



Tioga County Worksession Minutes October 20, 2022 – 10:00 a.m.

Legislators Present:

Legislator Brown
Legislator Ciotoli
Legislator Monell
Legislator Mullen
Chair/Legislator Sauerbrey
Legislator Standinger
Legislator Weston

Legislators Absent:

Legislator Hollenbeck
Legislator Roberts

Guests:

None

Staff Present:

Peter DeWind, County Attorney
Cathy Haskell, Legislative Clerk
Amy Eiklor, Deputy Legislative Clerk
James Wahls, Democratic Commissioner of Elections (*Departed at 10:05 a.m.*)
Linda Parke, Personnel Officer
LeeAnn Tinney, Director of ED&P (*Departed at 10:31 a.m.*)

Call Meeting to Order: Chair Sauerbrey opened the meeting at 10:03 a.m. with the ***Ninth Special Legislative Meeting*** for Legislature consideration of the following:

- ***Appointment of Democratic Election Clerk PT***

Legislative Clerk Haskell took roll call. Legislator Weston led in the prayer, pledge, and voting process. Special Meeting adjourned at 10:05 a.m. with regular worksession immediately following.

2023 Budget Discussion – Budget Officer Bailey: Budget Officer Bailey was unable to attend the meeting but provided the Legislators with a budget update and worksheets. Chair Sauerbrey reviewed the worksheets and reported the following:

- Budget will roll to Level 5, Tentative Budget at the conclusion of the meeting

- Tentative Estimated Fund balance year-end 2023 is \$30,787,290.12
- Estimated Capital Fund Reserve balance year-end 2022 is \$8,028,320.84
- Newly established Capital SAC Building Reserve fund will be the account State Aid Casino (SAC) revenue will be deposited into

Mr. Bailey will present to the Legislature at the November 10th worksession.

Concealed Carry Improvement Act Resolution: Chair Sauerbrey reported Governor Hochul and the New York State Legislature recently passed the “Concealed Carry Improvement Act.” As a result, black powder demonstrations, such as the one at the Newark Valley Apple Festival, are prohibited. Also, there can no longer be a 21 Gun Salute at military funerals. According to Chair Sauerbrey, other counties throughout New York State are passing resolutions expressing their discontent with the law. Chair Sauerbrey asked the Legislators to read over the proposed resolution for consideration at the November 15th Legislative meeting.

Sweeper/Vac Truck Discussion: Director of ED&P, LeeAnn Tinney, explained last year, a resolution was passed authorizing ED&P to submit and administer a USDA direct loan and grant for the Village of Nichols to purchase a street sweeper-vacuum truck. The Village of Nichols was to act as a pass-through for the grant. The sweeper-vacuum truck was to be shared between Tioga County, the Village of Nichols, and other municipalities throughout the county. The USDA awarded the Village of Nichols the grant, the truck was ordered, and received. Chair Sauerbrey asked Ms. Tinney why the equipment was ordered before the funds were received. Ms. Tinney stated the wait time for ordering the equipment was estimated to be one year. The Village of Owego, Town of Owego, and Tioga County made their previously agreed upon financial contributions. The grant closing process is taking much longer than anticipated and as a result, the Village of Nichols is incurring daily finance charges. The Village of Nichols does not have the financial capacity to pay such a large sum at this time.

Ms. Tinney reported the total equipment cost was \$333,546.59. The total match paid to date by the Village of Owego, Town of Owego, and Tioga County is \$147,345.96. The USDA's amount due is \$186,200.63. Ms. Tinney spoke with representatives from the USDA and was told the grant closing could take another two months. Ms. Tinney proposed paying the \$186,200.63 on behalf of the Village of Nichols. Once the USDA grant has been closed, the Village of Nichols can then reimburse Tioga County. Legislator Monell inquired if that figure included the finance charges. Ms. Tinney responded no; the finance charges are not included in that figure. She stated the finance charges are currently \$7,200. Ms. Tinney reported she was given approval by her Committee Chair to pay the finance charges out of her current budget and she has already done so.

Chair Sauerbrey reported Commissioner of Public Works, Gary Hammond, has a significant amount of funds in his Capital budget that he is unable to use in 2022 due to supply chain issues. It was suggested that money could be used to pay the \$186,200.63 balance and then be put back into the fund when reimbursement is received from the Village of Nichols. Attorney DeWind stated a portion of the sweeper is Tioga County's and funds coming out of the Capital budget would be appropriate as this is a Capital expense. Ms. Tinney reported she

is currently finalizing a shared services agreement to outline the responsibilities of municipalities involved in the project. The sweeper truck will be housed at the Town of Owego as they use it the most.

Ms. Tinney will speak with Mr. Hammond and seek his approval for using Capital funds to pay off the balance, with the expectation the Village of Nichols would reimburse Tioga County. Should he agree to it, Ms. Tinney will present a resolution to her Legislative Committee in November.

Approval of Worksession Minutes: On motion of Legislator Monell, seconded by Legislator Brown, the October 6, 2022 minutes were unanimously approved.

Action Items: Currently we have none.

Other:

- ***Narcan Availability at HHS:*** County Attorney DeWind reported CASA Trinity reached out to him requesting a Narcan box be placed in a public space at the Health & Human Services (HHS) building. The box is expected to contain two Narcan kits. The purpose is to have Narcan available in case someone was to overdose. The box would be monitored by Public Health and would be free of charge to Tioga County. Should the Legislature decide to allow the box, Attorney DeWind emphasized the importance of ensuring the box be placed where children are unable to access it. CASA Trinity suggested the box be located in a restroom, out-of-reach of children. Attorney DeWind suggested the box be kept at the security guard station at the entrance of the building.

Legislator Mullen stated the end goal is to save lives and he has seen first-hand how Narcan can be used to save a person that has overdosed. He stated many individuals struggling with addiction utilize departments within the HHS building. Legislator Mullen would be in favor of having a Narcan box at the HHS building. He doesn't believe installing a box would facilitate drug use, but the goal is to save a life and get the individual out of their current situation.

Legislator Standinger suggested installing the box near the AED, which is mounted fairly high off the ground. Legislators Ciotoli and Brown agreed with Legislator Standinger's suggestion of installing the box near the AED. The Legislators in attendance, with the exception of Legislator Monell, were in favor of installing the box at the HHS building. Attorney DeWind will let CASA Trinity know the Narcan box can be installed, only if it is located near the AED, out-of-reach of children.

Executive Session: Seven Legislators were in attendance. Legislative Clerk Haskell, Personnel Officer Parke, and County Attorney DeWind remained in attendance. Motion by Legislator Mullen, seconded by Legislator Brown, to move into Executive Session to discuss employment and financial matters at 10:40 a.m. Motion carried. Motion by Legislator Monell to adjourn, seconded by Legislator Weston. Executive Session adjourned at 11:01 a.m.

Meeting adjourned at 11:01 a.m.

Next Worksession scheduled for Thursday, November 10, 2022, at 1:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Amy Eiklor

Deputy Legislative Clerk