

**Finance Committee Meeting  
April 23, 2025**

Attendees

Committee: Art Merrill, Wayne Marshfield, Wayland Gladstone, George Haynes, Joe Cetta, Eric Wilson, John Kosier, Tina Molé  
Supervisor: Maya Boukai  
Staff: Beverly Shields, Amy Merklen, Penny Bishop

Mr. Merrill called the meeting to order at 10:30 a.m.

On a motion by Mr. Marshfield, seconded by Mr. Wilson, the April 9 committee meeting minutes were unanimously approved.

The Sales Tax report for the April 11 payment was reviewed. The report indicates an increase of 10.3874% relative to last year.

Treasurer's Office – Beverly Shields

The Treasurer reported that she has not yet received an index number so the tax auction is still on hold. The sale would most likely take place the last week in October.

Mrs. Shields indicated that PCards (Virtual Cards) is something they started quite a long time ago and explained that by using PCards, the county would pay certain vendors by credit card. The idea is that money stays longer in the bank accounts to earn more interest, and the County would also get a rebate from the credit card company. She confirmed that Three+One has talked about this program. Mr. Marshfield questioned who pays the fee and if there is a cost to the vendor, otherwise, how would they make money? Mr. Wilson stated that usually the vendor would have to eat some of the cost. Mrs. Shields said the option is back for discussion because there will be a USL upgrade and payment by PCard is integrated into the upgrade. Vendors would have to accept the County credit card in order to be paid virtually. She confirmed that when vendors accept the credit card, they accept the fees. Mr. Wilson stated his personal experience with PCards is that the fee paid by the vendor is approximately 3%.

Regarding Resolution No. 84 for the afternoon Board Meeting, Mr. Marshfield questioned what the previous cost per ton was for friable asbestos and construction debris. Mr. Haynes said the asbestos was around \$200 and now is \$250 and the C&D was around \$105 now is \$115. He noted they like to stay just a bit higher than the surrounding counties and right now the Oneonta transfer station is closed. The higher price is to try to keep it from coming into the landfill. In reply to Mr. Marshfield, Mr. Haynes said the friable asbestos can be put in the cell but it has to be done a certain way and it has to be marked where it is in the cell. He confirmed that one type of asbestos is shipped out.

Mr. Cetta stated the Board resolution for Psychiatric expenditure of approximately \$102,000 is just for the month of March. Director of Mental Health Doug Elston is doing whatever he can to

move it along but as discussed many times in the past, they have no control of this cost. Mr. Merrill said \$50,000 is budgeted in this line each year but they have determined that they would rather use contingency or fund balance than to collect money they may not need. Supervisor Cetta said it is frustrating because they have no control.

There were three not-prefiled resolutions: budget amendment for unemployment insurance which the Personnel Office is still calculating what amount is needed; a resolution recognizing National Correctional Officers' and Employees' Week; payment of audit.

#### Clerk of the Board – Penny Bishop

The Clerk reported that The New York State Association of Counties (NYSAC) has reached out to counties to let them know they have a contract with Amazon for free Prime. NYSAC has negotiated to include all their affiliated counties to also receive free Prime through their contract. The contract allows free Prime for two years with a third year still being considered. Currently, staff ordering from Amazon spend time finding Amazon vendors that offer free shipping. With this opportunity, the staff will save that time since most shipping will be covered utilizing Prime.

The Clerk said that IT Director Joe deMauro is looking to upgrade five security monitoring stations at a cost of approximately \$3,000 per workstation. Ms. Mole said the upgrades would allow for all the security systems to be compatible and IT is looking for guidance on where to charge the costs. Mr. Merrill said an equipment authorization request would be discussed upon submission to this committee.

Travel, equipment, and fill vacancy requests were approved as presented.

The meeting adjourned at 10:50 a.m.