

**Finance Meeting
May 24, 2023**

Attendees

Committee: Art Merrill, Wayland Gladstone, George Haynes, John Kosier, Wayne Marshfield, Jeff Taggart, Mark Tuthill, Tina Molé

Staff: Beverly Shields, Amy Merklen, Penny Bishop, Kathy Preston

Mr. Merrill called the meeting to order at 10:40 a.m.

On a motion by Mr. Kosier and seconded by Mr. Taggart, the draft minutes of the May 10 meeting were unanimously approved.

The April 2023 Bank Balance report and 2022 Year End Balance Sheet were reviewed. Mrs. Shields explained that school districts are made whole in April.

Mr. Merrill noted that with the BAN paid off, the only debt remaining is the bond for the Emergency Services towers. Mrs. Shields confirmed the bond cannot be paid off outside the bond schedule. Mr. Merrill noted the bond is at 3% interest. In reply to Mr. Haynes if a fund balance could be set up to pay the bond, Mr. Merrill said a restricted fund balance could certainly be set up for that purpose. Mrs. Preston confirmed April 1, 2026, is the first call date for optional bond redemption information. Mr. Haynes made a motion to assign funds to a restricted fund balance to pay off the bond for the towers when allowed. The motion was seconded by Mr. Gladstone and unanimously carried.

Mr. Haynes stated the DPW Committee is requesting additional funding for surfacing County Route 16 as well as for T&L which will cost approximately \$1,000,000. DPW is looking to move \$400,000 from their fund balance and are asking for an additional \$600,000 from general fund balance. Mr. Haynes said the road is in worse shape than they thought. They plan to oil and stone the road but it also needs T&L. Mr. Kosier commented the project is not eligible for CHIPs under the timeline. Mr. Gladstone made a motion to move \$600,000 from the General Fund balance to Highway Fund balance. The motion was seconded by Mr. Haynes and approved four to three (Taggart, Marshfield, Tuthill opposed).

Treasurer's Office – Beverly Shields

Mrs. Shields noted she only received responses from two second bidders and presented a not-prefiled resolution for sale of tax-acquired property on properties located in Colchester and in Bovina. She distributed a list of 14 no-sale properties from the April 1 auction that will be offered for sealed bid. She confirmed the terms of sale are the same as for the auction. She stated all the deeds from the auction have been filed and they are basically finished with the auction at this point. She said she spoke with Ed Snow, Mayor of the Village of Walton about handling their foreclosures, and he will get figures to her on the costs. In response to Mr. Merrill, she said they are looking at a second foreclosure auction perhaps in October for the 2019 properties.

Mrs. Shields said that Ms. Moxham is able to come back to work part time. Ms. Moxham and Mrs. VanDusen would split the time and have an overlap of some hours. Mrs. VanDusen is scheduled to work through June 30 and indicated they have funding available. Mr. Taggart made a motion to support the plan as presented. The motion was seconded by Mr. Marshfield and unanimously carried.

In response to Mr. Marshfield, Mrs. Shields said their office is running the new tax software independently at this point. They just ordered the 160 file which is for 2023 taxes. They will be moving the 2023 town taxes to the new system, and they are pleased with the software.

In response to Mr. Taggart, regarding sale of the Treadwell School, Mrs. Shields stated that was the Sheriff's sale.

On a motion by Mr. Taggart, seconded by Mr. Tuthill the Committee entered into executive session to discuss sale of property.

Committee reconvened in regular session.

Mr. Merrill noted the County is having an email issue. He has responded to many emails which were never delivered. Ms. Molé said she thought there was a problem because he usually always responds when she emails him. Mrs. Shields said Supervisors have to submit their emails to IT because the system was just changed for security reasons. Mrs. Bishop said she will give the Supervisor email distribution list to IT and request they whitelist all the Supervisors' email addresses. Mrs. Shields said phone numbers also need to be whitelisted.

Ms. Molé stated she will issue a State of Emergency today in response to the migrant situation. Mr. Marshfield questioned if SUNY Delhi would be used to house migrants. Ms. Molé said she just found out the Sergeant Henry Johnson facility closed. Mr. Kosier said the South Kortright facility is closed as is Camp Brace, the Tryon facility in Johnstown, and the facility in Summit. He said there were 30 youth facilities in New York State, now he believes there are four.

Clerk of the Board – Penny Bishop

Mrs. Bishop stated she received a request to adjust the meal allowance since prices are higher now. She will gather data for further discussion.

The Payment of Audit resolution is the only other not-prefiled resolution to bring to the Board today.

Travel, equipment and vacancy requests were approved as presented.

Upon a motion, the meeting adjourned at 11:35 a.m.