

**Tompkins County Legislature**  
 Regular Meeting Notes – FINAL  
**Tuesday, May 2, 2017 5:30 PM**  
 Legislature Chambers

**Public Hearing**

**Tompkins County’s current Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) project: Tompkins County Homeownership Program XI (CDBG # 1144HO337-15, \$691,500)**

Mr. Lane, Chair, opened the public hearing at 5:30 p.m. concerning the Tompkins County’s current Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) project: Tompkins County Homeownership Program XI (CDBG # 1144HO337-15, \$691,500) and asked if anyone wished to speak.

Ms. McDonald of the Planning and Sustainability Department said the Tompkins County Homeownership Program is supported through CDBG funding, and this hearing is meant to provide an update on the program’s progress as well as an opportunity to receive comments regarding its administration. Since the start of the program in 1993, over 380 lower- to middle-income first-time homebuyers have purchased homes through the program. The current CDBG award is intended to assist 19 homebuyers. A total of 13 homebuyers have closed on homes, 3 clients are expected to close shortly, and another 16 clients are currently shopping for homes in this current funding round.

No one else wished to speak and the public hearing was closed at 5:33 p.m.

**Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag**

Members and guests participated in the Pledge of the Allegiance to the Flag.

**Roll Call of Members**

<b>Attendee Name</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Status</b>	<b>Arrived</b>
Will Burbank	Member	Present	
Carol Chock	Member	Late	5:49 PM
James Dennis	Member	Present	
Rich John	Member	Present	
Anna Kelles	Member	Present	
Dooley Kiefer	Member	Present	
Daniel Klein	Vice Chair	Present	
Michael Lane	Chair	Present	
Leslyn McBean-Clairborne	Member	Present	
Martha Robertson	Member	Present	
David McKenna	Member	Present	
Glenn Morey	Member	Present	
Michael Sigler	Member	Present	
Peter Stein	Member	Present	

**Presentation of Proclamations, Petitions, Communications, and Notices**

Mr. Lane presented a proclamation declaring May 12, 2017, as Dorothy Cotton and Dorothy Cotton Jubilee Singers Day in Tompkins County to Dr. Whitehead. At this time, the Dorothy Cotton Jubilee Singers performed for the Legislature.

Ms. Chock arrived at this time.

Mr. Lane presented a certificate recognizing Legislator Carol Chock for ten years of service to Tompkins County.

### **Privilege of the Floor by the Public**

Theresa Alt, City of Ithaca, spoke in opposition to Jail expansion and said it is an expensive way to address Jail overpopulation. She believes it also fails to address the real issue of providing adequate mental health services and drug rehabilitation in the community which would lower crime and eliminate the need to bring people into the justice system. In addition, reducing the use of bail can reduce the Jail population. She summarized her comments and said she thinks people with problems should be cared for before they become offenders.

Elizabeth Bergman, Town of Ithaca, thanked the Legislature for taking extra time to consider the proposed local law on Tobacco 21. She asked that a look also be taken at the effects of public housing smoking and youth smoking and the impacts of addiction and withdrawal issues. She encouraged continued discussions on these issues. She also asked if individuals age 18 will be able to access the proposed injection site by the City of Ithaca.

Douglas Bentley, Cortland County, encouraged the Legislature to pass the Tobacco 21 Law. He spoke of his health issues from smoking and how accessible cigarettes were at one time. He said Cortland County passed a similar law and believes Tompkins County should do the same.

Jennifer Hamilton, Homer, said she is Public Health Educator with Tobacco Free Zone of Tompkins, Cortland, and Chenango Counties and gave a list of flavorings for e-cigarettes. They are the most common form of tobacco among youth and are the new circle of addiction. She said in her work she has talked to people who have struggled with addiction and regret starting to smoke. The Legislature has a leadership role and can keep people from starting smoking.

Ted Schiele, Groton, said Tobacco 21 is one of the many tools available to reduce access to youth smoking and nicotine addiction. The more tools we have to use for prevention the more successful we will be. This Law has and will reduce tobacco use; it is not the only tool but is one more way to reduce tobacco use and addiction. It will save lives and it will save money.

Chris Owens, Onondaga County, said he is an employee at St. Joseph's Hospital in Syracuse and he believes the approval of the Tobacco 21 Law will reduce tobacco use in youth and is an evidence-based strategy.

Lily Gershon, Village of Freeville, addressed a question that was raised about services in the Jail and whether it has to be an either/or situation. The group, Decarcerate Tompkins, is not against services in the Jail but don't think mental health or detox services belong there. They want to know if services can be provided without adding any additional cells. She spoke of the lack of information available to the public so they can do research on the facility and what services they think can be put in the Jail.

Jesse Goldberg, City of Ithaca, agreed with the previous speaker and said they don't want to see new jail cells built but are not against adding services in the Jail. He spoke of the last Jail Study meeting and the statement made that incarcerated people need services particularly in the Jail because these people have reached a low point in their lives and this is a teachable moment for them. He disagrees with the

statement and said people who are already incarcerated need all of the services they say they need and every effort needs to be made to make sure there are fewer people incarcerated by making sure there are no new cells to incarcerate them in.

Shari Korthuis, Ithaca, spoke about the recent SWAT raids and said those individuals will likely end up in the Jail. Until the justice system is fixed she doesn't think expansion should be looked at. She read a letter by the Corrections Officers and said the services referenced in the letter can be provided in the community.

Tim Marchell, Town of Ithaca, spoke of the proposed increase in the age for purchasing tobacco and compared the legal drinking age and what the increase in age has had on the health and safety on the public and youth and said it has been great. He supports the proposed Tobacco 21 Law and said the potential benefits to children, youth, and the community is worth supporting the law.

Bill Sherman, Schenectady County and representative of American Cancer Society, said he supports evidence-based policy and solutions to reduce cancer. He spoke of his personal experience with having parents who were smokers. This policy will help thousands of people not become addicted. By raising the age it will cut off the social component of kids having access to other kids who can purchase tobacco. He asked the Legislature to take a leadership role in New York by making sure there is much less access to tobacco.

Elan Shapiro, Town of Ithaca, said he attended the final session of the new Jim Crowe reading; many people are learning about the mass incarceration system. He wants to see Tompkins County as a leader in changing this. Even changing the bail system can make a difference.

Erin Griffeth, City of Ithaca, spoke of the Jail and said there was discussion about having access to services in the community; Jail removes people from the community. There are a lot of teachable moments other than when someone is arrested. He believes providing access to services needs to be addressed as they are not easily accessible. She doesn't support providing services in the jail and expanding to create more cells.

### **Report from a Municipal Official(s)**

There were no Municipal Officials present.

### **Health and Human Services Committee**

#### **Resolution No. 2017-76: Adoption of Local Law No. 2 of 2017 – A Local Law Raising the Legal Age to 21 for Tobacco Sale and Purchase (ID #6764)**

Ms. Kelles said she appreciates the varying opinions on this issue. As a promoter of public health she spoke of the impacts smoking has on targeted groups that are already facing many pressures and adding health disparities is an atrocity. She clarified after speaking with a youth yesterday that this action is not criminalization legislation; it is a fine for businesses that sell tobacco products. It is implemented and regulated through the sale. Also, when talking about e-cigarettes and one of the traceable substances found in them is benzene, which has caused some of the most harm to our natural environment. She said this is an attempt to try to break the relationship between 18 year olds and the 13-17 year olds. Evidence shows that the average age of starting smoking is 13 and this will help break that relationship.

Mr. John said this is one of the more difficult votes he has had to consider since becoming a

Legislator. He represents a lot of the Cornell University and Ithaca College students and this is taking away some freedoms. It will also have a real impact on business owners. The County wants to support businesses on the Commons and this will impact a segment of their clientele. He thanked Mr. Bentley for his comments and Public Health Director Frank Kruppa for his educating him. He struggles with the issue of vapes and whether they are a gateway or exit but studies have shown they are connected to dual use. This is about 16 and 17 year olds and if you can get them to an age where they can make better decisions, you can make a difference.

Mr. Sigler understands the health impacts of smoking. However, this is about 18 year-old adults and they have rights and are allowed to make decisions including big decisions. He spoke of his belief that the rise of the drinking age had an impact on other things, including an increase in the use of drugs and an enormous rise in binge drinking. He also spoke of many other things where poor decisions are being made and where laws could also be adopted.

Mr. Burbank agreed with comments by Mr. Sigler. This is a very difficult decision as described by Mr. John and said he has received numerous e-mails and messages and appreciates the comments that have been shared. The negative effects of smoking are indisputable. There are other things in our lives that cause harm and in New York State at age 18 one is legally an adult. He said if it is made harder for young adults to buy cigarettes it will have a positive impact on some youth.

Mr. Stein said he is also troubled by taking away rights of 18 year olds who are legally an adult; he also thinks the positive impacts have been overstated and thinks 18-20 year olds will find an alternative way to purchase cigarettes, such as over the Internet. He believes it will not do any good and may do harm as people may want to do something they are being forbidden to do.

Ms. Chock said no one thinks it is a good idea for 18-20 year olds to smoke. She spoke of how she had hoped this body could reach a compromise on this as it has on many other issues in the past. She also spoke of how her district includes the majority of the Cornell campus and upper Collegetown and it is important for students to respect and follow the laws. There are parts of this law that are not based on scientific research and will bother the educated youth as it does her. She would vote for this if it didn't include things that she considered overreaching such as the language "or any combination thereof" in the definition section for "Shisha". She said a case can be made for tobacco but she has not heard any case on what substances are added in with tobacco, and substances that are not known or have had any research.

It was MOVED by Ms. Chock, seconded by Mrs. McBean-Clairborne, to amend the law and remove "or any combination thereof" from the definition of "Shisha" in Section 2.

Ms. Kelles disagrees with the amendment and said Shisha almost conclusively contains tobacco. The amendment also creates technical aspects of the sentence. She further commented that the statement is identical to State Law. If the County were to make a law that requires one regulation for those under 18 and a separate law for 19-20 year olds, it would make it difficult to implement and confusing.

Ms. Robertson asked what the amendment would change in terms of enforcement of the law.

Mr. Kruppa explained it would put added burdens on everyone including vendors; he strongly supports keeping the language the same as what is in the State law. He also addressed the cost of the program in response to Ms. Chock and said it is relatively a low-cost program. He believes the law will have a positive impact on smoking rates of children in Tompkins County.

A voice vote on the amendment resulted as follows: Ayes - 1 (Legislator Chock), Noes - 13.  
MOTION FAILED.

Ms. Kiefer suggested the word “minimum” be removed from the title in Section 3; this was accepted as friendly.

Ms. Kiefer further commented that in addition to protecting young people it will reduce the use of tobacco and the impacts of second-hand smoke.

Mr. Dennis said he came into this meeting with the intention of voting no; however, after further thought he said he would support the law. He spoke of his experience from smoking and ended up with squamous cell carcinoma caused from smoking. He understands 18 year-olds can make all kinds of other decisions that are not good for them. He said because of the cost there are very few 18-20 year olds buying cigarettes and are instead buying blunts which are used to smoke marijuana. He spoke of the education programs that were available in schools when he was a teacher and believes they could have some impact.

Mrs. McBean-Clairborne said there are portions of the law that are troubling to her but she said she will support it. She has the privilege of working and interacting with young people on a daily basis, and said they will figure out ways to do what they want to do. She asked what the educational plan will be to prevent people from getting into the black market for these items as this was an issue for people downstate. It is important to take a real holistic approach and consider the social factors and take time to help young people in a way that is not going to get them or others criminalized and having to face some sort of punishment.

Mr. Robertson also thanked Mr. Bentley and others who traveled to this meeting to speak. She agrees this law does not criminalize kids, it states it is illegal to sell the products to individuals under the age of 21. She commented that government changes laws at times and businesses need to change their business model when that happens. There are a number of public policy things that impinge on freedoms but they are still done. Research has shown that in the first days of starting smoking barriers can keep someone from starting.

Mr. Lane thanked Mr. Schiele and Mr. Kruppa of the Health Department for their work on this and said it was very important that this was brought forward. The State is taking a look at this because New York City and at least six other counties have passed similar laws. He agreed the age of 18 is a legal requirement but maturity is a different thing. He spoke of his work and setting up trusts and wills and always asks what age the trust should end and often a parent will say 25 because they know the maturity level cannot be assumed at age 18.

Ms. Kelles spoke of surveying students and the mixed responses from the different groups she received.

Following further discussion, Mr. Kruppa said as far as the Department it stands behind the version presented to the Legislature.

This resolution was adopted by a roll call vote.

<b>RESULT:</b>	<b>ADOPTED [9 TO 5]</b>
<b>MOVER:</b>	Anna Kelles, Member
<b>SECONDER:</b>	David McKenna, Member
<b>AYES:</b>	James Dennis, Rich John, Anna Kelles, Dooley Kiefer, Michael Lane, Leslyn McBean-Clairborne, Martha Robertson, David McKenna, Glenn Morey
<b>NAYS:</b>	Will Burbank, Carol Chock, Daniel Klein, Michael Sigler, Peter Stein

WHEREAS, a public hearing has been held before the Tompkins County Legislature to hear all persons interested in proposed Local Law No. 2 of 2017, and

WHEREAS, the Tompkins County Legislature has determined that adoption of Local Law No. 2 of 2017 is in the public interest, now therefore be it

RESOLVED, on recommendation of the Tompkins County Board of Health and the Health and Human Services Committee, That proposed Local Law No. 2 of 2017 - A Local Law Raising the Legal Age to 21 for Tobacco Sale and Purchase is hereby adopted,

RESOLVED, further, That the Clerk of the Board shall publish in the official newspaper of the County a notice of adoption containing a synopsis of said local law and shall within twenty days file one certified copy in the Office of the County Clerk, and one copy with the Secretary of State.

**SEQR ACTION:** TYPE II-20

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**Recess**

Mr. Lane declared recess at 7:28 p.m. The meeting reconvened at 7:40 p.m.

**Privilege of the Floor by Legislators**

Mr. Dennis commended the Dorothy Cotton Jubilee singers for their performance this evening.

Ms. Kelles spoke of the loss of her cat that was almost 20 years old, she said she hopes as a race we start appreciating the moments of loving things. She thanked the Decarcerate Tompkins group and others for continuing to come out to speak. Ms. Kelles responded to the comments made earlier with regard to whether services should happen in or outside of the Jail. A lot of the discussion at the Jail Study Committee recently has related to programs happening inside the Jail; however, she said prior discussions and presentations were about programs in the community. She said there will continue to be presentations about both and noted at the next meeting there will be a report about harm reduction. She said she came to the Legislature from an activist group and has found what she learned in the first year to be very refreshing. Tompkins County has a very unique experience in Upstate New York and spoke of the possibility of everyone actually aiming for the same thing and what would it look like if everyone collaborated. She said there are tons of variances in Tompkins County and in the community on what should be done on this topic but doesn't believe it necessarily needs to be polarized. There is a lot of discussion and motivation within the study group for prioritizing and reducing the Jail population as much as possible. Ms. Kelles said she has spoken to individuals at the Jail and will be working on a documentary.

Mr. John thanked everyone who spoke earlier this evening about the Jail Study. He announced the May 18 meeting has been changed to May 11<sup>th</sup>. Some speakers have said the Committee has made a decision already and he emphasized that no member has made that statement and reiterated the purpose of the study is to gather information. Members believe it is important to keep an open mind and to listen and hear as much as possible. He welcomed public to attend the meeting next week.

Mr. Klein announced on May 8<sup>th</sup> there will be an event recognizing the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the 1977 Grateful Dead concert that was held at Barton Hall at Cornell. It will be celebrated in various ways including the reading of a proclamation.

Ms. Robertson agreed with Mr. John that the Jail Study Committee has not talked about or made any decision to add additional cells to the Jail. She encouraged the public to go to the Public Safety Committee on the Legislature's web portal where Jail statistics are posted and review the information. She said there is a lot this community has been doing but there are also more tools that can be tried. She announced an event will take place on the Commons this afternoon about the safe injection plan. She hopes people are thinking about all of the things in the Ithaca Plan and not solely on the safe injection plan. She believes in harm reduction; however, she thinks a safe injection site should be a last resort. She encouraged people to keep coming to meetings and said she believes CGR has reached out to Decarcerate Tompkins but has not received a response. Ms. Kelles said she was working on bridging that connection and will follow-up on this.

Mrs. McBean-Clairborne thanked everyone who came out over the weekend for the Streets Alive and other events in the City. She announced the Ithaca Festival will be held on June 2-4<sup>th</sup> and Tompkins County government will have a presence.

Mrs. McBean-Clairborne responded to people who spoke earlier about the Jail and said she hopes that conversations around making sure there are programs for people who are in the Jail are not seen as patronizing. She said she has family members who are in the Jail and does not want them to be housed in another county. She recalled when the Jail had enough program space to allow for classrooms, a library, and area for residents to engage in AA, NA, and religious therapy if needed and has seen more and more those spaces being reduced. She said there is nothing worse than being in Jail and not having something to stimulate your mind and being able to grow. She believes if there is going to be a Jail there should be services in the Jail but also wants to see more services in the community. Mrs. McBean-Clairborne said Tompkins County is way above all other counties in New York State with its alternatives-to-incarceration programs but there is more that we can and should be doing. We should be looking at this from all around and not just from one perspective. She asked everyone to step back and look at this from a comprehensive perspective and in the event we have to send people to Jail there needs to be services in the Jail so they come out as better citizens.

Ms. Chock thanked the public speakers this evening. She also thanked Mrs. McBean-Clairborne for her comments and agreed with her comments concerning the need to provide services for those who have to be in the Jail. She spoke of the request by the public for the layout information of the Jail and said there should be information attached to a previous agenda packet. She thanked Mr. Klein for his comments about the Grateful Dead and for preparing the proclamation. Ms. Chock reported she attended a meeting of the Dominion Company about a pipeline project to put new equipment in at the Forger station. She described the meeting as being disappointing and said she felt there was a disregard for the community shown as they couldn't fully answer any of the questions and turned down every request. She said they agreed to look at the list of questions and ask their superiors if there were any they could answer.

Mr. Burbank thanked Mrs. McBean-Clairborne for her comments about awareness of what is happening in the Jail. He also thanked Mr. Lane for inviting the Dorothy Cotton Jubilee singers and said he hopes there will be more occasions to put the Legislature Chambers to good use. He spoke of the history of May Day and the important demonstration in Chicago about the 8-hour work day that ended up resulting in a very violent and tragic day. He said May Day is commemorated around the world as a time to think of the importance of labor. He said countries all over the world are aware of this but it is rare here. Mr. Burbank said there has been a very active discussion on the West Hill list serve concerning a proposal to reduce lanes coming into the City from four to three to enable a much safer bicycle and pedestrian pathway. He said he attended Streets Alive last Sunday and it was a wonderful event that really made him aware of what can happen when people get out of their cars and connect in the community.

Mr. Stein said he was deeply moved by Mrs. McBean-Clairborne's comments. He said he has no experience of knowing anyone who has been incarcerated and hearing her story brought him to tears. Until he became Chair of the Public Safety Committee he had not known what a jail looked like. He toured the facility and was appalled, particularly in the women's section of the Jail. The whole experience was devastating and had nothing to do with anyone he knew. He said as he was listening to the comments from the public this evening what he heard was that that they believe the number of people in the Jail is a function of the number of Jail beds that exist and said that is not true and shows a lack of knowledge of the system. He said he has spoken to judges and believes the decisions they make are based on a judge having to decide what the punishment is when a jury has made a decision based on people not abiding by laws. This is a nation of laws and the number of people who are going to be sent to Jail for the acts they have done and a decision of the jury has nothing to do with how many beds are in the jail.

Ms. Kiefer spoke about Earth Day and the marches that have taken place over climate change. She said the planet will survive; it's the people that won't.

Mr. Lane said this is the year of the woman and recognized his mother and her many accomplishments and said she celebrated her 100<sup>th</sup> birthday last week.

Ms. Kelles said there was an ICE arrest in Tompkins County today. She clarified that the resolution that was passed recently does not prevent ICE from moving in on land that is United States territory, it just says that we won't cooperate in any way and do their job. People need to understand that there have been a couple of cases of citizens calling ICE and being undocumented and being in the United States is not a crime.

Ms. Robertson said there is something called "induced incarceration" where there are many decisions in the system that result in someone being in the Jail and it is a true statement. The criminal justice community understands that the County is in a vice with the Commission of Correction; we need to look at every way to maintain public safety in other ways rather than putting people in Jail. She said studies have shown and she believes if jail cells are built they will be filled.

### **Chair's Report and Chair's Appointments**

Mr. Lane had no report or appointments.

### **Report from the County Administrator**

Mr. Mareane provided updates on various items. A new option for retiree health insurance is

being proposed and will be considered at the next Budget, Capital, and Personnel Committee meeting. A side-by-side comparison of the Platinum plan and the current plan will be included in the Committee's agenda packet. The proposal to acquire and approve the Tompkins Trust Building will also begin to find its way into committees, beginning with the Facilities and Infrastructure Committee. Information on the proposal will also be included in that Committee's agenda packet; Legislators were asked to review it. The Law Enforcement Shared Services study is still in the research phase; Mr. Mareane thinks it will produce a lot of very good and useful information. He reported on meetings held relating to Centralized Arraignment that came out of the Municipal Courts Task Force report and said that although law enforcement and the District Attorney support it, the Magistrates Association met and among the half who were in attendance a consensus was not reached on the proposal. There seems to be a sentiment that the system isn't broken so it shouldn't be fixed. The Budget property tax goal and spending targets will be coming to Legislature at its next meeting. He spoke about the Shared-Service Initiative that is now State Law and said it will be almost impossible to come up with a plan to comply with the law; a panel needs to be assembled immediately. He reviewed the process if the resolution passes this evening and said he will send an e-mail to Mayors and Supervisors about this plan.

Ms. Robertson responded to the report about the Magistrates meeting concerning Centralized Arraignment and asked about the records kept for arraignments and if the information about who is showing up in front of the Magistrates could be tabulated and made public.

Ms. Kiefer said an important piece of information in the budget process relates to the Living Wage and asked how much it would cost if agencies and contractors could pay their people appropriately. The Alternatives Federal Credit Union updates its Living Wage calculation every other year and asked if an estimate of what it would be based would be available. Mr. Mareane has tried developing an estimate in the past and said it was incorrect. There were only a couple of agencies that said they needed more money. He said how many can or can't absorb this is in their revenues and fundraising is not known at this time.

#### **Report from the County Attorney**

Mr. Wood had no report.

Mr. Lane commented that Mr. Wood and Hank Dullea were present at a CLE (Continuing Legal Education) meeting to discuss the Constitutional Convention and the role of local governments.

#### **Report from the Finance Director**

Mr. Snyder was not present.

#### **Resolutions Added to and Withdrawn from the Agenda**

It was MOVED by Mr. Klein, seconded by Mr. Morey, and unanimously adopted by voice vote, to add to the agenda the resolution entitled Authorizing the County Administrator to Establish a Shared Services Panel and to Undertake the Tasks Assigned to County Chief Executive Officers by State's Shared Services Legislation.

There were no resolutions withdrawn from the agenda.

#### **Transportation Committee**

Mr. Lane, Chair, reported the Committee met briefly and spent time talking about the meeting held earlier in the month with the State Department of Transportation representatives.

**Government Operations Committee**

Mr. Klein, Chair, reported the Committee will meet tomorrow and highlighted the agenda topics.

**Resolution No. 2017-77: Authorizing the County Administrator to Establish a Shared-Services Panel and to Undertake the Tasks Assigned to County Chief Executive Officers by the State's Shared Services Legislation (ID #7024)**

Mr. Lane said this State legislation is very unusual as it directs County Administrator, Executives, and Managers to do the work of putting the panel together. In Tompkins County, the County Administrator is employed by the Legislature so he thought it was important to adopt an authorizing resolution.

Mr. John believes the legislation gives County Legislature's a free pass and said he does not agree with the State legislation.

Ms. Chock suggested having a County Legislator on the panel. She also asked if the Legislature should require reports as this goes along.

Ms. Kiefer suggested the word "units" should be added to the last Whereas; this was excepted as friendly.

<b>RESULT:</b>	<b>ADOPTED [13 TO 0]</b>
<b>MOVER:</b>	Daniel Klein, Vice Chair
<b>SECONDER:</b>	Glenn Morey, Member
<b>AYES:</b>	Will Burbank, Carol Chock, James Dennis, Rich John, Anna Kelles, Dooley Kiefer, Daniel Klein, Michael Lane, Leslyn McBean-Clairborne, David McKenna, Glenn Morey, Michael Sigler, Peter Stein
<b>AWAY:</b>	Martha Robertson

WHEREAS, Part BBB of Chapter 59 of the Laws of 2017 ( "Law"), commonly referred to as the "Countywide Shared-Services Initiative", requires counties to assume the lead role in the development and submission of a Shared Service Plan ("Plan") to the State, and

WHEREAS, the Law assigns responsibility for the development of the Shared Service Plan to the Chief Executive Officer of each county, and

WHEREAS, the Law defines the Chief Executive Officer of the county as the County Executive, County Administrator, County Manager or, in the absence of one of these positions, the Chair of the County Board, and

WHEREAS, in Tompkins County the County Administrator is not an elected official, but rather is appointed by, and reports directly to, the Tompkins County Legislature, and

WHEREAS, the Law assigns tasks to the Chief Executive Officer that exceed those ordinarily

delegated to an appointed official and include organizing a Shared Services Panel consisting of all mayors and supervisors of municipalities within the County, soliciting input of all collective bargaining units of Panel members, presenting a tentative Plan to the County Legislature for its review, conducting at least three public hearings, securing final approval of the Plan by the Panel, certifying savings associated with the Plan, submitting the Plan to the State, and issuing the Plan to the public, now therefore be it

RESOLVED, That for the purposes of undertaking the Shared Services Initiative, this Legislature grants the County Administrator the authority to undertake the tasks that are delegated to him/her by Part BBB of Chapter 59 of the Laws of 2017.

**SEQR ACTION: TYPE II-20**

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### **Budget, Capital, and Personnel Committee**

Mr. Dennis, Chair, reported the Committee will meet on May 8<sup>th</sup>. A copy of a draft Expanded Budget Committee meetings has been provided to all Legislators. The Committee will be discussing the fiscal targets and goals at the May 8<sup>th</sup> meeting. The Strategic Tourism Planning Board discussion will take place at the June meeting.

### **Planning, Development, and Environmental Quality Committee**

Ms. Robertson, Chair, reported the Committee will meet on May 4<sup>th</sup> and highlighted the agenda topics.

### **Jail Study Committee**

Mr. John, Chair, reported the Committee met on April 20<sup>th</sup> and heard reports from several providers at the Jail; it was a very good discussion of what goes on at the Jail. The next meeting will be May 11<sup>th</sup> and he expects the Jail nurse will attend to talk about the medical facilities and Sharon McDougall, Deputy Mental Health Commissioner, will be speaking about Mental Health services offered at the Jail.

### **Workforce Diversity and Inclusion Committee**

Mrs. McBean-Clairborne, Chair, thanked the community for coming together for the reading of the new Jim Crow that spoke to the issues of mass incarceration and its impact and effect on black and brown people in the country. There is a problem with a thing called drugs but the punishment is on the people and not the thing. She spoke of being involved in discussions and hearing emotional testimony and understanding how systems are designed to be discriminatory and how racism plays such a key role in keeping black and brown people in jails and prisons in disproportionate numbers. She said if anyone has not read the new Jim Crow she encouraged reading and conversation. Discrimination, prejudice, bigotry, and justice in what is supposed to be a just system are much of what is responsible for the disproportionate number of black and brown people in jails and prisons.

The Committee discussed exit interviews and having a process on how to find out why people are leaving County employment and how to deal with the information received. Engaging in meaningful exit interviews discussions will continue and will likely be brought to the Legislature for consideration of whether it wants this to be part of the County's policy.

In reference to Safe Zone cards, an informative video about what it means to be a safe zone was created of the Office of Human Rights; it was very well done. The eight minute video once final edits are made will be available for all workers, customers, and clients. She will also ask the LGBTQ community to review it and it will be coming to the Legislature at the next meeting for a viewing. She also reported they are getting ready for the next Climate Survey to be done in 2018.

**Old Library Committee**

Mr. Lane, Chair, had no report.

**Public Safety Committee**

Mr. John, Chair, reported the Committee met on April 20<sup>th</sup> and had a report on the proposed LEAD program that is moving forward mainly in the City but there is County involvement. He said the Committee will meet again on May 18<sup>th</sup>.

**Resolution No. 2017-78: Appropriation from Contingent Fund - Replacement Pay - Sheriff's Office (ID #6943)**

This resolution was adopted by a short roll call vote.

<b>RESULT:</b>	<b>ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]</b>
<b>MOVER:</b>	Rich John, Member
<b>SECONDER:</b>	Martha Robertson, Member
<b>AYES:</b>	Will Burbank, Carol Chock, James Dennis, Rich John, Anna Kelles, Dooley Kiefer, Daniel Klein, Michael Lane, Leslyn McBean-Clairborne, Martha Robertson, David McKenna, Glenn Morey, Michael Sigler, Peter Stein

WHEREAS, the Sheriff's Office had four (4) employees out on disability leave longer than two months, and

WHEREAS, the Fiscal Policy of Tompkins County allows replacement pay to the Department from the Contingent Fund for the period beyond the initial two months, now therefore be it

RESOLVED, on recommendation of the Public Safety and the Budget, Capital, and Personnel Committees, That the Director of Finance be and is hereby authorized and directed to make the following budget appropriation for 2017:

FROM:	A1990.54400	Contingent Fund	\$ 56,406.00
TO:	A3113.51000419	Deputy Sheriff	\$ 13,108.00
	A3150.51000406	Correction Officer	\$ 26,224.00
	A3113.58800	Fringes	\$ 5,690.00
	A3150.58800	Fringes	\$ 11,384.00

**SEQR ACTION: TYPE II-20**

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**Health and Human Services Committee**

Notes  
Tompkins County Legislature  
Tuesday, May 2, 2017

Ms. Kelles, Chair, reported the Committee has not met since the last Legislature meeting. The next meeting will be May 15<sup>th</sup>.

**Facilities and Infrastructure Committee**

Mr. McKenna, Chair, reported the Committee has not met since the last Legislature meeting. The next Committee meeting will be May 9<sup>th</sup>.

**Minutes of Previous Meeting**

April 18, 2017

<b>RESULT:</b>	<b>ACCEPTED [13 TO 1]</b>
<b>MOVER:</b>	James Dennis, Member
<b>SECONDER:</b>	Michael Sigler, Member
<b>AYES:</b>	Burbank, Chock, Dennis, John, Kelles, Klein, Lane, McBean-Clairborne, Robertson, McKenna, Morey, Sigler, Stein
<b>NAYS:</b>	Dooley Kiefer

**Unfinished Business**

Mr. Dennis provided a brief update on the Industrial Development Agency activities and said there are solar projects being considered in the Town of Dryden and Town of Enfield.

**Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 9:29 p.m.