Treasurer

Ronald E. Dougherty County Office Building 56 Main Street Owego, NY 13827

James P. McFadden Treasurer Katie Chandler Deputy Treasurer Stephanie Jerzak Chief Accountant



FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES FOR SEPTEMBER 16, 2021 AT 10:30AM

PRESENT: MCFADDEN, DEWIND, JERZAK, CHANDLER, AND EIGHT LEGISLATORS

ABSENT: SULLIVAN

LATE RESOLUTIONS WERE PRESENTED BY CATHY HASKELL

MINUTES OF THE AUGUST 10TH, 2021 FINANCE COMMITTEE WERE READ AND A MOTION TO APPROVE BY MULLENS, SECOND BY ROBERTS

<u>AUDIT EXIT INTERVIEW:</u> DUANE SHOEN WITH INSERO & COMPANY CPAS PRESENTED THE 2020 AUDITED COUNTY FINANCIAL RESULTS-

- ALL REPORTS RETURNED A CLEAN OPINION AND ALL FINANCIAL STATEMENTS ARE FAIRLY STATED.
- REVIEWED 5 YEAR TREND OF GENERAL FUND, AND COMPARED 2020 FUND BALANCE, REVENUE, AND EXPENSE TO 2019.
- MANAGEMENT COMMENT LETTER CONTAINED ONE NOTE ABOUT THE INTERNAL SERVICE FUNDS (LIABILITY) HAVING A DEFICIT OF .5 MILLION. THEY NOTED THAT THIS WAS AN IMPROVEMENT, AND THEY SUGGESTED WE CONTINUE TO REDUCE IT.
- UPCOMING CHANGES THAT WILL IMPACT OUR AUDIT INCLUDE A CHANGE IN THE WAY LEASES ARE ACCOUNTED FOR. IN THE NEXT COUPLE OF YEAR THEY WILL BE RECOGNIZED AS DEBT.
- FOR A NARRATIVE OF THE COUNTY'S FINANCES DUANE ENCOURAGED EVERYONE TO READ PAGE 4 OF THE AUDIT REPORT.

<u>OLD BUSINESS:</u> TREASURER'S OFFICE BUDGET IS PERFORMING WELL. TREASURER MCFADDEN NOTED THAT THE AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT LINES HAVE BEEN ADDED TO THE TREASURER'S ACCOUNTS.

<u>NEW BUSINESS:</u> NYS RETIREMENT ESTIMATE CAME IN AT 3.2 MILLION DOLLARS. THE ACTUAL BILL SHOULD ARRIVE IN NOVEMBER, AND IS DUE IN FEBRUARY 2022. THE COUNTY WILL PAY IN DECEMBER 2021 TO TAKE ADVANTAGE OF EARLY PAYMENT DISCOUNT.

: YTD SALES TAX IS UP 24% OR 2.6 MILLON AFTER EIGHT MONTHS. CHAIR SAUERBREY NOTED THAT THIS WILL MOSTLY LEVEL OUT SINCE THE STIMULUS PAYMENTS AND HIGH UNEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS ARE COMING TO AN END. IT WAS MENTION THAT NEXT YEAR'S BUDGET FOR SALES TAX SHOULD TAKE THIS INTO CONSIDERATION AND BE A LITTLE CONSERVATIVE.

: 2018 FORECLOSURE- THE JUDGE SIGNED OFF ON 2018 PROPERTIES WITH THE EXCEPTION OF TWO PARCELS THAT WERE ALLOWED TO REDEEM, AND ONE PARCEL THAT WAS PROTECTED BY BANKRUPTCY. THE REMAINING PARCELS, EXCEPT FOR A PARCEL SET ASIDE FOR LAND BANK, ARE INCLUDED IN THE RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE THE SALE OF COUNTY OWNED PROPERTIES. THE AUCTION WILL BE HELD 10/7, WITH A BLENDED IN-PERSON AND INTERNET AUCTION. RESOLUTION FOR THE SALE OF THE PARCEL TO THE LAND BANK WILL BE PRESENTED NEXT MONTH.

:DOG CONTROL FUNDS- SINCE DOG CONTROL IS NO LONGER A FUNCTION OF THE TREASURER'S OFFICE AND FUNDS HAVE NOT BEEN USED FOR SEVERAL YEARS IT IS THE RECOMMENDATION OF THE TREASURER TO RECLASSIFY THE MONIES AND DISPOSE OF THE TRUST ACCOUNT. LEGISLATURE MULLEN SUGGESTED CREATING A LINE UNDER THE SHERIFF FOR AG AND MARKET VIOLATIONS AND PUTTING THE FUNDS THERE. CHIEF ACCOUNTANT JERZAK WILL PREPARE THE RESOLUTION FOR NEXT MONTH.