

Finance & Rules Committee
February 24, 2009
Minutes

Members Present: Committee Chair Scott Gray, Legislators Robert Thomas, Gino Zando, Kent Burto, Barry Ormsby, Carolyn Fitzpatrick, Jennie Adsit, Chairman of the Board Kenneth Blankenbush

Others Present: Legislators Michael Docteur, Phil Reed, Allen Drake, James Nabywaniec, Michael Behling and James St.Croix, County Administrator Bob Hagemann, County Attorney David Paulsen, Conf. Asst for Fiscal Affairs Greg Hudson, County Treasurer Nancy Brown, County Clerk JoAnn Wilder, ICC Vice President for Administration Sarah Baldwin, Watertown Daily Times Reporter Jude Seymour, Confidential Secretary Jill Jones

Chairman Gray called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m. Chairman Gray declared the minutes of the January 27th meeting approved as written in the absence of objection or correction

Chairman Gray introduced a resolution for payment of Legislators' expenses and entertained a motion for consideration. A motion was duly made by Legislator Burto seconded by Legislator Ormsby and there being no discussion, the Committee agreed to sponsor the resolution as presented.

Chairman Gray introduced a resolution concurring in settlement of tax certiorari proceedings and authorizing the refund of taxes in connection therewith for Suzanne Lawrence and entertained a motion for consideration. A motion was duly made by Legislator Adsit seconded by Legislator Thomas and there being no discussion, the Committee agreed to sponsor the resolution as presented.

Chairman Gray introduced a resolution concurring in settlement of tax certiorari proceedings and authorizing the refund of taxes in connection therewith for Paul A. Harmon, Jr. and entertained a motion for consideration. A motion was duly made by Legislator Burto seconded by Legislator Ormsby and there being no discussion, the Committee agreed to sponsor the resolution as presented.

Chairman Gray introduced a resolution concurring in settlement of tax certiorari proceedings and authorizing the refund of taxes in connection therewith for Iroquois Island Assn Inc and entertained a motion for consideration. A motion was duly made by Legislator Ormsby seconded by Legislator Burto and there being no discussion, the Committee agreed to sponsor the resolution as presented.

Chairman Gray introduced a resolution concurring in settlement of tax certiorari proceedings and authorizing the refund of taxes in connection therewith for Donald and Frank Hasseltine and entertained a motion for consideration. Such motion was made by Legislator Thomas seconded by Legislator Ormsby and there being no discussion, the Committee agreed to sponsor the resolution as presented.

Chairman Gray introduced a resolution concurring in settlement of tax certiorari proceedings and authorizing the refund of taxes in connection therewith for Torok Trust and entertained a motion for consideration. Such motion was made by Legislator Zando seconded by Legislator Ormsby and

there being no discussion, the Committee agreed to sponsor the resolution as presented.

Chairman Gray introduced a resolution concurring in settlement of tax certiorari proceedings and authorizing the refund of taxes in connection therewith for Lotus Island, LLC and entertained a motion for consideration. Such motion was made by Legislator Adsit seconded by Legislator Zando and there being no discussion, the Committee agreed to sponsor the resolution as presented.

Chairman Gray introduced a resolution authorizing an increase in the County Clerk mortgage tax expense and entertained a motion for consideration. A motion was duly made by Legislator Ormsby and seconded by Legislator Burto. Mr. Hagemann advised that a revision to the resolution was needed and provided members with details on how the amount in the resolution was determined; he said the total in the resolution should be \$322,918 per year (\$26,909 per month). JoAnn Wilder advised that she neglected to include \$96,847 for indirect costs when she calculated the total for the resolution sent out with the agenda. She related that the mortgage tax expense has not been raised since 2000 and it is the only way the County can obtain any share of the State money and cover our costs. Legislator Burto questioned if the projected revenue for mortgage tax in the 2009 Budget will still be accurate given the lower interest rates. She advised that the projection is still on target at this point. There being no further discussion, the Committee agreed to sponsor the resolution with the adjusted amount.

Chairman Gray introduced a resolution amending the 2009 County Budget to reappropriate Help America Vote Act funds and entertained a motion for discussion. A motion was duly made by Legislator Adsit seconded by Legislator Ormsby and there being no discussion, the Committee agreed to sponsor the resolution as presented.

Chairman Gray introduced a resolution amending the 2008-2009 JCC Budget relative to child care grant and entertained a motion for consideration. A motion was duly made by Legislator Zando seconded by Legislator Ormsby and there being no discussion, the Committee agreed to sponsor the resolution as presented.

Chairman Gray introduced a resolution amending the 2008-2009 JCC Budget in relation to mid-year budget modifications relative to an SBDC grant and entertained a motion for consideration. A motion was duly made by Legislator Burto seconded by Legislator Adsit and there being no discussion, the Committee agreed to sponsor the resolution as presented.

Chairman Gray introduced a resolution amending the 2008-2009 JCC Budget for mid-year budget reductions and entertained a motion for consideration. A motion was duly made by Legislator Adsit and seconded by Legislator Ormsby. Mr. Hagemann advised that the total in the resolution is not accurate, it should be \$150,000 as a \$30,000 line item had not been added to the total. There being no discussion, the Committee agreed to sponsor the resolution with the adjusted total.

Chairman Gray introduced a resolution amending the 2008-2009 JCC Budget relative to award increase and prior year carryover and entertained a motion for consideration. A motion was duly made by Legislator Zando seconded by Legislator Burto and there being no discussion, the Committee agreed to sponsor the resolution as presented.

Chairman Gray introduced a resolution amending the 2008-2009 JCC Budget relative to Library Collection Development Grant and entertained a motion for consideration. A motion was duly made by Legislator Adsit seconded by Legislator Ormsby and there being no discussion, the Committee agreed to sponsor the resolution as presented.

Chairman Gray introduced a resolution amending the 2009 County Budget in relation to Fort Drum Mountain Community Homes Community Development Agreement and entertained a motion for consideration. A motion was duly made by Legislator Zando seconded by Legislator Adsit and there being no discussion, the Committee agreed to sponsor the resolution as presented.

On a motion by Legislator Burto seconded by Legislators Adsit, Thomas Ormsby and Fitzpatrick the Committee approved the following resolutions sponsored by the General Services Committee:

- ✓ Amending the 2009 County Budget in Relation to Computer Aided Dispatch Maintenance
- ✓ Amending the 2009 County Budget and Capital Plan to Recognize Revenue from Dell, USA LP
- ✓ Amending the 2009 County Budget to Re-Appropriate Unspent Grant Funds in the Sheriff's Department

Legislator Thomas requested that the County send a letter of support for restoration of funds in the State Budget for the Jefferson County Fair. Following brief discussion the Committee concurred and Chairman Gray said the letter will go out under the Chairman of the Board's signature.

Legislator Adsit recommended that the County waive the \$15 00 application fee it charges when people apply for exams if they are qualified and are currently unemployed, as there are currently three open competitive exams that can be applied for. Mr. Hagemann believed that a portion of the application fee is collected for the State and said he would request clarification on the matter and report back to legislators. Chairman Gray stated that it was a good point but there may be requirements under Civil Service Law that apply.

There being no further business of the Committee, on a motion by Legislator Burto seconded by Legislator Fitzpatrick and unanimously carried the meeting adjourned at 7:15 p m

Respectfully submitted,



Robert F. Hagemann, III
Clerk of the Board