REGULAR BOARD
Monday, May 4, 2026 @ 10:00 a.m.

Stephen McNally, Chairperson
Matthew Brassard, Vice-Chairperson

Chairman McNally called this Public Hearing to order at 10:00 am with the following Supervisors in attendance: Clayton Barber, Matthew Brassard, Chris Clark, Timothy Follos, Kenneth Hughes, Mary Lamphear, Tracie McGill, Steve McNally, Clayton Menser, James O'Bryan, Timothy Pierce, Richard Preston, Cathleen Reusser, Davina Thurston, Michael Tyler, Joe Pete Wilson and Meg Wood. Matthew Stanley was excused.

Department Heads present: James Dougan, Josh Favro, Judy Garrison, Roy Holzer, Mary McGowan, David Reynolds, Heather Sheehan and Mike Mascarenas.

Also present: William Tansey.

MCNALLY: Good morning. Welcome. We have already done the pledge. Can I have a roll call please. Wonderful. Can we get a motion to go into executive session, a brief executive session for legal advice? Mr. O'Bryan, second by Mr. Preston. All in favor, opposed – carried. This should be brief.

THE COMMITTEE MOVED INTO AN EXECUTIVE SESSION AT 10:00 A.M.
FOR LEGAL ADVICE AND MOVED BACK INTO OPEN SESSION AT 10:10 A.M.

MCNALLY: I need a motion to come out of executive session at 10:10 a.m.
Mr. Wilson, second by Mr. Barber. All in favor, opposed – carried. We have no guests. On to resolutions please.

RESOLUTION #88 – AUTHORIZING TO CHANGE THE HOURS IN THE OFFICE OF THE ESSEX COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS TO BE OPEN FROM 8:00 A.M. TO 4:00 P.M. FROM MAY 11, 2026 TO SEPTEMBER 18, 2026.
This resolution was moved by Mr. Hughes, seconded by Mr. Tyler, and duly adopted.

RESOLUTION #89 – OF APPRECIATION AND CONGRATULATIONS TO ARTHUR BRASSARD UPON HIS RETIREMENT FROM THE TOWN OF MORIAH POLICE DEPARTMENT.
This resolution was moved by Mr. Brassard, unanimously seconded, and duly adopted.

RESOLUTION #90 – AUTHORIZING THE PURCHASING AGENT TO AWARD BIDS, ISSUE CONTRACTS/AGREEMENTS OR PURCHASE ORDERS.
This resolution was moved by Mr. Hughes, seconded by Mr. Tyler, and adopted upon a roll-call vote as follows:
AYES: 2652 votes
NOES: 0 votes
ABSENT: 201 votes (Stanley)

AMENDED
RESOLUTION #91 – AUTHORIZING BUDGET AMENDMENTS FOR VARIOUS DEPARTMENTS.

This resolution was moved by Ms. Reusser, seconded by Ms. McGill, and adopted as amended, upon a roll-call vote as follows:
AYES: 2287 votes
NOES: 0 votes
ABSENT: 566 votes (Stanley, Brassard)

MCNALLY: Questions, concerns?

GARRISON: There is an amendment on this resolution from Public Safety, the amount should be $10,641.13, so I would ask the board to amend that please.

MCNALLY: Can I get a motion to amend? Ms. Reusser, second by Ms. McGill.

REUSSER: What was the amount again?

GARRISON: $10,641.13.

MCNALLY: Any other questions? Roll call please.

RESOLUTION #92 – RECOGNIZING NATIONAL EMS WEEK AS MAY 17-23, 2026.
This resolution was moved by Ms. Reusser, unanimously seconded, and duly adopted.

RESOLUTION #93 – AUTHORIZING THE COMMUNITY RESOURCES DEPARTMENT TO APPLY FOR AND ACCEPT A SMART GROWTH GRANT IN THE AMOUNT OF $125,000.00 AND FURTHER AUTHORIZING THE COUNTY CHAIRMAN OR COUNTY MANAGER TO EXECUTE SAID AGREEMENT – UPPER BRIDGE FEASIBILITY STUDY.
This resolution was moved by Mr. Barber, seconded by Mr. Follos, and adopted as amended, upon a roll-call vote as follows:
AYES: 2287 votes
NOES: 0 votes
ABSENT: 566 votes (Stanley, Brassard)

RESOLUTION #94 – AUTHORIZING THE MENTAL HEALTH DEPARTMENT TO WRITE OFF $8,039.38, SELF-PAY PATIENT FEE BAD DEBT FOR SERVICES IN 2023 AND OLDER.
This resolution was moved by Mr. Pierce, seconded by Mr. Follos, and adopted as amended, upon a roll-call vote as follows:
AYES: 2287 votes
NOES: 0 votes
ABSENT: 566 votes (Stanley, Brassard)

RESOLUTION #95 – AUTHORIZING THE COUNTY CHAIRMAN OR COUNTY MANAGER TO EXECUTE A CONTRACT RENEWAL FOR BRENDON OLSEN FOR PT SERVICES IN THE AMOUNT OF $85.00 PER VISIT.
This resolution was moved by Mr. Preston, seconded by Ms. Reusser, and adopted upon a roll-call vote as follows:
AYES: 2652 votes
NOES: 0 votes
ABSENT: 201 votes (Stanley)

RESOLUTION #96 – AUTHORIZING THE PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT TO APPLY FOR A 2026 LAKE PLACID ROTARY CLUB FUNDS.
This resolution was moved by Mr. Tyler, seconded by Mr. Wilson, and duly adopted.

RESOLUTION #97 – AUTHORIZING THE COUNTY CHAIRMAN OR COUNTY MANAGER TO EXECUTE A CONTRACT AMENDMENT WITH CORNELL COOPERATIVE EXTENSION IN THE AMOUNT OF $30,000.00 FOR ADDITIONAL HEALTH PROMOTION AND SENIOR WELLNESS OPPORTUNITIES IN THE OFFICE OF THE AGING DEPARTMENT.
This resolution was moved by Mr. Tyler, seconded by Ms. Wood, and adopted upon a roll-call vote as follows:
AYES: 2652 votes
NOES: 0 votes
ABSENT: 201 votes (Stanley)

MCNALLY: Questions, concerns? I have a question, where does that $30,000 come from?

MASCARENAS: Krissy has – I just had it in my head and I went onto the next resolution the admin funds so she has excess for unmet needs and what she has learned, she is very happy with the services Cornell Cooperative Extension are providing for her at sites where they are active they are seeing an increase in enrollment, more seniors visiting those sites and participating in activities that are beneficial for those individuals.

MCNALLY: Any other questions? If not, roll call please.

RESOLUTION #98 – AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF A PERMIT TO THE ESSEX COUNTY SUICIDE PREVENTION TEAM FOR THE USE OF GLEN ROAD, COUNTY ROUTE 86 LOCATED IN THE TOWN OF JAY AND THE USE OF THE JAY COVERED BRIDGE FOR THE VIVID LIFE 5K RUN ON JUNE 6, 2026.
This resolution was moved by Mr. Preston, seconded by Ms. Reusser, and duly adopted.

RESOLUTION #99 – REQUESTING CONSIDERATION OF THE GOVERNOR AND THE STATE LEGISLATURE ALLOWING FOR 211 WAIVER FOR EMS PERSONNEL AND URGING BROADER STATE ACTION TO ADDRESS EMS WORKFORCE SHORTAGES.
This resolution was moved by Mr. Preston, seconded by Mr. Clark, and duly adopted upon a roll-call vote as follows:
AYES: 2500 votes
NOES: 0 votes
ABSENT: 353 votes (Stanley, Wood)

MCNALLY: Questions or concerns?

HUGHES: I have a question Mr. Chairman, assuming this is approved by our colleagues in just a few moments I'm wondering what the opportunity is to share this resolution with other counties, legislatures, Board of Supervisors across New York State? Doing what we are doing is great but I think other organizations need to know about this too.

MASCARENAS: We clearly have asked this question of those state departments and assistance from those that are representing us at the state level and have come up with almost nothing which is why we shifted gears and kind of went this route so the whole point of passing a resolution like this is to allow other counties to get onboard with our resolution. I feel like several will adopt it. I

think rural New York is experiencing the pain that we are experiencing and I don't think the state always understands that barriers in some of their other departments stop us from providing the highest level of service that we can provide because of it so what this is really about, Essex County is one of the first counties if not the very first in New York State to take on a form of public emergency services management. Speaking with a lot of rural counties fire districts are starting to feel the same type of issue locally. If counties and towns are ever going to be able to take this service on they need to be able to utilize the pool of existing people they have to do that work. When you look at Essex County in particular in rural New York the amount of people that work here, they work for school systems, they work for town governments, they work for corrections, they work for county government, they are our highway people those are the people we need and the not allowing for the waiver of those individuals for retirement which is right now set at $35,000 is going to automatically cut many people out of the system that we need to provide services here for the four million visitors we have on an annual basis so, again, I'm not sure the state realizes that something way over here impacts something way over here but yes, the intent is to get it to all of our elected officials, Governor's office, NYSAC for distribution and everyone of my colleagues that sit in that similar role to what I have and I do believe it will gain some traction so that's the plan with this resolution. Again, I think we're starting the conversation like we often do but I'm guessing that a lot of people are going to pick up on that.

HUGHES: I'm pleased that we are taking a leadership role on this, we've done that in the past with other topics. I want to see it gain momentum and I'm glad you are sharing that plan with us today thank you.

MCNALLY: Anybody else? Roll call please.

RESOLUTION #100 – CHANGING THE DATE OF THE JUNE REGULAR BOARD MEETING FROM JUNE 1, 2026 TO JUNE 2, 2026 TO AVOID A CONFLICT WITH AATV ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING ON JUNE 1, 2026.
This resolution was moved by Mr. Clark, seconded by Mr. Brassard, and duly adopted.

MCNALLY: Questions, concerns? The AATV will be meeting Sunday evening in Lake Placid. We will be playing golf that day if anybody would like to play with us. Monday we'll have our conference. We will have some interesting speakers coming, we have a woman from the rail trail that is going to talk about the success of the rail trail I know there are sections of the county like Newcomb and Minerva that rail in their town that possibly could benefit from something like that. The New York State Association of Towns will do a question and answer. Of course we will have all of our associate member vendors to answer any questions you have about their products and also I believe we will have the head of the USDA for New York State up there to go over some of the programs the USDA has there's a lot of money with the USDA, it's a federal program. So your attendance is appreciated. I think you will enjoy yourself. It's a good place to meet other supervisors from all and members from all over the Adirondack Park we all basically have the same issues so that's all I have to say about that. All in favor –

FOLLOS: Would members of the town board be welcome?

MCNALLY: Yes, very welcome.

FOLLOS: And is there a cost?

MCNALLY: There is a cost, it's on the AATV page I believe it's for lunch and breakfast or whatever we serve that day. All in favor, opposed – carried. Thank you. See you there.

RESOLUTION #101- AUTHORIZING A CORRECTION QUITCLAIM DEED OF A PORTION OF COUNTY ROUTE 4, DUGWAY ROAD LOCATED IN THE TOWN OF MORIAH, WITH THE CONSENT OF THE DPW SUPERINTENDENT, PURSUANT TO HIGHWAY LAW §118-A, PROPERTY OWNED BY JOHN BOYEA; AND AUTHORIZING THE COUNTY CHAIRMAN OR COUNTY MANAGER TO EXECUTE CORRECTION QUITCLAIM DEED AND ANY AND ALL NECESSARY DOCUMENTS REQUIRED.
This resolution was moved by Mr. Brassard, seconded by Mr. Preston, and duly adopted upon a roll-call vote as follows:
AYES: 2500 votes
NOES: 0 votes
ABSENT: 353 votes (Stanley, Wood)

AMENDED
RESOLUTION #102 – REQUESTING HOME RULE LEGISLATION TO AMEND NEW YORK STATE TAX LAW SECTION 1202-S(10) AND AMEND SENATE BILL 2-8482 AND ASSEMBLY BILL A-9098 RELATIVE TO THE USE OF ALL REVENUE RECEIVED FROM HOTEL/MOTEL OCCUPANCY TAX GENERATED IN ESSEX COUNTY.
This resolution was moved by Mr. Wilson, seconded by Ms. Reusser, and duly adopted as amended, upon a TWO-THIRDS (2/3) roll-call vote as follows:
AYES: 3624 votes
NOES: 0 votes
ABSENT: 267 votes (Stanley)

MCNALLY: Remember this needs to be passed by a 2/3 vote. Discussion?

MANNING: I'd like to ask for an amendment to this resolution. We've spoken to the state and they proposed a draft bill but there are some redundances in this particular resolution so I would ask that the amendment remove paragraph b on the second page that starts with *the monies generated by this tax shall be used exclusively for the purposes of tourism promotion and development* that will be removed. That is in the second to the last paragraph it's already in there so that was a redundancy and the state – I knew it was redundant but I wanted to satisfy everybody and make sure it looked good sort of a belt and suspenders but the state didn't like extra language in their laws so that's why that is removed.
Then I would also ask that the second paragraph on page 3, where it says *the revenue derived from the tax, it goes on, shall be allocated* after allocated we want to have the word exclusively and that was obvious what everybody wanted and then at the end of that paragraph there is something I want to add, *and shall not be used for any other purpose*.
Those are the three amendments that language comes from the deleted paragraph b but we wanted to put it in there so with that, I would ask for a motion and a second on the amendment and then discussion.

MCNALLY: Discussion? We are going to vote on the amendment, roll call please. Now we need a roll call on the resolution as amended. Thank you.

RESOLUTION #103 – ACCEPTING THE MORTGAGE TAX REPORT.
This resolution was moved by Mr. Brassard, seconded by Mr. Clark, and duly adopted upon a roll-call vote as follows:

AYES: 2652 votes
NOES: 0 votes
ABSENT: 201 votes (Stanley)

RESOLUTION #104 – AUTHORIZING TO CHANGE THE HOURS IN THE OFFICE OF THE ESSEX COUNTY CLERK AND ESSEX COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF MOTOR VEHICLES TO BE OPEN FROM 8:00 A.M. TO 4:00 P.M. DURING THE MONTHS OF JUNE, JULY AND AUGUST 2026 PURSUANT TO COUNTY LAW 206.
This resolution was moved by Ms. Thurston, seconded by Ms. Lamphear, and duly adopted.

RESOLUTION #105 – AUTHORIZING TO CHANGE THE HOUSE IN THE OFFICE OF THE ESSEX COUNTY TREASURER'S TO BE OPEN FROM 8:00 A.M. TO 4:00 P.M. FROM MAY 4, 2026 TO SEPTEMBER 4, 2026.
This resolution was moved by Mr. Tyler, seconded by Mr. Barber, and duly adopted.

RESOLUTION #106 – AMENDING RESOLUTION NO. 75 OF APRIL 6, 2026, TO AUTHORIZE A BUDGET AMENDMENT IN THE INFORMATION SYSTEMS DEPARTMENT IN THE AMOUNT OF $6,539.73 TRANSFERRED FROM THE CONTINGENCY ACCOUNT TO COVER THE CONTRACT WITH BLACK CREEK FOR AN UPGRADE MAXXESS CARD ACCESS SOFTWARE.
This resolution was moved by Mr. Tyler, seconded by Ms. Wood, and duly adopted upon a roll-call vote as follows:
AYES: 2652 votes
NOES: 0 votes
ABSENT: 201 votes (Stanley)

RESOLUTION #107 – AUTHORIZING ESSEX COUNTY SOIL & WATER ACCESS TO ESSEX COUNTY'S REFORESTATION PROPERTIES IN THE TOWN OF KEENE, LEWIS, JAY, MINERVA & ESSEX TO CONDUCT EVALUATIONS OF THE PROPERTIES.
This resolution was moved by Mr. Clark, seconded by Ms. Wood, and duly adopted.

MCNALLY: Questions, concerns?

HUGHES: Mr. Chairman I just want to understand that and we talked about this at ways and means and committee, I just want to understand here that this organization is purely evaluating the properties and focused on that property but there's no execution? Are they developing a report for us is that the plan?

MASCARENAS: Yes. So, soil and water had extra funding that they could utilize to help with some reforestation property this year. The plan is really to provide this board with a report on what a hired consultant feels is proper use of those properties it's pretty limited in terms of reforestation Mr. Manning can go through the litany of things it's easier to tell you what you can do than what you can't but logging is one of those things but it will give us a plan for those properties moving forward where we would know, okay, within the next five years the property in Essex will be ready to log. The one in Lewis is ten years away, there might be some that are now. I don't know the answer to that, that's what the report will tell us so there will be nothing happening on that property. This is simply permission to go, look at what's there, and make recommendations to this board for your approval.

HUGHES: So there will be a deliverable at the DPW committee meeting?

MASCARENAS: Correct.

HUGHES: Okay great, thank you.

TYLER: I think it's important to know that soil and water is not going to be doing this, they are going to hire a consultant and pay the money.

MASCARENAS: Yes.

MCNALLY: The property we own, this piece of property here it's really no benefit to the county and I'm not sure if it will be a benefit to the town. We've had this thing out for bid logging in the past and never actually had a bid. We have town property we put out to bid and are not getting any so maybe it's time we think about why the county owns these properties if there's no benefit to the county you know, maybe the towns will take them or do something with them because right now there's no reason that we own them that I'm aware of.

O'BRYAN: Are these larger properties?

MCNALLY: The one is a couple hundred acres. It's in an area where really if it wasn't in the forestry program it's undevelopable, it's steep mountainous terrain.

MASCARENAS: Mr. Manning can get into more detail and we can get something out to you. It's really complicated. My understanding with forestation is it is prior to the APA, is that correct Dan?

MANNING: Yeah, it was in the 20's.

MASACARENAS: So, it kind of was that process before Adirondack Park became what it became but there are many rules that must be followed whether we can either transfer them I'm not sure we can or can't but that is something we can certainly look into.

MANNING: Without the law or going through the legislature if it's private individuals you are probably not keeping it, reforestation you are not going to be able to transfer as far as the towns it will probably be easier but I can look into it.

MASCARENAS: Towns certainly could have a better use for some of these properties Steve is not wrong in terms of trail systems and those kinds of things that they can use to develop and promote then it would be more appropriate than what we do with that kind of thing but whether it can happen or not we need to look into it.

WILSON: So, and I think this helps us in ways to make decisions about what is the best use for some of these properties and the town of Lewis really set that good model with the Thrall Dam trails they did. The town of Keene copied that and did bike trails through an MOU to use the property so some of what might come out of this is more information to help us decide what property has a higher use in recreation or other things besides logging so I think it's worthwhile to do this and I think it might help us come up with some ideas for ways for the residents to benefit from all this property.

PIERCE: Ours in Lewis is a multi-use trail it's used for ATV's, biking and horse riding.

MCNALLY: And that's still owned by the county?

PIERCE: That is correct.

MCNALLY: So the question is whether it's beneficial to give it to the towns for that purpose compared to them running their program on county land. Would it be better for them to run this on town land?

FOLLOS: Approximately when did the county acquire these properties?

MCNALLY: Before the 20's.

MANNING: Well, that doesn't mean before the 20's. These are various properties so when they were acquired I don't know but there is a reforestation program which started in the 20's so you can put something in reforestation right now but the actual program, what we, at this county level and I think it was mostly geared to preserving watershed in various towns and things of that nature and some of this will work if it's not in reforestation it's just county property not reforestation that's a lot easier to lift, if it's in reforestation you're not going to be able to give or sell to private individuals unless you go through, they have got to go through the legislature and get approval and then the towns I do not know if there is an easier transfer I am assuming there is I would point to what we're doing with the fish hatchery even though it's not in reforestation it's still sort of similar constraint.

WILSON: Just one last detail, the way – what I copied from Lewis was the town did an MOU with the county and Keene then did an MOU with the county for the use for recreation and it didn't interfere with the county's rights to follow the reforestation plan so we didn't take ownership but it gave the town rights.

MCNALLY: So we'll wait until we get this report approved and we'll see but would it be better for Mr. Pierce to be able to run that program on town land or is it better for him to run this on county property? I would dare say if it was in my town I would prefer to run it on town property just for the purpose of taking a liability away from the county.

PIERCE: Just for example we talked about the use of the occupancy tax funds, BRASS had approached us on some invasive species work down there and they were trying to figure out what was it the county's property or is it something the Town of Lewis should be doing or not doing and we had some discussions on that.

MASCARENAS: Reforestation and general property ownership are two different things. I think from a county standpoint I prefer to not own any property in your town I think we witnessed in the past where opportunities come it falls out of the hands of the town to kind of dictate what happens in their future and falls to this board for decision making and I don't know if that's always fair and competitive in terms of how that works so when opportunities arrive the county owning property in your town that's something that may be to come or not come it adds an extra layer of bureaucracy and red tape to a system that doesn't allow you to drive your train locally so I think in those instances it does behoove towns to own those properties and but not always and in reforestation we don't know if that's even allowable so it's something we have to look further into.

MCNALLY: Alright, anything else? All in favor, opposed – carried.

RESOLUTION #108 – AUTHORIZING THE ESSEX COUNTY WIC TO APPLY FOR THE ELIZABETHTOWN COMMUNITY HOSPITAL COMMUNITY HEALTH INVESTMENT GRANT IN THE AMOUNT OF $5,000.00.
This resolution was moved by Mr. Pierce, seconded by Ms. Reusser, and duly adopted upon a roll-call vote as follows:
AYES: 2453 votes
NOES: 0 votes
ABSENT: 400 votes (Barber, Stanley)

RESOLUTION #109 – SUPPORTING THE FRANKLIN COUNTY MUNICIPAL BROADBAND DEPLOYMENT CAPITAL (138,086) PROJECT FOR PURPOSES OF NEW YORK STATE DEC REVIEW AND ATTESTING TO REQUIRED CONDITIONS.
This resolution was moved by Mr. Tyler, seconded by Ms. Reusser, and duly adopted.

MCNALLY: Questions, concerns? I just have one concern on this but we've been asked by Franklin County for their support on this?

THURSTON: That is correct.

MCNALLY: Wonderful. All in favor, opposed – carried.

RESOLUTION #110 – RECOGNIZING LONG-TERM EMPLOYEES OF ESSEX COUNTY.
This resolution was moved by Mr. Tyler, seconded unanimously, and duly adopted.

GARRISON: Resolutions from the floor – everyone has copies on their desks.

RESOLUTION #111 – AUTHORIZING A BUDGET AMENDMENT IN THE INFORMATION SYSTEMS DEPARTMENT INCREASING REVENUES AND APPROPRIATIONS IN THE AMOUNT OF $50,000.00, US DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY, STATE HOMELAND SECURITY CYBER SECURITY GRANT PROGRAM.
This resolution was moved by Mr. Brassard, seconded by Ms. Thurston, and duly adopted upon a roll-call vote as follows:
AYES: 2652 votes
NOES: 0 votes
ABSENT: 201 votes (Stanley)

MCNALLY: Do we have twelve to allow it from the floor?

GARRISON: Yes.

MCNALLY: Questions, concerns?

HUGHES: What's the purpose of the movement?

MASCARENAS: Yeah, there was a clerical error. This resolution was passed February 3 and the budget amendment that was also part of the resolution just never quite made it in there so what this really is doing is giving our CPA the permission to move those funds to the proper use.

HUGHES: Okay, thank you.

MCNALLY: Okay any other questions? Roll call please. Thank you.

GARRISON: Another resolution from the floor.

RESOLUTION #112 – ADOPTING LOCAL LAW #3 OF 2026, AMENDING LOCAL LAW #1 OF 1965, ESSEX COUNTY COMMUNITY SERVICES BOARD.
This resolution was moved by Mr. Hughes, seconded by Mr. Tyler, and duly adopted upon a roll-call vote as follows:
AYES: 2652 votes
NOES: 0 votes
ABSENT: 201 votes (Stanley)

MCNALLY: Do we have twelve to allow it from the floor?

GARRISON: Yes.

MCNALLY: Questions, concerns? Roll call please. Anything from the floor?

MCGILL: Yes I would like to offer a resolution authorizing the issuance of an RFP for financial management and accounting services. This will greatly help to have this access financiering county's expertise to help us with the challenges we face with staffing, financial reporting and regulatory compliance.

MCNALLY: Do we have twelve to allow it from the floor?

GARRISON: Yes.

RESOLUTION #113 – AUTHORIZING A REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL SEEKING PROPOSALS FROM QUALIFIED FIRMS TO PROVIDE FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT AND ACCOUNTING SUPPORT SERVICES TO PARTICIPATING TOWNS AND VILLAGES WITHIN ESSEX COUNTY.
This resolution was moved by Ms. McGill, seconded by Mr. Brassard, and duly adopted.

MCNALLY: Questions, concerns?

HUGHES: A little bit of explanation of what we agreed to do at the county level to support towns?

MCNALLY: Well, it's putting up the RFP so we get more bids or people applying for these positions. The towns can either opt in or opt out so basically we are putting all of our numbers together to possibly getting a better cost on accounting solutions.

MASCARENAS; Just to add on to what Mr. McNally is saying. I hear from many of you on many different topics and recently accounting has been kind of a topic that's been, I have been receiving a highly amount of questions on. The purpose of the RFP and I've already got it ready I can share it with the board, is really to see what's out there in terms of support. Some of you already contract out with independent accountings and/or firms that may help you reconcile and/or provide assistance as needed on your annual updates those types of things. What this RFP is meant to do is not put one out for any one town but the purpose is that you can all use it when you need it. Every town I find has a different level of experience and/or expertise in terms of accounting. Some of you are like, well, this isn't a problem for me at all well, God bless you you're a minority right

now but other towns certainly may need more or less. We are going to ask for hourly rates in terms of what that provision is, in terms of the service you are receiving and/or providing so some of you may need very little assistance that's great. Some of you may need more and that's great too but at least you'll have a mechanism should something happen that you can turn to and still be able to look at your monthly finances and all of those fun things that come with government accounting so for the rest of you it will turn into hey, I've got this as a backup if you don't need it. For some of you you're going to dive in and want to utilize it immediately to help you get caught up.

HUGHES: So just a quick follow up – the county would bear the cost?

MASCARENAS: No sir.

HUGHES: The towns would reimburse the county?

MASCARENAS: So the RFP is basically saying there's eighteen towns in Essex County yada, yada, yada we would develop the contract which is piggyback able so it's much more efficient for me to put out an RFP that could include all of you than it is for all of you to put out an RFP that is specific to you so that was really the thought behind it. It's giving you a template something you can use when you're in a pinch because the other option is really me trying to find a bunch more staff that can support you and then standardizing software and all those types of things which would be a nightmare in terms of what we're looking at so I think this is the better option first and we're trying to exhaust all options before we go to a different model.

HUGHES: Okay, thank you.

MCNALLY: Pretty much this is going to help us with access to help and it could possibly lower the cost of help.

HUGHES: Thank you.

MCNALLY: All in favor, opposed, carried. Anybody else?

FOLLOS: The Adirondack Association of towns conference is that open to the public and would that be something helpful for our planning and zoning board to attend?

MCNALLY: Yes, it would.

FOLLOS: It is open to the general public?

MCNALLY: Yes, it is. Just go to our website, I believe there's a link. If not, let me know I will get you in the right direction. Anything else?

HUGHES: It's an amazing website.

MCNALLY: Done by our own Macman. It's a wonderful website. Thank you Ken.

WILSON: Just a reminder for those on Environmental Health committee, we are going to meet at 11:00. We're going to talk about the feedback from DEC on this solid waste management plan so we've got some real business to take care of.

MCNALLY: Okay anything else? If not, we're adjourned.

As there was no further discussion to come before this regular board meeting it was adjourned at 10:48 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Judith Garrison, Clerk
Board of Supervisors