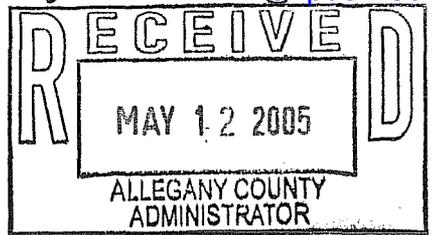


*John Margeson*



**NOT APPROVED**

**COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE**  
May 9, 2005

**Present:** R. Bennett, E. Burdick, C. Crandall, W. Dibble, J. Graffrath, W. Hall, S. Myers, K. Nielsen, J. Palmer, P. Regan, B. Reynolds, D. Russo, R. Sobeck, E. Sherman, R. Truax, J. Margeson, B. Rigby, A. Finnemore

**Also Present from Alfred State College:** President Uma Gupta and Cabinet Members: Robert Albrecht, Vice President of Academic Affairs; Deborah Putnam, Vice President of Administrative Affairs; Valerie Nixon, Vice President of Enrollment Management; and Steven Tyrell, Vice President of Student Affairs

**Media:** D. LeBlanc, Olean Times Herald; M. Streeter, Wellsville Daily Reporter; and D. Shoen, Corning Area Media

The meeting was called to order at 3:05 p.m. by Chairman James G. Palmer. Chairman Palmer noted the purpose of the meeting was to hear a presentation by Alfred State College. He turned the meeting over to Alfred State College President Uma Gupta, who distributed information on the college and introduced her cabinet members.

President Gupta shared concern regarding recent Board Resolution No. 108-05 (Authorizing Agreement with Jamestown Community College (JCC) for Establishment of JCC Extension Site in Allegany County). President Gupta noted that she and her cabinet members were unaware of the resolution prior to its approval, and felt Alfred State College should have been involved. Alfred State College is not afraid of competition; in fact, they have approached JCC previously to discuss collaboration that will work for all parties. Their concerns with the resolution include the need for a mechanism to be in place to avoid course duplication, the role of the proposed advisory board (on which Alfred State College has no representation), and the economic implications for the County, as well as Alfred State, if JCC is given exclusive rights to establish extension sites in the County. President Gupta distributed spreadsheets illustrating theoretical "extreme case" potential costs to the County assuming all County students presently attending other Community Colleges and Alfred State College were to change to JCC (the current resolution enables that type of change). Her calculations show close to \$500,000 in possible additional costs.

President Gupta expressed an interest in a partnership or collaboration that will work for the well-being of the County, Alfred State College and Jamestown Community College. Communication needs to be open and decisions should be made with the best interests of the County and all the educational institutions in mind.

Questions were raised on the future of the agricultural school and the farm in particular. President Gupta spoke on the recent summit held to gather input, explore various proposals, and request help to keep the farm going. The college needs to raise between \$1.5 to \$3 million for rehabilitation to make the facility safe for use. Although the vet tech program is thriving, enrollment is also a problem in the four agriculture

programs, as there are presently only 29 students participating. Experts have been invited to come in and help with the difficult decisions ahead.

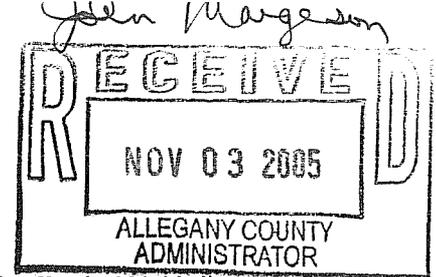
President Gupta squelched rumors concerning the future of the Wellsville campus. There is no truth to these fifteen-year-old rumors which have detrimental economic consequences every time they surface. Programs at the Wellsville campus are wait-listed and Alfred is looking for ways to enhance and improve them.

The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,  
Adele Finnemore, Journal Clerk

NOT  
APPROVED

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE  
November 2, 2005



**Present:** R. Bennett, E. Burdick, C. Crandall, W. Dibble, D. Fanton, J. Graffrath, W. Hall,  
S. Myers, J. Palmer, B. Reynolds, D. Russo

**Absent:** K. Nielsen, P. Regan, R. Sobeck, R. Truax

**Media:** R. Heineman – Alfred Sun

Chairman James G. Palmer announced that the purpose of the meeting was to examine the 2006 County Tentative Budget. The amount to be raised by real property taxes in the tentative budget is \$23,117,853 which represents a 15.81 percent increase in the tax levy. We would need to cut 2.157 million from the current tentative budget in order to be below the current constitutional tax limit.

Legislator Rodney Bennett expressed frustration with the lack of information available as well as the quality of the information available. Mr. Bennett asserted that he is not confident that the Board has access to accurate information. Mr. Bennett suggested the committee consider moving the Accountants in each department to a central location like the Treasurer's Office so that they would answer to the County Treasurer rather than individual department heads.

Committee members briefly discussed the issue of overtime. It was noted that there are a few employees that make twice their salary when overtime is included. Legislator Graffrath mentioned that there is a difference between overtime and non-essential overtime, and there must be a way to control all of the non-essential overtime that is occurring. It was noted that department heads must approve all overtime hours. Legislator William Hall commented that it seemed like department heads would want to eliminate overtime if it might save a position. It was also noted that in 1988 a resolution (Resolution No. 206-88) was adopted excluding the Deputy Public Works Superintendents from receiving overtime compensation, and that we should consider a similar resolution for some non-unit personnel.

Legislator Brent Reynolds stated that we are currently spending \$40,000 on the Empire Zone, and he believes we could save approximately \$30,000 a year by having our Development Office administer it.

Mr. Reynolds also indicated that many of our contracts may not be necessary and should be eliminated.

Terri Ross, County Treasurer/Deputy Budget Officer, confirmed that the vehicle capital account was created by resolution for the purpose of purchasing vehicles only.

Committee members discussed the constitutional tax limit, and Ms. Ross stated that the ramifications for exceeding our constitutional tax limit include the following:

1. State aid in the amount we exceed the limit will automatically be withheld.
2. Bond market would not look favorably on us if the limit is exceeded.
3. There could be taxpayer issues since the limit is set for their protection.
4. A control board could come in.

Legislator Curt Crandall, Chairman of Ways and Means Committee, reiterated that we absolutely have to adopt a budget that falls within our constitutional tax limit noting that we will either have to get under the limit or raise the limit. Mr. Crandall asserted that the resolution to

raise the limit will be considered by the Board on November 14, and we must have ten (2/3 of full Board) "yes" votes for the resolution to be adopted.

John Margeson, County Administrator/Budget Officer, stated that two line items (debt service and retirement) represent a 14 percent increase over last year and put us over our constitutional tax limit before we add anything to the budget or even consider contractual obligations.

Mr. Margeson distributed a list of suggested budget reductions that would result in an additional \$1,141,500 (5.71%) savings. It was noted that \$200,000 equals one percentage point.

One of the changes Mr. Margeson suggested was a \$100,000 increase to the sales tax revenue account. Committee members briefly discussed sales tax and asked the County Treasurer for her opinion. Ms. Ross stated that we are currently up about \$500,000 from last year's sales tax projection of \$14 million, but she isn't positive we will meet the 2005 budgeted amount of \$16.2 million. Ms. Ross indicated that raising the sales tax revenue to \$16.3 will bother her if we are short on the \$16.2 million this year, but if we are close it shouldn't be a problem. Ms. Ross stated that we receive sales tax revenue almost every month depending on how businesses file. Many of the large businesses file electronically, and we receive those payments immediately.

A motion was made by Reynolds, seconded by Graffrath and carried to sponsor a resolution making the following adjustments to the tentative budget:

<u>Acct. No.</u>	<u>Account</u>	<u>Amendment</u>	<u>Net Change</u>
Appropriations:			
A1040.1	Clerk, Board of Leg.	Change from \$152,930 to \$152,430	\$ 500
A1165.1	District Attorney	Change from \$352,065 to \$348,065	\$ 4,000
A1170.1	Public Defender	Change from \$167,064 to \$165,064	\$ 2,000
A1171.1	Assigned Counsel	Change from \$315,750 to \$300,750	\$ 15,000
A1325.1	Treasurer	Change from \$330,881 to \$326,881	\$ 4,000
A1355.1	Assessments	Change from \$232,574 to \$229,574	\$ 3,000
A1420.1	County Attorney	Change from \$299,016 to \$282,016	\$ 17,000
A1680.1	Central Service Computer	Change from \$186,222 to \$182,222	\$ 4,000
A1680.2	Central Service Computer	Change from \$20,450 to \$15,450	\$ 5,000
A1990.4	Contingent	Change from \$232,000 to \$180,000	\$ 52,000
A2495.4	Community Colleges	Change from \$650,000 to \$620,000	\$ 30,000
A3140.1	Probation	Change from \$601,826 to \$599,826	\$ 2,000
A3410.1	Fire	Change from \$49,613 to \$47,613	\$ 2,000
A6010.1	Social Services Administration	Change from \$3,744,577 to \$3,725,577	\$ 19,000
A6101.4	Medical Assistance	Change from \$9,900,000 to \$9,750,000	\$150,000
A6430.1	Office of Development	Change from \$166,652 to \$158,652	\$ 8,000
A8730.492	Soil & Water Conservation	Change from \$87,000 to \$83,000	\$ 4,000
A8751.4	Ag. & Livestock – Coop. Ext.	Change from \$194,000 to \$189,000	\$ 5,000
A9030.8	Social Security	Change from \$1,484,775 to \$1,309,775	\$175,000
CSH9061.8	Risk Retention – Medical	Change from \$3,200,000 to \$3,000,000	\$200,000
CSH9063.8	Risk Retention – Prescription	Change from \$1,500,000 to \$1,450,000	\$ 50,000
Total Changes to Appropriations:			\$751,500
Revenues:			
A01.2220.00	Sales & Use Tax	Change from \$16,200,000 to \$16,300,000	\$100,000
A10.3610.00	DSS Administration	Change from \$1,324,980 to \$1,414,980	\$ 90,000

A11.4610.00	DSS Administration	Change from \$3,046,462 to \$3,246,462	<u>\$200,000</u>
	Total Changes to Revenues:		\$390,000

***Referred for Resolution – as part of Tentative Budget Adjustment Resolution to be considered at November 28, 2005 Board meeting.***

The meeting was adjourned.

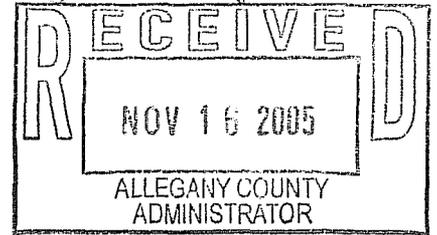
Respectfully submitted,

Brenda Rigby Riehle  
Clerk of the Board

**NOT  
APPROVED**

**COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE**

**November 7, 2005**



**Present:** R. Bennett, E. Burdick, C. Crandall, W. Dibble, D. Fanton, J. Graffrath, W. Hall, S. Myers, K. Nielsen, J. Palmer, P. Regan, B. Reynolds, D. Russo, R. Sobeck, R. Truax

**Also Present:** J. Margeson, T. Ross, A. Finnemore, K. Toot, D. Roeske, D. Sirianni, P. Schmelzer, P. Cockle, D. Button, E. Ruckle, T. Norton, C. Brown

**Media:** R. Heineman, Alfred Sun

The meeting was called to order at 4:05 p.m. by Chairman James G. Palmer. Chairman Palmer noted the purpose of the meeting was to consider further adjustments to the 2006 County Tentative Budget, and turned the meeting over to County Administrator and Budget Officer John Margeson.

**New Tax Rate Information; Budget Discussion**

Mr. Margeson presented new tax rate information, based on finalized figures received from the Real Property Tax Office for the County Total Assessed Value. Shown below is a comparison with 2005 figures:

	<u>2005</u>	<u>2006</u>
Total Assessed Value	1,375,488,589	1,411,131,306
Tax Levy	19,961,088	21,976,353
Tax Rate	14.51	15.57

The increase in tax levy at the time the tentative budget was released was 15.8 percent. Adjustments proposed by the Ways and Means Committee as of November 2 brought the increase down to 10.1 percent. Due to the increase in the Total Assessed Value (an increase of more than 36 million over the figure used when the 2006 tentative budget was released), the tax levy increase is now at 7.3 percent.

The constitutional tax limit is presently at \$21,074,359. The new tentative tax levy of \$21,976,353 is still over the limit by approximately \$902,000. Discussion included the need to make more adjustments to the tentative budget or increasing the constitutional tax limit. It was noted that the County will lose close to \$902,000 in State Aid revenue, and the County's credit rating will be adversely affected if a budget is adopted with a tax levy that exceeds the constitutional tax limit. The public hearing and consideration of the resolution to increase the constitutional tax limit by one-half percent will take place on November 14.

**Executive Session:**

A motion was made by Reynolds, seconded by Nielsen and carried to enter into executive session to discuss the employment history of a particular person. Following discussion, the meeting reconvened in regular session on a motion made by Graffrath, seconded by Sobeck and carried.

**Proposed Change for Excess Inmate Housing-In Revenues:**

A motion was made by Reynolds, seconded by Hall, to amend the existing resolution for distribution of excess funds from housing-in of inmates so that excess funds can go into the General Fund rather than to Reserve Fund for jail bond. The motion was defeated. Voting Yes: Crandall, Reynolds, and Hall; Voting No: Burdick, Myers, Truax, Nielsen, Sobeck, Russo, Graffrath, Dibble, Regan, Fanton, and Palmer.

**Executive Session:**

A motion was made by Graffrath, seconded by Hall and carried to enter executive session to discuss the employment history of a particular person. Following discussion, the meeting reconvened in regular session on a motion made by Hall, seconded by Reynolds and carried.

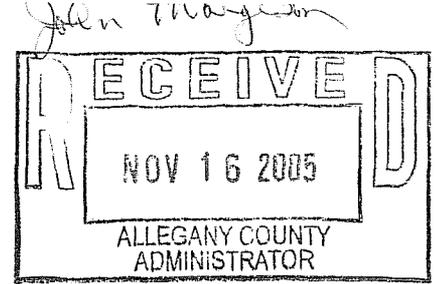
The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,  
Adele Finnemore, Journal Clerk

**NOT  
APPROVED**

**COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE**

**November 14, 2005**



**Present:** R. Bennett, E. Burdick, C. Crandall, W. Dibble, D. Fanton, J. Graffrath, W. Hall, S. Myers, K. Nielsen, J. Palmer, P. Regan, B. Reynolds, D. Russo, R. Sobeck, R. Truax

**Also Present:** J. Margeson, T. Ross, B. Rigby Riehle, A. Finnemore

**Media:** D. LeBlanc, Olean Times Herald; M. Streeter, Wellsville Daily Reporter; R. Heineman, Alfred Sun

The meeting was called to order at 2:45 p.m. by Chairman James G. Palmer. Chairman Palmer noted the purpose of the meeting was to discuss Section IV salaries and budgetary concerns.

**Executive Session:**

A motion was made by Dibble, seconded by Regan and carried to enter into executive session to discuss the employment history of a particular person. Following discussion, the meeting reconvened in regular session on a motion made by Bennett, seconded by Truax and carried.

**2006 Section IV Salaries:**

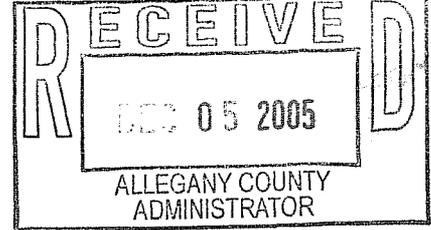
A motion was made by Bennett, seconded by Truax and carried, to increase Section IV salaries at the rate of one percent less than recommended by the County Budget Officer with a cap of \$2,000. It was noted that the Real Property Tax Director's recommended increase percentage was previously decreased to five percent, which will now go to four percent with a cap of \$2,000. County Budget Officer salary recommendations that were at a zero percent increase will stay at zero. Voting No: Russo, Sobeck.

**2006 County Tentative Budget Adjustments:**

A motion was made by Truax, seconded by Graffrath and carried unanimously, to charge the County Treasurer and County Administrator to cut approximately \$500,000 from the 2006 County Tentative Budget in various departmental personnel services accounts as recommended by the Committee of the Whole. The proper account numbers and amounts will be included on the resolution to amend the 2006 County Tentative Budget that will be considered at the November 28 Board meeting.

**Prepare Resolution.**

Respectfully submitted,  
Adele Finnemore, Journal Clerk



## COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

November 23, 2005

**Present:** R. Bennett, E. Burdick, C. Crandall, W. Dibble, D. Fanton, W. Hall, S. Myers, J. Palmer, P. Regan, B. Reynolds, D. Russo, R. Sobeck

**Also Present:** D. Pullen, G. Benson, J. Margeson, D. Guiney, T. Ross, R. Belmont, T. Parker, R. Christman, D. Button, D. Roeske, G. Ogden, B. Rigby Riehle, A. Finnemore, several additional County employees

**Media:** R. Heineman, Alfred Sun

The meeting was called to order at 1:05 p.m. by Chairman James G. Palmer for the purpose of discussing budgetary concerns. Department heads affected by proposed personnel services account reductions in the 2006 County Tentative Budget were given the opportunity to address the committee.

### **Daniel Guiney, County Attorney:**

Proposed budget reductions in the County Attorney's office involve cutting one of his two secretaries to half time. Mr. Guiney noted that each year his revenue increases significantly due to increased workload. The office provides good service to the Board, County departments, and the public. A cut in staff will have a significant impact on service delivery. The timeliness of legal document filing is very crucial, as it could affect reimbursements. Mr. Guiney is requesting that the committee reconsider and restore the one-half secretary position funding.

### **Dr. Gary Odgen, Public Health Director:**

The Health Department will be affected by the proposed budget cuts by the loss of four full-time-equivalent nursing staff positions. Dr. Odgen noted he doesn't believe the savings to the County will be as great as the Board's figures indicate and urged the Board to use the services of the department's auditors to understand nursing reports, as so many of their services are integrated and overlap between programs. He feels this is a bad time to cut nurses from the field considering the increase in the aging population and also the County's need for a medical reserve corps to respond to possible public health threats. Discussion included the low number of home health care patient contacts per nurse, reducing staff through attrition, controlling over-time, possibility of re-opening the nurses' union contract. Dr. Odgen feels the department is already at "bare bones" staffing levels.

### **Terrence Parker, District Attorney:**

Budget reductions being considered in the District Attorney's personnel services account will result in the reduction of one of the two secretaries to half time. Mr. Parker requested the Board look at alternate cuts in expenses, and noted that the STOP DWI Program has offered to increase his appropriation by \$3,000 in exchange for some

secretarial services. He also gave some other suggested adjustments to the County Administrator.

**Robert Christman, County Clerk:**

The proposed personnel services account reductions will mean the loss of an index clerk in the County Clerk's Office. The department recently lost two positions through attrition, and an additional reduction in staff will affect revenues. The constituents Mr. Christman contacted (the Bar Association, Abstractors, and Surveyors) have indicated that rather than coping with the inefficiency created by the loss of an index clerk, they would prefer seeing an increase in filing fees and maintain services to the taxpayers. Mr. Christman is proposing raising the processing fee for document filing cover page by \$4 (from \$3 to \$7) which would fund the proposed index clerk position reduction. It was noted that this process will require a local law.

**David Roeske, Public Works Superintendent:**

The position being considered for reduction in the Department of Public Works is the equipment supervisor who is also the fleet manager and is responsible for keeping all equipment records. The department has lost fourteen positions over the past two years, but has also taken on the additional responsibilities of basic maintenance of the County fleet, some of the former County forester's duties, and maintenance at the new jail. Services have already been reduced, i.e. road sealing program and road-side brush cutting, and consideration has been given to closing a transfer station. Safety issues arise if further cuts are made in the road crew. There is only one equipment supervisor. Mr. Roeske suggested alternate reductions: a position affected by a possible retirement wouldn't be filled, and the positions of janitor and building maintenance supervisor for the new jail would not be filled until the jail opens, which would result in a savings of approximately \$39,000.

**Randal Belmont, Sheriff:**

Proposed reductions in the Sheriff's 2006 personnel services accounts will result in the loss of three deputies (\$114,000 plus benefits). Sheriff Belmont feels there will not be any actual dollar savings realized through the cuts. Problems will arise related to union injunctions over lost positions and part-time staff status, and Commission of Corrections variances in the present facility would be jeopardized. The number of inmates housed out will increase, as will over-time costs for transports, and services will be cut in areas such as traffic safety and parade security. The department lost seven positions previously, and Sheriff Belmont doesn't feel there is any other place he can cut. It was noted that the Board's intent was to reduce non-jail staffing, and Sheriff Belmont indicated the two positions on the task force, two on building security, and four on court security are grant funded. Concern was raised regarding the possible under-funding of the Sheriff and Jail 2006 personnel services accounts, considering present trends and the new jail. Also discussed relative to the new facility were staffing levels and increased efficiency, present housing-out expenses, and anticipated savings and revenues.

**Executive Session:**

A motion was made by Mr. Reynolds, seconded by Mr. Dibble and carried to enter into executive session to discuss the employment history of a particular individual. Following discussion, a motion was made by Mr. Reynolds, seconded by Mr. Dibble and carried to close the executive session.

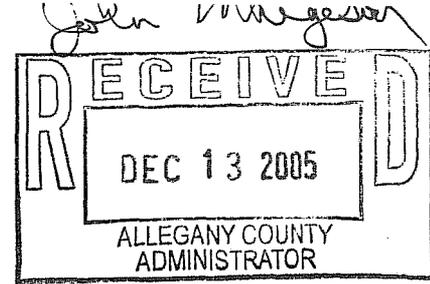
**Adjournment:** As there was no further business to come before the committee, the meeting as adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,  
Adele Finnemore, Journal Clerk

NOT  
APPROVED

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

December 12, 2005



**Members Present:** R. Bennett, E. Burdick, C. Crandall, W. Dibble, D. Fanton, W. Hall, S. Myers, K. Nielsen, J. Palmer, B. Reynolds, D. Russo, R. Truax

The meeting was called to order at 3:30 p.m. by Chairman James G. Palmer for the purpose of discussing 2006 Non-Unit Employee Salary Recommendations.

**Non-Unit Employee 2006 Salary Increases**

In keeping with 2006 unit and department head salary increases, Budget Officer John Margeson recommended a two percent across-the-board increase for non-unit employees, and noted that each department has the necessary funds in its 2006 budget to cover this amount.

A motion was made by Mr. Dibble, seconded by Mr. Bennett and carried to accept the Budget Officer's recommendation for a two percent increase in salaries for non-unit employees in 2006 (Opposed: Mr. Russo). ***Prepare Resolution***

**Adjournment:** As there was no further business to come before the committee, the meeting as adjourned following a motion made by Mr. Crandall, seconded by Mr. Russo and carried.

Respectfully submitted,  
Adele Finnemore, Journal Clerk

OFFICE OF THE  
**COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR**

COUNTY OF ALLEGANY • COUNTY OFFICE BUILDING • BELMONT, NEW YORK 14813

TELEPHONE 585-268-9217

JOHN E. MARGESON, *County Administrator*

FAX 585-268-9623

**Non-Unit Employee Salary costs and  
Recommendation for 2006 Increase**

At the present time there are 76 non-unit, salaried employees distributed throughout County government.

Non-unit salaried employees are typically mid-managerial staff at a level between the department head and the rank and file. These employees often manage individual divisions within a department, supervise rank and file staff and assist the department head with policy and procedure.

Some non-unit employees are in managerial/confidential clerical positions.

The 2005 total gross payroll for these employees is approximately \$3,015,000. 31 of the 76 positions are subject to either State or Federal aid which is expected to total \$663,000 in 2005 bringing the net county cost to \$2,352,000.

The fiscal impact of providing a salary increase of differing percentile amounts in 2006 is as follows:

<u>Payroll</u>	<u>% Increase</u>	<u>Cost</u>	<u>State/Fed Aid</u>	<u>Net Total</u>
3,015,000	1%	30,150	6,600	23,550
3,015,000	1.5%	45,225	9,950	35,275
3,015,000	2%	60,300	13,265	47,035
3,015,000	2.5%	75,375	16,580	58,795

In keeping with 2006 unit and department head salary increases, I would recommend a 2% across-the-board increase.

Each department has the necessary funds in its 2006 to cover this amount.