

The Chair called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL: All Legislators were present with the exception of Mr. Gennett. It was announced that due to extenuating circumstances, Mr. Gennett will be attending remotely from 1350 County Route 53, Brasher Falls, NY.

Mr. Denesha offered the prayer followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA: Ms. Curran moved to approve the agenda, seconded by Mr. Smithers.

Mr. Denesha moved to amend the agenda to include two (2) resolutions, titled “Recommending the Acquisition and Installation of Global Positioning System (GPS) Equipment and Technology on all County Vehicles and Adopting Policies and Protocols Associated with the Use of County Vehicles” as Item #21, and “Authorizing the Chair to Sign Contracts with KAS Consulting, Cral Contracting Inc., and GP Flooring for Air Monitoring, Asbestos Abatement, and the Replacement of Flooring All Relative to the Surrogate Building and Modifying the 2026 Budget for the County Administrator's Office” as Item #22 on the agenda, seconded by Ms. Curran, and carried by a voice vote with fourteen (14) yes votes and one (1) absent (Gennett).

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Ms. Curran moved to approve the minutes of April 6, 2026; May 4, 2026; and May 11, 2026, seconded by Mr. Burke, and carried by a voice vote with fourteen (14) yes votes and one (1) absent (Gennett).

PRESENTATION OF RESOLUTIONS:

RESOLUTION NO. 186-2026

**RECOGNIZING THE POTSDAM CENTRAL SCHOOL GIRLS HOCKEY TEAM FOR
CAPTURING THE NEW YORK STATE GIRLS HOCKEY CHAMPIONSHIP AND
THEIR OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENTS**

By Ms. Haggard, District 10

WHEREAS, the Potsdam Central High School Girls Hockey Team captured the New York State Girls Hockey Championship Title at the Utica University Nexus Center, defeating Adirondack United by a score of 3-2, and

WHEREAS, the Lady Sandstoners demonstrated exceptional skill, determination, and teamwork throughout the championship game, beginning with an early goal just thirteen (13) seconds into the first period, and

WHEREAS, the game remained highly competitive as Adirondack United tied the game late in the first period, with Potsdam regaining the lead early in the second period, and

WHEREAS, after Adirondack United evened the score at 2-2, Potsdam capitalized on a scoring opportunity late in the second period with 1:40 remaining, giving the Sandstoners a 3-2 lead heading into the final period, and

WHEREAS, the Lady Sandstoners maintained their composure and defensive strength throughout a scoreless third period, controlling the puck and successfully securing the championship victory, and

WHEREAS, the Team displayed resilience and perseverance throughout the season, entering the championship game with an impressive 17-3-2 record and remaining undefeated, claiming the Section X championship title, and

WHEREAS, Potsdam advanced to the New York State Championship following a successful postseason run, defeating Canton Central 3-2 in the opening round of the Section X playoffs, Massena 4-0 to advance to the State Tournament, Beekmantown 2-1 in overtime to reach the State Final Four for the first time in two decades, and CASH (Clarence/Amherst/Sweet Home) 2-0 in the state semifinal, and

WHEREAS, this championship marks Potsdam's first New York State Girls Hockey title in more than a decade, with previous championships won during the 2008-2009 and 2011-2012 seasons, and a regional Co-Championship earned in the 2013-2014 Season, and

WHEREAS, the success of the Lady Sandstoners reflects the outstanding leadership of Head Coach Joe Stark, along with Assistant Coach Lindsay LaSala and Assistant Coach Olivia Scott, whose guidance and dedication helped lead the team to this remarkable achievement,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Legislators recognizes the Potsdam Central School Girls Hockey Team for Capturing the New York State Girls Hockey Championship and their Outstanding Achievements in the 2025-2026 Championship Season!

Ms. Curran moved to adopt Resolution No. 186-2026, seconded by Mr. Perkins, Ms. Haggard, and Mr. Webster, and carried by a voice vote with fourteen (14) yes votes and one (1) absent (Gennett).

RESOLUTION NO. 187-2026

**PROCLAIMING JUNE AS DAIRY MONTH AND THE ANNUAL
ST. LAWRENCE COUNTY DAIRY FESTIVAL DAYS' THEME
IS "DEJA MOO - DAIRY THROUGH THE YEARS"**

By Mr. Levato, District 9

WHEREAS, since 1937, National Dairy Month has been celebrated in June to recognize the important role of the dairy industry, with this year marking the eighty-ninth (89th) anniversary of National Dairy Month, and

WHEREAS, milk and dairy foods provide health benefits and valuable nutrients, and

WHEREAS, the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) and Department of Health and Human Services released the Dietary Guidelines for Americans, which reinforce the importance of consuming three (3) daily servings of dairy foods like milk, yogurt, and cheese, and

WHEREAS, dairy farming is a family tradition, one that has been a way of life for many generations, and St. Lawrence County is fortunate to have at least eighteen (18) family-owned farms that have been in operation for more than 100 years, and

WHEREAS, St. Lawrence County dairy farmers, milk processors, and support industries make significant contributions to the economy of the region, and

WHEREAS, the annual St. Lawrence County Dairy Festival Days, including the annual parade, will be held in Canton this year on June 5th and June 6th, with this year's theme being "Deja Moo - Dairy Through the Years,"

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Legislators proclaims June as Dairy Month and the annual St. Lawrence County Dairy Festival Days' theme is "Deja Moo - Dairy Through the Years."

Mr. Levato moved to adopt Resolution No. 187-2026, seconded by Ms. Curran, Mr. Reagen, and Mr. Smithers.

The Dairy Ambassadors were recognized to introduce themselves to the Board.

2026 Ambassadors Present:

- Danica Dishaw Dairy Princess
- Melanie Gilbert Promoter

2026 Ambassadors not Present:

- Norah MacDonald Ambassador
- Kenzie Phillips Ambassador
- Ava Fitzgerald Promoter
- Kathryn Fitzgerald Promoter
- Lydia Gould Promoter
- Grace MacDonald Promoter
- Bailey Phillips Promoter
- Rose Smith Promoter

A brief recess was taken at 6:19 p.m. to honor the Potsdam Girls Hockey Team and Dairy Ambassadors.

The meeting resumed at 6:27 p.m., and Mr. Gennett joined the meeting at 6:27 p.m.

The motion carried unanimously by a voice vote with fifteen (15) yes votes.

IX. COMMUNICATIONS:

The following communications were read by the Deputy Clerk:

- A letter was received from Senator Mark Walczyk thanking the Board for sending Resolution No. 114-2026.
- A letter was received from Assemblyman Ken Blankenbush thanking the Board for sending copies of resolutions No. 149-2026, 171-2026, 172-2026, and 182-2026.

- A letter was received from Randall Young, Region 6 Director of the Department of Environmental Conservation, thanking the Board for sending a copy of Resolution No. 172-2026.
- Cindy Ferry of Gouverneur submitted comments regarding not being able to drive a County car to deliver meals voluntarily.
- John Casserly of Canton submitted comments thanking the Board for supporting a resolution affirming local authority over data center citing and suggesting that the resolution be sent to federal representatives.
- Jane Dodds of Fowler submitted comments stating she does not support the implementation of data centers in the County and urging the Board to vote for a one-year moratorium on data center construction in St. Lawrence County.

CITIZEN PARTICIPATION:

Jeff Mitchell, Canton

Mr. Gennett left the meeting at 6:30 p.m.

Susan Mitchell, Canton

Lisa Ames, Canton

Jackie Bartholomew, Norwood

Jacob Thompson, Akwesasne

Jane Lammers, Canton

Ginger Storie-Welch, Pierrepont

Kathleen Stein, Canton

Kevin Beary, Colton

Katrina Hebb, Canton

Raamitha Pillay, Colton

Ella Weldy, Canton

Wendy Bravo, Canton

Andrew, Waddington

Bob Washo, Canton

Scott Briggs, St. Lawrence County

Mr. Gennett returned to the meeting at 7:33 p.m.

PRESENTATION OF RESOLUTIONS:

Services Committee: 5-11-2026

RESOLUTION NO. 188-2026

**RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING JUNE AS ALZHEIMER'S
AND BRAIN AWARENESS MONTH**

By Mr. Webster, Chair, Services Committee

WHEREAS, Alzheimer's disease is a progressive and irreversible brain disorder that affects memory, thinking, and behavior, and is the most common cause of dementia, and

WHEREAS, millions of individuals in the United States are living with Alzheimer's disease, and countless families and caregivers are impacted emotionally, physically, and financially by the challenges associated with the disease, and

WHEREAS, Alzheimer's disease is not a normal part of aging, yet advancing age remains the greatest known risk factor, making public awareness and education critically important, and

WHEREAS, increased public awareness can promote early detection, encourage brain-healthy lifestyles, reduce stigma, and support efforts to advance research, treatment, and care, and

WHEREAS, June is nationally recognized as Alzheimer's and Brain Awareness Month, providing an opportunity to educate the public, honor those affected, and reaffirm a commitment to improving brain health and supporting research and services,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Legislators recognizes June as Alzheimer's and Brain Awareness Month.

Mr. Webster moved to adopt Resolution No. 188-2026, seconded by Mr. Burke, Ms. Haggard, Mr. Smithers, and Mr. Reagan, and carried unanimously by a voice vote with fifteen (15) yes votes.

RESOLUTION NO. 189-2026

**MODIFYING THE 2026 BUDGET FOR THE PURCHASE OF
AUDIOVISUAL EQUIPMENT AND NETWORK CORE
SWITCH FOR INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY**

By Ms. Curran, Chair, Operations Committee

WHEREAS, the audiovisual equipment donated by the Seaway Valley Prevention Council in 2025 was successful in broadcasting the Board meeting from the Gouverneur & St. Lawrence County Fair, and

WHEREAS, this audiovisual equipment was since permanently installed in the main conference room at the Human Services Center and there continues to be a need for quality sound and video in mobile meetings such as the annual board meeting at the Fair, and

WHEREAS, the current "core switch," which is responsible for central support and management of all county network connections, is outdated and seriously underpowered given the growth of the network and increased dependence on the internet, and

WHEREAS, the cost for the new technology is \$8,000 for the audiovisual equipment and \$42,000 for the network core switch,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Legislators authorizes the Treasurer to modify the 2026 Budget for the Information Technology Department for the purchase of audiovisual equipment and network core switch, as follows:

DECREASE APPROPRIATIONS:

B1019904 49700	B SPEC Contingency Account	\$50,000
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INCREASE APPROPRIATIONS:

CD016802 22001	C Computer Hardware	\$50,000
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Ms. Curran moved to adopt Resolution No. 189-2026, seconded by Ms. Haggard and Mr. Smithers.

Mr. Webster left the meeting at 7:36 p.m.

Rick Johnson, Director of Information Technology, was recognized to provide additional context to the resolution.

Ms. Curran moved to amend the resolution to remove the \$8,000 for the audiovisual equipment from the resolution, seconded by Mr. Gennett.

Mr. Webster returned to the meeting at 7:39 p.m.

Ruth Doyle, County Administrator, was recognized to provide additional context to the resolution.

Ms. Curran called the question, seconded by Mr. Webster, and carried unanimously by a voice vote with fifteen (15) yes votes.

The motion to remove the \$8,000 for the audiovisual equipment from the resolution failed by a voice vote with four (4) yes votes (Lightfoot, Perkins, Curran, and Gennett) and eleven (11) no votes (Reagen, Forsythe, Sheridan, Smithers, Denesha, Robinson, Levato, Haggard, Webster, Burke, and Terminelli).

The motion to adopt the resolution carried by a roll call vote with eleven (11) yes votes and four (4) no votes (Curran, Lightfoot, Sheridan, and Perkins).

Operations Committee: 5-11-2026

RESOLUTION NO. 190-2026

**ADDING FOUR PARCELS TO AGRICULTURAL
DISTRICT 1 TOTALING 132 ACRES**

By Ms. Curran, Chair, Operations Committee

WHEREAS, Agricultural Districts are established in the County to help protect and enhance its agricultural resources, and

WHEREAS, in 2024, the County consolidated the Agricultural Districts into one (1) district called Agricultural District 1, and

WHEREAS, Resolution No. 260-2013 established March 1st to March 30th as the annual 30-day review period to receive requests to add land to this district, and

WHEREAS, in 2026, the County received requests to add four (4) parcels, totaling 132.3 acres, to Agricultural District 1, and

WHEREAS, based on criteria specified in Agriculture and Markets Law, the County Agricultural and Farmland Protection Board reviewed each request at its meeting on April 2, 2026 and recommends adding all requested parcels to Agricultural District 1, and

WHEREAS, no public comments were received at or before the County's April 15, 2026 public hearing about the recommended additions,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Legislators authorizes adding four parcels to Agricultural District 1 totaling 132 acres, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of Legislators authorizes the Planning Office to submit the appropriate documentation to the Commissioner of Agriculture and Markets as required by law.

Ms. Curran moved to adopt Resolution No. 190-2026, seconded by Mr. Smithers and Mr. Denesha, and carried unanimously by a voice vote with fifteen (15) yes votes.

Operations Committee: 5-11-2026

RESOLUTION NO. 191-2026

**RESOLUTION URGING GOVERNOR HOCHUL AND THE STATE LEGISLATURE
TO EXEMPT EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES FROM THE REAL PROPERTY
TAX CAP, PROVIDE DEDICATED STATE FUNDING TO SUPPORT COUNTY EMS
PLANS, AND ENACT ADDITIONAL REFORMS TO STRENGTHEN EMERGENCY
MEDICAL SERVICES**

By Ms. Curran, Chair, Operations Committee

WHEREAS, the lack of timely and reliable access to Emergency Medical Services (EMS) poses an emerging and imminent threat to public health by delaying or preventing hospital care, resulting in preventable loss of life, increased morbidity, and poorer outcomes for New Yorkers experiencing time sensitive emergencies where minutes matter, such as cardiac arrest, stroke, trauma, overdose, and sepsis, and

WHEREAS, EMS is a critical component of public health, supporting emergency preparedness and response through early situational awareness, serving as trusted frontline partners in health promotion and prevention, and strengthening coordination across the emergency care continuum, and

WHEREAS, the erosion of EMS capacity eliminates key opportunities to improve access to care and deliver coordinated, innovative frontline interventions, and

WHEREAS, the EMS crisis disproportionately impacts rural and underserved communities, where transportation gaps, aging populations, high non-emergent call volume, workforce shortages, and reliance on volunteer or mixed workforce models strain limited resources, increase mutual aid and municipal financial burdens, delay emergency and hospital care, and divert resources from other public health and safety priorities, further weakening the healthcare, emergency response, and public health and public safety infrastructures and worsening downstream health outcomes, and

WHEREAS, rising operational costs, inadequate insurance reimbursement rates, and acute staffing shortages are pushing local EMS systems to the brink of collapse, forcing counties and municipalities to make increasingly difficult fiscal decisions between sustaining life-saving services and remaining within the constraints of the real property tax cap, and

WHEREAS, the real property tax cap, as currently structured, prevents counties and municipalities from raising the revenue necessary to adequately fund EMS operations, effectively imposing an artificial ceiling on communities' ability to respond to a genuine public health emergency, and

WHEREAS, Governor Hochul vetoed legislation in 2025 that would have exempted EMS from the real property tax cap, leaving counties and municipalities without the fiscal tools needed to stabilize their EMS systems, and

WHEREAS, the State has enacted a new requirement directing counties to convene a comprehensive EMS planning process with cities, towns, and villages within their jurisdictions—a mandate that counties will undertake in good faith as committed partners in improving EMS delivery, but one that imposes significant new administrative and financial responsibilities on county governments that are already stretched thin by growing federal and state mandates in social services, public safety, and other areas where the State relies on counties as its primary implementation partners, and

WHEREAS, the success of any county-level EMS planning framework depends on the State making parallel commitments to provide meaningful fiscal relief, dedicated funding, and the legislative reforms necessary for counties and municipalities to act on the plans they develop, and

WHEREAS, EMS vehicles transporting patients across the New York State Thruway are currently required to pay tolls, creating an inequitable and operationally burdensome distinction between EMS and fire vehicles, which are already exempt through emergency services permits issued by the Thruway Authority, and

WHEREAS, Governor Hochul vetoed legislation in 2025 that would have required the Thruway Authority to issue emergency services permits to EMS vehicles, exempting them from tolls while transporting patients—a commonsense reform that would reduce costs and remove an unnecessary obstacle to timely emergency care,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Legislators urges Governor Kathy Hochul and the New York State Legislature to enact legislation exempting Emergency Medical Services from the real property tax cap, providing counties and municipalities with the fiscal flexibility needed to fund reliable, sustainable EMS systems, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of Legislators urges the Governor and the Legislature to provide dedicated state funding to support counties in developing, implementing, and sustaining the comprehensive county EMS plans required under state law, recognizing that a planning mandate without commensurate state resources and fiscal relief constitutes yet another unfunded burden on county governments that already bear the cost of delivering a wide range of state-mandated programs and services, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of Legislators urges the Governor and the Legislature to enact legislation requiring the Thruway Authority to issue emergency services permits to EMS vehicles, exempting them from tolls while transporting patients on the New York State Thruway, consistent with the treatment already afforded to fire vehicles, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this resolution shall be forwarded to Governor Kathy Hochul, the New York State Legislature, the Office of Temporary and Disability Assistance, the Department of Health, and all others deemed necessary and proper.

Ms. Curran moved to adopt Resolution No. 191-2026, seconded by Mr. Lightfoot, Mr. Robinson, and Mr. Smithers, and carried unanimously by a voice vote with fifteen (15) yes votes.

Mr. Reagen left the meeting at 7:53 p.m.

Operations Committee: 5-11-2026

RESOLUTION NO. 192-2026

**RESOLUTION URGING THE GOVERNOR AND STATE LEGISLATURE TO
ADDRESS RISING MANDATED COSTS BY ENSURING COUNTY PARITY
WITH INCREASED MUNICIPAL AID**

By Ms. Curran, Chair, Operations Committee

WHEREAS, the 57 counties in New York serve as the primary administrators of state and federally mandated programs—including Medicaid, child welfare, public safety, public health, election administration, and indigent legal defense—delivering services that reach every resident of the State, and

WHEREAS, counties fund these essential services in partnership with the state and federal government, yet exercise little control over the policies that drive their costs, leaving county property taxpayers as the payers of last resort when state or federal aid is reduced or fails to keep pace with program demands, and

WHEREAS, the Aid and Incentives for Municipalities (AIM) program provides unrestricted general purpose aid to New York State’s cities (excluding New York City), towns, and villages—currently funded at \$715.2 million annually—and has not included county governments as eligible recipients since 1990, and

WHEREAS, the Governor’s SFY 2026-27 Executive Budget proposed to maintain AIM at \$715.2 million and continue \$50 million in Temporary Municipal Assistance—both programs available exclusively to cities, towns, and villages—with no new unrestricted aid for counties, and

WHEREAS, the Governor’s 30-day amendments to the SFY 2026-27 Executive Budget proposed an increase of \$100 million in Temporary Municipal Assistance for cities, towns, and villages, and additional unrestricted aid to New York City—representing a significant new investment in other local government partners—while providing no equivalent relief for counties, and

WHEREAS, the Senate one-house budget proposes \$302 million per year in additional AIM funding for New York City over two fiscal years—a total of \$604 million in new municipal assistance—without a corresponding increase in direct aid to counties, and

WHEREAS, the Senate one-house budget further proposes \$250,000 to establish an AIM Redesign Task Force charged with making recommendations on the expansion of AIM to New York City, with no comparable directive to examine or expand aid to county governments, and

WHEREAS, the Assembly one-house budget proposes \$1.5 billion in additional Temporary Municipal Assistance over three years—including \$1 billion for New York City and \$500 million for cities, towns, and villages—again with no parallel investment in county fiscal relief, and

WHEREAS, increasing state investment in AIM and Temporary Municipal Assistance while counties receive no analogous unrestricted aid creates a growing disparity in the State’s partnership with its local government units, and

WHEREAS, counties are simultaneously absorbing significant and growing cost pressures that are largely outside their control, including: rising assigned counsel costs under County Law Article 18-B; escalating preschool special education expenditures; costs associated with CPL § 730 competency restoration confinements, which have increased by more than 6,000 percent in some counties between 2019 and 2024, and anticipated cost shifts resulting from federal policy changes to Medicaid and the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), which will increase county administrative costs beginning in October 2026, and

WHEREAS, the number of local governments in fiscal stress, as identified by the Office of the State Comptroller (OSC)’s Fiscal Stress Monitoring System, is rising, and a dozen counties exceeded the property tax cap in their 2026 budgets—the most in a decade, and

WHEREAS, counties are constrained by the state-imposed property tax cap, limiting their ability to independently raise revenues to offset growing costs, and

WHEREAS, NYSAC has called upon the Governor and Legislature to provide \$100 million in targeted county fiscal relief in the enacted SFY 2026-27 budget, which could be structured through the County Infrastructure Grant Program, relief from assigned counsel costs, relief from preschool special education costs, or support for competency restoration expenses—representing a fraction of the new investment proposed for municipalities and New York City in the current budget cycle, and

WHEREAS, such relief can be structured in a manner that addresses the most pressing cost drivers facing counties, including but not limited to assigned counsel under Article 18-B, preschool special education, Safety Net, and CPL § 730 competency restoration, or through direct unrestricted aid, and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Legislators urges the Governor and the Legislature to provide parity with the proposed increases for other municipalities through direct fiscal relief for county governments in the enacted SFY 2026-27 State Budget, commensurate with the significant new investments in municipalities proposed through the 30-day amendments and one-house budget resolutions, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this resolution be sent to Governor Kathy Hochul, Senator Dan Stec, Senator Mark Walczyk, Assemblyman Ken Blankenbush, Assemblyman Scott Gray, and Assemblyman Robert Smullen.

Ms. Curran moved to adopt Resolution No. 192-2026, seconded by Mr. Denesha, and carried by a voice vote with fourteen (14) yes votes and one (1) absent (Reagen).

RESOLUTION NO. 193-2026

RESOLUTION AFFIRMING LOCAL AUTHORITY OVER DATA CENTER SITING

By Ms. Curran, Chair, Operations Committee
Cosponsored by Ms. Haggard, District 10 and Mr. Gennett, District 13

WHEREAS, the rapid expansion of artificial intelligence infrastructure has accelerated the construction of large-scale data centers across the United States, with New York State increasingly identified as a target market for such development, and

WHEREAS, according to the New York Independent System Operator (NYISO), large load projects, many of which are associated with data centers and other energy-intensive industries, grew from approximately 6,800 megawatts in the interconnection queue in September 2025 to approximately 12,000 megawatts by January 2026, representing a near-doubling in just four months, and

WHEREAS, modern hyperscale data centers are among the most energy-intensive land uses in existence, capable of consuming electricity comparable to mid-sized cities, and data centers already account for an estimated 4.4 percent of annual U.S. electricity consumption—a figure projected to rise substantially by 2030, and

WHEREAS, the addition of large data center loads to the electrical grid has been found to increase electricity costs for all ratepayers, including residential customers, small businesses, and local governments, and

WHEREAS, data centers are also significant consumers of water, with large facilities in some cases using millions of gallons per day for cooling, and

WHEREAS, many New York counties include agricultural lands, rural communities, and watersheds where the land use, water, and energy impacts of large-scale data center development would be particularly consequential, and

WHEREAS, data centers have also generated significant community opposition in localities across the political spectrum, with residents raising concerns about noise from cooling systems, visual impacts, impacts to agricultural and rural landscapes, rising utility costs, impacts on local taxes, and the pace and opacity of approval processes, and

WHEREAS, the U.S. Department of Energy has directed the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission to finalize a rule, with a deadline of April 30, 2026, that would assert federal jurisdiction over the interconnection of large electrical loads greater than 20 megawatts, an area traditionally regulated by states and localities, and

WHEREAS, the Trump Administration has taken an increasingly aggressive posture toward state and local regulatory authority, including through an Executive Order directing the establishment of a federal AI Litigation Task Force to challenge state AI laws deemed inconsistent with federal policy and directing agencies to consider conditioning certain discretionary funding on states' regulatory approaches to artificial intelligence, and

WHEREAS, county governments are best positioned to evaluate how data center development interacts with local land use plans, community priorities, infrastructure capacity, long-term economic goals, and must retain meaningful authority to approve, condition, or decline such proposals, and

WHEREAS, local governments must retain meaningful authority over land use decisions affecting data center siting, and counties must have a meaningful role in any state review process affecting county infrastructure, water systems, tax base, and public services,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Legislators calls on the Governor and the State Legislature to ensure that any state permitting, environmental review, or approval process for new data center development includes a meaningful and timely role for county governments, and that counties are not preempted from exercising their land use, taxation, and zoning authority with respect to such facilities, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of Legislators calls on New York's Congressional delegation to oppose federal rulemaking or legislation that would preempt state and local authority over the interconnection, siting, or permitting of large electrical load projects, including data centers, and to ensure that any federal framework preserves meaningful state and local oversight of energy infrastructure decisions affecting New York ratepayers and communities, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of Legislators supports legislation to require the Office of the State Comptroller to assess and report the cost impacts of data center electrical load on all ratepayers in New York State, and to establish standards ensuring that the costs of grid infrastructure upgrades attributable to data centers are borne by data center operators rather than shifted to residential and commercial ratepayers, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of Legislators urges all municipalities in St. Lawrence County to consider a moratorium on data centers, with County support to local Planning Boards, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this resolution be sent to Governor Kathy Hochul, Congresswoman Elise Stefanik, Senator Dan Stec, Senator Mark Walczyk, Assemblyman Ken Blankenbush, Assemblyman Scott Gray, Assemblyman Robert Smullen, the Mohawk Council of Akwesasne, the Saint Regis Mohawk Tribal Council, and towns, villages, and the City in St. Lawrence County.

Ms. Curran moved to adopt Resolution No. 193-2026, seconded by Mr. Lightfoot, Ms. Haggard, Mr. Webster, and Mr. Robinson.

Mr. Reagen returned to the meeting at 7:54 p.m.

Ms. Haggard and Mr. Gennett asked to be added as cosponsors to the resolution.

Ms. Curran moved to amend the resolution to include additional language in the last BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED to send certified copies to the Mohawk Council of Akwesasne, the Saint Regis Mohawk Tribal Council, and Congresswoman Elisa Stefanik, seconded by Ms. Haggard.

Jason Pfothenauer, Director of Planning, was recognized to add context to the resolution.

Mr. Levato moved to amend the amendment to urge all municipalities in St. Lawrence County to consider a moratorium on data centers, seconded by Ms. Haggard, Mr. Burke, and Mr. Robinson.

Ms. Terminelli made a suggestion to send copies of this resolution to all towns and villages in St. Lawrence County and extend help from the County to municipalities.

Mr. Levato inquired about adding Ms. Terminelli's suggestion to his proposed amendment.

Mr. Button, acting as Parliamentarian, provided guidance regarding the options to vote on these motions.

Mr. Levato included Ms. Terminelli's suggestion as part of his amendment.

Ms. Curran and Ms. Haggard were willing to amend their amendment to include Mr. Levato's amendment, therefore combining all motions into one amendment.

The amendment carried by a voice vote with fourteen (14) yes votes and one (1) no vote (Reagen).

Ms. Curran called the question, seconded by Ms. Haggard, and carried unanimously by a voice vote with fifteen (15) yes votes.

The motion to adopt the amended resolution carried by a roll call vote with twelve (12) yes votes and three (3) no votes (Reagen, Lightfoot, and Sheridan).

Operations Committee: 5-11-2026

RESOLUTION NO. 194-2026

**RESOLUTION URGING THE GOVERNOR AND STATE LEGISLATURE TO
EXPEDITE THE RELEASE OF COVERED LIVES IMPLEMENTATION
GUIDANCE AND FUNDS TO COUNTIES**

By Ms. Curran, Chair, Operations Committee

WHEREAS, Chapter 820 of the Laws of 2021 established an Early Intervention Program (EIP) Covered Lives pool funded by an assessment on insurance plans in the amount of \$40 million annually, and

WHEREAS, the purpose of this law was to relieve the EIP's heavy fiscal burden on the state and counties from high rates of commercial insurance denials for EI service claims, to improve the EIP for children and families, and to assist providers by relieving some of their administrative duties during service delivery, and

WHEREAS, prior to Covered Lives going into effect, Early Intervention (EI) service claims were paid through three (3) revenue streams—commercial insurance, Medicaid, or out of escrow, depending on the child receiving the service's insurance coverage, and

WHEREAS, counties were responsible for paying 100 percent of the upfront costs of EIP services, not covered by Medicaid or commercial insurance, out of county escrow, with State reimbursement for 49 percent of escrow costs provided later, and

WHEREAS, since Covered Lives went into effect, providers are no longer billing commercial insurance for services provided, and

WHEREAS, the SFY 2027 Executive Budget amends the New York State Health Care Reform Act (HCRA) to make covered lives funding available annually from January 1, 2023, through December 31, 2029, and

WHEREAS, counties are now responsible for paying upfront costs for all EIP services not covered by Medicaid out of county escrow, including for services provided to children with commercial insurance and for children who are dually insured by Medicaid and private insurance, and

WHEREAS, the EIP pool funding is intended to offset both the municipal and state share of EIP services not covered by Medicaid, and

WHEREAS, since the inception of Covered Lives payments, counties have not received the full amount expected, with only \$15.4 million of the expected \$20.4 million released to counties annually since Fiscal Year 2023, and

WHEREAS, counties have received limited guidance on the methodology by which Covered Lives funds are distributed, and

WHEREAS, the delay in distributing Covered Lives funds to counties has caused increases to their upfront escrow costs, and

WHEREAS, since the implementation of Covered Lives, the amount of Medicaid reimbursement has significantly decreased, and

WHEREAS, based on the average percent of total EI costs that counties paid from 2014 to 2021, without any Covered Lives funding to offset the loss of commercial insurance reimbursement, counties will be paying an estimated two percent (2%) more in total EI costs in 2027, and

WHEREAS, the New York State Health Care Reform Act (HCRA) designating the Early Intervention Covered Lives Fund requires renewal,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Legislators urges New York State continue its commitment to this critical program being a shared cost between the state and local governments, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of Legislators calls upon the Governor and the New York State Legislature to specify that the disbursement methodology of the Covered Lives funding be consistent with the current reimbursement methodology for Early Intervention services, with counties receiving 49 percent of the total Covered Lives amount and New York State receiving 51 percent, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of Legislators calls upon the Governor and the Legislature to take measures to expedite the release of the delayed Covered Lives funds owed to counties and municipalities, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED the New York State Department of Health (NYSDOH) Bureau of Early Intervention consider amending county escrow agreements to change the payment process so the state provides counties with their Covered Lives share at the beginning of the state fiscal year, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED the NYSDOH Bureau of Early Intervention provide information on how insurance, service claim, and cost data will be maintained at the child level to ensure funds are being applied fairly across municipalities/counties, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this resolution be sent to Governor Kathy Hochul, Senator Dan Stec, Senator Mark Walczyk, Assemblyman Ken Blankenbush, Assemblyman Scott Gray, and Assemblyman Robert Smullen.

Ms. Curran moved to adopt Resolution No. 194-2026, seconded by Mr. Burke, and carried unanimously by a voice vote with fifteen (15) yes votes.

Operations Committee: 5-11-2026

RESOLUTION NO. 195-2026

**SUPPORTING STATE FISCAL YEAR 2026-27 HOUSING-LINKED WATER
INFRASTRUCTURE FUNDING AND ENSURING COUNTY ACCESS**

By Ms. Curran, Chair, Operations Committee

WHEREAS, New York faces an acute housing affordability crisis, and adequate water and sewer infrastructure capacity is essential to unlock housing development and redevelopment across the state, and

WHEREAS, counties own and operate regional water and wastewater systems, provide regulatory oversight of drinking water supplies through local health departments, coordinate intermunicipal infrastructure planning, and finance major infrastructure investments, making them indispensable partners in addressing the state's infrastructure challenges, and

WHEREAS, state investment in water infrastructure enables local governments to modernize aging systems, meet evolving federal and state water quality standards, address emerging contaminants, replace lead service lines, and ensure safe, reliable water service for current and future generations, and

WHEREAS, the State Fiscal Year (SFY) 2027 Executive Budget proposes a five-year, \$3.75 billion commitment to clean water infrastructure, including:

- \$500 million for projects authorized by the Clean Water Infrastructure Act of 2017 (CWIA), including the Water Infrastructure Improvement Act (WIIA) and the Intermunicipal Water Infrastructure Grant Program, and
- \$200 million for water infrastructure projects that promote housing preservation and development statewide, and
- \$50 million specifically targeted to water infrastructure projects that promote housing preservation in rural communities, and

WHEREAS, these investments will support municipal wastewater treatment, stormwater management, green infrastructure, nonpoint source abatement, lead service line replacement, septic system upgrades, emerging contaminant remediation, and other critical water quality programs, and

WHEREAS, the \$250 million investment linking water infrastructure to housing preservation and development recognizes that adequate infrastructure capacity is essential to addressing the state's housing challenges, and

WHEREAS, counties are uniquely positioned to leverage these funds for regional projects that serve multiple municipalities and maximize housing development opportunities, yet program eligibility and design details will determine whether counties can effectively access this funding, and

WHEREAS, water infrastructure investments directly support statewide housing goals by removing infrastructure barriers to residential construction, enabling infill development, facilitating brownfield redevelopment, and supporting both urban revitalization and rural community growth, and

WHEREAS, the two percent (2%) property tax cap severely constrains the ability of local governments to self-finance infrastructure improvements, making state investment critical to enabling housing development without unsustainable increases in local taxes and user fees, and

WHEREAS, climate change is intensifying storms and flooding events, requiring resilient water infrastructure that can support both current populations and future housing growth, and

WHEREAS, many rural and fiscally constrained counties face unique challenges in meeting match requirements and navigating competitive grant processes, yet these communities have critical housing and infrastructure needs that must be addressed,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Legislators strongly supports the SFY 2027 Executive Budget's \$750 million annual investment in clean water infrastructure, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of Legislators calls on the Governor and New York State Legislature to explicitly provide that counties are eligible applicants for all water infrastructure funding programs, including the \$250 million for housing-related water infrastructure funding, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of Legislators strongly supports making the housing-related water infrastructure investment a permanent annual appropriation and urges continued multi-year state commitment to water infrastructure investment at levels sufficient to support the state's housing goals, protect public health, enable economic growth, and meet environmental obligations, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this resolution be sent to Governor Kathy Hochul, Senator Dan Stec, Senator Mark Walczyk, Assemblyman Ken Blankenbush, Assemblyman Scott Gray, and Assemblyman Robert Smullen.

Ms. Curran moved to adopt Resolution No. 195-2026, seconded by Mr. Gennett and Mr. Burke, and carried unanimously by a voice vote with fifteen (15) yes votes.

Operations Committee: 5-11-2026

RESOLUTION NO. 196-2026

**RESOLUTION CALLING ON THE STATE TO INCREASE THE SALARY CAP FOR
RETIRED PUBLIC EMPLOYEES SEEKING PUBLIC EMPLOYMENT**

By Ms. Curran, Chair, Operations Committee

WHEREAS, under current state law, a retired public employee may only earn up to \$35,000 annually when retained/rehired to a state or local government position without this salary impacting their retirement benefits, and

WHEREAS, any retired public employee salary amount over \$35,000 will result in a decrease in pension payments for the employee, and

WHEREAS, this \$35,000 earnings cap for retired public employees seeking to return to government service has become a significant barrier to addressing staffing shortages, and

WHEREAS, local governments across New York State are grappling with significant workforce challenges across all areas of public service, and

WHEREAS, the ability to recruit and retain qualified employees for positions ranging from public health nurses to assessors and municipal finance officers has become increasingly difficult, particularly in rural areas where specialized expertise is at a premium, and

WHEREAS, this salary cap limitation has been adjusted only once since 2007 and has not kept pace with inflation percentage growth, and

WHEREAS, S.6956-B (Ryan)/A.8720-A (Stirpe) would increase the earnings limitation from \$35,000 to \$50,000, providing local governments with the flexibility to address urgent staffing needs while ensuring that seasoned professionals can afford to return to public service roles without devastating impacts to their retirement benefits, and

WHEREAS, the importance of this reform was demonstrated during the COVID-19 pandemic, when an Executive Order temporarily removed the earnings cap to support staffing continuity and this temporary measure proved vital to maintaining essential services, and

WHEREAS, other public positions have increased this cap for the same reason, such as the State Legislature suspending the cap for retirees working in schools and BOCES through 2027—recognizing the urgent need to expand the public workforce,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Legislators supports S.6956-B (Ryan)/A.8720-A (Stirpe) as it represents more than just a salary adjustment—it is an essential step toward addressing local government staffing challenges that will enable counties, cities, towns, and villages to recruit experienced professionals for hard-to-fill positions in specialized fields like public health, finance, corrections, and social services, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of Legislators hereby calls on the Governor and the State Legislature to enact legislation supporting an increase in this earnings rate as part of their SFY 2027 state budget negotiations, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this resolution be sent to Governor Kathy Hochul, Senator Dan Stec, Senator Mark Walczyk, Assemblyman Ken Blankenbush, Assemblyman Scott Gray, and Assemblyman Robert Smullen.

Ms. Curran moved to adopt Resolution No. 196-2026, seconded by Mr. Robinson, and carried by a voice vote with fourteen (14) yes votes and one (1) no vote (Forsythe).

Services Committee: 5-11-2026

RESOLUTION NO. 197-2026

**MODIFYING THE 2026 BUDGET FOR COMMUNITY SERVICES FOR THE
COMPREHENSIVE OPIOID, STIMULANT, AND SUBSTANCE ABUSE
PROGRAM II (COSSAP II) FUNDING FROM THE OFFICE OF JUSTICE
PROGRAMS FOR THE OPIOID TREATMENT PROGRAM**

By Mr. Webster, Chair, Services Committee

WHEREAS, Resolution No. 378-2022, adopted November 7, 2022, authorized acceptance of the Comprehensive Opioid, Stimulant, and Substance Abuse Program II (COSSAP II) funding and modified the 2022 Budget for Community Services, and

WHEREAS, the approved COSSAP II Award (15PBJA-22-GG-0447-COAP) was scheduled to end on September 30, 2025, and

WHEREAS, an extension was approved by the Office of Justice Programs to extend the grant period to September 30, 2026, and

WHEREAS, this budget modification will align the account balances with current grant balances,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Legislators authorizes the Treasurer to modify the 2026 Budget for Community Services for the Comprehensive Opioid, Stimulant, and Substance Abuse Program II (COSSAP II) funding from the Office of Justice Programs as follows:

DECREASE APPROPRIATIONS:

A1542201 13000 FY22	A Opioid Rec Technical	\$7,732
A1542208 81000 FY22	Retirement	935
A1542208 83000 FY22	Social Security	584
A1542208 84000 FY22	Workers' Compensation	184
A1542208 84500 FY22	Group Life Insurance	11
A1542208 86000 FY22	Hospital & Medical Insurance	1,011
A1542208 86500 FY22	Dental Insurance	84
A1542208 89000 FY22	Vision Insurance	<u>32</u>
		\$10,573

INCREASE APPROPRIATIONS:

A1542204 46500 FY22	A Opioid Rec Program PMTS	\$10,573
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Mr. Webster moved to adopt Resolution No. 197-2026, seconded by Ms. Curran, and carried unanimously by a roll call vote with fifteen (15) yes votes.

Services Committee: 5-11-2026

RESOLUTION NO. 198-2026

**MODIFYING THE 2026 BUDGET FOR COMMUNITY SERVICES FOR THE
COMPREHENSIVE, OPIOID, STIMULANT, AND SUBSTANCE ABUSE
PROGRAM II (COSSAP II) FUNDING FROM THE OFFICE OF JUSTICE
PROGRAMS FOR THE OPIOID TREATMENT PROGRAM**

By Mr. Webster, Chair, Services Committee

WHEREAS, Community Services opened an Opioid Treatment Program (OTP) on July 18, 2022, and

WHEREAS, Resolution No. 378-2022, adopted November 7, 2022, authorized acceptance of the Comprehensive Opioid, Stimulant, and Substance Abuse Program II (COSSAP II) funding and the modification of the 2022 Budget for Community Services, and

WHEREAS, this approved COSSAP II Award was slated to end on September 30, 2025, and

WHEREAS, an extension was approved by the Office of Justice Programs to extend the grant period to September 30, 2026, and

WHEREAS, this budget modification will align the account balances with current grant balances, and

WHEREAS, these grant-funded re-allocations will be used to purchase an additional TS30 safe meeting the specifications required by the Drug Enforcement Agency for the Opioid Treatment Program which costs \$10,573, an additional security camera, physical space renovations to accommodate the safe, and medications,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Legislators authorizes the Treasurer to modify the 2026 Budget for Community Services for the Comprehensive Opioid, Stimulant, and Substance Abuse Program II (COSSAP II) funding from the Office of Justice Programs for the Opioid Treatment Program, as follows:

DECREASE APPROPRIATIONS:

A1442301 11000 OT	A OTP Direct Serv Worker	20,125
A1442301 12000 OT	A OTP Supervisory/Admin	16,820
A1442308 81000 OT	A Retirement	4,842
A1442308 83000 OT	A Social Security	1,791
A1442308 84000 OT	A Workers' Compensation	939
A1442308 84500 OT	A Group Life Insurance	26
A1442308 86000 OT	A Hospital & Medical Insurance	4,829
A1442308 86500 OT	A Dental Insurance	193
A1442308 89000 OT	A Vision Insurance	57
A1442304 407HS OT	A OTP Human Services Bldg Rent	978
A1442304 408HS OT	A OTP Human Services Bldg Maint	<u>1,226</u>
		\$51,826

INCREASE APPROPRIATIONS:

A1442302 25000 OT	A OTP Technical Equipment	15,000
A1442304 42000 OT	A OTP Office Supplies & Exp	500
A1442304 43007 OT	A OTP Other Fees and Services	8,000
A1442304 45100 OT	A OTP Medical Supplies & Exp	<u>28,326</u>
		\$51,826

Mr. Webster moved to adopt Resolution No. 198-2026, seconded by Mr. Burke and Ms. Curran, and carried unanimously by a roll call vote with fifteen (15) yes votes.

Services Committee: 5-11-2026

RESOLUTION NO. 199-2026

**AUTHORIZATION TO ABOLISH A KEYBOARD SPECIALIST POSITION AND
CREATE AND FILL A PUBLIC HEALTH PROGRAM AIDE POSITION**

By Mr. Webster, Chair, Services Committee

WHEREAS, the current Keyboard Specialist position is an entry-level role with a limited scope of responsibilities that has been determined to be no longer sufficient to adequately support the operations of the Public Health Department, and

WHEREAS, the Department has identified the need for a position with a broader range of duties more directly applicable to the implementation of essential public health functions, including administrative and fiscal processes related to clinic services, as well as data entry and statistical report compilation across Immunization, Lead, Communicable Disease, Rabies, and other programs, and

WHEREAS, the creation of a Public Health Program Aide position will enhance the capacity in the Department to effectively carry out these responsibilities and improve overall efficacy, and

WHEREAS, the proposed restructuring will temporarily result in three (3) Public Health Program Aide positions within the Department, with the intention of not filling Public Health Program Aide position (500400003) upon the next vacancy, thereby achieving a net reduction of one (1) full-time equivalent (FTE) position in the Department over time,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Legislators authorizes the County Administrator to abolish a Keyboard Specialist Position (003100109) and create and fill a Public Health Program Aide Position (500400007).

Mr. Webster moved to adopt Resolution No. 199-2026, seconded by Ms. Curran and Mr. Levato.

Mr. Robinson left the meeting at 8:27 p.m.

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

Services Committee: 5-11-2026

RESOLUTION NO. 200-2026

AUTHORIZING THE CHAIR TO SIGN A CONTRACT WITH DUFLO SPRAY-CHEMICAL, INC. FOR AERIAL MOSQUITO ADULTICIDE APPLICATION

By Mr. Webster, Chair, Services Committee

WHEREAS, in 2024, St. Lawrence County experienced an unprecedented year in Eastern Equine Encephalitis virus activity, and this prompted collaboration with the federal and state partners to make specific efforts to address this challenge in subsequent years, and

WHEREAS, the Public Health Department recognizes the importance of safeguarding public health against mosquito-borne diseases, including but not limited to Eastern Equine Encephalitis (EEE) and West Nile Virus (WNV), and

WHEREAS, the Public Health Department has initiated a mosquito surveillance program to monitor mosquito populations and the presence of vector-borne pathogens within the County, and

WHEREAS, findings from the surveillance program may identify elevated human risk due to the confirmed presence of disease-carrying mosquitoes, and

WHEREAS, other surveillance indicators include animal and/or human infection rates that contribute to the assessment of public risk of infection, and

WHEREAS, aerial application of mosquito adulticide may be an effective and necessary public health intervention to reduce the adult mosquito population and mitigate the risk of disease transmission during times of elevated risk or outbreak, and

WHEREAS, such action may be appropriate only upon the declaration of an Imminent Threat to Public Health (ITPH) by the New York State Commissioner of Health as petitioned by the Public Health Department, in consultation with state health authorities, as applicable, and

WHEREAS, Duflo Spray-Chemical, Inc. has been awarded the competitive bid to provide the aerial application of mosquito adulticide as needed for the Public Health Department, and

WHEREAS, the contract shall be for a period of one (1) year starting in 2025, with four (4) optional one (1) year extensions, for individual terms not to exceed one (1) year, by mutual agreement between the contractor and St. Lawrence County,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Legislators authorizes the Chair to sign a contract, and any subsequent extensions, with Duflo Spray-Chemical, Inc. for aerial mosquito adulticide application, upon the approval of the County Attorney.

Mr. Webster moved to adopt Resolution No. 200-2026, seconded by Ms. Curran, and carried by a voice vote with thirteen (13) yes votes, one (1) no vote (Perkins), and one (1) absent (Robinson).

Finance Committee: 5-18-2026

RESOLUTION NO. 201-2026

ADOPTING MORTGAGE TAX REPORT

By Mr. Lightfoot, Chair, Finance Committee

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Mortgage Tax Report as submitted October 1 - March 31 by the County Clerk and the County Treasurer is hereby accepted and the County Treasurer is authorized and directed to issue the amounts as set forth in the report to the various tax districts in this County.

<u>Town/Village</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Brasher	\$14,056.92
Canton:	
Village of Canton	10,332.32
Village of Rensselaer	464.08
Town of Canton	37,106.87
Clare	373.69
Clifton	6675.88
Colton	18,181.97
Dekalb:	
Village of Richville	509.78
Town of Dekalb	14,465.26
DePeyster	3,078.86
Edwards	1,461.04
Fine	12,365.60
Fowler	10,477.52
Gouverneur:	
Village of Gouverneur	7,663.48
Town of Gouverneur	22,179.52
Hammond:	
Village of Hammond	523.00
Town of Hammond	23,856.34
Hermon	3,513.17
Hopkinton	7,105.54
Lawrence	4,382.78
Lisbon	34,024.24
Louisville:	
Village of West Massena	2,075.29
Town of Louisville	27,410.02

Macomb	6,133.12
Madrid	7,380.67
Massena:	
Village of Massena	20,640.08
Town of Massena	43,535.66
Town of Morristown	16,308.03
Norfolk:	
Village of Norwood	184.15
Village of Massena	24.95
Town of Norfolk	21,728.88
Ogdensburg	32,697.64
Oswegatchie:	
Village of Heuvelton	1,151.04
Town of Oswegatchie	21,829.23
Parishville	18,492.31
Piercefield	7,465.19
Pierrepont	20,415.92
Pitcairn	8,123.26
Potsdam:	
Village of Potsdam	13,235.62
Village of Norwood	3,072.67
Town of Potsdam	54,090.87
Rossie	6,239.75
Russell	7,950.54
Stockholm	22,334.32
Waddington:	
Village of Waddington	4,026.55
Town of Waddington	<u>15,368.09</u>
TOTAL:	\$614,711.71

Mr. Lightfoot moved to adopt Resolution No. 201-2026, seconded by Mr. Sheridan, and carried by a voice vote with fourteen (14) yes votes and one (1) absent (Robinson).

Finance Committee: 5-18-2026

RESOLUTION NO. 202-2026

**AUTHORIZING THE CHAIR TO SIGN A CONTRACT WITH BARTON &
LOGUIDICE, D.P.C. FOR SPILL PREVENTION CONTROL AND A
COUNTERMEASURE PLAN UPDATE FOR THE NEW YORK
STATE DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION**

By Mr. Lightfoot, Chair, Finance Committee

WHEREAS, the Department of Highways stores and uses petroleum products for daily operations, and

WHEREAS, Federal Oil Pollution Prevention Regulation, 40 CFR Part 112, requires facilities storing oil to develop and maintain a Spill Prevention Control and Countermeasure (SPCC) Plan to mitigate and control any potential environmental hazards associated with the storage or use of petroleum products, and

WHEREAS, the Highway Department last updated the SPCC Plan in 2021 and regulations require that it be updated every five (5) years, and

WHEREAS, Barton & Loguidice, D.P.C. has prepared a proposal to assist the County with an update of the existing SPCC Plan for a flat fee of \$5,900 (HR051304 43007),

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Legislators authorizes the Chair to sign a contract with Barton & Loguidice, D.P.C. for Spill Prevention Control and a Countermeasure Plan Update for the New York State Department of Conservation (NYS DEC), upon approval of the County Attorney.

Mr. Lightfoot moved to adopt Resolution No. 202-2026, seconded by Mr. Smithers and Ms. Curran, and carried by a voice vote with fourteen (14) yes votes and one (1) absent (Robinson).

Finance Committee: 5-18-2026

RESOLUTION NO. 203-2026

**AMENDING RESOLUTION NO. 166-2026 TO AUTHORIZE THE CHAIR TO SIGN
A CONSTRUCTION CONTRACT WITH SHEEHAN CONTRACTING CORP. FOR
SCOUR REPAIR OF COUNTY ROUTE 35 OVER GRANNIS BROOK (BIN 3341620),
COUNTY ROUTE 55 OVER ALLEN BROOK (BIN 1039790) AND BOYDEN BROOK
OVER BOYDEN BROOK (BIN 3340680)**

By Mr. Lightfoot, Chair, Finance Committee

WHEREAS, Resolution No. 166-2026 was adopted by the Board of Legislators on May 4, 2026, authorizing the Chair to award and sign a contract for scour repairs 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), and

WHEREAS, the original resolution incorrectly identified the contractor as J.E. Sheehan Contracting Corp., and

WHEREAS, Sheehan Contracting Corp. was the lowest responsible bidder, and

WHEREAS, it is necessary to amend the resolution to reflect the correct legal name of the successful vendor,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Legislators authorizes to amend Resolution No. 166-2026 to authorize the chair to sign a construction contract with Sheehan Contracting Corp. for scour repair of County Route 35 over Grannis Brook (BIN 3341620), County Route 55 over Allen Brook (BIN 1039790) and Broyden Brook over Boyden Brook (BIN 3340680), and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the contract amount remains not to exceed \$219,000, and all other terms and conditions of Resolution No. 166-2026 remain in full force and effect.

Mr. Lightfoot moved to adopt Resolution No. 203-2026, seconded by Mr. Webster, Mr. Smithers, and Ms. Curran.

Mr. Robinson returned to the meeting at 8:29 p.m.

Mr. Perkins stated that he would abstain due to his employment.

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

Finance Committee: 5-18-2026

RESOLUTION NO. 204-2026

**AUTHORIZING THE CHAIR TO SIGN A CHANGE ORDER ALLOWANCE
RELATED TO THE COURTHOUSE BUILDING IMPROVEMENT PROJECT
AND MODIFYING THE 2026 BUDGET FOR THE CAPITAL PROJECT**

By Mr. Lightfoot, Chair, Finance Committee
Co-Sponsored by Mr. Denesha, District 6

WHEREAS, Resolution No. 312-2025 awarded contracts to the successful bidders for the Courthouse Improvement Project for a total of \$3M, and

WHEREAS, the consultant, LaBella Associates, advised that contingency was not requested in the original bids and would like to request an additional five percent (5%), and

WHEREAS, this will allow change orders to continue as approved by the consulting firm with authorization from the County Administrator for each change order as they are requested from the contractors, and

WHEREAS, the General Construction contractor, Continental Construction's bid of \$771,292 will be allowed a change order allowance of \$38,565, the plumbing contractor Norwood Plumbing bid of \$167,326 will be allowed a change allowance of \$8,366, the Mechanical contractor Burns Brothers bid of \$915,910 will be allowed a change order allowance of \$45,796, the Electrical contractor Tel, Inc bid of \$388,990 will be allowed a change order allowance of \$19,450, and the Mechanical Equipment contractor TRANE bid of \$601,497 will be allowed a change order allowance of \$30,075,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Legislators authorizes the County Administrator to review and approve allowance related to the Courthouse Building Improvement Project, upon approval of the County Attorney, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of Legislators authorizes the Treasurer to modify the 2026 Budget for the Courthouse Improvement Project as follows:

DECREASE UNAPPROPRIATED FUND BALANCE:

01TG0911 50300	Fund Balance, Unreserved Unappropriated	\$142,000
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INCREASE APPROPRIATED FUND BALANCE:

01TG0910 50300	Fund Balance, Unreserved Appropriated	\$142,000
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INCREASE APPROPRIATIONS:

T6199509 90600 CB	T IFT GF Transfer to CP	\$142,000
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INCREASE REVENUE:

T6650319 90100 CB	T IFT CP Transfer from GF	\$142,000
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INCREASE APPROPRIATIONS:

BG619974 43007 CB	Court Building Projects	\$142,000
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BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that upon project completion the unused contingency will be returned to the General Fund.

Mr. Lightfoot moved to adopt Resolution No. 204-2026, seconded by Mr. Denesha, Ms. Curran, and Mr. Webster, and carried unanimously by a roll call vote with fifteen (15) yes votes.

RESOLUTION NO. 205-2026

**MODIFYING THE 2026 BUDGET FOR THE PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT FOR
THE EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS PROGRAM**

By Mr. Webster, District 11

WHEREAS, the Public Health Department Emergency Preparedness Program is responsible for ensuring the readiness of St. Lawrence County to respond to public health emergencies, disasters, and mass fatality incidents, and

WHEREAS, the Department recently submitted a budget modification to add additional funding to the equipment line for the purchase of a portable morgue unit, and

WHEREAS, the cost of the portable morgue unit was less than the allocated amount, and

WHEREAS, the 2026 Public Health Budget can be modified within the Emergency Preparedness Program to move the balance back out of the equipment line and into Other Supplies and Other Fees & Services lines in order to spend the remaining balance on approved line items,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Legislators authorizes the Treasurer to modify the 2026 Budget for the Public Health Department for the Emergency Preparedness Program, as follows:

DECREASE APPROPRIATIONS:

PP040102 26000 EP	P EP Other Equipment	\$11,696
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INCREASE APPROPRIATIONS:

PP040104 42800 EP	P EP Other Supplies	\$5,848
PP040104 43007 EP	P EP Other Fees & Services	<u>5,848</u>
		\$11,696

Mr. Webster moved to adopt Resolution No. 205-2026, seconded by Mr. Smithers and Ms. Curran, and carried unanimously by a roll call vote with fifteen (15) yes votes.

RESOLUTION NO. 206-2026

APPOINTMENT OF THE REPUBLICAN ELECTION COMMISSIONER

By Mr. Reagen, District 1

WHEREAS, the current term for the Republican Commissioner of Elections expires December 31, 2026, and

WHEREAS, the Republican Committee of St. Lawrence County held a meeting on May 14, 2026, pursuant to the provisions of the Election Law and Rules of the County Committee, and by majority vote of 73-10 recommended Jesse Sovie as a registered Republican, and suitable and qualified for the appointment to the office of Commissioner of Elections,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Legislators hereby appoints Jesse Sovie as the Republican Commissioner of Elections to a four (4) year term to begin on January 1, 2027, and end December 31, 2030, at a salary of \$85,453 effective January 1, 2027, and \$89,571 effective the first full payroll of 2027.

Mr. Reagen moved to adopt Resolution No. 206-2026, seconded by Mr. Webster, Mr. Denesha, Ms. Curran, Mr. Perkins, and Mr. Lightfoot.

Chair Forsythe read the resolution in its entirety and completed the blanks in the resolution with the name of the Republican Election Commissioner and the salary of \$85,453 effective January 1, 2027 and \$89,571 effective the first full payroll of 2027.

The motion carried unanimously by a voice vote with fifteen (15) yes votes.

RESOLUTION NO. 207-2026

**AUTHORIZING THE IMPLEMENTATION OF
FUEL SURCHARGE FOR SOLID WASTE**

By Mr. Forsythe, District 2

WHEREAS, fuel prices continue to escalate and the need to consider instituting a fuel surcharge is an option for the Board of Legislators to review, and

WHEREAS, the Board of Legislators adopted Resolution No. 274-2008 on August 4, 2008 “Modifying the 2008 Solid Waste Department Budget and Establishing a Fuel Surcharge” due to escalating fuel prices not covered by the Adopted Budget, and implementing a fuel surcharge of 9.65% effective September 1, 2008, and

WHEREAS, the Board of Legislators adopted Resolution No. 127-2011 on April 4, 2011 re-instituting a fuel surcharge not to exceed ten percent (10%), and

WHEREAS, the cost of operations of the Enterprise Fund require the application of a fuel surcharge, effective June 15, 2026,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Legislators authorizes the institution of a fuel surcharge of 15% for a period of six (6) months, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of Legislators will review prior to 2027.

Mr. Denesha moved to adopt Resolution No. 207-2026, seconded by Ms. Curran, Mr. Webster, and Mr. Lightfoot.

Ms. Doyle was recognized to provide needed information for the blanks in the resolution. The request for the date in the 4th WHEREAS is June 15, 2026 and the percentage of the fuel surcharge requested is 15 percent (15%).

The motion carried unanimously by a voice vote with fifteen (15) yes votes.

Finance Committee: 5-18-2026

RESOLUTION NO. 208-2026

RECOMMENDING THE ACQUISITION AND INSTALLATION OF GLOBAL POSITIONING SYSTEM (GPS) EQUIPMENT AND TECHNOLOGY ON ALL COUNTY VEHICLES AND ADOPTING POLICIES AND PROTOCOLS ASSOCIATED WITH THE USE OF COUNTY VEHICLES

By Mr. Lightfoot, Chair, Finance Committee
Co-Sponsored by Ms. Terminelli, District 14; Mr. Lightfoot, District 3;
Mr. Perkins, District 7; Mr. Levato, District 9, and Ms. Haggard, District 10

WHEREAS, in late 2025, Chair Forsythe appointed a Committee to evaluate the option of placing global positioning system (GPS) equipment and acquiring the technology for all county vehicles and return a recommendation to the Board of Legislators upon completion of their work, and

WHEREAS, Chair Nicole Terminelli convened the Committee on three occasions; December 29th, January 10th, and March 9th and included departments such as human resources, legal counsel, risk management, and the current fleet vendor in the dialogue to gather information about the impact of this type of equipment and technology, and

WHEREAS, the importance of clear policy and protocols supporting the implementation of the equipment and technology was recognized as a critical need to include during the review, and

WHEREAS, currently, the Highway Department has installed GPS equipment on the plow trucks and it has been instrumental in assessing the performance of equipment, staff, and the ability to dispute or confirm the validity of complaints, and

WHEREAS, the cost benefit analysis was included as part of the review and additionally, the ability to include cameras was a consideration and the available technology was reviewed which included both forward and interior facing cameras, and

WHEREAS, among the variety of other factors considered; the timing of installation, the ability of the budget to absorb the initial start up cost; and if there would be value in assigning county resources to this effort, and

WHEREAS, the Committee debated and came to a recommendation and that is to move forward with the competitive acquisition process, the award of a contract, and the installation of global positioning system (GPS) equipment in all county vehicles and to employ forward facing dashboard cameras,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Legislators accept the recommendation by the Committee for the acquisition and installation of the Global Positioning System (GPS) equipment and technology on all county vehicles and to install forward facing cameras, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the County Administrator implement policies and protocols for the appropriate use and care of county vehicles, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that upon completion of a competitive process that the County Administrator bring forward a budget modification to support the acquisition of the equipment and technology for GPS on all county vehicles.

Ms. Terminelli moved to adopt Resolution No. 208-2026, seconded by Mr. Lightfoot, Ms. Haggard, Mr. Levato, Ms. Curran, Mr. Perkins, Mr. Gennett, and Mr. Webster, and carried unanimously by a voice vote with fifteen (15) yes votes.

RESOLUTION NO. 209-2026

AUTHORIZING THE CHAIR TO SIGN CONTRACTS WITH KAS CONSULTING, CRAL CONTRACTING INC., AND GP FLOORING FOR AIR MONITORING, ASBESTOS ABATEMENT, AND THE REPLACEMENT OF FLOORING ALL RELATIVE TO THE SURROGATE BUILDING AND MODIFYING THE 2026 BUDGET FOR THE COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR'S OFFICE

By Mr. Denesha, District 6

WHEREAS, this year the first major changes to the Surrogate Building in over two (2) decades have been completed with the replacement of the windows and doors, and the replacement of the front steps with heated concrete to prevent degradation due to salt use during inclement weather conditions, and

WHEREAS, it is also recommended that materials be removed, as determined by the previous hazardous materials survey, followed by air monitoring and the necessary painting and carpeting to update the space, and

WHEREAS, a request for quotes for abatement air monitoring, asbestos abatement, and carpet replacement within the Surrogate Building was issued and the County received six (6) quotes collectively for all services, and

WHEREAS, the recommendation is for Kas Consulting to perform asbestos air monitoring at a cost of \$5,750, Cral Contracting, Inc. to perform asbestos abatement at a cost of \$70,419, and GP Flooring to replace carpet on both the first and second floor office areas for a cost of \$34,197, for a total of \$110,366,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Legislators authorizes the Chair to Sign a Contract with KAS Consulting, Cral Contracting Inc., and GP Flooring, upon approval of the County Attorney, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of Legislators authorizes the Treasurer to modify the 2026 Budget for the County Administrator's Office, for an overall cost not to exceed \$110,366, as follows:

DECREASE APPROPRIATIONS:

B1019904 49700	B SPEC Contingency Account	\$110,366
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INCREASE APPROPRIATIONS:

BG016204 40800	BLDG Building & Property Maintenance	\$110,366
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Mr. Denesha moved to adopt Resolution No. 209-2026, seconded by Mr. Webster and Ms. Haggard, and carried unanimously by a roll call vote with fifteen (15) yes votes.

COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT:

Ms. Doyle reported that the 3rd Annual Law Enforcement Day will occur on June 11th from 8:30 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. She reported that school tours have started, with Colton-Pierrepont visiting last week and seeing the Board of Legislators Chambers. This week, elementary students from Canton Central School will visit.

Ms. Doyle shared that the New York State Budget has been adopted. The Budget is being reviewed as departments analyze revenue streams and the impact of this Budget. New York State Association of Counties will host a Budget Briefing online this Wednesday at 1:00 p.m.

The process for the 2027 County Budget is underway and Budget entry training will occur this week.

The Operations Committee Meeting originally scheduled for June 8th is moved to June 15th following the Services Committee Meeting. The 2025 unaudited results will be presented by the Treasurer at the June Services Committee Meeting.

Ms. Doyle reported that a service project is being brainstormed for Department Heads to partake in this summer or fall.

Ms. Doyle will be a guest speaker at the St. Lawrence County School Boards Association recognition dinner for valedictorians and salutatorians from County school districts.

Ms. Doyle will attend the NYSAC Board of Directors retreat from June 8-10 as the representative for District 4.

Ms. Haggard offered congratulations to Ms. Doyle for being invited to guest speak at the recognition dinner.

OLD/NEW BUSINESS:

RESOLUTION NO. 210-2026

DECLARING JUNE 2026 AS PRIDE MONTH IN ST. LAWRENCE COUNTY

By Ms. Haggard, District 10

WHEREAS, the month of June is recognized nationally and internationally as Pride Month, commemorating the 1969 Stonewall Uprising in New York City, a pivotal event in the movement for LGBTQ+ rights, and

WHEREAS, Pride Month is an opportunity to celebrate the diversity, resilience, and contributions of the LGBTQ+ community in our society, including those living and working in St. Lawrence County, and

WHEREAS, the values of equality, inclusion, and respect for all individuals are core to the spirit of St. Lawrence County, and all residents deserve to live free from discrimination, fear, and prejudice, and

WHEREAS, the St. Lawrence County Board of Legislators recognizes the ongoing challenges and injustices faced by LGBTQ+ individuals and reaffirms its commitment to promoting a community that is safe, welcoming, and affirming for all,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Legislators hereby proclaims the month of June 2026 as Pride Month in St. Lawrence County and encourages all residents, businesses, and organizations to recognize and support the rights, contributions, and dignity of our LGBTQ+ community.

Ms. Haggard made a motion from the floor to declare June 2026 as Pride Month in St. Lawrence County, seconded by Mr. Reagen, Mr. Levato, Mr. Burke, and Ms. Terminelli.

Mr. Webster moved to amend the resolution to add a declaration of Veteran's Month, seconded by Ms. Haggard, Mr. Levato, and Mr. Reagen. After discussion, Mr. Webster withdrew his motion, but Ms. Haggard did not withdraw her second.

Mr. Lightfoot called the question, seconded by Ms. Haggard, Mr. Levato, and Mr. Perkins, and carried unanimously by a voice vote with fifteen (15) yes votes.

The motion to add a declaration of Veteran's Month failed by a roll call vote with two (2) yes votes (Haggard and Burke) and thirteen (13) no votes (Reagen, Forsythe, Lightfoot, Sheridan, Smithers, Denesha, Perkins, Robinson, Levato, Webster, Gennett, Terminelli, and Curran).

The motion to declare June 2026 as Pride Month in St. Lawrence County carried by a roll call vote with ten (10) yes votes and five (5) no votes (Lightfoot, Sheridan, Smithers, Perkins, and Webster).

Mr. Reagen offered new business that an event will take place on July 4th at 10:00 a.m. called "Ring Bells for Liberty," where the 250th Commemoration Committee is encouraging everyone in St. Lawrence County to ring bells at 10:00 a.m. for the 250th Anniversary of the United States. Commemorative 250th Anniversary bells are available for purchase at the St. Lawrence County Chamber of Commerce.

Ms. Haggard offered new business that she attended a listening session at Clarkson University regarding food insecurity in St. Lawrence County. The discussion focused on the growing need for food assistance.

COMMITTEE REPORTS: There were no committee reports.

Ms. Curran moved to go to Executive Session at 8:57 p.m., to discuss litigation, negotiations, personnel, and appointments, seconded by Mr. Denesha, and carried unanimously by a voice vote with fifteen (15) yes votes.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: Ms. Curran moved to go to Open Session at 9:25 p.m., seconded by Mr. Smithers, and carried unanimously by a voice vote with fifteen (15) yes votes.

CHAIR'S APPOINTMENTS:

Ms. Curran moved to appoint the following individuals to the **Traffic Safety Board (Term to Expire: 6/1/2029)**, seconded by Mr. Perkins and Ms. Haggard, and carried unanimously by a voice vote with fifteen (15) yes votes:

- Gabriel J. Ward, Canton
- Kat Manierre, Potsdam
- Renee Burwell, Lisbon
- Richard Rusaw, Fine
- Ryan L. Bogardus, Gouverneur
- Tonia Ellison, Pierrepont

Ms. Curran moved to appoint the following individual to the **North Country HOME Consortium (Term to expire: 4/13/2030)**, seconded by Mr. Perkins and Ms. Haggard, and carried unanimously by a voice vote with fifteen (15) yes votes:

- Brian S. Murray, Lisbon

Ms. Curran moved to reappoint the following individual to the **Traffic Safety Board (Term to Expire: 6/1/2029)**, seconded by Mr. Perkins and Ms. Haggard, and carried unanimously by a voice vote with fifteen (15) yes votes:

- Debbie Christy, Canton

ADJOURNMENT: Ms. Terminelli moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Mr. Smithers, and carried unanimously by a voice vote with fifteen (15) yes votes.

Chair Forsythe adjourned the Full Board Meeting at 9:26 p.m., as there was no further business.