

2018 Tentative Budget Workshop  
November 20, 2017

Chairman Kinowski called the meeting to order.

Roll call was taken: PRESENT –Philip C. Barrett, Jonathan Schopf, Jean Raymond, Paul Lent, Arthur M. Wright, Kevin Tollisen, Vincent DeLucia, Thomas Richardson, Willard H. Peck, John Collyer, Thomas N. Wood, III, Peter Martin, Matthew E. Veitch, Edward D. Kinowski, John Lawler Arthur J. Johnson – 16. ABSENT – Timothy Szczepaniak, Alan Grattidge, Richard Lucia, Preston Allen, Daniel Pemrick, Daniel Lewza, Gardner Congdon - 7.

The Clerk read the rules of the Budget Workshop.

Mr. Hellwig distributed a handout containing the General Budget Overview. In this handout there are charts that will show various changes in the spending categories from 2017 to 2018.

Mr. Hellwig distributed the Law & Finance Amendments. This handout shows what will need to be changed prior to the adoption of the budget assuming the Board approves those change that were recommended at the Law & Finance Budget Hearings.

Mr. Hellwig gave a brief overview. The budget was amended by the Law & Finance Committee and now totals \$319,677,928 and that is amongst all six (6) of the operating funds. Those amendments approved at the Budget Hearings include personnel changes that were recommended by the Personnel Subcommittee which was made up of Supervisors Peck, Wood and Wright. In addition to those changes there was \$45,100 that was placed back in to the Animal Shelter budget. Historically money has been transferred out of the Trust Fund for costs associated with the Spay and Neuter Program but based on the current value of that fund, there were concerns raised by the Subcommittee looking into the Fund. There was also a transfer of \$50,000 from the Open Space Fund to the Trail Fund. Mr. Hellwig said excluding the funding for the Public Safety Building the increase from last year's budget is only 1%. The largest revenue will continue to be Sales Tax collections. The second largest source of revenue is Property Tax revenue and we will continue to have the lowest taxes in the State of New York. The total Unfunded Mandates for next year total \$94M with a net cost of \$60.7M which will consume all of the property tax levy along with an additional \$2.1M. The Highway & Equipment Fund expenses will increase by \$200,000 due to the increase in capital costs related to road and bridge work that will be done. The total Capital costs for next year is \$26.2M with a net cost of \$5.3M. The County's fund balance is projected to be \$23M.

Mr. Kinowski asked for requests from the floor. Mr. Collyer asked about the unallocated amount of \$775,000 and if that was for the Prosperity Partnership. Mr. Hellwig said it was. Mr. Collyer asked why it wasn't broken down like the rest of the Departments. Mr. Hellwig said that was the level of funding received and the Board of the Prosperity Partnership receives the funding and decides how this will be spent. Mr. Collyer asked if Mr. Hellwig could give him a breakdown of the Director's salary as well as the contractual expenses. Mr. Hellwig said he could not as he does not have the breakdown of their budget. Mr. Lawler said that all the information Mr. Collyer is looking for can be found on their website or through the Prosperity Partnership. Mr. Peck said it would be helpful if the line item in the budget read Prosperity Partnership instead of Unallocated Amount. Mr. Hellwig said that could be done. Mr. Kinowski explained that the Partnership is handled like an outside agency whereas they request funding and the County determines what the level of funding will be. Mr. Collyer said he would like to see what progress the Partnership is making as he sees the funding going out but hasn't seen results. Mr. Lawler said he would direct the Partnership to send their minutes to the Clerk of the Board to be distributed to the full Board.

Mr. Peck asked for clarification/confirmation that the \$50,000 funding that was transferred from the Open Space/Land Preservation to Trails, if there are any unused funds that they be returned to the Open Space account. Mr. Veitch said that was his intention when he presented this to the Law & Finance Budget Hearing. Mr. Hellwig confirmed this.

Mr. Barrett asked if the funding for the Public Safety Building is in the budget. He said he knows there is a resolution coming up about it and will the funding be a debit line within the budget. Mr. Hellwig said that there is \$15.3M in the 2018 Tentative Budget and at some point there will be a bonding resolution. Mr. Barrett asked if it would be a budget amendment. Mr. Hellwig said that he has budgeted for this in anticipation of the Board moving forward.

Mr. Kinowski said the remainder of the budget schedule is the public hearing on Wednesday, December 6<sup>th</sup> at 4:30 p.m. in the Board Rooms. The adoption of the budget will be at a special board meeting to be held on December 13<sup>th</sup> at 4:45 p.m.

On a motion by Mr. Veitch, seconded by Mr. Collyer the 2018 Tentative Budget and the amendments were approved by a unanimous vote.

On a motion by Mr. Barrett, seconded by Mr. Lent the meeting was unanimously adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Pamela Wright, Clerk