

**BUDGET COMMITTEE  
MAY 20, 2015**

**\*\* NOT APPROVED\*\***

**Committee Members Present:** T. Hopkins, P. Curran, D. Fanton, C. Crandall (Absent: K. LaForge, T. O'Grady)

**Others Present:** M. Alger, L. Ballengee, H. Budinger, D. Decker, L. Drake, K. Graves, D. Healy, R. Hollis, C. Knapp, B. Riehle, T. Ross, C. Santora

**Media Present:** No media present

**Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order at approximately 11:05 a.m. by Budget Committee Chairman Theodore Hopkins.

**Approval of Minutes**

A motion was made by Legislator Fanton, seconded by Legislator Curran, and carried to approve the Budget Committee minutes of April 27, 2015.

**Sales Tax Report**

County Treasurer Terri Ross distributed the 2014 Allegany County Sales Tax Report reflecting receipts through May 20, 2015, totaling \$6,834,134.04. Receipts for the current period indicate a small decrease (6.526 percent or \$477,146.56) from one year ago for the same period.

**New York State Sales Tax Information**

Ms. Ross distributed a report generated via a new program made available by the State which gives additional detail on where our sales tax comes from. This is more detailed information than we have been able to obtain in the past. The program allows a variety of reports. Ms. Ross indicated that the top page includes all four quarters of 2013-14, while page two has only the first two quarters of 2014-15. Ms. Ross added that for this report she used taxable sales from the highest (automobile sales in both years) to the lowest (which varied). Ms. Ross also indicated that training on this program had recently occurred, and she has not yet explored all the reporting options available.

**Community College Year-end Report for 2014**

Finally, Ms. Ross distributed the year-end report for the Allegany County contributions for students attending community colleges. The first page, she said, depicts the trends of the past six years. She added that the cost to the County continues to rise about two percent. The "A" side of the sheet is organized by college; the "B" side by town. Page two depicts the paid number of students by college; the flip side, the paid number of students by town. Pages 3 and 4 give figures for 2014 and the final page shows how cost to the County has fluctuated by college. Ms. Ross predicts a similar (2 percent) increase in cost for next year. For 2014, we paid out \$1,015,482.40 in community college costs.

**New Business**

**Budget Process for 2016**

County Administrator Mitch Alger indicated that there were some documents on the table regarding the start of the budgeting process for 2016. One is a memo that had been sent to

Department Heads and Financial Staff outlining the budget process; the second was the proposed procedures and timetable for the 2016 Budget. The dates, he said, indicate a range of possibilities and that more definitive information would be forthcoming.

**Government Efficiency Plans**

Mr. Alger went on to say that he had received confirmation and/or efficiency plans from about 70 percent of the municipalities. He added that two municipalities had indicated they would not participate in the County-wide effort. He also said that there are some outstanding municipalities that have indicated their intent to participate but have not yet sent in any paperwork. Mr. Alger added that several had sent in efficiency plans which would be incorporated into the County plan. He said that we have surpassed the target.

**Good of the Order**

Congratulations to our County Treasurer Terri Ross for being named Financial Officer of the Year by her professional organization New York State Treasurers & Finance Officers' Association.

**Adjournment**

There being no further business to come before the Committee, the meeting was adjourned at 11:25 a.m. following a motion by Legislator Fanton, seconded by Legislator Curran, and carried.

Respectfully submitted,  
Cynthia Santora, Secretary to the Clerk of the Board  
Allegany County Board of Legislators