

COUNTY GOVERNMENT COMMITTEE

August 21, 2012

PRESENT:

**Kevin McDonald, Chairman
Ronald Knott
Ellen Thurston
Thomas Garrick
Matt Murrell
Jesse DeGrootd
Edward Cross**

ABSENT:

Ray Staats - notified

ALSO PRESENT:

**Rebecca Vinchiarello, Dep. Clerk
Arnold Schneider
Rob Fitzsimmons
Chris Watz
Ronald Caponera
Suzette Booy
John Rutkey
Jason Nastke
Hillary Hillman
Patrick Grattan
Roy Brown**

Press: 1

Chairman McDonald called the meeting to order at 5:00 P.M.

Real Property – S. Booy

Conference Request: Request permission to send one employee to the NYS Association of County Directors of Real Property Tax Services in Syracuse, NY from October 15th-17th at a total estimated cost of \$315.00 plus gasoline for a county car. Motion to approve by J. DeGrootd, seconded by M. Murell, motion carried.

Conference Request: Request permission to send one employee to a mandatory Ethics for Assessors Class at the Columbia-Greene Community College on Friday, November 16th at a total estimated cost of \$95.00. Motion to approve by T. Garrick, seconded by R. Knott, motion carried.

Refunds/Credits/Corrections: S. Booy submitted a listing of correction of errors that have been processed by the Real Property Office and the County Treasurer's Office which resulted in errors less than \$2,500.

A Conference and Training Event Feedback form was submitted to the committee from Royce Noblin.

Board of Elections – H. Hillman & J. Nastke

The Board of Elections requires a budget amendment and a transfer from county funds due to five elections taking place this year. They budgeted for three elections. They had to hold special elections in March and June, neither of which was planned for. The cost to hold an election is roughly \$40,000.00. They reported that their printing budget is over as well due to not being able to obtain the ballot printer they ordered as quickly as they thought they would. They estimate that they need around \$87,000.00 more to make it through this year. The lift for the voting machines was discussed.

The controller announced that this request should be tabled as he needs to look at funds and meet with the Board of Elections and R. Pinto. Motion to table for a month by T. Garrick, seconded by R. Knott, motion carried.

Weights and Measures – A. Schneider

A. Schneider submitted his monthly report. Motion to accept the report by R. Knott, seconded by M. Murell, motion carried.

He plans to construct a website with his contact information as well as regulation information for the public.

The Getty Station in Hudson was discussed. It was shut down because the pumps no longer meet DEC regulation requirements.

Human Resources – J. Rutkey

Resolution Request - Authorizing the Director of Human Resources to abolish the budgeted position of Deputy Director of Human Resources and to create and fill the position of Benefits Manager.

The needs for this position were discussed as well as the option of outsourcing this service. J. Rutkey offered to add it to his 2013 Budget. Motion made by T. Garrick to table the request for no longer a time period then one month, pending a recommendation on the salary from the salary committee, seconded by M. Murell, motion carried. J. DeGrootd and E. Cross voted No.

County Attorney – R. Fitzsimmons

Request to move into EXECUTIVE SESSION at 5:58 PM by R. Knott, seconded by J. DeGrootd, motion carried.

REASON: Attorney client privilege regarding a local law for a building code.

Motion to return to REGULAR SESSION at 6:18 PM by R. Knott, seconded by M. Murell, motion carried.

Resolution Request - Acquisition of "Parcel B" related to 25 Railroad Avenue. Phase I results had been forwarded to all supervisors for review. Motion to go ahead with this purchase by R. Knott, seconded by M. Murell, motion carried. Refer to Finance.

Resolution Request - Inter-municipal agreement authorization for Grant funds awarded to County/Towns for storm damage / stream cleanup. Motion to approve by T. Garrick, seconded by J. DeGrootd, motion carried. Refer to Finance.

A possible amendment of Local Law 8 of 2010 in relation to the building code, to allow the county to have permitting authority and control over county owned lands and facilities was discussed. The County Attorney will communicate with the State on this issue.

A copy of assigned counsel numbers was given out.

Budget was: 150,000

YTD is: \$167,329

That covers 7 months so $(167,329 / 7 = \$23,904$ per month)

They need 5 more months, assuming they will run the average amount so $(\$23,904 \times 5 = \$119,520)$

Total for the year would be \$286,848

With no further business there was motion to adjourn at 6:22 PM by J. DeGrootd, seconded by R. Knott, motion carried.

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