



Tioga County Worksession Minutes

July 3, 2024 – 1:00 p.m. *Date change due to July 4th holiday

Legislators Present:

Legislator Ciotoli
Legislator Monell
Legislator Mullen
Legislator Roberts
Chair/Legislator Sauerbrey
Legislator Standinger (*Arrived at 1:12 p.m.*)

Legislators Absent:

Legislator Brown
Legislator Flesher

Guests:

Fred Ulrich, Village of Owego DPW Superintendent (*Departed at 1:07 p.m.*)

Staff present:

Peter DeWind, County Attorney
Cathy Haskell, Legislative Clerk
Jackson Bailey, County Administrator
Amy Eiklor, Deputy Legislative Clerk
Brittany Woodburn, ED&P Director (*Departed at 1:07 p.m.*)
Brian Cain, Probation Director

Call Meeting to Order: Chair Sauerbrey opened the meeting at 1:03 p.m.

Approval of Worksession Minutes: On motion of Legislator Monell, seconded by Legislator Ciotoli, the June 20, 2024 minutes were unanimously approved.

Action Items:

ACTION ITEM #1 – 5/23/24 Legislative Worksession – Confidential Databases/Software Programs

County Attorney DeWind is still in the process of gathering information on the confidential databases and software programs used by Tioga County employees. **This action item will be carried forward to the July 18, 2024 Legislative Worksession.**

Legislative Support: Legislative Clerk Haskell will type the Legislative Support minutes and will be sent to the Legislators as a separate document.

Resolutions: Ms. Haskell reviewed the agenda and resolutions for the July 9, 2024 Legislature meeting with discussion occurring on the following:

- ***Authorize Grant Application to NY SWIMS Lifeguard Program in Partnership with the Village of Owego:*** Legislative Clerk Haskell reported this resolution was not presented at the ED&P Committee meeting. ED&P Director, Brittany Woodburn, explained that the Village of Owego was informed that they cannot apply for this grant on their own. Only counties and large cities are allowed to apply for the grant. If approved, the funds would pass through Tioga County and go to the Village of Owego. Ms. Woodburn reported that grant applications are due July 26, and it appears there will be only one round of funding. The grant is for a maximum of \$25,000 and funds are expected to be used for lifeguards, increased swimming pool hours, and possibly swimming lessons. She stated the grant is reimbursable and the Village of Owego would pay for the expenses up front so Tioga County would not have to pay for anything. Legislator Monell asked what the term of the grant is. Ms. Woodburn replied the term of the grant is two years and it is backdated from April 2024 and goes through September 2025.

Ms. Woodburn reported that grant funding is expected to be awarded to a municipality in each eligible county that applies. To her knowledge, there are no other swimming pools run by municipalities within Tioga County. Legislator Roberts stated that she believes the NY SWIMS Program is an excellent program that provides valuable life skills to individuals. On a straw poll vote, with Legislators Brown, Flesher, and Standinger being absent, the Legislators agreed to move the resolution forward for Legislature consideration at the July 9 meeting.

- ***Request and Transfer Contingency Funds & Modify 2024 Budget – Assigned Counsel:*** Legislator Ciotoli reported he attended a meeting last week regarding this resolution. He explained that due to the NYS Assigned Counsel Rate Increase more than doubling, they have blown through their 2024 budget. Assigned Counsel is in the process of determining how to move forward in 2024 as well as with the 2025 Budget. Legislator Ciotoli reported that right now, Assigned Counsel is only requesting \$150,000 from contingency, but they may have to come back later in the year. County Administrator Bailey explained that there is only about \$400,000 left in contingency. Chair Sauerbrey inquired if any of the funds are reimbursed to Tioga County. County Attorney DeWind explained that 25% is reimbursed to Tioga County, but those funds don't go directly back into the Assigned Counsel budget.

Other:

- ***County Administrator Update:*** Chair Sauerbrey welcomed County Administrator Bailey, who started on July 1. Mr. Bailey reported he has been working with Chair Sauerbrey and attending Legislative Committee meetings. He explained that he is learning and getting a lot of information from the Legislative Committee meetings. Starting in August, Mr. Bailey will provide the Legislators with a County Administrator Report at the first

Worksession of the month. He stated if there is something specific the Legislators would like him to report on, whether budget, finance, etc., they should let him know.

- **Grants:** Legislator Mullen stated that he would like Tioga County to explore grants that may be available. He suggested possibly looking into hiring a grant writer or utilizing an outside source to apply for grants as some departments don't have the time to apply.

Executive Session: Six Legislators were in attendance along with Legislative Clerk Haskell, County Attorney DeWind, County Administrator Bailey, and Probation Director Cain. Motion by Chair Sauerbrey, seconded by Legislator Monell, to move into Executive Session to discuss matters pertaining to the promotion of particular individuals at 1:31 p.m. Motion carried. Motion by Legislator Monell, seconded by Legislator Mullen, to adjourn. Executive Session adjourned at 1:45 p.m.

Meeting adjourned at 1:45 p.m.

Next Worksession scheduled for Thursday, July 18, 2024, at 10:00 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Amy Eiklor

Deputy Legislative Clerk