

**General Services Committee**  
**April 18, 2023**  
**Minutes**

**Members Present:** Committee Chair James Nabywaniec, Legislators Philip Reed, Daniel McBride, John Peck, Jeremiah Maxon, Robert Ferris, Corey Grant, Chairman of the Board William Johnson

**Others Present:** Legislators Frances Calarco, Steel Potter, Anthony Doldo, County Administrator Robert Hagemann, Deputy Administrator Sarah Baldwin, County Attorney David Paulsen, Sheriff Peter Barnett, Undersheriff Kristopher Spencer, Highway Superintendent James Lawrence, Planning Director Michael Bourcy, Airport Manager Grant Sussey, Buildings Superintendent Spike Decker, Secretary Torri Richmire

Chairman Nabywaniec called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. He offered privilege of the floor, however no one present wished to address the Committee. The minutes of the March Committee meeting were approved as presented.

Chairman Nabywaniec introduced a resolution Selecting an Airport Consultant and Authorizing Agreement for Airport Consultant Services at the Watertown International Airport and entertained a motion for consideration. A motion was duly made by Legislator Reed and seconded by Legislator Ferris. Chairman Nabywaniec advised that Chairman Johnson, Legislator Reed, Aviator Director Sussey and himself met at the airport earlier this month and reviewed proposals and it was a unanimous decision to continue professional services with McFarland and Johnson Inc. There being no discussion, the Committee agreed to sponsor the resolution as presented.

Chairman Nabywaniec introduced a resolution Authorizing Agreement with McFarland-Johnson, Inc. for Passenger Facility Charge Program Application Development Services and Amending the 2023 County Budget and Capital Plan in Relation Thereto and entertained a motion for consideration. A motion was duly made by Legislator McBride and seconded by Legislator Ferris. There being no discussion, the Committee agreed to sponsor the resolution as presented.

Chairman Nabywaniec introduced a resolution Amending the 2023 County Budget and Capital Plan in Relation to the Watertown International Airport for Purchase of Ground Services Equipment and entertained a motion for consideration. A motion was duly made by Legislator Grant and seconded by Legislator Ferris. There being no discussion, the Committee agreed to sponsor the resolution as presented.

Chairman Nabywaniec introduced a resolution Authorizing Agreement with McFarland Johnson for the Parking Lot Construction Design and Amending the 2023 County Budget and Capital Plan in Relation Thereto and entertained a motion for consideration. A motion was duly made by Legislator Reed and seconded by Legislator Peck. There being no discussion, the Committee agreed to sponsor the resolution as presented.

Chairman Nabywaniec introduced a resolution Authorizing Agreements with the Federal Aviation Administration and McFarland Johnson for Backup Weather Equipment System and Amending the 2023 County Budget and Capital Plan in Relation Thereto and entertained a motion for consideration. A motion was duly made by Legislator Peck and seconded by Legislator McBride. There being no discussion, the Committee agreed to sponsor the resolution as presented.

Chairman Nabywaniec introduced a resolution Accepting Donations for the Dog Control Department and Amending the 2023 County Budget in Relation Thereto and entertained a motion for consideration. A motion was duly made by Legislator Ferris and seconded by Legislator Grant. In response to a question from Legislator Maxon, Mr. Hagemann advised that the 2023 Budget estimated donations of \$250. There being no discussion, the Committee agreed to sponsor the resolution as presented.

Chairman Nabywaniec introduced a resolution Amending the 2023 County Budget in Relation to the County Road Machinery Fund and entertained a motion for consideration. A motion was duly made by Legislator Reed and seconded by Legislator Peck. There being no discussion, the Committee agreed to sponsor the resolution as presented.

Chairman Nabywaniec 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 97 and Brown Road over Fish Creek), Appropriating Funds Therefor and Amending the 2023 County Budget and Capital Plan and entertained a motion for consideration. A motion was duly made by Legislator Maxon and seconded by Legislator Peck. There being no discussion, the Committee agreed to sponsor the resolution as presented.

Chairman Nabywaniec introduced a resolution Authorizing Agreement for Development and Submission of a Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Housing Application to the NYS Office for Community Renewal, and the Development and Administration of Grant Program and entertained a motion for consideration. A motion was duly made by Legislator Maxon and seconded by Legislator Grant. There being no discussion, the Committee agreed to sponsor the resolution as presented.

Chairman Nabywaniec introduced a resolution Establishing Time and Place for Public Hearing Related to the 2023 Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Application Process and entertained a motion for consideration. A motion was duly made by Legislator McBride and seconded by Legislator Peck. There being no discussion, the Committee agreed to sponsor the resolution as presented.

Sheriff Barnett gave a brief department update as follows:

- He instituted a new policy allowing beards and tattoos, within his discretion, and stating that it has been well received among staff.
- The department has less than 10 pistol permit applications at this time that are being handled by a detective as they come in. He believes that the drop in applications is due to the 16 hour course NYS now requires at a cost of \$250-\$500, the fee

determined by the instructor, and once that course is completed they fill out an application with a fee of \$136.75 to be submitted to the Sheriff's Office.

- S.S. Finerson, a 27 foot King Fisher Steel Hull boat built in 2006-2007 purchased by the Sheriff's Department with a federal grant has been sitting outside uncovered and deteriorating for many years. His goal is to get it serviced and running so that the department will have a vessel for emergencies on Lake Ontario. He advised that the Coast Guard out of Sackets Harbor will no longer man a vessel on the lake and emergency response from Alexandria Bay to Henderson would take a significant amount of time.
- The department currently uses the pistol range of NYS Department of Conservation and/or Watertown Police Department with limited availability, which is a scheduling nightmare for training purposes. He stated that Jefferson County owns 80 acres of property in Cape Vincent and that in 1991 the County sold five acres on Mutton Lane to the NYS Department of Corrections where they put a shooting range on the property. He is hoping in the near future to be able to utilize the property for the Sheriff and Probation Departments to use the range for training purposes.
- He is hoping to come back quarterly to give an update to the Committee.

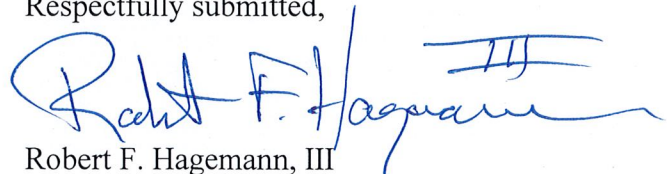
Sheriff Barnett answered questions regarding pistol permits/renewals from Legislators. He reported that between accidents, collisions with deer and maintenance, the fleet of vehicles is at a low right now. He stated that manufacturers will no longer be making the Dodge Chargers so those will be replaced with the Dodge Durango on government contracts for future orders.

Chairman Nabywaniec reported that in May a representative will be in town from NYS Animal Protection Federation to tour the Dog Control facility and give feedback and recommend any changes that should be made to adhere to the new NYS Agriculture and Market Laws coming in the future.

He stated that in their earlier meeting at the Watertown International Airport they toured the Air Methods facility being built as well as learning about the relationship that the County has with Fort Drum. Mr. Hagemann reported that March passenger figures were up 21% over last years total with just under 4,000 riders.

There being no further business of the Committee, on a motion by Legislator Maxon seconded by Legislator Grant and unanimously carried, the meeting was adjourned at 6:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Robert F. Hagemann, III  
Clerk of the Board