

**SENECA COUNTY  
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**

Ovid Board Meeting  
October 13, 2020

Call To Order

Chairman Hayssen called the meeting to order at 6:05.

Roll Call Of Members By The Clerk

All members of the Board of Supervisors answered roll call.

Pledge Of Allegiance And Moment Of Silence

Welcome

Phyllis Motill, President, Friends of the Three Bears, welcomed the Board and the public to the Three Bears. Restoration of the three buildings began twenty years ago, when her husband, now deceased, Dan Motill fell in love with the buildings and fought to keep them from being demolished. The Three Bears has become the cultural center for Ovid and the surrounding area, especially with the Edith B Ford Memorial Library property adjacent to the Three Bears property.

Sprvr. Borst moved to suspend the rules of order to present the following proclamation resolution to Phyllis Motill in honor of Dan Motill.

**SUPERVISORS RECOGNIZE CONTRIBUTIONS OF DAN MOTILL AND ESTABLISH THE  
DAN MOTILL ROOM AT PAPA BEAR**

RESOLUTION NO. 190-2020, moved by Sprvr. Borst, second by Sprvr. Trout and adopted.

WHEREAS, Seneca County Courthouse Complex at Ovid, also known as the "Three Bears," is a historic courthouse complex located in Ovid, Seneca County, New York constructed between 1845 and 1860. The buildings were listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1976; and

WHEREAS, there was a period of time in the building's history that the condition of the Three Bears began to deteriorate and the Three Bears ultimately were tagged by the Preservation League of New York State as one of its "Seven to Save" ; and

WHEREAS, in the early 2000s Dan Motill moved to Seneca County and took on the challenge to protect and restore the Three Bears. Dan felt that the history of the buildings and its architecture were too important to Seneca County and the people of the Village of Ovid and used his qualities of determination, leadership, love of history, and an artistic talent that was expressed through his paintings to save the Three Bears. Dan loved to research the villages along the Erie Canal and each painting tells a story of its development and its people. He also loved the complex architecture of many of the buildings on our campuses. Syracuse University is one of his favorites along with University of Rochester, Alfred University, SUNY Brockport and SUNY Binghamton. After the research, you could understand his love of The Three Bears; and

WHEREAS, through Dan's dedication and leadership the Friends of the Three Bears were formed

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and through hard work, dedication, grants, memberships, and generous donations, The Friends were able to provide over \$1 Million dollars to support restoration of the Three Bears; and

WHEREAS, Dan Motill's contributions to the Three Bears have been significant and deserving of recognition; and

WHEREAS, this Resolution was brought from the floor by a two-thirds majority vote of the Board under Rule 29 of the Board of Supervisors Rules of Order; now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that in recognition of his lasting contributions to the Historic Three Bears the Seneca County Board of Supervisors hereby establishes the Dan Motill Room at Papa Bear.

Presentations

Edith B. Ford Memorial Library – Shannon O'Connor, Library Director, spoke about their partnership with The Friends of the Three Bears. The past seven months has been amazing. They offer several programs online or curbside pickup. They have a digital collection on the NY Heritage website. They have a travel exhibit featuring our wineries located at the Mama Bear building.

Chelsea Hastings, Library Director for the Interlaken Library – A video presentation featuring the libraries programs.

The five libraries in Seneca County are responding to the COVID pandemic by offering online programs; curb side pick-up; and take home activities for families.

Petitioners

None

Open Privilege of the Floor

None

Approval of Meeting Minutes

The following minutes of Board meetings were approve: August 25, 2020 special board meeting, September 8, 2020 regular board meeting; and September 22, 2020 special board meeting.

Reports of Standing Committees

Public Health Services Committee – Sprvr. McGreevy, Chairman. Resolution supporting two bills introduced by Senator Ortt and co-sponsored by Senator Helming that would improve the care at nursing homes by conducting surprise inspections and also to prevent owner of nursing home, who are in violation of state regulation to purchase new nursing homes. We also referred resolutions to the board to accept grant funds for Child Passenger Safety Program for car seats; and to accept grant funds from the Tobacco Enhancement grant.

Mental Health Services Committee – Sprvr. McGreevy, Vice-Chair. The only item from the

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Mental Health Services committee for tonight is a resolution to accept funding from The South Seneca School District for \$26,475.00 to support School Based Substance Abuse Prevention Services in school.

Planning, Development, Agriculture & Tourism Committee – Sprvr. Barnhart, Chairman. Our committee has two items on the agenda tonight. A resolution reaffirming support for New York State to name the Sampson Veterans Memorial Cemetery as its first state veterans cemetery; and a resolution to renew Memorandum of Agreement with the Finger Lakes Regional Land Bank Corporation for 2021 and 2022.

Human Services Committee – Sprvr. Borst, Chairman. October is National Domestic Violence Awareness Month. We have a proclamation resolution which will be read in its entirety to bring public awareness about domestic violence.

Personnel Committee – Sprvr. Ferrara, Chairman. One resolution on the agenda is to create a part-time clerk position for the Facilities Superintendent; and the others are resolutions waiving the hiring freeze policy in order to fill the PT clerk position and a position for Automotive Mechanic II position; and two positions for Motor Equipment Operator (Heavy) positions.

Water & Sewer Treatment, Maintenance & Operations Committee – Sprvr. Hayes, Chairman. We met with B&L and Hunt Engineers, who was on the phone regarding the revised Professional Engineering Report for Sewer 1 and 2 Decentralized Alternative; and for an update on the I & I studies. There is a resolution on the agenda to increase the rate for Sewer 2, but I am going to make a motion to return it to committee for additional review.

Public Safety Committee – Sprvr. Brownell, Chairman. The only item on the agenda for Public Safety is to renew our contact with Frontier Communications in the amount of \$46,811.88 for the maintenance and repair of the Seneca County E-911 telephone system.

Government Operations Committee – Sprvr. Garlick Lorenzetti, Chairman. At our meeting, the IDA Director Sarah Davis answered questions regarding the Hillside sale to Earl Martin. We are unhappy with the sale because it was advertised only in local media outlets of less than 100 miles radius; the property was assessed by the town at \$3.8 million and by the IDA's private appraisal at \$350,000 and the property was sold for \$65, 000. We recommend a letter to the governor objecting to the sale of Hillside.

Environmental Affairs Committee – Sprvr. Kronenwetter, Chairman. The committee recommends we write a letter to the DEC regarding Greenidge Bitcoin Plant in Dresden. They are discharging water into the Keuka Outlet of a temperature that exceeds regulatory standards; as well not having screens on underwater pumps so aquatic life gets sucked into them.

Indian Affairs Committee – Sprvr. Kronenwetter, Vice-Chairman. The committee met in

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executive session regarding pending litigation. No public action was taken.

Public Works Committee – Sprvr. Trout, Chairman. In addition to the resolution on the agenda tonight supporting Sampson Cemetery to be designated as the state veteran cemetery, we are still waiting on town counsel and boards to approve the Inter-Municipal Agreements for the 318 sewer.

Finance, Assessment & Insurance Committee – Sprvr. Reynolds, Chairman. We haven't adjusted our income eligibility for the Senior Citizen and Persons with Disability since 2007. We have a resolution on the agenda tonight to increase the eligibility rate from \$15,000 - \$22,499.99 to a maximum of \$31,900.00 with a sliding scale. If this resolution is approved then we will move forward with a local law and public hearing and hope to have the new eligibility rates effective for March 2021.

Report of Special Committees

Seneca County IDA – Sprvr. Trout, Board representative. Solar projects do not offer a lot of jobs. Creating a certain number of jobs is a stipulation to being awarded a Payment in Lieu of Taxes agreement. The IDA recently approved an incentive package for the Delaware River Solar project in Fayette. We are hoping after the public hearing it will be approved. The lack of job creation may be a problem.

COVID Response Team – Tom Murray, member. Other team members: County Attorney Ettman, Board Sprvrs. Ferrara, Enslow, Borst, and Garlick Lorenzetti, Public Health Director Vickie Swinehart, County Manager Rowe, and Director of Environmental Services Scott King. When they first met they had 139 complaints, after reviewing and addressing the complaints, today we have 8 complaints. Primary focus is to educate and cooperate with the community, individuals and businesses; practice three main principles: Wear a mask, maintain social distancing, and sanitize. When we respond to a complaint, usually education is all that is necessary to get the business in compliance. The team follows certain steps to track the complaints. A Letter of Concern is issued to the business / individual letting them know they may not be in compliance with COVID regulations. Letters were sent to: 4 town community centers; Ken Sweat South Seneca Wrestling; Lynda Wright's Prom Party, Aldis and Dollar General. We see cooperation from business, they take steps to follow the rules to avoid having their business temporarily shut down or fined. Tourism is a leading industry for Seneca County and we want tourists to feel safe when they come to Seneca County and we want to remain open. The next step, if there is no resolution, we send Letters of Warning. Right now, letters of warning were sent to Glenwood Foods, Nolt's Tire Services, Stoney Ridge, Sauder's, Seneca Farm and Home Supply; and Seneca Iron and Metal. There is an overall theme with this group. Seems to be a level of uncooperative nature with this group. It's a work in progress. The next step is fines imposed on these businesses. We are concerned about the cold weather

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and people moving inside.

Chairman's Remarks

What is the status of the white deer? We don't see them anymore along the fence. How many are left? Should we flow a helicopter over and do a count? Sprvr. Kronenwetter said the food plots for the deer are located away from the fence line, which may be a reason white deer, are not seen.

County Manager's Remarks

The Tentative 2021 Budget was filed with the Office of the Clerk of the Board this afternoon. It proposes a modest increase in property tax levy under the tax cap under the state rules; reflects a reduction in gaming revenues and sales tax given the uncertainty of the outcome of the COVID pandemic; it respect all requests by our departments and affiliate agencies that we work with and support; one or two workshops to be determined and the public hearing requirement; it looks at some fund balances that are above and beyond what any fiscal standard would require; the Board has until December 15 [sic] to consider and adopt the budget.

County Attorney's Remarks

None

Communications:

98. From The Halpin Firm, notification dated October 6, 2020 of a live streamed public hearing scheduled for October 21, 2020 at 2:00 p.m. regarding the Application of NYFayette I, LLC. to Seneca County IDA for Financial Assistance in connection with the Acquisition of a leasehold interest in certain real property located at 2497 Canoga Rd, Town of Fayette, Seneca County to construct a solar farm for the generation of approximately five MWac of electricity to interconnect with the existing NYSEG electric grid.

99. From NYS Homeland Security & Emergency Services, notification dated September 3, 2020, that Seneca County is awarded \$57,278 under the FY2020 State Homeland Security Program (SHSP); 25% (\$14,319) of the award must be directed towards law enforcement terrorism prevention activities.

100. From Paul Kuehnert, DNP, RN, FAAN, President & CEO, Public Health Accreditation Board, a letter dated September 8, 2020, notifying Seneca County that its Board of Health was awarded the designation of national accreditation through PHAB on September 1, 2020.

101. From the NYS Department of Transportation, notification dated September 16, 2020, that NYS DOT processed a quarterly payment under the Statewide Mass Transportation Operation Assistance (STOA) program and \$5,004.16 / 0.64% is Seneca County's share for SFY 2020 2nd Quarter.

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102. From Karen Greco, an email dated September 9, 2020 thanking the Board of Supervisors for its recent decisions to maintain the present level of safety protocols in our county.

103. From Richard A. Bennett, resident, Interlaken, NY, a letter dated September 18, 2020, requesting that the Board of Supervisors consider a local law regulating short term vacation rental along Cayuga Lake, similar to what was adopted by the city council for Geneva, NY.

104. From Tom O'Connor, resident, Romulus, NY, an email dated September 27, 2020, opposing the decision to keep the Hillside WWTP open and opposing the proposed increase in the rates for Sewer 2; and urging the Board of Supervisors close the Hillside WWTP as soon as possible, because raising the rates in 2021 will only worsen the financial stability of Sewer District 2.

105. From Paul Doyle, resident, Romulus, NY, an email dated September 27, 2020, requesting that the Board of Supervisors vote down the proposition to transfer the resident users of Spring Meadows and Lakeshore Landing, currently serviced by the Willard treatment plan, to the treatment plant which served the Hillside Children's campus which now houses 3 First Light staff and Earl Marten's property; close the inefficient treatment facility and direct Mr. Earl Martin to provide a sanitary solution for waste water on his property.

106. From Steve & Patty Bromka, residents, Romulus, NY, an email dated September 27, 2020, expressing concern about the path forward being proposed for the Hillside plant; resident of Sewer District 2 are being unfairly treated and should not be subsidizing a plant that should be decommissioned; and urging the Board of Supervisors to vote to decommission the Hillside Plant; and vote against raising the rates in 2021 for Sewer District 2 users.

107. From Jim Wagner, an email dated September 28, 2020, expressing concern about a private motorcade in Seneca Falls on September 27, 2020 of which government vehicles owned by municipalities participated; are the taxpayers paying for county employees to participate?; who is liable in case of an accident?; what is the criteria used for government property being used for a private event/motorcade.

108. A copy of Greene County Resolution No. 242-20, "Opposing NYS Bill A.5630-A / S.3923A to Reforming the Statutory Short Form and other Powers of Attorney for Purposes of Financial and Estate Planning; and to Repeal Certain Provisions of such law relating to Statutory Gift Riders (Aging)".

109. A copy of Steuben County Resolution No. 183-20, "Urging NYS Legislature to Terminate the Emergency declaration established to address the COVID-19 Pandemic."

110. A copy of the Seneca County Sheriff's Office Monthly Snapshot for August 2020 and September 2020.

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111. From Margaret Morse, Director, Mental Health Services, a copy of the CDC's National Vital Statistics Reports, Volume 69, Number 11, dated September 11, 2020: State Suicide Rates Among Adolescents and Young Adults aged 10-24: United States, 2000-2018.

112. A copy of the Finger Lakes Regional Airport Advisory Committee September 9, 2020 meeting minutes.

113. A copy of the Inter-County Association of Western NY August 21, 2020 meeting minutes.

114. A copy of the Seneca County Planning Board September 16, 2020 special meeting minutes.

115. From Eric Happ, an email dated October 10, 2020, complaining about poor communication informing the public about the Hazardous Waste Day Collection event, in that the notice is not posted in a timely manner, the notice on the website does not give a location, and that this lack of notification happens each year.

116. From Paul Doyle, resident, Romulus, an email dated October 10, 2020, regarding the sale of Hillside as an "inappropriate connection between the IDA and Earl Marten...concluded the sale of property valued at \$3.8 million and sold for \$65,000"; and urges the Board of Supervisors to adopt a resolution invalidating the sale of Hillside.

RESOLUTIONS & MOTIONS

**INCREASE THE SLIDING SCALE INCOME ELIGIBILITY FOR THE SENIOR CITIZEN AND PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES AND LIMITED EXEMPTIONS**

RESOLUTION NO. 191-2020, moved by Sprvr. Reynolds, second by Sprvr. Trout and adopted.

WHEREAS, the maximum income eligibility for the Senior Citizens Tax Exemption and Persons with Disabilities and Limited Incomes granted by Seneca County has not been increased since 2007; and

WHEREAS, it has always been the policy of the Seneca County Board of Supervisors to be concerned and to assist the senior citizens and disabled of the County in any way possible; and

WHEREAS, Section 467(1b) and 459-c of the Real Property Tax Law authorizes a municipal corporation to increase the maximum income level by adopting a sliding scale provision, and adopting a local law; and

WHEREAS, several municipalities in the County have previously adopted the sliding scale senior citizen/low income disabled exemption provisions and the Real Property Tax Director will be meeting with the schools and villages to provide updated information on September 28, 2020 for these exemptions; and

WHEREAS, the Finance, Assessment & Insurance Standing Committee approved this resolution on September 22, 2020; now, therefore be it



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associated with staffing necessary for delivery of School Based Prevention Services; and

WHEREAS, it is necessary for the County Manager to sign the contracts to receive the funding;  
and

WHEREAS, all funding will be included in the Mental Health budget line 104210-41630; and

WHEREAS, the Mental Health Services Standing Committee reviewed and approved this  
resolution at its September 22, 2020 meeting; now, therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the County Manager is hereby authorized and directed to sign all necessary  
documents to accept contract funding from The South Seneca School District to support School Based  
Substance Abuse Prevention Services in school year 2020/2021.

**SUPERVISORS SUPPORT ADDITIONAL WORK AT  
SAMPSON VETERANS MEMORIAL CEMETERY**

RESOLUTION NO. 193-2020, moved by Sprvr. Trout, second by Sprvr. Borst and adopted.

WHEREAS, funding from New York State remains available to undertake additional work at the  
Sampson Veterans Memorial Cemetery; and

WHEREAS, certain additional improvements will enhance the project and its complete restoration  
of the Administration Building; and

WHEREAS, the following additional work is appropriate and eligible under the secured New York  
State Grant Furnishing, Fixtures And Equipment (FF&E) in an amount not to exceed \$25,188.00; and

WHEREAS, adjustments to established Capital Accounts will be necessary and appropriate; and

WHEREAS, the Public Works Standing committee approved this resolution on September 22,  
2020; now, therefore be it

RESOLVED, that additional change orders and adjustments as detailed herein are authorized; and  
be it further

RESOLVED, that the Director of Finance is authorized and directed to amend Capital Accounts  
associated with the Sampson Veterans Memorial Cemetery Administration Building in accordance with  
this Resolution.

**AUTHORIZE LETTER OF COMPLAINT TO DEC REGARDING GREENIDGE PLANT**

RESOLUTION NO. 194-2020, moved by Sprvr. Kronenwetter, second by Sprvr. Hayes and adopted.

RESOLVED, that the Seneca County Attorney is authorized to author a letter to the DEC  
expressing the Board of Supervisors opposition to the grandfather clause which allows Greenidge Plant to  
discharge water at a temperature higher than regulations; and recommending that Greenidge plant install a  
contained cooling system.

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**AUTHORIZE CONTRACT FOR 1 YEAR MAINTENANCE EXTENSION WITH  
FRONTIER COMMUNICATIONS ON THE COUNTY'S E-911 TELEPHONE SYSTEM**

RESOLUTION NO. 195-2020, moved by Sprvr. Brownell, second by Sprvr. Ferrara and adopted.

WHEREAS, the Seneca County E-911 Center has received a proposal from Frontier Communications for a 1 year maintenance extension on the E-911 telephone system for professional services consisting of inspection, maintenance, and repair of telephone equipment at the 911 Center and back-up site at 44 W. Williams Street, Waterloo; and

WHEREAS, this contract covers the maintenance and repair of the telephone system from September 30, 2020 until September 30, 2021; and

WHEREAS, the cost of this contract is \$46,811.88 and funding is available in the E-911 2020 Contractual Budget Line; and

WHEREAS, Frontier Communications is a sole source maintenance provider of this proprietary equipment; and

WHEREAS, this resolution was approved by the Public Safety Standing Committee on September 22, 2020; now, therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Board of Supervisors authorizes and directs the County Manager to sign a 1 year maintenance extension contract with Frontier Communications in the amount of \$46,811.88 for the maintenance and repair of the Seneca County E-911 telephone system.

**BOARD OF SUPERVISORS APPROVES AMENDED PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERING REPORT (PER) FOR SENECA COUNTY SEWER DISTRICTS 1 & 2 DECENTRALIZED ALTERNATIVE**  
RESOLUTION NO. 196-2020, moved by Sprvr. Hayes, second by Sprvr. Enslow and adopted by 693 ayes and 57 nays (Trout).

WHEREAS, the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) requires that a final Professional Engineering Report (PER) for Sewer District Nos. 1 & 2 be completed and accepted; and

WHEREAS, Seneca County sponsored the development of a Professional Engineering Report (PER) for Seneca County Sewer District Nos. 1 & 2 and adopted a Resolution approving the Centralized Treatment alternative for the sewer districts; and

WHEREAS, the PER was reviewed by the newly created Standing Committee #13 Water & Sewer Treatment Management & Operations (WSTMO) at a meeting on March 17, 2020; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Supervisors subsequently voted to proceed with the Decentralized Alternative which involves plant upgrades at both the Five Points WWTP and Willard WWTP and

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authorized additional services for Barton & Loguidice to amend the PER; and

WHEREAS, this resolution has been reviewed and approved by the Water & Sewer Treatment Management & Operations Standing Committee at its meeting on September 22, 2020; now, therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Seneca County Board of Supervisors does hereby approve the revised PER and further recommends the Decentralized Alternative as the accepted treatment method for treatment for Sewer District Nos. 1 & 2.

Referred Back to Committee:

Sprvr. Hayes offered a motion to return to committee the following issue for further review, second by Sprvr. Garlick Lorenzetti, and carried.

**SUPERVISORS TO AUTHORIZE SEGMENTATION OF  
SEWER DISTRICT NO. 2 AND INCREASE RATE OF SERVICE**

WHEREAS, the County's Sewer District No. 2 ("Sewer District No. 2") consists of two (2) independent sewerage collection and treatment systems since its acceptance by Seneca County from the former Seneca Army Depot, to wit: "North Depot" and "Main Depot"; and

WHEREAS, the "North Depot" area Publicly Owned Treatment Works (POTW) has provided sewer services limited to the facilities located within the boundaries of the former Seneca Army Depot, in the Town of Varick, and most recently occupied by the Hillside Family of Agencies, Varick Campus ("Hillside"), and Finger Lakes Tech/First Light, and lands otherwise owned by the Seneca County Industrial Development Agency; and

WHEREAS, the Main Depot area POTW continues to provide sewer services to the remainder of the former Depot properties, as well as including but not limited to the Seneca County Law Enforcement Center, Spring Meadows Apartment Complex, Five Points Correctional Facility, as well as the Hamlet of Romulus; and

WHEREAS, at this time, the sewer service rate charged all users of Sewer District No. 2 is \$30.00 per quarter per EDU, based on assessed Equivalent Dwelling Units, or "EDU" as set forth in Seneca County Sewer Use Law, (Local 3 of 2019, Appendix 2).

WHEREAS, it has been determined by the Sewer Administrator that due to changes in the operations of the North Depot POTW related to the termination of the Hillside operations and reduced user activity, the costs associated with operation of the North Depot POTW and the distribution of user charges within Seneca County Sewer District No. 2 are unfair and burdensome upon the users served within the Main Depot area of Seneca County Sewer District No. 2; and

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WHEREAS § 1204 of Seneca County Sewer Use Law provides that a POTW service area may be segmented to assist in the fair distribution of user charges; and

WHEREAS the Sewer Administrator, in conjunction with the Director of Finance, has determined that segmentation of Sewer District No. 2 for rate purposes is necessary and appropriate to ensure a fair distribution of user charges upon all users in the district; and

WHEREAS the Sewer Administrator proposes that the rate per EDU of the North Depot segment of Sewer District No. 2 be set at \$454.00 per EDU per quarter, and

WHEREAS, the right to public notice and opportunity to comment by users of Seneca County Sewer District No. 2 is necessary before the Board may act on this requested segmentation and rate change; and

WHEREAS, this resolution has been reviewed and approved by the Water and Sewer Treatment Management and Operations Standing Committee at its September 22, 2020 meeting; now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Seneca County Board of Supervisors directs that notice shall be given to the users of Seneca County Sewer District No. 2 to comment on the proposed segmentation and rate change as set forth herein, said comments to be received no later than 5:00 p.m. October 13, 2020 if in writing or email, and may appear in person before the Board at the regularly scheduled Board of Supervisors meeting at 6:00 p.m. on October 13, 2020; and be it further

RESOLVED, that if approved following public comment, the Seneca County Sewer Administrator is authorized to take action consistent with the segmentation of Sewer District No. 2 and effect the rate change herein proposed becomes effective with the billing period commencing January 1, 2021.

**BOARD OF SUPERVISORS APPROVES CREATION & FILLING OF CLERK (PT) POSITION**

RESOLUTION NO. 197-2020, moved by Sprvr. Ferrara, second by Sprvr. McGreevy and adopted.

WHEREAS, the Superintendent of Facilities has identified a need for additional administrative assistance within his department since the layoff of the Confidential Secretary to Commissioner of Public Works who was assisting him in day to day administration; and

WHEREAS, the Superintendent has monies in his budget line 101620-51200 to cover the part-time position; and

WHEREAS, the Vacancy Committee has reviewed and approved the creation and filling of the one (1) Clerk (PT) position on September 22, 2020; now, therefore be it

RESOLVED, the Superintendent of Facilities is authorized to create and fill one (1) Clerk (PT) position.

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**BOARD OF SUPERVISORS APPROVES WAIVER TO HIRING FREEZE  
TO FILL A CLERK (PT) POSITION**

RESOLUTION NO. 198-2020, moved by Sprvr. Ferrara, second by Sprvr. McGreevy and adopted.

WHEREAS, the Superintendent of Facilities is seeking a waiver to the Hiring Freeze Policy in order to fill the position for a Clerk (PT); and

WHEREAS, the Personnel Standing Committee met on September 22, 2020 and approved this resolution; now, therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Seneca County Board of Supervisors does hereby approve the request submitted by the Superintendent of Facilities to waive the Hiring Freeze Policy in order to fill one (1) vacant position for a Clerk (PT).

**BOARD OF SUPERVISORS APPROVES WAIVER TO HIRING FREEZE  
TO FILL AN AUTOMOTIVE MECHANIC II POSITION**

RESOLUTION NO. 199-2020, moved by Sprvr. Ferrara, second by Sprvr. Enslow and adopted.

WHEREAS, the Interim Highway Superintendent is seeking a waiver to the Hiring Freeze Policy in order to fill the position for an Automotive Mechanic II; and

WHEREAS, the Personnel Standing Committee met on September 22, 2020 and approved this resolution; now, therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Seneca County Board of Supervisors does hereby approve the request submitted by the Interim Highway Superintendent to waive the Hiring Freeze Policy in order to fill one (1) vacant position for an Automotive Mechanic II.

**BOARD OF SUPERVISORS APPROVES WAIVER TO HIRING FREEZE  
TO FILL TWO (2) MOTOR EQUIPMENT OPERATOR (HEAVY) POSITIONS**

RESOLUTION NO. 200-2020, moved by Sprvr. Ferrara, second by Sprvr. Borst and adopted.

WHEREAS, the Interim Highway Superintendent is seeking a waiver to the Hiring Freeze Policy in order to fill two (2) positions for a Motor Equipment Operator (Heavy); and

WHEREAS, the Personnel Standing Committee met on September 22, 2020 and approved this resolution; now, therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Seneca County Board of Supervisors does hereby approve the request submitted by the Interim Highway Superintendent to waive the Hiring Freeze Policy in order to fill two (2) vacant position for a Motor Equipment Operator (Heavy).

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**SENECA COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
PROCLAIMS OCTOBER 2020 DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS MONTH  
IN SENECA COUNTY**

RESOLUTION NO. 201-2020, moved by Sprvr. Borst, second by Sprvr. Hayes and adopted.

WHEREAS, National Domestic Violence Month is recognized each year in October and is designed to raise greater awareness about the issue of domestic violence; provide education and support to families through resources and strategies to prevent domestic violence; and support the goals and ideals of all domestic violence victim advocates, domestic violence victim service providers, crisis hotline staff and first responders; and

WHEREAS, the purpose of the National Violence Awareness Month is to mourn those who have died because of domestic violence, celebrate those who have survived and connect those who work to end violence with those in need of support; and

WHEREAS, Seneca County will join others across the United States and commit to recognizing the need to continue to support programs and activities aimed at domestic violence and family violence intervention and prevention and recognize the individuals and organizations that are dedicated to preventing and ending domestic violence; and

WHEREAS, locally, the Seneca County Division of Human Services, The Seneca County Mental Health Department, and the Seneca County Sheriff Office in conjunction with other local partners have and will continue to provide services to victims of domestic violence under the mission of empowering individuals, and promoting justice, and will mobilize the community so that all persons are free from violence and abuse in their homes; and;

WHEREAS, the Human Services Standing Committee reviewed and approved this resolution on September 22, 2020; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the Board of Supervisors proclaims October 2020 as Domestic Violence Awareness Month in Seneca County.

**BOARD OF SUPERVISORS REAFFIRMS SUPPORT FOR NEW YORK STATE TO  
NAME THE SAMPSON VETERANS MEMORIAL CEMETERY AS ITS  
FIRST STATE VETERANS CEMETERY**

RESOLUTION NO. 201-2020, moved by Sprvr. Borst, second by Sprvr. Hayes and adopted.

WHEREAS, Governor Andrew Cuomo announced on November 10, 2019 the state's commitment to establish New York's first State Veterans Cemetery; and

WHEREAS, on July 30, 2011 Seneca County established the Sampson Veterans Memorial

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Cemetery on the grounds of the former Sampson Naval Training Station and Sampson Air Force Base; and

WHEREAS, when Americans entered World War II in December 1941, there was an urgent need to equip and train soldiers, sailors, airmen and marines. In the spring of 1942, construction began on the Sampson Naval Training Station. More than 5,000 Navy personnel operated and maintained the Station, and more than 411,000 Naval Recruits were trained there. Toward the end of the war, the site served as a Separation Center, discharging more than 65,000 service members. After the war, the Station was used as a temporary college for 15,000 veterans who attended classes under the GI Bill. Sampson College operated from September 1946 to June 1949 and matriculated 7,500 students; and

WHEREAS, with the outbreak of the Korean War, Sampson returned to active duty as a Basic Military Training Base of the United States Air Force. More than 330,000 airmen received their training at Sampson AFB. The base officially closed in 2000; and

WHEREAS, the establishment of the Sampson Veterans Memorial Cemetery is a living and lasting tribute to those who have served our nation and endures the rich and honorable history of this site; and

WHEREAS, the Sampson Veterans Memorial Cemetery was designed and constructed through the generous financial support of New York State, who has provided in excess of Five Million Dollars in funding and the conveyance of 162 acres of land; and

WHEREAS, this resolution has been reviewed approved by the Planning, Development, Agriculture and Tourism Standing Committee at its meeting of September 22, 2020; now, therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Seneca County Board of Supervisors reaffirms its support that the Sampson Veterans Memorial Cemetery be selected as New York State's first State Veterans Cemetery and encourages New York State to select it as such.

**SENECA COUNTY RENEWS MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT WITH THE FINGER LAKES  
REGIONAL LAND BANK CORPORATION FOR 2021 AND 2022**

RESOLUTION NO. 203-2020, moved by Sprvr. Barnhart, second by Sprvr. Trout and adopted.

WHEREAS, Seneca County has agreed to provide professional services to the Finger Lakes Regional Land Bank Corporation (FLRLBC) for the purpose of furthering the mission of the FLRLBC to engage in various community development and revitalization activities, including the acquisition of vacant tax delinquent properties and returning them to productive use; and

WHEREAS, a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) which specifies the support to be provided by the County and the functions and reimbursements to be provided by Finger Lakes Regional Land Bank has been developed; and

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WHEREAS, this MOA will be effective January 1, 2021 and expire on December 31, 2022; and  
WHEREAS, this resolution has been approved by the Planning, Development, Agricultural &  
Tourism Standing Committee on September 22, 2020; now, therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the County Manager is hereby authorized and directed to sign any and all  
documents necessary to execute a MOA consistent with the expectations of both Seneca County and the  
FLRBC.

**SUPERVISORS SUPPORT BILL S113 / A4939, "AN ACT TO AMEND THE PUBLIC HEALTH  
LAW, IN RELATION TO THE "UNPREDICTABLE NURSING HOME INSPECTION ACT"**  
RESOLUTION NO. 204-2020, moved by Sprvr. McGreevy, second by Sprvr. Garlick Lorenzetti and  
adopted.

WHEREAS, inspections of nursing homes by the department of health are supposed to hold  
facilities to our state's standards and make nursing homes accountable; and

WHEREAS, in a widely reported Buffalo NY news series regarding the condition at nursing  
homes, it was apparent that inspections are currently falling short on that goal because department of  
health inspections are far too predictable, routinely conducted during business hours only, and many  
families expressed a belief that nursing home managers were aware of when inspections would happen and  
ensure that the facility is meeting standards by the time the inspection is conducted; and

WHEREAS, the purpose of nursing home inspections is not to show facility managers how a  
facility should look when an inspector is around, but to keep facilities at or above the standard at all times;  
and

WHEREAS, Senator Robert Ortt contacted the department of health to encourage the department  
to implement unpredictable inspections internally; and in response the department claimed that it did  
conduct inspections at varying times, but did not provide evidence of the fact; and

WHEREAS, Bill S113 / A4939, sponsored by NYS Senator Robert Ortt, and co-sponsored by  
Senator Pamela Helming, will require the department of health to conduct 40% of its inspections of  
nursing homes outside of business hours; requires department of health inspections of nursing homes to be  
conducted without prior notice to a nursing home; and requires an annual nursing home inspection report;  
and

WHEREAS, this resolution was approved by the Public Health Services Standing Committee on  
September 22, 2020; now, therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Seneca County Board of Supervisors does hereby support the passage of  
Bill S113 / A4939, "An act to amend the public health law, in relation to the "Unpredictable Nursing

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Home Inspection Act", and copies of this resolution will be provided to Senator Robert Ortt, Senator Pamela Helming, and all others deemed necessary and appropriate.

**SUPERVISORS SUPPORT NYS SENATE BILL S112 RELATED TO IMPOSING A  
NURSING HOME PURCHASE MORATORIUM ON THOSE WHO  
OWN OR HAVE OWNED FAILING FACILITIES**

RESOLUTION NO. 205-2020, moved by Sprvr. McGreevy, second by Sprvr. Garlick Lorenzetti and adopted.

WHEREAS, the purpose of doing facility inspections is to hold facilities to state standards; and

WHEREAS, unfortunately, owners who do not meet state standards are still being permitted to purchase additional nursing homes; and

WHEREAS, as reported by Lou Michel in the December 6, 2018 edition of The Buffalo News, "New York State gave licenses to operate at least 10 Buffalo area Nursing homes in the last decade to new owners who had been fined for providing poor care to residents at other nursing homes."; and

WHEREAS, in order to ensure a high quality of care, it is critical that facility owners who have a history of falling below our standards are not able to subject additional residents to substandard care; and

WHEREAS, by creating a two-year moratorium for failing owners wishing to purchase additional nursing homes, owners have a strong incentive to get and keep their existing facilities in compliance with state standards; and

WHEREAS, Bill S112, sponsored by NYS Senator Robert Ortt, and co-sponsored by Senator Pamela Helming, bar failing nursing home owners from acquiring additional nursing homes in this state until they have demonstrated an ability to keep their existing facilities up to standard; and

WHEREAS, this Resolution was approved by the Public Health Services Standing Committee on September 22, 2020; now, therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Seneca County Board of Supervisors does hereby support the passage of NYS Senate Bill S112, "An act to amend the Public Health Law, in relation to imposing a nursing home purchase moratorium on those who own or have owned failing facilities."

**AUTHORIZE CONTRACT TO ACCEPT GRANT AWARD THROUGH THE GOVERNOR'S  
TRAFFIC SAFETY COMMITTEE FOR THE CHILD PASSENGER SAFETY PROGRAM**

RESOLUTION NO. 206-2020, moved by Sprvr. McGreevy, second by Sprvr. Cleere and adopted.

WHEREAS, the Health Department has been awarded a Child Passenger Safety Program grant through the Governor's Traffic Safety Committee for the period of October 1, 2020 through September 30, 2021 and

WHEREAS, the grant award is in the amount of \$4,500 and will cover expenses such as the

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purchase of car seats, training, and supplies; and

WHEREAS, these funds are included in the 2020 departmental budget 104010-54710; and

WHEREAS, the Public Health Standing Committee has reviewed and approved this resolution on September 22, 2020; now, therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the County Manager is hereby authorized and directed to sign a contract with the Governor's Traffic Safety Committee for acceptance of the Child Passenger Safety Program grant.

**AUTHORIZE CONTRACT TO ACCEPT GRANT AWARD THROUGH NEW YORK STATE  
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH FOR THE TOBACCO ENFORCEMENT PROGRAM**

RESOLUTION NO. 207-2020, moved by Sprvr. McGreevy, second by Sprvr. Cleere and adopted.

WHEREAS, the New York State Department of Health has awarded a grant to Seneca County for the Tobacco Enforcement Program; and

WHEREAS, the amount of this grant is \$27,294; and

WHEREAS, the award is for the period of April 1, 2020 through March 31, 2021; and

WHEREAS, this grant allows for county reimbursement for enforcement activities, education and prevention activities; and

WHEREAS, these funds are included in the 2020 departmental budget 104011-54708; and

WHEREAS, the Public Health Standing Committee has reviewed and approved this resolution on September 22, 2020; now, therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the County Manager is hereby authorized and directed the contract with the New York State Department of Health for the Tobacco Enforcement Program Grant.

Unfinished Business

None

New Business

RULE 29: Sprvr. Trout moved, by two-thirds majority vote of board members present, to introduce the following resolutions under Rule 29, having not been reviewed by the appropriate standing committee

**ACCEPTS FY20 STATE HOMELAND SECURITY PROGRAM (SHSP/SLETPP) GRANT**

RESOLUTION NO. 208-2020, moved by Sprvr. Brownell, second by Sprvr. Cleere and adopted.

WHEREAS, the NYS Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Services authorized a \$57,278 FY 2020 State Homeland Security Program grant to Seneca County; and

WHEREAS, activities implemented under the State Homeland Security Program (SHSP) and State Law Enforcement Terrorism Prevention Program (SLETPP) grant must support terrorism preparedness by building or sustaining capabilities that relate to terrorism prevention, protection, and/or response activities;

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and

WHEREAS, twenty-five percent (25%) (\$14,319) must be directed to law enforcement terrorism prevention activities; and

WHEREAS, twenty percent (20%) of the grant award must be spent in support of four (4) National Priority areas including Cyber Security, Soft Targets/Crowded Places, Intelligence and Information Sharing, and Emerging Threats; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Resolution 72-2020, the Seneca County Board of Supervisors authorized applying for this grant funding; and

WHEREAS, this Resolution was brought from the floor by a two-thirds majority vote of the Board under Rule 29 of the Board of Supervisors Rules of Order; now, therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Seneca County Board of Supervisors does hereby authorize and direct the County Manager to sign any required documentation to accept the FY 2020 SHSP/SLETPP grant; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Department of Finance be authorized and directed to amend the 2020 budget as follows with the unused portions flowing into future years:

103642 44389 SH20	Federal Aid Other	Increase	Revenue	\$42,959
103642 54700 SH20	Contractual	Increase	Expenditure	\$42,959
103113 44389 SH20	Federal Aid Other	Increase	Revenue	\$14,319
103113 54700 SH20	Contractual	Increase	Expenditure	\$14,319

And be it further

RESOLVED, that the Board of Supervisors authorize the Director of Finance make the necessary budgetary and accounting entries to effect the intent of this resolution.

**ACCEPTANCE OF KAPLAN-SCHMIDT ELECTRIC PROPOSAL FOR  
PRIMARY ELECTRIC SERVICE AT HILLSIDE TOWER SITE**

RESOLUTION NO. 209-2020, moved by Sprvr. Brownell, second by Sprvr. Ferrara and adopted.

WHEREAS, Seneca County has six (6) public safety tower sites whose functions are critical to emergency communications throughout the county; and

WHEREAS, the electrical service at both Hillside tower and Water District 1 runs through the primary service at the former Hillside Children's Center; and

WHEREAS, this electrical meter is located on private property and is being sold to a private citizen; and

WHEREAS, there is a need to have our own secure, reliable, and independent electrical service for the public safety tower site and Water District 1 facilities at Hillside; and

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WHEREAS, the Town of Greece has completed the RFP and bidding process for electrical services; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Greece's RFP Extension of Bids clause provides that the Town of Greece reserves the right to allow all municipal, not for profit organizations and authorized districts authorized under the General Municipal Laws of the State of New York to purchase any goods and/or services awarded as a result of this bid in accordance with the latest amendments to NYS GML 100 through 104; and

WHEREAS, a contract was awarded by the Town of Greece to Kaplan-Schmidt Electric, Inc. as a result of this bidding process; and

WHEREAS, the total cost of electrical work from Kaplan-Schmidt Electric, Inc. at the Hillside tower site is \$47,507.08; and

WHEREAS, the project is necessary to maintain uninterrupted emergency operations for Seneca County, an additional 10% contingency, or \$4,750, is requested to ensure timely completion of the project as necessary; and

WHEREAS, funding for this project is available under the Contractual line in the 911 Center 2020 budget; and

WHEREAS, this Resolution was brought from the floor by a two-thirds majority vote of the Board under Rule 29 of the Board of Supervisors Rules of Order now, therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the County Manager is hereby authorized and directed to sign all necessary documents, including temporary and permanent easements, as required for acceptance of Kaplan-Schmidt Electric, Inc. proposal to provide required electric service at the Hillside public safety tower site, co-located at the Seneca County Water District No. 1 water tower, as set forth above.

**AUTHORIZE BID SOLICITATION FOR DROP-IN CENTER A.D.A RAMP REPLACEMENT**

RESOLUTION NO. 210-2020, moved by Sprvr. Trout, second by Sprvr. Ferrara and adopted.

WHEREAS, the A.D.A Ramp at the Drop in Center (Seneca County Connections) at 27 Cayuga St. in Seneca Falls is in need of replacement; and

WHEREAS, the Facilities Department has been working with John Snyder Architecture, PLLC., 700 Cascadilla Street, of Ithaca NY, to design and prepare a bid for ramp replacement; and

WHEREAS, the Facilities Department has allocated the funding in the 2020 Budget Account Line 101620-54220 (Repairs and Maintenance) to support the project; and

WHEREAS, John Snyder Architects is prepared to advertise, solicit bids and oversee the completion of the A.D.A ramp replacement; and

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WHEREAS, this Resolution was brought from the floor by a two-thirds majority vote of the Board under Rule 29 of the Board of Supervisors Rules of Order now, therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Board of Supervisors authorizes John Snyder Architects to advertise, solicit bids and oversee this project at the Drop in Center.

**BOARD OF SUPERVISORS APPROVES THE 2020 AND 2021 AMENDMENTS TO THE  
MUNICIPAL COOPERATIVE AGREEMENT FOR THE GREATER TOMPKINS COUNTY  
MUNICIPAL HEALTH INSURANCE CONSORTIUM**

RESOLUTION NO. 211-2020, moved by Sprvr. Reynolds, second by Sprvr. Garlick Lorenzetti and adopted.

WHEREAS, the County of Seneca is a Participant in the Greater Tompkins County Municipal Health Insurance Consortium (the "Consortium"), a municipal cooperative organized under Article 47 of the New York Insurance Law; and

WHEREAS, the municipal participants in the Consortium, including this body, have approved and executed a certain Municipal Cooperation Agreement (the "Agreement"; effective date of October 1, 2010) and the 2020 and 2021 Amendments that provide for the operation and governance of the Consortium; and

WHEREAS, Article 47 of the New York Insurance Law (the "Insurance Law") and the rules and regulations of the New York State Department of Financial Services set forth certain requirements for governance of municipal cooperatives that offer self-insured municipal cooperative health insurance plans; and

WHEREAS, the Agreement sets forth in Section Q2 that continuation of the Consortium under the terms and conditions of the Agreement, or any amendments or restatements thereto, shall be subject to Board review on the fifth (5th) anniversary date and upon acceptance of any new Participant hereafter; and

WHEREAS, by motion nos. 005-2020 and 008 of 2020 the Consortium's Board of Directors recommends approval of the 2020 and 2021 amended agreements based on review of the document by the Governance Structure/MCA Review Committee, the New York State Department of Financial Services, and the Consortium's legal counsel; and

WHEREAS, the Municipal Cooperative Agreement requires that amendments to the agreement be presented to each participant for review and adopted by its municipal board; and

WHEREAS, the County of Seneca is in receipt of the proposed amended Agreement(s) and has determined that it is in the best interest of its constituents who are served by the Consortium to amend the Agreement as set forth in the attached 2020 and 2021 Amended Municipal Cooperative Agreements; and

WHEREAS, this Resolution was brought from the floor by a two-thirds majority vote of the Board under Rule 29 of the Board of Supervisors Rules of Order now, therefore be it

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RESOLVED, that the Seneca County Board of Supervisors approves and authorizes the County Manager to sign the 2020 and 2021 Amendments to the Municipal Cooperative Agreement of the Greater Tompkins County Municipal Health Insurance Consortium; and be it further

RESOLVED, the Seneca County Clerk to the Board is hereby authorized to execute this Resolution to indicate its approval, transmit a copy thereof to the Board of Directors of the Greater Tompkins County Municipal Health Insurance Consortium, and take any other such actions as may be required by law.

**AUTHORIZE LETTER TO GOVERNOR CUOMO OBJECTING TO SALE OF HILLSIDE  
PROPERTY BY SENECA COUNTY IDA**

RESOLUTION NO. 212-2020, moved by Sprvr. Garlick Lorenzetti, second by Sprvr. Hayes and adopted by 520 ayes (Garlick Lorenzetti, Hayes, Barnhart, Borst, Ferrara, Kronenwetter, Hayssen, Cleere, Enslow) and 230 nays (Reynolds, Brownell, Lott, McGreevy, Trout).

WHEREAS, Seneca County Industrial Development Agency (SCIDA) recently approved the sale of property known as Hillside, which consists of 172 acres with fifteen (15) buildings, several large paved parking lots, paved access roads, a pool, and large landscaped lawns; the buildings, which were mostly constructed by the US Army during the 50's and 70's, consist of residence halls, cafeterias, theatre, warehouses, classrooms, offices, and a gymnasium / recreational center; and

WHEREAS, the Varick Town Assessor assessed the property at \$3.8 million dollars; and a private appraisal valued the property at \$350,000; and

WHEREAS, requests for proposal were distributed and published on June 10, 2020, offered a "windshield" tour (due to COVID pandemic) of the property, with the deadline to submit a bid by July 17, 2020; and

WHEREAS, a single bid was received for \$65,000 and was accepted by Seneca County Industrial Development Agency; and

WHEREAS, a majority of the Seneca County Board of Supervisors objects to the SCIDA bid process for the sale of Hillside for several reason, including: (1) Sale price is extremely below the assessment value or the private appraisal value; (2) the RFP was distributed during COVID when New York State was on PAUSE, restricting travel and limiting workplace staffing allowing little chance for buyers from major metropolitan areas to be aware of the opportunity to purchase the Hillside property; and (3) the RFP was distributed to local media outlets only, with a readership that does not extend to larger metropolitan areas where the bidding pool would be larger; and

WHEREAS, this resolution was approved by the Government Operations Committee on October

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13, 2020; now, therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Seneca County Board of Supervisors authorizes and directs the County Attorney to draft a letter to Governor Cuomo and ask him to reject the pending sale of Hillside and for SCIDA to initiate a new bid process for the sale of Hillside.

Executive Session: Sprvr. Reynolds offered a motion, second by Sprvr. Trout, to enter executive session under OML §105(1)(d), to hold discussions regarding proposed, pending or current litigation. Invited into executive session: County Manager, County Attorney, Personnel Officer, Commissioner of Department of Human Services, legal counsel of Bond, Schoeneck & King (*telephonically*). Time of executive session: 7:10 – 7:28 p.m.

Special Order of the Day

The Board of Supervisors reconvened in open session. No further action was taken. The meeting adjourned at 7:30 p.m.