

**APPROVED**

**Budget and Capital Committee Special Meeting  
May 20, 2008, 4:45 p.m.  
Courthouse Conference Room**

Present: N. Shinagawa, M. Hattery, P. Mackesey, J. Dennis  
Excused: K. Herrera  
Staff: J. Kippola, P. Younger, County Administration; K. Fuller, Legislature Office; E. Marx,  
Planning Department; M. Lynch, Public Information  
Legislator: F. Proto  
Guests: A. Smith, SPCA

**Call to Order**

Mr. Shinagawa called the meeting to order at 4:45 p.m.

**Changes to the Agenda**

The following item was added to the agenda:

Resolution No. – Authorization for Public Hearing – Tompkins Cortland Community College  
Operating Budget 2008-2009

**RESOLUTION NO. – AUTHORIZATION FOR PUBLIC HEARING – TOMPKINS  
CORTLAND COMMUNITY COLLEGE OPERATING BUDGET  
– 2008-2009**

It was MOVED by Mr. Dennis, seconded by Mr. Hattery, and unanimously adopted by voice vote  
by members present, to recommend adoption of the following resolution to the full Legislature.

WHEREAS, Tompkins Cortland Community College is a joint enterprise of Tompkins County  
and Cortland County whose budgets must be acted upon by each county, now therefore be it

RESOLVED, on recommendation of the Budget and Capital Committee, That a public hearing be  
held on June 17, 2008, at 5:30 o'clock in the evening thereof in the Legislature's Chambers of the  
Tompkins County Courthouse, 320 North Tioga Street, Ithaca, New York, concerning the 2008-2009  
operating budget request for Tompkins Cortland Community College. At such time and place all persons  
interested in the subject matter will be heard concerning the same,

RESOLVED, further, That the Clerk of the Legislature be and hereby is directed to place such  
notice of public hearing in the official newspaper of Tompkins County.

**SEQR ACTION:** TYPE II-20

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**RESOLUTION NO. – APPROPRIATION FROM CONTINGENT FUND FOR SOCIETY FOR  
THE PREVENTION OF CRUELTY TO ANIMALS (SPCA)**

Mr. Shinagawa said the resolution was before the committee to review additional information that  
had been made available to the Health and Human Services Committee and was not provided to Budget  
and Capital Committee.

Mr. Proto, Chair of the Health and Human Services Committee, said he asked Ms. Smith to  
review the resolution and provide further clarification of the actual services provided to the County,  
noting there is confusion between the rabies program contracted by the Health Department, and services  
for animal cruelty and stray/feral cat population. Following discussion with Ms. Smith, he is considering  
withdrawal of the resolution at this time to prepare a revised resolution more appropriate to the actual  
services.

A discussion followed, during which the members of the Committee were provided an understanding of the difference between the required Agriculture and Market Law services, to be responsible for medical care, shelter, food, etc., in cruelty cases, and the non-mandated Cat Control Program receiving County support for stray and feral cat spaying/neutering and vaccinations to assist in reducing rabies exposure within the county. It was noted that the initial proposal was to have the County assist in purchasing a van under State contract for the agency, however, the window of opportunity has expired. Ms. Smith noted the agency has purchased a used vehicle that would allow them to continue services without costly maintenance. Ms. Smith said that due to the expiration of the State contract opportunity, she would respectfully request release of the Contingent Funds to assist in funding the animal-related programs for the year.

Following the discussion, consensus was reached to withdraw the resolution from the agenda; Ms. Smith will assist Ms. Kippola in revising the resolution to accurately reflect the current needs and will provide information relating to services and costs associated with the contract. RESOLUTION WITHDRAWN.

WHEREAS, New York State Agriculture and Market Law requires Tompkins County to provide shelter for seized cats and lost, strayed or homeless cats, and

WHEREAS, by contract the Tompkins County Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (SPCA) has historically provided and maintained this shelter for seized cats and lost, strayed or homeless cats, and

WHEREAS, the SPCA relies on both private and public funds to achieve its mission, and

WHEREAS, during the 2008 County budget process, the SPCA requested a \$28,216 increase, which would have doubled the 2007 amount in its line item in the County budget, due to a financial shortfall in the SPCA budget, and

WHEREAS, during the 2008 budget process, the Expanded Budget Committee earmarked \$15,000 in the Contingent Fund, plus increased the County's allocation from \$28,216 to \$33,216, until a date when a long term solution could be reached to assist in bridging a shortfall in the SPCA budget, and

WHEREAS, the SPCA will continue to develop a long range financial plan for feral cat control in partnership with the County, and will bring that plan forward for consideration during the County's 2009 budget process, and

WHEREAS, the SPCA has proposed a solution that will help in bridging the shortfall in 2008 through a purchase of one van by the County for the SPCA, thereby lowering operating costs significantly, now therefore be it

RESOLVED, on recommendation of the Health and Human Services Committee and the Budget and Capital Committee, That the County amend the SPCA's contract to include the purchase of a van for up to \$15,500,

RESOLVED, further, That the Director of Finance be authorized and directed to make the following appropriation:

FROM:	A1990	Contingent Fund	\$15,500
TO:	3520.54400	Tompkins County SPCA	\$15,500

RESOLVED, further, That County Administrator or his designee is authorized to execute any documents and agreements pertaining to the proposal.

**SEQR ACTION:** TYPE II-20

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### Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 5:10 p.m.

Karen Fuller, TC Legislature Office