

FINANCE/TAX REDUCTION/MANDATE RELIEF COMMITTEE

Monday, April 19, 2021 - 10:30 AM

Thomas Scozzafava, Chairperson
Noel Merrihew, Vice-Chairperson

Chairman Scozzafava called this Finance Meeting to order at 10:30 am with the following Supervisors virtually in attendance: Clayton Barber, Robin DeLoria, Archie Depo, Stephanie DeZalia, Shaun Gilliland, Joseph Giordano, Charlie Harrington, Roy Holzer, Kenneth Hughes, Steve McNally, Jim Monty, Noel Merrihew, Tom Scozzafava, Jeffrey Subra, Ike Tyler, Joe Pete Wilson and Davina Winemiller. Jay Rand was absent.

Department Heads present: Laura Carson, Mike Diskin, Dan Palmer, Judy Garrison, Dan Manning, David Wainwright and Joseph Provoncha. Joe Keegan – NCCC was previously excused.

Media present: Sun News, Tim Rowland

SCOZZAFAVA: Good morning. We'll call the Finance Committee to order. The first on the agenda is our County Clerk, Joe Provoncha.

PROVONCHA: Good morning. Hopefully you received the packet that was emailed to you. As you can see, it's still continuing a little bit with the work that we're doing a lot of money is coming in. A good many deeds are being recorded and the court papers are very strong as usual. The DMV is doing very, very well and I should explain that to you many of the State offices that process our mail they are closed due to Covid so they are looking for places where they can send this so I volunteered to take the registrations and the drivers licenses and that's why you see an increase in our revenue which is a good thing.

We received a resignation from one of my employees who is retiring and so we're doing interviews for both Bonnie's job and for Sue's job. I gave you an analysis of the money I brought in from last year and the money that we turned over to the county and I also gave you my goals and objectives for this coming year.

Ticonderoga will open the first week in May and Lake Placid will open the second week in May and so we're headed in the right direction.

The resolution that I am requesting is because we are so far down with employees there's no way we can keep going with the two shifts right now looking to hire someone and get them trained so that we can go back but for right now we normally ask for June off we are asking for May and June for the eight to four shift.

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE ESSEX COUNTY CLERK'S OFFICE AND DEPARTMENT OF MOTOR VEHICLES OBSERVE SUMMER HOURS FROM 8:00 A.M. TO 4:00 P.M. FOR THE MONTHS OF MAY, JUNE, JULY AND AUGUST 2021. DeZalia, Tyler

SCOZZAFAVA: Discussion?

HOLZER: Joe with those new hours, does that mean we are going to be meeting in person without appointments?

PROVONCHA: Not for right now the State still doesn't want us to do that. I found out a few

County Clerks' are doing it without appointment so I'm going to call them and see how they are doing that because I just assumed, well, we have to follow the Governor. I guess, that's the bottom line.

SCOZZAFAVA: So, how are we opening Ti and Lake Placid?

PROVONCHA: They are by appointments.

SCOZZAFAVA: Appointment only?

PROVONCHA: Yes.

TYLER: How are other counties doing it if the State is not recommending it? They are just going ahead and doing it themselves?

PROVONCHA: I have no idea that's why I'm going to call and find out.

TYLER: Okay thanks.

PROVONCHA: They are just going off on their own.

TYLER: Just the beginning.

PROVONCHA: Yes.

SCOZZAFAVA: Further discussion? Being none, all in favor, opposed – carried.

PROVONCHA: The second is to increase our petty cash accounts and they are called petty cash accounts, they are actually our drawers for Lake Placid and also to increase; we had an audit in DMV quite a while ago and they wanted us to increase our petty cash, our cash bag so that's the increase of those.

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING TO INCREASE THE PETTY CASH DRAWER IN THE ESSEX COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF MOTOR VEHICLES ELIZABETHTOWN OFFICE IN THE AMOUNT OF \$100.00; AND FURTHER AUTHORIZE SETTING UP TWO \$50.00 PETTY CASH DRAWERS AND A \$150.00 CASH DRAWER IN THE ESSEX COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF MOTOR VEHICLES LAKE PLACID OFFICE FROM BUDGETED FUNDS. Winemiller, Giordano

SCOZZAFAVA: Discussion? Being none, all in favor, opposed – carried.

PROVONCHA: That's it. Thank you.

SCOZZAFAVA: Anything else for Joe?

TYLER: Just one thing, so this is probably putting a lot of strain and extra work with you accepting more money, it's probably a strain on the workforce correct?

PROVONCHA: No, they still have time between appointments. It keeps them busy, they are working.

TYLER: I bet it does. Alright, thanks.

SCOZZAFAVA: Anything further? If not, thanks Joe. Good report.
Laura Carson, Auditor

CARSON: Good morning. It's so nice to see everybody's partial faces. As you can see, we're catching our errors and overpayments. We've been working diligently on transitioning over to the new software, Munis which is scheduled to go live May 1st.

The Assigned Counsel report is still well below what has happened in the past and I think that's just because of travel even though courts have opened back up everybody is still doing work virtually so it has cut down on travel expenses.

Any questions for me?

SCOZZAFAVA: I guess not, thank you.

CARSON: Thank you.

SCOZZAFAVA: Dave Wainwright, Real Property.

WAINWRIGHT: Good morning. I don't have much to report today. You all have my budget. I do have a request for a resolution to allow one of my employees, Hannah Carson to sign vouchers in my absence.

SCOZZAFAVA: The Manager says that's fine.

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING HANNAH CARSON TO SIGN VOUCHERS IN THE ABSENCE OF THE REAL PROPERTY TAX DIRECTOR. Merrihew, Tyler

SCOZZAFAVA: Discussion? Being none, all in favor, opposed – carried.

Do you want to talk Dave, a little bit, briefly Dave and I had a conference call with Mr. Stec who is with taxation and finance in regards to the equalization rates and where they are heading because in my feeling Covid because the prices have been inflated on Real Property and this year I think many of us are going to see a drop but he said next year is going to be a disaster but the State is continuing to use these numbers as comparables so do you want to pick up a little bit on it Dave?

WAINWRIGHT: As everybody is aware because of Covid there is was a mass exit of cities and towns where population isn't much higher here so yes, people have been moving here they've been buying properties for sometimes double the assessed value and the problem is nobody knows if this is a one-year deal or is this going to be a trend now for the next five or six years? The State values every town's roll on what they call market value, market value being what these properties sell for so whether it seems to be fair to some of the locals or not these prices they are, valid sales higher than anybody thought they would see but that's the reality of it. I don't know where this is going to go but Real Property value and market value goes up and down with the Real Estate market all the time this is just a massive swing upwards.

SCOZZAFAVA: It is. You know the equalization rate to the new supervisors I mean, that absolutely impacts your STAR exemption, your constituents STAR exemption so that's, if you're not at 100% - what's the cutoff? Ninety-eight or ninety-six?

WAINWRIGHT: The State will give you 5% either way so if you come in at a 95% they will give you 100%, if you come in at 105% they will give you 100%. If you get up around, 106, 107 then they will say your assessed value is too high. We do have a town that's high. We have a town that's low and possibly a second town this year that's going to be low. I encourage all the towns to maintain 100% and try to give them as much help as we possibly can but the Assessor has the final say in their roll and nothing our office can do to really sway them.

SCOZZAFAVA: Another issue that I did have a brief conversation with you and I and I also spoke to our County Manager that Dave is facing is that some towns I don't know how many, I'm not going to name towns but you know they request help from our County Real Property office in regards to property, inventory and so on and so forth but yet they refuse to go out with our county employees. Am I correct? Am I saying that correctly?

WAINWRIGHT: Yes. Some of the Assessors they want to do a lot of the field work from parcel to parcel with the data collectors to do their projects, their reval projects with so many towns doing projects now according to the State guidelines and yes, we're giving them all the help we can. We have three data collectors, one is new so she's still training but she's coming right along but we can't send two data collectors out, we don't send them out alone for safety reasons. We can't send two data collectors out so we would like to see one Assessor from the town going out with one data collector and we would cover more territory that way.

SCOZZAFAVA: it's a difficult situation for town supervisors or town boards to be in if you're Assessors are elected. If you're appointed then I think you've got some leeway and say, you are going to need to do this but it's a problem. I spoke with my Assessors so if you have elected Assessors and they are refusing to not to participate with the Real Property office then you know, we need to do something because they are not Assessors upstairs. They are not getting paid to assess property in the towns that's your Assessors job. Anything you want to add to any of that Dan?

PALMER: Again, I understand the problem Assessors are elected and it's very difficult for you as town supervisors to tell Assessors what they are supposed to be doing that's really not your role and frankly, they don't have to listen to you but I guess I would ask that you make an appeal to your Assessors that they do make an effort to go out with our data collectors because we're frankly, just running short. Even if this board said to us right now hire more data collectors we would have a difficult time doing it. Recruitment is difficult. We can't find people. They are just not taking the positions so I guess we're appealing to you to ask your Assessors to make an effort to go out with our data collectors in order to keep these projects on and ultimately that does have a big impact on what your equalization rates are going to end up at.

SCOZZAFAVA: I did discuss this a little bit Dan, I mean this county board of Supervisors we can actually adopt a policy where you know if you are requesting our help with data collection you are going to be required to have an Assessor go along with them and if you don't then guess what, we're not going to be there. Sounds a little harsh but we have to do something here.

DELORIA: Tommy I think it makes perfect sense because the local Assessors know the local property.

SCOZZAFAVA: Absolutely.

DELORIA: You're sending people over from the county, they don't know if they are on foot or horseback. I think that should be a policy now.

SCOZZAFAVA: So maybe Dan Manning can look into that a little bit more?

MANNING: Sure.

SCOZZAFAVA: Thank you. Anything else Dave?

McNALLY: I agree with you Tom and Robin. I mean, you've got to help those who can help themselves and if we have to send two data collectors out to the town because the Assessor won't help but we can send one data collector out when the Assessor helps we can get twice as much done in the day in two different areas so I think it should be mandatory for them. If you request the help for a data collector, I think you should have to participate. We are not charging for this so if you want the service you have to commit.

SCOZZAFAVA: Okay so they are going to work on an agreement and some language and go from there. Dave anything else?

WAINWRIGHT: No, I'm all set.

SCOZZAFAVA: Anything for Dave? If not, thank you.
Treasurer – Mr. Diskin.

DISKIN: Good morning. I will start out with sales tax and you can see there's a fairly substantial jump in sales tax last month. What has happened is April is a month where they reconcile all of the first quarter, the first three months and when we receive sales tax, when we send sales tax out it's usually based on a historical information because they don't have all the reports in so they are kind of doing a best guess of how much we've actually taken in for sales tax and then when we get all of the returns in they reconcile. It's obvious from what we got they were way off and underestimating because last year at this time things were expected to fall down a little bit and they underestimated us in the first few quarters they said we were in the negative and so they reconciled it again this month. Actually the second payment that we got and it's not showing on there because we just got it on Friday, the second payment was about \$82,000 more than last year so that's an additional reconciliation it was done over the month, we actually ended up with over \$931,000 additional, more than we got last year. So that actually pushed us up for the month about 7.5% over last year. It's a good reconciliation things are finally catching up and you're going to see this again in October when they reconcile again, that we will see some additional money because the Covid months hit during the summer if they are using historical information they are probably going to be underestimating what they are sending us in sales tax so we see some dips again in sales tax in a few months. I don't think we need to be too alarmed. It's been how they are doing business and they will reconcile again in six months. Any questions on sales tax?

One other thing I want to add while we're doing that is and I was going to bring this up at the end of my report but I will do it now, there was a proposal in this year's budget eliminate the need for counties to ask for their additional sales tax percentage, two or three years you have to go back every time there was going to be a blanket for as long as you stayed at 4% you didn't have to go back and that didn't get in the budget so we are going to have to continue to ask for additional sales tax above the 3%. There was a law they wanted to move to 4% majority of the counties are there already and that would save a lot of work but there wasn't a lot of support in Albany for that so we still have to ask for the sales tax.

Okay, occupancy tax as you can again it's a big jump part of it is the 5%, part of it is the fact that Lake Placid is more diligently making people sign up because of their new policy in the Town of North Elba and those in Lake Placid registering for them. We're supposed to see increases each month. Even if we were looking at this and I added what it would be if we were still collecting 3% and even at 3% we would still have a pretty hefty increase last month about 27% even if we were at 3% we would have had a good increase. I think they are stating that we are still getting a lot of tourism January and February of this year. Air B&B is getting a lot of the business and we're seeing more and more money every month from Air B&B and the county is starting to get involved in that. There was again, a proposal in Albany to add the vacation rentals to the sales tax which would have given us a huge increase. That didn't get passed, they didn't approve it so vacation rentals aren't required to charge sales tax. Air B&B was on board with it, they were ready to go but it failed in Albany, they didn't want to include vacation rentals probably because most of them have vacation rentals but occupancy like I said is another big chunk of it.

The rest is informational. I do have a resolution that I do every year and that's to move office hours to June, July, August, actually I included June 1st to September 3rd because that's the period. If we ended in August, we would have a couple days in September where we would have to go back and this gives us a chance to fill that week out and then come back after Labor Day so basically it runs from Memorial Day to Labor Day.

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE ESSEX COUNTY TREASURER'S OFFICE OBSERVE SUMMER HOURS FROM 8:00 A.M. TO 4:00 P.M. FOR THE MONTHS OF MAY, JUNE, JULY, AUGUST AND SEPTEMBER 2021. Tyler, DeZalia

SCOZZAFAVA: Discussion?

DISKIN: I just wanted an opinion of the board. I know that Mr. Provoncha asked to have May. I don't know at this point with the board we should do the same thing seeing that the Clerk's office is open early? I don't have an issue one way or another.

SCOZZAFAVA: I think that making it a one stop shop. I mean I don't have an issue with May. I think it probably makes sense to do it so everybody is pretty much on the same page.

DISKIN: You know somebody shows up to the Clerk's office at 8:00 and we do a lot of business similarly, they come over to our office so I thought maybe we should follow along basically just change the date to May 3, that's the first Monday in May.

SCOZZAFAVA: Everybody fine with that on the committee? Okay, all in favor, opposed – carried.

DISKIN: Just a couple of things on the rest of what happened down in Albany, just want to bring you up to date on some information. I did give that out to you but I talked about the sales tax authority the vacation rentals, there was some discussion about doing away with this Distressed provider relief fund it's like \$50 million dollars a year, we charge out and send it to hospitals that didn't pass so we are still providing about \$190,000 out of our sales tax coming out of this county. It's going to come out in four chunks each quarter is going to take about \$46,000 to fund that.

SCOZZAFAVA: So that will go to?

DISKIN: It's going to a fund that will supposedly go to local distressed hospitals and health care facilities. The interesting part and I asked this question to somebody down in NYSAC and they weren't able to answer it this money that's being withheld nobody seems to know if the hospitals

have gotten the money yet. I talked to the local hospital, they haven't gotten any so I don't know what the State is doing with the money that they've withheld they haven't disbursed it out apparently to the local hospitals yet they are still collecting it. That was as of last week but it's still in this year's budget so we will be paying it again.

There was also some movement to try to claw back the holding of payments for the AIM money. That didn't get approved so they are going to still continue to take that out to pay AIM and as you know, they've added the towns that previously were being paid by the State on top of that so that's additional money. Actually we end up with a net loss because there is supposed to be a gain in that and we ended up in another net loss from more money being taken out.

That's pretty much it as far as things I wanted to bring you up to date on that.

SCOZZAFAVA: Okay very good report any questions for Mike? If not, thank you.

McNALLY: Auction?

DISKIN: Well, we're kind of waiting on what's going to happen in Albany we are in moratorium to May 1st we are at April 19th I haven't heard a word yet. The feeling that I'm getting from talking to other Treasurers around the state is kind of the same feeling that we are going to get extended although we haven't heard yet last year it was like a last second deal where they extended it past the end of the year by passing a State law actually rather than an executive order so we're just waiting to hear. If they don't pass it, we're ready to go. The '18's, people have been notified, the legal work is all done, basically it's just presenting the legal work in court.

McNALLY: We need to have an auction now that the property values are high.

DISKIN: Yes, hopefully we get to move forward with it but we are at a standstill until we find out if they let us go past May 1st.

SCOZZAFAVA: Did we receive a list of what's going to the auction or what maybe going to the auction?

DISKIN: I can give you an updated one. I can send you out one we update it once a month.

SCOZZAFAVA: Yes, please.

DISKIN: I'll send you out an updated list. It keeps dropping down people getting more and more time. We get a lot of phone calls from it from people that are on that list saying do I still have time? We are saying, yes you have to at least May 1st maybe a little bit past that and you always have that ability to come back in person to the towns until we set the auction but we can't set an auction date, many questions from our auctioneer we can't set an auction date until we know when we can move forward and get an order plus when they do the auctions probably, may not be in person this year that's the problem along with the limitation of how many people you can have in a room currently there the size of the room that we use we would be very limited in the amount of people that could come but what has happened as more and more people and the State returns to these Internet auctions they will put them online and they are up for 2 weeks it's not just a one day auction the entire thing is out there and it's out there for a period of time you bid and you can go back and increase your bid so the surplus auctions that they have is out there for a period of time.

SCOZZAFAVA: When you do the foreclosure list is there any way that you can cross reference over to – I'm curious as to how many properties that haven't paid any taxes were purchased in

the last auction.

DISKIN: I can try to do that for you. I don't know they will cross reference. It's pretty easy to do. We have one for sure.

SCOZZAFAVA: Yes, I think there's a few.

DISKIN: Maybe some others that are in there that are constantly doing that.

SCOZZAFAVA: Oh yeah and in the mean time they are collecting rents and they are you know not paying water, sewer taxes.

DISKIN: One was living there eight years living there free paying no water, sewer or taxes. It's a hard thing to do though. We do have the authority to not sell it so we can check that next time.

SCOZZAFAVA: I think we're getting better at it but we still have a way to go. Okay, thank you. County Manager, Dan.

PALMER: Do we have to recess for these public hearings?

MANNING: Yes, technically. Do you have a lot Dan?

PALMER: I have a few things. Let's recess Finance for the public hearing on the Local Law #2.

SCOZZAFAVA: Do I need a motion to recess?

MANNING: I think you have the authority.

SCOZZAFAVA: We are recessed.

THE FINANCE COMMITTEE RECESSED AT 11:00 A.M. TO CONDUCT A PUBLIC HEARING ON LOCAL LAW #2 AND RETURNED TO SESSION AT 11:04 A.M.

SCOZZAFAVA: We are back in order.

PALMER: Okay I have a couple of resolutions that I need. One was a resolution authorizing the transfer of unexpended funds in the Information Systems budget in the amount of \$211,102.78 for the board's information this is what we do every year in Information Systems. It's how we account for project money for changes to blade servers or major upgrades within the Information Systems Department. This was significantly more amount this year the \$211,000 is more than what we typically do in a year usually we have smaller amounts but last year we stopped spending because of the Covid issue so these funds remained in that 2020 Information Systems budget and we would like to move it over to the Capital Project in the event when we have upgrades to do.

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING A TRANSFER OF UNEXPENDED FUNDS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$211,102.78, IN THE INFORMATION SYSTEMS DEPARTMENT 2020 BUDGET TO CAPITAL PROJECT 13-2. DeZalia, Giordano

SCOZZAFAVA: Discussion?

MONTY: Can you refresh my memory Dan what that Capital Project line item is for?

PALMER: All IT expenses anything related to upgrades to IT. Typically, we use it for servers and those kinds of things that are very expensive.

MONTY: Thank you.

SCOZZAFAVA: Further discussion? All in favor, opposed – carried.

PALMER: And the other one I had is a balance that I need to carry forward of \$8,492.89, which was a cyber-security grant the Information Systems Department received last year, it's actually from 2018 but it's a carry over for 2021. Again, this is one of the grants that you always have to because of the difference in fiscal year you always have to carry it over from one year to the next.

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING A BUDGET AMENDMENT IN THE INFORMATION SYSTEMS DEPARTMENT INCREASING REVENUES AND APPROPRIATIONS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$8,492.89, CYBER SECURITY GRANT PROGRAM. Tyler, Merrihew

SCOZZAFAVA: Discussion? Being none, all in favor, opposed – carried.

PALMER: The other thing I just wanted to talk to you about was I had provided you with the report as it relates to the Emergency Services Director position and the idea of introducing a Local Law to change that from the competitive class to the unclassified service. We have to move that at a regular right to introduce that local law?

MANNING: Yes.

PALMER: So we have to introduce that at the regular board meeting but I'm willing to answer any questions as it relates to it. I think it's probably the direction to go again, it's very, very difficult to recruit for those department head positions when they are in the competitive class so we just simply aren't getting tests out of the State so anybody that accepted that position would be provisional subject to testing and scoring in the top three. You have the right under county law to do a local law moving the position from the competitive service into the unclassified service and that's what we are recommending you do. That does provide the board with more control over these kinds of positions because they become subject to term appointment of the board if and fact you're not happy with somebody they are going to have to be re-appointed on a term basis usually it's four years. It's the same as mine. Mine is an unclassified position and every two years you decide if you're going to keep me or not that's the same case with what we're proposing with this position. I do want you to know that we would if this is acceptable to the board, we would go ahead and start advertising for the position right now. As I said in the report we have looked at some options down there but ultimately decided that we would continue on the same sort of organizational structure that currently is and would move from there to seek candidates for the Director's position.

SCOZZAFAVA: Any discussion on this?

WINEMILLER: I'm just curious Dan if there were any current employees that had expressed interest in the position?

PALMER: I think probably Max would. I don't know that for certain. He hasn't spoken directly to me but I assumed he would put in for the position and that's what we would go for both open applications from anybody interested anywhere within the county as employees or anybody outside the county.

WINEMILLER: Thank you.

MONTY: The qualifications for that Dan, are they the same?

PALMER: Pretty much the same. Dan and I have talked about that. We're working on a few details. The original spec that Don Jaquish was under was a four-year bachelor with a one-year executive experience. We probably do something very much the same or not but you will see that local law draft. I think we can get that out some time soon.

MANNING: Yes, tomorrow.

SCOZZAFAVA: Any further discussion? So this couldn't be moved at the special board meeting today? It has to be regular board?

MANNING: Well, because you don't have it before you – we have to wait.

PALMER: You didn't advertise it for the special.

SCOZZAFAVA: Okay. Anything else Dan?

PALMER: No if there's no questions?

SCOZZAFAVA: Any questions for Dan? Okay so we are going to move into our public hearing at 11:15. I'm going to recess – I'm sorry.

DEZALIA: So there's nothing for North Country?

SCOZZAFAVA: Go ahead, you have time.

DEZALIA: Okay, I would like to put forth the resolution urging the Governor and the Federal Government to expand broadband and rural cellular coverage to all New Yorkers. You all have a copy of that.

RESOLUTION URGING THE GOVERNOR AND FEDERAL GOVERNMENT TO EXPAND BROADBAND AND RURAL CELLULAR COVERAGE TO ALL NEW YORKERS. DeZalia, Tyler

SCOZZAFAVA: Discussion?

McNALLY: Yes, I'm in favor of this but also I'm in favor of making sure everything we move forward has cellular included with broadband. A lot of people are trying to separate those and we need both not just broadband so cellular has to be included in anything we move forward.

SCOZZAFAVA: So you amend this to include that?

McNALLY: No, cellular has to be included and it is but we need to keep those two things together.

PALMER: Yes, that's covered within that resolution.

SCOZZAFAVA: Okay all in favor, opposed – carried. So I'm going to recess Finance so stay around after the public hearing we'll call Finance back to order then we are going to need to go into executive session.

GILLILLAND: This is on another subject, on Friday I went around with DEC and the Governor's office on the Frontier Town area. They took a look at Moe's building, they took a look at the campground. I didn't accompany them they went up to Paradox and then they went and met JoePete up in Keene after that but anyway they want to take a look at a couple of the hiker trailheads. Anyway, we still have that county land down there in North Hudson that's between Moe's place and the campground. It still has all the old facilities there, the Frontier Town facilities and stuff and it's been sitting there under the county's ownership for years still and many of you recall we went out to State RFP through the Empire State Development and those business deals basically fell through so I would say at this point there is no plan for what to do with that land but I'm just planting the seed with everybody. We have to come up with a plan on what we are going to do. Either A. hold that land and put in horse trails on our own, put in maybe a horse riding arena up in there that we could rent out and resource revenue in order to tie the whole vision down there together so the people that use the equestrian campgrounds can come over and rent or locals in the southern part of the county that have horses use the facilities and things like that one option.

The second option would be us as a county to go ahead and put our own RFP out for development of this property so those were the two things that were discussed. I wanted to plant the seed for you guys to think about and we can bring it up later. That's all I have.

McNALLY: That property includes the large parking lot and that is something possibly could be marketing for the fairgrounds a public venue for concerts or whatever there's a lot you can do right there.

DEZALIA: Right on the large parking lot there's the huge bill board that can be used for multiple things flea markets, we could also advertise farmers' markets, we could have movies on that big bill board in that parking lot.

McNALLY: Well the new person working at the fairgrounds could possibly coordinate any events for that facility also.

GILLILLAND: Also there is a promotion for that property down there, we have the fairgrounds, we have the fish hatchery now we have that unused piece of property down there and we can apply for some low cost development to leverage for a selling point down there.

SCOZZAFAVA: Not to interrupt but I am going to have to recess so we can move into the Special Board meeting.

THE FINANCE COMMITTEE RECESSED AT 11:15 A.M. TO CONDUCT A PUBLIC HEARING
ON LOCAL LAW #3 AND A SPECIAL BOARD MEETING AT 11:30 A.M.
AND RETURNED TO SESSION AT 11:35 A.M.

SCOZZAFAVA: We will call Finance back into session. Our Chairman of the Board has asked

for an executive session and I'll let him state the reason why.

GILLILLAND: The reason for the executive session is to discuss a proposed PILOT agreement and contract and information thereof.

SCOZZAFAVA: Moved by Mr. Giordano, second by Mrs. DeZalia. Discussion? Being none, all in favor, opposed – carried.

THE FINANCE COMMITTEE MOVED INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION AT 11:35 A.M. TO
DISCUSS A PROPOSED PILOT AGREEMENT AND CONTRACT
AND RETURNED BACK INTO OPEN SESSION AT 12:00 P.M.

SCOZZAFAVA: I will accept a motion to go back into open session. Moved by Mr. Wilson, second by Mr. Giordano. Is there anything else to come before the Finance Committee?

MANNING: I do have one resolution.

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF A CONTRACT BETWEEN ENERGY IMPROVEMENT CORPORATION AND ESSEX COUNTY RELATIVE TO THE ESTABLISHMENT OF AN ENERGIZE NY OPEN C-PACE FINANCING PROGRAM WITHIN ESSEX COUNTY AS AUTHORIZED BY LOCAL LAW NO. 3 OF 2021 ENTITLED "ENERGIZE NY OPEN C-PACE FINANCING PROGRAM LOCAL LAW". DeZalia, Giordano

SCOZZAFAVA: Discussion? All in favor, opposed – carried. Is there anything further to come before this Finance Committee, if not, we are adjourned.

As there was no further discussion to come before this Finance Committee it was adjourned at 12:00.

Respectfully submitted,

Judith Garrison, Clerk
Board of Supervisors