

Minutes

Administrative Services Committee

April 13, 2020, 5:00 p.m.
Virtual Meeting via Zoom and Live-Streamed for public viewing

Gerace Office Building, Mayville, NY

Members Present: Scudder, Vanstrom, Muldowney, Davis, Starks

Others: Tampio, Ames, Dennison, Abdella, Crow, Carrow

Chairman Scudder called the meeting to order at 5:01 p.m.

Approval of Minutes (2/18/20)

MOVED by Legislator Starks, SECONDED by Legislator Muldowney.

Unanimously Carried

Privilege of the Floor

Clerk Tampio: We have received no comments from the public to read at this time.

Proposed Resolution - Amend 2020 Budget for Liability Insurance Accounts

Ms. Crow: A couple of the premiums were a great deal higher than what we had planned for in the budget. I did add in a little bit of contingency as well because not all premiums have been paid yet. Two that were of significant increase were the medical malpractice and the auto insurance policy. The medical malpractice was 24% increase, about \$20,000 and the auto insurance was about a \$30,000 increase, which represents about an 11.5% increase. All the different premiums within the liability account are allocated back to the respective departments. Each one kind of had a separate methodology for allocating back. So, ultimately the charges will flow through to the department. We do a year end reconciliation based on all costs for the liability plan. That's why this resolution doesn't show all the charges going back to the department. There could be other savings within the budget before the end of the year, so we won't know the true net adjustment until the end of the year when all the claims have been made and everything else is realized in the CS fund.

Chairman Scudder: Thank you. That makes sense. Anything else?

Ms. Crow: I'm happy to answer any questions.

Chairman Scudder: Any questions or comments for Kitty? All those in favor say aye. Opposed?

Unanimously Carried

Proposed Resolution - Amend 2020 Budget Appropriations and Revenues Due to Changes in Accounting Method for Some County-Wide Costs

Mrs. Dennison: This resolution is an attempt to further standardize the way we're accounting for a variety of (*inaudible*.) You'll remember a couple of years ago we consolidated the occupancy costs in buildings and grounds. This is kind of a variation of that theme. Currently, for NYSAC dues they've been paid- well they previously were allocated to all of the departments but in 2019 we consolidated them to the County Executive's department but still charged the enterprise funds. We did a similar change in 2019 with the CSEA Union president. Those charges used to be allocated to all the individual operating departments and then in 2019 we consolidated them in Human Resources. So, all of the general fund operations were consolidated but we were still charging out a portion of those two things to the enterprise fund. We realized earlier this year when we were talking to (*inaudible*) company about our indirect cost allocation that those two items could be taken care of for the indirect allocation cost program. That is the program where we are currently are charging enterprise funds for things like human resources hiring and firing- we're charging enterprise funds for things like finance functions for paying bills and that kind of thing. So, what this will do is instead of charging the enterprise funds- specifically for the NYSAC dues and CSEA Union president costs it will filter through the (*inaudible*) program instead. So, what the resolution will do is change the budget to coincide with this proposed change in accounting practices. In 2020 the County Executive will be charged for 100% of the NYSAC dues and the Human Resources department will have all the charges for the union president but they will no longer get revenue from the enterprise fund. It will be an increase in cost for the general fund at least in 2020 and then eventually those costs will be charged out to the enterprise funds, but the indirect cost plan- it takes two years for it to catch up to the change, so we wanted to make the change now. The enterprise fund will not actually get these extra charges until 2022, so there will be a small hit to the general fund eventually.

(Cross-talk)

Chairman Scudder: It's not a huge amount of money, so I guess-

Mrs. Dennison: That's the long story. The short story would be that I think it's more efficient and a more appropriate way of doing the accounting and it matches the way we're doing accounting for a variety of other expenditures- matches the way we do things.

Chairman Scudder: O.K., any questions or comments? All in favor? Opposed?

Unanimously Carried

OtherProposed Resolution - Extend 2020 Tax Foreclosure Redemption Date

Chairman Scudder: Did everyone get the late resolution and have a chance to look it over? Steve, will you talk us through this?

Mr. Abdella: It's stated in the resolution that the normal redemption date would be April 15th for our foreclosure. That's really the date that's the redemption date really every year. Previous to today, by virtue of the Governor's executive order related to COVID-19, we extended the redemption date to June 18th to be consistent with an order that called for no further enforcement of foreclosure for a period of 90 days. After further deliberation and consultation with the County Executive and the Legislature leadership we discussed that it would be appropriate to move the auction to late September. That would provide additional time for people that are in the midst of the foreclosure to have a chance to redeem their property given the occurring crisis and secondly balance the need of having to have an auction prior to the onset of bad weather and the winter season. So, we're targeting late September which would allow us to move the redemption date from April 15th to June 18th and now, actually August 7th is what's proposed in this resolution and as you will recall, (*inaudible*) the redemption date and the auction date would expect to be September 26th. We would still have the normal reacquisition in which those who missed the redemption date could still make an offer to reacquire their property up until the last date before the auction. That would give them as late as September 26th to potentially reacquire. So, it's adding several months to that process due to the current COVID-19 crisis.

Chairman Scudder: O.K., did everyone follow that? Other than- it could make it a little bit interesting at the end of the year once we do all our approvals. Buyers are probably going to be anxious about wrapping it up before the end of the year, but maybe with the extended time more people will pay off their past due taxes and we won't have as many properties to sell. That might be a good thing. Any questions? All in favor? Opposed?

Unanimously Carried

Legislator Davis: I would like to make a motion that we adjourn.

Legislator Starks: I'll second that.

Unanimously Carried (5:14 p.m.)

Respectfully submitted and transcribed,
Kathy K. Tampio, Clerk of the Legislature/ Olivia Ames, Deputy Clerk