

FINANCE COMMITTEE

December 6, 2011

PRESENT:

Lynda Scheer, Chairwoman
Lawrence Andrews
Arthur Baer
Arthur Bassin
Richard Keaveney
Jesse DeGroot
Raymond Staats
Roy Brown

ABSENT:

Elizabeth Young, notified
Bart Delaney, Jr., notified

ALSO PRESENT:

Gail DiCosmo, Clerk
Tal Rappleyea
Robert Fitzsimmons
John Rutkey
Kenneth Wilber
Patrick Grattan
Ronald Caponera

PRESS: 1

Chairwoman Scheer called the meeting to order at 4:49 PM.

County Attorney's Office: T. Rappleyea

2005 TAX FORECLOSURE (Sir William Road, Hillsdale) [no change from last month]

The owner continues to abide by the Chapter 12 Plan, thus we continue to monitor the bankruptcy and the realtor's progress.

2006 and 2007 TAX FORECLOSURE [no change from last month]

The CA office has again contacted the adjoining landowners to try to sell the two remaining leftover parcels but have not received any offers. If we are unsuccessful with the neighbors, we will put these properties in the next sale with the 2008 parcels.

2008 TAX FORECLOSURE [no change from last month]

We expect to be filing and serving the Petition within the next few weeks now that we have received the title reports and are in the process of compiling an exhaustive list of all interested parties which must be served.

McDOWELL PROPERTY (Route 66 & Water Street, Ghent)

The Supplemental Foreclosure Petition was filed, served and noticed on November 3, 2011. After 90 days (February 3, 2012), assuming the owner does not file an answer, we will immediately file the Judgment and proceed with the sale to the new buyer.

UPPER HOLLOW ROAD BRIDGE (off Rte 22, Austerlitz)

The County must secure a temporary detour over a private road while construction on this bridge takes place and the preliminary Eminent Domain procedure has been commenced. This matter is set for a public hearing at the start of the December 14 full BOS meeting. Attached is a proposed resolution which must be passed after the close of the public hearing in order to move the ED process forward.

SOIL AND WATER BUILDING: LEASE WITH SOIL AND WATER DISTRICT

In accordance with the attached report of measurements taken by Bob Pinto, the total square footage for the building is 9,408 with Soil and Water occupying 5,272 sf, the USDA occupying 2,640 sf and common space comprising 1,496. Based upon the appraisal, the "fair market value" of the building is \$14.50/sf, with a current Stabilized Base Rental Income of \$16.89/sf. The Committee should discuss what level the rent should be set at for the new lease, keeping in mind the on-going negotiations with the USDA, as well as the length and other terms of the lease. **T. Rappleyea will meet with R. Caponera to discuss.**

PROPOSED LOCAL LAW FOR DEED FILINGS/DELINQUENT TAXES

The County Attorney's Office has been requested to research the possibility of enacting a local law requiring that prior to the filing of any deed within the County, all delinquent taxes must be paid. Currently, there is no requirement under state law.

The County Clerk has an on-going canvassing of each county in NY to determine if and how this matter is handled locally elsewhere. This office will be setting up a meeting with the County Clerk, Treasurer's Office and Real Property Tax Services to determine if and how such a local law might be most effectively implemented.

RESOLUTION REQUESTS:

Chairwoman Scheer wanted to address a Resolution Request from Human Resources to Authorize the Director of Human Resources to fill the Budgeted Position of Deputy Director of Human Resources, at a base salary of \$60,000.00 and not subject to 15%, 10%,5% salary reduction, motion by A. Baer, seconded by L. Andrews, carried.

A motion to move into EXECUTIVE SESSION at 5:20 PM by A. Baer, seconded by R. Staats, carried.

REASON: to discuss certain personnel

A motion to return to REGULAR SESSION at 5:47 PM by R. Brown, seconded by A. Baer, carried.

HEALTH/MEDICAL SERVICES:

Requesting authorization for the Chairman of the Board of Supervisors to enter into a contract agreement with Jack Vensky, CPA regarding the potential sale of the County CHHA, motion by A. Baer, seconded by L. Andrews, carried.

Authorization to extend temporary appointment of Special Projects Coordinator in the Health Department for a 3 month period beginning November 29, 2011 and ending February 15, 2012 at the rate of \$30.00 per hour, Account No. AO4010001000, motion by R. Staats, seconded by L. Andrews, carried.

Authorization to renew resolution No. 216-2009 contracting with CCSI for financial consulting services for 2012 in an amount not to exceed \$8,200.00; this is on HOLD until further information is provided.

Authorization to execute 2012 Department of Human Services contracts, motion by R. Staats, seconded by R. Brown, carried.

Authorization to establish at Taconic Hills School MH Clinic Satellite to enhance access to services, Space is free of charge, motion by A. Baer, seconded by L. Andrews, carried.

Authorization for the Department of Human Services/Mental Health Center to reappoint members to the Community Services Board and reappoint and appoint members to the Mental Health Subcommittee, motion by L. Andrews, seconded by R. Staats, carried.

Authorizing the Pine Haven Home to enter into a Consulting Agreement with LeadingAge New York Pro Care for two days on- site and off-site consulting at \$185.00 per hour, motion by R. Staats, seconded by L. Andrews, carried.

HUMAN SERVICES:

Authorizing the Office for the Aging permission to transfer funds from Account No. AO7610144000 Project Lifesaver to Account No. AO7610002999 Miscellaneous Equipment in the amount of \$4,500.00; motion by A. Baer, seconded by J. DeGroodt, carried.

Amending Resolution No. 359-2011 authorizing the Office for the Aging to contract with the Columbia County Health Care Consortium for a one (1) year period beginning January 1, 2012 to provide Transportation for Medical Appointments, motion by A. Baer, seconded by J. DeGrootd, carried. One (1) Abstained.

Authorizing the Commissioner of the Department of Social Services to Fill Vacant Budgeted Positions, to Abolish One (1) Position and Create and Fill One (1) position, motion by L. Andrews, seconded by R. Staats, carried.

PUBLIC SAFETY:

Authorizing the Columbia County Sheriff to transfer funds in the amount of \$4,000.00 from Account No. 3020.00-2.999 to Account No. 3110.00-4.271 to pay for fuel for Sheriff's Office vehicles, motion by A. Bassin, seconded by J. DeGrootd, carried.

Authorizing the Chairman of the Board and the Columbia County Sheriff to enter into a renewal agreement with Global Tel-Link Corp. for the inmate telephone contract, motion by A. Bassin, seconded by R. Brown, carried.

Authorizing the Chairman of the Board to enter into a renewal agreement with New York Oncology Hematology for services to inmates, motion by J. DeGrootd, seconded by R. Staats, carried.

Authorizing the EMS Coordinator to transfer funds in the amount of \$4,500.00 from a .2 Misc. Equipment Account to a .4 Ambulance Service Account to cover expenses related to the County electronic patient care reporting system, motion by R. Brown, seconded by R. Staats, carried.

Authorization for the Emergency Management Grant Administrator to accept the FY2011 State Homeland Security Program Grants. The total amount of the grant is \$126,000.00 with no required match by Columbia County, specific breakdown for the grant is State Homeland Security Program \$83,412.00, and State Law Enforcement Terrorism Prevention Program \$42,588.00. Additionally requesting authorization to disperse such grants in accordance with State Homeland Security guidelines, applications are due January 6th, 2012, motion by R. Staats, seconded by R. Brown, carried.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT/PLANNING:

Appointing a Member to the Columbia County Planning Board representing Region #8 consisting of the Towns of Ancram, Copake, and Hillsdale, motion by R. Keaveney, seconded by R. Brown, carried.

PUBLIC WORKS:

Authorizing the City of Hudson to utilize the 560 Warren St. Parking lot located at the intersection of Columbia & 6th St. every Saturday, beginning in May and running until Mid October for the years 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015, and 2016, motion by R. Brown, seconded by A. Bassin, carried.

Authorization to purchase a +/- 0.15 Acre property inclusive of a dilapidated single family resident at the intersection of County Rte. 7 and NYS Route 82 for the amount of \$31,750.00 in the Town of Ancram NY, motion by L. Andrews, seconded by A. Baer, carried.

Authorization to award the bids for Meat/Meat Products, Bread/Baked Goods, Milk/Dairy Products and Eggs, motion by J. DeGrootd, seconded by, L. Andrews carried.

Authorization for the Board of Supervisors to dedicate County Route 11 from NYS Route 23 to County Rt. 27 in the Towns of Copake and Taghkanic as the Bernard J. Kelleher, Sr. Memorial Highway, in reorganization of Mr. Kelleher's contribution as Commissioner of Public Works between the years of 1956 to 1977. This dedication is being made in consideration of the driving force provided by Commissioner Kelleher, Sr. for the funding, design and construction of this County Highway, the effort and commitment given by Commissioner Kelleher to have this highway recognized on the National level, and the dedication, commitment and unselfish sacrifice given by Commissioner Kelleher towards the building of Columbia County's highway and public works infrastructure, motion by R. Brown, seconded by R. Staats, carried.

Authorizing the Highway Dept. to transfer \$23,000.00 from the Roads & Bridges line DO 5110.11-4.000, (Highway Outpost), to DO 5110.00-2.999, line in order to fund the purchase of (5) Five, 20kW Propane emergency standby generators with automatic transfer switches. These generators are needed to replace existing portable gas generators at our outposts which are 23 years old, are of inadequate size and in need of replacement. These will be purchased off of the NYS OGS purchasing contract at a total delivered cost not to exceed \$23,000.00, motion by A. Bassin, seconded by A. Baer, carried.

Authorizing the filling of Two (2) vacant positions of Senior Auto Mechanic, Grade 13C, and any vacancies created there from, in the Highway Department at the 2011 Step I Starting Salary of \$35,709.00. These positions are vacant due to retirement motion by A. Bassin, seconded by L. Andrews, carried.

BUDGET AND SALARY REVIEW:

Authorization to enter into a contract with Solid Benefit Guidance, LLC to conduct a Prescription Benefit Plan Review at a cost not to exceed \$15,000, if SBG si able to issue an RFP for the County, they will guarantee the savings achieved by a new PBM, this would be in excess of the \$15,000 motion by A. Baer, seconded by R. Staats, carried.

Authorizing Bonus Payments to certain officers and employees of the County Of Columbia, motion by A. Baer, seconded by L. Andrews, carried.

Authorization for the MIS Department to pay the budgeted annual renewal of software license for IBM Domino Licensing at a cost not to exceed \$13,107.00, motion by L. Andrews, seconded by, A. Baer, carried.

Resolution setting the date for a Public Hearing pursuant to eminent Domain Procedure Law §201 to acquire a temporary easement for a detour during a bridge repair project in the Town of Austerlitz from Henry Meininger, (if needed) motion by R. Brown, seconded by L. Andrews, carried.

With no further business to address, a motion to adjourn at 6:17 PM by A. Baer, seconded by J. DeGrootd, motion carried.

FINANCE COMMITTEE:

Lynda Scheer, Chairwoman

Lawrence Andrews

Arthur Baer

Arthur Bassin

Raymond Staats

Jesse DeGrootd

Richard Keaveney

Bart Delaney, Jr.

Elizabeth Young

Roy Brown