

**REGULAR MEETING**

**DELAWARE COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**

**OCTOBER 23, 2024**

The regular meeting of the Delaware County Board of Supervisors was held Wednesday, October 23, 2024, 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 and Mr. Kosier.

Mr. Marshfield offered the invocation.

Mr. Smith 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.

Chairman Molé granted privilege of the floor to Supervisor Cetta. Mr. Cetta introduced Rolland Bojo, CEO of Delaware Valley Hospital and Cindy Ray, Director of Business Development. Mr. Bojo and Ms. Ray had a presentation about the future expansion project at Delaware Valley Hospital an affiliate of UHS. Delaware Valley Hospital has been a health care provider in Walton for over 75 years. They feel that the people of a rural community deserve the same healthcare as people that are in larger locations. After adding more services through the years DVH is now simply out of room to increase services. Delaware Valley Hospital wants to invest in their facility and to the community by creating a Medical Neighborhood. By expanding DVH, they would be able to offer better services to the community. The creation of a Medical Neighborhood would include primary care as well as specialty care which would eliminate the need for traveling far for the same services. There are many advantages of the Medical Neighborhood, such as improved access to care, enhanced care coordination, chronic disease management, preventive care, and community health improvements. It would also be connected to services that are provided throughout the County, as well as a community space for health and wellness activities and support groups. The expansion would take place with no interruption to patient care. The addition of services would help enhance healthcare to the community for another 75 years. Ms. Ray explained the project would require certification of support from local governments and she would be in touch with Supervisors for that.

Chairman Molé thanked Mr. Bojo and Ms. Ray for their vision and all the hard work they have put into this project as well as for their leadership.

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

**RESOLUTION NO. 163**

**TITLE: 2024 BUDGET AMENDMENT  
ACCEPTANCE OF ADDITIONAL STATE AID FUNDING  
DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL HEALTH**

**WHEREAS**, NYS Office of Mental Health has allocated additional state aid funding for Supportive Housing program within outpatient mental health clinics; and

**WHEREAS**, Delaware County Community Services will utilize the additional funding to provide supportive housing services to eligible candidates; and

**WHEREAS**, Delaware County Community Services received this funding in the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter of the 2024 state aid advance.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the 2024 Budget be amended as follows:

**INCREASE REVENUE:**

10-14311-43349453	State MH Supportive Housing Program	\$49,670.00
-------------------	-------------------------------------	-------------

**INCREASE APPROPRIATION:**

10-14311-54458053/4311001/976	MH Supportive Housing Program	\$49,670.00
-------------------------------	-------------------------------	-------------

The resolution was seconded by Mr. Vernold and adopted by the following vote:  
Ayes 185, Noes 0, Absent 15 (Scott, Kosier).

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

**RESOLUTION NO. 164**

**TITLE: 2024 BUDGET AMENDMENT  
ACCEPTANCE OF COST OF LIVING ADJUSTMENT (COLA)  
DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL HEALTH**

**WHEREAS**, New York State Office of Addiction Services and Supports (OASAS) has allocated Cost of Living Adjustment (COLA) for contract provider, Alcohol and Drug Abuse Council of Delaware County; and

**WHEREAS**, Alcohol And Drug Abuse Council (ADAC) ensures that the COLA funds for 2024-25 State fiscal year will be used first to promote recruitment and retention of non-executive direct care staff, non-executive direct support professionals, non-executive clinical staff, or respond to other critical non-personal service costs, prior to supporting any salary increases or other compensation for executive level job titles; and

**WHEREAS**, Delaware County Mental Health received this State Aid in 2024.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the 2024 Budget be amended as follows:

**INCREASE REVENUE:**

10-14319-43349850	State Alcohol Info & Referral	\$1,200.00
-------------------	-------------------------------	------------

**INCREASE APPROPRIATION:**

10-14319-54458050	Alcohol Info & Referral	\$1,200.00
-------------------	-------------------------	------------

The resolution was seconded by Mr. Layton and adopted by the following vote:  
Ayes 185, Noes 0, Absent 15 (Scott, Kosier).

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

**RESOLUTION NO. 165**

**TITLE: 2024 BUDGET AMENDMENT  
TRANSFER OF FUNDS  
DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL HEALTH**

**WHEREAS**, Delaware County inmates have been deemed incapacitated to meaningfully participate in their criminal defense proceedings and require care from a NYS Psychiatric hospital; and

**WHEREAS**, Delaware County is 100% responsible for inpatient psychiatric hospital costs; and

**WHEREAS**, additional funding is needed to cover current inpatient hospitalizations.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the 2024 Budget be amended as follows:

**TRANSFER FROM:**

10-11990-54900000	Contingency	\$70,105.00
-------------------	-------------	-------------

**TRANSFER TO:**

10-14390-54535420	Professional Fees Psychiatric	\$70,105.00
-------------------	-------------------------------	-------------

The resolution was seconded by Mr. Merrill.

Mr. Cetta stated that this is the same as the last resolution. It is a State mandate that makes the County responsible to fund 100% for needed services. Mr. Cetta anticipates there may be two or three more transfers needed before the end of the year.

The resolution was adopted by the following vote: Ayes 185, Noes 0, Absent 15 (Scott, Kosier).

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

**RESOLUTION NO. 166**

**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 or scrap the following items and all spare parts:

<u>Dept. Vehicle No.</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Serial No./VIN</u>
DPW 5882014	Ford Focus	1FADP3E2XEL150878
SWM 857	1986 International	1HTZPJMT3GHA49532

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

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

**RESOLUTION NO. 167**

**TITLE: ADOPTION OF STATE ADVISORY EQUALIZATION RATES**

**BE IT RESOLVED** that the following State Equalization Rates be adopted for the apportionment of the 2025 County Tax Levy pursuant to Title 2 of Article 8 of the Real Property Tax Law:

ANDES	75.00
BOVINA	14.00
COLCHESTER	2.16
DAVENPORT	51.20
DELHI	33.75
DEPOSIT	3.49
FRANKLIN	71.50
HAMDEN	83.50

HANCOCK	8.35
HARPERSFIELD	16.80
KORTRIGHT	60.40
MASONVILLE	66.60
MEREDITH	60.40
MIDDLETOWN	62.75
ROXBURY	100.00
SIDNEY	54.80
STAMFORD	15.85
TOMPKINS	2.54
WALTON	71.00

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

Mr. Ellis introduced Local Law Intro. Nos. 21 through 33 for salary increases. The local laws were seconded by Mr. Merrill and Mr. Vernold.

**LOCAL LAW INTRO. NO. 21**

**TITLE: SALARY INCREASE ELECTION COMMISSIONER**

Section 1. The salary of Maria Kelso, Election Commissioner shall be Sixty-two thousand, five hundred fifty dollars [\$62,550] per annum effective January 1, 2025.

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. 22**

**TITLE: SALARY INCREASE COUNTY ATTORNEY**

Section 1. The salary of Amy Merklen, County Attorney, shall be One hundred seventy-one thousand dollars [\$171,000] per annum, effective January 1, 2025.

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 DIRECTOR REAL PROPERTY TAX II**

Section 1. The salary of Sherri Falcone, Director Real Property Tax II, shall be Ninety-five thousand dollars [\$95,000] per annum, effective January 1, 2025.

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 PERSONNEL OFFICER**

Section 1. The salary of Carrara Knoetgen, Personnel Officer, shall be Ninety-six thousand, two hundred eighteen dollars [\$96,218] per annum, effective January 1, 2025.

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 EMERGENCY SERVICES**

Section 1. The salary of Stephen Hood, Director of Emergency Services, shall be Seventy-seven thousand, eight hundred seventy-nine dollars [\$77,879] per annum, effective January 1, 2025.

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 COMMUNITY  
MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES**

Section 1. The salary of Douglas Elston, Director Community Mental Health Services, shall be One hundred and fourteen thousand, one hundred and twenty-four dollars [\$114,124] per annum, effective January 1, 2025.

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 COMMISSIONER OF SOCIAL SERVICES**

Section 1. The salary of Keith Weaver, Commissioner of Social Services, shall be One hundred and eleven thousand, five hundred and ten dollars [\$111,510] per annum, effective January 1, 2025.

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 COMMISSIONER PLANNING, PARKS AND WATERSHED AFFAIRS**

Section 1. The salary of Shelly Johnson-Bennett, Commissioner Planning, Parks and Watershed Affairs shall be One hundred and twenty-five thousand, three hundred twenty-seven dollars [\$125,327] per annum, effective January 1, 2025.

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 DIRECTOR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**

Section 1. The salary of Glenn Nealis, Director Economic Development, shall be One hundred two thousand, thirty-eight dollars [\$102,038] per annum, effective January 1, 2025.

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 twenty thousand, three hundred and seventy-one dollars [\$120,371] per annum, effective January 1, 2025.

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 PUBLIC HEALTH DIRECTOR**

Section 1. The salary of Amanda Walsh, Public Health Director, shall be One hundred and twenty thousand, four hundred forty-two dollars [\$120,442] per annum, effective January 1, 2025.

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 DELAWARE COUNTY SHERIFF**

Section 1. The salary of Sheriff Craig DuMond shall be One hundred and fifteen thousand dollars [\$115,000] per annum, effective January 1, 2025.

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 COUNTY TREASURER**

Section 1. The salary of Beverly Shields, County Treasurer, shall be Eighty-four thousand, five hundred seventy-four dollars [\$84,574] per annum effective January 1, 2025.



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. 168**

**TITLE: PUBLIC HEARING  
LOCAL LAW INTRO. NOS. 21 THROUGH 33 OF 2024**

**WHEREAS**, Local Law Intro. Nos. 21 through 33 have been introduced to increase the 2025 Salaries of:

**Non-Elected:** Maria Kelso, Election Commissioner; Amy Merklen, County Attorney; Sherri Falcone, Director Real Property Tax II; Carrara Knoetgen, Personnel Officer; Stephen Hood, Director of Emergency Services; Douglas Elston, Director Community Mental Health Services; Keith Weaver, Commissioner of Social Services; Shelly Johnson-Bennett, Commissioner Planning, Parks and Watershed Affairs; Glenn Nealis, Director Economic Development; James Thomas, Commissioner of Public Works; Amanda Walsh, Public Health Director.

**Elected:** Craig DuMond, Sheriff, Beverly Shields, County Treasurer.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that a public hearing be held on Local Law Intro Nos. 21 through 33 on November 13, 2024, 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 resolution was seconded by Mr. Cetta and unanimously adopted.

Ms. Molé stated that the public hearing will be held at the next Board of Supervisors meeting on Wednesday, November 13 at 1:00 p.m.

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

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

**RESOLUTION NO. 169**

**TITLE: 2024 BUDGETAMENDMENT  
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS**

**WHEREAS**, funds are needed to cover payroll in Fund 24 (maintenance) for the remainder of the year; and

**WHEREAS**, there is money available in Fund 34 (capital road and bridge).

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the 2024 Budget be amended as follows:

**DECREASE APPROPRIATION:**

34-15112-51000000	Personal Services	\$600,000.00
34-15112-58300000	Social Security Emplr Contrib	\$25,000.00
34-15112-58900000	Medicare Emplr Contrib	\$5,000.00

**DECREASE REVENUE:**

34-15112-45503100	Transfer from General Fund	\$630,000.00
-------------------	----------------------------	--------------

**DECREASE APPROPRIATION:**

10-19901-59990310	Operating Transfer Out to CAP Road & Bridge	\$630,000.00
-------------------	---	--------------

**INCREASE APPROPRIATION:**

24-15110-51000000	Personal Services	\$600,000.00
24-15110-58300000	Social Security Emplr Contrib	\$25,000.00
24-15110-58900000	Medicare Emplr Contrib	\$5,000.00

**INCREASE APPROPRIATION:**

24-15110-45503100	Transfer from General Fund	\$630,000.00
-------------------	----------------------------	--------------

**INCREASE APPROPRIATION:**

10-19901-59990240	Operating Transfer Out to Road	\$630,000.00
-------------------	--------------------------------	--------------

The resolution was seconded by Mr. Cetta and adopted by the following vote: Ayes 185, Noes 0, Absent 15 (Scott, Kosier).

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

**RESOLUTION NO. 170**

**TITLE: PAYMENT OF AUDIT**

**WHEREAS**, bills and claims submitted and duly audited by the Clerk of the Board's office in the amount of \$1,883,416.67 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	\$1,178,599.44
OET	\$47,353.93
Insurance Risk	\$5,000.00
CAP DSS	\$218.99
Highway Audits, as Follows:	
Weights & Measures	\$180.32
Solid Waste/Landfill	\$47,309.81
Road	\$9,415.24
Machinery	\$348,940.84
Capital Solid Waste	\$72,614.67
Capital Road & Bridge	\$43,708.03
CAP DPW Complex	\$130,075.40

The resolution was seconded by Mr. Marshfield and adopted by the following vote:  
Ayes 185, Noes 0, Absent 15 (Scott, Kosier).

Chairman Molé commented that the partisan politics in the County prayer was highly inappropriate and asked that it be refrained from in the future.

Mr. Marshfield stated that he did not think there was partisan politics in the prayer in his opinion.

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

**RESOLUTION NO. 171**

**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. Vernold and unanimously adopted.

The meeting reconvened in regular session with all Supervisors present except Mrs. Scott and Mr. Kosier.

Upon a motion, the meeting was adjourned at 1:59 p.m.