

Finance and Personnel Committee
Wednesday, November 4, 2009
4:00 P.M.
County Office Building

PRESENT: Arthur Ospelt, Chairman; Legislators Shawn Doyle, Fred Beardsley, Dan Chalifoux, Mike Kunzwiler, John Proud, Paul Santore

STAFF &

GUESTS: Legislator Mary Flett, County Attorney Richard Mitchell, Legislator Linda Lockwood, Legislator Lou LeClair, Legislator Morris Sorbello, Legislator Bob Hayes, Mr. & Mrs. Pringle, Dave Turner, Fran Lanigan, Legislator Art Gearsbeck, Carol Alnutt, Frank Visser, Bill Malone, John Kruk, Legislature Chairman Barry Leemann, Steve Loadwick, Phil Church, Fred Maxon, Christa Carrington Esq., Dr. Norfleet, Terri Somers, Aaron Curtis, Steve Yablonski, Debbie Groom.

The meeting was called to order at 4:00 P.M. by Chairman Ospelt.

MINUTES –

The minutes of the October 6, 2009 meeting were approved upon motion by Legislator Santore, seconded by Legislator Chalifoux with all in favor.

TREASURER’S REPORT

John Kruk, County Treasurer stated that there is \$12,192,213.97 in the Capital Reserve Uncommitted Balance.

The Treasurer discussed Sales Tax. He explained that a check was received from the State in the amount of \$2,202,584. That check put the County ahead of Budget by \$548,382 this year to date.

COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR – 2010 BUDGET PRESENTATION

Phil Church, County Administrator presented the committee with the 2010 tentative budget. He stated that the tentative budget is \$185,422,628 and carries a real property tax levy of \$37,653,603. This will be the sixth year that Oswego County has not raised the tax rate and the tax levy has remained relatively stable. It will mark the third consecutive year that the tax rate will be unchanged.

Administrator Church reviewed major factors impacting the 2010 Budget with the Committee. That report is being made a part of these minutes.

Legislator Sorbello asked the Administrator if the County Departments have enough help to investigate grants, stimulus, and any funds that could become available. The Administrator stated that we do. He explained the way in which they are received and also stated that sometimes departments are hit more than once with the same grant opportunities.

Committee Chairman Arthur Ospelt suggested that the Finance and Personnel Committee move the tentative budget to the individual committee's with a recommendation that it remain as presented. Motion by Legislator Doyle and seconded by Legislator Chalifoux to recommend the budget stay as presented with all in favor.

COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR – DISSOLUTION OF ENVIRONMENTAL DIVISION DISCUSSION

County Administrator Phil Church was directed to analyze the feasibility of eliminating the Health Department's Environmental Division. The purpose being potential cost-savings for the County. Phil reviewed the report with the committee, a copy of which is made a part of these minutes. Part of the report stated that Public Health Law does not provide for the dissolution of parts of a Health District. Public Health Law provides only for the complete dissolution of a County Health District. Therefore, if the county desires to eliminate the Environmental Division, or any division, the County would need to eliminate the entire health district. This requires thirty days written notice of a public hearing to the NYS Department of Health Commissioner, the public hearing itself, and a Resolution by the Legislature to abolish the Health district. However, a Public Health Law and State Sanitary Code must still be enforced, and this responsibility would fall to the towns, villages and cities, without the benefit of any State aid, or the State, which may bill the municipalities for the services, or the County to provide some level of service in combination with local and State governments. In any case, state aid reimbursement would significantly decline or be non-existent and local net costs would rise. Following discussion on the report a motion was made by Legislator Chalifoux and seconded by Legislator Kunzwiler to accept the County Administrator's report. Legislator Doyle voted no.

RESOLUTIONS

1. RESOLUTION FIXING TIME AND PLACE FOR PUBLIC HEARING ON THE TENTATIVE COUNTY BUDGET FOR THE YEAR 2010. A date of December 15th at 7:00 P.M. was chosen by the committee. Motion to approve by Legislator Kunzwiler, seconded by Legislator Chalifoux with all in favor.
2. RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING BUDGETARY MODIFICATION PURCHASING DEPARTMENT – Additional Hours Line. To temporarily increase the hours of a purchasing clerk by 5 hours. This is due to the sick leave of the other purchasing clerk as a result of a broken foot. Motion to approve by Legislator Doyle, seconded by Legislator Chalifoux with all in favor.

3. RESOLUTION AMENDING AND RESTATING THE DEFERRED COMPENSATION PLAN FOR EMPLOYEES OF THE COUNTY OF OSWEGO. Motion to approve by Legislator Kunzwiler, seconded by Legislator Chalifoux with all in favor.
4. RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING BUDGETARY MODIFICATION DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES GREEN JOB CORPS PROGRAM GRANT. Motion to approve by Legislator Kunzwiler, seconded by Legislator Chalifoux with all in favor.
5. A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CHAIRMAN TO EXECUTE SETTLEMENT DOCUMENTS WITH SERONO, INC. ON CERTAIN TERMS RELATIVE TO THE MATTER OF *COUNTY OF OSWEGO v. ABBOTT LABS, et al.* Motion to approve by Legislator Kunzwiler, seconded by Legislator Chalifoux with all in favor.
6. RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING BUDGETARY MODIFICATION DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES TO ACCEPT ADDITIONAL WIA/ARRA STIMULUS FUNDING. Additional monies (\$172,671.75) to provide employment and training services to dislocated workers. The monies are 100% federal funds. Motion to approve by Legislator Proud, seconded by Legislator Beardsley with all in favor.
7. RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING BUDGETARY MODIFICATION HEALTH DEPARTMENT INCREASE PERSONNEL SERVICE LINE. Increase Personnel Service line for Part Time employee to work additional straight time hours due to a recent letter requesting documentation to be submitted for dually eligible patients from 2006 and 2007, required by Inspector General Office by 12/31/09. Motion to approve by Legislator Proud, seconded by Legislator Beardsley with all in favor.
8. RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING EXPENDITURE FROM CAPITAL RESERVE NO. 21 – BUILDINGS RENOVATIONS. To comply with the NYS Workforce Violence Prevention Program. Motion to approve by Legislator Beardsley, seconded by Legislator Doyle with all in favor.
9. RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING BUDGETARY MODIFICATION PLANNING DEPARTMENT HOME LOAN REPAY. Motion to approve by Legislator Beardsley, seconded by Legislator Chalifoux with all in favor.
10. RESOLUTION REQUESTING THAT THE NEW YORK STATE SUPERINTENDENT OF INSURANCE ADD THE COUNTY OF OSWEGO TO THE INDEX OF TAX DISTRICTS FILING A NOTICE OF INTENTION TO CLAIM AGAINST THE PROCEEDS FOR FIRE INSURANCE. Motion to approve by Legislator Kunzwiler, seconded by Legislator Doyle with all in favor.

11. RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING BUDGETARY MODIFICATION ASSIGNED COUNSEL PROGRAM. Motion to approve by Legislator Doyle, seconded by Legislator Kunzwiler with all in favor. Legislator John Proud asked that this account be reviewed periodically throughout the year in order to be kept better informed of what is going on with this account.
12. RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING DATE FOR RE-LEVY OF 2009 UNPAID VILLAGE TAXES. Motion to approve by Legislator Kunzwiler, seconded by Legislator Doyle with all in favor.
13. RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING DATE FOR RE-LEVY OF 2009/2010 UNPAID SCHOOL TAXES. Motion to approve by Legislator Kunzwiler, seconded by Legislator Beardsley with all in favor.

VEHICLE PURCHASE

Monies were appropriated for a vehicle purchase for the Department of Solid Waste Operations Manager in the 2009 budget. A quote was received in the amount of \$18,533.50. This is a bare bones pick up truck. Motion to approve by Legislator Santore, seconded by Legislator Beardsley with all in favor.

PERSONNEL

Personnel Director Carol Alnutt was present and offered to answer any questions with regard to Personnel Vacancy – Employee Counts– Employees on Leaves of Absence. There were no questions however Chairman Ospelt again noted that the savings to date on vacancies is \$1,132,857.80.

VACANCY REVIEW

New Business	Vacancy Date	Recommendation by Finance and Personnel Commit
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A. Health Department

1. Registered Professional Nurse - #40113078	10/23/09	Approved
2. Public Health Nurse - #40113048	11/02/09	Approved
3. Public Health Nurse - #40121018	10/28/09	Approved

B. Social Services

1. Senior Caseworker - #60102091	11/21/09	Approved
2. Caseworker - #not yet determined		Approved
3. Caseworker - #60104050	11/28/09	Approved
4. Caseworker - #60102085	10/23/09	Approved

Motion to approve the above positions by Legislator Kunzwiler, seconded by Legislator Chalifoux with all in favor.

County Administrator Church discussed Motorola. We are negotiating down. The incentive is tied to what equipment we need and various options. The options need to go to the Legislature to be voted on before the end of the year. Motorola wants to get it on their books before the end of the year. They will take over a million off the price if they can get it on the books this year. If the bond is approved in December we don't begin issuing notes and bonds until January and that will give us the money so that we can begin paying Motorola as they do the work.

EXECUTIVE SESSION – For the purpose of Employee Evaluations. Motion to go into executive session at 4:45 p.m. by Legislator Doyle, seconded by Legislator Kunzwiler with all in favor.

ADJOURN – Chairman Ospelt informed all attending that the committee would not reconvene once the executive session is concluded.