

**Finance Committee Meeting  
February 26, 2025**

Attendees

Committee: Wayland Gladstone, Wayne Marshfield, George Haynes, John Kosier, Joe Cetta, Eric Wilson, Tina Molé

Absent: Art Merrill

Staff: Amy Merklen, Penny Bishop

Mr. Marshfield called the meeting to order at 10:35 a.m.

On a motion by Mr. Cetta, seconded by Mr. Gladstone, the February 12 committee meeting minutes were unanimously approved.

The final sales tax report for 2024 was reviewed. With the end of year adjustments, the overall sales tax was less than the previous year by approximately \$200,000. Mr. Cetta indicated the final amount is not as bad as anticipated given the figures at the start and how many times the numbers were negative over the past year.

The Clerk reported that she spoke with the state about what would be involved in raising the sales tax above 8%. Mr. Giordan from the Office of Counsel at NYS Department of Taxation and Finance explained that it is a two-step process. First, we would need authorization from the state and then we would be required to pass a local law, all of course within strict time restraints. He also stated that it gets complicated to share county sales tax. It came up during their conversation that Delaware County has begun the process to renew the current sales tax extension, and Mr. Giordan suggested waiting 90 days after the current sales tax extension is complete. The Clerk will keep in touch with the Office of Counsel to request the specific procedures that would need to be followed.

Mr. Wilson indicated that the Village of Sidney will keep their tax levy under the 2% tax cap. He shared that the village has over \$400,000 in delinquent property tax. It's a big number for tax foreclosures.

Mr. Haynes distributed a current budget summary report on the three DPW facilities. The report shows there is an estimated post-bid cost of \$1,454,755 under the original bid opening.

Mr. Gladstone made a motion to enter into executive session to discuss contract negotiations. The motion was seconded by Mr. Wilson and unanimously carried.

The committee reconvened in regular session.

Ms. Molé stated that there have been a lot of questions raised about NYSEG billing, and that Planning would present a resolution regarding electric rates at the March 12 Board meeting.

Travel, equipment, and fill vacancy requests were approved as presented.

Upon a motion by Mr. Cetta, seconded by Mr. Gladstone, the meeting adjourned at 11:20 a.m.