

REGULAR MEETING

DELAWARE COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

NOVEMBER 10, 2021

The regular meeting of the Delaware County Board of Supervisors was held Wednesday, November 10, 2021 at 1:33 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 in attendance except the Supervisor for the Town of Sidney. Mr. Marshfield attended via Zoom.

Mr. Marshfield offered the invocation.

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

The minutes of the previous meeting were accepted as presented.

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

Chairman Molé granted privilege of the floor to Supervisor Marshfield. Mr. Marshfield introduced Director of Veterans Services Charles Piper.

Mr. Piper thanked Mr. Marshfield and introduced Veterans Outreach Program Specialist Jason Davis from the Binghamton Vet Center to explain what the Vet Center has to offer veterans.

Mr. Davis thanked the Board for the opportunity to speak on behalf of their organization. He expressed that he has rural roots growing up in Newport, New York, on a small dairy farm with four generations of farmers living out in the country for a number of years. He served in the U.S. Army for eight years. The last seven months of that time was spent in Iraq as part of the initial push into Iraq in 2003. When he returned home from Iraq, he struggled quite a bit. He could not hold a job, was abusing alcohol, went through a divorce, and pretty much hit rock bottom. He got a call from a friend who had served in Iraq with him and he told his friend about the rough time he was having. His friend told him about the Vet Center so he visited the Vet Center and received counseling and learned about Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD). He stayed in a residential treatment program in Batavia for about a month and learned invaluable tools there that helped him become the person he is today. In 2011, he worked as the Office Manager of the Vet Center then transferred to the District Office administering the Vet Center Program in New England, and then went back to the Binghamton Vet Center and works as the Veterans Outreach Specialist. He stated he is living proof that a veteran who comes back from combat can be a successful contributor to a local community.

He expressed that the Vet Center Program basically was established after Vietnam because a lot of Vietnam veterans did not trust the U.S. Department of Veteran Affairs (VA). They did not want to go to the VA. They did not trust the general public. Many of them felt very isolated. A small group of veterans in San Diego started meeting and found out it was nice to talk with other combat veterans because they understand what each other is going through. In 1979, Congress recognized the Vet Center Program. These small peer counseling centers were adopted by the VA because they saw it was working and as each conflict occurred, they opened eligibility criteria to veterans from those different conflicts.

Mr. Davis stated they provide counseling to combat veterans, military sexual trauma victims, those who served in mortuary affairs, and a few other eligible veterans. He stressed that they never turn a veteran away. They are all about connection and comradery. They do referrals to other agencies as well as community engagement. They have a strong network of community partners in many counties. He indicated that Delaware County is lacking somewhat between Vet Centers and other agencies. He would like to initiate a stronger connection within Delaware County, not just with veterans and their families, but also with community agencies.

Vet Centers provide a safe and confidential environment for veterans to seek treatment. Veterans do not need to be enrolled in VA Healthcare to receive their services. If a veteran is struggling and needs to be seen, they can be seen within a matter of days if not on the spot. Everything that occurs at the Vet Center stays within the Vet Center. The Vet Center maintains their own records and do not share their records with any other agency unless the veteran requests they do so.

The Vet Center is guided by professionals and offers services by licensed clinical social workers who are credentialed by the VA. Many are veterans themselves and some are combat veterans. Mr. Davis advised there are no costs and no strings attached to their services. All of services provided by the Vet Center are absolutely free for veterans.

In addition to Binghamton, Mr. Davis stated there are Vet Centers located in Albany, Middletown, Syracuse, and many other major metro areas. They provide a warm atmosphere with comfortable chairs and coffee for veterans. They offer practical and therapeutic services along with counseling services and they offer a community of peer support. They have many kinds of groups where veterans can get together and share common interests such as fly-fishing and crocheting and offer other activity groups that are more fun for veterans.

Vet Centers have virtual options so they can meet veterans over the computer. All the platforms they use are HIPAA certified; they are confidential and secure behind the VA firewall. They are flexible with their schedule and can meet with a veteran pretty much any time the veteran needs to be seen. In addition to their static hard site Vet Centers, they have 80 mobile Vet Centers which are strategically placed along the Eastern seaboard. These mobile Vet Centers go out into the community, set up and provide care for a day. Counselors travel with the Vet Centers and one could be set up in Delaware County for a day as a future possibility.

Mr. Davis said their crisis line 877-WAR-VETS (927-8387) is available 24/7 for when Vet Center is not open. If a veteran is in crisis and calls in, the phone call will automatically roll over to the Combat Veteran Call Center and will be answered by a combat veteran or a licensed therapist.

Mr. Davis indicated the Binghamton Vet Center is located at 53 Chenango Street which is right across from the Greyhound Bus Station. For veterans who are not local, they can find a Vet Center by going online at www.va.gov/find-locations/. He noted his business card was given to each Supervisor along with additional materials on the Vet Center.

Mr. Davis stated veteran suicide is very high right now. To put it into perspective, he compared the population of Delaware County of approximately 46,000 to 141,000 veterans lost to suicide since 2001. He asked Supervisors to please refer veterans who are in need to the Vet Center. His goal is to establish a strong veteran network in Delaware County. He stated Mr. Piper has done a lot of work already and he is available to help any way he can. He noted if anyone has an event they would like him to attend, he would make arrangements to be there.

Mr. Piper indicated that Mr. Davis has been lined up to be on the Suicide Prevention Committee for Delaware County and he will also be working with the Alcohol and Drug Abuse Committee (ADAC). Mr. Piper indicated he would suggest that Mr. Davis also have connections with the Mental Health Facility so they can contact him if needed.

Ms. Molé and the Supervisors thanked Mr. Davis for his presentation.

For Standing Committee Reports, Mr. Tuthill announced that all three units of Mental Health moved into the new Behavioral Health Facility. The offices had a soft opening on Monday.

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

RESOLUTION NO. 165

TITLE: 2021 BUDGET AMENDMENT WINTER YOUTH EMPLOYMENT AND TRAINING PROGRAM DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES

WHEREAS, the Delaware County Department of Social Services is the designated local agency to administer Foster Care programs; and

WHEREAS, the Department believes that this program will assist up to five Foster Children, and/or children in risk of being placed in foster care, in attaining the skills necessary to become productive members of society; and

WHEREAS, all of the funding will be in the form of a grant from the O'Connor Foundation for \$33,808.00.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the 2021 Budget be amended as follows:

INCREASE REVENUE:

10-16010-42270500/6010647/971	Gifts & Donations	\$33,808.00
-------------------------------	-------------------	-------------

INCREASE APPROPRIATION:

10-16010-51000000/6010647/971	Personal Services	\$26,664.00
10-16010-58100000/6010647/971	State Retirement System	\$4,949.00
10-16010-58300000/6010647/971	Social Security Employer Contribution	\$1,653.00
10-16010-58550000/6010647/971	Disability Insurance	\$155.00
10-16010-58900000/6010647/971	Medicare Employer Contribution	\$387.00

The resolution was seconded by Mr. Vernold and adopted by the following vote:
Ayes 4222, Noes 0, Absent 0, Vacant 577 (Sidney).

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

RESOLUTION NO. 166

**TITLE: 2021 BUDGET AMENDMENT
DELAWARE COUNTY LIFEGUARD CERTIFICATION PROGRAM
YOUTH BUREAU**

WHEREAS, the Delaware County Youth Bureau is the designated local agency to administer youth related programs; and

WHEREAS, the need exists to increase the number of certified lifeguards in Delaware County; and

WHEREAS, \$13,178 of the funding will be in the form of a grant from the O'Connor Foundation; and

WHEREAS, the Department has sufficient appropriations remaining within the current 2021 Budget to provide the \$1,822 in matching funds if needed.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the 2021 Budget be amended as follows:

INCREASE REVENUE:

10-17310-42207000/7310009/987	Contributions Private Agencies Youth	\$15,000.00
-------------------------------	--------------------------------------	-------------

INCREASE APPROPRIATION:

10-17310-54405050/7310009/987	Delaware County Lifeguard Certification Prg	\$15,000.00
-------------------------------	---	-------------

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

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

RESOLUTION NO. 167

**TITLE: 2021 BUDGET AMENDMENT
TRANSFER OF FUNDS
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS**

WHEREAS, the equipment rental line in the capital budget remains well above the balance we would anticipate at this time of year; and

WHEREAS, all of the funds in the maintenance line for equipment rental have been expended; and

WHEREAS, there is still work being done on maintenance;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the 2021 Budget be amended as follows:

DECREASE APPROPRIATION:

34-15112-55000000 Equipment Rental \$295,000.00

DECREASE REVENUE:

34-15112-45503100 Transfer from General Fund \$295,000.00

DECREASE APPROPRIATION:

10-19901-59990310 Operating Transfer OUT to Cap Rd & BR \$295,000.00

INCREASE APPROPRIATION:

24-15110-55000000 Equipment Rental \$295,000.00

INCREASE REVENUE:

24-15110-45503100 Transfer from General Fund \$295,000.00

INCREASE APPROPRIATION:

10-19901-59990240 Operating Transfer OUT to ROAD \$295,000.00

The resolution was seconded by Mr. Valente and adopted by the following vote: Ayes 4222, Noes 0, Absent 0, Vacant 577 (Sidney).

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

RESOLUTION NO. 168

**TITLE: AUTHORIZATION FOR DISPOSITION OF PERSONAL PROPERTY
NO LONGER NECESSARY FOR PUBLIC USE
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS**

WHEREAS, Section 215 of the County Law stipulates that the Board of Supervisors must authorize for the disposition of personal property no longer necessary for public use.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Department of Public Works is authorized to sell by on-line auction the following item and all spare parts:

<u>Dept. Vehicle No.</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>SN/VIN</u>
SWMC 847	2002 Komatsu D41E6B Dozer	B30207

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

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

RESOLUTION NO. 169

**TITLE: CHANGE ORDER NO. 2 FOR THE
DELAWARE COUNTY BEHAVIORAL HEALTH FACILITY**

WHEREAS, Resolution No. 105 of 2017 authorized the agreement with C&S Companies for the Preliminary Phase at a fee of \$63,341 which was completed within budget; and

WHEREAS, Phase II of the project consisted of the schematic design, design development, construction documents, bidding and construction phases with a cost estimate of \$470,654; and

WHEREAS, there were several amendments added to the scope of the project which included the design of a second floor shell increasing the cost estimate to \$513,758; and

WHEREAS, a request is being made by C&S for an increase of fee as the contract has exceeded the June 29, 2021 completion date. The additional scope of services will include an extension of full-time construction observation and inspection services for two months or 44 days and project management support as required to maintain the existing level of service.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that Change Order No. 2 is hereby authorized to be executed to amend the Professional Construction Management Services Contract with a not-to-exceed cost plus fixed fee of \$49,813.00.

The resolution was seconded by Mr. Vernold and adopted by the following vote: Ayes 4222, Noes 0, Absent 0, Vacant 577 (Sidney).

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. 170

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, 2021.

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	\$22,434.26	\$22,434.26	
Bovina	\$22,837.13	\$22,837.13	
Colchester	\$35,368.01	\$35,368.01	
Davenport	\$39,587.02	\$39,587.02	
Delhi	\$51,594.89	\$43,932.03	\$7,662.86
Deposit	\$9,316.66	\$8,701.16	\$615.50
Franklin	\$32,858.24	\$31,382.12	\$1,476.12
Hamden	\$18,743.58	\$18,743.58	
Hancock	\$32,514.24	\$29,799.50	\$2,714.74
Harpersfield	\$17,911.29	\$15,987.27	\$1,924.02
Kortright	\$25,041.30	\$25,041.30	
Masonville	\$11,965.90	\$11,965.90	
Meredith	\$15,339.31	\$15,339.31	
Middletown	\$82,951.96	\$75,540.81 FL	\$2,213.74

Town	Amount Allocated to Tax District	Amount Apportioned to Town	Amount Apportioned to Village
			MV \$5,197.41
Roxbury	\$36,620.68	\$36,620.68	
Sidney	\$47,685.64	\$34,516.62	\$13,169.02
Stamford	\$20,156.30	\$15,687.82	ST \$1,941.74
			HO \$2,526.74
Tompkins	\$9,236.08	\$9,236.08	
Walton	\$33,561.52	\$27,601.54	\$5,959.98
Totals ...	\$565,724.01	\$520,322.14	\$45,401.87

The resolution was seconded by Mr. Gladstone and adopted by the following vote:
Ayes 4222, Noes 0, Absent 0, Vacant 577 (Sidney).

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

RESOLUTION NO. 171

TITLE: RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF AN AMENDMENT TO NEW YORK STATE ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION LAW SECTION 11-0903(10) TO ALLOW COUNTIES TO OPT OUT OF THE NEWLY ADOPTED HOLIDAY HUNT FROM DECEMBER 26TH TO JANUARY 1ST IN THE SOUTHERN ZONE OF NEW YORK STATE

WHEREAS, Delaware County enjoys extensive opportunities for many outdoor activities including among others both hunting and snowmobiling; and

WHEREAS, the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) has adopted provisions in Section 11-0903 of the Environmental Conservation Law to allow deer hunting in the Southern Zone between December 26th and January 1st otherwise known as the “Holiday Deer Hunt”; and

WHEREAS, the DEC has proposed an amendment, Section 11-0903(10), to the newly enacted “Holiday Deer Hunt” to allow counties to opt out by passing an annual local law; and

WHEREAS, the DEC is currently accepting comments through November 14, 2021 on the proposed amendment; and

WHEREAS, Delaware County has received comments from many local outdoor enthusiasts regarding this legislation and possible conflicts with use of state funded snowmobile trails throughout the County; and

WHEREAS, Delaware County supports all outdoor recreation opportunities for residents and visitors alike.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Delaware County Board of Supervisors supports the amendment to allow Counties to opt out of the “Holiday Deer Hunt”; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED the Delaware County Board of Supervisors would request that the need for an annual local law be removed in lieu of passing a one-time local law that would allow for counties to opt out; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the Delaware County Board of Supervisors shall forward copies of this resolution to Governor Kathy Hochul, State Senator Frederick J. Akshar, State Senator Peter Oberacker, State Senator Mike Martucci, Assemblyman Brian D. Miller, Assemblyman Christopher Tague, Assemblyman Joe Angelino, and the New York State Association of Counties (NYSAC).

The resolution was seconded by Mr. Vernold.

Ms. Molé said it is her understanding this is not to hurt the hunters but to encourage and support the snowmobiling season in Delaware County. Voting yes is to have the authority to opt out of that one week of additional muzzle loader hunting.

In reply to Mr. Valente as to the decision to be made if this passes, Ms. Molé stated it would authorize the County to be able to opt out.

Concurring with Mrs. Scott, Ms. Molé said it would be for the additional muzzle loader week of December 26 through January 1.

The resolution was adopted by voice vote with one opposed (Ellis).

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

RESOLUTION NO. 172

TITLE: INCLUSION OF AGRICULTURALLY VIABLE LAND INTO CERTIFIED AGRICULTURAL DISTRICTS DURING DESIGNATED THIRTY-DAY PERIOD FOR ANNUAL AGRICULTURAL DISTRICT REVIEW

WHEREAS, the Delaware County Board of Supervisors, in accordance with Chapter 523 of the Laws of 2003 amended NYS Agricultural and Markets Law, designated a thirty-day review period from April 15 to May 14, 2021, during which landowners may submit requests for

inclusion of predominately viable agricultural land within a Certified Agricultural District prior to the County established review period; and

WHEREAS, the Delaware County Agricultural and Farmland Protection Board has verified that each parcel proposed is “viable agricultural land” and meets the eligibility requirements for inclusion into a Certified Agricultural District; and

WHEREAS, the Delaware County Board of Supervisors held a Public Hearing, Wednesday, November 10, 2021 at 1:00 p.m. in the Board of Supervisors Room of the County Office Building, 111 Main Street, Delhi, NY to consider the requests and recommendations of the County Agricultural Farmland Protection Board concerning the inclusion of land(s) into Agricultural Districts No. 2 and 12; and

WHEREAS, the Delaware County Board of Supervisors has authorized the preparation of an Agricultural Environmental Assessment form as required by §303-b of the Agriculture & Markets: Agricultural Districts Law.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Delaware County Board of Supervisors does hereby adopt the inclusion of the following properties into Agricultural Districts No. 2 and 12.

Town of Delhi: Agricultural District No. 2
Tax Map ID# 236.-3-18 (137.04 ac)

Town of Sidney: Agricultural District No. 12
Tax Map ID# 116-1-34.12 (9.6) County Route 23

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

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

RESOLUTION NO. 173

TITLE: PAYMENT OF AUDIT

WHEREAS, bills and claims submitted and duly audited by the Clerk of the Board’s office in the amount of \$2,153,023.54 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	\$941,200.35
OET	\$22,820.74
Public Safety Comm System	\$7,744.60
Insurance Risk	\$0.00
CAP 97 Main	\$539.72
CAP MH	\$634,083.63

Highway Audits, as Follows:

Weights & Measures	\$0.00
Solid Waste/Landfill	\$55,617.42
Road	\$1,764.94
Machinery	\$27,397.82
Capital Solid Waste	\$12,420.00
Capital Road & Bridge	\$394,034.32
CAP DPW Complex	\$55,400.00

The resolution was seconded by Mr. Gladstone and Mr. Taggart and adopted by the following vote: Ayes 4222, Noes 0, Absent 0, Vacant 577 (Sidney).

Mr. Ellis recalled Local Law Intro. No. 3 to set the 2022 salary of Stephen Hood, Director of Emergency Services at \$67,040. The local law was seconded by Mr. Vernold and adopted by the following vote: Ayes 3847, Noes 375 (Davis), Absent 0, Vacant 577 (Sidney).

Ms. Molé indicated for the record that the Town of Middletown did send in a resolution opposing Local Law Intro. Nos. 3 through 14.

Mr. Ellis recalled Local Law Intro. No. 4 to set the 2022 salary of Joseph deMauro, Director of Information Technology at \$87,966. The local law was seconded by Mr. Vernold and adopted by the following vote: Ayes 3847, Noes 375 (Davis), Absent 0, Vacant 577 (Sidney).

Mr. Ellis recalled Local Law Intro. No. 5 to set the 2022 salary of Susan McIntyre, Commissioner of Public Works at \$101,070. The local law was seconded by Mr. Valente and adopted by the following vote: Ayes 3847, Noes 375 (Davis), Absent 0, Vacant 577 (Sidney).

Mr. Ellis recalled Local Law Intro. No. 6 to set the 2022 salary of Judith Garrison, Election Commissioner at \$25,546. The local law was seconded by Mr. Merrill and adopted by the following vote: Ayes 3847, Noes 375 (Davis), Absent 0, Vacant 577 (Sidney).

Mr. Ellis recalled Local Law Intro. No. 7 to set the 2022 salary of Amanda Walsh, Public Health Director at \$95,703. The local law was seconded by Mr. Eisel and adopted by the following vote: Ayes 3847, Noes 375 (Davis), Absent 0, Vacant 577 (Sidney).

Mr. Ellis recalled Local Law Intro. No. 8 to set the 2022 salary of Sherri Falcone, Director of Real Property Tax Services II at \$65,471. The local law was seconded by Mr. Merrill and adopted by the following vote: Ayes 3847, Noes 375 (Davis), Absent 0, Vacant 577 (Sidney).

Mr. Ellis recalled Local Law Intro. No. 9 to set the 2022 salary of Sylvia Armanno, Commissioner of Social Services at \$99,512. The local law was seconded by Mr. Vernold and adopted by the following vote: Ayes 3847, Noes 375 (Davis), Absent 0, Vacant 577 (Sidney).

Mr. Ellis recalled Local Law Intro. No. 10 to set the 2022 salary of Linda Pinner, Personnel Officer at \$78,039. The local law was seconded by Mr. Axtell and adopted by the following vote: Ayes 3847, Noes 375 (Davis), Absent 0, Vacant 577 (Sidney).

Mr. Ellis recalled Local Law Intro. No. 11 to set the 2022 salary of Charles Piper, Director of Veterans Service Agency at \$52,758. The local law was seconded by Mr. Taggart and adopted by the following vote: Ayes 3847, Noes 375 (Davis), Absent 0, Vacant 577 (Sidney).

Mr. Ellis recalled Local Law Intro. No. 12 to set the 2022 salary of Shelly Johnson-Bennett, County Planning Director at \$87,671. The local law was seconded by Mr. Taggart and adopted by the following vote: Ayes 3847, Noes 375 (Davis), Absent 0, Vacant 577 (Sidney).

Mr. Ellis recalled Local Law Intro. No. 13 to set the 2022 salary of Terri Whitney, Director Office for the Aging at \$75,418. The local law was seconded by Mr. Merrill and adopted by the following vote: Ayes 3847, Noes 375 (Davis), Absent 0, Vacant 577 (Sidney).

Mr. Ellis recalled Local Law Intro. No. 14 to set the 2022 salary of Joseph Ermeti, Public Defender at \$140,000. The local law was seconded by Mr. Valente and adopted by the following vote: Ayes 3847, Noes 375 (Davis), Absent 0, Vacant 577 (Sidney).

Ms. Molé commented on the local laws that they just passed saying it is unfortunate that we had this pandemic that has put us in this situation where the federal government has given us what seems like just an unlimited supply of money. There's been so much money that has been given out. There's some departments where we've had to turn money back because we can't spend it all in the timeframe that they give us. What's most unfortunate is that this had to be presented as a means to compensate our department heads. There is not one person on the Board of Supervisors or department head that doesn't know when there is some kind of tragedy or something that makes us work long hours. We know that that is part of our job. This pandemic is still going on. We have more deaths in the last three weeks and more cases of COVID-19 than we have had by far in the first year of this.

Our way of running Delaware County is through a committee system. Most of the questions and comments that were heard during this public hearing today—they were hashed out, they were questioned, and they were answered. The Board of Supervisors really has not said thank you to our employees. We have all worked together as a team. In her job as the Chairman of this Board and going to most every committee meeting, we couldn't have done this without

our employees and especially the department heads. It has been long, exhaustive, frustrating, sad, and a whole host of emotions. She did not like the way that this has been presented, that it's about the department heads. That the perception in the public is they are already over compensated. There are a lot of department heads that didn't make as much as the employees underneath them because of the way our system works. She thanked the Supervisors that voted to support the employees and department heads. She understands the perception this gives, but she wished that everyone out in the community knew what we know, what these employees have gone through over the last year and a half and continue to do so. She thanked the employees and department heads.

Mr. Merrill introduced the tentative budget and said he believes they had a very successful fall developing this budget. They were very careful to eliminate what was considered any extra in the budget. Part of the problem in developing a budget is you have to budget for the worst case scenario. And sometimes, particularly when you get into personal services in a budget, you tend to have too much money in those lines simply because there are vacancies that will not get filled or you're anticipating that whomever fills that vacancy will fill it with the highest rated health insurance. This year they took a look at those numbers and tried to decrease them by a percentage to bring them more realistically into the perspective they have now. Exhibit A on the third page indicates that we are again under the 2% tax cap. The tax levy currently is 1.6975 as a percentage increase over last year. He stated this is the fifth year the County has been under the tax cap. They have been fortunate that our revenues from sales tax and like revenues have remained steady or increased so we have had a successful fiscal year in Delaware County.

He stated he is proud to present this budget the way it is and asked Supervisors to look it over and contact him if there are any questions. He stated this budget will be presented to the public at the next meeting on November 23.

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

RESOLUTION NO. 174

**TITLE: PUBLIC HEARING
2022 TENTATIVE BUDGET**

BE IT RESOLVED that the budget, with the changes discussed, be adopted as the Tentative 2022 Delaware County Budget and a public hearing be held on the 23rd day of November 2021 at 1:00 p.m. in the Supervisors' Room of the County Office Building, 111 Main Street, Delhi, New York.

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

Ms. Molé announced there will be a public hearing on November 23. She said to note that the date is Tuesday. We changed it as we normally do because it's the week of Thanksgiving. This public hearing will be at 1:00 p.m. on Tuesday, November 23.

Mr. Gladstone shared that Mr. Merrill is an outstanding finance chair and budget director. He does a great job.

Mr. Merrill said he appreciates the comment and stated he has a great committee. They have a lot of fun. They work hard but they have a good time.

Mr. Cetta invited anyone that does not have a Veterans Day parade tomorrow to come to Walton. Their Veterans Day parade will start at 10:45 a.m. and the ceremony will commence in front of the old Armory at 11:00 a.m. He shared that today, November 10, is the Marine Corps' birthday.

Upon a motion, the meeting was adjourned at 2:18 p.m.