

WAYS & MEANS COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES
MONDAY, APRIL 28, 2014
1:30 P.M.

PRESENT: D. Pangrazio, T. Baldwin, M. Schuster, D. Mahus, E. Gott, D. LeFeber, P. Yendell, B. Donohue, I. Coyle, T. Lynn, B. Beagle-LC News

ABSENT: G. Levey

EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES – KAREN DEWAR

Pre-approved Informational Item(s) To Be Reported

1. Changing the residency requirements for Emergency Medical Technicians from Livingston County residents only to also include residents of Allegany, Genesee, Monroe, Ontario, Steuben and Wyoming counties- Ms. Dewar is requesting that the rules be changed to allow out of county (contiguous counties) residents to apply for EMTs. This was done several years ago for ALS technicians. Preference will be made for applicants within the county of the appointment

Motion: Mr. Gott moved and Mr. LeFeber to approve changing the rules to allow applicants from contiguous counties to apply for Emergency Medical Technicians. Carried.

COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR – IAN COYLE

Informational Item(s) Written Only

1. Property Tax Freeze- Mr. Coyle reported that we received our first set of guidance document from ORP on the freeze that we will all need to be compliant with starting in 2015. This is a temporary two year piece of legislation right now and we don't know if it will go beyond that second year. Municipalities need to be compliant with the tax cap for both years for any benefit to come back to your residents and in the second year you need to produce a shared services type plan to show 1% savings on your levy. We can include anything that we currently do as long as it has an annual contract renewal associated with it. There was discussion of the 10% of residents that are no longer participating in the Starr program. Tax payer's residence must have a Starr exemption. That Starr application is now more important. If a school is not compliant, the town and/or village will not be affected.
2. Legislative Update- We have three pieces of legislation in the system. The home rule measures now have bill numbers in the Senate and Assembly. Chairman Gott signed a letter to our local representatives letter last week. Mr. Coyle followed up with an email, but has not heard back from anyone yet. Cayuga just passed a mortgage tax increase and are trying to advance that through the state. That moratorium or freeze on this type of legislation is a misnomer, they did pass a couple of revenue enhancements for counties last year. The rifle hunting measure is in both houses. There is some confusion on the next steps for this bill. Mr. Coyle will be receiving clarification from the state. A portion of Route 20A will be renamed Veteran's Memorial Highway in Livingston County, which has been done for other portions of 20A. This also an active bill associated with our name.
3. Audit RFP Discussion-The County audit contract is up this year and the last CNR audit contract was done as a one year contract, so that we can roll them both into one RFP.
4. Grant Updates- Mr. Coyle asked if the Board members have been happy with Thoma. Mr. Schuster reported that Sparta has worked with Thoma, but has not seen any results yet. Mrs. Donohue stated that Conesus has had success with several grants. Mr. Pangrazio explained that Caledonia has not been able to get a response and he has not been happy with them. Mr. Coyle explained that the current contract expires in August and they are assessing options on doing something different, whether that be in sourcing or out sourcing it differently than we do now.

Mr. Pangrazio is proposing that the County seek proposals or check into an in-house position. He feels that this would better focus the service on the County and towns. Some of the County's larger grant requests have been done successfully through the Planning Department. Mr. Coyle explained that many towns have had success with grant applications. Economic Development has utilized this service successfully. Mr. Mahus reported that he received one response within four hours from Mr. Thoma's iPhone while he was on vacation. Mr. Gott explained that this may be an opportunity to looking at our grant application operation and also use that person in conjunction with a County PR person. The people in this county deserve to know that we are putting our best foot forward every day and they don't. The Thoma contract has been \$30-\$40K over the last two years. The cost depends upon available grants. A very successful Main Street grant has increase assessed values.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mr. Mahus moved and Mr. Schuster seconded that the Committee adjourn and reconvene as in Executive Session and Mr. Yendell and Mrs. Donohue remain.

Mr. Gott moved and Mr. Mahus seconded to move out of Executive Session.

No Action Taken.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Gott moved and Mr. Baldwin seconded to adjourn the Committee meeting at 2:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Michele R. Rees
Clerk of the Board