

Call to Order

Mr. Koplinka-Loehr, Chair, called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag and Roll Call of Members

Members and guests participated in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Present: 13 present. Excused: 2 (Legislators Herrera and Proto).

Poet Laureate

Tompkins County Poet Laureate, Jay Leeming, read two short poems: “Ego” and “Supermarket Historians”.

Privilege of the Floor by the Public

Joanne Florino, City of Ithaca, spoke in support of reinstating funding for Emergency Outreach Services in the Mental Health Department. She said it is a critical service to the public and every family within the County. Ms. Florino shared her personal experience with a family member having mental health issues and stressed the importance of having support in place.

A. Damon Ferguson, Groton resident and Board member for Habitat for Humanity, invited Legislators and the public to attend the fundraising dinners held every Wednesday at Rogues Harbor Inn in Lansing. The newest project is a home on Breed Road, and the local chapter is seeking partner families that would benefit from Habitat for Humanity.

Mike Lane, Village of Dryden, expressed his concern about the budget deliberations including a reduction in staff support for advisory boards. He said the Agriculture and Farmland Protection Board, Environmental Management Council, and other advisory boards through the Planning Department need to be properly staffed. He suggested taking a look at the priorities of the Department and that it may be time to stick to basic work and set aside the extensive planning for nodal developments and other proposed work. He urged Legislators to speak to their constituents to receive input.

Fay Gougakis, City of Ithaca, spoke of cellular telephone use in the Library and how she learned the new Director’s previous place of employment had a designated room for use of the phones. She suggested with new leadership at the Library this would be an appropriate time to address this issue. Ms. Gougakis then spoke of vehicles with excessive tinting on windows. She is concerned that it is not possible to see what drivers are doing which increases the possibility of accidents. Ms. Gougakis reiterated her desire to see additional notices published in the local newspapers regarding the State law prohibiting text messaging while driving.

Bonnie Nault, Ithaca Realtor, spoke of property taxes. She spoke of a national survey and said taxes per county identified 17 of the top 25 counties in the nation as being located in New York; Tompkins County was listed as number 25. She is concerned this fact will affect the housing market as well as people deciding to relocate. She asked that the Legislature reconsider the three percent tax increase, as well as the proposed increase in the Mortgage Recording Tax.

Privilege of the Floor by Legislators

Ms. Mackesey, District No. 1 Legislator, announced the comment period on the proposed New York State Department of Transportation (NYSDOT) Reasonable Access Highway Regulation has been extended until the end of November.

Mr. Dennis, District No. 15 Legislator, said he has heard at various meetings that local truckers feel the regulation would adversely affect their business and it appears they do not have a full understanding of its impacts. Ms. Mackesey noted the County resolution is not designed to restrict local truck traffic. Mr. Dennis expressed appreciation to Mr. Leeming for his poetry and announced the Family Reading Partnership is having a “Put a Poem in Your Pocket” event on November 14th at Boynton Junior High School. Students will be receiving a flyer that folds into a “pocket” to be used to collect poems from over 200 sites within the County.

Ms. Robertson, District No. 13 Legislator, said at the Federal level, the Secretary of the National Transportation Safety Board is taking texting while driving seriously and is looking into the matter. She also referred to Ms. Nault’s statements, noting part of the reason New York Counties appear high on the list is due to the State passing down Medicaid costs to counties. She asked Ms. Ferguson about the recent announcements for women builders for the Habitat for Humanity project. Ms. Ferguson said the women’s build will be this Friday and Saturday when the walls will be raised for the dwelling. Ms. Robertson said the sixty-day comment period for the draft supplemental environmental impact statement regarding Marcellus shale gas drilling has stimulated many conversations. It is expected Tompkins County Council of Governments may hold two public meetings within the next month. She is astonished how many radio advertisements are being made by gas companies.

Ms. Chock, District No. 3 Legislator, expressed appreciation to Mr. Leeming for his poetry and to Ms. Florino for sharing her personal story and said there can be a wide range of impacts when a family member has a mental illness. Ms. Chock shared her recent experiences in Texas and noted her tour of the State Capitol included information on electronic voting being in place since 1923. Ms. Chock also noted how different states operate, noting her daughter-in-law worked for the Texas Child Protective Services while only a sophomore in College.

Mr. Stevenson, District No. 8 Legislator, expressed appreciation to the Soil and Water Conservation staff for their response and action to one of his constituents for a flood hazard with regard to a flood mitigation problem on their property.

Report from Municipal Official(s)

No municipal official was present.

Tompkins County Historian – “Tompkins County: Images of Work and Play”

Ms. Kammen spoke of her work leading Town Historians and their assigned Deputies. There are now twenty-six individuals who have worked together to develop the book entitled “Tompkins County: Images of Work and Play”. She presented the Legislature with several copies of the most recent book, noting it provides a photographic display of residents at work and play in the County.

Assigned Counsel/Public Defender Analysis and Review Task Force Report

Mr. Schlather, Chair of the Task Force, provided a brief review of the content of the report. The Task Force was charged late last year with exploring alternatives and recommending the most effective way to deliver legal services to County residents who cannot afford legal representation. The Task Force, which undertook the review process that is done approximately every twenty years, consisted of: two members from the Tompkins County Legislature Public Safety Committee (Martha Robertson and James Dennis); four members of the Advisory Board on Indigent Representation (Heather L. Bissel, Kelly A. Damm, Deborah F. Dietrich, and William E. Furniss, Jr.); and one member of the legal community at large representing the Tompkins County Bar Association (Ray Schlather).

Mr. Schlather said after more than 500 hours of meeting over eight months, the Task Force found the County's Assigned Counsel program, contrary to State trends, provides high-quality representation at a lower cost than a public defender model or any other combination of services such as Legal Aid Societies and Public Advocates. The report, however, does find room for improvement in training, accountability, and workflow.

To permit opportunity for public review of the report and comment, the Legislature delayed acting upon of the report until the next meeting.

Mr. Koplinka-Loehr expressed appreciation to Mr. Schlather, Chair of the Task Force.

Ms. Kiefer asked if there was a sense of how the town courts would react to the report's recommendation. Mr. Schlather noted the Magistrates Association was well represented on the Task Force and was receptive to the suggestions.

Ms. Robertson thanked Mr. Schlather, Task Force members, Mr. Stolp, and Julia Hughes for their work and said she believes the County is ready to implement some of the recommendations within the report. She announced she would be withdrawing the resolution tonight to allow more time for the public to comment on the report. Following adoption of the report the Public Safety Committee will determine how to move forward with the recommendations. She briefly spoke of the State requirement of spending at least as much for the program as the previous year or lose funding and said she is working with the New York State Association of Counties to propose an alternative method of reviewing the program costs and calculating the State reimbursement.

Mr. Schlather thanked Ms. Robertson for her work regarding the maintenance-of-effort requirement, noting it is a serious issue. He noted that in 2009 numbers are decreasing by almost \$200,000, which could result in a \$400,000 loss of State aid unless the efforts to amend the formula are successful.

Mr. Dennis expressed appreciation to Mr. Schlather for the manner in which he Chaired the Task Force.

Chair's Report and Appointments

Mr. Koplinka-Loehr spoke of this week being National 4-H Week, and said many individuals throughout the County are members.

Mr. Koplinka-Loehr made the following appointments:

Workforce Investment Board

Mary Stazi – Business Representative – term expires June 30, 2012

Mary George Opperman – Business Representative – term expires June 30, 2012

Report from the County Administrator

Mr. Mareane reported that in addition to providing updates about the budget to Legislators and other staff, he has been speaking to members of the community as well. He and Mr. Dennis have made two budget presentations this past week, one to the Downtown Businesswomen's group and the other to the Chamber's Government Relations Committee. He reported County Administration has added a Facebook link to their site to educate the community regarding the budget and provide the ability for comments. At this time there are in excess of 100 fans. The Health Benefits Consortium Board has met

twice, with the next meeting on October 9th; the goal is to get a budget approved and have the Consolidated Health Plan in place for January 1st. Mr. Mareane acknowledged the Health Department's efforts dealing with the H1N1 situation. In addition, he requested an executive session at the end of the meeting to discuss a personnel matter.

Report from the County Attorney

Mr. Wood had no report.

Report from the Finance Director

Mr. Squires provided Legislators with a listing of properties subject to foreclosure for review. There are presently 140 parcels, twenty percent more than last year, although that number will fluctuate. He reported that he has received information from the New York State Retirement System indicating next year's billing is \$300,000 more than he had estimated. The rates are set seventeen months in advance; based upon the rates provided by the State the total billing will be \$4.8 million. This is a bill for 2011 that we pay in December 2010. Mr. Squires also said his department has been taking proposals for auditing services and he is in the process of checking references and would like Legislature participation. This would be for auditing services for the next three years.

Addition to the Agenda

There were no additions to the agenda.

Withdrawal of Resolution(s) from the Agenda

Mr. Koplinka-Loehr granted permission to the appropriate committee chair to withdraw the following resolutions from the agenda:

- Approval of Amended Bylaws of the Tompkins County Agriculture and Farmland Protection Board
- Adoption of Report on Assigned Counsel/Public Defender Analysis and Review Task Force

Approval of Appointment(s) Under the Consent Agenda

It was MOVED by Mr. Burbank, seconded by Ms. Kiefer, and unanimously adopted by voice vote by members present, to approve the following appointment(s) under the Consent Agenda:

Criminal Justice Advisory/Alternatives-to-Incarceration Board

Frances Helmstadter – Victim representative; term expires December 31, 2010

Air Services Board

Larry F. Baum – At-large representative; term expires December 31, 2011

Michael S. Hall – At-large representative; term expires December 31, 2011

Board of Assessment Review

Martha Preston – term expires December 31, 2014

Approval of Resolution(s) Under the Consent Agenda

It was MOVED by Mr. Burbank, seconded by Ms. Kiefer, and unanimously adopted by voice vote by members present, to approve the following resolution(s) under the Consent Agenda:

RESOLUTION NO. 163 – AUTHORIZATION TO EXECUTE ECONOMIC RECOVERY PROJECT SUPPLEMENTAL FUNDING AGREEMENT WITH NEW YORK STATE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION – CR121, WARREN ROAD RECONSTRUCTION – PIN 3753.73

MOVED by Mr. Burbank, seconded by Ms. Kiefer, and unanimously adopted by voice vote by members present under the Consent Agenda.

WHEREAS, the Economic Recovery Project (hereinafter "the Project") to conduct Construction and Construction Inspection of the reconstruction of County Road 121, Warren Road, between New York State Route 13 and Asbury Road, P.I.N. 3753.73, in the Village and Town of Lansing in the County of Tompkins (hereinafter "Tompkins County"), is eligible for funding under Title 23 U.S. Code, as amended, that calls for the apportionment of the costs of such program to be borne at the ratio of one hundred percent Federal funds and zero percent non-Federal funds, and

WHEREAS, Resolution No. 12 adopted on January 18, 2005, approved the Project and authorized execution of an agreement with the New York State Department of Transportation (hereinafter "NYSDOT") regarding administration and funding of Scoping, Design (Phases I-VI), and Right-of-Way Incidental work, calling for the apportionment of such costs to be borne at the ratio of eighty percent Federal funds and twenty percent non-Federal funds, and

WHEREAS, New York State (Marchiselli) funding in amounts totaling \$111,600.00 is now available for said Scoping, Design (Phases I-VI), and Right-of-Way Incidental work, and \$13,729.00 of Marchiselli funding is now available for Right-of-Way Acquisition for the Project, and

WHEREAS, NYSDOT requires Tompkins County to appropriate one hundred percent of the project costs and then file for reimbursement of eligible costs, and

WHEREAS, in order to expedite advancement of the Project and realize potential total project cost reductions, Tompkins County desires to advance the Project by making a commitment of one hundred percent of the non-Federal share of the costs, now therefore be it

RESOLVED, on recommendation of the Facilities and Infrastructure Committee, That the Tompkins County Legislature hereby approves the above Project,

RESOLVED, further, That Tompkins County agrees to advance the Project through Tompkins County's resources and authorizes the Finance Director to pay in the first instance the full Federal costs and full non-Federal costs of any and all phase(s) or portions thereof and hereby appropriates from account HZ5`103.59239.53.12, Warren Road Capital Project Account, the sum of \$6,154,526.00, the funds necessary to complete the Project including all phase(s) or portions thereof,

RESOLVED, further, That the Tompkins County Legislature makes a one hundred percent commitment of the non-Federal share (if any) of the costs of Construction/Construction Inspection phase(s) of work for the Project or portions thereof, with the Federal share of such costs to be applied directly by the NYSDOT pursuant to the State/Local Agreement,

RESOLVED, further, That upon completion of construction of the Project, or a fully usable portion thereof, Tompkins County agrees to maintain the Project, or fully usable portion thereof, at its sole cost and expense,

RESOLVED, further, That in the event the full Federal and non-Federal share of the Project exceeds the amount appropriated above, the Tompkins County Legislature shall convene as soon as possible to appropriate said excess amount immediately,

RESOLVED, further, That the Tompkins County Highway Manager be and is hereby authorized to execute all necessary Agreements or certifications on behalf of Tompkins County, (subject to the Tompkins County Attorney's approval as to form and content), with NYSDOT in connection with the advancement or approval of the Project identified in the State/Local Agreement; and providing for the administration of the Project and Tompkins County's first-instance funding of the non-Federal share of

project costs and permanent funding of the local share of Federal-aid- and State-aid-eligible Project costs and all Project costs within appropriations therefore that are not so eligible,

RESOLVED, further, That a certified copy of this resolution be filed with the New York State Commissioner of the Department of Transportation by attaching it to any necessary Agreement in connection with the Project,

RESOLVED, further, That this resolution shall take effect immediately.

SEQR ACTION: TYPE II - 2

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RESOLUTION NO. 164 – AUTHORIZATION TO EXECUTE CONSTRUCTION AND RIGHT-OF-WAY FUNDING AGREEMENT WITH NEW YORK STATE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION – CR 188, STATION ROAD CULVERT REPLACEMENT – PIN 3753.86

MOVED by Mr. Burbank, seconded by Ms. Kiefer, and unanimously adopted by voice vote by members present under the Consent Agenda.

WHEREAS, a Project to replace a culvert carrying Station Road (County Road 188) over Cayuga Inlet, P.I.N. 3753.86, (the Project) in the Town of Danby, is eligible for funding under Title 23 United States Code, as amended, that calls for the apportionment of the costs of such program to be borne at the ratio of eighty percent Federal funds and twenty percent non-Federal funds, and

WHEREAS, Resolution No. 13 adopted on January 18, 2005, approved the Project and authorized execution of an agreement with the New York State Department of Transportation regarding administration and funding of Scoping, Design, and Right-of-Way Incidentals, and

WHEREAS, in order to expedite advancement of the Project and realize potential total project cost reductions, the New York State Department of Transportation requires the County to appropriate one hundred percent of the project costs and then file for reimbursement of eligible costs, and

WHEREAS, the County of Tompkins has advanced the above Project, making a commitment of one hundred percent of the non-Federal share of the costs of Construction, with the Federal share of such costs to be applied directly by the New York State Department of Transportation pursuant to Agreement, and

WHEREAS, construction of the replacement culvert was authorized through award of bid by Resolution No. 149 adopted on July 15, 2008, and is now complete, now therefore be it

RESOLVED, on recommendation of the Facilities and Infrastructure Committee, That the Tompkins County Legislature hereby confirms the approval of the above-subject project and authorizes the County of Tompkins to pay in the first instance one hundred percent of the Federal and non-Federal share of the costs of Right-of-Way Acquisition, Construction, and Construction Inspection work for the subject Project or portions thereof,

RESOLVED, further, That the sum of \$230,680 is hereby made available within account HZ5103.59239.53.13, Station Road Capital Project Account, to cover the cost of participation in the Right-of-Way and Construction phases of the Project,

RESOLVED, further, That the Tompkins County Highway Manager be and is hereby authorized to execute all necessary Agreements, certifications, and reimbursement requests for Federal Aid and/or Marchiselli Aid on behalf of the County of Tompkins with the New York State Department of Transportation in connection with the advancement or approval of the Project and providing for the administration of the Project and the municipality's first-instance funding of Project costs and permanent funding of the local share of Federal-aid- and State-aid-eligible Project costs and all Project costs within appropriations therefore that are not so eligible,

RESOLVED, further, That a certified copy of this resolution be filed with the New York State Commissioner of Transportation by attaching it to any necessary Agreement in connection with the Project,

RESOLVED, further, That this resolution shall take effect immediately.

SEQR ACTION: Unlisted, Negative Declaration Issued (No further action required)

RESOLUTION NO. 165 - SCHEDULING A PUBLIC HEARING ON THE 2010 TOMPKINS COUNTY BUDGET AND THE 2010-2014 TOMPKINS COUNTY CAPITAL PROGRAM

MOVED by Mr. Burbank, seconded by Ms. Kiefer, and unanimously adopted by voice vote by members present under the Consent Agenda.

WHEREAS, the tentative 2010 Tompkins County Budget and the 2010–2014 Tompkins County Capital Program are scheduled to be adopted on November 17, 2009, now therefore be it

RESOLVED, on recommendation of the Expanded Budget, Capital, and Finance Committee, That a public hearing be held before the Tompkins County Legislature in Legislative Chambers, located at 320 North Tioga Street, Ithaca, New York, on Wednesday, November 4, 2009, at 7:00 o'clock in the evening thereof concerning the review of the tentative 2010 Tompkins County Budget and the 2010 – 2014 Tompkins County Capital Program. 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 is hereby authorized and directed to place proper notice of such public hearing in the official newspaper of the County.

SEQR ACTION: TYPE II-20

RESOLUTION NO. 166 - BUDGET ADJUSTMENT - EMERGENCY RESPONSE

MOVED by Mr. Burbank, seconded by Ms. Kiefer, and unanimously adopted by voice vote by members present under the Consent Agenda.

WHEREAS, pursuant to Administrative Manual Policy 05-02, budget adjustments exceeding \$5,000 require Legislative approval, now therefore be it

RESOLVED, on recommendation of the Public Safety Committee, That the Director of Finance be directed to make the following budget adjustments on his books:

Emergency Response

Revenue Acct	Title	Amount	Appropriation Account	Title(s)
3411.42681	Legal Settlements	\$ 25,000	3411.54311	Maintenance
3411.42681	Legal Settlements	\$ 25,000	3411.54425	Service Contracts
3411.42681	Legal Settlements	\$140,000	3411.52222	Communications Equipment
3411.42681	Legal Settlements	\$ 25,000	3411.52222	Communications Equipment

Explanation: Relocation expenses have been secured from a telecommunications company that has been awarded radio frequencies previously utilized by Tompkins County. The licensed systems must be moved in an expedited fashion to the new system with costs fully reimbursed; including system maintenance costs related to retirement of Legacy communications sites and relocation of equipment and systems components; to complete demobilization of former Legacy radio tower sites and shelters; structures removed; to complete replacement of microwave link to Legacy site for Statewide interoperable communications; spare equipment for recently completed communication site.

SEQR ACTION: TYPE II-20

RESOLUTION NO. 167 – ACCEPTANCE OF STATE HOMELAND SECURITY GRANTS – EMERGENCY RESPONSE

MOVED by Mr. Burbank, seconded by Ms. Kiefer, and unanimously adopted by voice vote by members present under the Consent Agenda.

WHEREAS, the State Homeland Security Program (SHSP) has accepted proposals for funding in the amount of \$220,500 for Tompkins County's public safety responders through grants to be administered through the Department of Emergency Response, and

WHEREAS, the funds will be allocated to the County for use in the implementation of State and local terrorism response strategies, and

WHEREAS, the funds must strictly support planning, equipment, training, and exercise needs associated with preparedness and prevention activities for events using weapons of mass destruction involving chemical, biological, radiological, nuclear, and explosive materials, and

WHEREAS, emergency planning and agency equipment needs meet eligibility requirements of the program and are consistent with local public safety needs and initiatives, now therefore be it

RESOLVED, on recommendation of the Public Safety Committee, That Tompkins County accepts the State Homeland Security Program funding in the total amount of \$220,500 (Contracts WM07836270 and WM08836270) for responder planning and equipment activities, and hereby assigns the Department of Emergency Response to administer the local program pursuant to the review of the Public Safety Committee,

RESOLVED, further, That the Finance Director is hereby authorized to make the following adjustment in 2009:

FROM:	3410.43389	Other Public Safety	\$220,500
TO:	3410.54400	Program Expense	\$220,500

SEQR ACTION: TYPE II-20

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Report from the Legislative Rules and Procedures Committee

Ms. Kiefer, Chair, said the Legislature would be receiving materials before the next Legislature meeting.

Report and Presentation of Resolution(s) from the Health and Human Services Committee

Mr. Burbank, Vice Chair, reported the Committee will meet on October 13th. He announced the Seasonal Flu Clinics have been temporarily suspended due to limited quantities of vaccine. He recommend interested individuals go to the County Health Department website for information.

RESOLUTION NO. 168 – CREATION OF POSITIONS AND AUTHORIZATION TO ACCEPT HOMELESSNESS-PREVENTION AND RAPID RE-HOUSING GRANT FROM NEW YORK STATE OFFICE OF TEMPORARY DISABILITY ASSISTANCE (OTDA) – DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES

MOVED by Mr. Burbank, seconded by Ms. Robertson. Mr. Stevenson expressed some concern about adding positions in the current budget environment, even if they are supported by outside funds since they could affect future retirement payments. A voice vote on the resolution resulted as follows: Ayes – 13; Noes – 0; Excused – 2 (Legislators Herrera and Proto). RESOLUTION ADOPTED.

WHEREAS, the Department of Social Services has identified preventing homelessness as a priority, and

WHEREAS, the Department submitted a "Homelessness-Prevention and Rapid Re-housing Grant" application to the New York State Office of Temporary Disability and Assistance's (OTDA) Bureau of Housing and Shelter services to fund a homelessness-prevention program, and

WHEREAS, the Department has received a notice of award from OTDA's Bureau of Housing and Shelter for \$2,430,000 in one-hundred percent financing over a twenty-two month period beginning October 1st of this year, now therefore be it

RESOLVED, on recommendation of the Health and Human Services and the Budget, Capital, and Finance Committees, That the Department of Social Services is authorized to accept the award and accordingly enter into multi-year contracts with its partner agencies as per the State-approved program plan and budget,

RESOLVED, further, That two 35-hour/week positions (one Caseworker [14-562], and one Social Welfare Examiner [11-538]) be created within the Department of Social Services and filled as per the State-approved program plan and budget,

RESOLVED, further, That the Director of Finance is authorized to make the following adjustments to the Social Services' 2009 budget:

2009 Appropriation:	6010.54400	Program	\$ 299,834
	6010.51000562	Caseworker	\$ 11,672
	6010.51000538	Social Welfare Examiner	\$ 9,803
	9101.58800	Fringes	\$ 7,731
2009 Revenue:	6010.44689	Fed: Other Social Services	\$ 329,040

RESOLVED, further, That the following adjustments be made to the Social Services' 2010 budget:

2010 Appropriation:	6010.54400	Program	\$1,018,716
	6010.51000562	Caseworker	\$ 46,848
	6010.51000538	Social Welfare Examiner	\$ 39,345
	6010.58800	Fringes	\$ 34,908
2010 Revenue:	6010.44689	Fed: Other Social Services	\$1,139,817

SEQR ACTION: TYPE II-20

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Report from the Facilities and Infrastructure Committee

Mrs. McBean-Clairborne, Chair, thanked Ms. Kiefer for facilitating the September 17th meeting. The questions regarding Forest Home Traffic Calming, specifically the Town of Ithaca's design, have been resolved and the project is moving along amicably.

Report from the Government Performance and Workforce Relations Committee

Mr. Shinagawa, Chair, said the Committee will meet on October 9th, and will be reviewing eight policies as well as performance improvement. Ms. Kiefer noted the Committee met prior to the Legislature meeting to act upon the appointment to the Assessment Review Board.

Report from the Planning, Development, and Environmental Quality Committee

Ms. Mackesey, Chair, said the Committee met on September 9th. The Committee discussed a reduction of staff support to Planning Department Advisory Boards; additional information will be available prior to the adoption of the 2010 budget. The Committee reviewed the Strategic Tourism and Planning Budget following amendments based upon the previous review. Mr. Marx went to a conference in Albany and accepted, on behalf of the County, an award for the Energy and Greenhouse Gas Emissions portion of the Tompkins County Comprehensive Plan from the Upstate American Planning Association. This is a very prestigious award and it indicates how Tompkins County is in the forefront on many issues. The Committee will next meet on October 14th.

Ms. Mackesey noted the Housing Oversight Committee (joint Cornell, City of Ithaca, and County group) has met and is working on the Notice of Funding Availability. It is hoped to be completed in the near future to provide public funding for housing. The goal is to have applications to the committee to enable the review of applications to begin in January 2010.

Report from the Budget, Capital, and Finance Committee

Mr. Dennis, Chair, reported the Expanded Committee has met many times and has six more meetings starting October 13th. He asked that any proposed amendments to the budget be provided to Ms. Jayne in County Administration.

Report from the Public Safety Committee

Ms. Robertson, Chair, reported the Committee met on September 21st, with most of the time reviewing the recommendations of the Assigned Counsel Task Force. The Advisory Board on Indigent Representation has reviewed the report and adopted it with the recommendation the Legislature do the same. The Sheriff reported that the jail is now double-bunking, which has already reduced the cost of board outs. At the New York State Association of Counties conference it was reported as a result of Commission of Correction directives for new jails built or expanded, counties are actively recruiting prisoners to fill their excess capacity. The Committee was informed that Deputies Daniel Donahue and Peter Walker received the Kiwanis Club's Frank G. Hammer Officer of the Month Award for their lifesaving efforts at the Grassroots Festival. The Committee heard detailed information relating to the resolutions presented as well as detailed information on the landline surcharge on telephones.

Ms. Robertson said Mr. Shurtleff, Emergency Response Director, provided a report on the need to upgrade the dispatch system. There is money in the original capital program but it would require approval from the Committee and Legislature. It is hoped to work with Cornell University, which is also looking to upgrade their system, to leverage a better price on the upgrades. The next meeting is October 19th.

Report from the Workforce Diversity and Inclusion Committee

Mrs. McBean-Clairborne, Chair, reported the Committee met on September 23rd. During the meeting a discussion occurred about layoffs and positions not being filled due to the budget reductions and the importance of keeping in mind the diversity and inclusion policy during this process.

Individual Member-Filed Resolution

RESOLUTION NO. 169 – IN APPRECIATION OF JANET L. STEINER, DIRECTOR, TOMPKINS COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY

MOVED by Ms. Kiefer, and unanimously seconded and adopted by voice vote by members present.

WHEREAS, Janet L. Steiner took the position of Director of the Tompkins County Public Library on October 18, 1993, and

WHEREAS, through her efforts, \$6.5 million was secured to assist in relocation of the library from North Cayuga Street to its present location at 101 East Green Street, and

WHEREAS, over the course of her tenure, the library expanded its acquisitions, programming, and technology, as well as obtained funding to keep the library open weekends, and

WHEREAS, Janet's enthusiasm in support of the vision of our library as a true center of civic activity has led to much expanded use by all sectors of our community, and

WHEREAS, her staunch support for the rural and community libraries (formerly Reading Rooms) and the Finger Lakes Library System has helped maintain a strong and economical library network that benefits the entire community, and

WHEREAS, Janet has worked closely with the Tompkins County Public Library Board of Trustees to develop a strategic plan that focuses on the future of the library, and has guided her staff to expand their roles as knowledge keepers and disseminators, including becoming technology tutors and information assistants, and

WHEREAS, Janet has consistently implemented up-to-date technology that would provide residents with access to the numerous outside sources of information, education, and entertainment, and

WHEREAS, she understood the importance of diversity, seeking representation from all segments of population, through aggressive marketing campaigns and diverse programming, and

WHEREAS, Janet has managed to be both good-humored and professional in her role as cheerleader for our library, fighting valiantly to maintain funding levels for the library in order to provide residents with the high-quality and much-needed service they have become accustomed to under her direction, now therefore be it

RESOLVED, That the Tompkins County Legislature expresses its appreciation to Janet L. Steiner for her many years of dedicated service to the residents of Tompkins County and wishes her well in her retirement.

SEQR ACTION: TYPE II-20

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Approval of Minutes

It was MOVED by Ms. Robertson, seconded by Ms. Mackesey, and unanimously adopted by voice vote by members present, to approve the minutes of September 1 and 15, 2009, as submitted. MINUTES APPROVED.

Recess

Chair Koplinka-Loehr declared a recess at 7:00 p.m. The meeting reconvened at 7:10 p.m.

Executive Session

It was MOVED by Ms. Mackesey, seconded by Mr. Dennis, and unanimously adopted by voice vote by members present, to hold an executive session at 7:10 p.m. to discuss personnel matters. The meeting returned to open session at 8:10 p.m.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 8:10 p.m.