

2024

THIRD SESSION

MARCH 8, 2024

The Board convened at 10:30 A.M. in the Supervisors' Chambers at the Court House, Lake Pleasant, New York, with the Chairman, Brian E. Wells presiding. Mr. Wells led the members of the Board of Supervisors in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag, and an opening prayer.

The Clerk, Mrs. Laura Abrams, called the roll with the following Supervisors answering:

Arietta	Chris D. Rhodes
Benson	Phillip C. Snyder
Hope	Steven M. Tomlinson
Indian Lake	Brian E. Wells
Inlet	ABSENT
Lake Pleasant	Betsy A. Bain
Long Lake	Clay J. Arsenault
Morehouse	Anthony Fernandez
Wells	ABSENT

Also present: County Attorney (*via ZOOM*), Barry Baker-Real Property Tax Director/Budget Officer, Caitlin Stewart-District Manager Soil and Water, Jamila Page-Cornell Cooperative Extension Senior Issue Leader and Carole Ruiz-Personnel Officer

A motion was made to accept the minutes of November 8th, 2023 by Mr. Rhodes, seconded by Mr. Tomlinson. Carried.

Public Comment: No one present

Reports of Standing/Special Committees:

Mr. Rhodes: Gave an update on the Emergency Services merger with the Sheriff's Office. They have had eight days to evaluate the office after Jill Dunham, prior Emergency Services Director, left. It is worse than anyone had anticipated. They are trying to put the limited information that they have in some kind of order so when they do get an audit there will at least be effort shown. It is not going to be good but at least they can show that after February 24th when the office was officially merged that everything will be in order. He can't express how important a 3 to 6-month evaluation is. He thanked the Sheriff and his staff and the Clerk of the Board and her Deputy for all the work they have been doing. A big thank you to Don Purdy for coming back to assist. It is a lot right now but ultimately; it's going to be a good move for the County.

Mr. Rhodes stated that the APA pre-application is finally in for the Morehouse tower. The Arietta and Hope towers pre-application should be in by the end of this coming week.

The Chairman acknowledged Mr. Rhodes for stepping up the way he has in the tower meetings and for what he has taken on as a committee chair. He thanked Mr. Rhodes.

Mr. Tomlinson: Stated that Jamila Page is here for a Cornell Cooperative Extension update. He further stated that the appointment of Tracy Eldridge, Highway Superintendent, is up in May. He hopes that he will stay. The Chairman stated that they should look at it for the May meeting.

Ms. Bain: Stated that Caitlin Stewart, District Manager for Soil and Water, is on the agenda.

PRESENTATIONS:

The Chairman introduced Caitlin Stewart.

Ms. Stewart handed out Hamilton County Soil & Water's 2023 Annual Report. She stated that her team of four were able to accomplish this thanks to their support, guidance and recommendations. She recognized Mr. Rhodes and Ms. Bain for being indefatigable Board Members serving them. They are very serious about attending meetings and bringing issues forward. It is leadership like that which helps them accomplish everything the Board sees in their packet. While reviewing the handout she discussed things like lake monitoring, hydroseeding, snowmobile trail GIS mapping, conservation on the ground and boat storage plastic recycling. She also discussed the launch of their new program called Caring Through Conservation Mini Grant. They were able to fund 5 applications giving \$6,972 out to public entities. She stated that because of the County's support they can do educational outreach and conservation programs like the Envirothon. She also stated that she learned that Hamilton County was awarded a grant for cell service, and she wanted the Board to know that her technicians can help with emergency towers. Historically they have utilized GPS to map out these areas to find the best place to construct roads to these towers. She acknowledged her staff and stated they attend training and have certifications to get conservation on the ground. The Board thanked Ms. Stewart.

The Chairman introduced Jamila Page, Cornell Cooperative Extension.

Ms. Page thanked the Board for their continued support and this opportunity. Without the Board they wouldn't be able to provide the services that they do in Hamilton County. The Game of Logging is an initiative they started 2 years ago. It has been highly received and requested in Hamilton County. They have two 3-day series planned for this year. There is going to be one in May which is a consecutive course of Levels I, II and Storm Damage and the second one is in September. They will be utilizing property in Arietta again and she thanked Mr. Rhodes. They have already reached out to the Highway Superintendents letting them know about the program opportunities. They have also researched and reached out to other organizations who may need this. It will be opening to the general public soon to fill in any gaps. She further discussed their current programs. The Board thanked Ms. Page.

Caitlin Stewart, Jamila Page and Carole Ruiz left the meeting.

RESOLUTIONS:

After the following resolution was placed on the floor; Mr. Arsenault asked why they were rescinding. The Clerk of the Board stated that the 4th whereas explains that. The first resolution stated that they were generally going to contract with guides up to an amount with no names. She had met with Christy Wilt, Economic Development/Tourism Director and they discussed that she gets proposals from each one. She discussed that with the County Attorney, and he wanted a resolution that had more information of who they were contracting with and more detail on how much. Mr. Arsenault asked if that was new, and the Clerk of the Board stated that the names and the not to exceed amount was. Mr. Arsenault confirmed that they were rescinding and passing the new one.

RESOLUTION NO. 94-24

RESCINDING RES. NO. 77-24 AND AUTHORIZING THE CHAIRMAN TO SIGN CONTRACTS WITH FACILITATORS, PRESENTERS AND GUIDES AND PAYMENT FOR SPECIFIC EXPENSES FOR THE 2024 BIRDING FESTIVAL

DATED: MARCH 8, 2024

BY MR. ARSENAULT:

WHEREAS, Hamilton County is sponsoring a county-wide Birding Festival in June of 2024, and

WHEREAS, this Festival consists of numerous separate events from June 6-9, 2024 including: outings, lectures, seminars and certain events will require paid guides, facilitators or presenters, and

WHEREAS, all guides, facilitators and presenters will be paid based on their submitted proposals, and

WHEREAS, Res. No. 77-24 authorized contracts for the Birding Festival without specifics of who the County would be contracting with and the County Attorney has recommended that the authorizing resolution have the necessary details in it, be it

RESOLVED, that Resolution No. 77-24 be hereby rescinded, and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Chairman of the Board of Supervisors is hereby authorized to sign contracts with guides, facilitators and presenters' approval of the County Attorney as follows:

Joan Collins – total not to exceed \$875.00
Richard Hanlon – total not to exceed \$825.00
Mike Moccio – total not to exceed \$400.00
Wanda Moccio – total not to exceed \$400.00
Timothy Emmerick – total not to exceed \$375.00

Laurie Freeman – total not to exceed \$625.00
Pat Bixler – total not to exceed \$825.00
Nina Schoch - total not to exceed \$350.00

Outings, lectures, and related events not to exceed a total of \$5,000.00 from Publicity budget 6410.404, Event Funding and the County Treasurer be so notified.

Seconded by Mr. Tomlinson and adopted by the following vote:

AYES: RHODES, SNYDER, TOMLINSON, WELLS, BAIN, ARSENAULT, AND
FERNANDEZ

NAYS: NONE

ABSENT: FREY AND HUNT

RESOLUTION NO. 95-24

**AUTHORIZING PUBLIC DEFENDER AND SECOND ASSISTANT PUBLIC
DEFENDER POSITIONS TO BE SALARIED POSITIONS**

DATED: MARCH 8, 2024

BY MS. BAIN:

WHEREAS, the Personnel Officer met with the Internal Management Committee and discussed the need to make the Public Defender and Second Assistant Public Defender positions salaried positions, and

WHEREAS, due to the inconsistency of the hours they maintain, the fact that the PT Assistant Public Defender is currently a salaried position and the fact that the Office of the Public Defender is 100% state grant reimbursed for criminal court, the Internal Management Committee agreed with the Personnel Officer's recommendation, be it

RESOLVED, that the Personnel Officer is hereby authorized to make the positions of Public Defender and Second Assistant Public Defender salaried position effective March 3, 2024, and be it further

RESOLVED, that the County Treasurer, Personnel Officer and Office of the Public Defender be so notified.

Seconded by Mr. Rhodes and adopted by the following vote:

AYES: RHODES, SNYDER, TOMLINSON, WELLS, BAIN, ARSENAULT, AND
FERNANDEZ

NAYS: NONE

ABSENT: FREY AND HUNT

After the following resolution was placed on the floor; the Chairman stated that he thought it was a good proactive move.

RESOLUTION NO. 96-24

CREATING RECORDING CLERK POSITION IN THE COUNTY CLERK'S OFFICE

DATED: MARCH 8, 2024

BY MR. SNYDER:

WHEREAS, the County Clerk has met with the Central Government Committee to review the future staffing needs of the County Clerk's Office, and

WHEREAS, it was determined that the position titled Index Clerk (Grade 6) has vastly changed over previous years, requiring more knowledge and skills, and be it further

RESOLVED, the position titled Index Clerk (Grade 6) become Recording Clerk (Grade 7), and be it further

RESOLVED, that Account No. A1410.0109 be renamed Recording Clerk, and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Civil Service position of Recording Clerk, which requires New York State Civil Service testing, be created in the County Clerk's Office, and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Personnel Officer advertise for the position of Recording Clerk for the County Clerk's Office with the understanding that the position may be filled provisionally by a qualified candidate until the test can be given and a qualified list is certified, and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Personnel Officer and Treasurer be so authorized.

Seconded by Ms. Bain and adopted by the following vote:

AYES: RHODES, SNYDER, TOMLINSON, WELLS, BAIN, ARSENAULT, AND FERNANDEZ

NAYS: NONE

ABSENT: FREY AND HUNT

RESOLUTION NO. 97-24

**AMENDING RES. NO. 57-24 - FUNDING 2020 STATEWIDE INTEROPERABLE
COMMUNICATIONS GRANT – SI20-1028-E00**

DATED: MARCH 8, 2024

BY MR. RHODES:

WHEREAS, the Hamilton County Emergency Management Department has been awarded the NYS 2020 Statewide Interoperable Communications Formula Grant SI20-1028-E00 through the NYS 2020 Statewide Interoperable Communications Formula Grant program in the amount of \$566,267.00, and

WHEREAS, the funds have not been spent entirely, and

WHEREAS, Resolution No. 57-24 funded said grant in the 2024 budget, and

WHEREAS, it has been determined that a claim was made to the wrong grant so the 2024 funding needs to be corrected, be it

RESOLVED, that Resolution No. 57-24 be amended to fund Account No. A3645.0425 Statewide Communications Grant SI20-1028-E01 at \$292,490.80 to be totally offset by funding Revenue Account No. A3389.0129 Statewide Communications Grant at \$292,490.80 and the County Treasurer be so authorized and the Director of Emergency Management and Sheriff be so notified.

Seconded by Mr. Arsenault and adopted by the following vote:

AYES: RHODES, SNYDER, TOMLINSON, WELLS, BAIN, ARSENAULT, AND
FERNANDEZ

NAYS: NONE

ABSENT: FREY AND HUNT

RESOLUTION NO. 98-24

**AMENDING RES. NO. 58-234 - FUNDING 2021 STATEWIDE INTEROPERABLE
COMMUNICATIONS GRANT – SI21-1050-E00**

DATED: MARCH 8, 2024

BY MR. ARSENAULT:

WHEREAS, the Hamilton County Emergency Management Department has been awarded the NYS 2021 Statewide Interoperable Communications Formula Grant SI21-1050-E00 through

the NYS 2021 Statewide Interoperable Communications Formula Grant program in the amount of \$1,126,497.00, and

WHEREAS, the funds have not been spent entirely, and

WHEREAS, Resolution No. 58-24 funded said grant in the 2024 budget, and

WHEREAS, it has been determined that a claim was made to the wrong grant so the 2024 funding needs to be corrected, be it

RESOLVED, that that Resolution No. 58-24 be amended to fund Account No. A3645.0427 Statewide Communications Grant SI21-1050-E00 at \$939,934.56 to be totally offset by funding Revenue Account No. A3389.0131 Statewide Communications Grant at \$939,934.56 and the County Treasurer be so authorized and the Director of Emergency Management and Sheriff be so notified.

Seconded by Mr. Tomlinson and adopted by the following vote:

AYES: RHODES, SNYDER, TOMLINSON, WELLS, BAIN, ARSENAULT, AND FERNANDEZ

NAYS: NONE

ABSENT: FREY AND HUNT

RESOLUTION NO. 99-24

AMENDING HAMILTON COUNTY ADVISORY BOARD

DATED: MARCH 8, 2024

BY MR. RHODES:

WHEREAS, Res. No. 82-24 appointed the Hamilton County Fire Advisory Board for a term of January 1, 2024-December 31, 2024, and

WHEREAS, a change to the appointment for Wells has been requested, be it

RESOLVED, that the appointment for Wells for the Hamilton County Fire Advisory Board be Chief Vince Lauria with his Alternate being Dan Saltis for the term of January 1, 2024-December 31, 2024.

Seconded by Mr. Snyder and adopted by the following vote:

AYES: RHODES, SNYDER, TOMLINSON, WELLS, BAIN, ARSENAULT, AND FERNANDEZ

NAYS: NONE

ABSENT: FREY AND HUNT

RESOLUTION NO. 100-24

AUTHORIZING INTERNSHIP FOR HAMILTON COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

DATED: MARCH 8, 2024

BY MR. RHODES:

WHEREAS, a student that attends Hamilton Fulton Montgomery BOCES for Criminal Justice has expressed interest in completing an unpaid internship with the Hamilton County Sheriff's Office, and

WHEREAS, the internship is from April 15, 2024 through April 26, 2024, and

WHEREAS, Hamilton Fulton Montgomery BOCES has sent an agreement and certificate of liability insurance, be it

RESOLVED, that the Chairman of the Board of Supervisors be authorized to sign the agreement between Hamilton Fulton Montgomery BOCES and Hamilton County Sheriff's Office, and be it further

RESOLVED, that said student be permitted to complete the unpaid internship with the Hamilton County Sheriff's Office.

Seconded by Mr. Arsenault and adopted by the following vote:

AYES: RHODES, SNYDER, TOMLINSON, WELLS, BAIN, ARSENAULT, AND FERNANDEZ

NAYS: NONE

ABSENT: FREY AND HUNT

RESOLUTION NO. 101-24

2023 TRANSFER OF FUNDS – JAIL ACCOUNTS

DATED: MARCH 8, 2024

BY MR. RHODES:

WHEREAS, there is a shortage of funds in several of the Jail Corrections Officer's payroll accounts for 2023, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the County Treasurer be hereby authorized to make the following transfers:

FROM:		
Account No. A3150.0110 – Jail – Overtime/Holiday		\$ 461.09
TO:		
Account No. A3150.0105 – Jail – Correction Officer E		\$ 28.42
Account No. A3150.0107 – Jail – Correction Officer G		\$ 52.37
Account No. A3150.0108 – Jail – Correction Officer H		\$ 33.23
Account No. A3150.0111 – Jail – Part Time		\$ 347.07

Seconded by Ms. Bain and adopted by the following vote:

AYES: RHODES, SNYDER, TOMLINSON, WELLS, BAIN, ARSENAULT, AND FERNANDEZ

NAYS: NONE

ABSENT: FREY AND HUNT

After the following resolution was placed on the floor; the Chairman stated that he would be going to Star Lake on the 20th for a meeting he had been invited to concerning their tower efforts, but he also felt it played into what Hamilton County's tower efforts are going to be. There seems to be a lot of internal discussion amongst local government about how APA staff is directing how the applications get presented to the commissioners and there is a lot of dissatisfaction with how that's been done.

RESOLUTION NO. 102-24

**SUPPORTING EMERGENCY SERVICE COMMUNICATION TOWERS
FOR STAR LAKE AND CRANBERRY LAKE**

DATED: MARCH 8, 2024

BY MR. ARSENAULT:

WHEREAS, St. Lawrence County has secured funding to upgrade emergency communication towers and equipment throughout the county, and

WHEREAS, existing communication gaps in the Star Lake and Cranberry Lake areas are unsafe and unacceptable breaches that put the health, safety, and welfare of emergency responders,

law enforcement, residents, and visitors in dangerous situations with no communication apparatus, and

WHEREAS, two new tower locations in the Hamlets of Star Lake and Cranberry Lake have been identified as preferred locations to fill potential life-threatening emergency communication coverage gaps in the Clifton-Fine region, and

WHEREAS, the current lack of communication has a severe detrimental impact for all who rely on these services. There are numerous examples of emergency situations where the lack of communication has caused intolerable difficulties and delays, and

WHEREAS, these proposed new emergency communication towers, at maximum coverage heights, will substantially improve the current gaps and provide critical public safety upgrades, and

WHEREAS, these new emergency communication towers will significantly improve the communication needs for:

1. First Responders
2. Law Enforcement
3. Emergency Management
4. NYS Forest Rangers
5. Clifton-Fine Hospital
6. North Country Life Flight
7. Fort Drum Medevac Services
8. SUNY ES&F Ranger School
9. SUNY ES&F Cranberry Lake Biological Field Station
10. Clifton-Fine Central School
11. Town of Clifton Highway Department
12. Town of Fine Highway Department
13. Snowmobile Groomers
14. Potential Cellular Providers
15. General Public

and

WHEREAS, emergency communication is a basic necessity, demanded by constituents and visitors, and

WHEREAS, St. Lawrence County is open to and is discussing co-location with other providers that could reduce additional visual intrusions, and

WHEREAS, New York State recognized and responded to emergency response capacity needs by deploying temporary “Cells On Wheels” (COWS) to serve the 2023 World University Games, and

WHEREAS, the 2019 New York Upstate Cellular Coverage Task Force report states “ One key challenge in forested locations is that dense foliage rapidly weakens signal strength. Carriers have traditionally mitigated this issue by placing antennas well above the tree line.”, and

WHEREAS, St. Lawrence County is applying for an Adirondack Park Agency permit to install these new towers that will alleviate many of the emergency communication complications in the region, and

WHEREAS, these two proposed emergency communication towers, at increased heights, will eliminate the need for an additional two towers that would need to be located outside Hamlets and most likely in Resource Management areas. Two additional towers, at a taxpayer cost of approximately \$1.5 million each for a total of \$3 million, will significantly increase the environmental impacts (access roads, electrical services, additional visual impacts), cause severe delays in coverage areas while additional funding is sought, and increase long term operation and maintenance costs to the taxpayers, and

WHEREAS, APA’s Policy for Agency Review of Telecommunication Towers & Other Tall Structures in the Adirondack Park includes statements such as:

1. Section I (Purpose) “The policy must take into account the Park setting and serve the needs of Adirondack Park residents and visitors”, and
2. Section II A (General) “The project will not have an undue adverse impact upon the natural, scenic, aesthetic, ecological, wildlife, historic, recreational or open space resources of the park or upon the ability of the public to provide supporting facilities and services made necessary by the project, taking into account the commercial, industrial, residential, recreational or other benefits that might be derived from the project.”, and
3. Section III D (Emergency Communication Facilities) “the Agency recognizes that the demands of public health, safety and welfare will involve the upgrade of governmental emergency communication facilities. This policy recognizes that such factors should be taken into consideration along with the other policy guidelines contained herein”, now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the Hamilton County Board of Supervisors supports St. Lawrence County’s Adirondack Park Agency permit applications for these new emergency communication towers, and be it further

RESOLVED, that copies of this resolution be sent to NYS Governor Hochul, State Senators Daniel Stec, Mark Walczyk, Joseph Griffo, James Tedisco, Assembly Members Ken Blankenbush, Billy Jones, Matt Simpson, Scott Gray, Robert Smullen, Mary Beth Walsh, Carrie Woerner, NYS Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Services (DHSES) Commissioner Jackie Bray, Adirondack Park Agency Executive Director Barbara Rice, Adirondack Park Agency Board Members and Designees, NYS Association of Counties (NYSAC) Executive Director Stephen Acquario, Adirondack Park Local Government Review Board (APLGRB) Executive Director Gerry Delaney, Adirondack Association of Towns & Villages (AATV) President Stephen McNally and St. Lawrence County Emergency Services Director Matthew Denner.

Seconded by Mr. Snyder and adopted by the following vote:

AYES: RHODES, SNYDER, TOMLINSON, WELLS, BAIN, ARSENAULT, AND
FERNANDEZ

NAYS: NONE

ABSENT: FREY AND HUNT

RESOLUTION NO. 103-24

**AUTHORIZING CHAIRMAN TO SIGN GRANT AGREEMENT BETWEEN
WARREN/HAMILTON COUNTY OFA AND PUBLIC HEALTH NURSING SERVICE
FOR TITLE III-E FUNDING**

DATED: MARCH 8, 2024

BY MR. RHODES:

WHEREAS, Warren/Hamilton Counties Office for the Aging has grant monies available to provide respite Home Health Aide Services under Title III-E for seniors who are patients of the Certified Home Health Agency and require these services to provide respite for caregivers, and

WHEREAS, this agreement is for the period commencing January 1, 2024– December 31, 2024 for a total of \$10,000.00, and

WHEREAS, this anticipated funding was appropriated in the 2024 Municipal budget as a part of the budget development process, be it

RESOLVED, that the Chairman of the Board of Supervisors is hereby authorized to sign the grant agreement between the Office for the Aging and the Hamilton County Public Health Nursing Service upon approval of the County Attorney, and the County Treasurer be so notified.

Seconded by Ms. Bain and adopted by the following vote:

AYES: RHODES, SNYDER, TOMLINSON, WELLS, BAIN, ARSENAULT, AND
FERNANDEZ

NAYS: NONE

ABSENT: FREY AND HUNT

RESOLUTION NO. 104-24

AUTHORIZING CONTRACT WITH SPEECH THERAPIST – JAMIE GIANNINO

DATED: MARCH 8, 2024

BY MS. BAIN:

WHEREAS, the Hamilton County Public Health Nursing Service contracts with individual providers of speech and language pathologies for several programs, and

WHEREAS, Jamie Giannino of 1126 Reilly Street, Bay Shore, NY 11706, is a duly licensed Speech and Language Pathologist by the NYS Department of Education, Office of Professions and wishes to contract with the Nursing Service, and

WHEREAS, Jamie Giannino is currently licensed with NYSDOH and providing Early Intervention telehealth speech therapy for children in Hamilton County aged 0-3 years, and

WHEREAS, the term of this contract shall be from March 1, 2024 through February 28, 2025 and compensated at a rate of \$75.00 per visit, be it

RESOLVED, that the Chairman of the Board of Supervisors is authorized to enter into a contract with Jamie Giannino, SLP to provide speech therapy to the residents of Hamilton County, for the period March 1, 2024 through February 28, 2025 at a rate of \$75.00 per visit, upon approval of the County Attorney and the County Treasurer be so notified.

Seconded by Mr. Snyder and adopted by the following vote:

AYES: RHODES, SNYDER, TOMLINSON, WELLS, BAIN, ARSENAULT, AND FERNANDEZ

NAYS: NONE

ABSENT: FREY AND HUNT

After the following resolution was placed on the floor, Mr. Arsenault asked what department this vehicle was in. The Clerk of the Board stated that it is a Sheriff's vehicle. Mr. Arsenault asked what happened. The Clerk of the Board stated that turkeys were hit.

RESOLUTION NO. 105-24

**AUTHORIZING PAYMENT TO WARRENSBURG COLLISION CENTER, INC. –
INSURANCE REPAIR**

DATED: MARCH 8, 2024

BY MR. TOMLINSON:

WHEREAS, Vehicle #627 - 2023 Dodge Durango was involved in an accident and the repairs for the damage were completed by Warrensburg Collision Center, Inc., and

WHEREAS, the Fleet Coordinator recommends the payment of said repairs of the 2023 Dodge Durango, be it

RESOLVED, the County Treasurer is hereby authorized to increase Account No. A1910.0402 Repairs to Vehicles-Insurance by \$7,218.09 to be totally offset by increasing Revenue Account No. A2680.0000 Insurance Recoveries by \$7,218.09, and be it further

RESOLVED, that the County Treasurer is hereby authorized to make a check payable to:

Warrensburg Collision Center, Inc.
3985 Main Street
Warrensburg, NY 12885

for Invoice #0079 in the amount of \$8,218.09 and the funds be taken out of Account No. A1910.0402 Repairs to Vehicles-Insurance and the Fleet Coordinator and Clerk of the Board be so notified.

Seconded by Mr. Rhodes and adopted by the following vote:

AYES: RHODES, SNYDER, TOMLINSON, WELLS, BAIN, ARSENAULT, AND
FERNANDEZ

NAYS: NONE

ABSENT: FREY AND HUNT

RESOLUTION NO. 106-24

**EXTENSION OF AWARD OF BID FOR DUST CONTROL MATERIALS FOR THE
YEAR 2024**

DATED: MARCH 8, 2024

BY MR. TOMLINSON:

WHEREAS, Hamilton County DPW solicited bids for Dust Control Materials per Specification No. 5-2023, and

WHEREAS, by Resolution No. 80-23 the Hamilton County Board of Supervisors awarded the Dust Control Materials bid to Gorman Brothers, Inc., for Calcium Chloride, and

WHEREAS, the referenced bid provides the bid pricing for a one-year contract with the option of extending the contract by one year if both parties (Hamilton County and Gorman Brothers, Inc.) agree that terms and conditions remain the same for the duration of the extension, and

WHEREAS, the County Highway Superintendent has contacted Gorman Brothers, Inc. and that Gorman Brothers, Inc. will agree to a contract extension for Dust Control Materials at the same terms and conditions for a one (1) year period, and

WHEREAS, the County Highway Superintendent believes it is in Hamilton County's best interest to extend the current contract with Gorman Brothers, Inc. due to price stability resulting in no price increase in 2024, be it

RESOLVED, that the Hamilton County Board of Supervisors has determined that the contract with Gorman Brothers, Inc. for Dust Control Materials should be extended for a period of one (1) year subject to the approval of the County Attorney, and the County Treasurer, Highway Superintendent and Clerk of the Board be so notified.

Seconded by Mr. Snyder and adopted by the following vote:

AYES: RHODES, SNYDER, TOMLINSON, WELLS, BAIN, ARSENAULT, AND FERNANDEZ

NAYS: NONE

ABSENT: FREY AND HUNT

RESOLUTION NO. 107-24

EXTENSION OF AWARD OF BID FOR COLD IN-PLACE RECLAMATION FOR THE YEAR 2024

DATED: MARCH 8, 2024

BY MR. TOMLINSON:

WHEREAS, Hamilton County DPW solicited bids for Cold In-Place Reclamation per Specification No. 4-2023, and

WHEREAS, by Resolution No. 82-23 the Hamilton County Board of Supervisors awarded the Cold In-Place Reclamation bid to Gorman Brothers, Inc., and

WHEREAS, the referenced bid provides the bid pricing for a one-year contract with the option of extending the contract by one year if both parties (Hamilton County and Gorman Brothers, Inc.) agree that terms and conditions remain the same for the duration of the extension, and

WHEREAS, the County Highway Superintendent has contacted Gorman Brothers, Inc. and that Gorman Brothers, Inc. will agree to a contract extension for Cold In-Place Reclamation at the same terms and conditions for a one (1) year period, and

WHEREAS, the County Highway Superintendent believes it is in Hamilton County's best interest to extend the current contract with Gorman Brothers, Inc. due to price stability resulting in no price increase in 2024, be it

RESOLVED, that the Hamilton County Board of Supervisors has determined that the contract with Gorman Brothers, Inc. for Cold In-Place Reclamation should be extended for a period of one (1) year subject to the approval of the County Attorney, and the County Treasurer, Highway Superintendent and Clerk of the Board be so notified.

Seconded by Mr. Arsenault and adopted by the following vote:

AYES: RHODES, SNYDER, TOMLINSON, WELLS, BAIN, ARSENAULT, AND FERNANDEZ

NAYS: NONE

ABSENT: FREY AND HUNT

RESOLUTION NO. 108-24

EXTENSION OF AWARD OF BID FOR PAVEMENT MARKINGS 2024

DATED: MARCH 8, 2024

BY MR. TOMLINSON:

WHEREAS, Hamilton County DPW solicited bids for Pavement Markings per Specification No. 2-2023, and

WHEREAS, by Resolution No. 84-23 the Hamilton County Board of Supervisors awarded the bid to Seneca Pavement Markings of Horseheads for Pavement Marking, and

WHEREAS, the referenced bid provides the bid pricing for a one-year contract with the option of extending the contract by one year if both parties (Hamilton County and Seneca Pavement Markings) agree that terms and conditions remain the same for the duration of the extension, and

WHEREAS, the County Highway Superintendent has contacted Seneca Pavement Markings of Horseheads and that Seneca Pavement Markings will agree to a contract extension for Pavement Markings at the same terms and conditions for a one (1) year period, and

WHEREAS, the County Highway Superintendent believes it is in Hamilton County's best interest to extend the current contract with Seneca Pavement Markings due to price stability resulting in no price increase for 2024, be it

RESOLVED, that the Hamilton County Board of Supervisors has determined that the contract with Seneca Pavement Markings for Pavement Markings should be extended for a period of one (1) year subject to the approval of the County Attorney, and the County Treasurer, Highway Superintendent and Clerk of the Board be so notified.

Seconded by Mr. Snyder and adopted by the following vote:

AYES: RHODES, SNYDER, TOMLINSON, WELLS, BAIN, ARSENAULT, AND FERNANDEZ

NAYS: NONE

ABSENT: FREY AND HUNT

After the following resolution was placed on the floor; the Chairman asked Barry Baker, Real Property Tax Director, if he was happy with the group. Mr. Baker stated that he was, and the price has stayed the same. He also stated that they keep improving the site; seems like every year they add another feature. It's almost real time now so they can go on and check the status of their tax map.

RESOLUTION NO. 109-24

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE ANNUAL SOFTWARE PLAN WITH SYSTEMS DEVELOPMENT GROUP, INC. AND PAYMENT OF THE ANNUAL FEE FOR IMAGE MATE ONLINE SYSTEM FOR HOSTING REAL PROPERTY TAX SERVICES AGENCY TAX AND ASSESSMENT DATA

DATED: MARCH 8, 2024

BY MR. ARSENAULT:

WHEREAS, based on the recommendation of the Real Property Tax Services Agency, and by agreement of the Hamilton County Board of Supervisors, dissemination of real property tax and assessment data in digital form through a securely hosted internet based platform is a valuable enhancement to services provided by Hamilton County and a tangible benefit to taxpayers, real estate professionals and others, and

WHEREAS, the Real Property Tax Services Agency engaged Systems Development Group, Inc. as authorized by the Hamilton County Board of Supervisors to develop, host, upload regular software and Hamilton County data updates, and provide maintenance as stated for a Hamilton County specific version of their Image Mate Online system for a term of four (4) consecutive years commencing 03/01/2014 and subsequent approval of three (3) years through 02/28/2021 and now on an annual basis with an annual fee of \$6,000, and

WHEREAS, the Real Property Tax Services Agency has received and has approved a proposal for the additional one (1) year agreement for the term 03/01/2024 through 02/28/2025 at the annual fee of \$6,000 from Systems Development Group, Inc., therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED, the Hamilton County Board of Supervisors hereby authorizes the proposed annual plan agreement and payment of the annual fee of \$6,000 (Six Thousand Dollars) with Systems Development Group, Inc of Barneveld, New York, for the Hamilton County Image Mate Online system.

Seconded by Ms. Bain and adopted by the following vote:

AYES: RHODES, SNYDER, TOMLINSON, WELLS, BAIN, ARSENAULT, AND FERNANDEZ

NAYS: NONE

ABSENT: FREY AND HUNT

RESOLUTION NO. 110-24

MANAGEMENT OF EMERGENCY SERVICES, FIRE COORDINATOR AND EMS COORDINATOR

DATED: MARCH 8, 2024

BY MR. RHODES:

WHEREAS, the Hamilton County Board of Supervisors merged the Emergency Management Office with the Sheriff's Office with Resolution Number 93-24, be it

RESOLVED, that the Hamilton County Sheriff will be in charge of managing the Fire and EMS Coordinators, and be it further

RESOLVED, that Sean O'Brien is currently appointed Fire Coordinator for the term of January 1, 2024 ending December 31, 2024 at an hourly rate of \$27.149 from Account No. A3640.0103, and be it further

RESOLVED, that Jon Wilcox is currently appointed EMS Coordinator for the term of January 1, 2024 ending December 31, 2024 at an hourly rate of \$27.149 from Account No. A3640.0102, and the County Treasurer and Personnel Officer be so advised.

Seconded by Ms. Bain and adopted by the following vote:

AYES: RHODES, SNYDER, TOMLINSON, WELLS, BAIN, ARSENAULT, AND FERNANDEZ

NAYS: NONE

ABSENT: FREY AND HUNT

RESOLUTION NO. 111-24

**CREATING ACCOUNTS AND AUTHORIZING CHAIRMAN TO SIGN AGREEMENT
WITH HEALTH RESEARCH INC. – PUBLIC HEALTH INFRASTRUCTURE GRANT**

DATED: MARCH 8, 2024

BY MS. BAIN:

WHEREAS, the New York State Department of Health through Health Research, Inc. (HRI) has been awarded a grant from the Center Disease Control Prevent and would like to contract with Hamilton County Public Health Nursing Service to strengthen infrastructure, workforce and data systems for the period December 1, 2022 through November 30, 2027, and

WHEREAS, the HRI Contract Number 7549-01 total grant amount is \$612,806.00, and

WHEREAS, HRI has allotted \$122,562 for Year 1 and \$122,561 for the following 4 years,
be it

RESOLVED, that the County Treasurer is hereby authorized to create Account No. A4189.4106 HRI PH Infrastructure Grant 7549-01 in the amount of \$245,123.00 for Year 1 & 2 to be totally offset by creating Revenue Account No. A4401.4 HRI PH Infrastructure Grant 7549-01 in the amount of \$245,123.00, and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Chairman of the Board of Supervisors be authorized to sign the Health Research, Inc. contract, pending approval by the County Attorney and the County Treasurer be so advised.

Seconded by Mr. Snyder and adopted by the following vote:

AYES: RHODES, SNYDER, TOMLINSON, WELLS, BAIN, ARSENAULT, AND
FERNANDEZ

NAYS: NONE

ABSENT: FREY AND HUNT

RESOLUTION NO. 112-24

**CONTRACT WITH THE HAMILTON, FULTON, MONTGOMERY PREVENTION
COUNCIL – HAMILTON COUNTY PREVENTION PROGRAM**

DATED: MARCH 8, 2024

BY MR. TOMLINSON:

WHEREAS, the Community Services Board has approved HFM's response to the RFP to provide services for a Hamilton County Prevention Program, and

WHEREAS, New York State Office of Addiction Supports and Services has approved the proposal, be it

RESOLVED, that upon approval of the County Attorney, the Chairman of the Board of Supervisors be authorized to sign a contract with Hamilton, Fulton, Montgomery Prevention Council for \$119,519.00, to provide a Hamilton County Prevention Program and the Treasurer be so advised.

Seconded by Ms. Bain and adopted by the following vote:

AYES: RHODES, SNYDER, TOMLINSON, WELLS, BAIN, ARSENAULT, AND FERNANDEZ

NAYS: NONE

ABSENT: FREY AND HUNT

RESOLUTION NO. 113-24

AUTHORIZING CONTRACTS BETWEEN THE DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES, COMMUNITY SERVICES AND SHERIFF'S OFFICE FOR RAISE THE AGE SERVICES - HAMILTON COUNTY SCHOOL AND COMMUNITY PREVENTION INITIATIVE

DATED: MARCH 8, 2024

BY MR. TOMLINSON:

WHEREAS, in 2018 NYS approved legislation to raise the age of criminal responsibility to 18 years of age; New York State was previously one of only two states that automatically prosecuted 16 and 17 year-olds as adults, and

WHEREAS, the Hamilton County Department of Social Services, Hamilton County Sheriff's Office and the Hamilton County Probation Department have applied for funding for prevention of placement of these Raise the Age Youth, and

WHEREAS, Community Services has developed a Hamilton County School and Community Prevention Initiative that offers Hamilton County Schools Clinical Social Worker and Resource Officer services, and

WHEREAS, the Department of Social Services has been approved to use Raise the Age Funding for this program, be it

RESOLVED, that upon approval of the County Attorney, Hamilton County Community Services is hereby authorized to contract with the Hamilton County Department of Social Services for the Hamilton County School and Community Prevention Initiative for an amount not to exceed \$80,000 annually effective January 1, 2024-December 31, 2024, and be it further

RESOLVED, that upon approval of the County Attorney, Hamilton County Community Services is hereby authorized to contract with the Hamilton County Sheriff's Office for the services of a Resource Officer, for an amount not to exceed \$40,000 annually effective January 1, 2024-December 31, 2024.

Seconded by Ms. Bain and adopted by the following vote:

AYES: RHODES, SNYDER, TOMLINSON, WELLS, BAIN, ARSENAULT, AND FERNANDEZ

NAYS: NONE

ABSENT: FREY AND HUNT

After the following resolution was placed on the floor; the Chairman stated that there are emails concerning the office space in the basement. He thinks they need to move forward with the building plans. He knows they have discussed it but is not sure where they stand. They should discuss it with Mr. Eldridge. Mr. Tomlinson stated that Mr. Eldridge is moving forward with pricing on building items. He thinks things are rolling in for the cold storage building. The Chairman asked if they had discussed and/or authorized a full-scale building plan. Mr. Rhodes stated that it was the conversation for the Sheriff's Office. The Chairman stated that it just shows that they have outgrown what they need. Mr. Fernandez asked if they were aware that the mold problem was happening again in the basement. The Chairman stated he is. Mr. Eldridge has discussed how they could fix it, which he knows they need to do but they also must look at different buildings/office space.

RESOLUTION NO. 114-24

APPROVAL OF TRANSFER OF FUNDS FOR BUILDING PROJECTS FOR 2024

DATED: MARCH 8, 2024

BY MR. TOMLINSON:

WHEREAS, Resolution No. 245-22 Authorized \$600,000.00 to begin to fund a Five-Year Buildings Capital Projects Plan, and

WHEREAS, after several projects were completed in 2022 and 2023 there remained a balance of \$209,810.58, and

WHEREAS, the Superintendent recommends transferring the remaining 2023 balance to Account No. A1620.0414 Five Year Building Project Plan, and

WHEREAS, the Superintendent will be meeting with the Public Works Committee to discuss 2024 projects, be it

RESOLVED, that the Board of Supervisors hereby approves the transfer of \$209,810.58 from the Unappropriated General Fund Balance in accordance with Section 366 Subdivision 1 of the County Law to Account No. A1620.0414 Five Year Building Project Plan and the County Treasurer be so authorized, and the Superintendent and Clerk of the Board be so advised.

Seconded by Mr. Arsenault and adopted by the following vote:

AYES: RHODES, SNYDER, TOMLINSON, WELLS, BAIN, ARSENAULT, AND FERNANDEZ

NAYS: NONE

ABSENT: FREY AND HUNT

RESOLUTION NO. 115-24

APPROVAL OF AUDITS IN COUNTY HIGHWAY FUNDS

DATED: MARCH 8, 2024

BY MR. RHODES:

RESOLVED, that the bills in the Machinery Fund amounting to \$138,185.36 and bills in the County Road Fund amounting to \$114,445.51 presented by the County Superintendent of Highways and audited this day by the County Public Works Committee, be, and the same hereby are approved and audited.

Seconded by Mr. Snyder and adopted by the following vote:

AYES: RHODES, SNYDER, TOMLINSON, WELLS, BAIN, ARSENAULT, AND FERNANDEZ

NAYS: NONE

ABSENT: FREY AND HUNT

RESOLUTION NO. 116-24

**APPROVAL OF AUDITS IN THE COUNTY GENERAL FUND AND CAPITAL
PROJECT 2022-1 BIG BROOK BRIDGE**

DATED: MARCH 8, 2024

BY MR. ARSENAULT:

RESOLVED, that the bills audited this day in the County General Fund in the amount of \$357,955.42 the following committees:

Public Works (Buildings) Committee.....	\$40,770.07
Public Works (Solid Waste) Committee.....	19,973.46
Finance Committee	155,644.97
Health Committee.....	11,647.85
Human Services Committee.....	42,786.95
Central Government Committee	46,220.95
Emergency Prep./Emergency Response.....	34,063.27
Internal Management Committee	6,847.90

be it further

RESOLVED, that the bills audited this day in the following Capital Projects:

Big Brook Bridge Capital Project 2022-1.....	\$2,976.63
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are hereby approved.

Seconded by Mr. Rhodes and adopted by the following vote:

**AYES: RHODES, SNYDER, TOMLINSON, WELLS, BAIN, ARSENAULT, AND
FERNANDEZ**

NAYS: NONE

ABSENT: FREY AND HUNT

Other Reports:

Mr. Tomlinson: Stated he didn't want to be petty, but he would like to move back to his seat. His father is on the wall, and he always came in and looked at it from his old seat. He would really like to sit back in his seat if that is okay with everyone. The Chairman stated that when he first started it was alphabetical and then due to one of Mr. Snyder's predecessors, who outranked him at the time, made him move which offset everything. What I tried to get back to is the way we go around the room. If he would like to discuss with Ms. Hunt to see if she would trade seats with him then they can go that route.

Ms. Bain: Stated that she wasn't sure if anyone had been getting calls about the Hunt's Hotel in Wells and the motel in town. The rumors are starting to fly again that the state is going to be moving migrants there and people are getting very alarmed. Even though she had discussed it with Ms. Hunt and called these people back they wanted her to mention it because they want it in the minutes.

Ms. Bain further stated that during the windstorm they had 1 ½ weeks ago, Roberta Bly, DSS Commissioner, received a phone call from the Sheriff's Office on a Sunday afternoon. There was an individual that didn't have water. Ms. Bly went to Charlie Johns, bought bottled water and took it to them. She found out that they had a plumber there on Friday that had to order parts for the pump, so they shut the water down. These people had access and had buckets of water there to flush the toilets. Ms. Bly offered to put them up in a local motel and Social Services would pay for it, but they wouldn't leave because they would be leaving their dogs. These people didn't have a phone. They had pressed their life alert button. The Sheriff's Office had gone to the home thinking something was wrong. Ms. Bain stated that the County's Social Services Department really took care of it along with the Sheriff's Office. There were a lot of people involved. The plumber was going back on Monday to put the parts in the pump and turn it on again. It was a terrible storm. They were reaching out to their seniors, calling them to make sure people had heat and automatic generators. The fire department were in her office early on Friday and went through everything, it worked out very well. The Chairman stated that he didn't receive a call about anything. They further discussed power outages. Mr. Rhodes stated that unfortunately there wasn't any information to bring out because National Grid would not commit to turning anything on. Ms. Bain stated that she had a very angry Board member. They thought they could have done better. She had explained that the Sheriff's Office had it on their Facebook page along with the town. She called all her Board members to let them know they were calling people within the town. She feels like the communities all did the best that they could in that situation. The Board discussed the power outage further. Ms. Bain stated that one of the complaints this individual had was because bottled water was being handed out in Fulton and Warren Counties but nothing for Hamilton. She further stated that the fire department has 3 generators, and they go out and hook them up for individuals on oxygen and health issues. Mr. Tomlinson stated that people must take responsibility for their own lives too, we live here and know that the power is going to go out.

Mr. Fernandez: Stated that he thinks the Sheriff did a good job stepping up. Something that he is new at and keeping that information going out. Morehouse was fortunate and didn't suffer a lot of damage. He was paying attention, and the Sheriff was consistent with putting that information out. Mr. Rhodes stated that it worked out well. The Sheriff was able to re-establish a lot of contacts and solidify them as well. A lot of the contacts had been disrupted in the past 2 years. Mr. Tomlinson asked if there was any more word on the Information Officer for the County. The Chairman stated there wasn't. He had gone to NYSAC in the fall, and they had a great presentation on that. He had discussed it with a few people and there is a different train of thought. He was thinking of possibly somebody else stepping into it. Some of them agreed with that but others are totally against it. It needs to be the Chairman because it can be a political issue and the information should be coming from the Chairman or lead administrator. So, he has stepped back on that a little. It is something that they needed to pursue but he also thought since they have been discussing the County Manager that might be a duty under that office. Mr. Tomlinson agreed. Mr. Arsenault stated

that they have to start talking about that again.

The Chairman stated that the eclipse is on Monday, April 8th. He had spoken with Mr. Eldridge, and they are going to close the Indian Lake Transfer Station. He also let Mr. Arsenault know that they don't want to be hauling that day from Long Lake. Indian Lake is usually closed Tuesday and Wednesday. What they will do is give the employees Monday, Tuesday and open back up Wednesday. Mr. Fernandez asked if they had identified a location in Hamilton County where the influx was going to be. The Chairman stated that they are saying that every roadway into the Adirondacks is going to have heavy traffic. Mr. Tomlinson asked if Indian Lake School was going to be closed. The Chairman stated that all schools in Hamilton County are going to be closed. The Chairman stated that what he was doing with his staff in Indian Lake was the Town Hall would be closed. He will be there, and the building will be open. Parks and Rec will be working. They will have a change with the Highway Superintendent by then and he is going to talk with him about having employees there. They won't be working per say but they will be available for different things. Mr. Tomlinson asked if they were considering closing the County Offices. The Chairman asked what the Board would like to do. Ms. Bain asked if they could leave it up to the individual, they could use benefit time. After some discussion, everyone agreed that the County Offices should remain open.

The Chairman stated that they have all heard that Assemblyman Smullen's son had passed away. There will be services on Saturday. They will have a visitation from 12-3 on Saturday at St. Johns's Episcopal Church in Johnstown. At 3PM they are going to have a service for family and close friends. They will then hold a reception at the Pine Tree Rifle Club at 5PM. He plans on attending. If they think the Supervisors should go as a group, they could do that.

The Chairman stated that Congresswoman Stefanik announced that the Consolidated Appropriations Act got \$1.5Million for Hamilton County for small cell cellular development. This is money for planning through Lake Champlain Lake George Regional Planning Board (LCLGRP) to start the process.

The Chairman stated that he gave the Board a handout from NYSAC. He stated that there were some good workshops, and the meet and greets were worthwhile. He did end up going to the Governor's Mansion. He had a chance to speak with the Governor briefly about Hamilton County Solid Waste and the problems we are having getting the money. He does have a meeting scheduled on the 22nd with NYSDEC. They will go over exactly step by step what the issue is with the draft plan. He would like to have a discussion with the County Attorney regarding having Barton & Loguidice work on this, they did the original draft.

Mr. Tomlinson: Asked if the Chairman could set up a Committee Meeting to discuss a County Manager. The Chairman stated that he would.

The Chairman stated that sometime this summer he would like to have a Committee Day in Indian Lake at the offices because he thinks that it would be good for the Board to meet the staff, he also feels it would be good for the staff to meet the Board. The Chairman stated that they needed to talk to Mr. Eldridge about the gazebo. Mr. Tomlinson stated that he thought they already had it. The Chairman stated no, not yet.

The Clerk of the Board announced that Warren County had asked to switch months with Hamilton County for the Adirondack Intercounty meeting. Warren County is working on a regional morgue facility and would like to present it earlier than later. They were scheduled for July and Hamilton County was April, so now Hamilton County will host the July meeting.

As there was no further business, motion to adjourn by Mr. Tomlinson, seconded by Ms. Bain. Carried.