

**ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING**

**DELAWARE COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**

**JANUARY 4, 2023**

The Organizational Meeting of the Delaware County Board of Supervisors was held Wednesday, January 4, 2023 at 1:00 p.m. in the Supervisors’ Room of the Senator Charles D. Cook County Office Building, 111 Main Street, Delhi, New York.

The Assistant Clerk of the Board, Penny Bishop, called the meeting to order and read the Notice of Meeting:

**TO ALL SUPERVISORS:**

Pursuant to County Law §151 and Board Rule 1, the Organizational Meeting of the Delaware County Board of Supervisors will be held in the Supervisors’ Room of the Senator Charles D. Cook County Office Building, 111 Main Street, Delhi, New York, on Wednesday, January 4, 2023 at 1:00 p.m.

The meeting is called for the purpose of organizing for the year 2023, including election of a Chairman, Vice Chairman, Clerk of the Board, and Budget Officer.

Any other business that may properly be brought before the Board will be conducted.

Christa M. Schafer, Clerk  
Delaware County Board of Supervisors

The Assistant Clerk called the roll by towns and the following Supervisors were present:

Wayland Gladstone	PO Box 125	Andes
Tina B. Molé	PO Box 6, Bovina Center	Bovina
Arthur Merrill	PO Box 321, Downsville	Colchester
Dennis J. Valente	11790 State Highway 23, Davenport Center	Davenport
Mark E. Tuthill	5 Elm Street	Delhi
Thomas A. Axtell	3 Elm Street	Deposit
Jeffrey R. Taggart	511 Heathen Hill Road	Franklin
Wayne E. Marshfield	6754 Basin Clove Road	Hamden
Jerry Vernold	140 East Main Street	Hancock
James E. Eisel, Sr.	22 Wilcox Road	Harpersfield
George E. Haynes, Jr.	51971 State Hwy 10, Bloomville	Kortright
Betty L. Scott	PO Box 313	Masonville
James G. Ellis	4187 Turnpike Road, Delhi	Meredith
Carl Patrick Davis	PO Box 577, Margaretville	Middletown
Allen R. Hinkley	PO Box 189	Roxbury

Eric T. Wilson	279 State Highway 357, Unadilla	Sidney
John S. Kosier	PO Box M, Hobart	Stamford
William Layton	PO Box 139, Trout Creek	Tompkins
Joseph M. Cetta	129 North Street	Walton

Mr. Marshfield offered the invocation.

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

Mrs. Bishop requested nominations for Chairman. Mr. Eisel nominated Tina Molé. The nomination was seconded by Mr. Vernold and Tina Molé was unanimously re-elected as Chairman.

County Clerk Debra Goodrich administered the Oath of Office to Ms. Molé.

Upon a nomination by Mr. Taggart, seconded by Mr. Vernold, Mark Tuthill was unanimously re-elected as Vice Chairman.

Upon a nomination by Mr. Merrill, seconded by Mr. Eisel, Penny Bishop was unanimously elected as Clerk of the Board.

Upon a nomination by Mr. Taggart, seconded by Mr. Eisel, Arthur Merrill was unanimously re-elected as Budget Officer.

Chairman Molé gave the following statement:

“Once again, as we begin a new year I would like to take a moment to reflect on 2022 and comment on progress as we look forward to 2023.

We began 2022 with a renewed balance between work and the ongoing pandemic as we continued to work through the ebbs and flows of the Coronavirus, the vaccines and the continued need to address the ever-changing landscape as imposed by the state and federal governments. The implementation of programs for social reform and the rebuilding of our local economy were priorities as we distributed the American Rescue Plan funds. I believe the careful review and thought put into the expenditure of those funds allowed us to make wise investments in our overall community, supporting the most pressing needs both current and future. Just as a recap we made over 8 million dollars in investments including:

- 2.8 million dollars in upgrades to our county network services and tax system;
- Approximately 1.2 million dollars of investments in broadband improvements throughout the county;
- 1.5 million dollars in a much needed ambulance service for county residents;
- 1 million dollars in farm grants distributed by Cornell Cooperative Extension;
- 350,000 dollars in workforce development;
- 500,000 dollars to preserve our historic Soldiers’ Monument;
- 265,000 dollars in support of improvements at the Delaware County fairgrounds;

- 250,000 dollars in upgrades to our DPW gas pump system which support both the county and local municipal fuel needs;
- 150,000 dollars to develop a much needed county comprehensive plan;
- 134,000 dollars in support of local community projects throughout the County;
- 50,000 dollars to expand the county drone program;
- 50,000 dollars to develop a transportation plan in support of local needs for public transportation; and
- A multi-year investment of \$45,000 to support Helios Care.

The committee and this Board put careful thought into how the dollars could be expended in a manner that best supports all of our county residents. I am truly proud of the work that has been accomplished with this funding and I know that these investments will improve all of our lives here in Delaware County.

Two thousand and twenty-two was not without challenges. Most notably, we were faced with the controversial decision regarding ambulance service and how best to provide this service throughout the county. As with all decisions of this board we worked through the different points of view and narrowly voted to enter into a contract with AMR to provide back-up ambulance service in support of our local emergency squads. The debate and perspectives that were openly and publically discussed showed the commitment of each and every board member and the people that we all represent. I look forward to continuing to look at not only the needs for ambulance service in the county, but also the overall needs of our local volunteer fire departments and emergency squads. As a rural county we need to support our volunteers as they provide these critical services in each individual community and fire district. This is a priority for 2023 and is of utmost importance that we remain vigilant in making sure these services are maintained.

In 2022 we continued to make progress in keeping the general public informed regarding county-wide issues. The demands from the public to be transparent prompted the development of the Delaware County newsletter which launched in the fall of 2021 and continued quarterly throughout 2022. Through the use of social media platforms, we have been able to highlight county projects, introduce county programs and commend county employees who go above and beyond every day. Since launching the county Facebook page during the 2020 pandemic we have continued to reach new people with a current following of 3,100. In the past 30 days we have reached 22,000 Facebook users and we have had 15,000 post engagements with people. In 2023 we will continue to expand the use of social media as a platform to keep the public not only informed but engaged in county business.

During 2022 we completed the Behavioral Health Center in Walton, successfully consolidating these service under one roof. We also broke ground on three new DPW buildings intended to replace the deteriorating buildings on Page Avenue. In 2023 the DPW engineering and administration staff along with the County Planning and Watershed Affairs staff will move into their new facility on Bridge Street while construction will continue to progress on both the new patrol at Bloomville and the Heavy Equipment Repair shop in Walton. DPW also broke ground on improvements at the Solid Waste Management facility allowing us to make improvements to the environment as well as increase the capacity at the facility for the future of

waste management in the county. All of these capital investments have been long overdue and will allow us to provide the best services available to our residents.

In early 2022 we passed a resolution in opposition to the expansion of the New York City funded Streamside Acquisition Program (SAP) which led to the same resolution being adopted by all of the local towns as well as the other West of Hudson watershed counties and the CWT. This led to a series of meetings involving stakeholders and a tour of watershed streamside projects this September in Delaware County. We were able to get the NYC DEP Commissioner along with state and federal regulators to see the work we do with our partners at the Soil and Water Conservation District, Cornell Cooperative Extension and WAC to improve water quality with science-based initiatives. The work put into this effort has resulted in FAD recommendations that include a working group to explore the more robust lease-based streamside programming we presented. I am looking forward to continued work with all of our partners in 2023 to develop science-based watershed protection that enhances our local economy through investments in agriculture, waste management and sustainable development throughout the county.

All of our hard work throughout 2022 resulted in a budget for 2023 boasting a tax increase of less than 1%. In 2023 we will be positioned to pay off all county debt, an accomplishment most counties will never see. I am, as always, impressed by the fiscal responsibility shown by this board as well as our county departments that provide services to our residents with professionalism and expertise often leveraging dollars from grants and outside sources to meet the demands of their jobs.

As 2022 has come to a close we have wished a few important department heads farewell as they enter retirement. Although they will be greatly missed and their contributions will not be forgotten I am looking forward to moving ahead with new leaders, new ideas and new successes.

As I look forward to 2023 I see much work that still needs to be done and goals to be met. With the passing of the Climate Act on December 19, 2022 we will be preparing for new laws, new building codes, new mandates and large investments in renewable energy throughout the county. As with any new land use we will see controversy surrounding some of the projects, several already proposed in the County. As county leaders we must commit to supporting our local communities as they face the changing landscape and be prepared to assist our residents with state mandates as they are adopted and implemented across the state.

We will continue to work on long-term projects including the preservation of the Poor House Cemetery, the construction of a new DSS visitation center here in Delhi and two new shelters to fight homelessness in the county. We will monitor the newly formed county-wide ambulance service and evaluate alternatives for the future. We are committed to continuing negotiations with all watershed stakeholders to support community sustainability in the watershed while coming closer to a limited land acquisition program and enhanced streamside buffer program. We will continue to work with and support the efforts of our county program partners including SWCD, CCE and WAC to protect and preserve agriculture, especially in light of the state's goals for renewable energy as well as continuing to make progress in promoting the agricultural economy of Delaware County. In July 2023 we will host a medical Innovative

Readiness Training with the United States Army to provide no cost medical care to our residents and the surrounding areas. This exciting program being hosted at the Walton high School is the result of efforts by several county departments and not for profits and will be a major highlight of our upcoming summer.

Lastly, I would like to thank all of our dedicated Delaware County employees. As chairman I take the time to attend committee meetings for each of our departments and I am astonished by the amount of work that our employees accomplish with limited resources and staff. Like other employers we continue to face a shortage of workers and our departments are doing more with less every day. I have personally witnessed staff commitments being met through remote working, work sharing and support of each other between departments. We are fortunate to have such dedicated and resourceful employees. I have been humbled to see the comradery and support for each other through the department heads. Delaware County has often received recognition at state and federal levels for the team approach we take to meet the needs of our county. I attribute this to the professionalism, resourcefulness and dedication of our very talented workforce. For that, all I can say is Thank you.”

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.

Ms. Molé granted permission of the floor to Chairman of the Public Safety Committee Wayland Gladstone, who introduced Delaware County Sheriff Craig DuMond.

Sheriff DuMond expressed it was a privilege to discuss the new Delaware County Threat Assessment Team (DELTAT). We are experiencing unprecedented threats throughout the state as well as the country on a regular basis. As a result of those acts of domestic terrorism and highlighted by the act of terrorism that took place last year in Buffalo at the TOPS market, Governor Kathy Hochul issued Executive Order No. 18 for every county to develop and submit a threat assessment plan. These plans can be supplemented by a threat assessment team. Sheriff DuMond agreed that this executive order was necessary and introduced Brian Perazone who works with the Sheriff as a special advisor. Mr. Perazone is a retired Lieutenant Colonel who spent 30 years in the U.S. Army, including combat deployments to Afghanistan, Iraq, and Bosnia. He holds a master’s degree in general administration from Central Michigan University, a bachelor’s degree in Sociology, and has over 25 years of experience in combat marksmanship as well as being a Harvard University technical advisor for engineering and applied sciences. Sheriff DuMond stated he couldn’t imagine anyone better to assist in coming up with a threat assessment plan than someone like Mr. Perazone who has direct practical experience, including experience in foreign environments.

Mr. Perazone proceeded to give a Power Point presentation and explained that DELTAT is a threat assessment management team facilitated by the Delaware County Sheriffs Office, the goal being to advise stakeholders on the mitigation of threats to the County. The team will act in collaboration with government and community stakeholders with a range of expertise and resources dedicated to identifying, assessing, and managing the risks of potential violence in the

community. The team is composed of individuals who can give different perspectives within the County, including those from social services, education, law enforcement, and large employers. This team fulfills the requirements of Executive Order No. 18, which every county was required to establish by the end of December 2022.

Mr. Perazone explained that as a smaller county, we do not have the infrastructure or activities in this county that a lot of larger counties have. When examining potential threats, the probability of something happening is limited by this constraint. Identifying potential threats and developing and implementing strategies to mitigate these potential threats is the core mission of the team. Accomplishing this goal will require awareness from people about what is going on throughout the County. Assessing threats will also involve the 'Pathway to Violence' developed by the FBI which in part asserts that violence isn't generally inflicted suddenly but rather plotted over a period of time and involving multiple steps before execution of a violent plan. The goal is to divert violent intentions prior to a violent act being carried out.

In regards to school shooters, Mr. Perazone explained that there are three common threads to these offenders. Mental illness is what drives a lot of societal dysfunction, and even when it is not present, school attackers almost always exhibit common traits of extreme resentment, anger, and desire for revenge because of perceived social alienation. Broken homes are also a factor, as observing acts of violence and dysfunction promote violent action. Familial dynamics where there is an absent parent, divorce, or domestic violence are common in the majority of school attackers' backgrounds. Economic insecurity is also a common issue, and a major study by criminologists at Northwestern University looked at the effects of economic conditions on the prevalence of school shootings concluded that there is a significant correlation between periods of increased economic insecurity and periods of increased gun violence at schools. Interest in violent movies, themes of violence in their writing, and known history of weapons use are also notable harbingers of violent acts at schools. An example of this is the school shooter last year in the Midwest; a teacher had observed concerning writings and drawings, but this indicator of possible violence was ignored with tragic consequence. The majority of attacks occur during the school day and 95% of attackers are current students. Weapons are often acquired from the individuals' own home or that of a relative; the attacks are almost always planned out in advance, and the attacker has often been exhibiting concerning behavior prior to the attack. Security measures as well as taking information which arises from instances of concern ahead of a possible attack will be integral, and all part of what DELTAT utilizes to mitigate the probability of violent acts.

Mr. Perazone continued that potential offenders are often 'Involuntarily Celibate' (INCEL), an example being the Idaho murder suspect who is accused of stabbing four people to death, three of whom were young females. Traits of such individuals include being a loner, having been bullied (especially by females), being socially awkward, introverted, and inability to establish or maintain interpersonal relationships. INCELS often post on social media, including direct threats, though they are often not taken seriously and are ignored.

The Delaware County Threat Assessment Plan takes into account the current threat environment as well as seek to identify stakeholders for potential inclusion in the Threat Assessment Management team (TAM) which will be established. Intelligence and information

sharing networks as well as public outreach strategies, a threat reporting and management process, training for responders, physical security measures for critical infrastructure, safety planning support for schools, grant funding, and the sharing of unique domestic terrorism and targeted violence prevention plans and activities will all be integral topics. Establishing a standardized process to assess the safety of a school setting is also a high priority. Other current threats include any governmental buildings and civic infrastructure contained within the County, the two reservoirs, the SUNY Campus in Delhi, a ski resort, several large summer resorts, and large employers with over 100 employees. Risk assessments which have been conducted indicate that the highest risk of terrorism faced in our County would be an attack on a large group by simple means such as an active shooter or sabotage of local critical infrastructure. Mr. Perazone explained that though it is impossible to stop all possible threats, deliberate and serious efforts are being made to reach those who are at the highest risk of taking violent action which is their goal.

In response to Mr. Marshfield, Mr. Perazone agreed that having one of the largest electrical substations in the world here in Delaware County is a potential threat.

Sheriff DuMond further agreed, and explained that ‘hardening’ these locations which are at risk is impossible but that active prevention with the threat assessment team is the best way to mitigate potential violent acts. The most common feedback after the fact is that members of the community knew there were red flags prior to the violent act, and involving the community and providing resources to actively prevent violent acts will be the most effective protection. Determining if the individual or individuals are on the FBI’s ‘Pathway to Violence’ and if there is an immediate threat will guide the resources and feedback the team provides to the reporting entity.

Mr. Perazone continued to explain that the School Resource Officer Program (SRO) is an additional resource that can facilitate intelligence and information sharing. The SRO presence in schools provides for opportunities to engage youth and faculty as well as observe the dynamics of the school environment. Information sharing between entities such as the SRO, FBI, New York State Police, and local law enforcement will be imperative to the success of DELTAT, as will regular meetings which will occur to reduce gaps within the information sharing network. Another integral component of DELTAT will be educating the public about how it works and how to notify DELTAT when appropriate. Utilizing County resources, an awareness campaign will be developed and implemented in order to provide public awareness of the mission and purpose to citizens in the county. Information will be shared with the public through Public Service Announcements, informational meetings, publicity through newspapers and other media such as social media.

The threat reporting process will be developed by the stakeholders, who will have been trained in threat assessment. Stakeholders themselves are community members, who will also perform outreach to other local organizations and interested parties. Threats can be reported directly to the Delaware County Sheriffs Office through the anonymous tip line or through 911 for imminent threats. Once reported, the potential threat cases will be presented to the Team for assessment, and for development of courses of action to mitigate the threat. The DELTAT coordinator will track cases and ensure that all parties assigned to the cases will update the

committee until such time as they determine the threat to be mitigated and stabilized. There is also future potential of coordination between adjoining county TAM teams and the possibility of a state level reporting system. As terroristic threats are continually evolving, the assessment process must evolve accordingly as well, conforming to the unique needs of each community in the county.

Mr. Perazone furthered that the Delaware County Sheriffs Office conducts active shooter training where shooter scenarios may occur, and are trained in current response techniques to stop threats and reduce casualties. The Sheriffs Office will also explore and develop a civilian oriented active shooter training program for community organizations seeking instruction for their employees and members. Though shooting scenarios can happen anywhere, schools specifically present a complex and logically challenging environment in which to set up practical active shooter training. However, these essential training opportunities can be coordinated through close cooperation with local schools. The Sheriffs Office as well as the Delaware County Department of Emergency Services have utilized multiple grant sources to fund the DELTAT, the grants being comprised of increasing capabilities for fighting terrorism for the specific discipline they serve. The Public Safety Answering Point (PSAP) Grant specifically helps maintain an interoperable communications system whereby first responders from all levels of government can communicate incident information in real time on one system. The State Law Enforcement Terrorism Prevention Program (SHSP/SLETPP) grant has been used to provide security for election polling locations. The Hazardous Materials Grant provides funding for equipment utilized for HazMat operations in the event of a terrorist attack. The Emergency Management Performance Grant (EMPG) provides equipment, resources, and training utilized in managing overall operations during a terrorist event.

In conclusion, Mr. Perazone reiterated that the focus of all efforts is on prevention of terroristic and violent acts, and such proactive initiatives are intended to provide a source of support for individuals to help eliminate grievances and potentially keep the individual from escalating on the pathway to violence. Intervention before action has saved many lives, and diverting individuals from a negative pathway to a positive is integral.

In response to Mr. Marshfield, Sheriff DuMond explained that a simplified and streamlined violence prevention and mitigation plan will be available in the future to pass along to towns and villages to assist them in active shooter or violent threat situations. The Sheriffs Office has in the past and will continue to evaluate specific targets and assist members of the community at risk of being targeted by violence, most notably religious institutions and schools.

In response to Mr. Gladstone, Sheriff DuMond asserted that at this time there are no other sources of grant funding other than those already mentioned. At this time, the most urgently needed component is a mobile command center which is already on order, and is a grant-funded purchase in conjunction with the Department of Emergency Services.

In response to Mr. Kosier, Mr. Perazone explained that there isn't necessarily a direct correlation between the terroristic type of violence which DELTAT will be focused on and drug usage of perpetrators. He further explained that it is possible drug usage is a factor in some cases as it can be associated with domestic violence, family dysfunction, and mental health issues, but



is not identified as a primary factor. Significant mental health issues are the most common denominator.

In response to Mr. Kosier, Sheriff DuMond explained the timeline for initiating DELTAT includes another meeting this month. The 30 or more attendees from the last meeting were asked to bring potential cases for evaluation at the next meeting and will also receive more training. Training was provided at the initial meeting as well but learning the 'Pathway to Violence' model will take time and have a learning curve.

In response to Mr. Eisel, Sheriff DuMond confirmed that assessing and evaluating school safety is a top priority, and that a school attack is the biggest threat.

In response to Mr. Marshfield, Sheriff DuMond confirmed that DELTAT will be an ongoing committee, and that it is anticipated that it will be needed long-term. The threats faced are always evolving and the focus of the team will be to stay on top of the multitude of dysfunction and threats which are not anticipated to go away anytime soon.

Chairman Molé thanked Sheriff DuMond and Brian Perazone for the presentation.

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

#### **RESOLUTION NO. 1**

##### **TITLE: RE-APPOINTMENT COMMISSIONER BOARD OF ELECTIONS DEMOCRAT**

**BE IT RESOLVED** that Judith Garrison is hereby reappointed as the Democratic Commissioner of Elections for a term of two years effective January 1, 2023 and ending December 31, 2024 at the salary contained in the budget.

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

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

#### **RESOLUTION NO. 2**

##### **TITLE: RE-APPOINTMENT DIRECTOR OF EMERGENCY SERVICES**

**BE IT RESOLVED** that Stephen Hood is hereby reappointed as Director of Emergency Services for a term of four years effective January 1, 2023, and ending December 31, 2026, at the salary contained in the budget.

The resolution was seconded by Mr. Axtell and adopted by voice vote with one opposed (Taggart).

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

**RESOLUTION NO. 3**

**TITLE: RE-APPOINTMENT OF DIRECTOR OFFICE FOR THE AGING**

**BE IT RESOLVED** that Wayne Shepard is hereby reappointed as Director Office for the Aging for a term of two years effective January 1, 2023, and ending December 31, 2024, at the salary contained in the budget.

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

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

**RESOLUTION NO. 4**

**TITLE: APPOINTMENT PERSONNEL OFFICER**

**BE IT RESOLVED** that because Linda Pinner is retiring from the position of Personnel Officer before her term would have expired on April 27, 2025;

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** pursuant to Article 2, Section 15 of the Civil Service Law, Carrara Knoetgen is hereby appointed as Personnel Officer to fulfill the remainder of her term from January 5, 2023 through April 27, 2025 at the base salary for the position.

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

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

**RESOLUTION NO. 5**

**TITLE: RE-APPOINTMENT OF PUBLIC DEFENDER**

**BE IT RESOLVED** that Joseph Ermeti is hereby reappointed as Public Defender for a term of two years effective January 1, 2023 and ending December 31, 2024 at the salary of \$180,000 in addition to any on-call pay incurred.

The resolution was seconded by Mr. Valente.

In response to Mr. Marshfield, Ms. Molé and Mr. Valente confirmed that the \$180,000.00 salary is not state mandated. Mr. Marshfield furthered that he is in favor of the appointment, but on behalf of the residents of the County, he is not in favor of the salary.

In response to Mr. Eisel, Ms. Molé stated that not all of the salary is state funded.

Mr. Taggart added that we are very fortunate to have a Public Defender's Office doing such a great job obtaining state funds for the department.

Mr. Marshfield replied that many of the County departments do a great job obtaining state funds, but the salary for the Public Defender started out at \$105,000.00 in 2020, and was raised to \$140,000.00 in 2022. The budget for the Public Defenders Office has gone from \$457,000.00 to \$671,000.00. He feels the program has been well-supported and that furthers his reason for opposing the salary increase to \$180,000.00.

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

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

### **RESOLUTION NO. 6**

#### **TITLE: RE-APPOINTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH DIRECTOR**

**BE IT RESOLVED** that Amanda Walsh is hereby reappointed as Public Health Director for a term of six years effective January 1, 2023, and ending December 31, 2028, at the salary contained in the budget.

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

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

### **RESOLUTION NO. 7**

#### **TITLE: APPOINTMENT OF COMMISSIONER OF PUBLIC WORKS**

**BE IT RESOLVED** that James Thomas is hereby appointed as Commissioner of Public Works for a term of four years effective January 5, 2023, and ending January 4, 2027, at Labor Grade 56, Step 5.

The resolution was seconded by Mr. Vernold.

Mr. Haynes gave the following statement:

“I would just like to take a moment to thank Sue for her many years of service to Delaware County.

Thank her for her vision and leadership with solid waste. From her work with the compost facility to the new MRF building to the construction of many new cells to the reclamation of old cells and her vision and years of work to allow us to expand beyond the original footprint of the landfill.

Thank her for stepping up to be DPW Commissioner when we needed one even though it meant she would be working past her planned retirement date. Sue’s 4-year term was a seamless transition, day to day operations continued without a hitch and her leadership helped us through

our struggle to site, design and build a new DPW facility or facilities as it turned out to be.

We will certainly miss Sue, but I feel we are in good hands with Jim.”

The resolution was unanimously adopted.

Chairman Molé asked Commissioner McIntyre to say a few words.

Ms. McIntyre stood and expressed her thanks to the Board of Supervisors, to the department heads, and to the media for being a conduit to the world, as well as for the trust and faith which was placed in her which made challenging situations surmountable. She also expressed that she wanted to make sure that the value of our staff here at the County is recognized. What is accomplished by department heads can only be achieved because of the hard work of all involved. Ms. McIntyre then stated she is officially transferring the command of the department to Mr. Jim Thomas, handing him the keys and congratulating him.

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

#### **RESOLUTION NO. 8**

##### **TITLE: RE-APPOINTMENT OF STOP DWI COORDINATOR**

**BE IT RESOLVED** that Scott Glueckert is hereby reappointed as Stop DWI Coordinator for a term of two years effective January 1, 2023, and ending December 31, 2024, at the salary contained in the budget.

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

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

#### **RESOLUTION NO. 9**

##### **TITLE: RE-APPOINTMENT DIRECTOR OF VETERANS SERVICE AGENCY**

**BE IT RESOLVED** that in accordance with Section 357 of the Executive Law, the re-appointment of Charles Piper by the Chairman of the Board as Director of Veterans Service Agency for a term of office of two years effective January 1, 2023, and ending December 31, 2024, at the salary contained in the budget is hereby approved; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that in accordance with Section 148 of the General Municipal Law, Charles Piper is hereby designated as the person to oversee the burial of members of the Armed Forces of the United States and their families who do not have sufficient means to defray their funeral expenses.

The resolution was seconded by Mr. Taggart.

Mr. Marshfield stated that Mr. Piper is a great asset to the County, and he is proud to offer the resolution to re-appoint someone who is so dedicated to our veterans.

Mr. Taggart agreed that Mr. Piper does a fantastic job.

The resolution was unanimously adopted.

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

**RESOLUTION NO. 10**

**TITLE: RE-APPOINTMENT OF YOUTH BUREAU DIRECTOR**

**BE IT RESOLVED** that Sylvia Armanno is hereby reappointed as Youth Bureau Director for a term of one year effective January 1, 2023, and ending December 31, 2023.

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

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

**RESOLUTION NO. 11**

**TITLE: DESIGNATION OF DEPOSITORY FOR DELAWARE COUNTY FUNDS**

**BE IT RESOLVED**, pursuant to Section 212 of the County Law, as amended and now in force, the bank hereinafter specified is hereby designated as a depository for County Funds, together with the maximum amount that may be kept on deposit therein at any one time, and the County Treasurer is hereby authorized and directed to deposit County monies in the bank herein designated; and

**BE IT RESOLVED**, the County Treasurer is authorized to wire funds and use electronic transfer of funds (ACH) from or to each facility; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that one certified copy of the resolution shall be filed in the office of the County Clerk, one in the office of the State Comptroller and two in the office of the County Treasurer by the Clerk of the Board of Supervisors.

Wayne Bank	\$120,000,000.00
The Delaware National Bank of Delhi	\$40,000,000.00
The Delaware National Bank of Delhi (Court and Trust Fund Designated by NYS Comptroller)	\$2,000,000.00
The National Bank and Trust Company	\$80,000,000.00

Key Bank	\$250,000.00
JP Morgan (New Adoption)	\$250,000.00

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

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

**RESOLUTION NO. 12**

**TITLE: 2023 BUDGET AMENDMENT  
PUBLIC DEFENDER’S OFFICE**

**WHEREAS**, the New York State Office of Indigent Legal Services (ILS) provides funding to counties statewide in order to improve the quality of mandated criminal defense representation; and

**WHEREAS**, ILS has reviewed the budget submitted by the Public Defender’s Office and has determined that an increase to the salary of the part-time attorney position is needed; and

**WHEREAS**, said increase and additional funding will be provided by ILS to offset the cost of personal services to ensure timely representation is provided.

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the 2023 Budget be amended as follows:

**INCREASE REVENUE:**

10-11171-43302500	State Aid Indig Legal Svs Fund	\$56,845.00
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**INCREASE APPROPRIATION:**

10-11171-51000000	Personal Services Expense	\$47,101.00
10-11171-58100000	Retirement	\$6,141.00
10-11171-58300000	Social Security Emplr Contrib	\$2,920.00
10-11171-58900000	Medicare Emplr Contrib	\$683.00

The resolution was seconded by Mr. Valente.

In response to Mr. Marshfield, Mr. Eisel confirmed that the increase in appropriation to Personal Services Expense is part of the increase in the salary of the Public Defender to \$180,000.00.

The resolution was adopted by the following vote: Ayes 4667, Noes 132 (Marshfield), Absent 0.

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

**RESOLUTION NO. 13**

**TITLE: AUTHORIZATION FOR AWARDS  
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS**

**LETTING OF DECEMBER 15, 2022**

**WHEREAS**, DPW has been tasked with the Demolition of the Flood Buyout houses in the Village of Sidney; and

**WHEREAS**, this project is driven by the New York State Department of Homeland Security & Emergency Services (DHSES) and the Governor’s Office of Storm Recovery (GOSR); and

**WHEREAS**, DPW has issued bids for the controlled demolition of residential houses with asbestos in place; and

**WHEREAS**, Notice to Bidders and proposals received having been filed and the bidding procedures and documents having been approved by the County Attorney.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the County Department of Public Works is authorized to make awards to the lowest bidder meeting specifications, once GOSR approval has been received, as follows:

PROPOSAL FB4-22	Controlled Demolition of Residential Building with Asbestos in Place to: Contento’s Recycling, LLC, 119 ½ Pendleton Street, Cortland, NY 13045
Bid Price:	\$148,000.00

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

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

**RESOLUTION NO. 14**

**TITLE: PAYMENT OF MACHINERY RENTALS  
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS**

**WHEREAS**, various authorized expenditures from the Machinery Fund are being made, especially for the purchase of new equipment; and

**WHEREAS**, anticipated rentals earned from the County Road Fund appear insufficient to meet those expenditures during the next several months.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the County Treasurer is hereby authorized to pay in advance such highway equipment rentals as are necessary to cover the cash needs of the Machinery Fund; and to credit subsequent rental warrants against the amount so advanced, provided that the total advanced and credited shall not exceed the amounts authorized in the budget for 2023.

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

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

**RESOLUTION NO. 15**

**TITLE: AUTHORIZING THE IMPLEMENTATION, AND FUNDING IN THE FIRST INSTANCE 100% OF THE FEDERAL-AID AND STATE “MARCHISELLI” PROGRAM-AID ELIGIBLE COSTS, OF A TRANSPORTATION FEDERAL-AID PROJECT, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFORE**

**WHEREAS**, a Project for the Arbor Hill Road over Little Delaware River P.I.N. 9754.97 (the Project) is eligible for funding under Title 23 U.S. Code, as amended, that calls for the apportionment of the costs of said program to be borne at the ratio of 80% Federal funds and 20% non-Federal funds; and

**WHEREAS**, the County of Delaware desires to advance the Project by making a commitment of 100% of the Federal and non-Federal share of the costs of the Preliminary Engineering/Design, Right-of-Way Incidentals, Right-of-Way Acquisition and Construction, Construction Support and Construction Inspection work.

**NOW, THEREFORE**, the Delaware County Board of Supervisors, duly convened does hereby

**RESOLVE** that the Delaware County Board of Supervisors hereby approves the above-subject project; and it is further

**RESOLVED** that the Delaware County Board of Supervisors hereby authorizes the County of Delaware to pay in the first instance 100% of the Federal and non-Federal share of the cost of the Construction, Construction Support and Construction Inspection work for the Project or portions thereof; and it is further

**RESOLVED** that the sum of \$4,772,000.00 is hereby appropriated from 34-15112-54000000 and made available to cover the cost of participation in the above phase of the Project; and it is further

**RESOLVED** that in the event the full Federal and non-Federal share costs of the Project exceeds the amount appropriated above, the Delaware County Board of Supervisors shall convene as soon as possible to appropriate said excess amount immediately upon the notification by the New York State Department of Transportation thereof, and it is further



**RESOLVED** that the Chairman of the Board of the Delaware County Board of Supervisors be and is hereby authorized to execute all necessary Agreements, certifications or reimbursement requests for Federal Aid and/or Marchiselli Aid on behalf of the County of Delaware with the New York State Department of Transportation in connection with the advancement or approval of the Project and providing for the administration of the Project and the municipality's first instance funding of Project costs and permanent funding of the local share of federal-aid and state-aid eligible Project costs and all Project costs within appropriations therefore that are not so eligible, and it is further

**RESOLVED** that a certified copy of this resolution be filed with the New York State Commissioner of Transportation by attaching it to any necessary Agreement in connection with the Project, and it is further

**RESOLVED** this resolution shall take effect immediately.

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

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

#### **RESOLUTION NO. 16**

#### **TITLE: TAX EXEMPTION FOR PERSONS 65 YEARS OF AGE OR OVER RESCIND RESOLUTION NO. 174 OF 2008 REAL PROPERTY TAX SERVICES**

**WHEREAS**, the existing income ceiling of \$10,600 for the Real Property tax exemption for persons 65 and older in Delaware County is no longer effective in protecting the most vulnerable of this County's citizens;

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that Resolution No 174 of 2008, entitled: *Tax Exemption for Persons 65 Years of Age or Over*, is hereby rescinded and the following be adopted for granting real property tax exemption for persons 65 and older in Delaware County.

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that, pursuant to the authority granted by Sec. 467 of the Real Property Tax Law, real property within the County of Delaware owned by one or more persons, each of who is 65 years of age or over, or real property within the county owned by husband and wife, one of who is 65 years of age or over, shall be exempt from county tax levy according to the following schedule based on income of the owner or combined income of the owners of the property for the tax year immediately preceding the date of application:

Income of \$22,000 or less			50% exemption
Income more than \$22,000 but less than	\$22,999		45% exemption
Income more than \$23,000 but less than	\$23,999		40% exemption
Income more than \$24,000 but less than	\$24,999		35% exemption

Income more than	\$25,000	but less than	\$25,999	30% exemption
Income more than	\$26,000	but less than	\$26,999	25% exemption
Income more than	\$27,000	but less than	\$27,999	20% exemption
Income more than	\$28,000			NO exemption

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that all of the provisions of Sec. 467 of the Real Property Tax Law shall apply in the administration and interpretation of this resolution and such exemption shall not be granted unless the applicant qualified thereunder.

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

Mr. Valente stated that the Town of Davenport will be bringing up their exemptions to match this resolution exactly, and that it is very necessary as it has been 14 years since it has been adjusted. He recommended all other Towns consider doing the same.

Mr. Cetta stated that the Town of Walton had done something equitable last month.

Mr. Hinkley stated that the Town of Roxbury had as well.

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

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

**RESOLUTION NO. 17**

**TITLE: DESIGNATION OF PUBLICATION  
OF LOCAL LAWS AND NOTICES: DEMOCRAT**

**WHEREAS**, the Democratic Party having designated the Mountain Eagle for the purpose of publishing notices pursuant to County Law 214 (2);

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that pursuant to County Law 214 (2) that the Mountain Eagle is designated for the calendar year 2023 to publish local laws and notices.

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

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

**RESOLUTION NO. 18**

**TITLE: DESIGNATION OF PUBLICATION  
OF LOCAL LAWS AND NOTICES: REPUBLICAN**

**WHEREAS**, the Republican Party having designated The Hancock Herald for the

purpose of publishing notices pursuant to County Law 214 (2);

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that pursuant to County Law 214 (2) that The Hancock Herald is designated for the calendar year 2023 to publish local laws and notices.

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

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

**RESOLUTION NO. 19**

**TITLE: PAYMENT OF AUDIT**

**WHEREAS**, bills and claims submitted and duly audited by the Clerk of the Board’s office in the amount of \$3,455,873.25 were hereby presented to the Finance Committee for approval for payment on December 30, 2022 prior to presentation to the Board of Supervisors;

**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	\$1,009,024.41
OET	\$8,197.43
Public Safety Comm System	\$883.75
Insurance Risk	\$0.00
CAP 97 Main	\$0.00
CAP MH	\$0.00
CAP DSS	\$0.00
Highway Audits, as Follows:	
Weights & Measures	\$1,133.87
Solid Waste/Landfill	\$114,453.73
Road	\$77,688.21
Machinery	\$52,801.59
Capital Solid Waste	\$274,147.60
Capital Road & Bridge	\$283,560.43
CAP DPW Complex	\$1,633,982.23

**WHEREAS**, bills and claims submitted and duly audited by the Clerk of the Board’s office in the amount of \$231,215.16 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	\$214,186.84
OET	\$0.00
Public Safety Comm System	\$0.00
Insurance Risk	\$0.00
CAP 97 Main	\$0.00
CAP MH	\$0.00
CAP DSS	\$0.00
Highway Audits, as Follows:	
Weights & Measures	\$0.00
Solid Waste/Landfill	\$2,439.55
Road	\$0.00
Machinery	\$14,588.77
Capital Solid Waste	\$0.00
Capital Road & Bridge	\$0.00
CAP DPW Complex	\$0.00

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

Mr. Marshfield requested to make an informative statement. He explained that Hamden, Hancock, Masonville, and Deposit belong to the Upstate NY Towns Association. The Association has been heavily promoting the use of the \$45.5 billion dollars in funding which the federal government has been allotted to assist communities which are in need of broadband internet. A map has been created to designate what broadband services are available at residences and businesses. Unfortunately, the timeframe to challenge any incorrect information on the map is waning, and it is integral to spread the information in order to reach the citizens of the County in time for them to respond.

Mrs. Scott agreed with Mr. Marshfield, adding that it is incredibly important for citizens to look up their addresses as the maps are very wrong. Though Delhi Telephone has done a great job expanding broadband, there are many citizens who are still underserved, and if the maps go unchallenged we run the risk of losing out on this funding.

Chief Planner Shelly Johnson-Bennett added that GIS Coordinator Spencer Devaul is on a committee which is headed by Southern Tier 8, an organization which has been appointed by the state to represent our counties to ensure the maps are accurately reviewed. Mr. Devaul is doing a GIS analysis in comparison for all properties and submitting comments back through Southern Tier 8. Information is being disseminated through the County Facebook page so all residents can access and check the correctness of the information. Currently, there are just under thirty thousand properties which have broadband access, which we know is inaccurate. Every two weeks there is a meeting with Southern Tier 8, and the project has been in progress for two and a half years. She also indicated that the State is anticipated to extend the deadline for submission of comments.

Chairman Molé made the following committee appointments:

**COMMUNITY SERVICES BOARD**

**4-year term ending December 31, 2026**

Reappoint:

Dotti Kruppo

Dr. Christine Rackley

MaryAnn Geraghty

**COOPERATIVE EXTENSION SERVICE**

**1-year term ending December 31, 2023**

Reappoint:

Supervisor Wayland Gladstone

**DELAWARE COUNTY INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AGENCY**

**3-year term ending December 31, 2025**

Reappoint:

Bruce Dolph

Scott White

**DELAWARE COUNTY PLANNING BOARD**

**3-year term ending December 31, 2025**

Reappoint:

Matthew Gray

William Outsen

**HEALTH SERVICES ADVISORY BOARD**

**2-year term ending December 31, 2024**

Appoint:

Wayne Shepard, Director Office for the Aging

Reappoint:

Supervisor Art Merrill

Supervisor Eric Wilson

Supervisor Joe Cetta

Supervisor Wayne Marshfield

Dr. Rohan Jayasena, Medical Director

**SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT BOARD**

**1-year term ending December 31, 2023**

Reappoint:

Supervisor James Ellis

Supervisor Jeffrey Taggart

**3-year term ending December 31, 2025**

Reappoint:

Frank Bachler

**TOURISM ADVISORY BOARD**

**3-year term ending December 31, 2025**

Appoint:

John Campbell, Franklin

Reappoint:

Supervisor Art Merrill

**YOUTH BUREAU BOARD**

**3-year term ending December 31, 2025**

Appoint:

Jamie Smith, Big Buddy Coordinator, Delaware Opportunities

Reappoint:

Jeff Staples

Meghan Starring

Pamela Hladik

Wayne Marshfield, Hamden Town Supervisor

Mr. Valente added a thank you to those who serve on the Boards as most of them are volunteers who give up their time to assist.

Ms. Molé noted that Standing Oversight Committee appointments will remain the same until changes are announced at the next Board meeting.

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

**RESOLUTION NO. 20**

**TITLE: EXECUTIVE SESSION**

**BE IT RESOLVED** that the Delaware County Board of Supervisors convene in executive session to discuss contract negotiations.

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

The meeting reconvened in regular session with all Supervisors present except Mr. Merrill and Mr. Eisel.

Upon a motion, the meeting was adjourned at 2:50 p.m.