

General Services Committee
July 16, 2019
Minutes

Members Present: Committee Chair Philip Reed, Legislators Patrick Jareo, Jeremiah Maxon, Robert Ferris, Anthony Doldo, Board Chairman Scott Gray

Others Present: Legislators William Johnson and Carolyn Fitzpatrick, County Administrator Robert Hagemann, Deputy Administrator Sarah Baldwin, Airport Manager Grant Sussey, Fire & Emergency Management Director Joe Plummer, Highway Superintendent James Lawrence, Planning Director Mike Bourcy, Treasurer Accountant Anne Converse, Confidential Secretary Jill Jones

Chairman Reed called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. in the Watertown International Airport Conference Room.

Airport Manager Grant Sussey welcomed legislators to the Airport and said everything is going well in terms of both general and commercial aviation at the Airport. He said they meet and often exceed considerable expectations in terms of services and passenger numbers, due to the reasonable fares and their outstanding staff. They have been very busy fine tuning the infrastructure and leveraging grant opportunities in order to be able to pursue projects, and it would not be possible to do projects without a good, strong team of professional staff which extends to Mike Churchill from BCA, and Zachary Statt from McFarland Johnson who were present this evening. He said they have several projects they are working on that are coming together including: the Aircraft Rescue Fire Fighting (ARFF) Facility off Route 12F that will centralize everything in one spot and is the first true fire fighting facility at the Airport, and will include an extra bay that will allow for inside storage of the snow removal equipment; a hanger for the Air Ambulance service; grant for a new baggage conveyor belt system; new equipment for deicing aircraft; and marketing efforts with grant funds for general aviation.

Zachary Statt stated that McFarland Johnson is responsible for: identifying and pursuing any grants for projects at the Airport, as evidenced by the recent marketing grant; maintaining eligibility for funding from FAA for projects at the Airport which is at 95% now; grants administration, i.e. making sure the County receives grant funds ASAP. Projects they are working on for the future (2020) include a grant for design work to improve the approach lighting system, and performing a drainage study, the outcomes of which should be FAA eligible. He said overall their responsibility is to improve the airport and maximize any grant opportunities.

Mike Churchill stated that in terms of equipment they have been busy with the new snow removal equipment, and specifications for the deicing equipment which will be 90% funded by the DOT. He said the ARFF Building will be 10,000 sq. ft, they received a lot of bids for it and he has spoken to the general contractor who hopes to break ground next spring. They continue to work on the FAA funding for the building and are looking to purchase a crane which will also be

FAA eligible. He said the ARFF Building will be a great addition to the Airport. Board Chair Gray questioned the size of the building and the need for that kind of space. Mr. Churchill said besides the equipment there is a washroom area, conference area, a bunk room, and multi use space. Chairman Reed advised that he could get a floor plan and distribute it to legislators. Chairman Gray stated that he wanted to make sure that it is not more than what we need, understanding that the County only funds 5% of the total project but we should use the funds wisely.

Chairman Reed introduced a resolution Authorizing Agreements in Relation to Construction of the Aircraft Rescue Fire Fighting Facility at the Watertown International Airport and Amending the 2019 County Budget and Capital Plan, and entertained a motion for consideration. A motion was duly made by Legislator Jareo and seconded by Legislator Ferris. There being no discussion, the Committee agreed to sponsor the resolution as presented.

Chairman Reed introduced a resolution amending the 2019 County Budget and Capital Plan in Relation to the Watertown International Airport Environmental Assessment Land Acquisition and Obstruction Removal, and entertained a motion for consideration. A motion was duly made by Legislator Ferris and seconded by Legislator Maxon. There being no discussion, the Committee agreed to sponsor the resolution as presented.

Chairman Reed introduced a resolution Authorizing Agreements with New York State Department of Transportation in Relation to a New York Statewide Opportunities for Airport Revitalization (SOARS) Marketing Grant for Watertown International Airport, and entertained a motion for consideration. A motion was duly made by Legislator Jareo and seconded by Legislator Maxon. There being no discussion, the Committee agreed to sponsor the resolution as presented.

Chairman Reed introduced a resolution Accepting Donations on Behalf of the Watertown International Airport, and entertained a motion for consideration. A motion was duly made by Legislator Doldo and seconded by Legislator Ferris. There was brief discussion concerning a few of the pieces of equipment that were donated with Mr. Sussey advising that the harvesting equipment was from Wheeler-Sack Airport, and the air rifles are for wildlife management. There being no further discussion, the Committee agreed to sponsor the resolution as presented.

Chairman Reed introduced a resolution Accepting Donations on Behalf of the Watertown International Airport, and entertained a motion for consideration. A motion was duly made by Legislator Maxon and seconded by Legislator Jareo. In response to questions Mr. Hagemann advised that these donations were from the Brownville Fire Department. Mr. Sussey advised they have varying expiration dates, some of the equipment will be disposed of as it expires, they will have to budget for replacement of the tanks which is a number of years out, and they will only maintain the minimum necessary for their inventory, not all of the tanks. Mr. Plummer outlined the specifications of the tanks noting that they have about a 15 year life span, are serviced regularly and cost about \$700-\$800 a piece. There being no further discussion, the Committee agreed to sponsor the resolution as presented.

Chairman Reed introduced a resolution Amending the 2019 County Budget in Relation to FY17 and FY18 Homeland Security Grant Program Funds, and entertained a motion for consideration. A motion was duly made by Legislator Maxon and seconded by Legislator Doldo. There being no discussion, the Committee agreed to sponsor the resolution as presented.

Chairman Reed introduced a resolution Authorizing the Implementation and Funding in the First Instance 100% of the Federal Aid and State "Marchiselli" Program Aid Eligible Costs of a Transportation Federal-Aid Project (CR 189 over Grunley Creek), Appropriating Funds Therefor and Amending the 2019 County Budget and Capital Plan, and entertained a motion for consideration. A motion was duly made by Legislator Jareo and seconded by Legislator Ferris. There being no discussion, the Committee agreed to sponsor the resolution as presented.

Chairman Reed introduced a resolution Amending the 2019 County Budget in Relation to the Highway Department CHIPS Funding, and entertained a motion for consideration. A motion was duly made by Legislator Ferris and seconded by Legislator Jareo. There being no discussion, the Committee agreed to sponsor the resolution as presented.

Chairman Reed introduced a resolution Authorizing Jefferson County to be Lead Agency under the State Environmental Quality Review Act for the Purpose of the 2019 Jefferson County Snowmobile Trail GPS Update, Minor Reroutes, and Short Addition Pursuant to NYS Snowmobile Grant-in-aid Program, and Making a Determination of Non-Significance, and entertained a motion for consideration. A motion was duly made by Legislator Jareo and seconded by Legislator Doldo. There being no discussion, the Committee agreed to sponsor the resolution as presented.

Chairman Reed introduced a resolution Adopting Participation Plan in Relation to the County's Awards through NYS Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program and entertained a motion for consideration. A motion was duly made by Legislator Ferris and seconded by Legislator Maxon. There being no discussion, the Committee agreed to sponsor the resolution as presented.

Chairman Reed introduced a resolution Amending the 2019 County Budget to Recognize Insurance Recovery and Allocating Same in Sheriff's Department Budget and entertained a motion for consideration. A motion was duly made by Legislator Jareo and seconded by Legislator Ferris. There being no discussion, the Committee agreed to sponsor the resolution as presented.

Chairman Reed introduced a resolution Expressing Support to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration for the Designation of the Lake Ontario National Marine Sanctuary and entertained a motion for consideration. A motion was duly made by Legislator Jareo and seconded by Legislator Doldo. Legislator Maxon stated that he spoke against this when it first came up, he doesn't like giving the federal government any more authority then it already has and said he would be voting against this resolution. Legislator Jareo said he also expressed concern when it came up before, however his constituents in the towns of Hounsfield and Henderson are overwhelmingly in favor of it so he would be supporting the resolution. Legislator Ferris was not

solidly in favor of this but after talking with other legislators he would support it at this time. There being no further discussion, the Committee agreed to sponsor the resolution as presented with Legislator Maxon opposed.

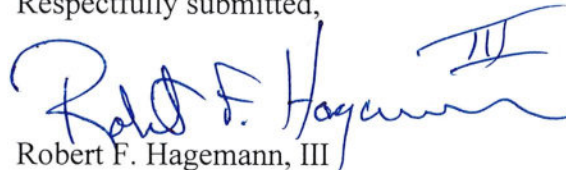
Chairman Reed advised that there had been a Radio Ad Hoc Committee immediately prior to this meeting and asked Director Plummer to give an update on the project. Mr. Plummer reported that all 12 towers are built, the Motorola equipment has been bolted on the towers, but they had a set back with the microwave system in terms of procurement as there was an issue between OGS and the vendor. He said they also need to put up the antennas, but he remained optimistic that the project will be up and operational by the end of 2019. He cautioned that they still need to develop an implementation plan, and there will be a copious amount of training for end users that they are still working on.

Administrator Hagemann reported that the Probation Department's Raise The Age Plan was approved by the State, and we are one of only 20 counties that have had our Plan approved. He said it will now advance to the Department of Budget for approval. Chairman Gray warned legislators that between Raise the Age, Indigent Defense, and Bail/Arraignments this year will be a challenging one in terms of budget for many of the affected departments. Particularly in terms of Indigent Defense Mr. Hagemann advised that there may be an increase 10 - 30 employees and some expenses may be reimbursed, but we don't know how much, for how long or if it can be adjusted over time. Also, under the new eligibility guidelines for representation the burden of proof is on the County to prove that someone does have money for an attorney, until that time we have to provide their defense.

Legislator Jareo did not want these issues to get in the way of allocating additional money to the Highway Department as was talked about previously. He said we might have to get creative with funding the new initiatives, but stressed the importance of money not being taken away from the Highway Department for them.

There being no further business of the Committee, on a motion by Legislator Doldo seconded by Legislator Maxon and unanimously carried, the meeting was adjourned at 6:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Robert F. Hagemann, III". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized "H" and "M".

Robert F. Hagemann, III
Clerk of the Board