

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

ROLL CALL: All Legislators were present with the exception of Mr. Fay.

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

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA: Mr. Gennett moved to approve the agenda, seconded by Mr. Perkins and Ms. Curran, and carried by a voice vote with fourteen (14) yes votes, and one (1) absent (Fay).

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Mr. Denesha moved to approve the minutes of October 7, 2024, seconded by Ms. Curran, Mr. Gennett, and Ms. Haggard, and carried by a voice vote with fourteen (14) yes votes, and one (1) absent (Fay).

COMMUNICATIONS: There were no communications.

CITIZEN PARTICIPATION: There was no citizen participation.

PRESENTATION OF RESOLUTIONS:

November 4, 2024

Services Committee: 10-21-2024

RESOLUTION NO. 310-2024

**MODIFYING THE 2024 BUDGET FOR COMMUNITY SERVICES FOR THE
ONGOING ASSESSMENT OF CLINIC SERVICES**

By Mr. Hull, Chair, Services Committee

WHEREAS, Community Services operates three (3) clinic environments that include, but are not limited to, a mental health and substance-use clinic with satellite locations, an Opioid Treatment Program (OTP), and a Medication Assisted Treatment (MAT) Program, and

WHEREAS, it is critical to carefully monitor and assess operations and evaluate fiscal viability on an ongoing basis, and

WHEREAS, the professional services of Coordinated Care Services, Inc. (CCSI) included an overview of staffing, revenue cycle management, and the electronic health record,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Legislators authorizes

the Treasurer to modify the 2024 Budget for Community Services for the ongoing assessment of clinic services, as follows:

INCREASE APPROPRIATIONS:

A3143204 43007 DSRP	A DSRP Other Fees and Services	\$32,500
---------------------	--------------------------------	----------

INCREASE REVENUE:

A3134905 56000 DSRP	A DSRP Mental Health	\$32,500
---------------------	----------------------	----------

Mr. Hull moved to adopt Resolution No. 310-2024, seconded by Ms. Haggard, and Ms. Curran and carried by a roll call vote with fourteen (14) yes votes, and one (1) absent (Fay).

November 4, 2024

Services Committee: 10-21-2024

RESOLUTION NO. 311-2024

**MODIFYING THE 2024 BUDGET FOR COMMUNITY SERVICES FOR FUNDING
RECEIVED FROM OASAS FOR APPROVED AGENCIES**

By Mr. Hull, Chair, Services Committee

WHEREAS, Community Services has received updated NYS OASAS State Aid Funding to St. Lawrence County as pass-through funding for community agencies that includes salary and fringe support adjustments, and

WHEREAS, this is one-hundred percent (100%) pass-through funding for contract agencies,

WHEREAS, Seaway Valley Prevention Council (SEACAP) is getting an additional one-time funding in the amount of \$87,500 for their Recovery Community Center, and the funding is a shift from a State Opioid Response Award to NYS OASAS State Aid passed through Community Services,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Legislators authorizes the Treasurer to modify the 2024 Budget for Community Services for funding received from NYS OASAS to St. Lawrence County as pass-through funding to approved agencies, as follows:

INCREASE APPROPRIATIONS:

A2142304 46500	A St. Joseph Rehab Center	\$5,570
----------------	---------------------------	---------

A2342504 46500	A NCFH Canton Other Advances	20,027
A2442504 46500	A SEACAP Other Advances	<u>308,964</u>
		\$334,561

INCREASE REVENUE:

A2134865 56000	A SA St. Joseph Rehab Center	\$5,570
A2334865 56000	A SA NCFH Canton Alcohol Addiction	20,027
A2434865 56000	A SA SEACAP Alcohol Addiction	<u>308,964</u>
		\$334,561

Mr. Hull moved to adopt Resolution No. 311-2024, seconded by Mr. Gennett and Ms. Curran, and carried by a voice vote with fourteen (14) yes votes, and one (1) absent (Fay).

November 4, 2024

Services Committee: 10-21-2024

RESOLUTION NO. 312-2024

**MODIFYING THE 2024 BUDGET FOR SOCIAL SERVICES FOR THE FAMILY
CENTERED SERVICES PROGRAM**

By Mr. Hull, Chair, Services Committee

WHEREAS, New York State Fiscal Year 2024-2025 Budget appropriated additional TANF Funds for Social Services districts to hire appropriately credentialed and experienced staff to provide case management services for families who are having difficulty stabilizing their households and transitioning toward greater financial security, and

WHEREAS, the additional staff and resources will support the needs of families whose circumstances require a more intensive level of case management and specialized services, and

WHEREAS, the target population includes households with complex needs such as mental health conditions, developmental disabilities, substance-use disorders, and/or those experiencing domestic violence, and

WHEREAS, the priority of service will be for families experiencing, or in danger of experiencing, homelessness, and

WHEREAS, the Office of Temporary and Disability Assistance requested that all districts submit a plan that provided an overview of how the funds would be administered, and

WHEREAS, \$208,046 was approved for the St. Lawrence County Family Centered

Services Program Plan, and the funds are available for the period of July 1, 2024, through June 30, 2025,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Legislators authorizes the Treasurer to modify the 2024 Budget for Social Services to receive funds for the Family Centered Services Program, as follows:

INCREASE APPROPRIATIONS:

DAG60101 11000 FCCM	D FCCM Direct Service Workers	\$106,088
DAG60101 14000 FCCM	D FCCM Clerical	14,255
DAG60101 19501 FCCM	D FCCM Longevity Payments	466
DAG60104 40700 FCCM	D FCCM Building and Property Rent	1500
DAG60104 42001 FCCM	D FCCM Computer Supplies	6590
DAG60104 42004 FCCM	D FCCM Computer Software	500
DAG60104 42101 FCCM	D FCCM I/D Copying Equipment	250
DAG60104 42302 FCCM	D FCCM Other Phone Services	1,360
DAG60104 42303 FCCM	D FCCM I/D Telephone	80
DAG60104 42402 FCCM	D FCCM I/D Postage	500
DAG60104 43007 FCCM	D FCCM Other Fees	920
DAG60104 44000 FCCM	D FCCM I/D Automotive Expenses	1,822
DAG60104 44100 FCCM	D FCCM I/D Fuel Charges	3,644
DAG60104 420GE FCCM	D FCCM Office Supplies	2,720
DAG60108 81000 FCCM	Retirement	16,503
DAG60108 83000 FCCM	Social Security	9,105
DAG60108 84000 FCCM	Workers' Compensation	3,177
DAG60108 84500 FCCM	Group Life Insurance	130
DAG60108 86000 FCCM	Hospital & Medical Insurance	37,177
DAG60108 86500 FCCM	Dental Insurance	965
DAG60108 89000 FCCM	Vision Insurance	<u>294</u>
		\$208,046

INCREASE REVENUE:

DAG46105 57000 FCCM	D FCCM FA Revenue	\$208,046
---------------------	-------------------	-----------

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that any remaining funds will be rolled over to future budgets until fully expended.

Mr. Hull moved to adopt Resolution No. 312-2024, seconded by Mr. Gennett and Ms. Curran, and carried by a voice vote with fourteen (14) yes votes, and one (1) absent (Fay).

November 4, 2024

Operations Committee: 10-21-2024

RESOLUTION NO. 313-2024

**AUTHORIZING THE CHAIR TO SIGN A CYBER INFORMATION SHARING
AND COLLABORATION AGREEMENT WITH THE NEW YORK STATE
OFFICE OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY SERVICES AND THE NEW YORK
STATE DIVISION OF HOMELAND SECURITY SERVICES FOR
INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY**

By Ms. Curran, Chair, Operations Committee

WHEREAS, New York State established a Joint Security Operations Center (JSOC) to serve as an around-the-clock operational center for the purpose of sharing cyber threat information that is uniquely positioned as a sharing hub to integrate information and facilitate operational collaboration from multiple sources, and

WHEREAS, the New York Security Operations Center Initiative (NY SOC) is a one-of-a-kind cooperative approach between state and local governments to enhance collective cybersecurity and risk management capabilities and provide Participating Entities with actionable information to prevent, detect, respond to, and recover from cyberattacks, and

WHEREAS, Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Services (DHSES) is required to work with federal, state, local, and private entities to protect critical infrastructure of the State from cyber threats and vulnerabilities and to coordinate and facilitate information and intelligence sharing among these entities to assist in the early identification of and response to natural and man-made disasters, and

WHEREAS, Information Technology Services (ITS) is responsible for protecting the cybersecurity infrastructure of New York State Government and does so by employing a multi-faceted approach that includes coordinating policies, standards and programs on cybersecurity across the State, partnering with State agencies and law enforcement, monitoring the technology assets of the State and responding to abnormalities and threats to their systems, and

WHEREAS, the Participating Entity provides vital services to the residents of New York State, specifically St. Lawrence County, within its jurisdictional boundaries, and

WHEREAS, the Participating Entity will provide the State with Confidential Information or Cyber Information and logging data to contribute to an unprecedented level of visibility into potential threats across the State and increase efficiency in detecting and responding to cybersecurity events and incidents, and

WHEREAS, the State will receive, analyze, integrate and disseminate Confidential Information and Cyber Information from the Participating Entity and improve the collective

cybersecurity and risk management capabilities of the State, and

WHEREAS, the State is equipped to facilitate the exchange of Confidential Information and Cyber Information and offer a variety of services to Participating Entities,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Legislators authorizes the Chair to Sign a Cyber Information Sharing Agreement with the New York State Office of Information Technology and the New York State Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Services for the Information Technology Department, upon approval of the County Attorney.

Ms. Curran moved to adopt Resolution No. 313-2024, seconded by Mr. Gennett, and carried by a voice vote with fourteen (14) yes votes and one (1) absent. (Fay).

November 4, 2024

Operations Committee: 10-21-2024

RESOLUTION NO. 314-2024

**MODIFYING THE 2024 BUDGET FOR PROBATION FOR FUNDING FROM THE
NEW YORK STATE DIVISION OF CRIMINAL JUSTICE SERVICES**

By Ms. Curran, Chair, Operations Committee

WHEREAS, Probation has received unique funding from the New York State Division of Criminal Justice Services (DCJS) for pretrial services in the amount of \$206,976, and

WHEREAS, the State has approved funds to be used for an alarm system, defensive tactics, de-escalation training, and two-way radios,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Legislators authorizes the Treasurer to modify the 2024 Budget for Probation for funding from the New York State Division of Criminal Justice Services, as follows:

INCREASE APPROPRIATIONS:

Q1031404 43007	Q Other Fees & Services	\$92,678
Q1G31404 423SS	Q Gouv Security System	1,589
Q1031404 41102	Q Educational Workshops	<u>8,600</u>
		\$102,867

INCREASE REVENUE:

Q1033105 56000 ATI	Q SA ATI Pre Trial	\$102,867
--------------------	--------------------	-----------

Ms. Curran moved to adopt Resolution No. 314-2024, seconded by Mr. Sheridan and Mr. Gennett, and carried by a roll call vote with fourteen (14) yes votes, and one (1) absent (Fay).

November 4, 2024

Operations Committee: 10-21-2024

RESOLUTION NO. 315-2024

**MODIFYING THE 2024 BUDGET FOR THE SHERIFF'S OFFICE FOR DONATIONS
RECEIVED FOR K9 SUPPLIES AND OTHER EXPENSES**

By Ms. Curran, Chair, Operations Committee

WHEREAS, the Sheriff's Office has received unanticipated donations from the community that were not budgeted in the 2024 Sheriff's Office Budget, and

WHEREAS, these funds will be used to purchase supplies and other expenses needed for K9 Officers and their dogs

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Legislators authorizes the Treasurer to modify the 2024 Budget for donations received for K9 supplies and other expenses, as follows:

INCREASE REVENUE:

S6027055 55000 K92	S Sheriff Donations K Unit No. 2	\$1,100
--------------------	----------------------------------	---------

INCREASE APPROPRIATIONS:

S6031104 42800 K92	S DGTF K92 Other Supplies	\$1,100
--------------------	---------------------------	---------

Ms. Curran moved to adopt Resolution No. 315-2024, seconded by Mr. Burke, Mr. Webster, Mr. Gennett, and Mr. Reagen, and carried by a roll call vote with fourteen (14) yes votes, and one (1) absent (Fay).

November 4, 2024

Operations Committee: 10-21-2024

RESOLUTION NO. 316-2024

**MODIFYING THE 2024 BUDGET FOR THE SHERIFF'S OFFICE FOR
PRESCRIPTION COSTS AT THE CORRECTIONAL FACILITY**

By Ms. Curran, Chair, Operations Committee

WHEREAS, the cost of prescriptions associated with general medical care has exceeded the 2024 Budget, and

WHEREAS, the challenges of pharmaceutical prices rising, along with the challenge of predicting the population in the jail and medications that may be needed throughout the year, makes establishing an annual budget difficult, and

WHEREAS, the law mandates that incarcerated people receive health care, but prohibits the use of Medicaid funds for services provided to an inmate of a public institution,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Legislators authorizes the Treasurer to modify the 2024 Budget for the Sheriff's Office for prescription costs at the Correctional Facility, as follows:

DECREASE APPROPRIATIONS:

B1019904 49700	B SPEC Contingency Account	\$90,000
----------------	----------------------------	----------

INCREASE APPROPRIATIONS:

S4031504 45100	S Jail Medical Supplies	\$90,000
----------------	-------------------------	----------

Ms. Curran moved to adopt Resolution No. 316-2024, seconded by Mr. Gennett, and carried by a roll call vote with fourteen (14) yes votes, and one (1) absent (Fay).

November 4, 2024

Operations Committee: 10-21-2024

RESOLUTION NO. 317-2024

**MODIFYING THE 2024 BUDGET FOR THE SHERIFF'S OFFICE FOR THE
MEDICATION ASSISTED TREATMENT (MAT) PROGRAM PRESCRIPTION
COSTS AT THE CORRECTION FACILITY**

By Ms. Curran, Chair, Operations Committee

WHEREAS, the mandated Medication Assisted Treatment (MAT) Program expenses have exceeded the budget for 2024, and

WHEREAS, the extraordinary increases in pharmaceutical prices along with the unpredictability of the jail population and their medication requirements require careful monitoring and when necessary, staff to make recommendations to modify the budget to support the Program, and

WHEREAS, the MAT Program is in its second full year which complicates the analysis to support the recommendations for budget, therefore, midyear modifications continue to be necessary,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Legislators authorizes the Treasurer to modify the 2024 Budget for the Sheriff's Office for the Medication Assisted Treatment (MAT) Program prescription costs at the Correctional Facility as follows:

INCREASE REVENUE:

S4727355 55000	MAT Opioid Settlement Funds	\$150,000
----------------	-----------------------------	-----------

INCREASE APPROPRIATIONS:

S4743204 45100	S MAT Medical Supplies & Expenses	\$150,000
----------------	-----------------------------------	-----------

Ms. Curran moved to adopt Resolution No. 317-2024, seconded by Mr. Gennett.

Mr. Lightfoot said the program was initiated years ago at NYSAC, with the main concern being how it would be funded. The state had assured that funding would be provided, but now the costs are being covered by St. Lawrence County taxpayers.

Mr. Lightfoot acknowledges that there are situations where medication is necessary and appropriate.

Mr. Webster said that while inmates receive their medication, some elderly individuals are faced with the difficult choice of either purchasing their medication or paying for heating in their homes.

Ms. Curran said that the MAT Program is a logical and proven approach that does help individuals. She said that if the State should be responsible for covering the associated costs.

Mr. Reagen asked the County Attorney about potential liability if a decision were made to not fund the program. Mr. Button recommended providing the appropriate funding for the service.

Mr. Smithers noted that the amount has increased and has already surpassed the budgeted amount.

Mr. Burke said the expense should not fall on St. Lawrence County taxpayers, but stated that treating mental health and substance abuse is just as important as other forms of medical care.

Mr. Lightfoot said he did not intend to sway votes on the resolution, but felt it was important to express his concern. He noted that when the program began, the cost was lower than it is now and questioned what the financial impact this would have in the future.

Ms. Curran said when individuals are incarcerated, they lose their health insurance, but they still require medication.

Mr. Sheridan asked the Undersheriff what the current number of individuals who are State Ready at the correctional facility. Undersheriff McCargar said that there are currently no individuals State ready as they were relocated last week. Mr. Sheridan said he will support this resolution.

Mr. Forsythe said he will support this resolution.

Resolution No. 317-2024 was adopted by a voice vote with twelve (12) yes votes, two (2) no votes, (Webster and Gennett) and one (1) absent (Fay).

November 4, 2024

Operations Committee: 10-21-2024

RESOLUTION NO. 318-2024

**MODIFYING THE 2024 BUDGET FOR THE SHERIFF'S OFFICE TO ACCEPT A
FY25 POLICE TRAFFIC SERVICES (PTS) GRANT FROM THE STATE OF NEW
YORK GOVERNOR'S TRAFFIC SAFETY COMMITTEE**

By Ms. Curran, Chair, Operations Committee

WHEREAS, the Sheriff's Office has been awarded a Police Traffic Services (PTS) Grant in the amount of \$8,184 through the Governor's Traffic Safety Committee, and

WHEREAS, this 2025 PTS Grant provides funding to cover overtime costs related to planned events intended to increase seat belt usage in efforts to reduce dangerous driving behaviors,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Legislators authorizes the Treasurer to modify the 2024 Budget for the Sheriff's Office to accept a FY25 Police Traffic Services (PTS) Grant from the State of New York Governor's Traffic Safety Committee, as follows:

INCREASE APPROPRIATIONS:

S1Z31101 18000 GTSC	S CRIM PTS Grant Overtime	\$8,184
---------------------	---------------------------	---------

INCREASE REVENUE:

S1Z33895 56000 GTSC	S SA CRIM State Aid	\$8,184
---------------------	---------------------	---------

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that any remaining funds will be rolled over to future budgets until the grant is fully expended.

Ms. Curran moved to adopt Resolution No. 318-2024, seconded by Mr. Burke, Mr. Gennett, Mr. Lightfoot, and Mr. Reagen, and carried by a roll call vote with fourteen (14) yes votes, and one (1) absent (Fay).

November 4, 2024

RESOLUTION NO. 319-2024

ACCEPTING A 2023 DOMESTIC TERRORISM PREVENTION GRANT FROM NEW YORK DIVISION OF HOMELAND SECURITY AND EMERGENCY SERVICES (DHSES) AND MODIFYING THE 2024 BUDGET FOR THE SHERIFF'S OFFICE

By Ms. Curran, Chair, Operations Committee

WHEREAS, the Sheriff's Office has been awarded a Domestic Terrorism Prevention Grant in the amount of \$172,413 from the New York State Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Services, with a contract period of September 1, 2024, to August 31, 2026, and

WHEREAS, this grant is directed to be utilized to support the capability of the County to prevent targeted violence and domestic terrorism through the utilization of Threat Assessment and Management (TAM) Teams and the development of comprehensive Domestic Terrorism Plans,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Legislators authorizes the acceptance of a 2023 Domestic Terrorism Prevention Grant from New York Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Services (DHSES), as follows:

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Treasurer is authorized to modify the 2024 Budget for the Sheriff's Office, as follows:

INCREASE APPROPRIATIONS:

S1Z31101 12000 DT3	S CRIM Supervisory/Admin	\$51,822
S1Z31101 14000 DT3	S CRIM Clerical	47,835
S1Z31104 43007 DT3	S CRIM Other Fees and Services	20,000
S1Z31108 81000 DT3	S CRIM Retirement	11,312
S1Z31108 83000 DT3	S CRIM Social Security	7,233
S1Z31108 84000 DT3	S CRIM Workers Compensation	2,499
S1Z31108 84500 DT3	S CRIM Group Life Insurance	182
S1Z31108 86000 DT3	S Hospital & Medical Insurance	29,851
S1Z31108 86500 DT3	S CRIM Dental Insurance	1,281
S1Z31108 89000 DT3	S CRIM Vision Insurance	<u>398</u>
		\$172,413

INCREASE REVENUE:

S1Z43895 57000 DT	S FA DT Federal Aid	\$172,413
-------------------	---------------------	-----------

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that any remaining funds will be rolled over to future budgets until the grant is fully expended.

Ms. Curran moved to adopt Resolution No. 319-2024, seconded by Mr. Smithers, Mr. Gennett, Mr. Lightfoot, and Mr. Reagen, and carried by a roll call vote with fourteen (14) yes votes, and one (1) absent (Fay).

November 4, 2024

Operations Committee: 10-21-2024

RESOLUTION NO. 320-2024

**MODIFYING THE 2024 BUDGET FOR THE SHERIFF'S OFFICE FOR THE
PURCHASE OF EQUIPMENT AND SUPPLIES**

By Ms. Curran, Chair, Operations Committee

WHEREAS, the Sheriff's Office has received revenue from workers compensation reimbursement and housing inmates from nearby counties that was not budgeted in the 2024 Budget, and

WHEREAS, these funds will be utilized to purchase technical equipment to provide transparency, liability, and safety enhancements in the Sheriff's Office Correctional Facility, as well as, building and food supplies for the Correctional Facility,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Legislators authorizes the Treasurer to modify the 2024 Budget for the purchase of equipment and supplies, as follows:

INCREASE REVENUE:

S4026835 550WC	S LR W/C Reimbursement Salary	\$66,476
S5022645 550CO	S IH County Inmate Housing	<u>22,606</u>
		\$89,082

INCREASE APPROPRIATIONS:

S4031502 25000	S JAIL Technical Equipment	\$31,082
S4031504 40900	S JAIL Building Supplies & Exp	18,000
S4031504 45200	S JAIL Food Supplies & Expense	<u>40,000</u>
		\$89,082

Ms. Curran moved to adopt Resolution No. 320-2024, seconded by Mr. Gennett and Mr. Denesha, and carried by a roll call vote with fourteen (14) yes votes, and one (1) absent (Fay).

November 4, 2024

Operations Committee: 10-21-2024

RESOLUTION NO. 321-2024

**URGING THE STATE OF NEW YORK TO ENACT THE RESCUE EMS PACKAGE
TO STRENGTHEN EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES IN
ST. LAWRENCE COUNTY**

By Ms. Curran, Chair, Operations Committee
Co-Sponsored by Mr. Smithers, District 5 and Mr. Webster, District 11

WHEREAS, Emergency Medical Service (EMS) is a vital resource, necessary to the health and well-being of communities across New York, and

WHEREAS, as a system that provides a wide range of pre-hospital medical care to sick or injured people in emergency situations, the difference between a municipality that provides for EMS and one that does not can often make the difference between life and death, and

WHEREAS, despite its vast importance, there is an ongoing EMS crisis in New York, particularly in how it is funded, staffed, and operated, and

WHEREAS, much of this stems from a fundamental misconception about EMS and other critical services like police and fire, and this is reflected in New York State law, which fails to recognize the essential nature of EMS, and

WHEREAS, as a result, EMS providers are often undervalued and under-respected for the critical role they play in our communities, and

WHEREAS, the State Legislature passed through both houses several components of the Rescue EMS Package, but despite these bills being successfully passed during the 2024 legislative session, more work needs to be done to address the crisis, and

WHEREAS, the EMS framework in New York includes an array of private, public, or not-for-profit providers that have expanded across the State in a scattered, patchwork approach, and

WHEREAS, this leaves many New York residents uncertain whether an EMS provider will be available in their community at the time of need, which necessitates greater flexibility for municipalities to ensure EMS can meet unique local challenges and build the foundation for a stronger and more efficient EMS system,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Legislators urges the New York State to enact the Rescue EMS Package to strengthen Emergency Medical Services (EMS) in St. Lawrence County, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this resolution be forwarded to

Governor Kathy Hochul; Senator Mark Walczyk; Senator Dan Stec; Assemblyman Ken Blankenbush; and Assemblyman Scott Gray.

Ms. Curran moved to adopt Resolution No. 321-2024, seconded by Mr. Gennett, Mr. Lightfoot, Mr. Webster, and Mr. Smithers, and carried by a voice vote with fourteen (14) yes votes, and one (1) absent (Fay).

November 4, 2024

Operations Committee: 10-21-2024

RESOLUTION NO. 322-2024

URGING NEW YORK STATE TO ENACT SENATE BILL S.4583-A AND ASSEMBLY BILL A.5942-A, AMENDING THE COUNTY LAW IN RELATION TO THE NEXT GENERATION 911 SYSTEM

By Ms. Curran, Chair, Operations Committee

WHEREAS, Next Generation 911 (NG911) is a digital, internet protocol (IP)-based system that will replace the analog 911 infrastructure that has been in place for decades, and it is expected that the FCC will soon mandate 911 Public Safety Answering Point (PSAP) to support NG911, and

WHEREAS, NG911 involves the latest 911 technology, including upgrades for pinpointing the exact location of cell phone callers, translating text messages at a 911 PSAP, and ensuring counties have back up resources with other similar counties, and

WHEREAS, while the technology to implement these new IP-based 911 systems is available, the transition to NG911 involves much more than just new computer hardware and software, and

WHEREAS, implementing NG911 in states and counties nationwide will require the coordination of resources and support of a variety of emergency communication, public safety, legislative and governing entities, and

WHEREAS, according to the Federal Government back in 2018- the cost to deploy NG911 across the nation is estimated to be \$9.5 billion to \$12.7 billion, and the full 10-year complete life cycle cost estimate to deploy and operate NG911 nationwide is between \$13.5 billion and \$16.1 billion, and

WHEREAS, the estimated price tag in New York State for NG911 is expected to be upwards of \$2 billion over the next ten (10) years, and County 911 departments do not have the adequate funding to take on the task of building their own ESInet and risk having a patchwork system that does not properly follow the intent of NextGen 911 or provide the necessary safety

upgrades to the 911 system and the people of New York, and

WHEREAS, today, 911 centers face a wide range of challenges, ranging from funding, staffing issues, and high call volumes to helping people with special needs and the proliferation of the use of new communications technologies and an adequate amount of funding is necessary, and

WHEREAS, Senate Bill S.4583-A and Assembly Bill A.5942-A would codify into law the requirements for NG911 and require the State to build the Next Generation Emergency Services Internet Protocol Network (ESINet) which is a network capable of connecting calls, texts, and other forms of media from the public to 911 PSAPs,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Legislators urges New York State to enact Senate Bill S.4583-A and Assembly Bill A.5942-A, amending the County Law in relation to the Next Generation 911 System (NG911), and

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

Ms. Curran moved to adopt Resolution No. 322-2024, seconded by Mr. Gennett, Mr. Burke, and Mr. Smithers, and carried by a voice vote with fourteen (14) yes votes, and one (1) absent (Fay).

November 4, 2024

Operations Committee: 10-21-2024

RESOLUTION NO. 323-2024

**OPPOSING ADOPTION OF PROPOSITION 1, KNOWN AS THE
"EQUAL RIGHTS AMENDMENT"**

By Ms. Curran, Chair, Operations Committee

WHEREAS, in November of 2024, citizens of New York State will have the opportunity to vote on a ballot measure titled "Proposition 1", also known as the "Equal Rights Amendment", and

WHEREAS, Proposition 1 seeks to amend Section 11 of Article 1 of the New York State Constitution to read as follows (bold represents amended language):

§ 11. a. No person shall be denied the equal protection of the laws of this state or any subdivision thereof. No person shall, because of race, color, ethnicity, national origin, age, disability, creed [or], religion, or sex, including sexual orientation, gender identity, gender

expression, pregnancy, pregnancy outcomes, and reproductive healthcare and autonomy, be subjected to any discrimination in [his or her] their civil rights by any other person or by any firm, corporation, or institution, or by the state or any agency or subdivision of the state, pursuant to law,

b. Nothing in this section shall invalidate or prevent the adoption of any law, regulation, program, or practice that is designed to prevent or dismantle discrimination on the basis of a characteristic listed in this section, nor shall any characteristic listed in this section be interpreted to interfere with, limit, or deny the civil rights of any person based upon any other characteristic identified in this section,

WHEREAS, Proposition 1 consists of two distinct provisions that will revise Section 11, Article 1 of the New York State Constitution, and

WHEREAS, the ballot measure, with the stated aim of ‘protecting abortion’ constitutes a ‘trojan horse of epic proportions’, and

WHEREAS, Part A adds such terms as “gender identity” and “gender expression” to existing protected statuses to the previously, easily understandable, and long-recognized categories of race, color, creed, and religion, and

WHEREAS, the addition of such language has raised concerns from women’s rights advocates, parents’ groups and others over the potential usurpation of parental rights, the destruction of spaces for girls and women in public settings, and the decimation of girls’ sports, and

WHEREAS, some critics even see the ballot measure as a potential backdoor to allow non-citizen and migrant voting, given the addition of “national origin” as a protected class, and

WHEREAS, Part b of Proposition 1 could be even more catastrophic due to the fact that such language permits the government, as long as the goal is to “prevent or dismantle discrimination,” all the status protections in Part a and elsewhere in state law — the familiar protections based on race and religion, and the new ones, too — to discriminate against others under the guise of “dismantling discrimination” against another, utilizing such policies as affirmative action in both schools and the workplace, discrimination provisions against parents objecting to shared restrooms, etc., and

WHEREAS, while New Yorkers would retain some federal constitutional protections, under this amendment the broad and sweeping protections of the human rights laws of New York would be forced to give way to this new constitutional right to discriminate,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Legislators opposes Proposition 1, known as the "Equal Rights Amendment".

Ms. Curran moved to adopt Resolution No. 323-2024, seconded by Mr. Gennett, Mr. Sheridan,

Mr. Hull, Mr. Webster, and Mr. Lightfoot.

Mr. Denesha said that during the Finance Committee meeting, he expressed his opposition to the resolution, as he believes elected officials should not attempt to sway the votes of people. He added that he will vote against it because he believes it conflicts with Title 9 and the Holy Bible.

Mr. Burke said he also thinks it is inappropriate to sway voters.

Ms. Haggard said that it is wrong for legislators to urge others to vote in a particular way, emphasizing that the proposition is on the ballot and there is no right to infringe upon it. She argued that all have First Amendment rights as individuals, but not as a board. She described this behavior as improper and unethical, and mentioned the importance of treating people with dignity and respect.

Mr. Lightfoot said the resolution does not encourage anyone to either support or oppose Proposition 1. He stated that he personally is not influenced one way or the other by the resolution. He urged everyone to carefully review it, vote according to their conscience, and be fully aware of what the proposition is actually proposing.

Mr. Forsythe stated that he voted against the resolution in committee and will do so again tonight. He also will vote "no" on the ballot, believing that the wording was misleading and contained many hidden facts.

Resolution No. 323-2024 was adopted by a roll call vote with nine (9) yes votes, four (4) no votes, (Forsythe, Denesha, Haggard, and Burke), one (1) abstained, (Terminelli) and one (1) absent (Fay).

November 4, 2024

Operations Committee: 10-21-2024

RESOLUTION NO. 324-2024

**ENCOURAGING GOVERNOR KATHY C. HOCHUL AND THE NEW YORK STATE
LEGISLATURE TO INCREASE THE MEDICATION ASSISTED TREATMENT
(MAT) BUDGET ALLOCATION FOR COUNTY JAILS**

By Ms. Curran, Chair, Operations Committee

WHEREAS, local correctional facilities are obligated by Mental Hygiene Law Section 19.18-c to provide Medication Assisted Treatment (MAT) services to incarcerated individuals who have been diagnosed with a substance-use disorder, and

WHEREAS, the provision of the MAT Program must also be accompanied by tangential therapeutic services including counseling, peer support, and discharge planning, and

WHEREAS, in many circumstances, obtaining the specific medications necessary to be compliant with the law, is a costly and time-intensive endeavor, and

WHEREAS, the annual appropriation provided in the State Aid to Localities Budget has remained static at the insufficient amount of \$8.865 million, to support the efforts of fifty-six (56) county jails,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Legislators encourages Governor Kathy C. Hochul and the New York State Legislature to increase the Medication Assisted Treatment (MAT) budget allocation for County jails, and

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

Ms. Curran moved to adopt Resolution No. 324-2024, seconded by Mr. Burke, Mr. Denesha, Mr. Smithers, Mr. Lightfoot, Mr. Reagan, Mr. Webster, Mr. Perkins, Ms. Terminelli, and Mr. Gennett, and carried by a voice vote with fourteen (14) yes votes, and one (1) absent (Fay).

November 4, 2024

Operations Committee: 10-21-2024

RESOLUTION NO. 325-2024

**ENCOURAGING GOVERNOR KATHY HOCHUL TO RECOGNIZE NEW YORK'S
FRESHWATER WETLANDS ACT RULEMAKING AND ITS IMPACT ON CRITICAL
LOCAL HIGHWAY, BRIDGE, AND CULVERT PROJECTS**

By Ms. Curran, Chair, Operations Committee

WHEREAS, in 2022, New York's Freshwater Wetlands Act (Environmental Conservation Law Article 24) was amended to increase application fees and make several significant changes to program administration, and

WHEREAS, beginning January 1, 2023, water quality permit application fees were increased for public works projects in certain wetlands to support wetland resource protection activities by the State Environmental Conservation Department, and

WHEREAS, beginning in 2025, the current official New York State Freshwater Wetlands Maps will no longer limit NYSDEC regulatory jurisdiction to wetlands depicted on those maps and instead, maps will become informational and any wetlands that meet new applicable definitions and criteria will be regulated by NYSDEC and subject to permitting, regardless of whether they appear on the informational maps, and

WHEREAS, by January 1, 2028, the default size threshold for regulated wetlands will decrease from 12.4 acres to 7.4 acres, and small wetlands of “unusual importance” will continue to be regulated if they meet only one (1) of eleven (11) newly established criteria, and

WHEREAS, consequently, NYSDEC recently submitted and published in the State Register a proposed rulemaking to implement, administer and enforce these changes, and

WHEREAS, this regulatory action comes on the heels of the recent issuance of draft guidance for the review of bridge and culvert projects in non-tidal waters requiring a protection of waters permit, and a water quality certificate used by NYSDEC, division of fish and wildlife (DFW) during the review of stream crossing (bridge and culvert) projects requiring a permit from NYSDEC, and

WHEREAS, for many counties and towns, these changes are likely to double the number of locally owned culvert and bridge replacement, reconstruction and/or maintenance projects that would require State approval, additional oversight and a design of a structure for 150 percent span of the full bank—causing, for example, a \$90,000 culvert replacement project to become a \$1 million-plus bridge project, and

WHEREAS, if the volume of permit applications as a result of the new wetlands regulations and stream crossing guidance doubles, it could overwhelm an already time-consuming and burdensome process and could make many of these vital public works projects cost prohibitive, and

WHEREAS, the expanded number of increased applications for permits can be expected to render the water protection programs unworkable or, at best, prevent timely processing of applications for critical projects that may have wider impacts such as those impacting important wetlands and those in AA and AA (T), A and A (T), B and B (T), and C (T) streams, and

WHEREAS, local highway maintenance resources are already stretched to the limit, and the added burden and delay in permitting could be untenable for many local governments and could result in inordinate road closures, possible flooding and disruptions of travel within communities that would have to find ways around a failed culvert or bridge crossing for an extended amount of time before state permission may be granted, and the additional funds become available, which could be never depending on competing priorities, and

WHEREAS, a bill passed by the legislature to add mostly inconsequential C Streams to the list of streams where transportation projects would be required to be permitted was vetoed in 2020, and again by Governor Kathy Hochul in 2022 and 2023, who wrote as justification for rejecting the legislation, that the bill “would have significant regulatory impacts on state and local transportation projects and would carry substantial costs for the State, as well as for local governments and the communities that would bear the impact of these new requirements”, and

WHEREAS, in addition to using state licensed engineers and consultants, counties already receive significant oversight and guidance from the state’s County Soil and Water Conservation Districts to address environmental activities, implement flood prevention and

recovery programs and provide technical expertise to municipalities on infrastructure needs,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Legislators encourages Governor Kathy Hochul to recognize New York's Freshwater Wetlands Act rulemaking and its impact on critical local highway, bridge and culvert projects, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that these new regulations, if not designed appropriately, could have a detrimental impact on the very wetlands and streams they are intended to protect by overwhelming the permitting process, increasing project costs and delays significantly, and creating unnecessary operational burdens on county efforts to maintain transportation infrastructure, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED as part of the regulatory process, consideration needs to be given to developing an MOU or general permit program that can address the intent of the wetlands and stream protection statutes, regulations and guidance and at the same time, allow for a uniform and expedited permit and review process for local public works projects, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that permit fees be waived for local government-sponsored transportation and public works projects as these are necessary activities intended to address a public purpose and as such applying these fees should not be subject to state assessments, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this resolution be forwarded to Governor Kathy Hochul; Senator Mark Walczyk; Senator Dan Stec; Assemblyman Ken Blankenbush; Assemblyman Scott Gray, and Maria Cantwell and Ted Cruz, Transportation Committee.

Ms. Curran moved to adopt Resolution No. 325-2024, seconded by Mr. Gennett, and Mr. Smithers, and carried by a voice vote with thirteen (13) yes votes, one (1) no vote, (Terminelli) and one (1) absent (Fay).

Ms. Terminelli stated that she initially supported the resolution in committee, but after gaining more information, she has decided to vote against it as she believes in protecting our wetlands.

Mr. Reagen expressed his support for the resolution and hopes that the Governor and lawmakers in Albany understand that cutting funding to counties for highway purposes makes it more difficult to keep roads and bridges open.

Mr. Forsythe moved to make a friendly amendment to send this resolution to the committee that oversees transportation in the state legislature, seconded by Ms. Haggard, Mr. Gennett, Ms. Terminelli, Mr. Sheridan, and Mr. Lightfoot, and carried by a voice vote with fourteen (14) yes votes, and one (1) absent (Fay).

November 4, 2024

RESOLUTION NO. 326-2024

**URGING GOVERNOR KATHY HOCHUL AND STATE LEGISLATORS TO ADJUST
THE 5-YEAR TRANSPORTATION CAPITAL PLAN FOR NEW YORK STATE**

By Ms. Curran, Chair, Operations Committee

WHEREAS, the 5-Year Transportation Capital Plan for New York State provides significant support for local governments to maintain and improve roads and bridges highlighted by the Consolidated Local Streets and Highway Improvement Program (CHIPS), BRIDGE-NY, PAVE-NY, Extreme Winter Recovery (EWR), State Touring Routes, and Operation Pave Our Potholes (POP) Programs, and

WHEREAS, each year the Governor presents to the Legislature in January an Executive Budget that routinely appropriates funding for these programs at levels commensurate with the levels established by the plan, which was the case again for the third year in the SFY 2025 budget, and

WHEREAS, unprecedented inflationary impacts continue to place enormous pressure on local governments to maintain existing levels of transportation construction, maintenance, and service on what constitutes 87 percent of the State's 110,000 miles of roadways, 50 percent of 18,000 bridges, and 46 percent of the vehicle miles traveled in New York, and

WHEREAS, the cost of highway and bridge projects has continued to skyrocket, as costs have increased by well over 60 percent since the end of 2020, according to the Federal Highway Administration's National Highway Construction Cost Index which shows that inflation in this sector is more extreme than in the general economy, eroding more than \$1 billion in the value of local construction budgets, resulting in fewer critical road, bridge, and culvert projects that are able to be undertaken, and

WHEREAS, the Federal Infrastructure and Jobs Act provides New York State with an additional \$4.6 billion from 2022-2027; however, the vast majority (nearly 90 percent) of local roads are not eligible to receive these federal highway funds, and

WHEREAS, this vast system of local roads, bridges and culverts now requires incremental increases in levels of funding each year over the next 2 years just to hold local governments harmless from the loss of buying power to reverse the deterioration of our aged and ailing transportation infrastructure, account for inflation and build up the systems' resiliency and resistance to severe storms and other natural disasters, and

WHEREAS, local highway departments are under pressure to do more to address environmental concerns, transition construction vehicles and equipment to zero emissions, follow stricter guidelines for doing bridge and culvert work in streams, adopting more aggressive smart growth and complete street principles, and utilizing green construction materials in projects, requiring significant additional funding, and

WHEREAS, a safe and efficient transportation infrastructure is necessary for trade, economic development and revitalization, job creation and retention, schools, agriculture, businesses, health and hospital facilities and emergency responders, as well as for the general traveling public,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Legislators is urging Governor Kathy Hochul to recognize the critical situation facing our transportation infrastructure resulting from unprecedented construction inflation and increasing infrastructure needs by adjusting the 5-Year Capital Plan levels for local transportation programs over the next two fiscal years starting with the SFY 2026 Executive Budget proposal, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that St. Lawrence County supports a \$500 million increase in CHIPS and other state aid to local transportation programs in the next state budget as a necessary first step in restoring the purchasing power originally contemplated in the 5-Year Transportation Capital Plan for local projects, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this resolution be forwarded to Governor Kathy Hochul; Senator Mark Walczyk; Senator Dan Stec; Assemblyman Ken Blackenbush; and Assemblyman Scott Gray.

Ms. Curran moved to adopt Resolution No. 326-2024, seconded by Mr. Denesha, and carried by a voice vote with fourteen (14) yes votes, and one (1) absent (Fay).

November 4, 2024

Operations Committee: 10-21-2024

RESOLUTION NO. 327-2024

**CALLING ON GOVERNOR KATHY HOCHUL WITH CONCERNS ABOUT THE
IMPACTS OF EFFORTS TO ELECTRIFY HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT VEHICLES
BY ADOPTION OF THE ADVANCED CLEAN TRUCK RULE**

By Ms. Curran, Chair, Operations Committee

WHEREAS, in 2019, the Climate Leadership and Community Protection Act (CLCPA) was signed into law to require New York to reduce economy-wide greenhouse gas emissions forty percent (40%) by 2030 and no less than eighty-five percent (85%) by 2050 from 1990 levels, and

WHEREAS, the CLCPA directs the development of performance-based standards for sources of greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions, including for the transportation sector by reducing GHG emissions from motor vehicles, and

WHEREAS, New York State adopted California's Advanced Clean Trucks (ACT) Rule

in December 2021 that requires applicable medium and heavy-duty (M/HD) vehicle manufacturers to sell a percentage of their total sales in New York as zero-emission vehicles (ZEVs) starting in model year (MY) 2025 with increasing ZEV sales through MY 2035, and

WHEREAS, the cost of transitioning utility and construction vehicles, snowplows, and equipment to run on battery power for state and local highway departments, as mandated by ACT and other state strategies, is at this juncture incalculable, but expected to exceed the ability to be financed without substantial sources of new revenues directed strictly for the retrofit or procurement of such ZEVs and equipment, and

WHEREAS, as commercial production of M/HD large-scale, electric construction vehicles is today a nascent industry, the ability of local highway departments to plan for this transition, with its concomitant mandates that fuel and electricity charging sources be carbon-free, is of tremendous concern considering that the transportation system at all levels of New York government is significantly underfunded, and

WHEREAS, while ACT regulations do not require M/HD fleets, owners, operators, or dealerships to purchase ZEVs, the sales mandates on vehicle manufacturers are expected to lead to shortages in supply of not only complying electric vehicles but of traditional gasoline and diesel vehicles as well, and

WHEREAS, alarmingly, some M/HD vehicle dealerships have notified highway departments that, due to manufacturers' need to plan for the sales mandates adopted by New York and some other states, many orders for trucks are being delayed or canceled, and

WHEREAS, notably, Maine, North Carolina and Connecticut among other states recently stepped back from adopting ACT regulations citing concerns over the availability of heavy-duty vehicle charging stations and the high cost of zero-emission trucks, and

WHEREAS, in July 2024, the New York State Comptroller released an audit on the State's progress in meeting Climate Act goals and noted several deficiencies including the need to increase communication with stakeholders and provide more accurate cost estimates. The audit goes on to add that the lack of cost estimates jeopardizes the chances of success in meeting climate goals. The comptroller urges the state to clarify for key stakeholders, especially energy ratepayers, the extent to which ratepayers will be responsible for Climate Act implementation costs, and

WHEREAS, climate goals of New York must be implemented in a way that is affordable while assuring adequate supplies of these specialized vehicles and functional highway construction equipment that meet state specifications, estimated to increase the cost of a new truck by about one-third, and

WHEREAS, the rush to introduce electric vehicles in New York can be counter-productive to the environment as the bulk of the power generation used to charge new vehicle batteries is produced by fossil fuels, and is a reason to move more slowly to sync with the pace of the transition to a zero-emission electric grid by 2040, and

WHEREAS, recognizing these potential impacts on the ability of local governments to continue to deliver necessary transportation services and facilities to the traveling public it is vital that state elected representatives and agencies assist county highway departments in developing strategies, funding sources and realistic timelines for achieving these aggressive GHG emissions reduction goals in the face of market and fiscal barriers to the transition, and

WHEREAS, all levels of government need to work together throughout the regulatory process to assure strategies and mandates put in place to meet the CLCPA goals for the transportation sector are realistic and achievable and will benefit the environment,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Legislators calls on the Governor Kathy Hochul with concerns about the impacts of efforts to electrify highway department vehicles by adoption of the Advanced Clean Truck Rule, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Governor consider a pause or suspension of the implementation of ACT until there is strong evidence that the state has in place the necessary direct financial assistance and incentives and charging infrastructure necessary, and can definitively determine that vehicle manufacturers are prepared to effectively supply the New York market without disruption to the critical work needed to maintain the state's vast and aging infrastructure, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the state recognizes that highway construction, maintenance vehicles, and equipment are critical to governments' mission to maintain a safe and functional transportation system by designating these municipally owned vehicle and equipment as a category among "transit buses, motor coaches, and emergency vehicles," and thus exempt from ACT regulation, and

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

Ms. Curran moved to adopt Resolution No. 327-2024, seconded by Mr. Smithers, and Mr. Burke.

Mr. Lightfoot asked the Highway Superintendent, Don Chambers, speak to the resolution.

Mr. Chambers expressed concern that the 150-mile battery range would be reduced by half while snowplowing. He said that even with fast charging, the charge time is still three hours, and it seemed unlikely a truck could complete an entire route, return to the outpost to charge, and then wait three hours before resuming the route.

Mr. Lightfoot pointed out that one of the WHEREAS clauses in the resolution notes that nearly ninety percent (90%) of local roads are not eligible for federal highway funds, implying that the cost will ultimately be a local cost.

Ms. Curran agreed that this will likely result in a local cost, noting that taxes increase every year for everyone.

Resolution No. 327-2024 was adopted by a voice vote with thirteen (13) yes votes, one (1) no vote, (Haggard) and one (1) absent (Fay).

November 4, 2024

Finance Committee: 10-28-2024

RESOLUTION NO. 328-2024

**ELECTIONS, REAL PROPERTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE
APPORTIONMENTS FOR THE YEAR 2025**

By Mr. Gennett, Chair, Finance Committee

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the following apportionments of Elections, Real Property and Community College charges for the year 2025 be applied to the following municipalities of St. Lawrence County:

<u>Municipality</u>	<u>Election Charges</u>	<u>Real Property Charges</u>	<u>Community College Charges</u>
BRASHER	\$27,356.53	\$15,667.77	\$46,088.24
CANTON	95,555.02	22,436.68	33,891.20
CLARE	11,730.37	2,459.32	0.00
CLIFTON	44,710.41	2,789.91	7,825.00
COLTON	62,360.53	11,136.60	8,422.67
DEKALB	25,054.60	9,545.12	12,531.66
DEPEYSTER	13,528.26	4,731.09	6,135.79
EDWARDS	15,213.63	9,601.24	36,336.67
FINE	29,463.06	10,947.08	19,286.67
FOWLER	34,274.54	15,482.59	17,747.35
GOUVERNEUR	47,154.80	20,310.09	63,776.05
HAMMOND	40,623.74	11,803.69	22,511.17
HERMON	20,644.57	10,355.61	6,417.33
HOPKINTON	26,768.12	9,805.70	11,874.87

LAWRENCE	15,947.73	7,801.05	33,509.00
LISBON	47,482.73	16,149.10	27,045.34
LOUISVILLE	40,655.88	11,455.18	41,943.01
MACOMB	20,999.23	8,310.43	12,432.01
MADRID	17,853.74	8,413.77	5,947.30
MASSENA	107,584.40	11,195.39	122,970.64
MORRISTOWN	40,607.74	13,592.84	34,467.02
NORFOLK	38,104.37	15,532.32	55,278.69
OSWEGATCHIE	52,353.70	16,057.40	33,960.35
PARISHVILLE	36,033.09	11,987.89	20,348.34
PIERCEFIELD	24,635.75	5,026.16	0.00
PIERREPONT	39,505.40	13,181.14	16,139.33
PITCAIRN	14,332.17	7,600.49	11,255.35
POTSDAM	133,453.94	9,564.82	95,390.49
ROSSIE	12,968.19	5,198.15	12,084.33
RUSSELL	21,808.58	11,651.81	18,062.33
STOCKHOLM	38,332.09	21,889.22	46,707.02
WADDINGTON	34,428.66	13,849.65	12,475.00
OGDENSBURG	65,698.39	12,807.13	38,080.84
TOTALS	\$1,297,223.97	\$378,336.42	\$930,941.06

Mr. Gennett moved to adopt Resolution No. 328-2024, seconded by Mr. Perkins and Ms. Curran, and carried by a voice vote with fourteen (14) yes votes, and one (1) absent (Fay).

November 4, 2024

RESOLUTION NO. 329-2024

**AUTHORIZING THE CHAIR TO SIGN ALL DOCUMENTS NECESSARY FOR THE
SALE OF REAL PROPERTY KNOWN AS THE FORMER J&L SITE FOR
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND JOB CREATION**

By Mr. Gennett, Chair, Finance Committee

WHEREAS, St. Lawrence County is the record title owner of 54+ acres of land in the Town of Clifton, formerly owned by the Jones and Laughlin Steel Company and commonly referred to as the "J&L Site", and

WHEREAS, St. Lawrence County, along with the Town of Clifton and Town of Fine, would like to see this Adirondack Park industrial classified property returned to productive use, and

WHEREAS, in 2019, the County agreed to issue an option to purchase the former J&L Site to Benson Mines, and

WHEREAS, one of the primary concerns of the County regarding the Site has been the re-establishment of an economically viable operation at the former J&L Site that will establish not only jobs but revitalization for the southeastern portion of the County, and

WHEREAS, as a condition of the issued option, Benson Mines was required to submit proof of job creation and development of the site satisfactory to the Board of Legislators, and

WHEREAS, the County has received letters from two developers, Astro Aggregates and New York State Energy and Research Development Authority (NYSERDA), that would establish permanent employment at the former J&L Site, and

WHEREAS, pursuant to the letters, Astro Aggregates would develop a facility at the former mine and begin shipment of approximately 3,000 rail cars of materials annually, utilizing the rail spur developed by the St. Lawrence County Industrial Development Agency, and

WHEREAS, separately, NYSERDA has secured a solar developer who anticipates construction of an initial 12 MWH solar facility, requiring 50-75 jobs for construction and five (5) permanent jobs for maintenance to support the area, and

WHEREAS, construction is set to commence on both projects in 2025 with continued expansion proposed through 2027, and

WHEREAS, as a result of the successful completion of the requirements of the Option Agreement, Benson Mines has agreed, in principle, to pay the remaining sum of money in the amount of \$165,000 to the County to consummate the sale, and

WHEREAS, Benson Mines has agreed that the sale is necessary for completion of separate agreements between Benson Mines and the third parties for the redevelopment of the property, and

WHEREAS, the lot was previously subdivided and an easement was conveyed to the Town of Clifton to establish an aquatic invasive species boat washing station, and

WHEREAS, as a part of the process of environmental remediation, the County has also conveyed an environmental easement on the property to the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC), and

WHEREAS, as a part of any agreement for the sale of the land, Benson Mines understands and agrees that it will be required to assume the rights and obligations of the County under a Consent Order with the NYSDEC and the responsibilities of the County to permit and not interfere with the further environmental remediation efforts of NYSDEC,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Legislators authorizes the Chair to sign all documents necessary for the sale of real property known as the J&L Site to Benson Mines for economic development and job creation, upon approval of the County Attorney.

Mr. Gennett moved to adopt Resolution No. 329-2024, seconded by Mr. Smithers, Mr. Denesha, Mr. Perkins, Ms. Terminelli, Ms. Curran, and Mr. Webster, and carried by a voice vote with fourteen (14) yes votes, and one (1) absent (Fay).

November 4, 2024

Finance Committee: 10-28-2024

RESOLUTION NO. 330-2024

**AUTHORIZING THE CHAIR TO SIGN AN AGREEMENT WITH C&S
ENGINEERING AS A QUALIFIED ENVIRONMENTAL PROFESSIONAL FOR THE
PREPARATION OF A GRANT APPLICATION TO THE UNITED STATES
ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY FOR A BROWNFIELDS
COMMUNITY-WIDE ASSESSMENT GRANT**

By Mr. Gennett, Chair, Finance Committee

WHEREAS, each year the County forecloses on and sells at auction, properties that are acquired by the County for the failure of a taxpayer to make payment upon their taxes, and

WHEREAS, periodically there are properties that are not turned over to a new owner through the auction process due to perceived deficiencies in the structures on the property, or the assessed sites are contaminated by hazardous substances, pollutants, contaminants, or

petroleum, and

WHEREAS, properties that have been foreclosed upon that do not sell at the auction become a liability to the County and result in costs to maintain and continue to make local jurisdictions whole with respect to taxes assessed, and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Article 11 of the Real Property Tax Law, the Treasurer (as Tax Enforcement Officer) and the County Attorney are entrusted with protecting the interests of the County with respect to tax delinquent parcels, and

WHEREAS, as a part of the annual review of parcels performed by the St. Lawrence County Tax Foreclosure Team, it has been determined that there is a number of active and abandoned parcels that are encumbered by the presence or potential presence of hazardous substances, pollutants, contaminants, or petroleum, and

WHEREAS, since 2015, the County Foreclosure Team has tackled one-hundred (100) properties identified as environmentally contaminated in initial inspections, and

WHEREAS, recently, the County issued a request for proposals for a qualified environmental professional to develop a complete and competitive grant application for submission to the United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) for an USEPA Brownfield Community-Wide Assessment Grant and, further, to administer and implement the grant if so awarded by the USEPA, and

WHEREAS, Community-wide Assessment Grants provide funding for a grant recipient (Municipality, IDA, EDA, Land Bank, etc.) to inventory, investigate, assess, characterize, conduct a range of planning activities, develop site-specific cleanup plans, and conduct community engagement related to selected Brownfield Sites, and

WHEREAS, the ultimate goal of the Grant is to promote redevelopment or beneficial reuse of such Brownfield Sites, and

WHEREAS, following the opening and review of the four (4) submitted bids, and review by the County Attorney and Gary Bowitch, Esq., C&S Engineering is recommended as the successful bidder after meeting all required criteria,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Legislators authorizes the Chair to sign an agreement with C&S Engineering as a Qualified Environmental Professional for the Preparation of a Grant Application to the United States Environmental Protection Agency for a Brownfields Community-Wide Assessment Grant, upon approval of the County Attorney, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED if awarded by the USEPA, the Chair is authorized to sign any other documentation necessary to carry out the terms of the awarded grant funds.

Mr. Gennett moved to adopt Resolution No. 330-2024, seconded by Ms. Curran, and Mr. Reagen, and carried by a voice vote with fourteen (14) yes votes, and one (1) absent (Fay).

November 4, 2024

Finance Committee: 10-28-2024

RESOLUTION NO. 331-2024

MODIFYING THE 2024 BUDGET FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF HIGHWAYS FOR TROPICAL STORM DEBBY

By Mr. Gennett, Chair, Finance Committee

WHEREAS, Tropical Storm Debby has caused substantial damage to numerous roads throughout the County, and

WHEREAS, the Department of Highways will transfer appropriations in the Budget, and the increased need for engineering services can be offset by a transfer in appropriations,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Legislators authorizes the Treasurer to modify the 2024 Budget for the Department of Highways for Tropical Storm Debby, as follows:

DECREASE APPROPRIATIONS:

HM151124 454PM H1	Paving Materials	\$157,000
-------------------	------------------	-----------

INCREASE APPROPRIATIONS:

T6399509 90600 TSD	CR Transfers to Capital Fund	\$157,000
--------------------	------------------------------	-----------

INCREASE APPROPRIATIONS:

HM651104 430ED TSD	H TSD Engineering Design	\$157,000
--------------------	--------------------------	-----------

INCREASE REVENUE:

T6650319 90300 TSD	CP Transfers from CR	\$157,000
--------------------	----------------------	-----------

Mr. Gennett moved to adopt Resolution No. 331-2024, seconded by Mr. Smithers, Mr. Burke, and Ms. Curran, and carried by a voice vote with fourteen (14) yes votes, and one (1) absent (Fay).

November 4, 2024

RESOLUTION NO. 332-2024

AUTHORIZING THE CHAIR TO SIGN A CONTRACT WITH BARTON & LOGUIDICE, D.P.C. FOR ENGINEERING SERVICES TO REPLACE COUNTY ROUTE 54 OVER ALLEN BROOK (BIN 3341170) AND MCEWEN ROAD OVER ALLEN BROOK (BIN 3221340)

By Mr. Gennett, Chair, Finance Committee

WHEREAS, the Board of Legislators approved and funded Capital Bridge Projects,
and

WHEREAS, Tropical Storm Debby has caused significant damage to two (2) County-owned bridges in the Town of Lawrence, and

WHEREAS, the Department of Highways has solicited qualifications for engineering services for the replacement of County Route 54 over Allen Brook and McEwen Road over Allen Brook, and

WHEREAS, the best qualified consultant for this project has been selected and is recommending the vendor below,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Legislators approves a contract for engineering services for:

Consultant:	Barton & Loguidice, D.P.C.
Contract Title:	County Route 54 over Allen Brook (BIN 3341170) McEwen Road over Allen Brook (BIN 3221340)
Engineering Fee:	Not to exceed \$157,000 HM651104 430ED TSD

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of Legislators authorizes the Chair to sign a contract with Barton & Loguidice, D.P.C. for engineering services to replace County Route 54 over Allen Brook and McEwen Road (BIN 3341170) over Allen Brook (BIN 3221340), upon approval of the County Attorney.

Mr. Gennett moved to adopt Resolution No. 332-2024, seconded by Ms. Curran, and Mr. Smithers, and carried by a voice vote with fourteen (14) yes votes, and one (1) absent (Fay).

November 4, 2024

RESOLUTION NO. 333-2024

**AUTHORIZING THE CHAIR TO SIGN A SUPPLEMENTAL AGREEMENT WITH
BARTON & LOGUIDICE, D.P.C. FOR ENGINEERING SERVICES TO REPLACE
COUNTY ROUTE 49 LARGE CULVERT OVER HOPKINTON BROOK, 49-1-59BC**

By Mr. Gennett, Chair, Finance Committee

WHEREAS, the Board of Legislators approved and funded Capital Bridge Projects,
and

WHEREAS, Resolution No. 280-2023, authorized the Chair to sign contracts for the
replacement of County Route 49 large culvert over Hopkinton Brook, and

WHEREAS, a supplemental agreement is now required for additional engineering
services due to the damage from Tropical Storm Debby, and

WHEREAS, the best qualified consultant for this project has been selected and is
recommending the vendor below,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Legislators approves
supplemental agreement for engineering services for:

Consultant: Barton & Loguidice, D.P.C.

Contract Title: County Route 49 over
Hopkinton Brook
Town of Hopkinton

FEMA Compliance Not to exceed \$7,600
Documents: H551124 430ED B25

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of Legislators authorizes the Chair to
sign a contract with Barton & Loguidice, D.P.C. for engineering services to replace County
Route 49 large culvert over Hopkinton Brook, 49-1-59BC, upon approval of the County
Attorney.

Mr. Gennett moved to adopt Resolution No. 333-2024, seconded by Mr Burke, Mr. Webster,
and Ms. Curran, and carried by a voice vote with fourteen (14) yes votes, and one (1) absent
(Fay).

November 4, 2024

Finance Committee: 10-28-2024

RESOLUTION NO. 334-2024

**AUTHORIZING THE CHAIR TO SIGN A CONTRACT WITH FRANK J. DANKO
CONSTRUCTION CORP. FOR REPLACEMENT OF COUNTY ROUTE 49 OVER
HOPKINTON BROOK, BIN 3372050, TOWN OF HOPKINTON**

By Mr. Gennett, Chair, Finance Committee

WHEREAS, the Board of Legislators approved and funded Capital Bridge Projects in 2024 Budget, and

WHEREAS, the Department of Highways has solicited bids for the replacement of County Route 49 over Hopkinton Brook, BIN 3372050, and

WHEREAS, the lowest responsible bidder for this project has been selected and is recommending the vendor below,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Legislators approves the following contract to:

Contractor:	Frank J. Danko Construction Corp.
Contract Title:	County Route 49 over Hopkinton Brook, BIN 3372050, Town of Hopkinton
Contract Amount:	Not to Exceed \$668,880 HM551124 454BS B25

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of Legislators authorizes the Chair to Sign a Contract with Frank J. Danko Construction Corp. for Replacement of County Route 49 over Hopkinton Brook, BIN 3372050, Town of Hopkinton, upon approval of the County Attorney, and

Mr. Gennett moved to adopt Resolution No. 334-2024, seconded by Ms. Curran, and Mr. Perkins, and carried by a voice vote with fourteen (14) yes votes, and one (1) absent (Fay).

November 4, 2024

Finance Committee: 10-28-2024

RESOLUTION NO. 335-2024

AUTHORIZING THE CHAIR TO SIGN A CONTRACT WITH C&S ENGINEERS,

**INC. FOR ENGINEERING SERVICES TO REPLACE COUNTY ROUTE 49 OVER
EAST BRANCH OF ST. REGIS RIVER, BIN 3341940, PIN 775432**

By Mr. Gennett, Chair, Finance Committee

WHEREAS, the Board of Legislators approved and funded Capital Bridge Projects,
and

WHEREAS, the Department of Highways has solicited qualifications for engineering
services for the replacement of County Road 49 over East Branch of St. Regis River, and

WHEREAS, the best qualified consultant for this project has been selected and is
recommending the vendor below,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Legislators approves the
following contract to:

Consultant: C & S Engineers, Inc.

Contract Title: County Road 49 over East Branch of St. Regis River
Town of Stockholm

Engineering Fee: Not to Exceed \$536,000
HM651204 430ED 2503

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of Legislators authorizes the Chair to
sign a contract with C&S Engineers, Inc. for engineering services to replace County Route 49
over East Branch of St. Regis River, BIN 3341940, PIN 775432, upon approval of the County
Attorney

Mr. Gennett moved to adopt Resolution No. 335-2024, seconded by Ms. Curran, and Mr.
Perkins, and carried by a voice vote with fourteen (14) yes votes, and one (1) absent (Fay).

November 4, 2024

Finance Committee: 10-28-2024

RESOLUTION NO. 336-2024

**AUTHORIZING THE CHAIR TO SIGN A CONTRACT WITH BARTON &
LOGUIDUCE, D.P.C. FOR ENGINEERING SERVICES TO REHABILITATE**

COUNTY ROUTE 36 OVER GRASSE RIVER, BIN 3342040, PIN 775433

By Mr. Gennett, Chair, Finance Committee

WHEREAS, the Board of Legislators approved and funded Capital Bridge Projects,
and

WHEREAS, the Department of Highways has solicited qualifications for engineering services for the rehabilitation of County Road 36 over Grasse River, and

WHEREAS, the best qualified consultant for this project has been selected and is recommending the vendor below,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Legislators approves the following contract to:

Consultant:	Barton & Loguidice, D.P.C.
Contract Title:	County Road 36 over Grasse River Town of Louisville
Engineering Fees:	Not to Exceed \$388,000 HM651204 430ED 2504

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of Legislators authorizes the Chair to sign a contract with Barton & Loguidice, D.P.C. for engineering services to rehabilitate County Route 36 over Grasse River, BIN 3342040, PIN 775433, upon approval of the County Attorney.

Mr. Gennett moved to adopt Resolution No. 336-2024, seconded by Ms. Curran, and carried by a voice vote with fourteen (14) yes votes, and one (1) absent (Fay).

November 4, 2024

Finance Committee: 10-28-2024

RESOLUTION NO. 337-2024

**AUTHORIZING THE CHAIR TO SIGN AN AGREEMENT WITH THE
DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY OF THE NORTH COUNTRY (DANC) FOR GRANT
ADMINISTRATION OF TOOLEY POND ROAD BRIDGE PROJECT**

By Mr. Gennett, Chair, Finance Committee

WHEREAS, Resolution No. 132-2024 authorized the Chair to execute all Northern Regional Catalyst Investment Documents and endorsed funding for the replacement of the Tooley Pond Road Bridge, and

WHEREAS, the Northern Border Regional Commission (NBRC) Catalyst Program has awarded St. Lawrence County \$750,000 requiring a two-percent (2%) grant administration fee, and

WHEREAS, the Northern Border Regional Commission (NBRC) Catalyst Program grant requires utilization of DANC for grant administration purposes, and

WHEREAS, the payment to DANC will not exceed \$15,000 for grant administration (HM551104 43007 B2),

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Legislators authorizes the Chair to sign the agreement with the Development Authority of the North Country (DANC) for grant administration of Tooley Pond Road Bridge Project, upon approval of the County Attorney.

Mr. Gennett moved to adopt Resolution No. 337-2024, seconded by Mr. Lightfoot, Mr. Denesha, and Ms. Curran, and carried by a voice vote with fourteen (14) yes votes, and one (1) absent (Fay).

November 4, 2024

Finance Committee: 10-28-2024

RESOLUTION NO. 338-2024

**MODIFYING THE 2024 BUDGET FOR SOLID WASTE FOR EXPENSES FOR
LANDFILL TESTING AND POST-CLOSURE COSTS**

By Mr. Gennett, Chair, Finance Committee

WHEREAS, the expenses for landfill testing and post-closure costs for the Department are projected to exceed the 2024 Budget, and

WHEREAS, post closure costs include, but are not limited to; liability, leachate hauling, and testing, and

WHEREAS, the projected overages can be offset by a decrease in recycling appropriations,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Legislators authorizes the Treasurer to modify the 2024 Budget for Solid Waste Department for expenses for landfill testing and post-closure costs, as follows:

INCREASE APPROPRIATIONS:

WLC81604 43007	W CAN Other Fees & Services	\$2,700
WLM81604 43007	W MAS Other Fees & Services	7,000
WLO81604 43007	W OGD Other Fees & Services	<u>8,300</u>
		\$18,000

DECREASE APPROPRIATIONS:

WH081604 43018 RECY	W RECY Tipping Fees	\$18,000
---------------------	---------------------	----------

Mr. Gennett moved to adopt Resolution No. 338-2024, seconded by Mr. Smithers, and Ms. Curran, and carried by a voice vote with fourteen (14) yes votes, and one (1) absent (Fay).

November 4, 2024

Finance Committee: 10-28-2024

RESOLUTION NO. 339-2024

SUPPORTING PROPOSALS TO MODERNIZE THE SALES TAX LAWS OF NEW YORK SALES TO INCLUDE THE SHORT-TERM RENTAL INDUSTRY

By Mr. Gennett, Chair, Finance Committee
Co-Sponsored by Mr. Smithers, District 5

WHEREAS, the Internet and numerous marketplace platforms that help facilitate retail transactions electronically have provided a boost for many sectors of the economy and have made it easier for consumers to purchase goods and services, and

WHEREAS, with this growth many states have realized their tax systems need to be updated to accommodate these new modalities of retail activity, and

WHEREAS, a sizable number of new vendors and hosts/owners that use these platforms, or sell directly over the Internet, do not always understand their responsibility to collect state and local sales tax on taxable transactions, and

WHEREAS, the growth in online platforms that facilitate short-term rentals is in need of modernization and simplification to ease the burden on small vendors, ensure taxes owed are collected and remitted to the state and local governments, and to make sure there is a level playing field among marketplace participants and operators that provide short-term lodging, such as online vacation rentals, hotels, bed and breakfasts, etc., and

WHEREAS, the 2025 Budget proposed to update sales tax laws to ensure all short-term rental hosts, and marketplace providers that facilitate these rentals, such as Airbnb and Vrbo, among others, are required to collect sales tax on such rentals, and

WHEREAS, the Governor's proposal was not included in the adopted SFY 2025 Budget, but the Legislature did pass similar legislation, S.885-C (Hinchey)/A.4130-C (Fahy), that counties believe will facilitate the Governor's primary objectives, and

WHEREAS, thirty-six (36) counties and one (1) city have entered voluntary local occupancy tax collection agreements with Airbnb as of July 2024, and one (1) county has a similar agreement with VRBO, and

WHEREAS, these voluntary agreements only call for the collection of local occupancy taxes with the knowledge that additional state legislation is necessary to expand these collection responsibilities to state and local sales tax for short-term rentals that do not currently meet state sales tax law definitions, and

WHEREAS, VRBO collects state and/or local sales taxes or local occupancy taxes in all fifty (50) states, the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico; and throughout Canada and Mexico; and has done so for years, and

WHEREAS, Airbnb also collects state and/or local sales or occupancy taxes in forty-eight (48) states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, U.S. Virgin Islands; and throughout Canada and Mexico, and

WHEREAS, the state Division of Budget estimates that modernizing this section of sales tax law could provide \$16 million in additional sales tax for the fifty-seven (57) counties (\$6 million) and New York City (\$10 million), and

WHEREAS, a NYSAC analysis of counties outside of New York City that collect hotel

occupancy taxes themselves or with the assistance of Airbnb and/or Vrbo concludes that the new sales tax that could be generated for counties if S.885-C/A.4130-C, or similar legislation, were signed into law would be at least \$44 million, and

WHEREAS, nearly all counties, New York City and a variety of other municipalities have local occupancy taxes, but also have unique non-tax related needs and concerns regarding short-term vacation rentals.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Legislators supports proposals to modernize the sales tax laws of New York Sales to include the short-term rental industry , and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of Legislators supports that such statewide actions to encourage platforms that facilitate these rentals collect sales taxes also require the collection of local occupancy taxes at local option, and

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

Mr. Gennett moved to adopt Resolution No. 339-2024, seconded by Mr. Webster, Mr. Reagen, Mr. Smithers, and Ms. Curran.

Mr. Reagen shared that he owns a small bed and breakfast and uses Airbnb for his rental. He expressed full support for the resolution, stating that businesses in short-term rentals should be treated equally and allowed to collect sales tax. He explained that the funds generated from sales tax and bed tax directly benefit the entire county, including the tourism sector. Small short-term rentals face global competition for visitors, and St. Lawrence County competes by offering beautiful rivers, the Adirondack Preserve, and the St. Lawrence Valley. He emphasized the need to expand efforts and promote the county, encouraging those who haven't visited yet to come and experience the beauty that St. Lawrence County has to offer.

Resolution No. 339-2024 was adopted by a voice vote with fourteen (14) yes votes, and one (1) absent (Fay).

November 4, 2024

Finance Committee: 10-28-2024

RESOLUTION NO. 340-2024

URGING GOVERNOR HOCHUL TO VETO SENATE BILL S.967-A AND ASSEMBLY BILL A.1489-A , LEGISLATION THAT WOULD LOWER THE PENALTY INTEREST RATE IN TAX DELINQUENCY SITUATIONS AND SHIFT HIGHER COSTS TO OTHER TAXPAYERS

By Mr. Gennett, Chair, Finance Committee
Co-Sponsored by Mr. Smithers, District 5

WHEREAS, on May 25, 2023, the U.S. Supreme Court ruled in Tyler v. Hennepin County that certain property tax enforcement provisions carried out by states will need to change, specifically, returning any surplus to the prior owner after appropriate delinquent taxes, penalties, fees and administrative expenses are reimbursed to the enforcing entity, and

WHEREAS, the adopted SFY 2025 Budget fully addressed the issue of appropriate interest rate levels in tax delinquency foreclosures as part of reform efforts to satisfy the Tyler v Hennepin Decision, by ensuring surplus proceeds from a tax foreclosure sale are appropriately returned to the prior owner(s), while building upon the robust comprehensive services and protections counties provide to taxpayers facing, or in, delinquency, and

WHEREAS, the adopted reforms to New York's In-Rem tax foreclosure process provide a robust process for the distribution of surplus; establishes parameters for determining surplus; ensures that a court will determine the order and priority of returning surplus funds; provides protections for lienholders; provides legal protections to municipalities by establishing that a property sold via a public auction represents the full value of the property; and defines a process for nonpublic sales, and

WHEREAS, the adopted reforms also establish mechanisms for counties to be reimbursed for delinquent taxes, penalties and interest; mailing costs; costs of publication of notices; the cost of recording and filing legal documents; reasonable and necessary costs of any search of the public record and notice requirements; and defines other amounts owed to the tax district by virtue of a judgment lien, mortgage lien, or any other lien, and

WHEREAS, the adopted reforms recognize that counties, as required under state law, must act as tax enforcement officers when property taxes are unpaid and become delinquent including the reimbursement of unpaid property taxes to school districts and towns, as well as many villages that counties voluntarily hold harmless, and

WHEREAS, these hold harmless responsibilities often extend for many years as defined under state law and practice, and

WHEREAS, in calendar year 2022, nearly \$450 million in delinquent school district, town, and village taxes were turned over to counties for further collection efforts, with counties making these jurisdictions whole for their unpaid taxes as long as necessary, and

WHEREAS, counties will experience higher costs under the new foreclosure process because of requirements under the Tyler v. Hennepin Decision under which all tax foreclosure sales will, financially, be breakeven at best with many generating losses for the tax enforcing jurisdiction, and

WHEREAS, the majority of locally levied county taxes are used to pay for state mandated services and programs, and the SFY 2025 State Budget provides no additional state funding to assist counties with losses that will increase because of the Tyler v. Hennepin

Decision, and

WHEREAS, a key source of revenue during tax delinquency foreclosures for counties necessary to hold schools, towns and villages harmless for any unpaid property taxes has come from interest payments and surplus funds from foreclosure sales (which are no longer available under the Tyler v Hennepin Decision), and

WHEREAS, in subsequent years the increased revenue loss to counties from the U.S. Supreme Court decision and lower interest rates proposed in S.967-A and A.1489-A, along with higher administrative costs imposed by the aforementioned legislation that would require tax enforcement districts to apply different penalty interest rates to thousands of parcels based on their designation as residential, abandoned, commercial or other, and

WHEREAS, these higher costs will need to be added to the following year's tax levy raising property taxes on all property owners that already paid their property taxes in full in the prior year, worsening the housing affordability crisis for all,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Legislators urges Governor Hochul to veto Senate Bill S.967-A and Assembly Bill A.1489-A, legislation that would lower the penalty interest rate in tax delinquency situations and shift higher costs to other taxpayers, and

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

Mr. Gennett moved to adopt Resolution No. 340-2024, seconded by Mr. Smithers, and Ms. Curran, and carried by a voice vote with fourteen (14) yes votes, and one (1) absent (Fay).

November 4, 2024

Finance Committee: 10-21-2024

RESOLUTION NO. 341-2024

**ENCOURAGING GOVERNOR HOCHUL TO SIGN SENATE BILL S.9348-A AND
ASSEMBLY BILL A.10173-A THAT EXPANDS THE ELECTRONIC OPEN AUCTION
PUBLIC BOND SALE PROGRAM**

By Mr. Gennett, Chair, Finance Committee
Co-Sponsored by Mr. Smithers, District 5

WHEREAS, the New York State Association of Counties (NYSAC) has long supported legislation that allows municipalities in New York to have access to more market options when selling bonds to investors, and

WHEREAS, in 2019 New York authorized the establishment of an electronic open auction bond sale pilot program and set forth specific provisions for participation, and

WHEREAS, the pilot program proved to be successful in providing more options to authorized municipalities to access the bond market, increased the number of bidders, and counties were confident the pilot program generated the best possible rates for counties, providing savings for local taxpayers, and

WHEREAS, the initial pilot program limited access to the program to municipalities with a population greater than 400,000 that also met certain dollar bonding thresholds in preceding years, and

WHEREAS, S.9348-A (Martinez)/A.10173-A (Thiele) expands the opportunity for more municipalities across the state to participate in the electronic open auction public bond sale pilot program by removing the population requirements for all counties, and allows other municipalities with a population of 100,000 or more to participate, and also reduces prior bonding thresholds to having issued \$25 million in bonds within one of the preceding five years (rather than three years) to participate in the electronic open auction public bond sale pilot program, and

WHEREAS, this legislation passed both chambers unanimously,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Legislators encourages Governor Hochul to sign Senate Bill S.9348-A and Assembly Bill A.10173-A that expands the Electronic Open Auction Public Bond Sale Program

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

Mr. Gennett moved to adopt Resolution No. 341-2024, seconded by Ms. Curran, Mr. Smithers, and Mr. Perkins, and carried by a voice vote with fourteen (14) yes votes, and one (1) absent (Fay).

November 4, 2024

Finance Committee: 10-28-2024

RESOLUTION NO. 342-2024

URGING GOVERNOR HOCHUL AND THE STATE LEGISLATURE TO AMEND

**THE SALES TAX SHARING ARRANGEMENT UNDER ADULT-USE
RECREATIONAL CANNABIS TO A MORE BALANCED SPLIT TO RECOGNIZE
THE ADDITIONAL RESPONSIBILITIES COUNTIES HAVE IN ADDRESSING
ILLEGAL CANNABIS STORES AND PROVIDING SUBSTANCE USE DISORDER
AND MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES**

By Mr. Gennett, Chair, Finance Committee
Co-Sponsored by Mr. Smithers, District 5

WHEREAS, the Marihuana Regulation & Taxation Act (MRTA) was signed into law on March 31, 2021, legalizing adult-use cannabis, and

WHEREAS, that legislation provides for a system where municipalities agree to host retail dispensaries of adult-use cannabis, providing a four percent sales tax on retail sales for host communities and counties to share based on the volume of sales from dispensaries in each jurisdiction, and

WHEREAS, the local sales tax is split three percent for the host municipality and one percent for the host county in recognition of additional resources each will need to contribute to fully manage the repercussions of hosting such facilities including public safety, traffic control, public health, mental health, and substance abuse treatment, and

WHEREAS, in the SFY 2025 Enacted Budget the state expanded public safety authorization only to counties and New York City allowing them to close illegal cannabis retail dispensaries which have proliferated across the state due to lax enforcement from the state and a slow rollout of legal licenses to state authorized retailers created opportunities for illegal shops to flourish, often with minimal risks for illegal operators, and

WHEREAS, these illegal operators are often also selling other illegal narcotics, products and adding such illegal substances to the cannabis they are selling compromising public safety and public health as well as stealing local revenues due to host communities because legal operators cannot compete, and

WHEREAS, the state also has a vested interest in shutting down illegal operators for the same reasons identified here including the hundreds of millions in annual revenues the state is counting on in their Financial Plan from the sale of legal adult-use cannabis products, and

WHEREAS, in addition to counties being provided new public safety functions counties are also solely responsible at the local level for ensuring public health, mental health, substance abuse treatments, and other social services are available for people struggling with addiction, and

WHEREAS, the current split of local sales tax of only one percent to the host county undermines the ability of counties to ensure illegal operators are shut down and essential public health, mental health, substance abuse, and other social services remain available in the community,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Legislators urges Governor Hochul and the State Legislature to amend the sales tax sharing arrangement under adult-use recreational cannabis to a more balanced split to recognize the additional responsibilities counties have in addressing illegal cannabis stores and providing substance-use disorder and mental health services, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED counties support additional penalties for illegal operators to discourage the incentive to reopen even after being shut down, and

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

Mr. Gennett moved to adopt Resolution No. 342-2024, seconded by Mr. Burke, Mr. Smithers, Mr. Perkins, Ms. Curran, and Mr. Webster.

Ms. Curran said that there is not enough money collected to offset the negative impact of having legalized marijuana in our community.

Resolution No. 342-2024 was adopted by a voice vote with thirteen (13) yes votes, one (1) no vote, (Haggard) and one (1) absent (Fay).

November 4, 2024

Finance Committee: 10-28-2024

RESOLUTION NO. 343-2024

**CALLING ON GOVERNOR HOCHUL AND THE STATE LEGISLATURE TO
IMPROVE REUSE AND RECOVERY OPTIONS IN COMMUNITIES HOSTING
STATE FACILITIES AND ASSETS THAT ARE CLOSED OR DECOMMISSIONED**

By Mr. Gennett, Chair, Finance Committee
Co-Sponsored by Mr. Smithers, District 5

WHEREAS, the state has downsized certain facilities and assets that are underutilized

due to state law changes or inefficiency, and

WHEREAS, these state facilities and assets can often be by one of the largest employers and purchasers of local products helping local businesses and communities prosper, and

WHEREAS, local communities and counties greatly appreciate the economic impact from these state facilities and come to rely on their economic impact, and

WHEREAS, the state finds it necessary at times to close facilities and/or decommission assets as their circumstances require, and

WHEREAS, these closures often have dramatic impacts on local economic conditions, and

WHEREAS, state agencies sometimes do not agree to pay fees and charges to local governments for services or benefits received which becomes an additional cost absorbed by the local government or other payers in the community, and

WHEREAS, some localities have expressed interest in acquiring closed state facilities or decommissioned assets, but the state has refused to transfer the asset, and

WHEREAS, for local communities it is essential to replace or revitalize the defunct state property to help maintain the local economy but repurposing these sites often do not happen for a variety of reasons including facilities being outdated, or located inside of state protected lands like the Adirondack Park or Catskill Park, or other state protected areas, and

WHEREAS, in the past the state has provided additional direct fiscal assistance to help communities through this process, and

WHEREAS, without the ability to repurpose closed state facilities and replace the lost jobs and economic impact communities are more likely to fall into economic decline, be subject to lower real estate values, and suffer population loss,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Legislators calls on Governor Hochul and the State Legislature to improve reuse and recovery options in communities hosting state facilities and assets that are closed or decommissioned, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED in situations where the state determines a closed state property or decommissioned asset lies within a state park or state protected area and cannot be repurposed, the state should provide payments in lieu of taxes (PILOT) to the local communities based on the economic impact the facility/asset had while in use, and

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

Mr. Gennett moved to adopt Resolution No. 343-2024, seconded by Mr. Smithers, Mr. Perkins, Mr. Reagen, and Ms. Curran, and carried by a voice vote with fourteen (14) yes votes, and one (1) absent (Fay).

November 4, 2024

Finance Committee: 10-28-2024

RESOLUTION NO. 344-2024

**DESIGNATING THE ST. LAWRENCE COUNTY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE AS
THE ST. LAWRENCE COUNTY TOURISM PROMOTION AGENCY FOR 2025**

By Mr. Gennett, Chair, Finance Committee
Co-Sponsored by Mr. Webster, District 11

WHEREAS, in order to participate in the Empire State Development Division of Tourism Matching Funds Program, it is requested that each county appoint a Tourism Promotion Agency (TPA), and

WHEREAS, participation in this program doubles the earmarked Tourism Promotion Funds by St. Lawrence County through I Love New York Funds, and

WHEREAS, according to the 2023 NYS Tourism Economics Report, visitor expenditure accounted for more than \$166 million in St. Lawrence County, and \$10.9 million in local taxes in 2023, and

WHEREAS, according to the NYS Tourism Economics Report tourism spending has increased year to year, with a 12% increase between 2022 and 2023, and a 16.5% increase between 2021 and 2022, supporting the importance of investing in the continued growth of the tourism industry post-pandemic; and

WHEREAS, according to the NYS Tourism Economics Report an estimated 1,597 jobs in the County (2023) were supported by visitors, and

WHEREAS, the St. Lawrence County Chamber of Commerce represents the County as its Tourism Promotion Agent by creating a comprehensive marketing and advertising campaign, consisting of events, attractions, and recreational opportunities throughout the County, and

WHEREAS, the St. Lawrence County Chamber of Commerce represents the County in regional and State opportunities to leverage funds and promotions to attract visitors to the County as an economic driver,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Legislators designates the St. Lawrence County Chamber of Commerce as the St. Lawrence County Tourism

Promotion Agency for 2025.

Mr. Gennett moved to adopt Resolution No. 344-2024, seconded by Mr. Webster, Mr. Lightfoot, Ms. Curran, and Ms. Haggard, and carried by a voice vote with fourteen (14) yes votes, and one (1) absent (Fay).

November 4, 2024

Finance Committee: 10-28-2024

RESOLUTION NO. 345-2024

**MODIFYING THE 2024 BUDGET FOR THE SHERIFF'S OFFICE FOR THE
PURCHASE OF A PATROL VEHICLE**

By Mr. Gennett, Chair, Finance Committee

WHEREAS, the Sheriff's Office has vehicles in need of replacement, and

WHEREAS, these funds will be used to purchase a patrol vehicle and will promote efficiency and provide safety to the officer and the public,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Legislators authorizes the Sheriff's Office to purchase a patrol vehicle, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of Legislators recognizes this will reduce the contribution from auction proceeds to the reserve for 2024, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Treasurer is authorized to modify the 2024 Budget for the Sheriff's Office, as follows:

INCREASE APPROPRIATIONS:

S1031102 25000	S CRIM Automotive Equipment	\$40,115
S1031104 44001	S CRIM Automotive Expenses	<u>1,200</u>
		\$41,315

INCREASE REVENUE:

S1022605 55000	S LR CRIM Transportation Priso	\$328
S1026835 550WC	S LR CRIM Workers Compensation	5,196
S1027705 55000	Sheriff Misc Revenue	703
S5022645 550CO	S IH County Inmate Housing	12,788
T2026505 550SA	T LR Auction Proceeds For Sheriff	<u>22,300</u>
		\$41,315

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of Legislators recognizes this will reduce the contribution from auction proceeds to the Reserve for 2024.

Mr. Gennett moved to adopt Resolution No. 345-2024, seconded by Mr. Burke, Mr. Webster, Ms. Curran, Mr. Denesha, Mr. Perkins and Mr. Lightfoot, and carried by a roll call vote with fourteen (14) yes votes, and one (1) absent (Fay).

November 4, 2024

RESOLUTION NO. 346-2024

**PROCLAMATION RECOGNIZING THE 100TH BIRTHDAY OF
JOSEPH BERNARD MACDONALD**

By Mr. Reagen, District 1

WHEREAS, longevity of life is a blessing for an individual and for the community that benefits from the knowledge and experiences this individual brings to all, and

WHEREAS, the County of St. Lawrence recognizes with great respect and admiration the contributions that all people, including older adults, give to our communities, and

WHEREAS, Joseph Bernard MacDonald was born on October 3, 1924, to his parents, Alden J. MacDonald and Irene A. Molloy-Murphy of Ogdensburg, and

WHEREAS, Joseph attended St. Mary's Academy in Ogdensburg, after leaving St. Mary's he sailed the Great Lakes, and upon his return, he earned his GED, and

WHEREAS, in 1943, during WWII, Joseph was drafted into the United States Navy, and served aboard the USS Nevada until 1945, as a BM3 Boatswain's mate or Bosun's mate, and

WHEREAS, while aboard the USS Nevada, Joseph and his fellow sailors fired the first shots on Normandy Beach on June 6, 1944, D-Day, and Joseph earned the French Legion of Honor medal for this action, and in February 1945 they also saw action at Iwo Jima, and

WHEREAS, his two (2) brothers, Andrew and Edward, served at the same time during WWII, and

WHEREAS, after military service, Joseph returned to Ogdensburg in 1945, and worked at Brown's Dairy, until joining the New York State Police, and

WHEREAS, Joseph was stationed in Lowville, New York, where he stayed in the barracks, returning home to Ogdensburg once per month, and

WHEREAS, in 1951, Joseph joined the United States Border Patrol as an Agent, where he was required to move many times along the borders of the United States, and

WHEREAS, in Washington, DC at the headquarters there where he had achieved the rank of Assistant Deputy Commissioner, he remained in that position until his mandatory retirement in 1979, at the age of fifty-five (55), and

WHEREAS, currently, Joseph is the oldest living United States Border Patrol Agent, and, in 2024, the United States Border Patrol celebrated their Centennial, and a Border Patrol Headquarters Supervisor went to visit Joseph at his home in Florida, to conduct a video interview about him and his service, and

WHEREAS, retirement did not last long, Joseph became an Investigator for the United States Government, until his final retirement in 1980, and

WHEREAS, In 1947, Joseph married Beverly June Jirard at Notre Dame Church in Ogdensburg, together they raised five (5) children, Renee, Andrea, Suzanne, Joseph B. and Thomas G., and

WHEREAS, Joseph attended Paul Smith's college, he enjoyed playing golf, and played frequently until the age of ninety (90), and he loved sports, during high school, he was on the football team for St. Mary's Academy, and

WHEREAS, Joseph is known as a devoted Catholic, he is well liked, and has an even temper, but is tough and stands on principal, and

WHEREAS, Joseph loved the City of Ogdensburg, especially the St. Lawrence River, he inherited his love of the water from his paternal Great-Grandfather, Captain Alex MacDonald, a Great Lakes ship Captain on the St. Lawrence River and the Great Lakes, Andrew MacDonald was a navigator on tug boats along the same routes, and

WHEREAS, now at the blessed age of 100 years old, Joseph Bernard MacDonald is to be commended for distinguishing himself not only for the length of his incredible life but for the impact he undoubtedly had on many lives in his community and beyond, and

WHEREAS, the Board of Legislators wishes to honor the newest centenarian in the County with the sincerest congratulations and best wishes for many more happy, productive years,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Legislators recognizes the 100th birthday of Mr. Joseph Bernard MacDonald.

Mr. Reagen moved to adopt Resolution No. 346-2024, seconded by Mr. Gennett, Ms. Haggard, Mr. Lightfoot, Ms. Terminelli, Mr. Denesha, and Ms. Curran, and carried by a voice vote with fourteen (14) yes votes, and one (1) absent (Fay).

November 4, 2024

RESOLUTION NO. 347-2024

AUTHORIZING FILLING OF VACANCIES

By Mr. Lightfoot, District 3; Mr. Perkins, District 7; and Mr. Burke, District 12

WHEREAS, Resolution No. 369-2019 and Resolution No. 253-2020 authorized the continuance of the current vacancy review process with a recommendation that the vacancies continue to be deliberated at each jurisdictional committee, but one resolution be created for all approved positions to be considered at the Regular Board Meeting, and

WHEREAS, the Vacancy Review Committee reviewed eight (8) positions in four (4) departments, with one (1) new positions being requested, and of those eight (8) positions reviewed, seven (7) were approved and one (1) was held.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Legislators authorizes the fill of each of the following vacancies which have been reviewed and recommended to be filled or created and filled by the Vacancy Review Committee:

Department/Unit:	Title:	Position	Type	Duration	Timeline
Social Services	Employment Coordinator	801390002	FT	Provisional	Immediate
Social Services	Keyboard Specialist	003100013	FT	Contingent	Immediate
Social Services	Keyboard Specialist	003100019	FT	Permanent	Immediate
Social Services	Staff Development Coordinator	702100001	FT	Provisional	Immediate
Social Services	Secretary I	005100012	FT	Permanent	Immediate
Information Technology	Computer Technician	202700001	FT	Provisional	Immediate
County Administrator/Purchasing	Senior Account Clerk*	100200047	FT	Permanent	Immediate

*new

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Purchasing Clerk, Position No. 011500001, will be abolished in the County Administrator - Purchasing Department, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED for any positions funded by grants, and the grant goes away, those positions will be abolished, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the appointing authorities are authorized to fill the positions as provided for in the resolution.

Mr. Lightfoot moved to adopt Resolution No. 347-2024, seconded by Mr. Gennett, and Mr. Webster, and carried by a voice vote with fourteen (14) yes votes, and one (1) absent (Fay).

November 4, 2024

RESOLUTION NO. 348-2024

**AUTHORIZING THE CHAIR TO SIGN A ONE YEAR CONTRACT WITH THE
RURAL LAW CENTER OF NEW YORK FOR INDIGENT
APPELLATE REPRESENTATION**

By Mr. Forsythe, District 2

WHEREAS, St. Lawrence County currently funds appellate representation for indigent criminal and family court litigants for assignments from the Appellate Division, Third Department, and the St. Lawrence County Court Judges, for appeals from local courts to County Court, and

WHEREAS, the Rural Law Center (RLC) of New York is a non-profit, 501 (c) (3), legal services organization that provides legal services to low income New Yorkers residing in rural counties, and

WHEREAS, since 2014, the RLC has worked in collaboration with the New York State Bar Association's Committee on Courts of Appellate Jurisdiction, as the Committee created a unique Pro Bono Appeals Program that provides attorneys for appellate services in the Third and Fourth Judicial Department which includes work for St. Lawrence County, and

WHEREAS, Resolution No. 81-2014 established the relationship with the RLC and Resolution Nos. 161-2017, 123-2019, 126-2022, and 153-2023 authorized the continuation of their work at varying amounts conscious of the change in caseloads, and

WHEREAS, the RLC has experienced appellate attorneys on staff with extensive criminal and family law appellate expertise, and employs experienced appellate support staff capable of providing high quality appellate representation for up to 60 appeals per year at an annual total cost to St. Lawrence County (IA011704 430AC) of \$180,000 which represents no change in cost,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Legislators authorizes the Chair to sign a contract with the Rural Law Center of New York for the provision of indigent appellate representation for a one year term, retroactive to April 1, 2024, through March 31, 2025, upon approval of the County Attorney, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that St. Lawrence County will pay the Rural Law Center \$180,000 for the provision of appellate services, with payments being made in quarterly installments of \$45,000 with quarterly work reports continuing to be provided to the County Administrator, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that additional appellate work above the sixty (60) appeals will be paid at \$3,500 per additional appeal, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the contract be retroactive to April 1, 2024, upon adoption of the resolution.

Mr. Perkins moved to adopt Resolution No. 348-2024, seconded by Mr. Gennett, and Ms. Curran, and carried by a voice vote with fourteen (14) yes votes, and one (1) absent (Fay).

November 4, 2024

RESOLUTION NO. 349-2024

**SETTING A DATE FOR A PUBLIC HEARING ON PROPOSED LOCAL LAW H
(NO. _) FOR THE YEAR 2024, "TAX CAP OVERRIDE FOR FY 2025"**

By Mr. Forsythe, District 2

WHEREAS, in 2011, New York State implemented the Tax Levy Limit, commonly referred to as the "Tax Cap" which provides for a maximum growth of the Levy each year and provided regulations to counties, towns, villages, and school districts for how to approve a Levy that exceeds the Tax Cap, and

WHEREAS, one of the largest expenses placed on the Levy is the cost of Medicaid (\$23.4M in 2024), and in 2012 the State recognized that the burden of Medicaid was too great for counties and placed a cap on the annual increases that were passed on to counties, and

WHEREAS, this cap for Medicaid provided an opportunity for counties to predict costs more effectively and successfully stay under the Tax Cap, and

WHEREAS, in addition, the impact of inflation has increased the cost of operations, and the State has resumed the practice of passing along costs for programs they require, that are not funded by the State, and

WHEREAS, New York State has made an unsustainable change with Medicaid costs this year when they determined that they would begin intercepting federal funds passed to counties, deciding to keep Federal Medicaid Assistance Program (eFMAP) funds intended for counties and by doing this, they have added \$3.1M to the Medicaid bill increases that previous State administrations took measures to prevent, and

WHEREAS, other fiscally significant changes by New York State with mandated programs that add additional expenses to counties include, but are not limited to; doubling the attorney hourly rates for indigent defense, reducing the State share of safety net cost, mandating Medical Assisted Therapy (MAT) Program in Correctional Facilities, cybersecurity requirements, augmentation in the PILOT Agreement process, and

WHEREAS, additionally, the implementation of two court decisions having budgetary impacts create revenue loss from Tax Foreclosure Sales (Tyler v. Hennepin County, Minnesota), and an increase in Foster Care pay increases the cost of providing services to the citizens of the County, and

WHEREAS, all of these changes and inflation continue to impact on the ability that the

County has to meet the arbitrary Tax Cap set without consideration for the changes that are being implemented, and

WHEREAS, St. Lawrence County has requested one override in ten (10) years (2024), and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Legislators authorizes setting a date for a public hearing on proposed Local Law H (No. __) for the Year 2024 “Tax Cap Override for FY 2025” to be held at 5:50 p.m. on December 4, 2024 in the Legislative Board Room.

PROPOSED LOCAL LAW H (NO.) FOR THE YEAR 2024
“TAX CAP OVERRIDE FOR FY 2025”

Section 1. TITLE OF THE LOCAL LAW

This Local Law shall be entitled “Tax Cap Override for FY 2025.”

Section 2. AUTHORIZATION

For fiscal year 2025, the County of St. Lawrence shall override the real property tax levy limit established by Chapter 97 of the Laws of 2011 of the State of New York and may adopt a budget requiring a tax levy that is greater than such tax levy limit.

Section 3. VOTE REQUIREMENT

This local law is adopted pursuant to subdivision 5 of the General Municipal Law § 3-C, which expressly authorizes the County Board of Legislators to override the tax levy limit by the adoption of a local law approved by vote of sixty percent (60%) of the Board.

Section 4. PURPOSE

The purpose of this local law is to permit the override of the limit on the amount of real property taxes that may be levied by the County of St. Lawrence, and to allow the County to adopt a county budget for the fiscal year 2025 that requires a real property tax levy in excess of the "tax levy limit" as defined by General Municipal Law § 3-C.

Section 5. DEFINITION

Tax Cap Override for FY 2025 - The County Board of Legislators, County of St. Lawrence, is hereby authorized to adopt a budget for FY 2025 that requires a real property tax levy in excess of the amount otherwise proscribed in General Municipal Law § 3-C.

Section 6. SUPERSESSION

Pursuant to the powers granted by the Municipal Home Rule, this Local Law supersedes all provisions of any other laws in the County of St. Lawrence, in so far as such statutes are inconsistent with this Local Law and any other laws or regulations of the County of St. Lawrence are superseded to the extent necessary to give this Local Law full force and effect. All other provisions shall remain the same.

Section 7. SEVERABILITY

Each separate provision of this Local Law shall be deemed independent of all other provisions therein, and if any provisions shall be deemed or declared invalid, all other provisions hereof shall remain valid and enforceable.

Section 8. EFFECTIVE DATE

This Local Law shall take effect immediately upon filing in the office of the Secretary of State, in accordance with Municipal Home Rule Law § 27.

Mr. Perkins moved to adopt Resolution No. 349-2024, seconded by Mr. Smithers, Mr. Gennett, and Ms. Curran, and carried by a voice vote with fourteen (14) yes votes, and one (1) absent (Fay).

COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT: There was no County Administrator's Report.

OLD/NEW BUSINESS:

Ms. Curran said the National Marine Sanctuary was presented to the Board in July of 2021, and asked if there was any interested in discussing this again as it would benefits to the community.

Ms. Curran discussed the importance of free speech and that if there is a disagreement she encourages individuals to talk about it in the moment. Mr. Forsythe stated that he strongly disagrees with Governor Hochul's statement, that Trump supporters are also anti-American, anti-women, and anti-abortion.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Ms. Curran stated that the EMS Advisory Board wrote a letter to the state in support of Carthage Hospital and Claxton-Hepburn in having a transportation service. They are interested in inner hospital transport with no interest in responding to 911 calls.

Mr. Sheridan moved to go to Executive Session at 7:11 p.m., to discuss negotiations, and appointments, seconded by Mr. Gennett and Mr. Lightfoot, and carried by a voice vote with fourteen (14) yes votes, and one (1) absent (Fay).

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Mr. Hull moved to go to Open Session at 7:50 p.m., seconded by Mr. Lightfoot and Ms. Curran, and carried by a voice vote with fourteen (14) yes votes, and one (1) absent (Fay).

Ms. Curran moved to appoint the following individual to the EMS Advisory Board (Term to expire 11/3/2026), seconded by Mr. Perkins and Mr. Denesha, and carried by a voice vote with fourteen (14) yes votes, and one (1) absent (Fay):

Katherine Terwilliger, 904 County Route 28, Ogdensburg

Ms. Curran moved to reappoint the following individual to the Agricultural & Farmland Protection Board (Term to expire 11/3/2028), seconded by Mr. Perkins, and carried by a voice vote with fourteen (14) yes votes, and one (1) absent (Fay):

David Fisher, 3084 County Route 14, Madrid

Ms. Curran moved to reappoint the following individual to the St. Lawrence County Planning Board (Term to expire 11/3/2027), seconded by Mr. Denesha, and carried by a voice vote with fourteen (14) yes votes, and one (1) absent (Fay):

Kitty O-Neil, 29 Cayey Road, South Colton

Ms. Curran moved to reappoint the following individuals to the EMS Advisory Board (Term to expire 11/3/2026), seconded by Mr. Perkins, and carried by a voice vote with fourteen (14) yes votes, and one (1) absent (Fay):

Douglas Bohl, 355 Giffin Road, Potsdam
Lynn Backus, Post Office Box 244, Star Lake

Ms. Curran moved to appoint the following individual to the EMS Advisory Board (Term to expire 11/3/2026), seconded by Mr. Denesha and carried by a voice vote with fourteen (14) yes votes, and one (1) absent (Fay):

Keegan B. Muldowney, 21 Larnard Street, Potsdam

CHAIRS APPOINTMENTS: Mr. Forsythe appointed the following ad hoc committee: Artificial Intelligence (AI): Mr. Hull (Chair).

ADJOURNMENT: Chair Forsythe moved to adjourn the Full Board Meeting at 7:54 p.m., as there was no further business.