

Present: Legislators Clattenburg, Bausch, Deleo, Stein Also Present: Legislators Dibble, Maha, Torrey, Legislature Clerk Pamela LaGrou, County Manager Jay Gsell, Asst. Co. Manager Matt Landers, County Attorney Kevin Earl, Treasurer Scott German, Grant Street Group representative John McCarthy, Mental Health Director Ellery Reaves, Deputy Treasurer Kevin Andrews, GCEDC Steve Hyde & Kim Krencik, Brian Quinn-The Daily News, Howard Owens-The Batavian

Ways & Means Chair Clattenburg called the meeting to order at 4:30 pm in the Legislative Conference Room at the Old Courthouse.

Chair Clattenburg temporarily appointed Legislator Deleo to the Committee to serve in place of Legislator Young who was absent.

Minutes of the February 20, 2019 Ways & Means Committee meeting were approved upon motion of Legislator Stein seconded by Legislator Bausch, carried unanimously.

Treasurer Scott German explained that at a recent conference of county treasurers he learned about the opportunity to pursue home rule legislation allowing for electronic open auction for bond sales. He introduced John McCarthy from Grant Street Group from Pittsburg, PA. Mr. McCarthy explained that open bond auctions are not permitted in New York State. Legislation was introduced in the Assembly in 2017 allowing for the measure statewide however it did not pass. Mr. McCarthy explained that electronic open bond auctions are more competitive and efficient and result in lower borrowing costs for the municipality. Sample charts from other states showing registered bidders and how rates improve over time were referenced. Samples from more recent auctions were requested since the most recent example was from 2015. Onondaga County is expected to pursue similar home rule legislation. Discussion ensued regarding benefits of working with Onondaga County and pursuing state legislation naming both counties. There was further discussion on the vetting process and if the state comptroller and governor are on board with the concept. Mr. McCarthy stated they are aware of the initiative. The Grant Street Group is paid a flat fee for the service based on borrowing. When asked what risks there are to the County Mr. German replied there really aren't any and asked the committee to support the resolution which calls for state representatives to introduce legislation granting municipalities within the county the option to accept bids for competitively sold municipal bonds via electronic open auction by passing it and sending it to the full legislature for consideration. This was approved for placement on the next Legislature Agenda upon motion of Legislator Bausch seconded by Legislator Stein, carried unanimously.

STOP-DWI Coordinator Matt Landers requested approval of a grant acceptance in the amount of \$10,555 from the Governor's Traffic Safety Council. Funds are to be used by the Sheriff, Batavia City Police and LeRoy Village Police for saturation patrols and DRE call outs. This was approved for placement on the next Legislature Agenda upon motion of Legislator Stein seconded by Legislator Deleo, carried unanimously.

Mr. Landers presented an application for membership on the STOP-DWI Advisory Council for Chris Blossom who is a liquor store owner in Batavia. The term would be effective immediately

through December 31, 2021. This was approved for placement on the next Legislature Agenda upon motion of Legislator Bausch seconded by Legislator Deleo, carried unanimously.

Mr. Landers presented a resolution that would authorize the use of Community Development Block Grant Program Income Funds to assist Yancy's Fancy, Inc. Funds would be used to toward the purchase of a piece of equipment that will used to further expand their cheese production. This was approved for placement on the next Legislature Agenda upon motion of Legislator Stein seconded by Legislator Deleo, carried unanimously.

County Attorney Kevin Earl requested renewal of the contract with Lawley Genesee for Risk Management Services for another year. Cost of the agreement is \$22,000. Committee members questioned savings to the county since entering into an agreement with Lawley. Mr. Earl stated that actual dollar amounts could not be identified as a result of this contract. He stated they are helpful and responsive. This was approved for placement on the next Legislature Agenda upon motion of Legislator Stein seconded by Legislator Bausch, carried unanimously.

The following referrals were from the Human Services Committee upon motion of Legislator Deleo:

1. Reappointment-Office for the Aging Advisory Council seconded by Legislator Stein, carried unanimously.
2. Reappointment-Genesee County Youth Board seconded by Legislator Bausch, carried unanimously.
3. 2019 Budget/Salary Schedule Amendment - Community Mental Health Services/Mental Health Clinical Therapist seconded by Legislator Bausch, carried unanimously.
4. 2019 Budget Amendment/Salary Schedule Amendment - Community Mental Health Services/Registered Professional Nurse seconded by Legislator Bausch, carried unanimously.
5. 2019 Salary Schedule Amendment - Community Mental Health Services/Temporary Licensed Practical Nurse seconded by Legislator Bausch, carried unanimously.

Genesee County Economic Development Center staff Steve Hyde and Jim Krencik began their department review by sharing the potential negative impact of recently introduced state legislation. The bill expands the definition of public works projects and requires all projects that receive IDA benefits to pay prevailing wage. Committee members suggested GCEDC draft a resolution opposing the bill for their future consideration. This resolution would be taken to Inter County and NYSAC. Mr. Hyde reviewed County funding history, outcomes and results of 2018 efforts, project locations throughout the county and agency goals. There are 7 active shovel ready sites, 30 project sites with a reported \$887 million impact.

County Manager Jay Gsell presented an out-of-state travel request for Purchasing Director Eve Hens to travel to Austin, Texas August 24-29 for a National Government Procurement Forum at a County cost of \$2,490. Mr. Gsell stated she received a scholarship last year but that is only available once per attendee. Time out of the office was discussed and committee members agreed that a policy should be put in place for employees to report to legislators after an out-of-state conference. This was approved for placement on the next Legislature Agenda upon motion of Legislator Bausch seconded by Legislator Stein, carried unanimously.


Mr. Gsell reviewed the memo provided to legislators regarding the cost of renting county owned space. The Office of Real Property has rented 8080 square feet of space in County Building #2 since 1974. Costs include electric, gas, water, sewer, cleaning supplies, trash, property insurance and facilities maintenance, plowing and salting. Calculations of the apportioned cost to ORPS versus the revenue from the lease were shared and the cost per square foot is \$12 for that space. The charge for Legal Aid Society and the Vet Tech program are both \$10.30/ sq. ft. Per committee members and Chair Clattenburg, the two resolutions tabled at the last Ways & Means meeting will be brought from the table at the March 20<sup>th</sup> Ways & Means meeting.

Mr. Gsell referenced the Governor's push to make the tax cap permanent and the talk of increasing pay for assigned counsel from \$75/hour to \$140/hour with no provision for covering the increase with state dollars. This would also affect the pool of lawyers who work for the county public defender's office and assistant county attorneys who work with DSS. The rate of pay would potentially drive them to seek work as assigned counsel where they could work less hours and be compensated at a much higher rate.

Legislature Clerk Pamela LaGrou presented a retirement resolution for one appointed official who is recertifying their 3 month record of activity from 2015. A record of activity is valid up to eight years as long as there is not a dramatic change in days/hours worked. The ROA is required of an elected or appointed official enrolled in the retirement system who does not accrue time and is beginning a new term. This was approved for placement on the next Legislature Agenda upon motion of Legislator Stein seconded by Legislator Bausch, carried unanimously.

The next scheduled meeting of the Ways & Means Committee is April 3, 2019.

The meeting adjourned at 6:04 pm upon motion of Legislator Bausch seconded by Legislator Stein, carried unanimously.

  
Marianne Clattenburg, Chair  
Ways & Means Committee  
Submitted 3/8/19 phl