

**WAYS & MEANS COMMITTEE
APRIL 15, 2015**

**** NOT APPROVED ****

Committee Members Present: C. Jessup, D. Fanton, P. Curran, K. Graves, D. Healy, T. Hopkins, LaForge, D. Pullen, C. Crandall (Absent: D. Root)

Others Present: M. Alger, H. Budinger, S. Burt, J. Budinger, D. Decker, R. Hollis, C. Ivers, T. Miner, K. Monroe, T. O'Grady, B. Riehle, T. Ross, C. Santora, R. Whitney

Media Present: No media present

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 3:00 p.m. by Ways & Means Committee Chairman Charles Jessup.

Sales Tax Report

County Treasurer Terri Ross distributed the 2015 Allegany County Sales Tax Report reflecting receipts through April 15, 2015, totaling \$5,464,936.21. Receipts for the current period indicate a decrease of \$463,201.35 or -7.814 percent from one year ago for the same period. There was some discussion regarding possible reasons for the decrease, but Ms. Ross indicated there was no definitive reason at this point.

Tax Sale/Municipal Bids

Ms. Ross went on to provide the following information:

The Town of Bolivar (Village of Bolivar) submitted a request/bid to obtain ownership of the Brandon J. Lippert property, Tax ID # 260.17-1-61. The Town's primary interest in the property is to demolish the structure. The offer made by the Town is \$100 plus current year taxes of \$2,469.78, and recording costs of \$183. The request was approved on a motion by Legislator Hopkins, seconded by Legislator Healy, and carried. **Prepare Resolution**

The Town of Granger submitted a request/bid to obtain ownership of the Richard Erb property, Tax ID # 42.2-2-5. The Town's primary interest in the property is to use it for town storage and fire hall use. The offer made by the Town is \$1 plus current year taxes of \$1,281.10 and recording costs of \$183. The request was approved on a motion by Legislator Healy, seconded by Legislator Fanton, and carried. **Prepare Resolution**

Copier Bids

Clerk of the Board Brenda Rigby Riehle provided the Committee with a spreadsheet of bids to replace the Central Service Copier, and subsequently requested permission to award the bid to e Studio 757 for a Toshiba which was the low bid. The request to award the bid as requested was approved on a motion by Legislator Healy, seconded by Legislator Fanton, and carried.

Acceptance of Insurance Check

Clerk of the Board Brenda Rigby Riehle requested a resolution accepting a check in the amount of \$245 from NYMIR (New York Municipal Insurance Reciprocal) representing the cost to replace a windshield on an Office for the Aging 2009 Dodge Suburban (#5718). Said windshield was cracked on or around December 29, 2014, and replaced on January 16, 2015. The funds should be appropriated to CS1931.429 (Risk Retention-Uninsured Property Loss)

with a like sum placed in revenue account CS1930.2680.00 (Insurance Recovery). This request was approved on a motion by Legislator Hopkins, seconded by Legislator Curran, and carried.

Prepare Resolution

Sales Tax 2015 - Step 2

On March 9, 2015, the Board adopted Resolution No. 65-15 – *Requesting State Legislative Representatives to Introduce and Seek Passage of Legislation Authorizing Allegany County to Continue the Additional One-and-One-Half Percent County Sales Tax for Three Years*. Allegany County received notification from Senator Catharine Young and Assemblyman Joe Giglio that they drafted bills (S.4409 and A.6360) authorizing an extension for two years through November 30, 2017. The second step in the Home Rule Legislation process requires Allegany County to pass a resolution approving and requesting passage of the Senate and Assembly bills (pursuant to Municipal Home Rule Law §40). Based on sales tax revenue receipts of \$20,136,080 for 2014, the additional one-and-one-half percent (1.5%) sales tax resulted in \$6.71 million revenue.

Legislator Burt requested that a Committee member vote to table this issue. The discussion which followed his request indicated that because sales tax seemed to be the most equitable of taxes, this issue should not be tabled. He added that if Legislator Burt could not support this additional tax, he was welcome to vote “no” when it came before the full Board. Subsequently, the request for the resolution was approved on a motion by Legislator Hopkins, seconded by Legislator Healy, and carried. **Prepare Resolution**

Transfer of Funds from The County Clerk’s Budget to the department of Real Property Tax Services

The County Clerk requested that the Board of Legislators approve a resolution for the transfer of \$4,000 from A1410.201 (County Clerk-Equipment) to A1355.413 (Real Property Rental). The County Clerk has agreed to help offset the lease of a plotter/scanner in the Department of Real Property Tax Services in lieu of purchasing a new scanner. The current scanner in Real Property Tax Services will be moved to the County Clerk’s Office. This request was approved on a motion by Legislator Fanton, seconded by Legislator Graves, and carried.

Prepare Resolution

REFERRALS FROM OTHER COMMITTEES

Public Safety/Sheriff’s Office

Funding Transfer

The Sheriff’s Office requested a transfer of \$300,000 from the Contingency Account to establish a Jail Capital Project Account. The account will be used to purchase new computer hardware, servers, and upgrades to the intercom, security, and records management systems. Please see the Jail Capital Project Account proposal (below) for specific details. Thus, the sum of \$300,000 should be transferred as below:

From Account No.
A 1990.429 (Contingency) \$300,000

To Account No.
H XXXX.XXX (Jail Capital Project) \$300,000
TBD by the Treasurer’s Department

Legislator Jessup began the discussion, following a motion by Legislator Curran, seconded by Legislator Fanton, and carried, by saying that it is still early in the Budget year to think about using \$300,000 from Contingency at this time. County Administrator Mitch Alger

concurrent, saying he and County Treasurer Terri Ross are continuing to review 2014 year-end figures which will help them make the decision. Mr. Alger would like this issue referred back to his office and the Office of the County Treasurer. A motion to table this issue was made on a motion by Legislator Graves, seconded by Legislator Healy, and carried. **Refer to County Administrator and County Treasurer**

FACILITIES & COMMUNICATIONS

Simplex Grinnell (Security Cameras & Swipe Cards)

Jeff Rizzo and Ray Meyers, Simplex Grinnell Representatives presented the Committee with two proposals for the project they outlined at the February Facilities meeting. The bids, they said, were done two ways: the first would have Allegany County personnel install the cable infrastructure (\$91,820), while the second would have Simplex do the entire system (\$107,910). The only difference in the two bids, they said, would be the cost of the labor, approximately \$16,000, if Simplex laid the infrastructure as well. The scope of work for the project remains the same, and includes 26 high-definition 2 mega-pixel cameras and one high definition 5 megapixel camera outdoors, and one high-definition PTZ (pan, tilt, and zoom) outdoor camera. There was some discussion regarding the pros and cons of one bid over the other. It was noted that these installations would significantly upgrade the security apparatus which is now in place. Legislator Ungermann inquired whether the system could be used for payroll as a time and attendance tracker because the handwritten timesheets are antiquated, and unless it could be used in this way, he would not support the project. The Simplex reps indicated that there would need to be some major adjustments to the bid as it was presented, but that it could be done. It was also noted that it could be done at a later date when more funding is available. Chairman Crandall stated that he felt it is a waste of time to look at this project for serving a payroll function as it was not the original purpose. Additionally, the Committee would need some input from County Treasurer Terri Ross, who was not in attendance, to determine what would be necessary for her Office's function. Mr. Scholes added that not all DPW employees work on the County "campus" and, therefore, would not be included in the time/attendance function of the equipment.

The topic was opened for discussion on a motion by Legislator Pullen, seconded by Legislator Graves, and carried. However, similar to the above issue, Mr. Alger and Ms. Ross would like more time to assess 2014 year-end figures before having the Committee act on this request. A motion to table this issue was granted on a motion by Legislator Hopkins, seconded by Legislator Fanton, and carried. **Refer to County Administrator and County Treasurer**

Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the Committee, the meeting was adjourned at 3:25 p.m. following a motion by Legislator Graves, seconded by Legislator Fanton, and carried.

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