

REGULAR MEETING
DELAWARE COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
DECEMBER 11, 2019

The regular meeting of the Delaware County Board of Supervisors was held Wednesday, December 11, 2019 at 1:25 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.

Mr. Marshfield offered the invocation.

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

The minutes of the previous meeting and public hearings were accepted as presented.

The Clerk noted that all communications received have been referred to the appropriate committees for review.

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

RESOLUTION NO. 177

**TITLE: ACCEPTANCE OF ARC GRANT MONEY FOR THE REIMBURSEMENT OF
THE USE OF COUNTY VEHICLES FOR THE STREAM ASSESSMENT PROJECT
PLANNING DEPARTMENT**

WHEREAS, the Planning Department hired interns to collect data for the UDRTC Stream Assessment Project; and

WHEREAS, the interns used the County vehicles for transportation to collect the stream data; and

WHEREAS, the mileage for the use of the County vehicles has been reimbursed to the Planning Department.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED the Planning Department accepts funds received in the amount of \$3,190.85;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the 2019 budget be amended as follows:

INCREASE REVENUE:

10-18020-41128900	OTHR Gen Dept Income	\$3,190.85
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INCREASE APPROPRIATIONS:

10-18020-54420200	Software Maint. Agreements	\$1,800.00
10-18020-52200000	Equipment	\$1,390.85

The resolution was seconded by Mr. Ellis and adopted by the following vote: Ayes 4799, Noes 0, Absent 0.

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

RESOLUTION NO. 178

**TITLE: CHANGE ORDER NO. 1 PROP 30-19
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS**

WHEREAS, Resolution No. 96 of 2019 authorized the award of Proposal 30-19 Replacement of Culvert on Miller Avenue, Town of Bovina to Delaware Bulldozing Corp., 5700 Co. Hwy 18, Bloomville, NY 13739 in the amount of \$344,896.17; and

WHEREAS, the project has been completed and the final quantities have been agreed upon; and

WHEREAS, this resulted in a reduction of the final project cost in the amount of \$13,393.42.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Department of Public Works is herewith authorized to execute Change Order No. 1 for Proposal No. 30-19 reducing the project cost by \$13,393.42 resulting in a final cost of \$331,502.76.

The resolution was seconded by Mr. Davis.

Supervisor Eisel noted a reduction in the final cost is a good thing. Ms. Molé said the project turned out wonderfully.

The resolution was adopted by the following vote: Ayes 4799, Noes 0, Absent 0.

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

RESOLUTION NO. 179

**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 2020 are hereby approved in the Public Works Department as follows:

- 1.) January 1, 2020 to March 21, 2020: Bridge Crews only.
- 2.) March 22, 2020 to October 17, 2020: All Public Works employees, except those employees specifically excluded from the four-day work week by agreement with the union, i.e., landfill employees, certain engineering staff, etc.
- 3.) November 15, 2020 to December 31, 2020: Bridge Crews only.

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

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

RESOLUTION NO. 180

**TITLE: EXCEPTION TO RESOLUTION NO. 269-1990
PERSONNEL OFFICE**

WHEREAS, Resolution No. 269 of 1990 prohibited County employees from holding more than one County position simultaneously except if such dual employment is specifically authorized by resolution of the Board of Supervisors; and

WHEREAS, the Personnel Office is experiencing difficulties in recruiting Clerks to serve as exam monitors for exams scheduled on Saturdays; and

WHEREAS, from time to time employees in other county departments may be willing to work on a per-hour, as-needed basis.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that Resolution No. 269 of 1990 is hereby temporarily waived until December 31, 2020 for County employees who are willing to work on a per-hour, as-needed basis in the Personnel Office.

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

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

RESOLUTION NO. 181

**TITLE: EXCEPTION TO RESOLUTION NO. 269-1990
SHERIFF’S OFFICE**

WHEREAS, Resolution No. 269-1990 prohibited County employees from holding more than one County position simultaneously except if such dual employment is specifically authorized by resolution of the Board of Supervisors; and

WHEREAS, the Sheriff’s Office is experiencing difficulties in recruiting deputies, medical personnel for Corrections Facility, and correction officers; and

WHEREAS, from time to time employees in other County departments are willing to work on a per-hour, as-needed basis in the Sheriff’s Office.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that Resolution No. 269-1990 is hereby temporarily waived until December 31, 2020 for County employees who are willing to work on a per-hour, as-needed basis in the Sheriff’s Office.

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

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

RESOLUTION NO. 182

**TITLE: LEVY OF TAXES FOR SPECIAL DISTRICTS,
HIGHWAYS AND GENERAL OUTSIDE OF VILLAGE**

WHEREAS there has been presented to the Board of Supervisors a duly certified copy of the annual budget of each of the several towns of Delaware County for the fiscal year beginning January 1, 2020;

RESOLVED that there shall be and hereby is assessed and levied upon and collected from the taxable property situated wholly or partially therein the amounts indicated below for the Highway Outside Village and General Outside Village purposes as specified in the budgets of the respective towns:

TOWN	HIGHWAY OUTSIDE VILLAGE	GENERAL OUTSIDE VILLAGE
Delhi	\$720,447.00	\$.00
Deposit	\$380,383.00	\$30,437.00
Franklin	\$333,970.00	\$35,030.00

TOWN	HIGHWAY OUTSIDE VILLAGE	GENERAL OUTSIDE VILLAGE
Hancock	\$863,979.00	\$38,779.00
Harpersfield	\$333,592.00	\$48,948.00
Middletown	\$830,210.00	\$129,365.00
Sidney	\$346,337.00	\$30,814.00
Stamford	\$247,282.00	\$36,102.00
Walton	\$311,950.00	\$75,866.00

FURTHER RESOLVED that there shall be and hereby is assessed and levied upon and collected from the real property liable therefore within the respective budgets:

ANDES

Andes Joint Fire District	\$195,765.00
Arena Fire District	\$15,338.56
Andes Light	\$8,000.00
Delinquent Maintenance	\$3,718.77
Delinquent Water	\$12,969.22
Delinquent Sewer	\$7,568.00

BOVINA

Bovina Center Light District	\$1,545.00
Bovina Rural Fire District	\$103,629.00
Bovina Water District	\$38,281.00
Bovina Sewer District	\$10,130.33

COLCHESTER

Downsville Fire District	\$251,499.46
Beaverkill Valley Fire District	\$954.31
Colchester Fire Protection District	\$12,000.00
Delinquent Cooks Falls Water	\$3,180.00
Delinquent Downsville Water	\$6,817.20

DAVENPORT

East Meredith Fire District	\$118,144.83
Davenport Fire District	\$49,677.86
Davenport Light District	\$1,800.00
Davenport Center Light District	\$2,400.00
West Davenport Light District	\$1,475.00
Davenport Water	\$6,500.00
Delinquent Water	\$5,319.30

DELHI	
Delhi Rural Fire District	\$233,505.66
DEPOSIT	
Deposit Fire and Ambulance	\$79,984.00
FRANKLIN	
Treadwell Light District	\$3,795.00
Treadwell Water District	\$11,940.00
Franklin-Treadwell Fire District	\$226,602.92
HAMDEN	
Hamden Light District	\$2,550.00
DeLancey Light District	\$1,700.00
Delhi Fire District	\$940.92
Walton Fire District	\$19,522.18
Downsville Fire Protection	\$3,500.00
Delhi Rural Fire Protection	\$77,820.44
Downsville Fire District	\$4,983.54
Hamden Sewer District	\$11,232.00
Hamden Delinquent Water	\$4,660.00
DeLancey Delinquent Water	\$3,960.00
Property Maintenance	\$400.00
HANCOCK	
Upper Delaware Valley Ambulance District	\$3,564.20
Cadosia Light District	\$3,400.00
East Branch Light District	\$5,800.00
East Branch Fire District	\$99,970.00
East Branch Water District	\$12,300.00
Fishs Eddy Light District	\$4,700.00
Hancock Rural Fire District	\$136,756.48
Long Eddy Fire District	\$28,107.98
Hancock Ambulance District	\$240,361.91
HARPERSFIELD	
Stamford Fire District	\$92,384.28
Hobart Fire District	\$6,105.93
Davenport Fire District	\$14,031.96
North Harpersfield Fire Protection	\$43,500.00
North Harpersfield Light District	\$2,000.00

KORTRIGHT

Kortright Fire District	\$108,319.31
Bloomville Light District	\$4,000.00
Bloomville Sewer District	\$19,976.26
Stamford Fire District	\$10,534.87
Hobart Rural Fire District	\$10,830.69
East Meredith Fire District	\$3,636.96
Davenport Fire District	\$8,290.18
Delinquent Water	\$7,501.80

MASONVILLE

Masonville Fire District	\$108,960.00
Masonville Light District	\$2,500.00

MEREDITH

East Meredith Light District	\$1,440.00
Delhi Fire District	\$39,528.84
Meredith Square Light District	\$624.00
Franklin-Treadwell Fire District	\$25,368.08
Meridale Rural Fire District	\$60,800.00
East Meredith Fire District	\$19,319.21
Meridale Light District	\$1,080.00

MIDDLETOWN

Halcottsville Light District	\$1,696.00
Arena Fire District	\$14,295.14
Arkville Light District	\$9,978.00
Arkville Water District	\$17,000.00
New Kingston Light District	\$827.00
Arkville Fire District	\$35,706.00
Fire District No. 1	\$76,004.00
Middletown-Hardenburgh Fire District	\$303,046.35
Delinquent Arkville Water	\$11,781.16
Delinquent Halcottsville Water	\$4,147.69

ROXBURY

Roxbury Fire District	\$179,600.00
Roxbury Light District	\$13,196.00
Roxbury Water District	\$24,194.00
Grand Gorge Fire District	\$150,875.00
Grand Gorge Light District	\$10,997.00
Grand Gorge Water District	\$56,175.00
Middletown/Hardenburgh Fire District	\$5,740.21
Roxbury Run Light District	\$2,699.00
Roxbury Sewer District (unit charge)	\$41,714.98
Denver Sewer District (debt charge)	\$0.00
Denver Sewer District (unit charge)	\$89,687.00

Denver Water District	\$13,151.00
Delinquent Denver Water	\$2,392.72
Delinquent Grand Gorge Water	\$7,742.83
Delinquent Roxbury Water	\$4,139.14
SIDNEY	
Consolidated Health District	\$4,400.00
Sidney Center Light District	\$5,400.00
Sidney Center Fire District	\$85,203.00
Sidney Fire Protection District	\$68,202.00
STAMFORD	
Stamford Fire District	\$43,714.58
South Kortright Fire District	\$4,318.90
Hobart Fire District	\$33,023.38
Kortright Fire District	\$12,321.69
South Kortright Light District	\$1,700.00
South Kortright Sewer	\$4,931.04
TOMPKINS	
Tompkins Fire District	\$120,525.00
Hancock Rural Fire District	\$15,785.52
Sewer District	\$6,367.58
WALTON	
Walton Fire District	\$352,584.82

FURTHER RESOLVED that the amounts to be raised by tax for all other purposes, as specified in the annual budgets as presented to the Board and which are on file in the office of the Clerk of the Board, are hereby assessed and levied upon and collected from all of the taxable property in the towns as enumerated below, except as otherwise provided by law; namely:

<u>TOWN</u>	<u>TOWN GENERAL</u>	<u>HIGHWAY TOWNWIDE</u>
Andes	\$702,952.00	\$972,700.00
Bovina	\$285,019.00	\$426,127.00
Colchester	\$1,018,075.00	\$1,313,400.00
Davenport	\$289,330.00	\$727,699.00
Delhi	\$442,388.34	\$565,711.00
Deposit	\$329,013.00	\$469,705.00
Franklin	\$233,300.00	\$599,115.00

<u>TOWN</u>	<u>TOWN GENERAL</u>	<u>HIGHWAY TOWNWIDE</u>
Hamden	\$213,190.00	\$538,400.00
Hancock	\$537,861.00	\$783,769.41
Harpersfield	\$306,117.00	\$249,787.00
Kortright	\$300,000.00	\$661,955.00
Masonville	\$203,655.00	\$508,300.00
Meredith	\$167,885.24	\$734,361.98
Middletown	\$765,385.00	\$1,138,953.00
Roxbury	\$791,454.00	\$1,255,635.00
Sidney	\$414,010.00	\$299,103.00
Stamford	\$266,457.00	\$308,404.00
Tompkins	\$254,416.00	\$752,866.00
Walton	\$292,436.00	\$598,500.00

The resolution was seconded by Mr. Triolo.

In answer to Mr. Valente's question about timely budget submissions, Mrs. Schafer said there were still some issues but all in all, it went better. Mr. Valente suggested that perhaps the Board could address delinquent budget submissions. Some fire departments and often times special districts or even towns submit their budgets late which is too bad because there is a lot of work computing this tax levy and delinquent budgets hold up the entire process. Mrs. Schafer agreed and stated there's a lot of work that goes into preparing for the printing of the taxes.

The resolution was adopted by the following vote: Ayes 4799, Noes 0, Absent 0.

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

RESOLUTION NO. 183

**TITLE: LEVY OF COUNTY TAX, EXTENSION OF ROLL,
WARRANTS FOR SAME**

RESOLVED, that the sum of \$33,714,927.41 be levied against the taxable property of the County of Delaware and the same be credited by the County Treasurer to the objects specified in the Appropriation Resolution; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the Board of Supervisors be and hereby is directed to extend the tax according to this resolution on the tax rolls of the several towns and that, when the same have been extended, the various rolls of the several towns shall become the tax rolls thereof.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the several tax rolls, when completed in accordance with the direction of the Board and the several warrants are signed for the collection of taxes by the Chairman and the Clerk of the Board to bear the date of December 27, 2019 the taxes be returnable the first day of April 2020 and that the County Treasurer of the County of Delaware be and hereby is authorized to extend the time of collection in any town not beyond the first day of June 2020 upon the collector's complying with the statute thereto.

The resolution was seconded by Mr. Taggart and adopted by the following vote: Ayes 4799, Noes 0, Absent 0.

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

RESOLUTION NO. 184

TITLE: AUTHORIZING THE CLERK OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS TO CAUSE TO BE PRINTED A SUMMARY OF ABSTRACT OF THE TOWN BUDGETS

WHEREAS, Section 115 of the Town Law requires that the budgets of the respective towns for each year be printed in the Proceedings of the Board of Supervisors; and

WHEREAS, said section authorizes the Clerk of the Board of Supervisors to cause to be printed a summary or abstract of each budget.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Clerk of the Board be and hereby is authorized and directed to cause to be printed in the Proceedings of this Board a summary or abstract of the budgets of the respective towns in this County in such form as the State Comptroller shall prescribe.

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

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

RESOLUTION NO. 185

TITLE: CALLING ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING

RESOLVED that pursuant to Section 151 [1] of the County Law and Rule 1 of the Delaware County Board of Supervisors, the organizational meeting of the Board of Supervisors shall be held on Wednesday, January 8, 2020 at 1:00 p.m. in the Supervisors' Room of the County Office Building, Delhi, New York.

The resolution was seconded by Mr. Vernold.

Chairman Molé stated the Organization Meeting will commence on Wednesday, January 8 at 1:00 p.m.

The resolution was unanimously adopted.

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

RESOLUTION NO. 186

TITLE: 2020 BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MEETING SCHEDULE

WHEREAS, in accordance to Rule 2 of the Rules of the Delaware County Board of Supervisors, Board Meeting dates are annually designated in December each year for the following year;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Supervisors meeting will be held on the dates and times as stated below.

Wednesday, January 8, 2020	-1:00 p.m.	Wednesday, January 22, 2020	-1:00 p.m.
Wednesday, February 26, 2020	-1:00 p.m.		
Wednesday, March 11, 2020	-1:00 p.m.	Wednesday, March 25, 2020	-1:00 p.m.
Wednesday, April 8, 2020	-1:00 p.m.	Wednesday, April 22, 2020	-1:00 p.m.
Wednesday, May 13, 2020	-1:00 p.m.	Wednesday, May 27, 2020	-1:00 p.m.
Wednesday, June 24, 2020	-1:00 p.m.		
Wednesday, July 22, 2020	-1:00 p.m.		
Wednesday, August 26, 2020	-1:00 p.m.		
Wednesday, September 23, 2020	-1:00 p.m.		
Wednesday, October 14, 2020	-1:00 p.m.	Wednesday, October 28, 2020	-1:00 p.m.
Tuesday, November 10, 2020	-1:00 p.m.	Tuesday, November 24, 2020	-1:00 p.m.
Wednesday, December 9, 2020	-1:00 p.m.		

The resolution was seconded by Mr. Tuthill and Mr. Vernold.

Mr. Eisel stated this is the same schedule as last year with one exception—the first Board meeting in November is scheduled on Tuesday, November 10 because November 11 is Veterans Day holiday.

The resolution was unanimously adopted.

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

RESOLUTION NO. 187

TITLE: A RESOLUTION TO INCREASE STATE SUPPORT FOR CORNELL COOPERATIVE EXTENSION COUNTY ASSOCIATIONS IN THE STATE OF NEW YORK

WHEREAS, Cornell Cooperative Extension is a formal collaboration between the National Institute of Food and Agriculture at USDA, New York State, County Governments and the Citizens of the State that has served to apply unbiased, research-based knowledge from Cornell, New York’s Land Grant University, to the needs of New Yorkers and their communities for over 100 years; and

WHEREAS, local extension educators are key community partners in helping to implement state initiatives including maximizing agriculture and local food systems, strengthening the economy, promoting healthier eating habits and access to good nutrition, fighting poverty particularly in rural areas, protecting water quality and stewardship of New York’s natural resources, building opportunity through STEM based youth education and leadership skills in 4-H, promoting renewable energy options while protecting farmland resources, and partnering where appropriate in Taste NY initiatives to promote tourism and local food and farm businesses, and

WHEREAS, support from Federal, State and County sources is essential to the continued success of locally-governed county cooperative extension associations; and

WHEREAS, state appropriations for county cooperative extension associations to match county government appropriations as authorized by Section 224 (8) of the County Law have remained stagnant for twenty years; and

WHEREAS, state funding is needed to ensure that the Cornell Cooperative Extension system can equitably work for all New York residents through increased resources to support rural, suburban, and urban community development needs.

THEREFORE, be it resolved that the Delaware County Board of Supervisors supports increasing the State appropriation for Cornell Cooperative Extension associations to \$8 million, such funds to be distributed directly to the associations through Cornell University as agent for the state as provided by law.

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

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

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

RESOLUTION NO. 188

TITLE: ACCEPTANCE OF HEARING OFFICERS RECOMMENDATION

WHEREAS, the Board of Supervisors acknowledges that it has received the report and recommendation of Alfred T. Riccio, Hearing Officer in the matter of Civil Service law charges pursuant to §75 in Delaware County v. Dana Scuderi-Hunter, Respondent; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Supervisors each having been afforded the opportunity over the past two weeks to review the transcripts and evidence in this matter and upon its receipt, having been afforded the opportunity to review and study the report and recommendation of hearing officer Alfred T. Riccio.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board does hereby declare that the testimony of the Respondent at a Family Court hearing described in the transcripts of this matter is not a factor in this decision but rather that the conduct of the Respondent in engaging in acts of lack of cooperation, disloyalty, insubordination, conduct unbecoming, and misconduct from the basis of this decision as found and recommended by the Hearing Officer.

THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER, RESOLVED that the Board of Supervisors hereby accepts the Report and Recommendation of the Hearing Officer and hereby votes to terminate the services of Dana Scuderi-Hunter effective immediately.

The resolution was seconded by Mr. Vernold.

Supervisor Eisel stated that he would be abstaining from voting on this resolution due to the fact that he was a witness in the proceedings. He stated that under relevant case law, he is required to abstain in order to avoid an appearance of bias. Therefore, he abstained from voting on this resolution.

Chairman Molé also abstained from voting on this resolution due to the fact that she was a witness in the proceedings. Under relevant case law, she is required to abstain in order to avoid an appearance of bias. She therefore abstained from voting on this resolution.

Supervisor Pigford recused himself from the vote.

Supervisor Marshfield read from a prepared statement. "Here we are today, approximately three weeks from the vote to renew or reject the new five-year term of the County Social Services Commissioner. This whole ordeal has divided the County to a level I have never

witnessed before in my 26 years on this Board. And yes it will take years to repair, if ever. Whether one was for or against the procedure, both sides lost. There have been threats, accusations, arguments and pressures on both sides. Employees all have to work together irrespective of their stance. In my mind, employees with grievances should be going to their respective department heads first for resolve. If that doesn't work, then they need to go to the Personnel Department for further resolve if warranted. We now have department heads who are wondering what their roles and responsibilities are with respect to employees and other department heads. Our Board of Supervisors committee style of government has also been damaged. The Social Services Committee that has over 30 years of experience on that committee alone, the ones who knew the department better than anyone else, was literally ignored in the whole process. Very sad.

But we all know that it was our County taxpayers who took the biggest hit. They are paying the bill for something that should never happened and the process should have let this Board make the decision of reappointment, yes three weeks from now. We managed this for the Real Property director just recently and we should have done that here. But instead of waiting four or five months, we had to spend tens of thousands of hard earned taxpayers' dollars, and create division throughout the County. We all know this has happened. This is very unfortunate.

As usual, the only ones who made out on the process are the attorneys, one smiling and the other not. In closing, I will accept and respect any vote that is given here today, as we need to move on, but my vote will be to vote against the hearing officer's recommendation."

Supervisor Gladstone stated his vote will be the same as it was in the past. After reading the hearing officer's decision, he does not feel the blame should rest solely on the DSS Commissioner. In addition, he feels the Board could have done a better job following the disciplinary process, and to be morally and ethically correct, the same would apply to all Delaware County employees.

The resolution was adopted by the following vote: Ayes 3489, Noes 512 (Gladstone, Marshfield, Hynes), Abstain 798 (Molé, Eisel, Pigford), Absent 0.

Chairman Molé stated Dana Scuderi-Hunter is terminated effective immediately. Ms. Molé said she has been silent for most of the last five months but has prepared the following statement.

"At this time, before assumptions are made or pen put to paper, the County would respectfully request that anyone interested in the decision, which includes a statement of the charges and a list of the exhibits, as well as the Hearing Officer's analysis and recommendation, go to the County's web site and read the Hearing Officer's decision. The decision will be posted on the County's web site immediately following this Board meeting.

First and foremost, I'd like to thank the Department Heads and the employees for having the courage to come forward to go on record regarding the intolerable and unproductive working conditions surrounding Mrs. Scuderi-Hunter. They stood up for the truth and for what is right in

the face of all negativity in the media. Despite what has been reported or intimated, the majority of the staff stands behind the Board and these decisions.

Having attended the hearing in its entirety, I wish to express my extreme dissatisfaction with the various media outlets that covered the public hearing. Those media outlets reported on the hearings with a highly inaccurate and bias series of reports. The inaccurate reporting created the false impression that the charges against Mrs. Scuderi-Hunter were not substantial or would not be sustained. An independent hearing officer, having heard all the evidence, and arguments in this matter, has ruled that the charges are meritorious and found Mrs. Scuderi-Hunter guilty of numerous charges and recommended her termination. The Board, for its part, reviewed the record, the transcripts, and found that the Hearing Officer's Report and Recommendation should be accepted. I believe that the local media has done a disservice to the citizens of our County by falsely and inaccurately reporting on this hearing. I wish for the public to know that these charges were substantial and brought with great reluctance. The charges were only after several attempts with Mrs. Scuderi-Hunter to address these concerns. However, the County brought these charges against her because of its obligation to properly manage this County and to ensure that its County Officers conduct themselves in a trustworthy, responsible and professional manner at all times.

Until now, the County has remained silent, not commenting on these proceedings. I would like to take a minute to comment on a few statements repeatedly made by the press. First, the press has commented several times that the County "hand-picked" the hearing officer. Please be clear that that is the law. The law requires the County to choose and compensate the hearing officer in Section 75 proceedings. The employee in Section 75 hearings has a right to object to this selection. Neither Mrs. Scuderi-Hunter nor her counsel, Mr. Dunn, objected to this. Secondly, throughout these proceedings the County's lack of comment has been interpreted by the media as a lack of transparency. The County has not commented out of respect for this process and for all of the parties involved, including Mrs. Scuderi-Hunter. The facts speak for themselves and need no interpretation or filter. And lastly, throughout the proceedings Mrs. Scuderi-Hunter and her counsel, Mr. Dunn, have disparaged the County Attorney in an attempt to distract from the real issues. Let the decision, which is supported by days of testimony, case law and numerous exhibits, serve to refute those claims and outlandish allegations. Amy Merklen continues to conduct herself with the highest professional standard.

I would like to commend the Department of Social Services employees under the leadership of Deputy Commissioner Sylvia Armanno for staying focused during this time of transition. Despite the added stress of the last five months, the Department remained true to their mission."

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

RESOLUTION NO. 189

**TITLE: LEVYING OF 2019 - 2020 RETURNED SCHOOL TAXES
TREASURER'S OFFICE**

WHEREAS, the Board of Trustees of the Board of Education of the several school districts of Delaware County have transmitted to the County Treasurer the several amounts of unpaid school taxes, duly verified and certified as provided by the Real Property Tax Law, §1330;

RESOLVED, that pursuant to §1330 of the Real Property Tax Law, there shall be and hereby is assessed and levied upon and collected from the lands of the several towns as listed herewith, upon which the same were imposed, the amounts of said returned school taxes as certified, with seven percentum thereon in addition as follows:

TOWN	TAX	7% PENALTY	TOTAL TAX
ANDES	239,186.72	16,743.06	255,929.78
BOVINA	142,470.46	9,972.89	152,443.35
COLCHESTER	230,602.65	16,142.19	246,744.84
DAVENPORT	314,623.48	22,023.60	336,647.08
DELHI	272,052.65	19,043.78	291,096.43
DEPOSIT	309,038.55	21,632.68	330,671.23
FRANKLIN	345,806.85	24,206.37	370,013.22
HAMDEN	214,234.47	14,996.41	229,230.88
HANCOCK	660,961.82	46,267.44	707,229.26
HARPERSFIELD	241,326.89	16,892.87	258,219.76
KORTRIGHT	240,412.15	16,828.87	257,241.02
MASONVILLE	145,725.05	10,200.78	155,925.83
MEREDITH	216,399.98	15,148.03	231,548.01
MIDDLETOWN	576,764.25	40,373.37	617,137.62
ROXBURY	348,337.13	24,383.48	372,720.61
SIDNEY	426,091.57	29,826.49	455,918.06
STAMFORD	301,376.01	21,096.38	322,472.39
TOMPKINS	155,365.48	10,875.59	166,241.07
WALTON	389,993.14	27,299.67	417,292.81
Totals	\$5,770,769.30	\$403,953.95	\$6,174,723.25

The resolution was seconded by Mr. Triolo.

Supervisor Marshfield commented this is one example of where there needs to be \$6,000,000 in fund balance just to pay delinquent school taxes.

The resolution was adopted by the following vote: Ayes 4799, Noes 0, Absent 0.

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

RESOLUTION NO. 190

TITLE: SALE OF TAX ACQUIRED PROPERTY

RESOLVED that the following described parcels of tax acquired property be sold to the party indicated for the price herein stated and the County Treasurer is authorized to execute and deliver deed, therefor, and to cancel all Delaware County tax liens thereon.

	HAN17TX.040
<u>ASSESSED TO:</u>	<u>JOHN D LEASE ESTATE</u>
TOWN OF:	123601:HANCOCK
TAX MAP NO:	429.13-3-4
SCHOOL DISTRICT:	123606:HANCOCK
ACREAGE:	118'F X 127'D: 0.25A ACRES
CONVEYED TO:	JOHN OMAHEN 1027 OBISPO AVE LONG BEACH CA 90804
CASH CONSIDERATION:	\$1,000.00 COUNTY SHARE \$810.00 VILLAGE SHARE \$190.00
TAX DEFICIT:	\$12,882.04

The resolution was seconded by Mr. Gladstone and adopted by the following vote: Ayes 4799, Noes 0, Absent 0.

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

RESOLUTION NO. 191

**TITLE: EXCEPTION TO RESOLUTION NO. 269-1990
TREASURER’S OFFICE**

WHEREAS, Resolution No. 269-1990 prohibited County employees from holding more than one County position simultaneously except if such dual employment is specifically authorized by resolution of the Board of Supervisors; and

WHEREAS, the Treasurer’s Office is experiencing difficulties in recruiting temporary clerical support; and

WHEREAS, from time to time employees in other County departments are willing to work on a per-hour, as-needed basis.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that Resolution No. 269-1990 is hereby temporarily waived until December 31, 2020 for County employees who are willing to work on a per-hour, temporary clerical position as-needed in the Treasurer’s Office.

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

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

RESOLUTION NO. 192

TITLE: PAYMENT OF AUDIT

WHEREAS, bills and claims submitted and duly audited by the Clerk of the Board's office in the amount of \$2,646,318.99 are hereby presented to the Board of Supervisors for approval of payment;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the County Treasurer be directed to pay said expenditures as listed below:

General Fund	\$1,047,378.67
OET	\$48,241.79
Public Safety Comm System	\$1,019,946.16
CAP 97 Main Street	\$466.00
CAP MH	\$110,640.03
Highway Audits, as Follows:	
Weights and Measures	\$140.13
Landfill	\$64,666.66
Road	\$91,415.78
Machinery	\$38,629.87
Capital Road & Bridge	\$213,953.37
Capital Solid Waste	\$10,840.53

The resolution was seconded by Mr. Taggart and adopted by the following vote: Ayes 4799, Noes 0, Absent 0.

Chairman Molé made the following committee appointments:

DELAWARE COUNTY INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AGENCY

3-year term ending December 31, 2022

Reappoint:

Bruce Dolph

Scott White

Supervisor Hynes stated this will be his last Board of Supervisors meeting and thanked everyone for giving him that privilege. He introduced Roxbury Supervisor-elect Allen Hinkley who is a former Fire Chief and Town Board Member. Mr. Hynes wished Mr. Hinkley well in his new position as Supervisor. Mr. Hinkley thanked Mr. Hynes and said he looks forward to the challenge.

Supervisor Triolo stated this will also be his last Board meeting and introduced John Kosier who will be his replacement on the Board.

Chairman Molé announced that Betty Scott has been appointed the Masonville Town Supervisor effective last week and welcomed her to the Board.

Ms. Molé asked Supervisor Triolo to please join her at the podium.

She stated that Mr. Triolo has been the Town of Stamford Supervisor for the past twelve years and has served on various committees including Economic Development, Community Health, Watershed Affairs, and Finance. She noted that he was an asset, especially to Finance; the committee relied on his experience and expertise and Delaware County surely benefited from that. He is also the President of the Catskill Watershed Corporation Board of Directors and again, his experience and knowledge of the Watershed Agreement and programs have assisted Delaware County and its residents. On behalf of the Board of Supervisors, she thanked him and wished him well.

Supervisor Eisel said he and the Board appreciate all that Mr. Triolo has done and will miss him. He wished him good luck in his retirement.

Supervisor Marshfield stated that he has served on the Finance and Health Committees with Mr. Triolo and found him to be extremely impartial and knowledgeable in dealing with County finances and was very compassionate and understanding on the Health Committee with the same level of expertise. He learned a lot from Mr. Triolo, especially on Finance and will miss his thoughts and reasoning. He guaranteed, however, that he would continue to attend Mr. Triolo's charitable functions in and around Hobart and Stamford as he has in the past.

Supervisor Taggart expressed that he has been very fortunate to have served with Mr. Triolo on Finance. He is a mountain of knowledge and that knowledge and expertise cannot be replaced. It has been a great experience for him to work with Mr. Triolo over the past six years.

On behalf of the Board of Supervisors, Chairman Molé presented Supervisor Triolo a plaque which reads "In grateful recognition of 12 years of dedicated service, outstanding sense of community and your contribution to the citizens of Delaware County."

Supervisor Triolo remarked that his time on the Board has been very rewarding to him. Accomplishments include putting through the occupancy tax as well as realizing the problems with the dairy industry. Economic Development Director Glenn Nealis sought out agricultural micro grants to help start up ag businesses and start up farms which is important. Mr. Triolo noted that agriculture is still a major component of Delaware County and we should not forget that.

Mr. Triolo stated he was part of the committee that worked on the Office for the Aging relocation. He and Supervisor Merrill worked with Supervisor Marshfield who led the committee through that process. It was a good move, and he would make the same decision again. It was time to recognize our senior citizens in a way they should be recognized.

Even though you don't hear a lot about our mental health workers, they are out there every day working on the opioid crisis, working on the suicide crisis, and making sure we know where the problems are in our health systems. We have to keep supporting public health and mental health every day. We also now are working on consolidating all mental health services into one building in Walton. This is the right place. That was one of the problems earlier on when they tried every place but Walton and he's glad the committee worked this out.

Probably his favorite committee, the committee that may have been most effective, was Finance. In the years that Mr. Merrill has been Chairman, we made great strides in the budget process. Strides that he is very proud of. The committee went from just accepting budgets to requiring departments to go to actual trend accounting.

Mr. Triolo quoted "*Anyway: The Paradoxical Commandments*" by Dr. Kent M. Keith. Dr. Keith was a leadership instructor and these commandments came out in 1968, the year after he graduated from college and he has tried to live his life by these words.

"People are illogical, unreasonable, and self-centered. Love them anyway.
If you do good, people will accuse you of selfish ulterior motives. Do good anyway.
If you are successful, you will win false friends and true enemies. Succeed anyway.
The good you do today will be forgotten tomorrow. Do good anyway.
Honesty and frankness make you vulnerable. Be honest and frank anyway.
The biggest men and woman with the biggest ideas can be shot down by the smallest men and women with the smallest minds. Think big anyway.
People favor underdogs but follow only top dogs. Fight for a few underdogs anyway.
What you spend years building may be destroyed overnight. Build anyway.
People really need help but may attack you if you do help them. Help people anyway.
Give the world the best you have and you'll get kicked in the teeth. Give the world the best you have anyway."

Mr. Triolo implored all that in this Christmas season, to think about those people who don't have enough food. Give money to the food banks. Give money to the Salvation Army. There is no reason in America people should go hungry. It's our obligation, those of us who have done well, to make sure that does not happen.

To paraphrase General Douglas McCarthy when he gave this last address to Congress, Mr. Triolo said that "Old Supervisors don't die, we just fade away."

Chairman Molé asked Mr. Hynes to join her at the podium.

Chairman Molé stated Mr. Hynes has been the Supervisor of Roxbury for the past 36 years. Mr. Hynes is highly respected and has served on many committees over the years. He has been a tremendous advocate for the human services that the County provides. He has always had a strong voice for our elderly population and always kept that in mind in the decisions that affected them. He's admired and appreciated throughout Delaware County, especially in his community having just been elected as a Councilman after serving so many years as Supervisor. She teased that he just couldn't let it go, could he?

Ms. Molé said she always enjoyed their banter back and forth, being politically on the opposite sides of the aisle. He is the definition of a gentleman. She thanked him for his distinguished service to Delaware County.

Chairman Molé presented Supervisor Hynes a plaque which reads “In grateful recognition of 36 years of dedicated service, outstanding sense of community and your contribution to the citizens of Delaware County.”

Supervisor Hynes thanked the Chairman and recalled that when he became Supervisor, the Board meetings were held across the street in the County Courthouse. He said he greatly appreciated the opportunity to serve not only Roxbury, but Delaware County. It’s been a pleasure to work with so many good people. He has great respect for the Planning Department. We have a young group of people there who does a tremendous job. He has had the honor to work with Social Services for years. Today was probably the worse vote he had to make. It was a tough vote to make. He has always lived with his conscious and always voted his conscious whether on the Town level or County level and he voted today with that in mind.

Mr. Hynes thanked everybody for working with him. It’s been a great pleasure working with so many good people including department heads. He’s been working on Mr. Ellis and Mr. Cetta for upgrading their attire. He recalls the days when his mentors were George Rich and Walt Johnson. Two great guys who never said too much but when they did speak everybody listened. It was a great honor to know those men.

He thanked the Board very much for their support and said once in a while he’ll come back to say hello.

Supervisor Marshfield said that he and Mr. Hynes have served on Social Services Committee combined for about 30 years under two commissioners. Mr. Hynes never said too much, but when he spoke, you wanted to listen carefully for it had substance. For twenty-six years he has sat directly across from Mr. Hynes and will truly miss his expertise and thoughtfulness. He stated that he looks forward to running into him from time to time, just not at the funeral parlor. He wished him and his wife Mary the best of luck.

Supervisor Taggart stated that he has been on three committees with Mr. Hynes. He is a tremendous Supervisor committee person. Mr. Hynes has been a great advocate and a great person to converse with. They’ve had great discussions and it’s been enjoyable working with Mr. Hynes on all three committees.

Supervisor Eisel stated that Mr. Hynes is the longest if not one of the longest serving Supervisors in Delaware County. It’s been a privilege to know and work with him. He knows Mr. Hynes will keep up the good work at the Town of Roxbury and will miss him. He thanked Mr. Hynes for all that he has done.

Supervisor Pigford observed and registered a mild protest. He stated that the Supervisors all enjoy the dynamics and friendships on this Board. Supervisors become particularly close to those who sit immediately to their left and to their right, and his mild protest is that both supervisors are being graphically removed from both sides of him in such a sudden fashion.

Supervisor Triolo mentioned that one of the things he is especially proud of for a County as conservative as Delaware, is the number of women in high levels of position. As the father of a daughter, it is gratifying to see that happen. He thanked all the departments heads for the great job they are doing.

Chairman Molé invited everyone to join a reception with cake and punch in the Conference Room to share some memories and wish Supervisor Triolo and Supervisor Hynes well.

Upon a motion, the meeting was adjourned at 2:05 p.m.