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. Webster called the meeting to order at 6:50 p.m.

Mr. Webster announced that Mr. Levato is excused.

Mr. Webster announced that due to extenuating circumstances, Mr. Sheridan will be attending the meeting remotely from 1460 Gulf Blvd, Clearwater, FL.

Mr. Webster announced that due to extenuating circumstances, Mr. Perkins will be attending the meeting remotely from 43 Hotaling Island Drive, Potsdam, NY.

Mr. Webster announced that due to extenuating circumstances, Mr. Smithers will be attending the meeting remotely from 250 Old Route 58 South, Gouverneur, NY.

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

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – Mr. Denesha moved to approve the minutes of January 12, 2026, seconded by Mr. Gennett, and carried by a voice vote with fourteen (14) yes votes and one (1) absent (Levato).

3. COMMUNITY SERVICES – JAY ULRICH

A. Accepting a Donation from the Edward C. Seymour VFW Post #1231 to Community Services for the Food Pantry Project and Modifying the 2026 Budget for Community Services – Mr. Denesha moved to forward this resolution to Full Board, seconded by Ms. Curran and Mr. Gennett, and carried by a voice vote with fourteen (14) yes votes and one (1) absent (Levato).

4. PUBLIC HEALTH – ERIN STREIFF

A. Recognizing March as National Traumatic Brain Injury Awareness Month – Mr. Burke moved to forward this resolution to Full Board, seconded by Mr. Denseha and Ms. Curran, and carried by a voice vote with fourteen (14) yes votes and one (1) absent (Levato).

B. Supporting Immunization as a Critical Public Health Practice – Ms. Curran moved to forward this resolution to Full Board, seconded by Mr. Burke and Mr. Reagen.

After discussion, Mr. Denesha called the question, seconded by Ms. Terminelli and Ms. Haggard, and carried by a voice vote with thirteen (13) yes votes, one (1) no vote (Hull), and one (1) absent (Levato).

The motion to forward the resolution to Full Board carried by a voice vote with thirteen (13) yes votes, one (1) no vote (Hull), and one (1) absent (Levato).

C. Accepting Performance Incentive Achievement Award Funds and Modifying the 2026 Budget for the Public Health Department – Mr. Burke 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 (Levato).

D. Sunshine and Buzz Light Year Award (Discussion) – Ms. Streiff announced that the Public Health staff developed two (2) recognition awards, the Sunshine Award and Buzz Light Year Award. The recipient of the Sunshine Award, given to someone who brings brightness and positivity to the work environment, is Lindsay Bylow. The recipient of the Buzz Light Year Award, given to someone who goes above and beyond, is Patti Hogle.

5. SOCIAL SERVICES – JOE SEEBER

A. Modifying the 2026 Budget for Social Services for the Shelter Arrears Eviction Forestallment Program – Mr. Forsythe moved to forward this resolution to Full Board, seconded by Mr. Hull, and carried by a voice vote with fourteen (14) yes votes and one (1) absent (Levato).

Mr. Seeber provided updates on the Advocacy Day meeting hosted by NYSAC that he attended last week.

6. YOUTH BUREAU – ALEXA BACKUS CHASE

A. Proclaiming Friday, March 6, 2026 as the 3rd Annual "Five Hour Free (from Social Media) Friday" in St. Lawrence County – Mr. Denesha moved to forward this resolution to Full Board, seconded by Ms. Curran and Ms. Terminelli.

Anya Bansal of Potsdam, Chair of the Youth Committee, was recognized to present the resolution to the Board.

Ms. Curran, Mr. Forsythe, and Ms. Terminelli asked to be added as co-sponsors to the resolution.

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

7. COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR’S REPORT – RUTH DOYLE

Ms. Doyle reported a transfer of funds in the amount of $4,800 for Emergency Services for costs associated with energy for the tower locations. The total is a combination of the County catching up after not being billed for the tower in Hammond for about six (6) months, services from NCC Systems, and plowing for the Whitehill tower.

Ms. Doyle reported that yesterday on February 8th at approximately 1:15 p.m. the Canton Fire Department responded to the H. B. Smith building for a water issue associated with a frozen pipe that leaked from the fan coil unit. The water damaged Room 205, through the floor into the ceiling of Room 105, and down to the basement, along with the elevator shafts. Due to the quick work of new Superintendent of Buildings & Grounds, Cory Perrault, and his team, and Commissioner Seeber, his Deputy, and his Supervisors, documents were secured to ensure minimal damage occurred. Robla's came in to assist with abating the water. Ms. Doyle would like to thank Canton Fire Department for their swift action to prevent further damage. Schindler was on site to assess the elevators, and the elevators were operational around noon today. Alternative work locations were found for all staff who were displaced. The County is extremely fortunate that damage did not occur to approximately $100,000 worth of servers around the leak site. Many of the newly-renovated spaces that received paint, carpet, and cubicle work sustained minimal damage, but many of the ceiling tiles will need to be replaced. This incident was avoidable, and a corrective action plan will be developed to ensure this does not happen again.

The Sheriff is requesting that Civil Service exam fees for deputies be waived. This fee waiver has previously been approved for deputies and correction officers, which has resulted in a County cost of $2,250 for Human Resources.

This Thursday, February 12th at 11:45 a.m., there will be a press conference at the Potsdam Highway Outpost regarding Highway CHIPS Funding from the State. Assemblyman Gray and other representatives will be attending.

Ms. Doyle reminded the Board that the Community Services and Social Services reports will now be shared with legislators via folders on their laptops, and the reports will no longer appear on monthly agendas. The reports will also be posted to the County website for public access.

The Time & Attendance Committee will meet on Friday, February 13th to resume conversations after a short hiatus.

On Wednesday, February 11th, Ms. Doyle will present on government at the February session of the St. Lawrence Leadership Institute.

At the Operations meeting in March, representatives from National Grid will present regarding increased energy prices.

Ms. Doyle has invited legal counsel for the Canton Human Services Initiative to speak with the Board on the structure of the Initiative, and will schedule them to come as soon as they are able.

Ms. Doyle expressed sincere apologies for Mr. Dan Fay's name appearing on the Operations agenda for the Planning Board, as Mr. Hull has been appointed to that committee.

8. OLD/NEW BUSINESS

Ms. Curran brought forward old business regarding the New York State Nursing Compact, stating that New York is not a Compact State. She would like the Legislators to sign onto a letter encouraging the state legislature to take up a bill that would make New York a Compact State due to nursing staff shortages across the state, and especially in the North Country.

Ms. Curran brought forward old business that there are drawings in the lobby for the parking proposal and encouraged the legislators to look at them.

9. COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. Board of Health (Curran) – Ms. Curran

B. CDP Board of Directors (Burke) – Mr. Burke

C. Community Services Board (Haggard) – Ms. Haggard

D. Office for the Aging Advisory Board (Denesha) – Mr. Denesha

E. Youth Advisory Board (Terminelli) – Ms. Terminelli

Mr. Forsythe moved to go to Executive Session at 7:58 p.m., to discuss negotiations and appointments, seconded by Ms. Curran and Ms. Haggard, and carried by a voice vote with fourteen (14) yes votes and one (1) absent (Levato).

Mr. Denesha left the meeting at 7:59 p.m.

10. EXECUTIVE SESSION

Ms. Curran moved to go to Open Session at 8:16 p.m., seconded by Mr. Gennett, and carried by a voice vote with thirteen (13) yes votes and two (2) absent (Levato and Denesha).

11. ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Hull moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Ms. Curran, and carried by a voice vote with thirteen (13) yes votes and two (2) absent (Levato and Denesha).

Chair Webster adjourned the Services Committee Meeting at 8:17 p.m., as there was no further business.