

Members Attending: Mr. Burke, Ms. Curran, Mr. Denesha, Mr. Forsythe, Mr. Gennett, Ms. Haggard, **Mr. Hull**, ~~Mr. Levato~~, Mr. Lightfoot, Mr. Perkins, Mr. Reagan, 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.

It was announced that Legislator Levato is excused.

Ms. Curran moved to approve the agenda, seconded by Mr. Denesha.

Ms. Curran moved to withdraw item #9G on the agenda, seconded by Mr. Forsythe.

Ms. Doyle, County Administrator, was recognized to speak about the reason for the withdrawal.

The motion to withdraw was carried by a voice vote with fourteen (14) yes votes and one (1) absent (Levato).

Ms. Curran moved to add a resolution to the agenda titled "Calling on New York State and Step by Step to Halt Plans to Build Housing in Downtown Ogdensburg," seconded by Mr. Reagan, and carried by a voice vote with fourteen (14) yes votes and one (1) absent (Levato).

The motion to approve the agenda, as amended, carried by a voice vote with fourteen (14) yes votes and one (1) absent (Levato).

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES - Mr. Gennett moved to approve the minutes of March 30, 2026, seconded by Ms. Curran, and carried by a voice vote with fourteen (14) yes votes and one (1) absent (Levato).

3. REAL PROPERTY – EMILY WILSON

A. Real Property Tax Law Correction/Cancellation of Void Taxes – 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 (Levato).

4. HIGHWAY – DON CHAMBERS

A. Authorizing the Chair to Award and Sign a Construction Contract for Scour Repair of County Route 35 over Grannis Brook (BIN 3341620), County Route 55 over Allen Brook (BIN 1039790), and Boyden Road over Boyden Brook (BIN 3340680) – Mr. Forsythe moved to forward this resolution to Full Board, seconded by Mr. Gennett, Mr. Lightfoot, and Ms. Curran.

Mr. Perkins stated he will abstain from this vote and the next vote due to his employment.

The motion carried by a voice vote with thirteen (13) yes votes, one (1) abstention (Perkins), and one (1) absent (Levato).

B. Authorizing the Chair to Award and Sign a Construction Contract for the County Route 54 Bridge over Allen Brook (BIN 3341170) and McEwen Road over Allen Brook (BIN 3221340) – Mr. Forsythe moved to forward this resolution to Full Board, seconded by Ms. Curran, and carried by a voice vote with thirteen (13) yes votes, one (1) abstention (Perkins), and one (1) absent (Levato).

C. Authorizing the Chair to Sign a Contract with Barton & Loguidice, D.P.C. for Engineering Services for County Route 21 over Elm Creek, PIN 775448, BIN 3341090 – Mr. Denesha moved to forward this resolution to Full Board, seconded by Ms. Curran, Mr. Gennett, and Mr. Forsythe, and carried by a voice vote with fourteen (14) yes votes and one (1) absent (Levato).

D. Authorizing the Chair to Sign a Contract with Atlantic Testing Laboratories, Ltd for Special Inspection Services for the Highway Facility for Maintenance and Administration Capital Project – Mr. Webster moved to forward this resolution to Full Board, seconded by Mr. Sheridan and Mr. Forsythe, and carried by a voice vote with fourteen (14) yes votes and one (1) absent (Levato).

E. 2026 Paving Plans & Map (Info) – Mr. Chambers

5. TREASURER – RENEE COLE

A. Adopting Local Law B (No. _) for the Year 2026, “The St. Lawrence County Room Occupancy Tax and Rescinding All Previous Hotel and Motel Occupancy Tax Local Laws and Amendments in St. Lawrence County and Opting Out of the New York State Short Term Rental Registry” – Mr. Gennett moved to forward this resolution to Full Board, seconded by Ms. Curran and Mr. Forsythe.

Ms. Terminelli asked for clarification about the occupancy tax, and it was clarified that this local law does not change the current occupancy tax and does not change the allocation of these collected revenues.

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

6. LEGISLATOR RICK PERKINS

A. Supporting New York State Senate Bill S.7298 and New York State Assembly Bill A.7439 an Act to Amend the Vehicle and Traffic Law to Increase the Width and Weight of the Description Specifics for an All Terrain Vehicle – Mr. Forsythe moved to forward this resolution to Full Board, seconded by Ms. Curran.

Mr. Perkins read the resolution and requested it be sent to towns and adjoining counties once adopted.

Mr. Smithers and Mr. Webster asked to be added as co-sponsors to the resolution.

Rick Engle, Sheriff, was recognized to provide additional context regarding out-of-state registrations on the trails.

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

7. LEGISLATOR LARRY DENESHA

A. In Opposition to Legislation Authorizing Renewable Energy Development on State Forest Lands without Local Control and Consideration of Economic Impacts – Mr. Perkins moved to forward this resolution to Full Board, seconded by Mr. Denesha, Mr. Smithers, Mr. Gennett, and Mr. Forsythe.

Mr. Perkins and Mr. Sheridan asked to be added as co-sponsors to the resolution.

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

B. Calling on New York State and Step by Step to Halt Plans to Build Housing in Downtown Ogdensburg – Mr. Reagen moved to forward this resolution to Full Board, seconded by Ms. Curran.

Mr. Webster left the meeting at 6:24 p.m. and returned to the meeting at 6:29 p.m.

Ms. Curran asked to be added as a co-sponsor to the resolution.

The motion carried by a voice vote with twelve (12) yes votes, two (2) no votes (Burke and Haggard), and one (1) absent (Levato).

8. AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT (ARPA) UPDATE

Ms. Doyle and Jason Pfothauer, Director of Planning, gave the update.

Ms. Terminelli expressed thanks to Andrea Smith of National Grid on behalf of the Broadband Committee.

9. COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT – RUTH DOYLE

A. 2026 Q1 Financial Update – Ms. Doyle

B. Authorization to Separate Administration of the Departments of Highways and Solid Waste and Creating the Director of Solid Waste in St. Lawrence County – Mr. Smithers moved to forward this resolution to Full Board, seconded by Mr. Forsythe, Mr. Lightfoot, Mr. Webster, and Ms. Curran, and carried by a voice vote with fourteen (14) yes votes and one (1) absent (Levato).

C. Authorizing the Chair or Designee to Approve Documents Related to Federal or State Funded Transportation Projects – 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 (Levato).

D. Authorizing the Chair to Sign a Nine-Month Extension with the Rural Law Center of New York for Indigent Appellate Representation – Mr. Perkins moved to forward this resolution to Full Board, seconded by Ms. Curran and Mr. Forsythe, and carried by a voice vote with fourteen (14) yes votes and one (1) absent (Levato).

E. Authorizing the Chair to Execute an Easement Option Agreement and Temporary Access Road Easement with Niagara Mohawk Power Corporation d/b/a National Grid for Property Identified as Tax Map Parcel CNNI-041.000/67.003-2-21 – Mr. Denesha moved to forward this resolution to Full Board, seconded by Ms. Curran and Mr. Reagen.

Andrea Smith of National Grid was recognized to provide more context to this resolution and the next resolution.

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

F. Authorizing the Chair to Execute an Easement Option Agreement with Niagara Mohawk Power Corporation d/b/a National Grid for Property Identified as Tax Map Parcel CNNI-069.000/78.002-1-69 – Mr. Perkins moved to forward this resolution to Full Board, seconded by Ms. Curran and Mr. Denesha, and carried by a voice vote with fourteen (14) yes votes and one (1) absent (Levato).

Ms. Doyle gave the County Administrator's Report. She reported that there is an Assembly Bill that supports the renewable energy resolution.

Ms. Doyle reported that the Human Services Open House was well-attended, with great representation from County Departments participating. She expressed thanks to the Youth Bureau and participating Departments for a successful event.

Ms. Doyle reported updates to previously-adopted resolutions requested by the Treasurer's Office. In Resolution No. 138-2026, the last portion of the Budget Modification originally said "Appropriation" and will be changed to "Revenue". Resolution No. 126-2026 needs a 0 added to the Public Health EP Emergency Preparedness account number. Resolution No. 119-2026 needs the ORG updated in the account information. These changes will be made in the resolutions.

Ms. Doyle reported that there is still no State Budget, and the 7th Budget extender was passed today. There is optimism for a State Budget in May. The State is interested in making changes to the Tier 5 and Tier 6 retirement programs, and local governments, through NYSAC, are advocating for New York State to pay for the reforms.

The NYSAC County Finance School is happening May 20-22 at the Queensbury Hotel.

The St. Lawrence County Trails will be opening on May 15 with a Special Trail Permit celebrating the 20th Anniversary of the Trails and the 250th Anniversary of the United States. Trail permits are being sold online, at the Highway Department, and at local businesses.

G. Authorizing the Chair to Execute a Grant of Easement to Niagara Mohawk Power Corporation and Edwards Telephone Company for the Benefit of Property Owned by Eli Tracy and Tammy Tracy Located in the Town of Hermon – Please note in the Agenda Approval motion that this resolution was withdrawn.

10. OLD/NEW BUSINESS

A. Authorizing the Chair to Sign a Transit Ready NY Funding Application for a Public Transit Operation and Maintenance Facility – Mr. Forsythe moved to forward this resolution to Full Board, seconded by Ms. Curran.

Jason Pfothenauer and Matilda Larson of the Planning Department were recognized to speak to the resolution.

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

B. Authorizing the Chair to Sign a Five-Year Agreement with Axon Enterprise, Inc. for Body-Worn Cameras for the Sheriff's Office and Modifying the 2026 Budget for the Sheriff's Office – Mr. Webster moved to forward this resolution to Full Board, seconded by Mr. Burke and Ms. Curran.

Rick Engle, Sheriff, was recognized to speak to the resolution.

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

C. Authorizing the Chair to Sign an Agreement with Tyler Technologies for Implementation of MUNIS Cloud Services and Modifying the 2026 Budget for Information Technology – Ms. Curran moved to forward this resolution to Full Board, seconded by Mr. Forsythe and Mr. Perkins.

Rick Johnson, Director of Information Technology, was recognized to speak to the resolution.

Renee Cole, County Treasurer, was recognized to add context to the resolution.

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

Ms. Haggard brought forward new business that the Human Services Open House event was great and thanked everyone who put work into it.

11. COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. Ad Hoc Committees

- a. Artificial Intelligence Committee (Hull) – Mr. Hull
- b. Buildings & Grounds Committee (Denesha) – Mr. Denesha
- c. Fiscal Stability Committee (Lightfoot) – Mr. Lightfoot
- d. GPS Committee (Terminelli) – Ms. Terminelli
- e. Highway/Solid Waste Committee (Smithers) – Mr. Smithers
- f. Time and Attendance Committee (Perkins) – Mr. Perkins

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

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

D. Fisheries Advisory Board (Terminelli) – No report

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

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) – Mr. Forsythe

I. St. Lawrence County Chamber of Commerce (Webster) – Mr. Webster requested that Tiffani Amo, Director of Tourism at the Chamber of Commerce, present the report, and Ms. Amo was recognized to give the report.

Mr. Gennett left the meeting at 7:46 p.m.

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

Mr. Forsythe moved to go to Executive Session at 7:48 p.m., to discuss litigation, negotiations, personnel, and appointments, seconded by Mr. Webster and Ms. Curran, and carried by a voice vote with thirteen (13) yes votes and two (2) absent (Levato and Gennett).

Mr. Gennett returned to the meeting at 7:51 p.m.

12. EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mr. Forsythe moved to go to Open Session at 9:19 p.m., seconded by Ms. Curran, and carried by a voice vote with fourteen (14) yes votes and one (1) absent (Levato).

13. ADJOURNMENT

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

Chair Hull adjourned the Finance Committee Meeting at 9:21 p.m., as there was no further business.