

**Budget Capital and Finance Committee**  
**May 5, 2009**  
**5:00 p.m.**  
**Scott Heyman Conference Room**

Present: J. Dennis, P. Mackesey, K. Herrera, M. Hattery, N. Shinagawa  
Legislators: M. Robertson, C. Chock  
Staff: J. Mareane, M. Lynch, County Administration; A. Fitzpatrick, Personnel, K. Fuller,  
Legislature Office  
Guests: T. Ashmore, Ithaca Journal

**Call to Order**

Mr. Dennis called the meeting to order at 5:05 p.m.

**RESOLUTION NO. - RATIFICATION OF BARGAINING AGREEMENT CIVIL SERVICE  
EMPLOYEES ASSOCIATION, WHITE COLLAR UNIT AND  
AUTHORIZING TRANSFER OF FUNDS FOR SALARY  
ADJUSTMENTS**

It was MOVED by Mr. Dennis, seconded by Mr. Shinagawa, to recommend adoption of the following resolution to the full Legislature.

It was MOVED by Ms Mackesey, seconded by Mr. Shinagawa, to amend the third whereas to read: "WHEREAS, on May 15, 2007, by Resolution No. 77, the Legislature decided that Confidential salary adjustments and benefits shall be at the same level as those negotiated by the White Collar bargaining unit, now therefore be it". Further clarification by Ms. Mackesey indicated she also wished to amend the first resolved to delete the words "and Management". Ms. Mackesey said she doesn't like having to exclude management employees, however, reductions will need to be made. Mr. Shinagawa, following the clarification by Ms. Mackesey to delete salary increase for Management, withdrew his support due to the exclusion of management in the resolved. He indicated he is not certain whether he would amend the resolution following the Legislature's discussions on the tax levy goal. MOTION FAILED FOR LACK OF A SECOND.

Ms. Robertson suggested voting on the tax levy increase resolution prior to further discussions on the resolution to increase salaries. Mr. Dennis stated he desires passing the tax levy goal resolution as is, to enable the full Legislature to discuss it further.

A voice vote on the resolution resulted as follows: Ayes – 3 (Legislators Dennis, Herrera, and Shinagawa); Noes – 2 (Legislators Hattery and Mackesey). RESOLUTION ADOPTED.

WHEREAS, the collective bargaining agreement between Tompkins County and the Civil Service Employees Association, White Collar Unit, expired on December 31, 2008, and

WHEREAS, subject to a series of negotiation meetings, the negotiating teams agreed to a one-year contract, which extends the terms and conditions of the previous one-year agreement with the following change: increase of 2.25 percent on base salary, retroactive until January 1, 2009, with no other changes, and

WHEREAS, on May 15, 2007, by Resolution No. 77, the Legislature decided that Confidential salary adjustments and benefits shall be at the same level as those negotiated by ~~follow~~ the White Collar bargaining unit, now therefore be it

RESOLVED, on recommendation of the Negotiating Committee and the Budget, Capital, and Finance Committee, That the bargaining agreement between Tompkins County and the Civil Service Employees Association, White Collar Unit, for the period of January 1, 2009 through December 31, 2009, is hereby ratified, and the Director of Finance is authorized to immediately implement pay adjustments for White Collar, Confidential and Management employees reflecting a pay adjustment of 2.25 percent effective January 1, 2009,

RESOLVED further, That the Director of Finance is authorized to transfer necessary funds from Budget Account 9041.51000 to the various departments to provide for the incremental cost of the pay adjustment,

RESOLVED further, That Departments Fiscal Targets be adjusted by the net salary adjustments, except for positions designated as onetime.

**SEQR ACTION:** TYPE II-20

---

**RESOLUTION NO. - ESTABLISHMENT OF 2010 COUNTY FINANCIAL GOAL**

It was MOVED by Mr. Dennis, seconded by Mr. Shinagawa, to recommend adoption of the following resolution to the full Legislature. Ms. Herrera spoke of how Tompkins County is experiencing tough times and she believes the Department Heads and organizational heads are willing to support finding ways to assist the taxpayers at this time. Although she would prefer a zero percent tax levy increase, she would support three percent as an alternative. She would like to scale back the amount; although drastic it will not take care of problems the County may be facing. She believes with the assistance of County employees and the many resources available it would be possible to find a way not to increase the tax burden on property owners. To get the resolution out of Committee she will support the resolution but may amend her vote at a later time.

A voice vote on the resolution resulted as follows: Ayes – 3 (Legislators Dennis, Herrera, and Shinagawa); Noes – 2 (Legislators Hattery and Mackesey). RESOLUTION ADOPTED.

WHEREAS, Tompkins County, as part of its budget policy and process, wishes to establish a guideline for development of the 2010 budget, and

WHEREAS, as of April 27, 2009, the County Administrator estimates that maintenance of effort would require a 14.8 percent tax levy increase, now therefore be it

RESOLVED, on recommendation of the Budget, Capital, and Finance Committee, That the Legislature establishes the goal of a maximum tax levy of three percent (3%) for 2010 resulting in a 0.1 percent tax rate decrease for 2010 (\$5.93 tax rate) and also resulting in a projected decrease of \$4.4 in locally controlled spending over 2009 projections resulting in a \$.59 decrease in taxes on a \$100,000 home.

**SEQR ACTION:** TYPE II-20

---

**Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 5:15 p.m.