

Health & Human Services Committee
September 29, 2020
Minutes

Members Present: Committee Chair John Peck, Legislators Allen Drake, James Nabywaniec, Jeremiah Maxon, Corey Grant, Board Chair Scott Gray

Others Present: Legislators Robert Cantwell, William Johnson, Michael Montigelli, Patrick Jareo, and Frances Calarco, County Administrator Robert Hagemann, Deputy Administrator Sarah Baldwin, County Attorney David Paulsen, Office for the Aging Director Christine Ingersoll, Public Health Director Ginger Hall, DSS Commissioner Teresa Gaffney, Real Property Tax Director Roxanne Burns, Confidential Secretary Jill Jones

Chairman Peck called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. and offered privilege of the floor, however no one present wished to speak. The minutes of the August Committee meeting were approved as presented.

Chairman Peck introduced a resolution Authorizing Funding in Connection with New York State Department of Health Local Health Department Article 6 Performance Incentive Initiative and entertained a motion for consideration. A motion was duly made by Legislator Drake seconded by Legislator Nabywaniec and there being no discussion, the Committee agreed to sponsor the resolution as presented.

Chairman Peck introduced a resolution Accepting Supplemental Funding From New York State Department of Health (NYSDOH) for Immunization Action Plan and Amending the 2020 County Budget in Relation Thereto and entertained a motion for consideration. A motion was duly made by Legislator Doldo seconded by Legislator Nabywaniec and there being no discussion, the Committee agreed to sponsor the resolution as presented.

Chairman Peck introduced a resolution Amending the 2020 County Budget in Relation to Public Health Service and entertained a motion for consideration. A motion was duly made by Legislator Doldo seconded by Legislator Drake and there being no discussion, the Committee agreed to sponsor the resolution as presented.

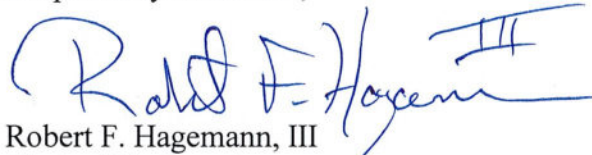
Administrator Hagemann advised that there was a late breaking development of grant funding that the Department of Social Services will be receiving. Chairman Peck introduced an additional resolution for consideration Amending 2020 County Budget Relative to Additional Revenue from NYS Office of Temporary and Disability Assistance for Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act - Emergency Solutions Grant Funding. Commissioner Teresa Gaffney said they received word of this grant funding award this morning and it is to assist individuals and families experiencing homelessness as a result of Covid and to support additional homeless assistance and homelessness prevention in relation to Covid. People eligible for these funds are typically difficult to house and keep stable and also have difficulty finding and keeping employment. The funding can be used for rental assistance, rental arrears, utility arrears,

security deposits (although they are getting away from that and using letters of guarantee instead), housing relocation, etc. to help stabilize this population. Individuals who are otherwise ineligible for other programs, or sanctioned, would qualify for this one. A portion of the grant will be going to Watertown Urban Mission for housing assistance, rapid rehousing, emergency housing, housing in hotel/motels, etc. and the other portion will go to Transitional Living Services to fund a Housing Specialist Case Manager. Following brief discussion, Chairman Peck entertained a motion for consideration of the resolution. Such motion was made by Legislator Doldo seconded by Legislator Nabywaniec and the Committee agreed to sponsor the resolution as presented.

Legislator Doldo questioned why the Office for the Aging monthly report showed a spike in emergency frozen meals delivered in the Spring, and a spike in emergency shelf stable meals delivered in August. OFA Director Christine Ingersoll advised that in the Spring they anticipated their kitchens possibly closing down because of Covid and made a delivery of these meals to their clients so they had about a 10 day supply and did not have any food insecurities. The delivery in August was for the same reason, and they still have 2500 shelf stable meals in stock right now. She said they typically do a delivery of these meals in the Fall so the elderly have them in the case of a snow day or inclement weather when the home deliveries can't be made. Again, this effort is made to keep the elderly population who receive these meals from having any food insecurities in the winter.

There being no further business of the Committee, on a motion by Legislator Maxon seconded by Legislator Doldo and unanimously carried, the meeting was adjourned at 6:20 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 "R" and "H".

Robert F. Hagemann, III
Clerk of the Board