

REGULAR MEETING

DELAWARE COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

NOVEMBER 26, 2024

The regular meeting of the Delaware County Board of Supervisors was held Wednesday, November 26, 2024, at 1:03 p.m. in the Supervisors’ Room of the Senator Charles D. Cook County Office Building, 111 Main Street, Delhi, New York, Chairman Tina B. Molé presiding.

The Clerk called the roll and all Supervisors were present, except Mr. Kelso.

Chaplain Derek Johnson offered the invocation.

Mr. Marshfield led the Board in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

The minutes of the previous Board meeting were accepted as presented.

The Clerk noted that all communications received have been referred to their respective committees for review.

Mr. Gladstone offered the following resolution and moved its adoption:

RESOLUTION NO. 183

**TITLE: 2024 BUDGET AMENDMENT
ACCEPTANCE OF 2024 BULLETPROOF VEST PARTNERSHIP GRANT
SHERIFF’S OFFICE**

WHEREAS, Delaware County is the recipient of funding awarded by the State of New York Division of Criminal Justice Services for Soft Body Armor Reimbursement in an amount not to exceed \$1,125.28; and

WHEREAS, the funding, to be administered by the Delaware County Sheriff’s Office, was awarded for the specific purpose of reimbursing Delaware County 50% of the cost of purchasing bulletproof vests for new Deputy Sheriff’s at a price not to exceed \$1,125.28.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the 2024 Budget be amended as follows:

INCREASE REVENUE:

10-13110-43338900/3110064/907 State Public Safety \$1,125.28

INCREASE APPROPRIATION:

10-13110-52200001/3110064/907 Equipment Grant-Bulletproof Vests \$1,125.28

The resolution was seconded by Mr. Cetta and adopted by the following vote: Ayes 187, Noes 0, Absent 13 (Kelso).

Mr. Gladstone offered the following resolution and moved its adoption:

RESOLUTION NO. 184

**TITLE: 2024 BUDGET AMENDMENT
ACCEPTANCE OF 2024 BULLETPROOF VEST PARTNERSHIP GRANT
SHERIFF'S OFFICE**

WHEREAS, Delaware County is the recipient of a grant awarded by the US Department of Justice and administered by the Bulletproof Vest Partnership ("BVP") in an amount not to exceed \$4,632.01; and

WHEREAS, the grant, to be administered by the Delaware County Sheriff's Office, was awarded for the specific purpose of reimbursing Delaware County 50% of the cost of purchasing bulletproof vests at a price not to exceed \$4,632.01.00 during the period commencing on April 1, 2024 and ending on August 31, 2026, unless extended.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the 2024 Budget be amended as follows:

INCREASE REVENUE:

10-13110-44432000/3110068/907	Federal Crime Control	\$4,632.01
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INCREASE APPROPRIATION:

10-13110-52200001/3110068/907	Equipment Grant-Bulletproof Vests	\$4,632.01
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The resolution was seconded by Mr. Hinkley and adopted by the following vote:
Ayes 187, Noes 0, Absent 13 (Kelso).

Mr. Marshfield offered the following resolution and moved its adoption:

RESOLUTION NO. 185

**TITLE: 2024 BUDGET AMENDMENT
SHELTER ARREARS EVICTION FORESTALLMENT PROGRAM
DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES**

WHEREAS, the Delaware County Department of Social Services is the designated local agency to administer the Shelter Arrears Eviction Forestallment Program; and

WHEREAS, the Department believes that this program will assist individuals and families who are facing eviction due to shelter arrears; and

WHEREAS, the County will be 100% reimbursed by the State.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the 2024 Budget be amended as follows:

INCREASE REVENUE:

10-16109-43360900	State Family Assistance	\$17,425.00
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INCREASE APPROPRIATION:

10-16010-54427029	Rental Supplement Program	\$17,425.00
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The resolution was seconded by Mr. Vernold and adopted by the following vote: Ayes 187, Noes 0, Absent 13 (Kelso).

Mr. Vernold offered the following resolution and moved its adoption:

RESOLUTION NO. 186

**TITLE: 2024 BUDEGT AMENDMENT
ACCEPTANCE ADDITIONAL FUNDS FOR THE FLEISCHMANN'S FREIGHT HOUSE
STABILIZATION AND REUSE PLAN
PLANNING DEPARTMENT**

WHEREAS, the Delaware County Board of Supervisors passed Resolution No. 149 on September 25, 2024 to accept awarded grant funds to develop a stabilization and reuse plan for the Fleischmann's Freight House; and

WHEREAS, the Delaware County Planning Board has been awarded \$80,000.00 from the A. Lindsay and Olive B. O'Connor Foundation, Inc. to be used toward the cost of engineering fees and structure stabilization expenses for the Fleischmann's Freight house; and

WHEREAS, matching funds in the amount of \$80,000.00 will be received from funding sources including Delaware County Economic Development, the Delaware County Industrial Development Agency and the Pasternak Family Foundation.

WHEREAS, \$5,000.00 has been received from the Delaware County Industrial Development Agency, and

WHEREAS, \$15,000.00 has been received from Delaware County Economic Development.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Delaware County Board of Supervisors accepts the funds on behalf of the Delaware County Planning Board; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the 2024 Budget be amended as follows:

INCREASE REVENUES:

10-18020-42279900/8020032/908	Misc Revenue Local	\$5,000.00
10-18020-42238900/8020032/908	Misc Revenue Otr Gov	\$15,000.00

TRANSFER TO:

10-18750-54584000/1327889/888 Ag & Livestock-Farm Enhancement Program \$200,000.00

The resolution was seconded by Mr. Cetta.

Mr. Marshfield stated that the ARP Committee proudly designates another \$200,000.00 to Cornell Cooperative Extension for the Delaware County Farm Enhancement Program. There were ARP funds remaining after the completion of the soldier monument restoration to be reallocated. This program is well managed and is a great program. Mr. Marshfield expressed that the committee was impressed by the program and was happy to allocate more funding that may help another eight to ten farms.

Ms. Scott stated that this really has made a big impact on agriculture in our area. This funding helped farms achieve things that they wouldn't been able to without it. During COVID farms were hit hard, milk producers were charged a dumping fee up to 20% of their milk check as well as other fees. This impacted farmers' ability to maintain their farms. This money helped the farmers to bring their farms back. This also helps our economy. The revenue that farmers contribute helps everyone in our community. It is money well spent.

Mr. Marshfield added that some have been able to get additional matching grants that goes well beyond the 1.2 million dollars that the County has given.

Ms. Scott stated that the annual auditors for Cornell Cooperative Extension feel that this program should be best practice throughout the country, it is a well thought out plan.

Mr. Cetta stated that it was an easy decision by the Committee when it was determined that there was money to be reallocated.

The resolution was adopted by the following vote: Ayes 176, Noes 0, Abstain 11 (Gladstone, Scott), Absent 13 (Kelso).

Mr. Gladstone offered the following resolution and moved its adoption:

RESOLUTION NO. 188

**TITLE: 2024 BUDGET AMENDMENT
TRANSFER OF FUNDS
DEPARTMENT OF EMERGENCY SERVICES – E911**

WHEREAS, Delaware County Communications Towers are an integral part of the emergency communications system; and

WHEREAS, the access roads to these towers need to be maintained; and

WHEREAS, some of the roads have taken on extensive damage over the past three years due to severe storms; and

WHEREAS, it is necessary to fix this damage not only to keep the roads passable, but to satisfy the requirements outlined in the Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP); and

WHEREAS, a transfer from contingency is necessary to cover the cost of radio tower roadway repairs.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the 2024 Budget be amended as follows:

TRANSFER FROM:

10-11990-54900000	Contingency	\$245,272.26
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TRANSFER TO:

10-13640-54415079	M&R Communications System	\$245,272.26
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The resolution was seconded by Mr. Faulkner.

Mr. Gladstone stated that there has been a lot of damage to the roads because of the weather. This money is for repairs that are much needed.

The resolution was adopted by the following vote: Ayes 187, Noes 0, Absent 13 (Kelso).

Mr. Haynes offered the following resolution and moved its adoption:

RESOLUTION NO. 189

**TITLE: CHANGE ORDER NO. 3 OF PROPOSAL NO. 27-24
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS**

WHEREAS, Resolution No. 56 of 2024 authorized the award of Proposal No. 27-24, “Delaware County Bridge Structural Steel Preservation Project, PIN 9754.61, LD040802” to Amstar of Western New York, Inc., 825 Rein Road, Cheektowaga, NY 14225 for the bid amount of \$419,000; and

WHEREAS, Resolution No. 150 of 2024 authorized the signing of Change Order No. 1, a no-cost time extension through November 10, 2024; and

WHEREAS, Resolution No. 155 of 2024 authorized the signing of Change Order No. 2, increasing the total project cost by \$70,077.22 for a total of \$489,077.22; and

WHEREAS, the project has been completed and the final quantities agreed upon, resulting in a reduction of \$6,811.29

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Department of Public Works is herewith authorized to execute Change Order No. 3 for Proposal No. 27-24 in amount of (\$6,811.29) reducing the Contract Amount to \$482,265.93.

The resolution was seconded by Mr. Vernold and adopted by the following vote: Ayes 187, Noes 0, Absent 13 (Kelso).

Mr. Merrill offered the following resolution and moved its adoption:

RESOLUTION NO. 190

**TITLE: YEAR-END ACCOUNTING MODIFICATIONS TO THE 2024 BUDGET
DEPARTMENT OF FISCAL AFFAIRS**

WHEREAS, there are many bookkeeping entries that are needed to close out the books for 2024; and

WHEREAS, there will be no increase in the actual spending, just a balancing of accounts between personal services, equipment, contractual, employee benefits and undistributed employee benefits; and

WHEREAS, an accounting of all transactions will be presented to the Board of Supervisors upon completion of the annual report.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Supervisors authorizes the Department of Fiscal Affairs to make the necessary adjustments to the 2024 Budget and to file a written report to the Finance Committee before the books for 2024 are actually closed.

The resolution was seconded by Mr. Marshfield and unanimously adopted.

Mr. Merrill offered the following resolution and moved its adoption:

RESOLUTION NO. 191

TITLE: DIRECT TOWN TAX

BE IT RESOLVED that pursuant to §233a of the County Law, the nineteen towns of the County be and hereby are charged \$193,404.25 for the assessment rolls, field books, tax bills, etc.; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the Board of Supervisors be authorized and directed to apportion said sum against the taxable property of the nineteen towns of the County of Delaware and that said sum be incorporated into the County Treasurer's Preliminary Report of charges and credits to the said towns in accordance with the apportionment.

The resolution was seconded by Mr. Marshfield and adopted by the following vote: Ayes 187, Noes 0, Absent 13 (Kelso).

Mr. Merrill offered the following resolution and moved its adoption:

RESOLUTION NO. 192

TITLE: LEVY OF TOWN ACCOUNTS

WHEREAS, there has been presented to the Board of Supervisors the County Treasurer's 2024 Preliminary Report with the following amounts to be charged to the several towns:

<u>TOWNS</u>	<u>CHARGES</u>	<u>CREDIT</u>
Andes	\$10,850.07	
Bovina	\$4,877.67	
Colchester	\$9,073.83	
Davenport	\$9,308.80	
Delhi	\$8,147.15	
Deposit	\$6,877.52	
Franklin	\$12,585.68	
Hamden	\$5,063.52	
Hancock	\$6,329.14	
Harpersfield	\$4,503.47	
Kortright	\$10,069.30	
Masonville	\$6,558.35	
Meredith	\$10,153.48	
Middletown	\$107,068.18	
Roxbury	\$11,770.56	
Sidney	\$23,045.03	
Stamford	\$6,720.99	
Tompkins	\$1,589.31	
Walton	\$10,506.91	

The resolution was seconded by Mr. Vernold and adopted by the following vote: Ayes 187, Noes 0, Absent 13 (Kelso).

Mr. Ellis offered the following resolution and moved its adoption:

RESOLUTION NO. 193

TITLE: APPORTIONMENT OF COUNTY SELF INSURANCE BUDGET

RESOLVED that the budget for the County Self Insurance Fund for Workers' Compensation and Volunteer Firemen's Benefits in the total amount of \$1,600,000.00, as set forth below be accepted as part of the records of this Board.

<u>Participant</u>	<u>Full Value Assessment</u>	<u>Apportioned Amount to Raise</u>
County of Delaware	9,094,438,475	\$752,883.84
<u>Towns</u>		
Andes	704,372,017	\$58,311.50
Bovina	269,161,771	\$22,282.58
Colchester	1,173,728,935	\$97,167.25
Davenport	327,189,291	\$27,086.39
Delhi	573,401,683	\$47,469.11
Deposit	398,245,215	\$32,968.76
Franklin	331,915,701	\$27,477.67
Hamden	245,946,326	\$20,360.69
Hancock	672,846,539	\$55,701.66
Harpersfield	258,750,917	\$21,420.72
Kortright	270,301,207	\$22,376.91
Masonville	159,667,179	\$13,218.06
Meredith	241,540,800	\$19,995.97
Middletown	1,185,671,280	\$98,155.89
Roxbury	755,880,444	\$62,575.62
Sidney	405,632,031	\$33,580.28
Stamford	299,471,754	\$24,791.79
Tompkins	290,455,000	\$24,045.34

Walton	530,260,385	\$43,897.65
<u>Villages</u>		
Delhi	168,584,563	\$13,956.29
Deposit	52,507,364	\$4,346.83
Franklin	29,058,281	\$2,405.59
Hancock	108,293,952	\$8,965.12
Stamford (Harpersfield)	52,888,613	\$4,378.39
Stamford (Stamford)	57,564,789	\$4,765.51
Fleischmanns	62,758,830	\$5,195.49
Sidney	222,919,119	\$18,454.38
Hobart	74,138,404	\$6,137.55
Walton	186,857,773	\$15,469.04
<u>Fire Districts</u>		
Arena, Hardenburgh	19,926,090	\$1,649.56
Midd.-Hard., Hardenburgh	57,748,783	\$4,780.74
Deposit	45,030,156	\$3,727.83
TOTAL	19,327,153,667	\$1,600,000.00

The resolution was seconded by Mr. Vernold and adopted by the following vote: Ayes 187, Noes 0, Absent 13 (Kelso).

Mr. Merrill offered the following resolution and moved its adoption:

RESOLUTION NO. 194

TITLE: APPORTIONMENT OF MORTGAGE TAX

WHEREAS, §261 of the Tax Law makes it mandatory to apportion the mortgage tax semi-annually and a report has been received from the recording officer and the County Treasurer for the period ending September 30, 2024.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the County Treasurer be directed to pay to the several towns and villages of Delaware County the amounts stated below; the same having been apportioned according to the aforementioned \$261; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the foregoing statement shall be to the County Treasurer a sufficient warrant for the payment of said monies.

Town	Amount Allocated to Tax District	Amount Apportioned to Town	Amount Apportioned to Village
Andes	\$22,533.74	\$22,533.74	
Bovina	\$1,649.60	\$1,649.60	
Colchester	\$10,906.83	\$10,906.83	
Davenport	\$21,191.24	\$21,191.24	
Delhi	\$36,711.01	\$31,314.35	\$5,396.66
Deposit	\$12,515.93	\$11,690.84	\$825.09
Franklin	\$18,600.44	\$17,786.23	\$814.21
Hamden	\$17,287.51	\$17,287.51	
Hancock	\$31,946.18	\$29,375.33	\$2,570.85
Harpersfield	\$11,322.23	\$10,165.10	\$1,157.13
Kortright	\$6,701.36	\$6,701.36	
Masonville	\$6,862.73	\$6,862.73	
Meredith	\$10,568.98	\$10,568.98	
Middletown	\$50,292.18	\$45,798.88 FL	\$1,331.01
		MV	\$3,162.29
Roxbury	\$56,074.77	\$56,074.77	
Sidney	\$29,866.44	\$21,659.74	\$8,206.70
Stamford	\$18,300.50	\$14,276.36 ST	\$1,758.87
		HO	\$2,265.27
Tompkins	\$2,584.60	\$2,584.60	

Town	Amount Allocated to Tax District	Amount Apportioned to Town	Amount Apportioned to Village
Walton	\$27,485.13	\$22,642.41	\$4,842.72
Totals ...	\$393,401.40	\$361,070.60	\$32,330.80

The resolution was seconded by Mr. Ellis and adopted by the following vote: Ayes 187, Noes 0, Absent 13 (Kelso).

Mr. Haynes offered the following resolution and moved its adoption:

RESOLUTION NO. 195

**TITLE: AUTHORIZATION OF FOUR-DAY WORK WEEK
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS**

WHEREAS, Resolution No. 55 of 1993, as modified, authorizes a four ten-hour-per-day work week in the Public Works Department which is subject to annual approval by the County and Public Works employees.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that subject to approval of the Public Works employees, four-day work schedules for 2025 are hereby approved in the Public Works Department as follows:

- 1.) January 1, 2025 to March 15, 2025: Bridge Crews only.
- 2.) March 16, 2025 to October 11, 2025: All Public Works employees, except those employees specifically excluded from the four-day work week by agreement with the union, ie. landfill employees, certain engineering staff, etc.
- 3.) November 9, 2025 to December 31, 2025: Bridge Crews only.

The resolution was seconded by Mr. Kosier and unanimously adopted.

Mr. Marshfield offered the following resolution and moved its adoption:

RESOLUTION NO. 196

**TITLE: DEDICATION OF SOCIAL SERVICES VISITATION CENTER
DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES**

WHEREAS, the Department of Social Services has constructed and commenced operation of a family/child(ren) visitation center in Delhi, NY; and

WHEREAS, Sylvia Armano began her 33-year journey at Social Services in 1991 as a Community Services Worker; and

WHEREAS, Sylvia Armano then became a Social Welfare Examiner, Caseworker and Senior Caseworker; and

WHEREAS, in May of 1998, Sylvia Armano left the Delaware County Department of Social Services and moved to Florida, where she continued to work as a Caseworker; and

WHEREAS, during her tenure as a caseworker in Florida, Sylvia Armano was introduced to an emerging philosophy focused on improving the quality of visitation between children in foster care and their parents; and

WHEREAS, Sylvia Armano returned to the Delaware County Department of Social Services in October 1998, and continued her upward trajectory in the hierarchy of Social Services: Grade B Supervisor, Staff Development Coordinator, Director of Programs, Commissioner; and

WHEREAS, almost immediately after being appointed Commissioner of Social Services in January 2020, Sylvia Armano began facilitating the plans and construction of a family/child visitation center for Delaware County Department of Social Services, and

WHEREAS, construction of the visitation center was completed in April 2024 and became operational in September 2024.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED the Delaware County Board of Supervisors recognizes Sylvia Armano's 33-year contribution to the Department of Social Services, and supports her vision for providing a safe, clean, and stable environment for Social Services involved families to have visitation, and hereby dedicates the visitation center in her name; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED the Delaware County Department of Social Services visitation center will be formally referred to as the "ARMANNO CENTER".

The resolution was seconded by Mr. Vernold

Mr. Marshfield stated that the Committee agreed enthusiastically to name the new visitation center Armano Center after Sylvia Armano. She brought the idea to Delaware County although she did not see it finished, she was instrumental in getting the project started. Mr. Marshfield announced that at this point the center is being successful used and can accommodate two families at one time.

This resolution was unanimously adopted.

Chairman Molé waived Board Rule 10 to permit the introduction without objection of the following not-prefiled resolutions.

Mr. Merrill offered the following resolution and moved its adoption:

RESOLUTION NO. 197

TITLE: PAYMENT OF AUDIT

WHEREAS, bills and claims submitted and duly audited by the Clerk of the Board's office in the amount of \$2,173,444.19 are hereby presented to the Board of Supervisors for approval of payment;

THEREFORE, the County Treasurer was directed to pay said expenditures as listed below and this Board now approves of said payment as follows:

General Fund	\$1,322,397.68
OET	\$64,988.37
CAP DSS	\$3,925.72
Highway Audits, as Follows:	
Weights & Measures	\$137.86
Solid Waste/Landfill	\$62,434.33
Road	\$58,106.26
Machinery	\$398,114.62
Capital Solid Waste	\$2,897.66
Capital Road & Bridge	\$163,739.40
CAP DPW Complex	\$96,702.29

The resolution was seconded by Mr. Gladstone and Mr. Vernold and adopted by the following vote: Ayes 187, Noes 0, Absent 13 (Kelso).

Mr. Merrill offered the following resolution and moved its adoption:

RESOLUTION NO. 198

TITLE: ADOPTION OF 2025 DELAWARE COUNTY BUDGET

WHEREAS, the Tentative Budget for the year 2025 has been presented to the Board by the Budget Officer and duly discussed and a public hearing having been held thereon as required by law;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that pursuant to §360 of the County Law, the Tentative Budget for 2025, as revised, be adopted.

The resolution was seconded by Mr. Vernold.

Mr. Merrill thanked the Finance Committee for a lot of long hours and hard work. The subject of sharing sales tax is not being entertained in this budget but would be discussed further after the new year. A lot of information has yet to be gathered which needs to be disseminated to everyone involved.

Mr. Marshfield explained this budget increased \$640,00 over last year and that was after reductions in other areas. Such examples of changes in this budget are 20% increase on the committee for preschool, special education, three- to five-year-old transportation program went from a million to \$1.2 million. Foster care and CSE appropriation increased more than \$400,000 for special needs children. Retirement premiums increased to \$1.1 million and medical premiums increased \$442,000. The aim was to keep it under 2% to keep the Raise the Age program which benefits both the Department of Social Services and the Probation Department at about \$2 million. The County makes the schools whole by covering \$6.6 million in unpaid school taxes. Likewise, the County makes the towns whole. Many have delinquent water and sewer as well as unpaid town taxes of \$2.5 million. There were many reasons to go beyond the \$640,000 increase but we kept cutting back to bring the budget down to 1.83%. It may not be a perfect budget but it's a good budget.

Mr. Merrill said that's why he thanks his team because of people like Mr. Marshfield who crunch the numbers. It's a good group and they study the budget very hard.

This resolution was adopted by the following vote: Ayes 187, Noes 0, Absent 13 (Kelso).

Mr. Merrill offered the following resolution and moved its adoption:

RESOLUTION NO. 199

TITLE: APPROPRIATION RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, this Board by Resolution No. 198, dated November 26, 2024 adopted a budget for the fiscal year 2025;

RESOLVED that the several amounts specified in the column, "Adopted" be and hereby are appropriated for the objects and purposes specified, effective January 1, 2025.

The resolution was seconded by Mr. Vernold and adopted by the following vote: Ayes 187, Noes 0, Absent 13 (Kelso).

Upon a motion, the meeting was adjourned at 1:29 p.m.