

**Finance & Rules Committee**  
**May 31, 2022**  
**Minutes**

**Members Present:** Committee Chair Michael Montigelli, Legislators Robert Cantwell, Allen Drake, Daniel McBride, Robert Ferris, Board Chair William Johnson

**Others Present:** Legislators Philip Reed, Patrick Jareo, Jeremiah Maxon, Corey Grant and Anthony Doldo, County Administrator Robert Hagemann, Deputy Administrator Sarah Baldwin, County Attorney David Paulsen, Planning Director Michael Bourcy, Election Commissioner Jude Seymour, Election Commissioner Michelle Lafave, Confidential Secretary Jill Jones

Chairman Montigelli called the meeting to order at 6:20 p.m. and offered privilege of the floor, but no one present wished to address the Committee. The Committee approved the April meeting minutes, as written.

Planning Director Michael Bourcy made a presentation (copy attached for file reference) to the Committee concerning how the new redistricting plan was drafted.

He summarized the Municipal Home Rule Law Section 10 rules for redistricting as follows:

- The difference in population between the most and least populous districts shall not exceed 5% of the mean population (115,806/15 districts) which is 7,720.
- Districts shall not be drawn with the intent or result of denying or abridging the equal opportunity of racial or language minority groups to participate in the political process or to diminish their ability to elect representatives of their choice.
- Districts shall consist of contiguous territory.
- Districts shall be as compact in form **as practicable**.
- Districts shall not be drawn to discourage competition or for the purpose of favoring or disfavoring incumbents or other particular candidates or political parties. The maintenance of cores of existing districts, or pre-existing political subdivisions including cities, villages, and towns, and of communities of interest shall also **be considered. To the extent practicable**, no villages or cities or towns except those having more than forty percent of a full ratio of each district shall be divided;  $7,720 \times 40\% = 3,088$  Only municipalities with a population more than 3,088 MAY be divided.
- Districts shall be formed so as to promote the orderly and efficient administration of elections.

Mr. Bourcy said if the current district boundaries were kept it would result in a total deviation of 41.3%; most towns and the City of Watertown lost population, but the Towns of Watertown and LeRay, and Fort Drum gained population. The 2020 Census Redistricting Ad Hoc Committee of Legislators Johnson, Doldo and Peck had the following policy guidelines:

- Keep the current plan of one legislator for each legislative district.
- Keep an odd number of districts.
- Attempt to retain the 15 legislative districts. If determined to be not feasible, then explore alternative which would decrease, rather than increase, the number of districts

and maintain an odd number.

- Keep as many municipalities whole as possible.
- Maintain communities of interest as much as possible.

Mr. Bourcy detailed the changes that were needed to each of the 15 Legislative Districts to bring them in compliance with all the rules and guidelines. Mr. Hagemann advised that after review of the Redistricting Local Law by the Finance & Rules Committee a public hearing will be necessary and the full Board will address and adopt the Local Law at the July Session.

Chairman Montigelli introduced a resolution Setting Time and Place for Public Hearing on Tentative 2022-2023 Jefferson Community College Budget and entertained a motion for consideration. A motion was duly made by Legislator Cantwell seconded by Legislator McBride and there being no discussion, the Committee agreed to sponsor the resolution as presented.

Chairman Montigelli introduced Local Law Intro. No. 1 of 2022 - A Local Law Reapportioning the Board of Legislators of the County of Jefferson Based Upon the 2020 Federal Decennial Census and entertained a motion for consideration. A motion was duly made by Legislator McBride seconded by Legislator Ferris and there being no discussion, the Committee agreed to sponsor the resolution as presented.

Chairman Montigelli introduced a resolution Setting Time and Place for Public Hearing on Local Law Intro. No. 1 of 2022 and entertained a motion for consideration. A motion was duly made by Legislator Ferris seconded by Legislator Cantwell and there being no discussion, the Committee agreed to sponsor the resolution as presented.

Chairman Montigelli introduced a resolution Designation of Depositories 2022 and entertained a motion for consideration. A motion was duly made by Legislator McBride seconded by Legislator Ferris and there being no discussion, the Committee agreed to sponsor the resolution as presented.

Chairman Montigelli introduced a resolution Authorizing Agreement with Clayton Chamber of Commerce and Amending the 2022 County Budget in Relation Thereto and entertained a motion for consideration. A motion was duly made by Legislator Ferris seconded by Legislator McBride and there being no discussion, the Committee agreed to sponsor the resolution as presented.

Chairman Montigelli advised that the resolution listed next on the agenda Approving Appointment to the Thousand Island Bridge Authority was being pulled from the agenda at this time.

Chairman Montigelli introduced a resolution Authorizing an Agreement with the New York State Environmental Protection and Spill Compensation Fund Regarding Environmental Remediation Sites in Jefferson County and entertained a motion for consideration. A motion was duly made by Legislator Ferris seconded by Legislator Cantwell and there being no discussion, the Committee agreed to sponsor the resolution as presented.

Chairman Montigelli advised that the jurisdictional committee resolutions would be dealt with in blocks, unless someone wanted to single out any of them.

On a motion by Legislator Ferris seconded by Legislator McBride and unanimously carried the Committee approved the following General Services Committee sponsored resolutions:

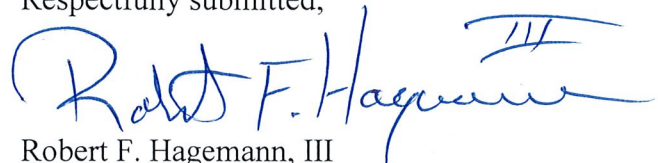
- ✓ Authorizing Agreements in Relation to the Acquisition of Snow Removal Equipment at the Watertown International Airport and Amending the 2022 County Budget and Capital Plan in Relation Thereto
- ✓ Amending the 2022 County Budget in Relation to the Watertown International Airport
- ✓ Authorizing Grant Agreement and Authorizing Lead Agency Status and Determination of Non-Significance in Accordance with the State Environmental Quality Review (SEQR) Act for the Airport Fuel Farm and Amending the 2022 County Budget and Capital Plan in Relation Thereto
- ✓ Authorizing Agreements and Lead Agency Status and Determination of Non-Significance in Accordance with the State Environmental Quality Review (SEQR) Act for the Entrance and Circulation Road at the Watertown International Airport and Amending the 2022 County Budget and Capital Plan in Relation Thereto
- ✓ Amending the 2022 County Budget in Relation to Overtime Accounts in District Attorney's and Public Defender's Offices
- ✓ Amending the 2022 County Budget Relative to the Sheriff's Department
- ✓ Authorizing FY2021 Operation Stonegarden Grant Agreement and Amending the 2022 County Budget in Relation Thereto
- ✓ Amending the 2022 County Budget to Recognize Funds Received from the Sale of Timber and Forestry Products on Fort Drum

On a motion by Legislator Ferris seconded by Legislator Cantwell and unanimously carried, the Committee approved the following Health & Human Services Committee sponsored resolutions:

- ✓ Authorizing Agreement and Amending the 2022 County Budget in Relation to Provision of Transportation Services to Elderly of Jefferson County
- ✓ Amending the 2022 County Budget to Allocate Additional State Aid for Substance Abuse Services Programs and Authorizing Amended Agreements in Relation Thereto
- ✓ Establishing Two Caseworker Positions Within Social Services and Amending the 2022 County Budget in Relation Thereto

There being no further business of the Committee, on a motion by Legislator Ferris seconded by Legislator McBride and unanimously carried, the meeting was adjourned at 6:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Robert F. Hagemann, III  
Clerk of the Board