

Minutes

Human Services Committee

November 10, 2020, 5:00 pm, Legislative Chambers

Gerace Office Building, Mayville, NY

Members Present: Pavlock, Whitney, Lawton

Members Absent: Rankin, Whitford

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

Chairman Pavlock called the meeting to order at 5:04p.m.

Approval of Minutes (10/21/20)

MOVED by Legislator Lawton, SECONDED by Legislator Whitney

Unanimously Carried

Privilege of the Floor

Chairman Pavlock: Is there anyone to speak or any communications? Not seeing any or hearing any, we'll move on. I guess I wanted to mention we are meeting via zoom this month because of our leader, Chairman Chagnon, was recommending us to be safe and to help control the spread of this disease so thankfully all you could join us this month.

Proposed Resolution – Accept Health Research, Inc. COVID-19 Response Funding

Mrs. Dennison: (*Inaudible*) Health & Human Services has fortunately had the opportunity to receive funding for COVID endeavors from a number of different sources. So in general, Health & Human Services has not needed to request reimbursement from FEMA for the COVID disaster because we are obligated to use all other sources of funding first before approaching FEMA. So this particular grant is one of those extra sources of funding. Actually the grant was – we were approached about the grant in March but we're bringing it to you now a little bit late because there was a lot of confusion as far as which grants we could accept, which grants we were going to do and which grant were going to (*inaudible*) FEMA. So, Health & Human Services has now determined that we're eligible to receive this money from Health Research Incorporated and so we would like to enter into a contract with that group to deliver services to fight the pandemic. There is no local share so it is a need resolution and grant to counteract some of the expenses that we have incurred.

Chairman Pavlock: Any restrictions to the grant as far as how we can spend it?

Mrs. Dennison: Not really. It just says, it's been awarded from the Center Disease Control Prevent Initiative. We just have to stipulate that we are experienced in the skills required for this project and that we will carry out duties as necessary.

Chairman Pavlock: Committee, any questions for Kathleen regarding this resolution?

Unanimously Carried

Proposed Resolution – Amend Chautauqua County Health & Human Services 2020
Adopted Budget for Personal Services & Employee Benefits Costs

Mrs. Dennison: This resolution pertains to a number of departments within the Health & Human Services organization that are (*inaudible*) to predict in advance as far as how much work is going to be required in those endeavors. So, we are needing additional staffing resources in Public Health administration and in the Home Energy Assistance program also known as HEAP. The resolution is to beef up the staffing budgets in those two areas but we do currently have a surplus in the jail staffing in the wages and fringe benefit areas and (*inaudible*) lead testing. So, as I said, HEAP is always difficult to predict how much work is going to be done there and lead testing kind of the same thing. So you frequently have to move money between departments depending on the actual work that is performed. The other comment I would make is that another reason there is surplus in the jail clinic budget is unfortunately, the department has continued having difficulty filling nursing positions in the jail. So, we have had staffing vacancies there throughout the year so there are extra funds available in that department. Like the previous resolution it's self-balancing so there is no use of fund balance proposed just a redistribution of budgets for wages and fringe benefits.

Chairman Pavlock: Understood. Any questions?

Unanimously Carried

Other

Chairman Pavlock: That is it for the resolutions that were on our agenda. I believe we do have something to come up under "other". I'm referring to a resolution that was passed by the Legislature last month, resolution, Authorize Lease Agreement for the Office for the Aging Services at the Chautauqua Center in Jamestown, New York.

Discussion - Possible amendment to Res. No. 218-20

MOVED by Legislator Whitney, SECONDED by Legislator Lawton to adjourn.

Unanimously Carried (5:29 p.m.)

Respectfully submitted and transcribed,
Kathy Tampio, Clerk/Olivia Ames, Deputy Clerk/Lori J. Foster, Sr. Stenographer