

FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES  
December 27, 2023

The Finance Committee of the Broome County Legislature met on Wednesday, December 27, 2023 in the Legislative Conference Room, Sixth Floor, Edwin L. Crawford County Office Building.

Members Present: S. Flagg (Chair), L. Augostini, S. Baker, K. Wildoner, M. Kaminsky

Members Absent: None

Others Present: D. Reynolds, E. Micha, B. Weslar, M. Hilderbrant, J. Shaw, K. Myers, S. Ryan, M. McDonald, M. Tanzini, C. Hall, A. Martin, Legislature; J. Garnar, County Executive's Office; J. St. Amour, OMB; N. Williams, H. Schultz, J. Sullivan, K. White, DSS; M. McFadden, Health; W. Hughes, RPTS; R. Brown, DPW; C. Segrue, Personnel; F. Akshar, J. Layton, P. Riley, V. Harper, W. Curtis, Office of the Sheriff; D. Smith, DPW-SWM; D. Reynolds, Elections; K. Vavra, IT; R. O'Donnell, J. Haas, Land Bank; J. Schmidt, S. Hurwitz, L. Schapiro, M. Johnson, D. Harzell, M. Goodfellow, A. Shuman, M. Wahila, L. Wahila, V. Gialenella, Visitors, K. Spisak, Fox 40; L. Meade, WBNG 12 News

The Committee meeting was called to order by the Chairman at 5:00 p.m. Mr. Augostini moved the agenda, seconded by Mr. Baker. The Committee took the following action with regard to the matters before it:

#1 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AN AGREEMENT WITH THE BROOME TIOGA BOARD OF COOPERATIVE EDUCATION SERVICES (BOCES) AND THE BINGHAMTON LOCAL DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION (BLDC) FOR AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT (ARPA) FUNDING TO SUPPORT ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS IN BROOME COUNTY FOR 2024

Carried. Ayes-5, Nays-0

#2 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING A RETENTION BONUS FOR ELIGIBLE EMPLOYEES WITH SPECIFIC TITLES WITHIN THE DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES

Responding to a question from Mr. Baker, Mr. Garnar stated DSS is reimbursed 66% by the State and Federal government and that was a factor when determining what departments to offer the retention bonus to. Responding to questions from Mr. Shaw, Mr. Garnar stated that this is a one-time incentive and the goal is to fill all positions and retain current employees while working to address compensation for employees.

Carried. Ayes-5, Nays-0

#3 RESOLUTION AMENDING THE 2023 CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM FOR SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT

Mr. Flagg expressed his frustration with over-runs on projects becoming more frequent. Mr. Garnar and Mrs. Smith explained that the DEC came in mid-project and changed the regulations on the new cell reclamation liner construction project which contributed to the increased cost.

Carried. Ayes-5, Nays-0

**#4 RESOLUTION AMENDING THE 2022 CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM**

Responding to questions from Mr. Flagg, Mr. Garnar stated that enplanements have increased and there is a lot of private air use at the airport. This project sends a positive message to the airlines and should help with attracting new business to the area. Mr. Garnar further stated because of the short time frame for the project to be completed, there was only one bidder for the 3<sup>rd</sup> phase of the project which may have increased estimated project costs and that the county would probably never see this kind of state and federal funding again.

Carried. Ayes-5, Nays-0

**#5 RESOLUTION ADOPTING THE SCHEDULE OF LEGISLATIVE SESSIONS FOR 2024**

Carried. Ayes-5, Nays-0

**#6 RESOLUTION APPOINTING MEMBERS TO THE BROOME COUNTY LOCAL DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION PURSUANT TO THE NOT-FOR-PROFIT CORPORATION LAW OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK**

Carried. Ayes-5, Nays-0

**#7 RESOLUTION CONFIRMING APPOINTMENTS TO MEMBERSHIP ON THE BROOME COUNTY INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AGENCY BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Carried. Ayes-5, Nays-0

**#8 RESOLUTION CONFIRMING APPOINTMENTS TO MEMBERSHIP ON THE BROOME COUNTY LAND BANK BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Carried. Ayes-5, Nays-0

**#9 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING A MERIT PAY PROGRAM FOR THE OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY FOR 2024**

Responding to a question from Mrs. Kaminsky, Mr. Martin explained that this merit pay program mirrors the previous program with a few changes, including time employed, evaluation period and a cap in the amount that can be allocated in merit pay.

Carried. Ayes-5, Nays-0

**#10 RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING EQUALIZATION RATES FOR THE 2024 COUNTY TAX LEVY**

Carried. Ayes-5, Nays-0

**#11 RESOLUTION LEVYING TAX, PURSUANT TO SECTION 902 OF THE REAL PROPERTY TAX LAW AND OF THE BROOME COUNTY CHARTER, ON THE CITY OF BINGHAMTON FOR 2024**

Carried. Ayes-5, Nays-0

**#12 RESOLUTION LEVYING COUNTY TAXES, PURSUANT TO SECTION 902 OF THE REAL PROPERTY TAX LAW AND OF THE BROOME COUNTY CHARTER**

Carried. Ayes-5, Nays-0

**#13 RESOLUTION LEVYING RETURNED SCHOOL AND VILLAGE TAXES FOR 2023**

At the request of the Director of the Office of Management and Budget, Mr. Baker made a motion, seconded by Mr. Wildoner to amend the amounts for the Town of Union and the Grand Total as follows:

UNION	Endicott	543,920.78	38,074.50	581,995.28
	Johnson City	607,179.76	42,502.38	649,682.14
TOTAL UNION		1,151,100.54	80,576.88	1,231,677.42
GRAND TOTALS		\$1,257,134.16	\$87,999.23	\$1,345,133.39

Amendment carried. Ayes-5, Nays-0

Resolution as amended carried. Ayes-5, Nays-0

**#14 RESOLUTION OF THE COUNTY LEGISLATURE LEVYING TAXES AND ASSESSMENTS FOR THE PURPOSE OF ANNUAL BUDGET OF TOWNS OF BROOME COUNTY**

Responding to a question from Mr. Baker, Mrs. St. Amour stated that they are still working on getting information for the Towns of Binghamton, Union and Windsor.

At the request of the Director of the Office of Management and Budget, Mr. Baker made a motion, seconded by Mr. Wildoner to replace Reso Intro #14 with the attached.

Amendment carried. Ayes-5, Nays-0

Resolution as amended carried. Ayes-5, Nays-0

**#15 RESOLUTION CERTIFYING COUNTY TAXES DUE FROM EACH MUNICIPALITY IN BROOME COUNTY**

Carried. Ayes-5, Nays-0

**#16 RESOLUTION APPROVING THE COMPLETED TAX ROLLS OF THE SEVERAL TOWNS AND CITY AND DIRECTING THE EXECUTION AND DELIVERY OF WARRANTS FOR THE COLLECTION OF TAXES EXTENDED THEREON PURSUANT TO SECTION 904 OF THE REAL PROPERTY TAX LAW**

Carried. Ayes-5, Nays-0

**#18 RESOLUTION CONFIRMING THE APPOINTMENT OF MICHAEL T. BAKER AS BROOME COUNTY PUBLIC DEFENDER**

Carried. Ayes-5, Nays-0

**#19 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING ACCEPTANCE OF THE SAFE STREETS AND ROADS FOR ALL (SS4A) PROGRAM GRANT FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT BINGHAMTON METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION STUDY AND ADOPTING A PROGRAM BUDGET FOR 2024-2025**

Carried. Ayes-5, Nays-0

There being no further business to come before the Committee at this time, Mr. Baker made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Mr. Wildoner. The meeting adjourned at 5:49 p.m.