

REGULAR SESSION

TUESDAY, AUGUST 4, 2020

Chairman Gray called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL OF MEMBERS

All members present except Legislator Reed.

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR

Norma Zimmer, Village of Clayton Mayor, thanked Chairman Gray, Legislator Cantwell and the Board for their help and cooperation during the recent Bassmasters Elite Fishing Tournament that was hosted by Clayton. She said it was the highlight of the summer there and it could not have been done without them working with her, the Clayton Chamber and the Health Department as they did not have much time to put it all together. It not only helped the economy in Clayton but also in Cape Vincent and Alexandria Bay. Mayor Zimmer said while we did not reap the full benefit of hosting this tournament because it was so last minute, it fostered relationships that will be useful for future tournaments and it was valuable coverage on ESPN2 that we would not be able to afford.

Chris Bogenschutz, President of the Clayton Chamber of Commerce said there were only 86 anglers for this tournament, and it brought in approximately \$250,000 into the community. He said it not only helped Clayton, but also helped Jefferson County and the Thousand Island Region. Fishing tournaments have become more and more important to Clayton because they come and stay for the week, they pre-fish for a couple weeks before and bring their families, or come back later in the summer and bring their families. He was very happy the County partnered with them for this event and looked forward to working together again.

Chairman Gray said there were 4.3 million viewers on ESPN2 for the Fishing Tournament and on behalf of the Board it was a pleasure to work with Mayor Zimmer and Mr. Bogenschutz. Mayor Zimmer and others took a lot of grief leading up to the tournament as there was a lot of doubt it could be done safely, it was proven otherwise, and was a successful event. Eric Lopez, Site Coordinator for Bassmasters said they do a wrap-up with each of their community hosts, but he wanted to let us know ahead of time about the considerable viewership. Chairman Gray said besides highlighting the great bass fishing here, ESPN2 did a special piece on both the Antique Boat Museum and Boldt Castle during the broadcast and we can't buy that kind of coverage.

Legislator Cantwell thanked Mayor Zimmer and Mr. Bogenschutz for taking time out of their schedules to come tonight. On a related note, he said a customer of his who is a constituent of Legislator Reed let him know that there was a person in their store today that had never been to the Thousand Islands, saw it on the TV and decided to visit.

Chairman Gray presented a Proclamation to Hospice and declared August 21, 2020 Jefferson County Stronger Together Day in Jefferson County in support of the Hospice fund raising campaign to help bring the County community together during this unusual and trying time. He said the initiative is an effort to further North Country pride and also remind people to stay safe and healthy by adhering to mask and social distancing guidelines. He encouraged citizens to join in this effort and to support Hospice.

Diane Woodhouse, Executive Director, Hospice of Jefferson County, thanked Chairman Gray for the Proclamation and encouraged everyone to join them on August 21, 2020 in wearing Jefferson County Stronger Together gear (t-shirts, sweatshirts, hats, etc.) which they are selling as a fundraiser for Hospice. She was so thankful to live here as we are one of the lowest counties in the State for Covid-19 numbers and encouraged wearing masks and observing social distancing as it creates a much healthier environment for everyone. She thanked the Board for their leadership in putting politics aside and looking at the public health of our community.

READING OF MINUTES OF LAST SESSION:

The minutes of the July Session stand approved in the absence of objection or correction.

PETITIONS, NOTICES AND COMMUNICATIONS

A sympathy card was received from Timothy Drew, formerly of Watertown and now of Richmond, VA expressing his condolences to the Board at the passing of Legislator Carolyn Fitzpatrick.

REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES

The Finance & Rules Committee reported favorably on resolutions referred from other jurisdictional committees.

REPORTS OF COUNTY OFFICERS AND OTHERS

The Treasurer provided a report on Cash in Banks and Investments as of June 30, 2020.

The County Administrator provided a report on Budget Transfers for July, 2020.

The County Auditor provided a report on Erroneous Assessment for July, 2020.

LOCAL LAWS, RESOLUTIONS AND MOTIONS

Resolution No. 157

Amending Resolution 113 of 1965 to Increase Taxes on Sales and Uses of Tangible Personal Property and Certain Services, on Occupancy of Hotel Rooms and on Amusement Charges Pursuant to Article 29 of the Tax Law of the State of New York.

By Legislator: Patrick R. Jareo

Be It Resolved by the Board of Legislators of the County of Jefferson, as follows:

Section 1. Section 4-A of Resolution No. 113, adopted by the Board of Supervisors of the County of Jefferson on July 12, 1965, imposing sales and compensating use taxes, as amended, is amended to read as follows:

Section 4-A Imposition of additional rate of sales and compensating use taxes.

Pursuant to the authority of section 1210 of the Tax Law, in addition to the sales and compensating use taxes imposed by sections 2 and 4 of this resolution, there is hereby imposed and there shall be paid an additional one percent rate of sales and compensating use taxes, for the period beginning December 1, 2015, and ending November 30, 2023. Such additional taxes shall be identical to the taxes imposed by such sections 2 and 4 and shall be administered and collected in the same manner as such taxes. All of the provisions of this resolution relating or applicable to the administration and collection of the taxes imposed by such sections 2 and 4 shall apply to the additional taxes imposed by this section, including the applicable transitional provisions, limitations, special provisions, exemptions, exclusions, refunds and credits as are set forth in this resolution, with the same force and effect as if those provisions had been incorporated in full into this section and had expressly referred to the additional taxes imposed by this section.

Section 2. Subdivision (c) of section 14 of Resolution No 113, enacted by the Board of Supervisors of the County of Jefferson on July 12, 1965, imposing sales and use taxes, as amended, is amended to read as follows:

- (c) Net collections from the additional one percent rate of tax imposed for the period of December 1, 2015 through November 30, 2023, shall be set aside for County purposes or allocated and distributed according to the agreement between the County of Jefferson and City of Watertown, dated January 10, 2005, pursuant to Section 1262(c) of the New York State Tax Law.

Section 3. This resolution shall take effect on December 1, 2020.

Seconded by Legislator: Allen T. Drake

All members present voted aye.

Resolution No. 158

Amending 2020 County Budget in Relation to Insurance Department

Medicare Part B Reimbursement

By Legislator: James A. Nabywaniec

Whereas, An increasing number of retirees and dependents are reaching Medicare Part B eligibility, and

Whereas, The Insurance Director has estimated that the semi-annual Medicare Part B premium reimbursement account will be short by approximately \$160,000.

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved, That, the 2020 County Budget is hereby amended as follows:

Increase:

Revenue		
40902100 95031	Interfund Transfers	\$160,000
Expenditure		
40906000 08002	Reimbursement of Medicare Part B	\$160,000
01990100 09009	Transfer to Health Benefits Fund	160,000

Decrease:

01199000 04963	Contingent Account	\$160,000
----------------	--------------------	-----------

Seconded by Legislator: William W. Johnson

All members present voted aye.

Resolution No. 159

Amending 2020 County Budget in Relation to Unemployment Insurance

By Legislator: Patrick R. Jareo

Whereas, Unemployment Insurance costs are increasing and are billed by New York State quarterly, and

Whereas, The Insurance Director has estimated that Unemployment Insurance accounts will be short by the next required disbursement, and

Whereas, Federal CARES Act stimulus funds will reimburse some of the costs related to furloughed employees per Board Resolution No. 124.

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved, That the 2020 County Budget is hereby amended as follows:

Increase:

Revenue

01899000 94099	Fed Stimulus - General Govt	\$ 75,000
05900300 94599	Fed Stimulus - Transportation	30,000
25634000 94699	Fed Stimulus - Econ Assistance	6,300

Expenditure

01905000 08050	Unemployment Insurance	\$120,000
05905000 08050	Unemployment Insurance	43,000
25634000 08050	Unemployment Insurance	9,000

Decrease:

01132500 01100	Personal Services	1,800
01141000 01100	Personal Services	1,800
01141500 01100	Personal Services	4,500
01146000 01100	Personal Services	1,800
01314000 01100	Personal Services	2,700
01601000 01100	Personal Services	28,800
01677200 01100	Personal Services	1,800
01802000 01100	Personal Services	1,800
05511000 01100	Personal Services	13,000
25634000 01100	Personal Services	2,700

Seconded by Legislator: Allen T. Drake

Roll Call Vote

Ayes: Cantwell, McBride, Peck, Ferris, Montigelli, Doldo, Jareo, Johnson, Nabywaniec, Grant, Maxon, Drake, Calarco, Gray

Absent: Reed

Resolution passed.

Resolution No. 160

**Authorizing Agreement with the NYS Board of Elections in Relation to Elections
Cyber Security Remediation Grant Program and Amending the 2020 County Budget
in Relation Thereto**

By Legislator: William W. Johnson

Whereas, New York State Board of Elections has awarded Jefferson County \$87,103.39, as recipient of a grant to implement cyber security remediation and mitigation services, and

Whereas, The grant funding will be used to replace and upgrade hardware and software, and install and maintain security controls.

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved, That the County of Jefferson hereby accepts said funding and the Chairman of the Board of Legislators is hereby authorized and directed to execute any and all documents required to fulfill the requirements of this grant award on behalf of Jefferson County, subject to the review of the County Attorney as to form and content, and be it further

Resolved, That the 2020 County Budget is amended as follows:

Increase:

Revenues

01168000 93089	State Aid - Other General Government	\$87,103.39
----------------	--------------------------------------	-------------

Expenditures

01168000 02101	Computer Equipment	\$39,899.16
01168000 04118	Computer Hardware	10,416.00
01168000 04119	Computer Software	11,788.23
01168000 04416	Professional Fees	25,000.00

Seconded by Legislator: James A. Nabywaniec

Roll Call Vote

Ayes: McBride, Nabywaniec, Doldo, Jareo, Ferris, Calarco, Peck, Grant, Maxon, Johnson, Montigelli, Drake, Cantwell, Gray

Absent: Reed

Resolution passed.

Resolution No. 161

**Appointing Representative to Cornell Cooperative Extension
Association of Jefferson County**

By Legislator: James A. Nabywaniec

Resolved, That John D. Peck be and is hereby appointed to represent the Board of Legislators on the Board of Directors of the Cornell Cooperative Extension Association of Jefferson County for a term to expire December 31, 2021.

Seconded by Legislator: Allen T. Drake

All members present voted aye.

Resolution No. 162

Appointing/Reappointing Members to the Community Services Board

By Legislator: Jeremiah J. Maxon

Resolved, That pursuant to Section 41.11 of the Mental Hygiene Law the following individuals are hereby reappointed as members of the Jefferson County Community Services Board and the designated sub-committee thereof for terms to expire as indicated below:

<u>Member</u>	<u>Sub-Committee</u>	<u>Term to Expire</u>
Reappointments		
Karen Richmond	Mental Health	12/31/2021
Jennifer Lachenauer	Mental Health	12/31/2021
Jennifer Draper	PW/DD	12/31/2021
Scott Gray	PW/DD	12/31/2021
New Appointment		
Scott F. Ulberg, M.D.	Community Services Board only	12/31/2021

Seconded by Legislator: James A. Nabywaniec

All members present voted aye.

Resolution No. 163

**Amending 2020 County Budget Relative to Additional Revenue
From the Redlich Horwitz Foundation for Family First Readiness Funding**

By Legislator: Jeremiah J. Maxon

Whereas, In response to the federal Family First Preventive Services Act (FFPSA) of 2018, grant funding was established by the Redlich Horwitz Foundation (RHF) to keep children safely at home with their families and, when that is not possible, to utilize the least restrictive placement appropriate for the needs of the child, and

Whereas, The Jefferson County Department of Social Services has been awarded Family First Readiness funding from RHF in the amount of \$10,000, and

Whereas, This funding will be used to support, recruit, and retain current and prospective foster families, including kinship caregivers.

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved, That the 2020 County Budget is hereby amended as follows:

Increase:

Revenue

01601000 91989	Other Economic Assistance & Opportunity	\$10,000
----------------	---	----------

Expenditure

01610000 04111	Trackable Durable Equipment	\$ 1,000
01610000 04416	Professional Fees	9,000

Seconded by Legislator: James A. Nabywaniec

Roll Call Vote

Ayes: Calarco, Ferris, Grant, Doldo, Drake, Jareo, Montigelli, Nabywaniec, Maxon, Johnson, Peck, McBride, Cantwell, Gray

Absent: Reed

Resolution passed.

Resolution No. 164

**Amending 2020 County Budget Relative to State Charge
Social Service Administration Account**

By Legislator: Jeremiah J. Maxon

Whereas, The State uses Charge Backs and Adjustments to Local Department of Social Services (LDSS) claims settlements to capture the local share of various costs incurred at the state level such as training fee costs, Disability Advocacy Program Costs, and Child Support Central Collections, and

Whereas, The charges can also include Office of Mental Health (OMH) Home and Community Based Waiver costs covering community services provided to youth at risk of admission to OMH institutional levels of care, and

Whereas, The State calculates the local share for these costs on varying schedules such that the LDSS averages between two and four quarters of charge backs or adjustments in a county fiscal year, covering state costs incurred in previous years, and

Whereas, In the first six months of 2020, the State has made unanticipated adjustments for the charge back of the local share of Medicaid for OMH Home and Community Based Waiver Services covering seven quarters, resulting in an anticipated 2020 budget line shortage in State

Charges Administration.

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved, that the 2020 County Budget is hereby amended as follows:

Increase:

01601000 04601	State Charges Administration	\$70,000
----------------	------------------------------	----------

Decrease:

01601000 01100	Personal Services	\$70,000
----------------	-------------------	----------

Seconded by Legislator: Robert D. Ferris

All members present voted aye.

Chairman Gray entertained a motion to waive Standing Rules 35, 41 and 60 to introduce an additional resolution for consideration by the Board. A motion was duly made by Legislator Johnson seconded by Legislator Montigelli and unanimously carried by the Board.

Resolution No. 165

Authorizing Agreements and Amending the 2020 County Budget in Relation to Consolidated Funding Application for a Census 2020 Complete Count Outreach Grant with the Empire State Development

By Legislator: Patrick R. Jareo

Whereas, By Resolution 91 of 2020, the Jefferson County Board of Legislators accepted an Empire State Development Census 2020 Complete Count Outreach Grant which was put on hold due to the COVID-19 pandemic, and

Whereas, New York State is moving forward with a revised Census 2020 Outreach Grant that increases Jefferson County's original award amount of \$65,952 up to \$107,384 to assist with education and outreach to the County's residents to ensure all are counted in the 2020 Census, and

Whereas, The Grant requires that the County work with nonprofits, of which New York State has preapproved the North Country Library System, The Volunteer Transportation Center, Northern Regional Center for Independent Living, and the Community Action Planning Council, and

Whereas, The Watertown/Jefferson County Complete Count Committee is developing a revised Census Outreach Plan to finalize which non-profits will participate, to provide census material to educate residents and encourage Census participation.

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved, That Jefferson County accepts the increased grant amount, and be it further

Resolved, That the Chairman of the Board of Legislators is hereby authorized and directed to execute agreements on behalf of Jefferson County with any or all of the above approved non-profits for services to promote the 2020 Census, subject to the review and approval of the County Attorney as to form and content, and be it further

Resolved, That the 2020 County Budget is amended as follows:

Increase:

Revenue

01802000 93089	State Aid - Other General Government	\$41,432
----------------	--------------------------------------	----------

Expense

01802000 04415	Advertising	\$13,846
----------------	-------------	----------

01802000 04416	Professional Fees	27,586
----------------	-------------------	--------

Seconded by Legislator: James A. Nabywaniec

There was brief discussion concerning the Census with Mr. Hagemann advising that the response to date is lower than it was 10 years ago, is a little below the State average right now, four different local agencies will be used to work with their clientele on filling out the Census, and there will be two locations used as well; the deadline for completing the Census was pushed back to October, but he wasn't sure of the exact date. He said this is State money to complement what is already in place at the Federal level. The Complete Count Committee is a Countywide committee of about 6 or 7 people he said was established about a year ago, our representative is Planning Director Mike Bourcy, City of Watertown has representatives (Mike Lumbis) and other people from the community, but the focus is Countywide. This funding will complement what the federal census takers are doing and will consist of workers from the agencies who already do home visits also taking the Census information to people who may not have access to complete it online. The Census numbers drive a lot in terms of representation and funding at the Federal level especially, is all based on population, so the more fine tuned the numbers are the best it will be for the benefit of everyone, and this is the State's partnership in that effort.

Roll Call Vote

Ayes: Nabywaniec, Maxon, Cantwell, McBride, Jareo, Doldo, Johnson, Ferris, Calarco, Montigelli, Peck, Drake, Grant, Gray

Absent: Reed

Resolution passed.

Legislator Drake said on July 10th three years ago NYS Trooper Joel Davis was killed in

the line of duty, he was locally educated at Indian River High School and was a very well liked and well respected person in the community. We are hearing about law enforcement negatively lately, and if you are in law enforcement today it takes a person of integrity, like Joel, to have the race relations and the public relations needed. He outlined events coming up that are in Trooper Davis' memory. Legislator Drake said we should appreciate our Sheriff and Deputies as 90% of the people in law enforcement are good people.

Legislator Maxon noted a recent communication he had from a counterpart in Lewis County who asked that he circulate a non-binding resolution that Lewis County will address tonight to ask that the Governor move in all haste to approve the schools education plans. It is important for parents and students to know what is happening this Fall, and the sooner we can get certainty for the students, parents and teachers the better off we will all be. He was out of touch this weekend so he did not have a chance to circulate the resolution in order for the Board to address it tonight, and it does us no good to address it next month as school will hopefully have started by then. Assuming it will pass in Lewis County tonight, he commended them for their efforts.

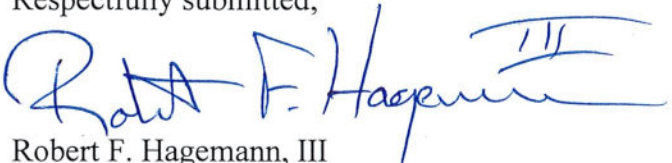
Chairman Gray, who spoke with a couple school superintendents, said schools were completely caught off guard by the testing requirements outlined by the Governor recently. He said it is a moving issue and schools were concerned about who could do the testing, the cost of testing, etc. The Chairman said he is sending a letter to our Federal representatives in an effort to have them include funding for testing in the next funding package they approve, which does include some education funding. As with everything Covid, there is constant change and anything that cost us money before, will cost us more now.

Administrator Hagemann added that he, and County departments have had occasions since March to meet with officials at Jeff-Lewis BOCES as well as school superintendents in regard to a variety of different plans. This has resulted in the development of a good relationship with all of the superintendents so they have been reaching out to County departments for guidance in their particular districts. The one upside of all of this situation is that there is a tremendous amount of networking that is going on among everyone concerned.

Legislator Doldo noted that former Legislator Jennie Adsit celebrated her 90th birthday on August 1st and is doing well according to her family.

There being no further business of the Board, on a motion by Legislator Maxon seconded by Legislator Doldo and unanimously carried, the meeting was adjourned at 6:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Robert F. Hagemann, III". The signature is stylized with a large "R" and "H", and the name "Hagemann" is written in a cursive script. The Roman numeral "III" is written above the end of the signature.

Robert F. Hagemann, III
Clerk of the Board