

Government Operations Committee
Regular Meeting Minutes – Approved 10-4-17
Wednesday, September 6, 2017 3:30 PM
Legislature Chambers

Attendance

Attendee Name	Title	Status
Daniel Klein	Chair	Present
Carol Chock	Vice Chair	Present
Dooley Kiefer	Member	Present
Rich John	Member	Excused
Will Burbank	Member	Present
Joe Mareane	County Administrator	Present
Rick Snyder	Finance Director	Present
Marcia Lynch	Public Info. Officer, County Administration	Present
Greg Potter	Director of ITS	Present
Michelle Pottorff	Chief Deputy Clerk, Legislature Office	Present
Jonathan Wood	Tompkins County Attorney	Present
Paula Younger	Deputy County Administrator	Excused
Elizabeth Cree	Elections Commissioner	Present
Steve Dewitt	Elections Commissioner	Present
Irene Kehoe	Assistant Director of Assessment	Present

Call to Order

Mr. Klein, Chair, called the meeting to order at 3:32 p.m.

Changes to Agenda

It was MOVED by Ms. Chock, seconded by Mr. Burbank, and unanimously adopted by voice vote by members present, to add the resolution to the agenda entitled "Resolution to Urge the United States Congress to Preserve the Protections of Registered Individuals in the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) Program by Passing the Bi-Partisan-Supported Dream Act of 2017" to the agenda. MOTION CARRIED.

Comments from the Public

There were no members of the public who wished to speak.

Minutes Approval

August 2, 2017

RESULT: ACCEPTED [3 TO 1]
MOVER: Will Burbank, Member
SECONDER: Daniel Klein, Chair
AYES: Klein, Chock, Burbank
NAYS: Kiefer
EXCUSED: John

Assessment

Resolution No. - Adoption of 2017 Assessment Roll Footings (ID #7247)

RESULT: RECOMMENDED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER: Dooley Kiefer, Member
SECONDER: Will Burbank, Member
AYES: Klein, Chock, Kiefer, Burbank
EXCUSED: John

WHEREAS, Tompkins County desires to maintain an official record of the 2017 Final Assessment Roll, now therefore be it

RESOLVED, on recommendation of the Government Operations Committee, That the regular and supplemental report of the totals (footings) of assessment rolls be accepted and the figures therein be used as a basis for the taxation in the several tax districts of the County for the year 2018 based upon the July 1, 2017, County of Tompkins Final Assessment Roll.

SEQR ACTION: TYPE II-20

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Resolution No. - Adoption of 2017 Equalization Rates (ID #7248)

RESULT: RECOMMENDED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER: Will Burbank, Member
SECONDER: Carol Chock, Vice Chair
AYES: Klein, Chock, Kiefer, Burbank
EXCUSED: John

WHEREAS, pursuant to Article III, Section 4.05, Subdivision (d) of the Tompkins County Charter and Code, the Director of Assessment has submitted and recommended the adoption of equalization rates for all towns in Tompkins County and the City of Ithaca for the assessment rolls filed in 2017, and for the apportionment of County taxes levied in 2018, now therefore be it

RESOLVED, on recommendation of the Government Operations Committee, That the following equalization rates be and hereby are adopted:

AGGREGATE ASSESSED

AGGREGATE FULL

TOWN	VALUATION OF TAXABLE REAL PROPERTY FOR COUNTY PURPOSES	COUNTY EQUALIZATION RATE	VALUATION OF TAXABLE REAL PROPERTY FOR COUNTY PURPOSES
Town of Caroline	235,084,902	100	235,084,902
Town of Danby	293,774,444	100	293,774,444
Town of Dryden	995,984,423	100	995,984,423
Town of Enfield	192,709,297	100	192,709,297
Town of Groton	281,984,456	100	281,984,456
Town of Ithaca	1,470,246,711	100	1,470,246,711
Town of Lansing	1,317,743,299	100	1,317,743,299
Town of Newfield	285,944,799	100	285,944,799
Town of Ulysses	506,311,479	100	506,311,479
City of Ithaca	1,892,952,683	100	1,892,952,683
<u>TOTALS</u>	7,472,736,493		7,472,736,493

SEQR ACTION: TYPE II-20

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Information Technology Services

Public Wi-Fi Project Update (ID #7269)

Ms. Kiefer questioned the PAR (Project Approval Request) form having a blank SEQR section. Mr. Wood advised using Type II-20 for the SEQR Action.

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ITS Capital Projects - HR Payroll & Server Replacement (ID #7270)

Mr. Potter was asked to insert SEQR information in the appropriate box on the form.

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Resolution No. - Standardization of Professional Services and Software (ID #7280)

RESULT:	RECOMMENDED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Dooley Kiefer, Member
SECONDER:	Will Burbank, Member
AYES:	Klein, Chock, Kiefer, Burbank
EXCUSED:	John

WHEREAS, the Director of Assessment and the Director of Information Technology Services have recommended that the Tompkins County Digital Sketch Program software and professional services be standardized to ensure full compatibility with the recent New York State Department of Taxation and Finance efforts and contract related to the Real Property Services (RPS) software upgrade project, and

WHEREAS, the New York State Department of Taxation and Finance has recently completed an extensive Request for Proposal process, and finalized a contract for the implementation of a centralized, software platform hosted by New York State to replace the existing system (RPS) currently hosted by local municipalities, and

WHEREAS, New York State has contracted with Tyler Technologies, Inc., for the statewide, RPS upgrade project with a scheduled project start date in the Fall of 2017, and

WHEREAS, Tompkins County has been selected as one of twelve New York State localities to participate as a pilot municipality in the project, and

WHEREAS, the scope of work defined by the New York State contract for the RPS software upgrade project does not include the configuration or migration of Tompkins County Digital Sketch Program and related data, and

WHEREAS, Tyler Technologies, Inc., has the capability, based on preliminary proposals, to complete the Tompkins County Digital Sketch Program in a manner that is integrated with the implementation of the New York State RPS software upgrade project, and

WHEREAS, Tompkins County previously approved funding for the Tompkins County Digital Sketch Program and related data as submitted by the Department of Assessment in the amount \$95,000 as a 2017, One-Time, Over-Target Request, now therefore be it

RESOLVED, on recommendation of the Government Operations Committee, That for reasons of economy and efficiency, the Department of Assessment standardize professional services and program software functionality and the integration of data, as provided by Tyler Technologies, Inc., for enhanced features and professional services beyond the scope of work defined per contract with the New York State Department of Taxation and Finance.

SEQR ACTION: TYPE II-20

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Administration

Resolution No. - Budget Adjustment and Appropriation of Unspent Funds from 2016 and Prior Years to Various Accounts of the Departments that Report to the Government Operations Committee (ID #7220)

Ms. Kiefer called attention to page 24 and the need to update 2015 to 2016 in the Total Certified Rollover box. She also asked how popular Image Mate online is. Mr. Mareane said it is generally the most highly used link on the website but he will verify this and provide Ms. Kiefer with information.

RESULT:	RECOMMENDED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Carol Chock, Vice Chair
SECONDER:	Dooley Kiefer, Member
AYES:	Klein, Chock, Kiefer, Burbank
EXCUSED:	John

WHEREAS, Section 4.06 of Tompkins County Fiscal Policy on “Re-appropriation (Carryover or Rollover)” authorizes County Department Heads to “request re-appropriation of unspent funds from the previous year, provided that they are certified by the Director of Finance to be available and provided that this re-appropriation is authorized by the established appropriation procedures of the Legislature,” and

WHEREAS, various departments have been certified by the Director of Finance to have available unspent appropriations and excess revenues from 2016 totaling \$698,168, which, combined with balances from prior years, results in an available rollover balance of \$1,135,477 on the County’s books as of December 31, 2016, and

WHEREAS, pursuant to County Fiscal Policy, surplus funds have been requested for use in the current-year budget by departments that report to the Government Operations Committee in the amount of \$44,082, and \$217 is being released to the unassigned General Fund Balance, now therefore be it

RESOLVED, on recommendation of the Government Operations and the Budget, Capital, and Personnel Committees, That the following transactions are approved:

BUDGET APPROPRIATION:

FROM: General Fund Balance \$44,082.00

TO:	<u>Dept.</u>	<u>Use of Funds</u>	<u>Account</u>	<u>Requested Rollover</u>
	Assessment			
		Purchase of folder/inserter for our mass mailings (additional printer for tax bills if money allows for it).	1355.52206	\$7,044.00
	Board of Elections			
		Cover anticipated shortage in personnel account left when one employee resigned and was paid out for fringe time	1450.51000793	\$2,500.00
		Extra hours that will need to be paid to part-time employees for summer training sessions	1450.51000075	\$2,500.00
		Replacement server, computers, and scanner that were required for use with our updated voter management software	1450.52206	\$10,000.00
		Costs associated with several training sessions needed for new voting machine technicians hired recently	1450.54412	\$5,000.00
		Purchase of 5 new ergonomic standing desks, 2 desks for people using tables, and new storage cabinets for tech room	1450.52214	\$14,000.00

County Attorney

Two iMacs to replace outdated current machines. 1420.52206 \$3,038.00

Information Technology Services

Release unspent funds from 2016 appropriation to the unassigned General Fund Balance \$217.00

SEQR ACTION: TYPE II-20

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Finance Department

Credit Card Acceptance (ID #7268)

At this time there wasn't consensus to bring a resolution back to the next meeting; however, Mr. Klein said members would talk outside the meeting.

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DACA Resolution

Resolution No. - Resolution to Urge the United States Congress to Preserve the Protections of Registered Individuals in the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) Program by Passing the Bipartisan-Supported Dream Act of 2017 (ID #7293)

Wording changes offered by Ms. Kiefer were accepted as friendly. It was requested that staff inform Ms. Kelles of the changes.

RESULT:	RECOMMENDED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Carol Chock, Vice Chair
SECONDER:	Will Burbank, Member
AYES:	Klein, Chock, Kiefer, Burbank
EXCUSED:	John

WHEREAS, Tompkins County values its ethnic, racial, linguistic, and socio-economic diversity where our diversity is a source of our municipality's strength, and

WHEREAS, the Tompkins County Legislature is committed to ensuring that all County residents can live and pursue their livelihoods in peace and prosperity and is committed to supporting legislation that ensures inalienable rights for all residents throughout the United States, and

WHEREAS, nearly 800,000 young people who came to the United States as children voluntarily came forward, passed background checks, and received permission to live and work in America through the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) program established by executive order by President Obama in 2012, and

WHEREAS, through the DACA program, immigrant youth have made significant contributions to the strength and resiliency of our country through advancing their education, starting small businesses,

serving in the military, buying homes and cars, and more fully establishing themselves as integral members of our working economy and society, and

WHEREAS, a majority of Americans (approximately 78%) believe that DACA-protected individuals should be allowed to remain in the United States and over 50% support a path to eventual citizenship, and

WHEREAS, education, business, technology, and religious leaders across the country urge President Trump and Congress to safeguard DACA-protected individuals and cite significant social and economic consequences of a full repeal without an alternative protection, and

WHEREAS, on September 5, 2017, President Trump ordered an end to the DACA program that shields young undocumented immigrants from deportation rescinding protections and rights that enabled them to be productive members of our economy, culture, and society, and

WHEREAS, on July 20, 2017, Senators Lindsey Graham (R-SC), Dick Durbin (D-IL), Jeff Flake (R-AZ), and Chuck Schumer (D-NY) introduced the Dream Act of 2017 which would establish a road to lawful permanent resident (LPR) status or U.S. citizenship for registered DACA individuals, now therefore be it

RESOLVED, on recommendation of the Government Operations Committee, That the Tompkins County Legislature stands by immigrant youth, including those protected by DACA, and calls upon the United States Congress to prevent the revocation of the legal status from those protected under the five-year old DACA program by passing the bipartisan Dream Act of 2017, thereby strengthening the fabric of our economy and country,

RESOLVED, further, That the Clerk of the Legislature send copies of this resolution to Congressman Tom Reed; State Senators Tom O'Mara, James Seward, and Pamela Helming; to Senators Charles Schumer and Kirsten Gillibrand; State Assemblymember Barbara Lifton; and Governor Andrew Cuomo.

SEQR ACTION: TYPE II-20

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Opioid Lawsuits

Mr. Klein asked if there is interest in having Mr. Wood prepare a resolution for the Committee to consider. Mr. Wood said there is not a strict deadline but both firms would like to know as soon as possible. He said he has reservations about it but he would also worry that if it is successful the County could be questioned about why it didn't join. He said it is possible to put a lot of effort into this but may not get anything out of it.

Following discussion the Committee was supportive of moving forward at this time.

Legislature

Privilege of the Floor - Sign-in Form (ID #7277)

Prior to being deferred to the next meeting Ms. Kiefer requested the Committee discuss a missing comma on the form. Ms. Chock said she researched what terms are defined as the section of free speech in the First Amendment and words on the form under number 3 except "profane" are included as

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exceptions. Mr. Klein said these suggestions will be included in the meeting minutes; however, it is beneficial for members to submit suggested changes in writing.

RESULT:	DEFERRED	Next: 10/4/2017 3:30 PM
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Advisory Board Appointment (ID #7282)

Library Board of Trustees
James Loehr - term expires December 31, 2017

RESULT:	RECOMMENDED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Will Burbank, Member
SECONDER:	Carol Chock, Vice Chair
AYES:	Klein, Chock, Kiefer, Burbank
EXCUSED:	John

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Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 5:32 p.m.