

FINANCE AND RULES COMMITTEE MEETING
January 21, 2020

Present: Legislators Tom Osborne, Ron Burns, Greg Kulzer, Ian Gilbert, and Phil Hathway.

Others: Legislators Larry Dolhof, Jerry King, Randy LaChausse, and Andrea Moroughan; County Manager Ryan Piche; County Attorney Joan McNichol; HR Director Caitlyn Smith; and reporter Nick Altmire.

Committee Chairman Tom Osborne called the meeting at 4:10 p.m.

Legislator Kulzer made a motion to approve the 12/17/19 committee meeting minutes, seconded by Legislator Burns and carried. Legislator Gilbert abstained.

The following dockets were read:

1. Local Law (Intro. No. 1 – 2020) Amending Local Law No. 9-2019 Providing for the Partial Exemption of Certain Real Property Owned by Persons 65 Years of Age or Over and Resolution to set the public hearing for March 3, 2020 at 5:00 p.m. *Legislator King asked for further explanation. Real Property Director Candy Akin explained that when she input the numbers from the previous Local Law the system wouldn't accept some of them which required some of the valuations & calculations to be adjusted by raising the income levels a small amount.*
YEA: 5 NAY: 0
2. Resolution to appropriate \$100,000.00 from Capital funds to Capital Buildings & Grounds Project HAC account.
YEA: 5 NAY: 0
3. Resolution to transfer \$65,100.00 from Capital funds to Capital County Road Striping Project HAI account.
YEA: 5 NAY: 0
4. Resolution to transfer \$50,000.00 from fund balance into Capital funds and then appropriate \$50,000.00 from Capital funds to Capital Data Processing Project HAE account. *Legislator Hathway inquired why money was being moved from fund balance this early in the year. County manager Ryan Piche explained that the Capital Data Processing accounts gets replenished every couple of years and then it is spent out of until the balance needs replenishing. The funds were not part of the tax levy as it was apparent that there would be additional sales tax revenue in 2019 so the money is now being transferred.*
YEA: 5 NAY: 0
5. Resolution to appropriate \$523,000.00 from Capital funds to Capital Equipment Project HAD account. *In response to Legislator Kulzer, Ryan explained that this money was part of the Capital Plan for 2020.*
YEA: 5 NAY: 0

6. Resolution appointing Dennis Mastascusa of Lowville, NY to the Development Authority of the North Country Board effective February 1, 2020 through January 31, 2024.
YEA: 5 NAY: 0
7. Resolution appointing John Lehman of Croghan, NY to the Lewis County Planning Board effective February 1, 2020 through December 31, 2022.
YEA: 5 NAY: 0
8. Resolution to appoint Cassandra Moser as the Lewis County Self-Insurance Plan Administrator retroactive to January 1, 2020 for an annual salary of \$10,000.00.
YEA: 5 NAY: 0
9. Resolution brought forward by General Services Committee to amend the Compensation Plan of the County of Lewis with reference to the District Attorney's office to create a temporary Intern position, effective and retroactive to December 1, 2019 through December 31, 2020 with compensation not to exceed \$8,000.00. *There was discussion on the additional language requested by the General Services Committee making it clear that there would be no additional funding for this position authorized in 2020 and that the money wouldn't be allocated until the budget line was depleted.*
YEA: 4 NAY: 0 Legislator Gilbert abstained.
10. Resolution brought forward by the General Services Committee to amend the Compensation Plan of the County of Lewis with reference to the District Attorney's office to create a temporary Part-time Assistant District Attorney position, effective and retroactive to January 1, 2020 through December 31, 2020 with compensation not to exceed \$20,000.00. *There was brief discussion explaining that the same language as the previous docket would be added.*
YEA: 4 NAY: 0 Legislator Gilbert abstained.

Economic & Community Benefits of Lewis County General Hospital – Jerry Cayer, CEO

Jerry Cayer explained that over the next few months the Capital Project plans should be finalized and then he will present them to the Board. The idea is to continue to evolve as a health care system with new infrastructure to last time. One way to view the upcoming Capital Project is as a type of economic development. The hospital will have \$115,000,000 in economic activity; 1,000 job generated for the community, some staff and others that will be spin-offs related to the project; \$49,000,000 in payroll expenditures; 67% of reimbursement from Medicare & Medicaid. The 3D CAD program being used allows for better visualization of the changes. Recently the hospital reached consensus on the new floor plans, which included increasing the capacity of the morgue and modernization. There will be more information forthcoming over the next few months.

At 4:35 p.m. Legislator Kulzer made a motion to enter into executive session to discuss personnel, seconded by Legislator Burns and carried.

At 5:15 p.m. Legislator Burns made a motion to enter back into regular session, seconded by Legislator Kulzer and carried.

Legislator Burns made a motion to authorize Caitlyn Smith to re-fill the Information Technology Director position effective immediately due to a resignation, seconded by Legislator Gilbert and carried.

Legislator Burns made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Legislator Kulzer and carried.

Respectfully submitted,
Cassandra Moser, Clerk of the Board