

## FINANCE, LEGAL AND SAFETY COMMITTEE

April 12, 2022

### ATTENDANCE:

Legislators: Chair Sauerbrey, Roberts, Brown, Ciotoli, Standinger, Mullen, Hollenbeck, and Monell

Staff: County Attorney DeWind, Treasurer McFadden, Legislative Clerk Haskell, Deputy Treasurer Chandler, Chief Accountant Jerzak, Safety Officer Thorpe, Democratic Commissioner Wahls, (Secretary To the County Attorney Freyvogel-minutes)

Guests: none

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** Legislator Monell asked for a motion to approve last month's minutes. Legislator Standinger made the motion, seconded by Legislator Mullen, and unanimously approved by all Legislators.

**FINANCIAL:** Legal and Safety's budgets are tracking well however the budget line for Legal Fees potentially will need a transfer of funds if outside litigation continues.

### OLD BUSINESS:

Last Friday, the 2019 In Rems were filed. The County did not previously file on these properties due to the pandemic and inhabitation of a few of the properties. The County should anticipate taking title sometime in May and the 2020 In Rems will be filed in June. The County needs to decide if it will hold a single or double auction for 2019 and 2020 properties scheduled for this fall.

Employee annual policy review attestations are in the process of completion with ninety-eight percent (98%) of employees having completed their attestations.

The County has resolved the Human Rights case and is waiting to be served on another case.

### NEW BUSINESS:

County Attorney DeWind stated the FOIL appeal is in regards to IP Address of Cellular/Wireless Modems FOIL which was denied April 6, 2022 due to the County's voting machines not having modems or any sort of remote connectivity. County Attorney DeWind has tried to reach out to Mr. Moore to

discuss his FOIL however he has not made contact with Mr. Moore. Democratic Commissioner of Elections Wahls stated he has reached out to Dominion Voting Systems and they have clarified the County's voting machines do not have modems or IP addresses and there are no modems listed as inventory for the Board of Elections. Dominion Voting Systems had provided information indicating that allegations of voting machines having wireless remote access is currently at issue in a defamation lawsuit with a media corporation. County Attorney DeWind asked for a vote to uphold the FOIL denial. Chair Saurbrey, Legislators Roberts, Mullen, Ciotoli, Brown, Standing, Hollenbeck, and Monell unanimously voted to uphold the appeal (Absent from the vote was Legislator Weston).

Safety is continuing with weekly training with the Department of Public Works. Forklift certification was recently completed with employees. Safety Officer Thorpe has participated in the weekly Tioga County Jail walkthrough and concluded a Workplace Violence investigation. By handling these types of investigations in house the County is saving ten to fifteen thousand dollars (\$10,000 to \$15,000) which would otherwise be spent on outside counsel. Safety is in the process of applying for the FY2020 Critical Infrastructure Grant Program for security enhancements to 56 Main Street. Due to the short turn around with this grant a resolution was not put forward however if the grant is feasible a Special Meeting may need to be called at next week's Legislative Work session to bring forth a resolution for Legislature consideration.

The New York State budget was passed allowing for Zoom and virtual meetings and the possibility to adjust gas taxes.

County Attorney DeWind is currently working with the Sheriff's Office in regards to the CMC budget project for Medication Assisted Treatment (MAT). The Sheriff's Office has been working closely with Mental Hygiene for the last two years to prepare for the implementation of MAT.

The Motorola tower project is progressing with two sites identified as possible tower sites in the Town of Tioga. Chair Sauerbrey stated NYSTAC is collaboratively working with Director of Emergency Services Simmons in regards to his grant submission and has offered to consult for the remainder of the Motorola tower project which Chair Sauerbrey feels would be beneficial to the County.

Juvenile Delinquent cases continue to rise requiring a majority of County Attorney DeWind's time and resources.

PERSONNEL:

None

RESOLUTIONS:

None

PROCLAMATIONS:

None

ADJOURNMENT:

Legal and Safety Committee Meeting was adjourned at 10:54am.