

Regular Board
February 7, 2022 @ 10:00 am

Shaun Gilliland, Chairperson
Jim Monty, Vice-Chairman

Chairman Gilliland called this Regular Board meeting to order at 10:00 am, with the following supervisors in attendance: Clayton Barber, Robin DeLoria, Stephanie DeZalia, Derek Doty, Shaun Gilliland, Charles Harrington, Roy Holzer, Ken Hughes, Stephen McNally, Noel Merrihew, Jim Monty, Thomas Scozzafava, Matthew Stanley, Michael Tyler, Joe Pete Wilson, Davina Winemiller, Margaret Wood and Mark Wright.

Department heads present were: Linda Beers, Michael Diskin, Jim Dougan, Judy Garrison, Dan Manning, Dan Palmer, David Reynolds and Heather Sheehan.

Deputies present: Matt Watts.

Also present: Rose Koop-Angelicola and Steve Koop.

Virtually present: Congresswoman Elise Stefanik

News Media present: Tim Rowland - Sun Community News

GILLILLAND: I will call the Board of Supervisors and if you will join me in the salute to the flag please. Thank you. Roll call please. So the first item of business is we have a guest, which is Congresswoman Stefanik. Is she on? Good morning Congresswoman. Thank you very much for addressing us this morning. We have the full board here and the floor is yours.

CONGRESSWOMAN STEFANIK: Great, thank you so much Chairman Gilliland. Great to see everyone from Essex County. I know that I've spoken with many of you individually over the past few months on various issues that are important to your towns, but I really appreciate this opportunity that we like to do once a year in a more formal capacity to give an update to the board. I thought today I would talk about sort of a summary of Covid relief and the importance of delivering those funds to the county, highlight some additional funding through the Northern Border Regional Commission as well as looking forward as ways we can partner together.

So, number one, I know that I have worked so closely with each of you and I'm very grateful for the county Public Health officials in Essex County, for all of your tremendous work throughout Covid. One of our top priorities from my office was providing small businesses, the relief they needed particular at the start but throughout Covid and continuing to provide support as we move forward as businesses face labor shortages or different challenges.

So, number one, the Paycheck Protection Program has been incredibly important for Essex County and for the North Country in general. I was proud to deliver over \$170 million dollars of Paycheck Protection Program relief to small businesses in our district \$42.5 million of that went directly to Essex County small businesses. One of the aspects that's really important is that we wanted to make sure it was not just the year round businesses that qualify but also the seasonal businesses. I was able to work with the Department of Treasury to rewrite that formula so that seasonal businesses would qualify for access to those funds and that has been critical. In addition, Covid hospitals, obviously, we have a number of hospitals that we partner with whether

it's of course E-town, but also CVPH and Adirondack Health. In total, the district has received over \$100 million of direct support through Federal hospitals. Many of the hospitals face unique challenges in accessing those federal dollars and we were happy as an office to help deliver those. You know, one of the issues that I hear from small businesses that they're struggling with now is workforce. So many small businesses are ready and want to hire, but they just cannot find the workforce that has the professional skills or trades that are needed. A couple of weeks ago I had a roundtable with many small businesses and manufactures and some of our workforce development leaders in the Clinton, Franklin, Essex County Region to try to continue to focus on what those needs are. I've introduced legislation that would provide an incentive for the employers to be reimbursed funds for when people are getting training on the job. We hope that will develop a pipeline to better serve, you know, and fill those open slots. In addition, one of the concerns that I hear from every small business I go to now is lack of access to childcare. This is a real challenge in rural communities and while some of the proposals at the Federal level have been top-down government run childcare I believe that in rural communities we ought to be providing incentives for home based child care. And I've introduced legislation to do that as well. I think that's really important as we have child care deserts throughout New York's 21st District. Moving forward to the Northern Border Regional Commission Grants. You know this is a program that I have strongly supported both the funding but also expanding the eligibility of all the counties in New York's 21st District and Essex County has done a tremendous job working with my office to access those funds. Just to highlight a few of them, \$250,000 for E-town for sewer and wastewater system, \$247,000 for county fish hatchery repairs, \$500,000 for the Town of Crown Point for again, sewer and waste water systems, \$123,000 for the Town of Wilmington for sewer and wastewater systems, Etown \$250,000 for trail access to downtown and \$789,000 for the Town of Essex for water treatment. A lot of these projects we worked on for many, many years with you but you see one of the trends here, sewer, wastewater, water treatment plants providing those funds has been critical and Essex County has received just a huge amount of those, almost \$2.2 million dollars and we're going to continue working on that, for the towns that are not on that list, please let us know your priorities. We want to be as helpful as possible, to deliver those funds.

The northern border continues to be a top priority for the district as a whole. It's had an impact on our economy. It's had an impact on our tourism. We've even had property owners who haven't been able to access their properties. I am advocating and continue to work on the bipartisan Northern Border Caucus for return to cross border parity, so that we can continue to have the robust not just trade, but that robust daily cross border traffic, that is so important particularly as we head into the high season later this summer.

So, you know, December 15th I sent a letter to President Biden, opposing vaccine mandates for essential travel and urging bilateral discussions for a bilateral plan to return to normalcy and we've been working with chambers of commerce on that.

In addition, the Olympics really important for Essex County as well as for the North Country as a whole. We have many Olympians who are from our district and while I have grave concerns about the location of the Olympics in Beijing given the human rights abuses, we still ought to be, as a country urging and encouraging our athletes who are working so hard on behalf of Team USA. I introduced a bipartisan resolution, again, honoring those athletes honoring those coaches, our Olympians who are from the North Country. We are rooting for them and I'm hoping that that will pass Congress. I am co-Chair of the Olympics caucus which is bipartisan and it's very, very important to our district.

Moving along to looking ahead, broadband. This continues to be a top concern. This was definitely highlighted during the Covid pandemic as certain people had access to high speed broadband but many did not. We've made significant inroads, the FCC, my office made sure working with the Chairman of the FCC that we were able to access the \$100 million of FCC

funding for rural digital opportunity funding and that build out is happening slowly, but surely throughout the district and we're going to continue pushing that forward. In addition, some of the red tape issues so New York State is more costly than any other state in the nation when it comes to building out broadband. We've partnered with Senator Dan Stec and Assemblyman Matt Simpson on really tackling some of those regulatory burdens when it comes to building out that last mile. So we will keep working with all of you on that. The Northern Border Regional Commission is another pot of funding that is eligible for rural broadband. I've delivered that to Tupper Lake and other parts of the district so please keep that in mind. And then, sort of the issues I hear about the most inflation continues to be an issue impacting every single family. Energy costs, the fact that this winter energy costs are much higher, particularly for our elderly community, and those on limited income that has been extremely challenging, as well as gas prices. That increase in gas prices that's essentially attacks on every family and with these long drives to and from work for many families in my district that has been extremely challenging to balance their weekly and monthly budgets so we will continue to work on that.

Update on the redistricting process, which I think is of interest although Essex County at the Federal level does not shift, that those lines were passed by the State Senate and State Assembly from my perspective, they were definitely gerrymandered lines, according to the New York State Constitution you are supposed to have compacted and contiguous districts as well as districts that don't benefit incumbents and while politically my district becomes an even more politically Republican district, I believe it's important for the voters of New York State to have proper representation and not divide communities of interest. There are lawsuits pending so that will play out but as the lines are now, the 12 county district is now going to expand to all our parts of 18 counties so it gets geographically larger. Doesn't impact Essex County because you are all in both the current map and the next map but I'm happy to answer questions on that as well. So Shaun, I'll turn it back over to you, love to answer questions on anything.

GILLILLAND: Thank you Congresswoman. Any questions for the Congresswoman?

SCOZZAFAVA: Good morning Congresswoman. Can you hear me?

CONGRESSWOMAN STEFANIK: Yes, I can.

SCOZZAFAVA: Okay, first and foremost Moriah Shock. As you're aware, the State of New York through their legislation the Governor supposedly chosen Moriah Shock as one of their facilities to close I believe there are six prisons closing, Moriah being one of the six. Moriah, I mean, the program speaks for itself and it has actually saved taxpayers in this State tens of millions of dollars since its inception and the – I've been trying to get through to the Governor's office as has our Chairman and Jim Monty has worked on this and actually the entire Board of Supervisors are opposed to this closure but we don't seem to be gaining any traction whatsoever. We have talked to public safety, the Commissioner there. We did meet with acting Commissioner Annucci and I'm just wondering if there's any use that the Federal Government could use this facility for? There's no reuse plan in place and part of the legislation that granted the Governor the power to close these facilities it clearly states, there is supposed to be a reuse plan in place. They didn't even have the decency to call me before they announced the closure. Chairman Gilliland and myself heard it through the grapevine and we actually got to make the first call to the DOCS Commission so obviously I'm very upset about it. 125 good paying jobs will be lost from that community, that facility was built by then Governor Mario Cuomo, Senator Stafford for the very reason of helping the community economically and then we're just getting into this program and then Governor Cuomo mentioned object poverty, one of the areas he was referring to was Essex County and primarily the Town of Moriah so you know, we are trying to do everything we can

possibly do the first and foremost save the program but my concern is that if the program isn't saved I don't want those buildings to sit and just start to deteriorate and unfortunately the State of New York has a track record for allowing that to happen.

So I'm just wondering if there is anything at the Federal level? I understand it's a State facility and not a Federal facility but I'm just wondering if there is anything you can do to try and help us?

CONGRESSWOMAN STEFANIK: Yeah, thanks for the question Tommy. I have spoken out from my office because of the overall economic impact, and this is not the first closure we have gone through since I've been in office, Clinton County Annex as well as Ogdensburg and Moriah Shock were both announced at the same time. I believe this is pulling out the rug from under the correction officers, families, but also pulling out the rug from the community. There was no community input on this process and as we remember when we look back in history, there was essentially, frankly, a covenant between the community and the State Government that we would have these facilities here in the North Country and that is being broken. We've spoken out to the Governor. The Governor has refused to listen. We've worked with Senator Stec and Assemblyman Simpson on the other side of my district I've worked with Senator Patty Ritchie as well as the State Assembly members, to really talk about the importance of these facilities in the communities. When it comes to Moriah Shock in particular, it is very unique and it has been a taxpayer dollar saver for the State so I completely disagree with the decision to close it. Unfortunately, this is the trend we're seeing in New York State, where it really is, frankly a war on law enforcement, whether it's Correction Officers jobs or whether it's not supporting our County Sheriffs our NYPD or our New York State Troopers that has to stop. At the Federal level Tommy, we are seeing the same sort of trends. They are looking to the State of New York and even, frankly the President was in New York State saying the rest of the country should follow New York State when it comes to law enforcement issues. I oppose that. I think that is very much out of touch with the beliefs of the North Country, the importance of safety and security and the support for our Corrections officers. So, of course, I will always look for Federal resources, but I am not optimistic, given unified Government in Washington right now with one party rule, that there's going to be any appetite for taking that on at the Federal level because again, it's an anti-law enforcement sentiment that we're seeing coming out of Albany and coming out of Washington DC, with one party rule and I'm hopeful that you know, starting after this November elections next January, there will be a block on this one party rule that has been so damaging and a house that's very supportive of law enforcement including our corrections officers.

SCOZZAFAVA: Thank you.

GILLILLAND: Further questions for the Congresswoman? Thank you very much Congresswoman. We really appreciate your update, and it's been an honor working with you and looking forward to working with you well into the future.

CONGRESSWOMAN STEFANIK: Thank you so much Chairman. Again, everybody in this room, don't hesitate to reach out to me directly, don't hesitate to reach out to my office on issues big and small, if it's casework, social security, VA issues, Medicare, Covid relief, you name it, reach out to my office. We are here as a resource and committed to making sure the concerns of Essex County are at the highest levels. So I appreciate it, and I'll see you all soon.

GILLILLAND: Thank you very much.

Okay before we get into resolutions, so, somewhat of a sad, celebratory day today can I have all the ladies and gentlemen of Public Health come up here and join me? Sad day because one of our true professionals in our Public Health Department is looking for other adventures in life which

we all deserve and but a celebratory day because she has provided thirty years of dedicated service to the people of Essex County to which we are all highly indebted to.

I'd like to read this resolution of appreciation to Rose Koop-Angelicola upon your retirement from the Essex County Health Department. *Upon the recommendation of the Human Services Committee, with the approval of the ways and means committee of this body, and the same appearing proper and necessary. Whereas, Rose Koop-Angelicola has been a faithful public servant to the people of Essex County for 30 years;*

Whereas, Rose Koop-Angelicola began employment with Essex County on July 15, 1991, as a Community Health Nurse for the Public Health Department; and

Whereas, during her tenure with the Health Department, Rose Koop-Angelicola has exhibited the highest degree of professionalism, competency, integrity, attention to detail, care, organization, timely and accuracy with documentation, teaching, evaluation and treatment of patient needs while adapting to changes, working through a pandemic, managing priorities and exceptional clinical skills and talent to the County of Essex, it's residents and its employees with grace and respect; and

Whereas, Rose Koop-Angelicola has graciously performed her duties for 30 years and has announced her retirement effective January 31, 2022; and

Whereas, all the members of the Health Department Team and Home Care Staff wishes to extend its deep and abiding appreciation to Rose Koop-Angelicola for her outstanding contributions made to the County of Essex and thanks her for performing her duties competently and with professionalism for the last 30 years; and

Whereas, the Essex County Board of Supervisors wishes to extend its sincere appreciation to Rose Koop-Angelicola for her many years of outstanding public service to the people of Essex County.

Be it Resolved, that the Essex County Board of Supervisors, its Clerk of the Board, County Manager and County Attorney hereby extend their most heartfelt appreciation to Rose Koop-Angelicola for her dedication and service to Essex County and upon her retirement from the Essex County Health Department and wishes her continued success and best wishes in her future endeavors. Thank you so much.

KOOP-ANGELICOLA: Thank you. I'll go really quick, the girls in the back know I love to tell a story but I won't. I really want to thank Essex County Health Department for offering me the opportunity to work in both of our units and essentially, in all of our programs. I mean, it's truly enriched my career as a nurse. It made every day exciting and challenging and wonderful but the other really big part of it is our residents that we have the opportunity to serve every day. They are the finest people I can ever imagine to work for. They have been gracious and kind, accepting me into their lives telling me their stories good, bad, ugly, otherwise I mean, it's just amazing what they have offered to me and everyday was some form of education that could never ever get in school so I really, really appreciate all of our efforts and the residents who have allowed me to work with them and it's has truly made me a better nurse and a better person so I just wanted to say thank you. Thank you all.

GILLILLAND: Move to resolutions please.

RESOLUTION #16 – AUTHORIZING THE EMERGENCY SERVICES DEPARTMENT TO APPLY FOR AND ACCEPT FY2021 NEW YORK STATE INTEROPERABLE COMMUNICATIONS (SICG21) FORMULA BASED GRANT.

This resolution was moved by Mr. Holzer, seconded Mr. Barber and adopted.

RESOLUTION #17 – AUTHORIZING THE PURCHASING AGENT TO AWARD BIDS, ISSUE

CONTRACTS OR PURCHASE ORDERS.

This resolution was moved by Mr. Hughes, seconded by Mr. Scozzafava and adopted upon a roll-call vote as follows:

AYES: 2921 votes
NOES: 0 votes
ABSENT: 0 votes

RESOLUTION #18 – OF APPRECIATION TO STEPHANIE SNOW UPON HER RETIREMENT FROM ESSEX COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES.

This resolution was moved by Mr. Stanley, seconded unanimously and adopted.

RESOLUTION #19 – OF APPRECIATION TO CINDY HEALD UPON HER RETIREMENT FROM ESSEX COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES.

This resolution was moved by Mr. Merrihew, seconded unanimously and adopted.

RESOLUTION #20 – OF APPRECIATION TO LISA J. NYE UPON HER RETIREMENT FROM ESSEX COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES.

This resolution was moved by Mr. Wilson, seconded unanimously and adopted.

RESOLUTION #21 – AUTHORIZING APPOINTMENTS TO BOARDS, COMMITTEES AND/OR COUNCILS.

This resolution was moved by Mrs. DeZalia, seconded Mr. Merrihew and adopted.

RESOLUTION #22 – AUTHORIZING THE ESSEX COUNTY MENTAL HEALTH DEPARTMENT TO OBTAIN CERTIFICATION FROM THE OFFICE OF MENTAL HEALTH TO SET UP A SATELLITE CLINIC LOCATION FOR THE PROVISION OF CHILDREN MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES AT THE CHAMPLAIN VALLEY EDUCATION SERVICES (CVES) MINEVILLE LOCATION.

This resolution was moved by Mr. Hughes, seconded Mr. Monty and adopted.

GILLILLAND: Discussion?

HARRINGTON: Doesn't this have an element of responsibility from the education department? I assume we are dealing with pre-school and other age groups and I'm assuming that it should be the responsibility of school districts?

PALMER: Well, all pre-school costs are actually ours.

HARRINGTON: Is that what this is designated for?

PALMER: Well this is really, it's really Mental Health setting up a program that allows them to take in more revenue essentially provide more service and be able to bill and recovery that billing for that, for those services that are necessary.

HARRINGTON: So will there be responsibilities for school districts to fund this?

PALMER: No. Pre-school, anything related to pre-school is all the counties.

HARRINGTON: Right.

PALMER: No, schools are not required unfortunately. We hold the ticket for all of those items.

MONTY: I believe Shaun, there is also some Federal funding in that as well that may come into play because of the pre-school aspect of it.

PALMER: There may, yeah. You know at one time these costs were shared more with the State but the State dropped all of their shared cost portions.

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

RESOLUTION #23 – AUTHORIZING THE ESSEX COUNTY MENTAL HEALTH DEPARTMENT TO APPLY FOR AN INTEGRATED OUTPATIENT SERVICES (IOS) LICENSE TO BECOME LICENSED FOR BOTH MENTAL HEALTH AND SUBSTANCE ABUSE TREATMENT.

This resolution was moved by Mr. Monty, seconded Mr. Tyler and adopted.

GILLILLAND: Discussion?

PALMER: And again, both of these are about moves that allows the health department to submit billing for reimbursement. If you don't have some of these agreements in place or you don't have the certifications in place, then you can't bill for those services. You maybe still providing them but you're not able to bill unless you had these things in place that's the idea.

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

RESOLUTION #24 – OF APPRECIATION TO ROSE KOOP-ANGELICOLA UPON HER RETIREMENT FROM THE ESSEX COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT.

This resolution was moved by Mr. Monty, seconded unanimously and adopted.

RESOLUTION #25 – AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF A PERMIT TO IRONMAN LAKE PLACID FOR THE USE OF COUNTY ROADWAYS FOR THE 2022 IRONMAN TRIATHLON RACE ON JULY 24, 2022.

This resolution was moved by Mr. Monty, seconded Mr. Doty and adopted.

RESOLUTION #26 – AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF A PERMIT ALLOWING USE OF COUNTY ROADWAYS FOR THE WILMINGTON HISTORICAL SOCIETY 5K AND 10K RUN/RACE TO BE HELD ON SATURDAY, JUNE 18, 2022, IN THE TOWN OF WILMINGTON, UPON APPROVAL OF THE COUNTY ATTORNEY AND WITH THE PROVISION OF INSURANCE.

This resolution was moved by Mr. Holzer, seconded Mr. Stanley and adopted.

RESOLUTION #27 – 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, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFORE – WATER STREET BRIDGE OVER THE BRANCH ELIZABETHTOWN.

This resolution was moved by Mr. Merrihew, seconded by Mr. Wright and adopted upon a roll-call vote as follows:

AYES: 2921 votes
NOES: 0 votes
ABSENT: 0 votes

RESOLUTION #28 – 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, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFORE – ALEXANDRIA AVENUE OVER LAKE GEORGE OUTLET TICONDEROGA.

This resolution was moved by Mr. Wright, seconded by Mr. Scozzafava and adopted upon a roll-call vote as follows:

AYES: 2921 votes
NOES: 0 votes
ABSENT: 0 votes

RESOLUTION #29 – TO THE TOWN OF WILMINGTON ON THEIR BEICENTENNIAL.

This resolution was moved by Mr. Holzer, seconded unanimously and adopted.

RESOLUTION #30 – OF CONDOLENCE TO THE FAMILY OF DONAL DEMACY.

This resolution was moved by Mr. Holzer, seconded unanimously and adopted.

RESOLUTION #31 – AUTHORIZING INCLUSION OF THE ESSEX COUNTY CORONERS TO RECEIVE THE PREMIUM PAY INCENTIVE AS AUTHORIZED AND PURSUANT TO THE TERMS OF RESOLUTION NO. 279 OF DECEMBER 7, 2021.

This resolution was moved by Mr. Monty, seconded by Mr. DeLoria and adopted upon a roll-call vote as follows:

AYES: 2364 votes (Barber, Harrington, Merrihew, Hughes, Wilson, Monty, McNally, DeLoria, Doty, DeZalia, Wood, Winemiller, Wright, Tyler, Gilliland, Holzer)
NOES: 557 votes (Stanley, Scozzafava)
ABSENT: 0 votes

RESOLUTION #32 – ACCEPTING, ADOPTING AND PLACING ON FILE POLICIES, PLANS, PROCEDURES AND ANNUAL REPORTS.

This resolution was moved by Mr. Scozzafava, seconded Mr. Merrihew and adopted.

RESOLUTION #33 – AUTHORIZNG A CHANGE IN HOURS FOR THE NEWLY CREATED FISCAL MANAGER POSITION IN THE TREASURER’S OFFICE FROM 35 HOURS PER WEEK TO 40 HOURS PER WEEK.

This resolution was moved by Mr. Scozzafava, seconded by Mrs. Winemiller and adopted upon a roll-call vote as follows:

AYES: 2921 votes
NOES: 0 votes
ABSENT: 0 votes

RESOLUTION #34 – AUTHORIZING THE COUNTY CHAIRMAN TO EXECUTE CHAMPLAIN NATIONAL BANK ACCOUNT AUTHORIZED SIGNATURES FOR THE ESSEX COUNTY TREASURERS DEPARTMENT.

This resolution was moved by Mr. Scozzafava, seconded by Mr. Tyler and adopted upon a roll-call vote as follows:

AYES: 2921 votes
NOES: 0 votes
ABSENT: 0 votes

RESOLUTION #35 – AUTHORIZING CONTRACT AMENDMENTS/CHANGE ORDER IN VARIOUS DEPARTMENTS.

This resolution was moved by Mr. Scozzafava, seconded by Mr. DeLoria and adopted upon a roll-call vote as follows:

AYES: 2815 votes
NOES: 0 votes
ABSENT: 106 votes (Tyler)

RESOLUTION #36 – AUTHORIZING THE POSITION OF NETWORK COORDINATOR IN THE INFORMATION SYSTEMS DEPARTMENT AND FURTHER AUTHORIZING THE HIRING OF SAID POSITION.

This resolution was moved by Mr. Scozzafava, seconded by Mr. Barber and adopted upon a roll-call vote as follows:

AYES: 2921 votes
NOES: 0 votes
ABSENT: 0 votes

RESOLUTION #37 – OF CONDOLENCE TO THE FAMILY OF BARBARA BEEBE BRASSARD.

This resolution was moved by Mr. Scozzafava, seconded unanimously and adopted.

RESOLUTION #38 – OF CONDOLENCE TO THE FAMILY OF MARGARET A. “MAGGIE” TROMBLY.

This resolution was moved by Mr. Monty, seconded unanimously and adopted.

RESOLUTION #39 – OF CONDOLENCE TO THE FAMILY OF MICHAEL L. BRENNER.

This resolution was moved by Mr. Scozzafava, seconded unanimously and adopted.

RESOLUTION #40 – WELCOMING THE 2023 WORLD UNIVERSITY GAMES WHICH WILL TAKE PLACE IN LAKE PLACID AND SURROUNDING COMMUNITIES IN ESSEX COUNTY BEGINNING JANUARY 12-22, 2023.

This resolution was moved by Mr. Holzer, seconded unanimously and adopted.

RESOLUTION #41 – OF CONDOLENCE TO THE FAMILY OF SPENCER R. STAFFORD, SR.

This resolution was moved by Mr. Gilliland, seconded unanimously and adopted.

RESOLUTION #42 – APPROVING A MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING (MOU) BETWEEN THE COUNTY OF ESSEX AND THE TOWN OF KEENE FOR THE USE OF KEENE PROPERTY LOCATED ON ROUTE 9N BY THE TOWN OF KEENE FOR A MULTI-USE TRAIL AND RECREATIONAL SYSTEM OPEN TO THE PUBLIC.

This resolution was moved by Mr. Wilson, seconded by Mr. Monty and adopted upon a roll-call vote as follows:

AYES: 2921 votes
NOES: 0 votes
ABSENT: 0 votes

GILLILLAND: Discussion?

DOTY: I was talking to Joe a little earlier about it, there's a clause in there that should any timber be cut the county would reserve first right of refusal on that awarding. I'm suggesting maybe this committee would return any timber harvest monies for that project? I really don't see it as being

appreciable to begin with and it would just secure the success of that program.

GILLILLAND: Are you offering that as an amendment to the resolution?

DOTY: Do we have a legal issue with that Dan?

MANNING: No, I could just take it out. I think, I could just take it out of the agreement.

GILLILLAND: Okay.

DOTY: Then there was one other clause too I would like to discuss. I'd like to make sure that Keene has the ability, I don't know if you would call it a sublease or not but I'm not sure the town would be looking to either hire more people to oversee the operation and maintenance of that trail system or if a non for profit agency or someone of the like would want to contract with the Town of Keene to maintain those and I didn't see that address in the MOU.

MANNING: Yeah, it's provided for in there. We are going to allow Keene to do this project and they'll hire other contracts, subcontractors, anybody that might over see it so that is in there.

DOTY: Okay, thank you.

MANNING: I handed out the conceptual plan for this earlier this morning and JoePete may want to speak to this, this is what it is about in case you're – I noticed I forgot to send it to you last week so you may want to know what you're going to approve, if you approve it.

WILSON: Thanks Dan. Thanks Mr. Doty. So we've looked at this and have questions either now or later I'm happy to answer them but you know again, as I said last week this project is really going to be a partnership of the Town of Keene, Essex County and then Bark Eater Trails Alliance to do the design maintenance and this plan was commissioned through them so if you have questions about it I'd be happy to answer them now or later.

HUGHES: Is your board in favor of this?

WILSON: We got the verbal go ahead, they wanted to see the county MOU go through until tomorrow night we're doing our board meeting on this.

GILLILLAND: Okay so Mr. Doty are we in need to do an amendment to the resolution?

MANNING: I wouldn't worry about it. I will just take it out.

GILLILLAND: Okay. If that's okay with you Mr. Doty?

DOTY: That's fine. Thank you.

MANNING: Joe Pete do you want to explain, does everyone know what this is about? I mean, the bike trails?

WILSON: We talked about it a little last week, yes.

MANNING: Okay as long as everybody is Kosher with it.

GILLILLAND: Further discussion on the resolution? Being none, roll call please.

WILSON: Thank you all for the support. I really appreciate it.

RESOLUTION #43 - OF CONDOLENCE TO THE FAMILY OF JOHN KONOWITZ.

This resolution was moved by Mr. Tyler and Mr. Stanley, seconded unanimously and adopted.

RESOLUTION #44 – APPROVING THE ALLERGAN NEW YORK OPIOID SETTLEMENT SHARING AGREEMENT BETWEEN PARTICIPATING SUBDIVISIONS AND ALLERGAN AND THE EXECUTION OF A NEW YORK SUBDIVISION ELECTION AND RELEASE FORM TOGETHER WITH ANY AND ALL NECESSARY PERTINENT DOCUMENTS REQUIRED TO SETTLE ESSEX COUNTY’S INTEREST IN THE CURRENT NEW YORK STATE LITIGATION INVOLVING ALLERGAN.

This resolution was moved by Mr. Monty, seconded by Mr. Tyler and adopted upon a roll-call vote as follows:

AYES: 2921 votes
NOES: 0 votes
ABSENT: 0 votes

GILLILLAND: Discussion?

DOTY: In the document that I read that was sent to us, I have since contacted Adirondack Medical there are different service providers that I think will be applicable to the way they would like this money spent. The notice suggested that monies would be coming pretty soon. Is there anything further that I can give out for information to, for interested parties for the programs?

MANNING: I'm told the money should be coming within 45 days, you know, take that with a grain of salt because these things are really complicated. We have settled with Jansen, J&J and I can't remember the exact amount of money but I think it's close to \$300,000, this is a second settlement with Allergan. As I stated in my letter, there are two pots of money basically, well, there's actually three pots of money but the two pots that we are to be awarded are an unrestricted pot which I'm not sure which part of this \$73,000 is unrestricted and then there is a restricted pot where as I explained in my letter, the county has to come up with uses of related to opioid abuse and they are very broad, it could be you know mental health, public health, it could be the Sheriff's office, crime as related to opioids many, many things very broad but a plan would have to be put together and I'm going to get that information within a week to ten days. I've spoken to lead counsel on this regarding the two issues of when we get our money and how will we get the second pot. There is a third pot it is a regional stem fund which I don't know what the heck that is, they haven't told us what the money is I think it is a big super fund that we may get some additional money out of now whether how the other like the hospitals, how they would get any money I think that would be up to the county as to how they want to funnel the money to that.

DOTY: So there is further information coming?

MANNING: Yes, further information will definitely be coming.

DOTY: Thank you.

MANNING: Your welcome.

GILLILLAND: Further discussion? Being none, roll call please.

RESOLUTION #45 – CANCELING AND WAIVING INTEREST, PENALTIES AND OTHER CHARGES PURSUANT TO REAL PROPERTY TAX LAW, SECTION 1182, ON PARCELS OWNED BY VINCENT PLACE IN THE TOWNS OF ELIZABETHTOWN AND WESTPORT AND CANCELING ALL INTEREST CHARGED BY THE SCHOOL DISTRICT ON THE SAME PARCELS.

This resolution was moved by Mr. Merrihew, seconded by Mr. Tyler and adopted upon a roll-call vote as follows:

AYES: 2921 votes
NOES: 0 votes
ABSENT: 0 votes

GILLILLAND: Discussion?

SCOZZAFAVA: In the body of the resolution shouldn't there be a reason stated as to why we are dropping these charges? For down the road? I'm just saying somebody comes along and says well, you know you set a precedent, you did it here.

PALMER: It says, charged in error. We only refund if the error was on part of either us –

SCOZZAFAVA: This is the individual that never received the bills from the school?

PALMER: Right.

MANNING: It's on the record here, in the meeting Tom I think is sufficient if anybody wants to get further edification but that's a good point.

GILLILLAND: Further discussion? Being roll call please.

RESOLUTION #46 – AUTHORIZING THE PURCHASE OF A USED AMBULANCE FROM THE ELIZABETHTOWN-LEWIS EMS SQUAD, IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$10,000.00, FOR THE NEW ESSEX COUNTY EMS PROGRAM, FROM BUDGETED FUNDS.

This resolution was moved by Mr. Merrihew, seconded by Mr. Wright and adopted upon a roll-call vote as follows:

AYES: 2810 votes
NOES: 111 votes (Monty)
ABSENT: 0 votes

RESOLUTION #47 – AUTHORIZING THE PURCHASE OF FIVE (5) ADDITIONAL ADVANCED LIFE SUPPORT (ALS) MONITORS FOR THE COUNTY EMS AGENCIES, IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$150,000.00, FROM GRANT FUNDS.

This resolution was moved by Mr. Tyler, seconded by Mr. Holzer and adopted upon a roll-call vote as follows:

AYES: 2826 votes
NOES: 0 votes
ABSENT: 95 votes (Merrihew)

GARRISON: Resolutions from the floor, proclaiming March 2022 as Agricultural month in Essex County.

GILLILLAND: Twelve to allow it on the floor please?

GARRISON: Yes, we do.

RESOLUTION #48 – PROCLAIMING MARCH 2022 AS AGRICULTURE MONTH IN ESSEX COUNTY.

This resolution was moved by Mr. Monty, seconded unanimously and adopted.

HUGHES: Can I ask a question very quickly on the resolution?

GILLILLAND: Yes.

HUGHES: I'm just noticing the second whereas, where it states the number of farms in New York State and the operated farmland, do we know the numbers for Essex County?

GILLILLAND: Not off the top of my head.

MANNING: We do have it.

HUGHES: I was thinking that maybe for a future resolution like this it might be nice to put Essex County's numbers as well.

GILLILLAND: Thank you.

GARRISON: A resolution setting the date for a public hearing for Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Project #382MHR365-19 for Essex County Mobile Home Replacement Project Program.

GILLILLAND: Twelve to allow it on the floor please?

GARRISON: Yes, we do.

RESOLUTION #49 - SETTING THE DATE FOR A PUBLIC HEARING FOR COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT (CDBG) PROJECT #382MHR365-19 FOR ESSEX COUNTY MOBILE HOME REPLACEMENT PROJECT PROGRAM.

This resolution was moved by Mr. Monty, seconded Mr. Hughes and adopted.

GARRISON: Resolution authorizing the purchasing agent to issue a purchase order to Fort Miller Company, Inc., in the amount of \$212,478.00, for precast concrete box culverts.

GILLILLAND: Twelve to allow it on the floor please?

GARRISON: Yes, we do.

RESOLUTION #50 - AUTHORIZING THE PURCHASING AGENT TO ISSUE A PURCHASE ORDER TO FORT MILLER COMPANY, INC., IN THE AMOUNT OF \$212,478.00, FOR PRECAST CONCRETE BOX CULVERTS.

This resolution was moved by Mr. Scozzafava, seconded by Mr. DeLoria and adopted upon a roll-call vote as follows:

AYES: 2921 votes
NOES: 0 votes
ABSENT: 0 votes

GARRISON: Resolution authorizing the purchasing agent to purchase a 2021 Nissan Rogue S AWD from Huttig Nissan of Plattsburgh for the Information Systems Department, in the amount of \$30,776.50, from budgeted funds.

GILLILLAND: Twelve to allow it on the floor please?

GARRISON: Yes, we do.

RESOLUTION #51 - AUTHORIZING THE PURCHASING AGENT TO PURCHASE A 2021 NISSAN ROGUE S AWD FROM HUTTIG NISSAN OF PLATTSBURGH FOR THE INFORMATION SYSTEMS DEPARTMENT, IN THE AMOUNT OF \$30,776.50, FROM BUDGETED FUNDS.

This resolution was moved by Mr. Merrihew, seconded by Mr. Barber and adopted upon a roll-call vote as follows:

AYES: 2921 votes
NOES: 0 votes
ABSENT: 0 votes

GARRISON: Resolution authorizing settlement of the existing Medicaid Universal settlement matter with Essex Centers.

GILLILLAND: Twelve to allow it on the floor please?

GARRISON: Yes, we do.

RESOLUTION #52 - AUTHORIZING SETTLEMENT OF THE EXISTING MEDICAID UNIVERSAL SETTLEMENT MATTER WITH ESSEX CENTERS.

This resolution was moved by Mr. Merrihew, seconded by Mr. DeLoria and adopted upon a roll-call vote as follows:

AYES: 2921 votes
NOES: 0 votes
ABSENT: 0 votes

GARRISON: That is all I have.

GILLILLAND: Alright, I have one I would like to bring up from the floor myself. I was called by the Adirondack Nature Conservancy on Friday, the invasive species program. There is a fish, you probably got for your aquariums as kids called a round goby. The round goby is an invasive species getting into waters in Missouri and around the country, it's been found in the Hudson River. The round goby once it gets into our waters, our Lake Champlain it destroys the nest and eggs of our high value game fish so like our Lake Trout, our salmon go in the rivers and stuff but Lake Trout and others that are economic boosts to us, Lake Champlain.

The Nature Conservancy is asking the Governor to shut Lock 7, on the canal for the year basically while the US Corp of Engineers figures out and installs a system that will kill these things before

they get into Lake Champlain so they were asking the Legislatures, they may have called a number of town supervisors already but, on the lake but basically asking for a letter to be drafted to go to the Governor to encouraging to shut Lock 7 on the canal and to prevent the influx of the round goby into Lake Champlain waters. I don't have a copy of this, I got emailed the information so if I can get a resolution to allow me to sign for the Board of Supervisors, to the Governor encouraging to go that course of action and we'll draft that letter and send it to the Governor's office. Do I have twelve to allow it on the floor?

GARRISON: Yes, we do.

GILLILLAND: Thank you.

RESOLUTION #53 – IN SUPPORT OF THE ESSEX COUNTY CHAIRMAN EXECUTING A LETTER TO NEW YORK STATE GOVERNOR, KATHY HOCHUL REQUESTING THE STATE OF NEW YORK TO CONTROL THE SPREAD OF THE ROUND BODY, A NON-INDIGENOUS, INVASIVE SPECIES IN THE CHAMPLAIN CANAL.

This resolution was moved by Mr. Scozzafava, seconded Mr. Tyler and adopted.

GILLILLAND: Discussion?

SCOZZAFAVA: Since that is a Federal waterway is Vermont and the Federal Government involved in any of this?

GILLILLAND: I think the State is the regulation of the canal waters. They did discuss about boats that wanted to get in and out they are encouraging the State to lift them across the water.

MONTY: You know, I'm 100% in favor of this I just wish the Nature Conservancy and other environmental groups would worry about the cormorant population which destroys more and more of our fishing in Lake Champlain. It's just amazing if you're out on Lake Champlain you'll see the thousands of Cormorants out there and something needs to be done about that as well.

GILLILLAND: Okay. Would you like me to get that back to them?

MONTY: Absolutely.

GILLILLAND: Okay I will. They also called Mark Henry, Clinton County Legislature and Clinton County's economic asset up there is the same as Essex County so they are concerned and their Legislature is also going to do the same thing so, we have a motion and a second, all in favor, opposed – thank you. Anything else to come before this board?

DEZALIA: I just wanted to add, now that we passed the premium pay for the Coroners that we check to make sure that the reporting is up to date because I believe about a month ago the Auditors said that they were not up to date with the reporting or at least one of them wasn't.

PALMER: Pretty much up to date now.

DEZALIA: Okay.

PALMER: I just approved some vouchers that came through after the reports went in.

DEZALIA: Reports to the?

PALMER: County Clerks.

DEZALIA: Good, thank you.

GILLILLAND: Further discussion?

MONTY: I would like to offer a couple resolutions of condolences first, to the family of Don Maher, Anne works for Dan in the office up there and ten days ago her father in law away and yesterday, her mother in law passed away.

GILLILLAND: Twelve to allow it on the floor please?

GARRISON: Yes, we do.

RESOLUTION #54 – OF CONDOLENCE TO THE FAMILY OF GEORGE O. ABEL AND JEAN (FABIANSKI) ABEL.

This resolution was moved by Mr. Monty, seconded unanimously and adopted.

MONTY: Thank you and the other resolution is condolence to the Kent Egglefield family whose son was tragically killed Friday night in a snowmobile accident and he was the great grandson of Spencer Egglefield who was the Treasurer here in Essex County for many years.

GILLILLAND: Twelve to allow it on the floor please?

GARRISON: Yes, we do.

RESOLUTION #55 – OF CONDOLENCE TO THE FAMILY OF BECKHAM “BECKS” ALEXANDER EGGLEFIELD.

This resolution was moved by Mr. Monty, seconded unanimously and adopted.

GILLILLAND: Further resolutions or business to come before this board? Being none, we are adjourned.

As there was no further business to come before this regular board meeting it was adjourned at 10:55 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Judith Garrison, Clerk
Board of Supervisors