

Participating: Committee Members Clattenburg, Stein, Hilchey, Young, Also Participating: Legislators Deleo, Dibble, Maha, Torrey, Yunker, Legislature Clerk Pamela LaGrou, County Manager Jay Gsell, Assistant County Manager Matt Landers, Public Health Director Paul Pettit, County Attorney Kevin Earl, IT Director Steve Zimmer, Highway Superintendent Tim Hens, Treasurer Scott German, Purchasing Director Eve Hens, Howard Owens-The Batavian

The Ways & Means Committee meeting was called to order by Chair Clattenburg at 4:35 pm in the Legislature Chambers at the Old Courthouse and Zoom video conferencing was utilized to allow for remote participation by department staff and Legislators Deleo and Yunker.

A motion was made by Legislator Stein to amend the agenda to add three agenda items pertaining to the COVID-19 Pandemic; Health Department Contract–Nursing Services, Salary Schedule Amendment-Temporary Emergency Preparedness Coordinator, Resolution In Support of Federal Funding Bill-COVID-19 seconded by Legislator Hilchey, carried unanimously.

Chair Clattenburg stated the two out-of-state travel requests listed on the agenda were being removed due to the COVID-19 virus pandemic.

Minutes of the March 4, 2020 Ways & Means Committee meeting were approved upon motion of Legislator Stein seconded by Legislator Hilchey, carried unanimously.

Health Director Paul Pettit requested approval of a contract with Mary Younge, RN to provide nursing services required to respond to the COVID-19 pandemic. The contract period runs through December 31, 2020. Expenses will be offset with \$7,700 in Emergency Preparedness Supplemental Funding. A budget amendment will be necessary. This was approved for placement on the next Legislature agenda upon motion of Legislator Young seconded by Legislator Hilchey, carried unanimously.

Mr. Pettit requested approval of a salary schedule amendment to allow for a temporary emergency preparedness coordinator in light of the resignation notice received from the current coordinator. He explained that coordinator Al Cheverie was offered another position and submitted his resignation. In light of the COVID-19 pandemic he is requesting a temporary position be created to allow for training prior to Mr. Cheverie's departure. Costs will be covered by COVID-19 funding. A budget amendment will be necessary. This was approved for placement on the next Legislature agenda upon motion of Legislator Stein seconded by Legislator Hilchey, carried unanimously.

Treasurer Scott German presented a resolution pertaining to the sale of county owned property at the auction on March 14, 2020. Seventeen parcels were sold with a total sale of foreclosed properties exceeding outstanding taxes owned by approximately \$131,268.91. This was approved for placement on the next Legislature agenda upon motion of Legislator Stein seconded by Legislator Hilchey, carried unanimously.

Treasurer Scott German reviewed highlights of his department review. See attached.

Assistant County Manager Matt Landers explained the County's Fair Housing Plan recognizes that public knowledge of fair housing provisions is the first step in expanding equal opportunity by appointing a Fair Housing Officer providing information to the public, and promoting Fair Housing Activities and available resources as well as designate the month of April as Fair Housing Month. This was approved for placement on the next Legislature agenda upon motion of Legislator Stein seconded by Legislator Hilchey, carried unanimously.

Mr. Landers explained that as a recipient of OCR/CDBG grant funds the County is required to hold an annual public meeting on Fair Housing to identify any concerns or issues with fair housing practices in the County. He recommends the hearing be set for April 8, 2020 at 5:30 pm. This was approved for placement on the next Legislature agenda upon motion of Legislator Stein seconded by Legislator Young, carried unanimously.

Purchasing director Eve Hens requested approval of a three-year fixed price contract with Direct Energy Business for natural gas service through the remainder of the MEGA contract, from the period of April 1, 2020 through March 31, 2023. Genesee County is currently on a variable natural gas rate with National Fuel, the local natural gas distribution company. The proposed contract is fixed price and will not vary based on the market. Our Energy consultant informed us that currently the natural gas market is at historic lows. This was approved for placement on the next Legislature agenda upon motion of Legislator Hilchey seconded by Legislator Stein, carried unanimously.

Ms. Hens requested approval of a contract renewal with Eagle Systems for the provision of copy equipment under the Cost-Per-Copy program for the period of May 1, 2020 through April 30, 2021 at the cost of \$0.0060 per black and white copy and \$0.0350 for color copies. This was approved for placement on the next Legislature agenda upon motion of Legislator Hilchey seconded by Legislator Young carried unanimously.

County Attorney Kevin Earl presented a resolution requesting the Home Rule request for the sales tax increase extension. Bill numbers were assigned in the Senate and Assembly and this is the next required step for Genesee County. This was approved for placement on the next Legislature agenda upon motion of Legislator Hilchey seconded by Legislator Stein carried unanimously.

Mr. Earl presented a resolution requesting the Home Rule request for the mortgage tax increase renewal. Bill numbers were assigned in the Senate and Assembly and this is the next required step for Genesee County. This was approved for placement on the next Legislature agenda upon motion of Legislator Stein seconded by Legislator Hilchey carried unanimously.

The following referrals were from the Public Service upon motion of Committee Chair Hilchey:

1. Budget Amendment-Sheriff/Delivery and Set-up MRAP Vehicle seconded by Legislator Stein, carried unanimously.
2. Amendment to Emergency Services Task Force seconded by Legislator Young, carried unanimously.
3. 2020 Budget Amendment-Justice for Children Advocacy Center seconded by Legislator Stein, carried unanimously.

4. 2020 Budget Amendment – Public Defender Assigned Counsel seconded by Legislator Young, carried unanimously.
5. Establish Capital Project/Budget Amendment-Airport seconded by Legislator Stein, carried unanimously.
6. Change Order-Highway/Johnson Controls-Energy Performance Contract seconded by Legislator Young, Legislator Hilchey-yes, Clattenburg, Stein & Young –No.
7. Consultant Agreement-8-Bay T Hangar Development-Airport seconded by Legislator Young, carried unanimously.
8. Appointment-Genesee County Planning Board seconded by Legislator Stein, carried unanimously.

Mr. Gsell explained that County employee Steve Grice is again requesting legislation to authorize him to change to Tier III membership status with the NYS Retirement system. He began employment with Genesee County June 22, 1981 but was not offered the opportunity to join the retirement system. The County Attorney and County Treasurer agree to make a one-time contribution of approximately \$11,200 to satisfy Mr. Grice's status as a "current" Tier III contributor for immediate past service. This was approved for placement on the next Legislature agenda upon motion of Legislator Stein seconded by Legislator Hilchey carried unanimously.

Mr. Gsell presented another resolution pertaining to Mr. Grice's request for support to change his membership status with NYS Retirement. Bill numbers have been assigned to state legislation and a Home Rule Request is needed as the next step. This was approved for placement on the next Legislature agenda upon motion of Legislator Stein seconded by Legislator Hilchey, carried unanimously.

Mr. Gsell presented a resolution in support of swift passage of the by the U.S. Senate of a Coronavirus federal funding bill that would provide more than \$6 billion in aid to New York State and its counties for the continued mobilization of public health efforts to protect our residents from this pandemic. He explained that the bill passed overwhelmingly in the House of Representatives. This was approved for placement on the next Legislature agenda upon motion of Legislator Stein seconded by Legislator Hilchey carried unanimously.

The next meeting of the Ways & Means Committee is Wednesday, April 1, 2020.

Chair Clattenburg presented a resolution celebrating the 100th anniversary of the passage and ratification of the 19th amendment to the U.S. Constitution. This was approved for placement on the next Legislature agenda upon motion of Legislator Stein seconded by Legislator Young carried unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 5:24 pm upon motion of Legislator Hilchey seconded by Legislator Young, carried unanimously.

Marianne Clattenburg approved on 4/1/2020

Marianne Clattenburg, Chair
Ways & Means Committee
Submitted 3/24/2020 phl