

WARREN COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

COMMITTEE: FINANCE

DATE: FEBRUARY 11, 2015

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:

SUPERVISORS CONOVER
TAYLOR
SOKOL
MONROE
WOOD
KENNY
MERLINO
FRASIER

OTHERS PRESENT:

MIKE SWAN, COUNTY TREASURER
KEVIN GERAGHTY, CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD
MARTIN AUFFREDOU, COUNTY ATTORNEY
JOAN SADY, CLERK OF THE BOARD
JOANN MCKINSTRY, ASSISTANT TO THE COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR
FRANK THOMAS, BUDGET OFFICER

COMMITTEE MEMBER ABSENT:

SUPERVISOR DICKINSON

SUPERVISORS BEATY
BROCK
MCDEVITT
SEEBER
SIMPSON
WESTCOTT

REPRESENTING THE WARREN COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE:

SHAWN LAMOUREE, UNDERSHERIFF
MIKE GATES, CORRECTIONS CAPTAIN
GRETCHEN STEFFAN, COUNTY HUMAN RESOURCES DIRECTOR
DON LEHMAN, *THE POST STAR*
AMANDA ALLEN, DEPUTY CLERK OF THE BOARD

Mr. Conover called the meeting of the Finance Committee to order at 9:43 a.m.

Motion was made by Mr. Merlino, seconded by Ms. Wood and carried unanimously to approve the minutes of the prior Committee meeting, subject to the Clerk of the Board.

Copies of the meeting agenda were distributed to the Committee members and a copy of same is on file with the meeting minutes.

Commencing the Agenda review with Section III, Item 1, Mr. Conover addressed a request to authorize transfers of funds, as included in the Agenda packet for Committee approval.

Motion was made by Ms. Wood, seconded by Mrs. Frasier and carried unanimously to approve the request and the necessary resolution was authorized for the February 20th Board Meeting.

Moving on to Agenda Item 2, Mr. Conover presented a request from the Treasurer's Office for a new contract with Bartlett, Pontiff, Stewart & Rhodes, P.C. for bond counsel services relating to the expansion of the existing court space.

Motion was made by Mr. Monroe and seconded by Mr. Merlino to approve Item 2.

Mr. Monroe noted that it may be necessary to bond the costs of perimeter fencing for the Festival Space on the Charles R. Wood Park and he questioned whether this contract could be used for those bond counsel services, as well. Mike Swan, *County Treasurer*, responded that his Office already had counsel under contract for BAN (*Bond Anticipation Notes*) that had been used for several years. Martin Auffredou, *County Attorney*, confirmed that the Treasurer's Office already had counsel under contract that could be used if a determination was made that the fencing costs needed to be bonded. He noted that he had prepared a bond resolution pertaining to the fencing costs which were estimated to be about \$250,000 and he said he would distribute copies of the proposed resolution later in the meeting. Mr. Auffredou explained that the RFP (*Request for Proposals*) released for the purposes of obtaining bond counsel for the court expansion work had included general services as well. He commented that

Mr. Swan had a longstanding relationship with the bond counsel he proposed to use for the fencing project and he would encourage that to be continued.

Referring to the Bid Tabulation Sheets provided in the Agenda packet, Mr. Swan pointed out that proposals had been provided by seven different firms for bond counsel services relative to the court expansion project. He said he had suggested that the contract be awarded to Bartlett, Pontiff, Stewart & Rhodes, P.C. as the lowest responsible bidder, but noted that the General Municipal Law allowed the County to select an alternate firm for the services, if they felt they were justified in doing so. Mr. Swan advised that the firm of Orrick, Herrington & Sutcliffe had always been used for bond counsel services in the past, and although he was not suggesting that they should select this firm, he wanted to make the Committee aware that the County had the option of selecting this firm over the lowest responsible bidder due to their prior contractual relationship experience, if they chose to do so. Mr. Swan commented that he did not feel the County would be adversely affected by using a local firm for bond counsel services and he said he preferred to utilize local firms when they were able to do so; he pointed out that Orrick, Herrington & Sutcliffe was located in New York City, in close proximity to the County's financial adviser. Mr. Swan stressed the importance of acting on this matter that day in order to begin the bond process and keep the associated interest rates as low as possible.

Mr. Auffredou pointed out that based upon Mr. Swan's analysis, there were actually three firms to easily choose from for bond counsel services (*Bartlett, Pontiff, Stewart & Rhodes; Orrick, Herrington & Sutcliffe; Hawkins Delafield & Wood*). He noted that because this was an RFP process, rather than a bid process, they had much greater flexibility in selecting a firm to contract with. Mr. Auffredou proceeded to read aloud the following excerpt from General Municipal Law 104-b:

"...justification and documentation of any contract awarded to other than the lowest responsible dollar offeror, setting forth the reasons such an award furthers the purpose of this section..."

Mr. Auffredou also quoted that the purpose of General Municipal Law 104-b was to:

"...assure the prudent and economical use of public moneys in the best interests of the taxpayers of the political subdivision or district, to facilitate the acquisition of goods and services of maximum quality at the lowest possible cost under the circumstances, and to guard against favoritism, improvidence, extravagance, fraud and corruption."

Mr. Auffredou apprised that of the three previously mentioned firms, the County only had longstanding experience with the law firm of Orrick, Herrington & Sutcliffe; he added that based on this experience, the Committee could very easily, make a determination in accordance with the allowances provided under General Municipal Law 104-b, to award the contract to Orrick, Herrington & Sutcliffe. He commented that all three of the firms he had mentioned provided proposals that were very close in amount and all three were well qualified to provide bond counsel services. Mr. Auffredou reiterated that because this contract was subject to an RFP, rather than a bid, the County was offered more flexibility in awarding the contract and the Committee could choose any one of these three firms regardless of whether or not they had submitted the lowest responsible bid.

Mr. Taylor opined that in this matter the qualifications of the firm was a key factor and he noted that, if possible, he would prefer to select a local firm. He then questioned whether the qualifications of all three firms were equal and Mr. Auffredou replied affirmatively, assuring that the local option, the firm of Bartlett, Pontiff, Stewart & Rhodes, was clearly qualified to provide bond counsel services.

Mr. Monroe pointed out the disclaimer posted at the bottom of the Tabulation Sheet indicated there were certain services, such as presentations to rate agencies, that were not included in the prices proposed and Mr. Swan responded that this was only for one particular bid (*Bond, Schoeneck & King*) which offered a base price and then subsequent hourly rates for additional services. Mr. Monroe questioned whether they expected to make presentations to rate agencies and Mr. Swan replied it was not likely.

Mr. Auffredou apprised that he and Mr. Swan typically worked closely on bond issues and he said that usually, they drafted a bond resolution together to include all critical components; he added that this draft resolution was then forwarded to bond counsel who reviewed the resolution and advised of any changes or additions they felt were appropriate. Mr. Auffredou stated this was exactly the process used for the draft bond resolution prepared for the Festival Space perimeter fence. Finally, Mr. Auffredou expounded upon his prior experience with the Bartlett, Pontiff, Stewart & Rhodes Law Firm, explaining that he was a principal with the Firm until 2011 when he left to become the County Attorney and he advised that he received compensation from the Firm pursuant to his buyout agreement.

There being no further discussion, Mr. Conover called the question and the previous motion to approve the request for a new contract with Bartlett, Pontiff, Stewart & Rhodes, P.C. for bond counsel services relating to the expansion of the existing court space was carried unanimously, thereby authorizing the necessary resolution for the February 20th Board Meeting.

Mr. Conover announced Agenda Item 3 included a referral from the Criminal Justice Committee, *District Attorney*, requesting to amend the County Budget to include unanticipated revenues and appropriations in the amount of \$10,000 in grant funding.

Motion was made by Mr. Sokol, seconded by Mr. Merlino and carried unanimously to approve the request and the necessary resolution was authorized for the February 20th Board Meeting.

Agenda Items 4A-B, Mr. Conover advised, consisted of referrals from the Economic Growth & Development Committee, *Planning & Community Development*, as follows:

- 4A) Request to amend the County Budget to establish CD74 and reflect the receipt of unanticipated revenues and appropriations in the amount of \$400,000 from the New York State Community Development Block Grant program as part of the 2014 Regional Economic Development Council Consolidated Funding Application.
- 4B) Request to establish Capital Project No. H.356 9550.280, First Wilderness Implementation 2014, in the amount of 832,900 to administer the grant award from the Local Waterfront Revitalization Program.

Motion was made by Mr. Kenny, seconded by Mr. Merlino and carried unanimously to approve Items 4A and 4B and the necessary resolutions were authorized for the February 20th Board Meeting.

Continuing, Mr. Conover noted that Agenda Item 5 pertained to a referral from the Health Services Committee, *Office of Community Services*, requesting to amend the 2015 County Budget to reflect the receipt of unanticipated revenues and appropriations in the amount of \$100,000 for the Office of Community Services. He explained these were passthrough funds from New York State Office of Mental Health to provide 100% funding for the Parsons Child and Family Center Contract which was being increased from \$325,624 to \$425,624.

Motion was made by Mr. Taylor, seconded by Mr. Sokol and carried unanimously to approve the request and the necessary resolution was authorized for the February 20th Board Meeting.

Mr. Conover directed the Committee members to Agenda Item 6 which reflected a referral from the Human Services Committee, *Employment & Training Administration*, requesting to amend the 2015 County Budget to reflect the receipt of unanticipated revenues and appropriations in the amount of \$15,203 from the Federal Trade Adjustment Act for the training of five dislocated workers.

Motion was made by Mr. Merlino, seconded by Mrs. Frasier and carried unanimously to approve the request and the necessary resolution was authorized for the February 20th Board Meeting.

Agenda Item 7, Mr. Conover stated, consisted of a referral from the Occupancy Tax Coordination Committee, requesting authorization to issue a serial bond and bond anticipation note in the amount of \$221,906 to cover the purchase and installation of a fence and masonry columns at the Festival Space of the Charles R. Wood Park. He advised this request was contingent upon determination that the use of occupancy tax discretionary, surplus and reserve funding was not sufficient to cover the cost and bonding is determined to be necessary. Mr. Conover noted that due to the time frame, the Occupancy Tax Coordination Committee recommended that the resolution for the serial bond and bond anticipation note be presented at the February 20, 2015 Board Meeting with the understanding that the resolution would be rescinded if it was determined to be unnecessary.

Mr. Auffredou distributed copies of a draft bond resolution and the associated SEQRA (*State Environmental Quality Review Act*) documents, copies of which are on file with the meeting minutes.

Motion was made by Mr. Monroe and seconded by Mr. Kenny to approve Item 7.

Mr. Kenny apprised that at the conclusion of the Finance Committee meeting, a meeting would be held with Mr. Swan to discuss the necessity of bonding funding for the perimeter fence. For those that had not attended the last Occupancy Tax Coordination Committee meeting, Mr. Conover explained that the initial indication was that they would fund the fence installation with occupancy tax monies and the question became whether they would need to bridge the funding in some fashion which had led them to determine bonding might be necessary.

Mr. Monroe spoke about a recent PMEC (*Project Management Executive Committee*) meeting where a presentation had been made by staff of the DPW Engineering Division suggesting the installation of a steel beam around the perimeter of the Festival Space on which the fencing would be installed, making it easy to replace the fence when necessary. He said this work would have incurred an additional cost of about \$80,000 which had led the PMEC to vote against the suggestion.

Mr. Thomas asked how the bond payments would be made if bonding was determined to be necessary and Mr. Monroe responded that two funding options had been identified, one being occupancy tax monies. Mr. Monroe noted that use of occupancy tax funding would be appropriate for this expense as it was clear that the growing number of events held at the Festival Space would bring many people to Warren County; he advised that when discussions about the fence installation had begun Mayor Blais, *Village of Lake George*, had scheduled 14 events for the Festival Space and that number had already grown to 17. Additionally, Mr. Monroe pointed out that the revised Occupancy Tax Plan included an allocation for the Charles R. Wood Park. He continued that the second funding option was to use parking revenues raised through the County-owned West Brook Parking Lot based on the thought that a considerable amount of the revenue received would be attributed to events held at the adjacent Festival Space. Mr. Monroe stated, Paul Dusek, *County Administrator*, had pointed out that these parking revenues had already been appropriated within the 2015 Budget, and if used, alternate funding sources would need to be identified to offset the deficits caused. He said that if the cost of fencing could be covered with occupancy tax revenues there would be no bond payments; he added that if bonding was necessary, payments would not be made until 2016.

Chairman Geraghty questioned whether the County's cost of the fencing installation work would be in accordance with their ownership percentage (62%) and Mr. Monroe replied affirmatively; however, he added, Mayor Blais had requested that the entire cost of the fencing work be bonded by the County and that the bond payments be made by percent of ownership (*County 62%; Village of Lake George 38%*).

There being no further discussion, Mr. Conover called the question and the aforementioned motion to issue a serial bond and bond anticipation note in the amount of \$221,906 to cover the purchase and installation of a fence and masonry columns at the Festival Space of the Charles R. Wood Park, *contingent upon determination that the use of occupancy tax discretionary, surplus and reserve funding*

is not sufficient to cover the cost and bonding is determined to be necessary, was carried unanimously, thereby authorizing the necessary resolution for the February 20th Board Meeting.

Mr. Conover advised Agenda Items 8A-G consisted of a series of referrals from the Public Safety Committee, which he read aloud, as follows:

Office of Emergency Services -

- 8A) Request to amend the 2015 County Budget to carry over \$59,399.85 in unexpended grant funding received from the FY14 State Homeland Security Program.
- 8B) Request to amend the 2015 County Budget to carry over \$22,521.02 in unexpended grant funding received from the FY13 State Homeland Security Program.
- 8C) Request to amend the 2015 County Budget to carry over \$32,198.63 in unexpended grant funding received from the FY13 Hazmat Grant Program.
- 8D) Request to amend the 2015 County Budget to carry over \$6,847.67 in unexpended grant funding received from the Local Emergency Planning Grant Program.

Sheriff's Office -

- 8E) Request to amend the 2015 County Budget to carry over \$2,154 in unexpended public donations provided for the K-9 Unit.
- 8F) Request to amend the 2015 County Budget to carry over \$21,284 in unexpended funding received from the PSAP Consolidation Grant.
- 8G) Request to amend the 2015 County Budget to reflect the receipt of unanticipated revenues and expenditures totaling \$227,715 from the SLETPP, Child Passenger Safety, Governors Traffic Safety and PSAP Operations Grants.

Motion was made by Mr. Kenny, seconded by Mr. Merlino and carried unanimously to approve Items 8A-G and the necessary resolutions were authorized for the February 20th Board Meeting.

Proceeding, Mr. Conover advised Agenda Items 9A-B included referrals from the Public Works Committee, as follows:

DPW -

- 9A) Request to appropriate a total of \$286,123.94 from the County Road Fund Balance, D.909.00, to various road projects to increase the equipment rental budgets which should have been offset at the close of 2014, but were inadvertently overlooked. This request pertains to a transfer of existing funding, no new money is requested.

Motion was made by Mr. Merlino, seconded by Ms. Wood and carried unanimously to approve the request and the necessary resolution was authorized for the February 20th Board Meeting.

Parks, Recreation & Railroad -

- 9B) Request to amend the 2015 County Budget to reflect the receipt of unanticipated revenues and expenditures in the amount of \$500 for Pearsall Grant funding received for Up Yonda Farm.

Motion was made by Mr. Sokol, seconded by Mr. Taylor and carried unanimously to approve the request and the necessary resolution was authorized for the February 20th Board Meeting.

Mr. Conover advised Agenda Item 10 pertained to a referral from the Support Services Committee. He explained that at their December 15, 2014 meeting, the Support Services Committee made a referral to the Finance Committee requesting consideration of establishing an Insurance Deductible Reserve Fund using the \$22,384 the County saved on the annual premium for Property & Casualty insurance by increasing the deductible for Law Enforcement Professional Liability coverage for 2015 from \$25,000 to \$50,000.

Motion was made by Mr. Taylor and seconded by Mrs. Frasier to approve Item 10.

In response to a request for further clarification on this matter, Joan Sady, *Clerk of the Board*, explained

that the Support Services Committee felt it appropriate to establish a reserve fund for payment of deductibles because such funding was not budgeted and in the event of an insurance claim, a source of funding had to be determined. Ms. Wood added that the Support Services Committee had felt the use of funds saved by raising a policy deductible to establish a reserve was appropriate, as the \$22,384 saved was already included in the 2015 Budget, and they could add to the reserve each year through the budget process.

Mr. Kenny stated his concern that the \$22,384 would be expended for one claim deductible and exceeded if there was more than one occurrence, requiring additional funding sources to be identified. Ms. Wood noted that currently no funding was budgeted for deductible costs; she noted that if this reserve were established and payment of a \$50,000 deductible was required, they would at least have \$22,384 to apply towards the deductible, requiring that they find the remainder in the existing County Budget, rather than the entire amount. Ms. Wood reiterated the County Administrator had indicated that if this reserve was established, it may be possible to increase the size of the reserve through future budget cycles. Mr. Monroe commented that given the experience in prior years, there were many cases where an insurance deductible had been paid and he opined it was a good idea to establish the reserve.

Following further discussion, Mr. Conover called the question and the aforementioned motion was carried by unanimous vote, thereby authorizing the necessary resolution for the February 20th Board Meeting.

Moving on, Mr. Conover advised Agenda Items 11A-C included requests/items to be discussed by the County Administrator; Item 11A, he said, pertained to the Journal Report identifying transfers authorized by the County Administrator. Mr. Conover noted that the Report was being provided for transparency purposes so that the Committee would be aware of the transfers approved by the County Administrator and would continue to be provided on a monthly basis. He commented that anyone with questions relative to this or future Reports could address them at Committee meetings or they could contact the County Administrator's Office directly.

Mr. Conover said Item 11B pertained to a request to appropriate funds in the amount of \$60,000 from the Computer Reserve, Budget Code A.895.00, to the Information Technology Office Equipment Reserve, Budget Code A.1680 220.1, for the purchase of computers and related equipment/software.

Motion was made by Mr. Kenny, seconded by Ms. Wood and carried unanimously to approve the request and the necessary resolution was authorized for the February 20th Board Meeting.

Agenda Item 11 C, Mr. Conover stated, included a request to appropriate funds totaling \$158,905 from the Vehicle Reserve Fund, *Budget Code A.896.00*, to Departmental Budgets (*Sheriff and Civil Defense*) to purchase vehicles.

In response to a question posed by Mr. Conover, Mrs. McKinstry advised that \$130,000 would be appropriated to the Sheriff's Budget and the remaining \$28,905 would be appropriated to the Office of Emergency Services' Budget.

Motion was made by Ms. Wood, seconded by Mr. Sokol and carried unanimously to approve the request and the necessary resolution was authorized for the February 20th Board Meeting.

Mr. Conover stated Agenda Items 12A-B, consisted of requests/items to be discussed by the County Attorney. Item 12A, he said, included a request for additional funding to support the costs of special counsel retained in connection with the Gillette lawsuit against Warren County. He noted that the County Administrator has recommended these funds be transferred from the Contingent Fund to the County Attorney's Legal/Transcript Budget Code, *A.1420 440*; he added that the County Administrator had pointed out that the amount of funding necessary to sustain the special counsel costs for the year

would be projected by Mr. Auffredou and it should be understood that Mr. Auffredou would only be able to provide an estimate of cost based on his best judgement of what legal proceedings may occur.

Mr. Auffredou apprised that he had requested an estimate of cost for the special counsel services, which had not yet been received; therefore, he stated, he would request that this item be tabled until the next Committee meeting.

Motion was made by Mr. Merlino, seconded by Mr. Sokol and carried unanimously to table Item 12A until the next Committee meeting, as requested by Mr. Auffredou.

Moving on to Item 12B, Mr. Conover referenced the County Attorney's request to authorize the annual contract with the Warren County SPCA in an amount not to exceed \$8,000 for contractual services such as: investigations of complaints regarding cruelty to animals; commencing necessary court proceedings to correct those conditions; removing, caring for or putting up for adoption and/or destroying or otherwise disposing of abandoned and/or injured distressed cats and domestic animals; inspecting dude ranches; retaining the services of Humane Officer; etc.

Motion was made by Ms. Wood and seconded by Mr. Monroe to approve Item 12B.

Ms. Seeber indicated that she had spoken with Jim Fitzgerald, *Town of Queensbury Animal Control Officer*, who had some concerns relative to the SPCA contract; she added that Mr. Fitzgerald had spoken with Chairman Geraghty, Mr. Auffredou and Mr. Dusek about this matter, as well. Ms. Seeber said the discussions she had with Mr. Fitzgerald were significant as he was interested in considering some shared services with the County and had reached out to both the Sheriff's Office and the Office of Emergency Services, as well. She advised Mr. Fitzgerald had some ideas for implementing measures to reduce cost and focus on goals for instituting shared services; she added that she hoped at some point Mr. Conover could meet with Mr. Fitzgerald to discuss these ideas.

Referring to the SPCA contract, Mr. Auffredou apprised that at the end of 2014 there had been a transition of the SPCA Board of Directors, which had led to a complete change in membership. He said the SPCA Board was operating and was very active and he said he had a number of discussions with Mr. Fitzgerald. Mr. Auffredou advised the contract proposed was essentially the same contract that had been held for the last few years and he pointed out that the contract was funded in the 2015 Budget. He stated it was his recommendation that the Committee proceed to approve the SPCA contract, as presented, and he said it was safe to assume that the SPCA would be approaching the Board of Supervisors to discuss shared services, as well as to request a funding increase in 2016. Mr. Auffredou commented that when they considered the breadth of services and responsibility the SPCA had under law, and under this agreement, as well as the way in which they hoped to perform these services, they would understand the request for additional funding.

Mr. Conover advised he was currently organizing the first meeting of the newly formed Shared Services Committee and he would be sure this item was included on the meeting agenda for discussion.

Mr. Monroe noted that the SPCA had a large surplus available to them and this needed to be taken into account when addressing funding requests. Mr. Auffredou responded that while Mr. Monroe's statement was correct, he believe that when presented with more information on the SPCA's goals and how they wanted to accomplish them, they would learn that the surplus may not last very long. Ms. Seeber agreed with Mr. Auffredou's comments, adding that they needed to be open minded about the fact that the SPCA had a brand new Board of Directors who had identified a number of problems in terms of operational expenses. She pointed out that the County expense for this contract was \$8,000 while the cost incurred in providing these services was \$31,000; she added that in the past the SPCA had been able to offset this deficit by other means which were no longer available. Ms. Seeber stated that once Mr. Fitzgerald was provided the opportunity to speak on the matter they would learn he had

many ideas for reducing costs through shared services, as well as how to serve all of the towns in a collective manner under this agreement. Mr. Auffredou said he believed Mr. Fitzgerald would provide information regarding a business plan the SPCA hoped to employ which would include ambitious fund-raising throughout the County, as well as efforts to increase membership, to try and cover expenses and provide great coverage.

There being no further discussion, Mr. Conover called the question and the aforementioned motion to authorized the annual contract with the Warren County SPCA in an amount not to exceed \$8,000 was carried by unanimous vote, thereby authorizing the necessary resolution for the February 20th Board Meeting.

Concluding the Agenda review with Item 13, Mr. Conover announced Finance Committee action was required on the following items as approved by the Personnel Committee: Personnel Agenda Items 2A, 3, 4A-E and 6.

Motion was made by Mr. Taylor, seconded by Ms. Wood and carried unanimously to approve the request and the necessary resolution was authorized for the February 20th Board Meeting.

Chairman Geraghty spoke about information received at a recent meeting of the Intercounty Legislative Committee of the Adirondacks, apprising of an initiative to remove the competition component from the \$1.5 billion in State funding available to improve economic development in the counties located in the northern portion of New York State. He said a resolution had been proposed suggesting that the counties should not have to compete for these funds, but rather they should be distributed based on population. Chairman Geraghty said he had received information from Herkimer County indicating that based on population calculations, Warren County would receive approximately \$277 per resident, which equated to about \$18 million. Additionally, Chairman Geraghty noted the possibility of passing a local law to allow sale of small fireworks, such as sparklers, during a short window of the year to raise sales tax revenues, similar to the law already approved by Saratoga County. He indicated that both of these matters should be addressed by the Legislative & Rules Committee; Mrs. Sady advised a Legislative & Rules Committee meeting would be scheduled for March and she would be sure these items were included on the meeting agenda.

Mr. Monroe apprised a series of meetings had been held relative to invasive species and attempts to establish an Adirondack-wide plan for prevention. He recalled that subsequent to meetings with Governor Cuomo's Environmental Secretary to request that money be earmarked in the State Budget for this plan, \$1 million in funding was being provided by the State. Mr. Monroe said that meetings were now being held to determine recommendations on how these State funds could best be used to develop the Adirondack-wide invasive species plan desired and he noted that at some point, the Board of Supervisors would be asked to endorse the plan. Mr. Conover agreed that it would be appropriate for such an endorsement and he commented that the Board of Supervisors should be proud of the fact that their efforts in Lake George had grown to an Adirondack-wide initiative and he thanked Mr. Monroe for his tremendous efforts in this regard. He noted that he had attended some of the meetings Mr. Monroe had eluded to which had evolved to include much greater participation which was heartening. Mr. Conover said he hoped this information would be channeled through the Invasive Species Sub-Committee as the ideas for an Adirondack-wide plan developed.

There being no further business to come before the Finance Committee, on motion made by Mr. Kenny and seconded by Mr. Merlino, Mr. Conover adjourned the meeting at 10:20 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Amanda Allen, Deputy Clerk of the Board