow for potential reimbursement from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA),

WHEREAS, this storm produced heavy rains and flash flooding resulting in significant damage to many roads throughout the County, and

WHEREAS, the Department of Highways does not have appropriations in the 2024 Budget to provide for the necessary emergency repairs for the safety of the traveling public,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Legislators authorizes the Treasurer to modify the 2024 Budget for the Department of Highways for emergency road repairs, as follows:

DECREASE UNAPPROPRIATED FUND BALANCE:

01TG0911 50300	Fund Balance, Unreserved Unappropriated	\$650,000
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INCREASE APPROPRIATED FUND BALANCE:

01TG0910 50300	Fund Balance, Unreserved Appropriated	\$650,000
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INCREASE APPROPRIATIONS:

HM651104 454HS TSD	H TSD Highway Supplies	\$650,000
T6199509 90600	T IFT GF Transfer to CP	<u>650,000</u>
		\$1,300,000

INCREASE REVENUE:

T6650319 90100	T IFT CP Transfer from GF	\$650,000
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BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that additional appropriations may be necessary to complete the work that would allow the roads to be repaired and reopened safely.

September 9, 2024

Finance Committee: 8-26-2024

RESOLUTION NO.

AUTHORIZING THE CHAIR TO SIGN A CONTRACT WITH COMSOURCE FOR ACQUISITION AND INSTALLATION OF UNINTERRUPTABLE POWER SUPPLIES AND MONITORING SOFTWARE AND MODIFYING THE 2024 BUDGET FOR INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

By Mr. Gennett, Chair, Finance Committee

WHEREAS, the backup power infrastructure of St. Lawrence County is of critical importance, supporting all network, server, application, and telephony functions, and

WHEREAS, much of this infrastructure is outdated and in need of replacement, demonstrated by failures in critical infrastructure that power life-saving systems operated by St. Lawrence County, and

WHEREAS, maintaining an alert function is critical to provide the County IT Staff notice to respond when issues arise and ahead of any compromise to the System, and

WHEREAS, ComSource operates from a State contract availability perspective, and has performed an assessment of the entire County electrical and network infrastructure to come up with a proposal suite to meet the needs of the County,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Legislators authorizes the Chair to sign a contract with ComSource for the Acquisition and Installation of Uninterruptable Power Supplies and Monitoring Software, upon approval of the County Attorney, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Treasurer is authorized to modify the 2024 Budget for Information Technology, as follows:

INCREASE APPROPRIATIONS:

CD016802 22001	C Computer Hardware	\$160,000
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DECREASE APPROPRIATIONS:

B1019904 49700	B SPEC Contingency Account	\$160,000
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St. Lawrence County Vacancy Authorization Form



Type:

Subunit (If Applicable):

Date Submitted:

Reason Vacated:

Position Number:

Date Vacated:

Position # Abolished:

Position Status:

Last Fill Date:

Jurisdictional Class:

Appointee Will Be:

Hrs Per Week:

Shift Length:

FTE:

Budget

Salary of Person Leaving:

Fill Request Timeline:

Benefits:

Revenue Generating: %

Base Salary:

Reimbursed by Local,
State or Federal Funds: %

Base Hourly:

Grade:

Net County Cost:

*Net County Cost is calculated from salary of person leaving, if available

Detailed Justification

What is the impact on your department if this position is not filled? Please provide, in detail, the need to fill the position. Please include the service provided, if it is mandated, number of people (clients) affected, and what you will do if the position is not filled.

Department Head:

Approved?

Yes No

County Administrator:

Resolution #:

Job Qualifications

For Human Resources Use Only:
Job Qualifications Listed here:

St. Lawrence County Vacancy Authorization Form



Type:

Subunit (If Applicable):

Date Submitted:

Reason Vacated:

Position Number:

Date Vacated:

Position # Abolished:

Position Status:

Last Fill Date:

Jurisdictional Class:

Appointee Will Be:

Hrs Per Week:

Shift Length:

FTE:

Budget

Salary of Person Leaving:

Fill Request Timeline:

Benefits:

Revenue Generating: %

Base Salary:

Reimbursed by Local,
State or Federal Funds: %

Base Hourly: \$50.54

Grade:

Net County Cost:

*Net County Cost is calculated from salary of person leaving, if available

Detailed Justification

What is the impact on your department if this position is not filled? Please provide, in detail, the need to fill the position. Please include the service provided, if it is mandated, number of people (clients) affected, and what you will do if the position is not filled.

Department Head:

Approved?

Yes No

County Administrator:

Resolution #:

Job Qualifications

For Human Resources Use Only:
Job Qualifications Listed here:

SUGGESTED QUALIFICATIONS: ADMISSION TO THE NEW YORK STATE BAR