

Participating: Committee Members Clattenburg, Stein, Young, Maha, Also Participating: Legislators Dibble, Torrey, Yunker, Deleo, Klotzbach, Legislature Clerk Pamela LaGrou, County Manager Jay Gsell, Assistant County Manager Matt Landers, IT Director Steve Zimmer, Treasurer Scott German, Real Property Director Kevin Andrews, Human Resources Director Anita Cleveland, OFA Director Diana Fox, Attorney Kevin Earl, GCC President Jim Sunser, Bill Emm, GCC Board President Donna Ferry

Because of the Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) Pandemic and the State and Federal bans on large meetings or gatherings and pursuant to Governor Cuomo's Executive Order suspending the Open Meeting Law, the Genesee County Ways & Means Committee meeting was held electronically using ZOOM video conference instead of a public meeting open for the public to attend in person. The meeting was also Live Streamed on YouTube.

The Ways & Means Committee meeting was called to order by Chair Clattenburg at 4:30 pm.

Minutes of the June 3, 2020 Ways & Means Committee meeting were approved upon motion of Legislator Young seconded by Legislator Stein, carried unanimously.

Office for the Aging Director Diana Fox requested insurance certificates for three farmers markets in Batavia where OFA staff will be present to distribute coupon books to qualified seniors. Over 800 coupon books were made available to Genesee County seniors over the age of 60. The coupon books cost \$5 and provide \$20 that can be used among vendors. This was approved for placement on the next Legislature agenda upon motion of Legislator Young seconded by Legislator Maha, carried unanimously.

Human Resources Director Anita Cleveland requested approval of a plan amendment to the County flexible spending account program. Due to COVID-19 the IRS announced they are permitting increased flexibility for mid-year changes. Employees may revoke or make a new election or increase or decrease to both medical and dependent day care. This was approved for placement on the next Legislature agenda upon motion of Legislator Maha seconded by Legislator Stein, carried unanimously.

County Treasurer Scott German presented a resolution authorizing an agreement with the Town of Stafford allowing the Treasurer to collect the 2021 town/county taxes on behalf of the town of Stafford. Cost for this service to the town will be \$5,000. This was approved for placement on the next Legislature agenda upon motion of Legislator Young seconded by Legislator Maha, carried unanimously.

Mr. German explained there is a parcel of property in the town of Batavia that has been in bankruptcy since 2008. The County has been making the Town and City School district whole with taxes every year and is requesting the parcel be declared exempt until transferred, foreclosed on or sold. This action will stop the accumulation of additional taxes. This was approved for placement on the next Legislature agenda upon motion of Legislator Young seconded by Legislator Maha, carried unanimously.

Information Technology Director Steve Zimmer presented a one year contract agreement with Linstar for software and hardware support services for County Security Systems. The contract cost of \$60,778.04 for Linstar is included in the 2020 Information Technology Budget. This was approved for placement on the next Legislature agenda upon motion of Legislator Stein seconded by Legislator Maha, carried unanimously.

Chair Clattenburg stated the County is required to hold a Public Hearing on GCC's 2020-2021 budget and sponsor share. The Public Hearing is set for July 22, 2020. This was approved for placement on the next Legislature agenda upon motion of Legislator Stein seconded by Legislator Maha, carried unanimously.

Genesee Community College President Dr. James Sunser presented the GCC budget for 2020-2021 academic year. The board and administration examined every opportunity to reduce or eliminate expenses. Management salaries are remaining flat, discussions with the Union have been productive, no discretionary training or travel, only critical capital improvements and other measures have resulted in an overall 5.1% decrease from the current year budget. The requested sponsor share of \$2,636,374 remains flat and represents 6.9% of annual revenues for the College. This was approved for placement on the next Legislature agenda upon motion of Legislator Stein seconded by Legislator Young, carried unanimously.

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

1. Acceptance of BVP Funding/Budget Amendment-Sheriff-Body Armor seconded by Legislator Maha, carried unanimously.
2. 2020 Budget Amendment-Public Defender seconded by Legislator Stein, carried unanimously.
3. Contract Amendment-Public Defender/Upstate Quality Improvement seconded by Legislator Maha, carried unanimously.
4. Change Orders-Countywide Water Project/Phase 2 seconded by Legislator Stein, carried unanimously.
5. 2020 Budget Amendment & Grant Acceptance-Capital Project/Dewitt Improvements Phase IV by Legislator Maha, carried unanimously.
6. Agreements-Tax Exempt Status for County Owned Parcels seconded by Legislator Stein, carried unanimously.

County Manager Jay Gsell presented his department review, noting this is his last before retiring in August. His office has continued to provide administrative services and budget oversight to county departments even through the pandemic and Pause NY. Additional strain has been placed on the County in terms of revenue loss, budget adjustments, safety plans and protocols and constant communication with NYSAC, state and federal representatives and localities. In 2019, two of four Unions experienced ratification of agreements. Other major issues include the new jail project on hold due to bail reform, NY Pause and the reduction in sales tax revenue. Two new directors were hired in 2019; Mental Health Director Lynda Battaglia and OFA Director Diana Fox. Mr. Gsell indicated he is confident the County Manager's office will provide strong leadership with Mr. Landers, Vicky Muckle and Tammi Ferringer. Mr. Gsell was thanked for his dedication, strong voice and commitment to Genesee County and its residents.

The next meeting of the Ways & Means Committee is Wednesday, July 15, 2020.

Marianne Clattenburg approved 7/15/20

Marianne Clattenburg, Chair
Ways & Means Committee
Submitted 6/18/2020 phl