

REGULAR MEETING

DELAWARE COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

NOVEMBER 8, 2023

The regular meeting of the Delaware County Board of Supervisors was held Wednesday, November 8, 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, Chairman Tina B. Molé presiding.

The Clerk called the roll and all Supervisors were present except Mrs. Scott.

Mr. Marshfield offered the invocation.

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

The minutes of the previous Board meeting were accepted as presented.

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

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

RESOLUTION NO. 198

**TITLE: 2023 BUDGET AMENDMENT
NEW YORK STATE DIVISION OF HOMELAND SECURITY AND
EMERGENCY SERVICES GRANT
DEPARTMENT OF EMERGENCY SERVICES**

WHEREAS, Delaware County has been awarded grant funding under the State Homeland Security Program from the New York State Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Services (WM2023 SHSP); and

WHEREAS, this grant was awarded in the amount of \$85,356.00 for the purpose of purchasing Computer Aided Dispatch equipment and related items.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Department of Emergency Services be authorized to accept this grand funding as described above and that the 2023 Budget be amended as follows:

INCREASE REVENUE:

10-13640-43398900/3640068/911	State Homeland Security	\$85,356.00
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INCREASE APPROPRIATION:

10-13640-52200001/3640068/911	Equipment Grant	\$85,356.00
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The resolution was seconded by Mr. Axtell and adopted by the following vote:
Ayes 4667, Noes 0, Absent 132 (Scott).

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

RESOLUTION NO. 199

**TITLE: 2023 BUDGET AMENDMENT
ACCEPTANCE OF GRANT FUNDING FOR TAI CHI FOR ARTHRITIS PROJECT
OFFICE FOR THE AGING**

WHEREAS, the Office for the Aging has been granted \$5,000.00 from Cornell Cooperative Extension to expand the agency’s existing Tai Chi for Arthritis program for the county’s older population; and

WHEREAS, this funding will be used to engage in activities to support health promotion and stay healthy wellness programs.

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

INCREASE REVENUE:

10-16772-42270602/6772077/977	Grant from Non-Profit	\$5,000.00
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INCREASE APPROPRIATION:

10-16772-54327000/6772077/977	General Grant Related Expenses	\$2,500.00
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10-16772-54327625/6772077/977	Travel	\$2,500.00
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The resolution was seconded by Mr. Marshfield and adopted by the following vote:
Ayes 4667, Noes 0, Absent 132 (Scott).

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

RESOLUTION NO. 200

**TITLE: 2023 BUDGET AMENDMENT
TRANSFER OF FUNDS
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS**

WHEREAS, there are excess funds in the personal services line of the Machinery Fund due to several vacancies; and

WHEREAS, the Department has been instructed by the Finance Committee to transfer those funds to the equipment line and purchase equipment scheduled to be purchased in 2024 in an effort to reduce the 2024 Budget.

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

DECREASE APPROPRIATION:

26-15130-51000000	Personal Services	\$330,000.00
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INCREASE APPROPRIATION:

26-15130-52200000	Equipment	\$330,000.00
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The resolution was seconded by Mr. Kosier.

Mr. Merrill stated that there are several resolutions which use funds from Personal Services to buy equipment. He explained that because those positions had remained unfilled, and the money had already been collected from taxpayers, it was best to use those funds in the 2023 fiscal year which aided in keeping the 2024 Budget within the tax cap.

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

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

RESOLUTION NO. 201

**TITLE: EXCEPTION TO RESOLUTION NO. 269-1990
DEPARTMENT OF EMERGENCY SERVICES**

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 Emergency Services office, at times, experiences difficulties in filling all open dispatcher shifts; and

WHEREAS, from time to time employees in other County Departments are willing to work on a per-hour, as-needed basis in the Emergency Services Department.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that Resolution No. 269 is hereby temporarily waived until December 31, 2024, for County employees who are willing to work on a per-hour, as-needed basis in the Emergency Services Department.

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

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

RESOLUTION NO. 202

**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 to help with additional clerical duties as necessary; 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, 2024, 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. Merrill and unanimously adopted.

Mr. Ellis introduced Local Law Intro. Nos. 22 through 36 for salary increases which were seconded by Mr. Gladstone.

LOCAL LAW INTRO NO. 22

**TITLE: SALARY INCREASE DIRECTOR COMMUNITY
MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES**

Section 1. The salary of Douglas Elston, Director Community Mental Health, shall be One hundred eight thousand, sixty-one dollars [\$108,061] per annum, effective January 1, 2024.

Section 2. This Local Law shall be subject to permissive referendum according to the provisions of Section 24 of the Municipal Home Rule Law.

Section 3. This Law shall take effect forty-five (45) days after it shall be adopted.

LOCAL LAW INTRO NO. 23

TITLE: SALARY INCREASE ELECTION COMMISSIONER

Section 1. The salary of Judith Garrison, Election Commissioner, shall be Sixty-thousand dollars [\$60,000] per annum, effective January 1, 2024.

Section 2. This Local Law shall be subject to permissive referendum according to the provisions of Section 24 of the Municipal Home Rule Law.

Section 3. This Law shall take effect forty-five (45) days after it shall be adopted.

LOCAL LAW INTRO NO. 24

TITLE: SALARY INCREASE DIRECTOR OF EMERGENCY SERVICES

Section 1. The salary of Stephen Hood, Director of Emergency Services, shall be Seventy-four thousand, seven hundred twenty-four dollars [\$74,724] per annum, effective January 1, 2024.

Section 2. This Local Law shall be subject to permissive referendum according to the provisions of Section 24 of the Municipal Home Rule Law.

Section 3. This Law shall take effect forty-five (45) days after it shall be adopted.

LOCAL LAW INTRO NO. 25

TITLE: SALARY INCREASE DIRECTOR OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

Section 1. The salary of Joseph deMauro, Director of Information Technology, shall be Ninety-eight thousand, one hundred twenty-four dollars [\$98,124] per annum, effective January 1, 2024.

Section 2. This Local Law shall be subject to permissive referendum according to the provisions of Section 24 of the Municipal Home Rule Law.

Section 3. This Law shall take effect forty-five (45) days after it shall be adopted.

LOCAL LAW INTRO NO. 26

TITLE: SALARY INCREASE DIRECTOR OFFICE FOR THE AGING

Section 1. The salary of Wayne Shepard, Director Office for the Aging, shall be Eighty-five thousand, three hundred seventy-seven dollars [\$85,377] per annum, effective January 1, 2024.

Section 2. This Local Law shall be subject to permissive referendum according to the provisions of Section 24 of the Municipal Home Rule Law.

Section 3. This Law shall take effect forty-five (45) days after it shall be adopted.

LOCAL LAW INTRO NO. 27

TITLE: SALARY INCREASE PERSONNEL OFFICER

Section 1. The salary of Carrara Knoetgen, Personnel Officer, shall be Ninety-thousand, eight hundred thirty-two dollars [\$90,832] per annum, effective January 1, 2024.

Section 2. This Local Law shall be subject to permissive referendum according to the provisions of Section 24 of the Municipal Home Rule Law.

Section 3. This Law shall take effect forty-five (45) days after it shall be adopted.

LOCAL LAW INTRO NO. 28

TITLE: SALARY INCREASE PUBLIC DEFENDER

Section 1. The salary of Joseph Ermeti, Public Defender, shall be One hundred eighty-seven thousand, six hundred fifty dollars [\$187,650] per annum, effective January 1, 2024.

Section 2. This Local Law shall be subject to permissive referendum according to the provisions of Section 24 of the Municipal Home Rule Law.

Section 3. This Law shall take effect forty-five (45) days after it shall be adopted.

LOCAL LAW INTRO NO. 29

TITLE: SALARY INCREASE PUBLIC HEALTH DIRECTOR

Section 1. The salary of Amanda Walsh, Public Health Director, shall be One hundred thirteen thousand, six hundred fifty-four dollars [\$113,654] per annum, effective January 1, 2024.

Section 2. This Local Law shall be subject to permissive referendum according to the provisions of Section 24 of the Municipal Home Rule Law.

Section 3. This Law shall take effect forty-five (45) days after it shall be adopted.

LOCAL LAW INTRO NO. 30

TITLE: SALARY INCREASE COMMISSIONER OF PUBLIC WORKS

Section 1. The salary of James Thomas, Commissioner of Public Works, shall be One hundred fifteen thousand, five hundred fifteen dollars [\$115,515] per annum, effective January 1, 2024.

Section 2. This Local Law shall be subject to permissive referendum according to the provisions of Section 24 of the Municipal Home Rule Law.

Section 3. This Law shall take effect forty-five (45) days after it shall be adopted.

LOCAL LAW INTRO NO. 31

TITLE: SALARY INCREASE DIRECTOR OF REAL PROPERTY TAX SERVICES II

Section 1. The salary of Sherri Falcone, Director of Real Property Tax Services II, shall be Ninety-thousand dollars [\$90,000] per annum, effective January 1, 2024.

Section 2. This Local Law shall be subject to permissive referendum according to the provisions of Section 24 of the Municipal Home Rule Law.

Section 3. This Law shall take effect forty-five (45) days after it shall be adopted.

LOCAL LAW INTRO NO. 32

TITLE: SALARY INCREASE COMMISSIONER OF SOCIAL SERVICES

Section 1. The salary of Sylvia Armanno, Commissioner of Social Services, shall be One hundred fourteen thousand, fifty-six dollars [\$114,056] per annum, effective January 1, 2024.

Section 2. This Local Law shall be subject to permissive referendum according to the provisions of Section 24 of the Municipal Home Rule Law.

Section 3. This Law shall take effect forty-five (45) days after it shall be adopted.

LOCAL LAW INTRO NO. 33

TITLE: SALARY INCREASE DIRECTOR OF VETERANS SERVICE AGENCY

Section 1. The salary of Mark Dunlop, Director of Veterans Service Agency, shall be Fifty-five thousand, eight hundred forty-five dollars [\$55,845] per annum, effective January 1, 2024.

Section 2. This Local Law shall be subject to permissive referendum according to the provisions of Section 24 of the Municipal Home Rule Law.

Section 3. This Law shall take effect forty-five (45) days after it shall be adopted.

LOCAL LAW INTRO NO. 34

TITLE: SALARY INCREASE COUNTY CLERK

Section 1. The salary of Debra Goodrich, County Clerk, shall be Eighty-one thousand, one hundred twenty-seven dollars [\$81,127] per annum, effective January 1, 2024.

Section 2. This Local Law shall be subject to permissive referendum according to the provisions of Section 24 of the Municipal Home Rule Law.

Section 3. This Law shall take effect forty-five (45) days after it shall be adopted.

LOCAL LAW INTRO NO. 35

TITLE: SALARY INCREASE SHERIFF

Section 1. The salary of Craig DuMond, Sheriff, shall be One hundred four thousand, six hundred ninety dollars [\$104,690] per annum, effective January 1, 2024.

Section 2. This Local Law shall be subject to permissive referendum according to the provisions of Section 24 of the Municipal Home Rule Law.

Section 3. This Law shall take effect forty-five (45) days after it shall be adopted.

LOCAL LAW INTRO NO. 36

TITLE: SALARY INCREASE COUNTY TREASURER

Section 1. The salary of Beverly Shields, County Treasurer, shall be Eighty-one thousand, one hundred twenty-seven dollars [\$81,127] per annum, effective January 1, 2024.

Section 2. This Local Law shall be subject to permissive referendum according to the provisions of Section 24 of the Municipal Home Rule Law.

Section 3. This Law shall take effect forty-five (45) days after it shall be adopted.

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

RESOLUTION NO. 203

**TITLE: PUBLIC HEARING
LOCAL LAW INTRO. NOS. 22 THROUGH 36 OF 2023**

WHEREAS, Local Law Intro. Nos. 22 through 36 have been introduced to increase the 2024 salaries of:

Non-Elected: Douglas Elston, Director Community Mental Health Services; Judith Garrison, Election Commissioner; Stephen Hood, Director of Emergency Services; Joseph deMauro, Director of Information Technology; Wayne Shepard, Director Office of the Aging; Carrara Knoetgen, Personnel Officer; Joseph Ermeti, Public Defender; Amanda Walsh, Public Health Director; James Thomas, Commissioner of Public Works; Sherri Falcone, Director Real Property Tax II; Sylvia Armanno, Commissioner of Social Services; Mark Dunlop, Director Veterans Service Agency.

Elected: Debra Goodrich, County Clerk; Craig DuMond, Sheriff; Beverly Shields, County Treasurer.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that a Public Hearing be held on Local Law

Intro Nos. 22 through 36 on November 21, 2023, at 1:00 p.m. in the Board of Supervisors Room of the Senator Charles D. Cook County Office Building, 111 Main Street, Delhi, New York.

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

Ms. Molé stated that the public hearing will be held at the next Board of Supervisors meeting on Tuesday, November 21 at 1:00 p.m.

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. 204

**TITLE: 2023 BUDGET AMENDMENT
TRANSFER OF FUNDS
TREASURER'S OFFICE**

WHEREAS, there is a need for additional funding for the remainder of the year for the Community College Tuition account.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that authorization is given to amend the 2023 Budget as follows:

TRANSFER FROM:

10-11990-54900000	Contingency	\$200,000.00
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TRANSFER TO:

10-12490-54184000	Community Colleges	\$200,000.00
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The resolution was seconded by Mr. Taggart and Mr. Marshfield and unanimously adopted.

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

RESOLUTION NO. 205

TITLE: PAYMENT OF AUDIT

WHEREAS, bills and claims submitted and duly audited by the Clerk of the Board's office in the amount of \$1,577,585.55 are hereby presented to the Board of Supervisors for approval of payment;

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	\$1,178,156.43
OET	\$10,496.77
Public Safety Comm System	\$3,045.00
Insurance Risk	\$0.00
CAP 97 Main	\$115.16
CAP MH	\$0.00
CAP DSS	\$1,127.28
Highway Audits, as Follows:	
Weights & Measures	\$417.50
Solid Waste/Landfill	\$98,444.85
Road	\$12,781.31
Machinery	\$37,660.16
Capital Solid Waste	\$53,623.43
Capital Road & Bridge	\$179,404.78
CAP DPW Complex	\$2,312.88

The resolution was seconded by Mr. Gladstone and adopted by the following vote:
Ayes 4667, Noes 0, Absent 132 (Scott).

Budget Director Art Merrill presented the Tentative 2024 Budget. He expressed his gratitude to everyone who had worked tirelessly on this budget, and said the cooperation of the departments was needed and greatly appreciated. He also explained that some open positions were unfunded to keep the budget below the tax cap. These positions were not eliminated, only unfunded until they are filled. He furthered that the 2024 Tax Levy is \$34,214,845.00 which is an increase of 1.9075% from 2023. In response to the thanks expressed by the Board for everyone’s hard work, Mr. Merrill shared his appreciation again for the time and effort taken by all who were involved.

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

RESOLUTION NO. 206

**TITLE: PUBLIC HEARING
2024 TENTATIVE BUDGET**

BE IT RESOLVED that the budget, with the changes discussed, be adopted as the Tentative 2024 Delaware County Budget and a public hearing be held on the 21st day of November 2023 at 1:05 p.m. in the Board of Supervisors’ Room of the County Office Building, 111 Main Street, Delhi, New York.

The resolution was seconded by Mr. Gladstone and Mr. Ellis.

The resolution was unanimously adopted.

Ms. Molé stated that the public hearing will be held at the next Board of Supervisors meeting on Tuesday, November 21 at 1:05 p.m. immediately following the public hearing for Local Law Intro. Nos. 22 through 36.

Upon a motion, the meeting was adjourned at 1:15 p.m.