

Ways & Means Committee Minutes
August 17, 2016

Not Approved

Members Present: C. Jessup, D. Fanton, P. Curran, K. Graves, M. Healy, K. LaForge, T. O’Grady, D. Pullen, D. Root, and C. Crandall

Others Present: L. Ballengee, T. Boyde, H. Budinger, D. Decker, K. Hollis, R. Hollis, J. Hopkins, L. Hunsberger, G. James, C. Knapp, T. Miner, B. Riehle, T. Ross, M. Washer

Call to Order: Ways & Means Committee Chairman Charles Jessup called the meeting to order at 3:40 p.m.

Approval of Minutes

The August 8, 2016, Ways & Means Committee minutes were approved on a motion by Legislator Graves, seconded by Legislator Curran, and carried.

Bid on Leftover Tax Sale Property

Committee members reviewed a bid from the Bolivar-Richburg Educational Foundation to purchase a parcel located at 560 South Main Street in Bolivar (Tax Map #272.8-1-18) for \$25 plus \$183 in recording fees. They requested that all current taxes be waived.

Legislator O’Grady asked if we would be making the school district whole as far as the taxes go. County Treasurer Terri Ross stated that we have already made them whole, and that the Bolivar-Richburg Foundation would be responsible for any new tax bills that come out. Legislator Fanton asked about the structures on the property, and Ms. Ross indicated that they plan to tear the structure down to enhance the area. The Foundation is not exempt yet, but they will be. Eventually the parcels do go back on the tax rolls.

A motion was made by Legislator Graves, seconded by Legislator Curran, and carried to allow Legislator Kevin LaForge to abstain from voting. A motion was then made by Legislator Graves, seconded by Legislator Curran, and carried to accept the bid from the Bolivar-Richburg Educational Foundation to purchase the parcel at 560 South Main Street in Bolivar.

Prepare Resolution

Tax Payment Enhancement

County Treasurer Terri Ross and Real Property Tax Director Joe Budinger presented information from Systems Development Group, Inc., out of Utica regarding a SDG IMO – TCS Tax Collection Module. The system would enable taxpayers and County officials to gain 24 X 7 access to a “one stop shop” for parcel data currently available separately from the Treasurer and Real Property Tax Departments. This proposal would tie our tax collection system with our Image Mate Online (IMO) web portal for the retrieval and display of

comprehensive Allegany County real property information. It blends the two software programs that we have together. The system allows for the payment of taxes online, and the system updates instantaneously allowing for “real time” information availability. It shows “live” information at all levels. The system ties together what we currently have and will improve taxpayer access and services while improving County operational efficiencies. The cost is \$3,000 per year for five years. County Administrator Tim Boyde confirmed that he is in favor of securing the program. A motion was made by Legislator Healy, seconded by Legislator Root, and carried to enter into an agreement with Systems Development Group, Inc. for the purchase of the SDG IMO – TCS Tax Collection Module for \$3,000 per year for five years.

Prepare Resolution

REFERRALS FROM OTHER COMMITTEES

Planning & Economic Development Committee

Greater Allegany County Chamber of Commerce Executive Director Gretchen Hanchett requested a resolution authorizing the Planning and Economic Development Committee to act as Tourist Promotion Agency and to apply for State Funds Up to \$238,625 for tourism promotion purposes. It was noted that we usually receive around \$60,000. Legislator O’Grady expressed concern about the large dollar amount being requested and wondered if we would be required to match this amount if it was granted. County Treasurer Ross stated that we only budgeted \$60,000 so any amount in excess of that would require further committee and Board approval. Ways & Means Committee Chairman Charles Jessup stated that a formula is used, and we typically receive a percentage of what we request. Planning & Economic Development Committee Chair Root stated that the funding is done on a regional basis, and if we asked for less, it would hurt the whole region. The request for resolution was approved on a motion by Legislator Root, seconded by Legislator Fanton, and carried.

Prepare Resolution

County Administrator Tim Boyde requested a resolution approving a contract between the County and the Allegany County Federation of Snowmobilers whereby the County acts as sponsor for applications for snowmobile trail development and maintenance assistance grants through the New York State Office of Parks, Recreation, and Historic Preservation. It is anticipated that our 2016-2017 funding will be approved for \$125,000. Allegany County will operate as a pass-through to the Federation of Snowmobilers. Sufficient funding was appropriated in the 2016 Budget to A7185.483 with a like sum credited to Revenue account A7185.3089.00. No budget adjustments are necessary at this time. The request was approved on a motion by Legislator Root, seconded by Legislator Healy, and carried.

Prepare Resolution

Public Works Committee

The Public Works Committee referred a request to sell a .6 +/- acre right-of-way (former highway parcel 25, Map 25, L. 293, P. 242) that the County procured for the State that

includes two state highways in the Town of Belfast along State Route 19 and State Route 305 for \$1,000 plus expenses. County Attorney Thomas Miner stated that the purchaser is balking at paying for a survey, and if the buyer doesn't finance the survey, the deal may not go through. The request was approved on a motion by Legislator Fanton, seconded by Legislator Graves, and carried. **Prepare Resolution**

The Public Works Committee referred a request to replace the three remaining boilers and four tanks in the kitchen/laundry areas at the Jail. Deputy Public Works Superintendent Dean Scholes indicated that the cost to replace the three remaining original boilers and four original storage tanks is \$185,000 to \$210,000. Ways & Means Committee Chair Jessup asked where the money would be coming from. County Administrator Boyde stated that they are looking at the Repair Reserve, and there is about \$244,000 in that fund. A motion was made by Legislator Fanton, seconded by Legislator Graves, and carried to establish Capital Project accounts with funding not to exceed \$230,000 from the General Fund Repair Reserve. The funds should be appropriated as follows:

From:

A 14.511.00 Appropriate Reserve – General Fund Reserve for Repairs (Reserve account A 882.0000*)	\$ 230,000
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TO

H 1630.200 Capital - Misc Building Repairs (Employment & Training)	\$ 20,000
H 3201.200 Capital - Public Safety Bldg Repairs (Jail – Boiler Replacement Project)	\$ 210,000

It was noted that the use of this account would require a public hearing, and a motion was made by Legislator Healy, seconded by Legislator Fanton, and carried to set the date of a public hearing for September 26 regarding the use of the General Fund Repair Reserve Account. **Prepare Resolutions**

Resource Management Committee

Cornell Cooperative Extension of Allegany County (CCE-AC) is formally requesting an appropriation supplement of \$49,000. This amount was included in their 2016 Budget request, but due to the recent creation of the single-county Association (having split from Cattaraugus on October 1, 2015), it was recommended that CCE-AC return to the legislature mid-year. The funding will cover salaries of existing staff in the program areas of 4-H, agriculture, horticulture and finance. In previous meetings, the Cooperative Extension indicated that they could make an additional \$35,000 work by taking a furlough day every week. A motion was made by Legislator Graves, seconded by Legislator O'Grady, and carried to transfer \$35,000 from A1990.4 (Contingency) to A8751.4 (Cooperative Extension). This would make the Cooperative Extension annual allocation from Allegany County \$278,000 for 2016. **Prepare Resolution**

Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the Committee, the meeting was adjourned at 1:09 p.m. following a motion by Legislator Graves, seconded by Legislator Root, and carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Brenda Rigby Riehle, Clerk of the Board
Allegany County Board of Legislators