

2025

NINTH SESSION

SEPTEMBER 4, 2025

The Board convened at 10:30 A.M. in the Supervisors' Chambers at the Court House, Lake Pleasant, New York, with the Chairman, Clay J. Arsenault presiding. Mr. Arsenault led the members of the Board of Supervisors in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag, and an opening prayer.

The Clerk, Mrs. Laura Abrams, called the roll with the following Supervisors answering:

Arietta	Chris D. Rhodes
Benson	ABSENT
Hope	Steven M. Tomlinson
Indian Lake	Brian E. Wels
Inlet	John Frey
Lake Pleasant	Betsy A. Bain
Long Lake	Clay J. Arsenault
Morehouse	Anthony Fernandez
Wells	Beth Hunt

Also present: Hamilton County Attorney, Lisa Johnson-Deputy Public Works Superintendent, Caitlin Stewart-Soil and Water District Manager and Carole Ruiz-Personnel Officer

A motion was made to accept the minutes of August 7th, 2025 by Ms. Hunt, seconded by Mr. Wells. Carried.

Public Comment: No one present

County Attorney: No report

Reports of Standing/Special Committees:

Mr. Rhodes: Stated on Committee Day the Sheriff had briefly discussed that he had three correctional officers that needed to get certified. The Sheriff had found 1 class in September that 1 or possibly 2 would be taking and then he found another class that starts in October. He wanted to mention it because there would be a minimal impact on the budget primarily due to travel expenses, meals and ammunition.

Mr. Rhodes gave a tower update. Spy Lake tower road is gravel, and it looks great. Thank you to the DPW. Atlantic Testing Labs will be there the following week. We are starting the process of the local law for Verizon Wireless the same as we did in Morehouse. That is included in the second agenda. He had reached out to Hudson Valley Wireless, who is also committed to getting on that tower, to discuss lease terms. Once they have an agreement they will be doing another local law for them as well. Hudson Valley Wireless (HVW) is willing to install their equipment on the tower which will give the Piseco area another internet option besides Frontier. It is not a huge money

maker for HVW. The more people that get on the more they will profit. They require very minimal space for their equipment and a very small antenna on the tower. Mr. Rhodes stated that they would like to establish the lease accordingly. What was discussed years ago when we first started this process was that the lease agreement would be based on a certain percentage of the revenue that they are getting. Increasing the rent as they gained more business. He will keep everyone posted.

Mr. Rhodes stated that they are waiting for the Geotech report from Atlantic Testing Labs for Morehouse. For Inlet they are waiting for Mid-State to do the installation of the last antenna mounting. Once that is done, they can get the microwave receivers going. For the Hope tower they are still waiting for C&S. He thinks they are holding back because the contract needs to be extended. We recently approved extending the contract and he believes the County Attorney was working on it. The Clerk of the Board stated that the Chairman had signed it today.

Mr. Rhodes stated that the fiber build with DANC is moving slowly. Construction has been shifted to 2026. They have procured the fiber material at a savings but mentioned that they will be going over budget because of pole replacements that weren't anticipated. They are waiting for an estimate.

Mr. Rhodes stated that all 4 LMR radio packages which had been approved prior have been ordered and they have an estimated ship date of the end of October to the beginning of November. That is the radio equipment for Long Lake, Hope, Morehouse and Spy Lake sites. They have spare mobile radios from retired patrol cars that are at Capital Digitronics for cleaning and repairs. Those will be extras for the County if they have one go down. They have a total of 7 high bands and 3 low bands.

Mr. Rhodes stated that for Fire and EMS there is a fire operations class scheduled for September 15th in Speculator. There are tentatively 15-17 participants. He stated that it was really good to have that amount of interest. Hopefully they will stay interested and keep volunteering for the local fire departments. For EMS there were discussions on the possible new laws to make this an essential service which would be under the county purview a little more than it is now.

Ms. Hunt: Asked if the Board wanted to go over Mr. Baker's estimates from Committee Day. The Chairman stated that he thought they could do it at the end of the meeting.

Ms. Hunt stated that Christy Wilt, Economic Development/Tourism Director, attended the DEC RMP meeting regarding the Speculator Tree Farm and Perkins Clearing/Burnham Mountain Tract. There were 70 people in attendance even though it wasn't really publicized well. Lease members, snowmobile clubs, Oak Mountain and several residents attended. NYS DEC had expanded the snowmobile trail about 3 miles. They added some primitive camping spots to Elm Lake. They are taking comments still on future plans. The main thing they brought up was snowmobiling. Speculator Tree Farm is now a new trail. They added 3.8 miles and the Fly Creek Road to Pine Mountain Trail approximately 2.5 miles of trail. They had a motor vehicle route and opened 1 mile of new road to build associated parking areas on High Bank Road to a scenic overlook and Jessup Falls Hill to a short falls and fishing spot. Class I and Class II e-bikes are considered motor vehicles for the purposes of the RMP and are permitted on roads open to public. They made some improvements to the hiking routes on the Pine Mountain Trail, Jessup Falls Trail, High Bank Overlook and the North Country National Scenic Trail. They also upgraded 3 campsites for

primitive camping and added a new accessible lean-to. For biking routes, a trail network development partnership with Oak Mountain Ski Center property and local community. They did do a new lean-to and potential trail development for people with disabilities. She stated that new snowmobile maps will be out by the end of September. Ms. Wilt helped Melody Lodge apply for a Market NY Grant and they were in the top 6 of 73 and have been identified as a project priority. Ms. Hunt stated that Speculator also did well on their application. Ms. Wilt, Mr. Fernandez and herself attended the Lake Champlain Lake George Regional Planning Board (LCLGRPB) retreat and Ms. Wilt's Administrative Assistant attended Adirondack Day at the Saratoga Track.

Ms. Hunt stated on the agenda there is a resolution for the Treasurer's Office. She discussed that there is an employee leaving and someone that would like to transfer from another department to the Treasurer's Office.

Mr. Wells asked if the snowmobile trails that they are adding, are they on easement land? He asked the Chairman if it counted against the NY snowmobile cap. The Chairman stated that he didn't know. Mr. Frey asked if it was state-owned. Both Mr. Wells and Ms. Hunt stated that it was the Tree Farm/Lyme Timber. Mr. Frey stated that it shouldn't be but that doesn't mean it doesn't. Mr. Wells stated that they have a tendency of closing 12 miles of trail to open 3. Ms. Hunt stated that she wasn't at the meeting, but she could probably find out. Mr. Wells stated that he would look into it too.

Mr. Wells: Stated that he attended the Local Government Review Board meeting in Long Lake. DANC was there and they gave a very good presentation. He stated that Mr. Rhodes' concern about pole replacement was a huge topic of conversation and the cost of what it's driven to. He knows that the Chairman was there also, and he's got a proposal. He believes that Hamilton County, after the Chairman gives the presentation, is the prime example for why it's needed. When they listen to the numbers that they lose because of this. The number of projects that are in danger because of this is frustrating.

Mr. Wells stated that there is a resolution on the second agenda for unpaid leave of absence for the Assistant Deputy County Clerk and he hopes the Board will support it.

Mr. Tomlinson: Stated that during the Public Works Committee meeting they discussed that the crack sealing for the Indian Lake building parking lot will be done September 6th. CR 24, pending weather, will have a whole depth reclamation that will start on September 15th. The Courthouse parking lot has been moved to Saturday, September 20th. Tracy Eldridge, Highway Superintendent, is keeping Department Heads in the loop. Some of the excavation will begin next week. CR 4 is scheduled for full depth on September 22nd. On Coon Creek Bridge the truss rehabilitation is basically complete. They are getting ready to pour the back wall. They are waiting on the deck, beam and stringers. Hopefully completed by Mid to late October. Spy Lake tower road, they have made very good progress. He confirmed that it was almost done. Mr. Tomlinson stated that the cold storage building at the highway garage is underway. The steel has been delivered and they are making progress. Big Brook Bridge is moving along. Traffic will be moved to the new section. Demolition is to begin on the remaining side. Mr. Tomlinson stated that the County has hired a transfer station technician for Indian Lake, they have a start date of September 22nd. There are vehicles being prepared for auction. Mr. Eldridge is reaching out to Department Heads regarding budgeting 2026 vehicles as needed.

Mr. Tomlinson stated that the Chairman and himself went to Indian Lake last week to tour the building. For Public Health they saw the new shed that's completed. They did an unbelievable job on that. They were going to purchase it but ended up building it instead and it came out nicer and cheaper. The construction has begun for the ADA bathroom that they discussed.

PRESENTATION:

The Chairman introduced Caitlin Stewart from the Soil and Water District.

Caitlin Stewart introduced herself as the District Manager for Hamilton County Soil and Water Conservation District. She thanked the Board for their time and was excited to provide a summer update from the District. She handed out an infographic to the Board and reviewed some key items they have been working on in partnership with the Board of Supervisors as well as the DPW. The Hazard Mitigation Plan (HMP) update, which at the request of the County, the District is overseeing. The purpose of the HMP is to effectively reduce future natural disasters, damages, public expenditures, private losses and community vulnerability to natural technological and manmade disasters. The current plan is housed online, and it expires in October 2026. All counties in New York State have HMPs. It drives priorities in the wake of flooding and other natural disasters. It also makes Hamilton County eligible to receive federal funding. Finally, the third key point of its importance is that the District can check the box for the HMP on their grant applications. It gives them preference points. The District team completed and submitted the budget as well as the scope of work to FEMA and Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Services (DHSES). The good news is that the HMP has made it through the first round of vetting. The bad news is that because DHSES received so many applications they want to fund all of them to some extent. The Hamilton County percentages have been adjusted so now they are looking at a total grant application of \$150,000. The federal share is now reduced to 39% at \$58,456 and the County share has been increased to 61% at \$91,543. Mr. Frey stated our first HMP was done for free. Now they are looking at a plan update, and these percentages are proportional. They do need to hire a consultant to update the plan. This is to ensure that the DHSES and FEMA requirements are all met. Unfortunately, this is something that is beyond her wheelhouse and expertise. DHSES highly recommend hiring a consultant. A majority of the plan funding will be going to hiring that consultant. Ms. Stewart stated that the County needs to contribute match and Lenny Croote, Senior Technician for Hamilton County Soil and Water Conservation District, wants to survey all culverts in the County. His time will go to match for the grant. Ms. Stewart stated that there is a resolution on the agenda that details the percentage changes and if the Board of Supervisors is in support from that the next step is to have the Chairman sign the necessary letter. This is just the County agreeing to the percentage changes. Ms. Stewart stated that the District is becoming very well acquainted with grant applications. She feels that they are very well positioned to start applying for some federal funding to get these best management practices and projects that are listed in the plan to come to fruition. She stated that the team had dedicated 86 hours to the grant application and that is \$7,332 in personal services. Unfortunately, they cannot back date that, but their Conservation District feels that this is very important for Hamilton County and they are very honored that Mr. O'Neill came to them to head this up.

Ms. Stewart stated that at the request of Hamilton County the Conservation District is overseeing round 4 of the septic system replacement funds. Funds come through NYS and they support septic system replacements and upgrades up to \$10,000. Half the project cost for landowners. The septic system has to be located 250 feet or less to a priority water body. She thanked the Hamilton County

Economic Development and Tourism Dept. for assisting them in mailing eligible landowners grant applications. She also wanted to thank the towns for covering the postage expense. They were able to award \$355,000 worth of replacement funds countywide. They have submitted the award and denial letters to the landowners. Now, they are starting to get in some closeouts. They will work with the County Treasurer to get the funds dispersed. They have taken on 231 inquiries from landowners related to this grant and their grant has dedicated 174 hours to round 4 for administration.

Ms. Stewart stated that she wanted to wrap up with 3 grant applications that are in various stages of being awarded. First, the Conservation District worked with Town and County DPW to submit an application for the Hamilton County Road Salt Reduction Grant. They requested \$250,000, that if awarded will go to live edge plows and pavement temperature sensors for all interested DPWs. The goal of this grant is to reduce the road salt that is used, protecting water quality while still maintaining adequate public safety during winter snow and ice storms. These live-edge blades significantly reduce the amount of salt that is needed. She believes they will be announced in October or November. Ms. Stewart wanted to add that this round of DEC funding did not have any personnel options. She can't get paid to administer this grant and this is why the county allocation is so important. It allows them to leverage funding for something like this \$250,000 live edge plow grant application. The second grant that is going on right now has Mr. Croote meeting with consultants from a local firm. He is walking the courthouse determining places for green infrastructure to soak up water that normally stands on the grass or water that is flowing off the paved surfaces carrying salt right into Lake Pleasant. Thanks to the Lake Champlain Lake George Regional Planning Board (LCLGRPB), they are administering this grant. They received \$50,000 from DEC for the courthouse complex green infrastructure feasibility study. They are going to install things like rain gardens and bioswales to soak up storm water pollution and stop road salt in its tracks from entering Lake Pleasant. The idea is to first do the study, which is covered by this grant, and they have already sought funding to install their best management practices. She wanted to thank Mr. Eldridge for being very open-minded about this. These rain gardens are going to beautify the area and again they are really going to decrease storm water pollution that is occurring on the courthouse complex. Ms. Stewart stated that they finally completed a \$75,000 DEC grant for the Elbow Creek Comprehensive Stream Corridor Assessment. They contracted with a professional who literally walked every inch of Elbow Creek, documenting pain points including where erosion is occurring and developed a plan for best management practice installation. They also applied for implementation now that their plan is in place. What they are looking at with Elbow Creek is that they want to stabilize 140ft of undermined riprap. That is one of the main causes of sediment and erosion. They also want to stabilize 1,035ft of eroding streambank. Mr. Croote will handle all permits and design work so that will be done in-house with tremendous cost savings. They are looking for the riprap and streambank stabilization at an estimated cost of \$250,000. The other portion of this is to implement nature channel design and realign the channel that was straightened so that it has more sinuosity. These rivers want to move, and they were straightened by the Army Corp., which was the initial cause of all of the issues with Elbow Creek. That realignment and that natural channel design implementation will cost about \$95,000. They have wrapped up their plan and are now going after money for best management practice implementation. The Conservation District is a small but mighty team of 4 that gets conservation on the ground to all corners of Hamilton County. They have the training, certification and expertise in-house that allows them to get conservation on the ground. They can't do this work without the support of the Board of Supervisors. Again, the county allocation is instrumental in being used as leverage for these large grants and they are so

thankful for the Board. They look forward to continuing this partnership that will hopefully see the Hamilton County Mitigation Plan updated. The septic system replacement round 4 closed out and more grants like this being put out to the municipalities that help the landowners and protect our natural resources. Mr. Wells asked a question regarding the septic system replacement. He stated that he knew that not all lakes were eligible in Hamilton County but was interested in the breakdown. He wanted to know if one lake seemed to have more of an issue than another. Ms. Stewart stated that she could provide a breakdown. The DEC and Environmental Facilities Corp. designate the priority water bodies as well as the amount of funding. The Conservation District has no control over that. Katie WhitKovits, Technician, has the breakdown for him and Ms. Stewart will follow up with that for all municipalities. Ms. Stewart stated that Ms. WhitKovits and Marg Remias, Clerk, had broken down the spreadsheet to the landowners by town as well as the total dollar amount. She will follow up with that by the end of the week or beginning of next.

RESOLUTIONS:

RESOLUTION NO. 313-25

RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF THE COUNTY OF HAMILTON IMPOSING GENERAL SALES AND COMPENSATING USE TAXES, PURSUANT TO THE AUTHORITY OF SECTION 1210 OF ARTICLE 29 OF THE NEW YORK TAX LAW

DATED: SEPTEMBER 4, 2025

BY MS. HUNT:

BE IT ENACTED by the Board of Supervisors of the County of Hamilton, as follows:

SECTION 1. Resolution No. 210-13, adopted by the Board of Supervisors of Hamilton County on September 5, 2013, shall expire and be deemed repealed on December 1, 2025; provided however, that all provisions of such Resolution No. 210-13 in respect to the imposition, exemption, assessment, payment, payment over, determination, collection, and credit or refund of tax, interest and penalty imposed thereunder, the filing of forms and returns, the preservation of records for the purposes of such tax, the disposition of revenues, and any civil and criminal penalties applicable to the violation of the provisions of such Resolution No. 210-13 shall continue in full force and effect with respect to all such tax accrued for periods prior to December 1, 2025 in the same manner as if such provisions were not so repealed.

SECTION 2. Imposition of general sales and compensating use taxes. There are hereby imposed and there shall be paid within this County all of the sales and compensating use taxes described in Article Twenty-Eight of the New York Tax Law as authorized by subdivision (a) of section twelve hundred ten of such law, at the rate of three percent.

SECTION 3. In addition to the sales and compensating use taxes imposed by section two of this Resolution at the rate of three percent, there are hereby imposed and there shall be paid in this County such sales and compensating use taxes at the additional rate of one percent, for the period commencing December 1, 2013, and ending November 30, 2027.

SECTION 4. Local options. Notwithstanding any contrary provision of this enactment or other law:

(a) Motor fuel and diesel motor fuel described in subdivision (m) of section eleven hundred eleven of the Tax Law shall not be taxed at a rate of cents per gallon.

(b) The clothing and footwear exemption described in paragraph thirty of subdivision (a) of section eleven hundred fifteen of the Tax Law shall apply to the taxes imposed by this enactment.

(c) The residential solar energy systems equipment, installation service, and electricity exemptions described in subdivision (ee) of section eleven hundred fifteen of the Tax Law shall apply to the taxes imposed by this enactment.

(d) The commercial solar energy systems equipment, installation service, and electricity exemptions described in subdivision (ii) of section eleven hundred fifteen of the Tax Law shall not apply to the taxes imposed by this enactment.

(e) The commercial fuel cell electricity generating systems equipment, installation service, and gas and electricity exemptions described in subdivision (kk) of section eleven hundred fifteen of the Tax Law shall not apply to the taxes imposed by this enactment.

(f) Residential energy sources and services described in paragraph three of subdivision (a) of section twelve hundred ten of the Tax Law shall be exempt from sales and compensating use tax imposed by this resolution.

SECTION 5. Taxes in addition to others. The taxes imposed by this enactment are in addition to any and all other taxes authorized or imposed under any other provision of law.

SECTION 6. The taxes imposed by this enactment shall be administered and collected by the State Commissioner of Taxation and Finance as provided in Articles Twenty-eight and Twenty-nine of the Tax Law. The provisions of Articles Twenty-eight and Twenty-nine of the Tax Law and any provision of the Tax Law or other law that applies to such articles, relating or applicable to the taxes imposed by this enactment, including the applicable definitions, transitional provisions, limitations, special provisions, exemptions, exclusions, refunds, credits and administrative provisions, so far as those provisions can be made applicable to the taxes imposed by this enactment, shall apply to the taxes imposed by this enactment with the same force and effect as if those provisions had been incorporated in full into this enactment and had expressly referred to the taxes imposed by this enactment, except to the extent that any of those provisions is either inconsistent with or not relevant to the taxes imposed by this enactment.

SECTION 7. Effective date. This resolution shall take effect immediately; provided however: Sections 1, 2, 5 and 6 of this resolution shall be deemed to have been in full force and effect on June 1, 1968. Section 4(b) of this resolution shall be deemed to have been in full force and effect on June 1, 2004; section 4(c) of this resolution shall be deemed to have been in full force and effect on December 1, 2005; section 4(f) of this resolution shall also be deemed to have been in full force and effect on January 1, 1980.

Seconded by Ms. Bain and adopted by the following vote:

AYES: RHODES, TOMLINSON, WELLS, FREY, BAIN, ARSENAULT, FERNANDEZ, AND HUNT

NAYS: NONE

ABSENT: SNYDER

RESOLUTION NO. 314-25

**AUTHORIZING A PUBLIC HEARING TO CONSIDER
PROPOSED LOCAL LAW NO. 5 OF 2025 A LOCAL LAW TO EXTEND THE
ADDITIONAL MORTGAGE RECORDING TAX WITHIN THE COUNTY OF
HAMILTON**

DATED: SEPTEMBER 4, 2025

BY MS. HUNT:

RESOLVED, that proposed Local Law No. 5 of 2025 titled "A LOCAL LAW TO EXTEND THE ADDITIONAL MORTGAGE RECORDING TAX WITHIN THE COUNTY OF HAMILTON", attached hereto and made a part hereof, be, and the same hereby is introduced before the Hamilton County Board of Supervisors, and in order to give interested members of the public the opportunity to be heard thereon, the Board of Supervisors shall hold a public hearing at the Supervisors' Rooms in the Hamilton County Municipal Building on the 2nd day of October, 2025, at 11 a.m., on the matter of the adoption of said proposed Local Law No. 5 of 2025, entitled "A LOCAL LAW TO EXTEND THE ADDITIONAL MORTGAGE RECORDING TAX WITHIN THE COUNTY OF HAMILTON", and it be further

RESOLVED, that the Clerk of the Board of Supervisors be, and she hereby is authorized and directed to give notice of such public hearing in the manner provided by law.

Seconded by Mr. Frey and adopted by the following vote:

AYES: RHODES, TOMLINSON, WELLS, FREY, BAIN, ARSENAULT, FERNANDEZ, AND
HUNT

NAYS: NONE

ABSENT: SNYDER

PROPOSED LOCAL LAW NO. 5 OF 2025

State of New York
County of Hamilton

**A LOCAL LAW TO EXTEND THE ADDITIONAL
MORTGAGE RECORDING TAX IN THE
COUNTY OF HAMILTON**

WHEREAS, Local Law No. 9 of 2006 duly enacted by the Board of Supervisors of the County of Hamilton authorized the imposition of a mortgage recording tax in accordance with Section 253 of the Tax Law of the State of New York, and

WHEREAS, the Board of Supervisors of the County of Hamilton desires to further extend such mortgage recording tax, now, therefore

BE IT ENACTED, By the Board of Supervisors of the County of Hamilton, State of New York, as follows:

Section 1: Title. This Local Law shall be titled “A Local Law Extending the Additional Mortgage Recording Tax in Hamilton County”.

Section 2: Purpose and Intent. The purpose of this law is to authorize Hamilton County, pursuant to the provisions of Section 253-j of the Tax Law of the State of New York, to impose an Additional Mortgage Recording Tax.

Section 3: Imposition of Tax. For the period commencing December 1, 2025 and ending December 1, 2027, unless further extended by Local Law of the Board of Supervisors, there is hereby imposed, in the County of Hamilton a tax of twenty-five cents (\$0.25) for each one hundred dollars (\$100.00), and each remaining major fraction thereof of principal debt or obligation which is or under any contingency may be secured at the date of execution thereof, or at any time thereafter, by a mortgage on real property situated within the County of Hamilton and recorded on or after December 1, 2025, and a tax of twenty-five cents (\$0.25) on such mortgage if the principal debt or obligation which is or by any contingency may be secured by such mortgage is less than one hundred dollars (\$100.00).

Section 4: Administration and Collection of Tax. The taxes imposed pursuant to this Local Law shall be administered and collected in the same manner as the taxes imposed under subdivision one of Section 253 of the Tax Law and paragraph (b) of subdivision one of Section 255 of the Tax Law. Except as otherwise provided in Section 253-j of the Tax Law, all the provisions of Article 11 of the Tax Law relating to or applicable to the administration and collection of the taxes imposed by such subdivision shall apply to the taxes imposed by this Local Law with such modifications as may be necessary to adapt such language to the tax so authorized. Such provisions shall apply with the same force and effect as if those provisions had been set forth in full in Section 253-j of the Tax Law, except to the extent that any provision is either inconsistent with a provision of Section 253-j of the Tax Law or not relevant to the tax authorized by Section 253-j of the Tax Law.

Section 5: Real Property located in more than one County or State. Where the real property covered by the mortgage subject to the tax imposed pursuant to this Local Law is situated in this state but within and without Hamilton County, the amount of such tax due and payable to Hamilton County shall be determined in a manner similar to that prescribed in the first undesignated paragraph of Section 260 of the Tax Law which concerns real property situated in two or more counties. Where such property is situated both within Hamilton County and without the state, the amount due and payable by Hamilton County shall be determined in the manner prescribed in the second undesignated paragraph of such Section 260 which concerns property situated within and without the State. Where real property is situated within and without Hamilton

County, the recording officer of the jurisdiction in which the mortgage is first recorded shall be required to collect the taxes imposed pursuant to this section.

Section 6: Additional Mortgage Recording Tax. The tax imposed pursuant to this Local Law shall be in addition to the taxes imposed by Section 253 of the Tax Law.

Section 7: Disposition of Taxes. Notwithstanding any provision of Article 11 of the Tax Law to the contrary, the balance of all monies paid to the recording officer of the County of Hamilton during each month upon account of the tax imposed pursuant to this Local Law, after deducting the necessary expenses of his or her office as provided in Section 262 of the Tax Law, except taxes paid upon mortgages which under the provisions of Section 253-j of the Tax Law or Section 260 of the Tax Law are first to be apportioned by the New York State Commissioner of Taxation and Finance, shall be paid over by such officer on or before the tenth day of each succeeding month to the Treasurer of Hamilton County and, after the deduction by such treasurer of the necessary expenses of his or her office provided in Section 262 of the Tax Law, shall be deposited in the general fund of the County of Hamilton. Notwithstanding the provisions of the preceding sentence, the tax so imposed and paid upon mortgages covering real property situated in two or more counties, under which the provisions of Section 253-j of the Tax Law or Section 260 of the Tax Law are first to be apportioned by the New York State Commissioner of Taxation and Finance, shall be paid over by the recording officer receiving the same as provided by the determination of the New York State Commissioner of Taxation and Finance.

Section 8: Payment of Taxes. The tax imposed pursuant to this Local Law shall be payable on the recording of each mortgage of real property subject to taxes there under. Such tax shall be paid to the recording officer of the county in which the real property or any part thereof is situated, except where real property is situated within and without the county, the recording officer of the county in which the mortgage is first recorded shall collect the tax imposed by this Local Law. It shall be the duty of such recording officer to endorse upon each mortgage a receipt for the amount of the tax so paid. Any mortgage so endorsed may thereupon or thereafter be recorded by any recording officer and the receipt for such tax endorsed upon each mortgage shall be recorded therewith. The record of such receipt shall be conclusive proof that the amount of tax stated therein has been paid upon such mortgage.

Section 9: Effective Date. This Local Law shall take effect December 1, 2025, provided that a certified copy thereof is mailed by registered or certified mail to the New York State Commissioner of Taxation and Finance at the Commissioner's Office in Albany at least 30 days prior to the date this Local Law shall take effect. Certified copies of this Local Law shall also be filed with the Hamilton County Clerk, the Secretary of State and the State Comptroller within five (5) days after the Local Law is duly enacted and this Local Law shall be deemed to be duly enacted upon its date of adoption by the Hamilton County Board of Supervisors.

RESOLUTION NO. 315-25

APPROVAL OF APPLICATION SOFTWARE AND SUPPORT SERVICES PROVIDED BY SYSTEMS EAST, INC. FOR THE TREASURER'S OFFICE TAX COLLECTION

DATED: SEPTEMBER 4, 2025

BY MS. HUNT:

WHEREAS, the proposal to provide application software and support services to the Hamilton County Treasurer's Office, as well as the towns and school districts, for their tax collection has been submitted by Systems East, Inc., and

WHEREAS, the Treasurer's Office is satisfied with the services and support received from Systems East in the past, and

WHEREAS, an increase of \$351.00 over last year's agreement has been proposed for a total contract price of \$12,889.00 to cover the period of January 1, 2026 through December 31, 2026, and

WHEREAS, a portion of this contract price will be charged back to the towns and schools with an increase from \$200.00 to \$250.00, be it

RESOLVED, that the Chairman of the Board be authorized to sign the agreement as proposed and the County Treasurer be so notified.

Seconded by Mr. Tomlinson and adopted by the following vote:

AYES: RHODES, TOMLINSON, WELLS, FREY, BAIN, ARSENAULT, FERNANDEZ, AND HUNT

NAYS: NONE

ABSENT: SNYDER

After the following resolution was placed on the floor; the Chairman congratulated Mr. Baker.

RESOLUTION NO. 316-25

APPOINTMENT OF DIRECTOR OF REAL PROPERTY TAX SERVICES

DATED: SEPTEMBER 4, 2025

BY MS. HUNT:

WHEREAS, Resolution No. 248-19 adopted September 5, 2019 appointed Barry Baker as Director of Real Property Tax Services commencing October 1, 2019 ending September 30, 2025, be it

RESOLVED, that by authority of Real Property Tax Law, Section 1530, Barry Baker be hereby appointed County Director of Real Property Tax Services to take effect October 1, 2025 for a term of six years, and be it further

RESOLVED, that the salary of the Director of Real Property Tax Services be at the present salary of \$94,014.00 per annum as set by Local Law No. 1 of 2025 and the County Treasurer and Personnel Officer be so advised.

Seconded by ALL and adopted by the following vote:

AYES: RHODES, TOMLINSON, WELLS, FREY, BAIN, ARSENAULT, FERNANDEZ, AND HUNT

NAYS: NONE

ABSENT: SNYDER

RESOLUTION NO. 317-25

SETTING EQUALIZATION RATES

DATED: SEPTEMBER 4, 2025

BY MS. HUNT:

WHEREAS, per Subpart 8186-2 of Title 20 of the Official Compilation of Codes, Rules and Regulations of the State of New York, Hamilton County has received a certified statement setting forth the final State equalization rate, be it

RESOLVED, that the assessment rolls with said rates be adopted for the year 2025 as follows:

Arietta.....	92.00
Benson.....	60.00
Hope.....	60.00
Indian Lake.....	67.00
Inlet.....	88.50
Lake Pleasant.....	70.00
Long Lake.....	70.00
Morehouse.....	70.00
Wells.....	60.00

Seconded by Mr. Frey and adopted by the following vote:

AYES: RHODES, TOMLINSON, WELLS, FREY, BAIN, ARSENAULT, FERNANDEZ, AND HUNT

NAYS: NONE

ABSENT: SNYDER

RESOLUTION NO. 318-25

**CONTINUATION OF TOURIST PROMOTION AGENCY FOR HAMILTON COUNTY
AND AUTHORIZING SUBMISSION OF APPLICATION TO NEW YORK STATE
DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT FOR MATCHING FUNDS FOR
PROMOTION OF TOURISM**

DATED: SEPTEMBER 4, 2025

BY MS. HUNT:

WHEREAS, the New York State Department of Economic Development is empowered to approve applications from local governments for matching funds to be used for promoting tourism therein, and

WHEREAS, the President of the Regional Office of Sustainable Tourism has recommended that an application for such funds be submitted to the Department of Economic Development for matching funds up to the amount appropriated therefore within the New York State budget, now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that, Michelle Clement of the Regional Office of Sustainable Tourism be, and hereby is, authorized and directed to submit an application to the Tourism Matching Funds Director, Empire State Development Division of Tourism, Albany, New York 12245, for matching funds in an amount up to One Hundred Seventy-two Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$172,500.00) to be used for the promotion of tourism in Hamilton County, and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Regional Office of Sustainable Tourism is hereby named Project Director in relation thereto, and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Hamilton County Board of Supervisors hereby certifies to the New York State Department of Economic Development that both the County of Hamilton and the Regional Office of Sustainable Tourism have been in existence for more than three (3) years, and be it further

RESOLVED, that in order to comply with Commerce Law, Article 5-A (New York State Tourism Promotion Act) that the Regional Office of Sustainable Tourism be the duly designated tourist promotion agency for the County of Hamilton for the fiscal year of 2025/2026, and the County Treasurer be so advised.

Seconded by Ms. Bain and adopted by the following vote:

AYES: RHODES, TOMLINSON, WELLS, FREY, BAIN, ARSENAULT, FERNANDEZ, AND
HUNT

NAYS: NONE

ABSENT: SNYDER

RESOLUTION NO. 319-25

RECOGNITION OF SHERIFFS' WEEK

DATED: SEPTEMBER 4, 2025

BY MR. RHODES:

WHEREAS, the Office of Sheriff has been an integral part of the criminal justice system in New York State and in Hamilton County throughout our history, having been established in the State's first Constitution in 1777 and having been continued in every succeeding Constitution, and having been one of our original Constitutional offices upon the founding of our County, and

WHEREAS, despite changes in its function, status and powers during its long history, the Office of Sheriff has maintained a continuous existence, preserved its distinguishing heritage, and continued to be an essential component of our criminal justice community, and

WHEREAS, the Office of Sheriff has evolved into a modern, professional, full-service law enforcement and corrections agency, manned by well-trained police officers and correctional officers, using state-of-the-art technology and applying the latest and most advanced theories and practices in the fields of law enforcement and corrections, and

WHEREAS, the Office of Sheriff is unique in the community, and the duties of the Office go far beyond the traditional role of "Keeper of the Peace," and extend into many facets of public service beyond law enforcement and correction, to include providing security in our courts, dispatching emergency services, and handling the civil process for our courts, and

WHEREAS, as a constitutionally empowered Office directly responsible to the People, the ancient Office of Sheriff remains, even today, responsive and accountable to the public it serves, and

WHEREAS, it is fitting to celebrate the historical contributions of the Office of Sheriff and the significant role that the Sheriffs play in our modern criminal justice system, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, we, the Hamilton County Board of Supervisors do hereby recognize the important services provided to the citizens of this County by Sheriff Karl G. Abrams and the members of the Sheriff's Office, and do hereby proclaim September 14th to 20th, 2025 to be Sheriffs' Week in Hamilton County.

Seconded by ALL and adopted by the following vote:

AYES: RHODES, TOMLINSON, WELLS, FREY, BAIN, ARSENAULT, FERNANDEZ, AND HUNT

NAYS: NONE

ABSENT: SNYDER

After the following resolution was placed on the floor; Mr. Rhodes stated that it was a very confusing explanation, but this clarifies it from what we did before. The Chairman agreed.

RESOLUTION NO. 320-25

**RESCINDING RESOLUTION NO 303-25 AND AUTHORIZING CHANGE ORDER
FOR TYLER TECHNOLOGIES SOFTWARE – SI21-1050-E00**

DATED: SEPTEMBER 4, 2025

BY MR. RHODES:

WHEREAS, Resolution No. 60-24 and 123-24 authorized the contract and amendment of the contract with Tyler Technologies for a total amount of \$247,675.00 with an annual recurring fee of \$7,147.00, and

WHEREAS, the Sheriff's Office has requested a change order to said contract as follows resulting in a credit of \$3,475.00:

Addition:	New York Lab Evidence Form	\$7,600.00
	Hamilton Co Appearance Ticket	\$3,800.00
	Hamilton County Sheriff's Office Voluntary Statement	\$3,800.00
	Hamilton County Sheriff's Office Supporting Deposition	\$3,800.00
Deletion:	NCIC Interface Technical Services and Interface Deployment	- \$22,475.00

and

WHEREAS, Resolution No. 303-25 authorized said change order, but had an incorrect amount for the total contract and did not specify the changes, be it

RESOLVED, that Resolution No. 303-25 is hereby rescinded, and be it further

RESOLVED, the Chairman of the Board of Supervisors is hereby authorized to sign the Tyler Technologies Change Order dated August 4, 2025 resulting in a reduction of the total contract amount by \$3,475.00 for a new total contract amount of \$244,200.00.

Seconded by Ms. Hunt and adopted by the following vote:

AYES: RHODES, TOMLINSON, WELLS, FREY, BAIN, ARSENAULT, FERNANDEZ, AND HUNT

NAYS: NONE

ABSENT: SNYDER

RESOLUTION NO. 321-25

**AUTHORIZING CHAIRMAN TO SIGN CONTRACT WITH SCHOOL DISTRICT TO
PROVIDE RELATED SERVICES FOR THE PRESCHOOL SPECIAL EDUCATION
PROGRAM – INDIAN LAKE CENTRAL SCHOOL**

DATED: SEPTEMBER 4, 2025

BY MR. FERNANDEZ:

WHEREAS, the Hamilton County Public Health Nursing Service is required to provide for Related Services (Speech, Occupational and Physical Therapy Services) for children aged 3-5, who reside within Hamilton County and have a developmental delay as defined through a comprehensive evaluation, through the Committee on Preschool Special Education (CPSE) process, and

WHEREAS, Indian Lake Central School District can provide these related services through the New York State Department of Education, and

WHEREAS, the frequency and duration of services for each child is based on the findings of the comprehensive evaluation and rules applying to section 4410 of the NYS Education Law, as determined by the CPSE committee in preparing an Individualized Education Plan (IEP), and

WHEREAS, the compensation for related services are set at rates in conjunction with the Rate Setting Unit of the NYS Department of Education, be it

RESOLVED, that the Chairman of the Hamilton County Board of Supervisors is authorized to enter into a contract with said provider to provide the aforesaid services for the period of September 1, 2025 through August 31, 2026 pursuant to an aforesaid IEP for each eligible child, with compensation for services rendered at the current approved rates set forth for Hamilton County by the Rate Setting Unit of the NYS Education Department, upon approval of the County Attorney, and the County Treasurer be so notified.

Seconded by Ms. Bain and adopted by the following vote:

AYES: RHODES, TOMLINSON, WELLS, FREY, BAIN, ARSENAULT, FERNANDEZ, AND
HUNT

NAYS: NONE

ABSENT: SNYDER

RESOLUTION NO. 322-25

**AUTHORIZING CHAIRMAN TO SIGN CONTRACT WITH LAKE PLEASANT
CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT TO PROVIDE SERVICES FOR THE PRESCHOOL
SPECIAL EDUCATION PROGRAM**

DATED: SEPTEMBER 4, 2025

BY MR. FERNANDEZ:

WHEREAS, the Hamilton County Public Health Nursing Service is required to provide for special education and related services for children aged 3-5, who reside within Hamilton County and have a developmental delay as defined through a comprehensive evaluation, through the Committee on Pre-School Special Education (CPSE) process, and

WHEREAS, Lake Pleasant Central School District is an approved provider of special education and related services through the New York State Department of Education, and

WHEREAS, the frequency and duration of services for each child is based on the findings of the comprehensive evaluation and rules applying to section 4410 of the NYS Education Law, as determined by the CPSE committee in preparing an Individualized Education Plan (IEP), and

WHEREAS, the compensation for special education and related services are set at rates in conjunction with the Rate Setting Unit of the NYS Department of Education, be it

RESOLVED, that the Chairman of the Hamilton County Board of Supervisors is authorized to enter into a contract with said provider to provide the aforesaid services for the period of September 1, 2025 through August 31, 2026 pursuant to an aforesaid IEP for each eligible child, with compensation for services rendered at the current approved rates set forth for Hamilton County by the Rate Setting Unit of the NYS Education Department, upon approval of the County Attorney and the County Treasurer be so notified.

Seconded by Ms. Bain and adopted by the following vote:

AYES: RHODES, TOMLINSON, WELLS, FREY, BAIN, ARSENAULT, FERNANDEZ, AND HUNT

NAYS: NONE

ABSENT: SNYDER

RESOLUTION NO. 323-25

AUTHORIZING CHAIRMAN TO SIGN CONTRACT WITH SCHOOL DISTRICT TO PROVIDE RELATED SERVICES FOR THE PRESCHOOL SPECIAL EDUCATION PROGRAM – NORTHVILLE CENTRAL SCHOOL

DATED: SEPTEMBER 4, 2025

BY MR. FERNANDEZ:

WHEREAS, the Hamilton County Public Health Nursing Service is required to provide for Speech, Occupational and Physical Therapy Services for children aged 3-5, who reside within Hamilton County and have a developmental delay as defined through a comprehensive evaluation, through the Committee on Pre-School Special Education (CPSE) process, and

WHEREAS, Northville Central School District can provide these related services through the New York State Department of Education, and

WHEREAS, the frequency and duration of services for each child is based on the findings of the comprehensive evaluation and rules applying to section 4410 of the NYS Education Law, as determined by the CPSE committee in preparing an Individualized Education Plan (IEP), and

WHEREAS, the compensation for related services are set at rates in conjunction with the Rate Setting Unit of the NYS Department of Education, be it

RESOLVED, that the Chairman of the Hamilton County Board of Supervisors is authorized to enter into a contract with said provider to provide the aforesaid services for the period of September 1, 2025 through August 31, 2026 pursuant to an aforesaid IEP for each eligible child, with compensation for services rendered at the current approved rates set forth for Hamilton County by the Rate Setting Unit of the NYS Education Department, upon approval of the County Attorney, and the County Treasurer be so notified.

Seconded by Ms. Bain and adopted by the following vote:

AYES: RHODES, TOMLINSON, WELLS, FREY, BAIN, ARSENAULT, FERNANDEZ, AND HUNT

NAYS: NONE

ABSENT: SNYDER

RESOLUTION NO. 324-25

AUTHORIZING CHAIRMAN TO SIGN CONTRACTS FOR EVALUATION AND SERVICE PROVISION WITH CENTER-BASED SERVICE PROVIDERS FOR CHILDREN AGED 3-5 YEARS

DATED: SEPTEMBER 4, 2025

BY MR. FERNANDEZ:

WHEREAS, Hamilton County is required to provide for Comprehensive evaluations for children aged 3-5, who reside within Hamilton County and have a suspected developmental delay through the Committee on Pre-School Special Education (CPSE) process, and

WHEREAS, Hamilton County is required to provide for any combination of Center-Based itinerant or related professional services including: Special Education Itinerant (SEIT) Services; skilled Physical, Occupational, and Speech Therapy Related services; Counseling and/or one-on-one Aide services for children determined to have an eligible level of developmental delay and require center-based services to fully meet their needs; as defined through the CPSE Process, and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Section 4410 of the New York State Education Law, the County is required to maintain contracts with several providers for the provision of comprehensive Evaluation and specialized center-based services as described above; in order to provide parents with a choice for service provision, and

WHEREAS, reimbursement for comprehensive evaluation and subsequent center-based services is determined by the extent of the evaluation and results, and based on rates set in conjunction with the Rate Setting Unit of the New York State Education Department, and

WHEREAS, Comprehensive Evaluations may be requested at any time and/or professional related service provision may be requested at any time through the regular school year and/or the 30-day summer session, and

WHEREAS, the Hamilton County Public Health Nursing Service represents Hamilton County as administrator of this program, be it

RESOLVED, that the Chairman of the Hamilton County Board of Supervisors is hereby authorized to sign contracts, upon approval of the County Attorney, for Comprehensive Evaluation and Center-Based professional service provision for children residing within Hamilton County at rates set by the New York State Department of Education, for the period of September 1, 2025 through August 31, 2026 between the Hamilton County Public Health Nursing Service and, not limited to but including, the following center-based preschool service providers:

NYSARC, Inc.
a/k/a The Children's Corner – The Adirondack ARC
12 Mohawk Street Tupper Lake, NY 12986
518-359-3351

Upstate Cerebral Palsy, Inc
125 Business Park Drive
Utica, NY 13502
315-724-6907

Seconded by Ms. Bain and adopted by the following vote:

AYES: RHODES, TOMLINSON, WELLS, FREY, BAIN, ARSENAULT, FERNANDEZ, AND HUNT

NAYS: NONE

ABSENT: SNYDER

RESOLUTION NO. 325-25

**AUTHORIZING CHAIRMAN TO SIGN CONTRACT WITH SCHOOL DISTRICT TO
PROVIDE RELATED SERVICES FOR THE PRESCHOOL SPECIAL EDUCATION
PROGRAM – WELLS CENTRAL SCHOOL**

DATED: SEPTEMBER 4, 2025

BY MR. FERNANDEZ:

WHEREAS, the Hamilton County Public Health Nursing Service is required to provide for Speech, Occupational and Physical Therapy Services for children aged 3-5, who reside within Hamilton County and have a developmental delay as defined through a comprehensive evaluation, through the Committee on Pre-School Special Education (CPSE) process, and

WHEREAS, Wells Central School District can provide these related services through the New York State Department of Education, and

WHEREAS, the frequency and duration of services for each child is based on the findings of the comprehensive evaluation and rules applying to section 4410 of the NYS Education Law, as determined by the CPSE committee in preparing an Individualized Education Plan (IEP), and

WHEREAS, the compensation for related services are set at rates in conjunction with the Rate Setting Unit of the NYS Department of Education, be it

RESOLVED, that the Chairman of the Hamilton County Board of Supervisors is authorized to enter into a contract with said provider to provide the aforesaid services for the period of September 1, 2025 through August 31, 2026 pursuant to an aforesaid IEP for each eligible child, with compensation for services rendered at the current approved rates set forth for Hamilton County by the Rate Setting Unit of the NYS Education Department, upon approval of the County Attorney, and the County Treasurer be so notified.

Seconded by Ms. Bain and adopted by the following vote:

AYES: RHODES, TOMLINSON, WELLS, FREY, BAIN, ARSENAULT, FERNANDEZ, AND
HUNT

NAYS: NONE

ABSENT: SNYDER

RESOLUTION NO. 326-25

**AUTHORIZING CONTRACT WITH MICHELLE KELLY TO INSTRUCT YOGA
CLASSES 2025-2026**

DATED: SEPTEMBER 4, 2025

BY MR. FERNANDEZ:

WHEREAS, the Hamilton County Public Health Nursing Service maintains an agreement between Warren/Hamilton Office for the Aging to provide services for Hamilton County residents under a Community Services Contract code A.6780 10 470, and

WHEREAS, this contract has been submitted for renewal for the period August 1, 2025 – July 31, 2026 in the full amount of \$3,313.00, and

WHEREAS, Michelle Kelly of 219 Lake Snow Road, Indian Lake, NY is a certified Yoga Instructor and wishes to contract with Hamilton County to instruct Yoga Classes, and

WHEREAS, the term of this contract shall be from August 1, 2025 through July 31, 2026 and compensated at a rate of \$40.00 per class plus mileage at the current county rate, be it

RESOLVED, that the Chairman of the Board of Supervisors is authorized to enter into a contract with Michelle Kelly to instruct Yoga classes to the residents of Hamilton County, for the period August 1, 2025 through July 31, 2026 at a rate of \$40.00 per class plus mileage upon approval of the County Attorney and the County Treasurer be so notified.

Seconded by Ms. Hunt and adopted by the following vote:

AYES: RHODES, TOMLINSON, WELLS, FREY, BAIN, ARSENAULT, FERNANDEZ, AND HUNT

NAYS: NONE

ABSENT: SNYDER

RESOLUTION NO. 327-25

INCREASE EARLY INTERVENTION SERVICES BUDGET

DATED: SEPTEMBER 4, 2025

BY MR. WELLS:

WHEREAS, \$15,000.00 was budgeted for Early Intervention program services in the 2025 budget, and

WHEREAS, there has been an increase in the Early Intervention caseload causing a budget shortage, be it

RESOLVED, that Account No. A4059.0401 EI Program Fees be increased by \$5,000.00 to be totally offset by increasing Revenue Account No. A1621 EI Fees for Svs-3rd Prty by \$5,000.00, and the County Treasurer be so authorized.

Seconded by Mr. Frey and adopted by the following vote:

AYES: RHODES, TOMLINSON, WELLS, FREY, BAIN, ARSENAULT, FERNANDEZ, AND

HUNT

NAYS: NONE

ABSENT: SNYDER

RESOLUTION NO. 328-25

FEDERAL SALARY SHARING FUNDS – COMMUNITY SERVICES

DATED: SEPTEMBER 4, 2025

BY MS. BAIN:

WHEREAS, the Hamilton County Community Services Department has received Federal Salary Sharing funds that can be used to support services provided by the Department, and

WHEREAS, there are available Federal Salary Sharing currently in the unappropriated general fund, and

WHEREAS, due to unexpected expenditures to date there is a need to increase available funds in supplies and services to cover necessary supplies and services costs for the remainder of the year, be it

RESOLVED, that \$10,000.00 from Federal Salary Sharing currently in the unappropriated general fund balance be transferred from the Unappropriated General Fund Balance in accordance with Section 366 Subdivision 1 of the County Law to Account No. A4310.0403 Supplies and Services and the County Treasurer be so authorized.

Seconded by Ms. Hunt and adopted by the following vote:

AYES: RHODES, TOMLINSON, WELLS, FREY, BAIN, ARSENAULT, FERNANDEZ, AND HUNT

NAYS: NONE

ABSENT: SNYDER

RESOLUTION NO. 329-25

**CREATING, FUNDING, AND APPOINTING SENIOR ACCOUNT CLERK POSITION
IN THE COUNTY TREASURER'S OFFICE**

DATED: SEPTEMBER 4, 2025

BY MS. HUNT:

WHEREAS, there is a vacancy in the County Treasurer's Office effective October 31, 2025, and

WHEREAS, the Personnel Officer has advertised for an Account Clerk in the County Treasurer's Office and an employee within Hamilton County has expressed interest in the position, and

WHEREAS, the employee is presently a Principal Account Clerk and would be willing to transfer to the Treasurer's Office as a Senior Account Clerk, which is a three-grade reduction, and

WHEREAS, the employee is on an active eligible list for Senior Account Clerk and would be a permanent appointment effective November 3, 2025, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, the County Treasurer is hereby authorized to create Account No. A.1325.0105 Senior Account Clerk to be funded by transferring \$7,710.00 from the Unappropriated General Fund Balance in accordance with Section 366 Subdivision 1 of the County Law, and be it further

RESOLVED, that the County Treasurer is hereby authorized to permanently hire Michele Malinowski from Wells, NY at a Grade 8, Step 2 with a rate of \$25.61/hr. as a Senior Account Clerk effective November 3, 2025 and the Personnel Officer so be notified.

Seconded by Ms. Bain and adopted by the following vote:

AYES: RHODES, TOMLINSON, WELLS, FREY, BAIN, ARSENAULT, FERNANDEZ, AND HUNT

NAYS: NONE

ABSENT: SNYDER

RESOLUTION NO. 330-25

TRANSFER OF FUNDS – BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

DATED: SEPTEMBER 4, 2025

BY MS. HUNT:

WHEREAS, there is a shortage of funds in the Board of Supervisors Account No. A1010.0407 Misc., be it

RESOLVED, that the County Treasurer is hereby authorized to transfer \$500.00 from Contingent Account No. A1990.0401 to Board of Supervisors Account No. A1010.0407 Misc.

Seconded by Mr. Rhodes and adopted by the following vote:

AYES: RHODES, TOMLINSON, WELLS, FREY, BAIN, ARSENAULT, FERNANDEZ, AND

HUNT

NAYS: NONE

ABSENT: SNYDER

RESOLUTION NO. 331-25

**AUTHORIZING PAYMENT TO DISTRIBUTED TECHNOLOGY GROUP FOR
NETWORK SWITCHES FOR THE NEW AVAYA PHONE SYSTEM**

DATED: SEPTEMBER 4, 2025

BY MS. HUNT:

WHEREAS, Resolution No. 261-25 authorized the funding and purchase of network switches for the new Avaya Phone System, and

WHEREAS, said network switches have been received, be it

RESOLVED, that the County Treasurer is hereby authorized to make payment to Distributed Technology Group for Invoice No. INV1-4015 in the amount of \$23,356.35 from Account No. A1650.0401 Central Communications Systems – Phone and the IT Department be so notified.

Seconded by Ms. Bain and adopted by the following vote:

AYES: RHODES, TOMLINSON, WELLS, FREY, BAIN, ARSENAULT, FERNANDEZ, AND
HUNT

NAYS: NONE

ABSENT: SNYDER

RESOLUTION NO. 332-25

UNPAID LEAVE OF ABSENCE – ASSISTANT DEPUTY COUNTY CLERK

DATED: SEPTEMBER 4, 2025

BY MR. WELLS:

WHEREAS, Assistant Deputy County Clerk, Linda Kennedy has been employed by Hamilton County since May 19, 2008, in the County Clerk's Office, and

WHEREAS, due to medical reasons, Ms. Kennedy has been unable to return to work and will be retiring on September 30, 2025, and

WHEREAS, in lieu of requesting further vacation donation time, Ms. Kennedy is requesting an unpaid leave of absence until September 30, 2025, at which point she will retire directly into the retirement system, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the unpaid leave of absence is approved until September 30, 2025 and the County Clerk, Treasurer and Personnel Officer be so notified.

Seconded by Ms. Bain and adopted by the following vote:

AYES: RHODES, TOMLINSON, WELLS, FREY, BAIN, ARSENAULT, FERNANDEZ, AND HUNT

NAYS: NONE

ABSENT: SNYDER

RESOLUTION NO. 333-25

TRANSFER OF FUNDS - COUNTY CLERK

DATED: SEPTEMBER 4, 2025

BY MS. BAIN:

WHEREAS, Betsy Earley, Motor Vehicle Clerk, had agreed to stay on per diem after her retirement in February of 2025, and

WHEREAS, Betsy Earley had further agreed to withdraw her application for Social Security to be able to work more hours, and

WHEREAS, the payroll line A1410.0105 was created and funded with \$22,476 for a Per Diem Motor Vehicle Clerk, and

WHEREAS, said payroll line will be expended by Payroll #19, and

WHEREAS, Betsy Earley has expressed interest in staying on with the County Clerk's Office through the end of 2025, be it

RESOLVED, that the County Treasurer is hereby authorized to transfer \$12,500.00 from the Unappropriated General Fund Balance in accordance with Section 366 Subdivision 1 of the County Law to Account No A,1410.0105, Clerk, Motor Vehicle Clerk P/T.

Seconded by Mr. Fernandez and adopted by the following vote:

AYES: RHODES, TOMLINSON, WELLS, FREY, BAIN, ARSENAULT, FERNANDEZ, AND HUNT

NAYS: NONE

ABSENT: SNYDER

RESOLUTION NO. 334-25

**AUTHORIZING PUBLIC HEARING FOR PROPOSED LOCAL LAW NO. 6 OF 2025 – A
LOCAL LAW SUPERCEDING COUNTY LAW SECTION 215 (4) AND (6) AND
AUTHORIZING THE LEASE OF COUNTY PROPERTY TO NEW YORK RSA 2
CELLULAR PARTNERSHIP D/B/A VERIZON WIRELESS**

DATED: SEPTEMBER 4, 2025

BY MR. RHODES:

BE IT RESOLVED, that proposed Local Law No. 6 of the year 2025 entitled, “A LOCAL LAW SUPERCEDING COUNTY LAW SECTION 215 (4) AND (6) AND AUTHORIZING THE LEASE OF COUNTY PROPERTY TO NEW YORK RSA 2 CELLULAR PARTNERSHIP D/B/A VERIZON WIRELESS” be and the same is hereby introduced to the Board of Supervisors, and be it further

RESOLVED, that a copy of the aforesaid proposed Local Law be laid upon the desks of each member of the Hamilton County Board of Supervisors, and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Hamilton County Board of Supervisors shall hold a public hearing on the said proposed Local Law at the County Office Complex, Route 8, Lake Pleasant, New York, on the 2nd day of October 2025, at 11:15 AM, and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Chairman of the County Board of Supervisors publish or cause to be published a public notice in the official newspaper of the County of said public hearing at least five (5) days prior thereto.

Seconded by Mr. Wells and adopted by the following vote:

AYES: RHODES, TOMLINSON, WELLS, FREY, BAIN, ARSENAULT, FERNANDEZ, AND
HUNT

NAYS: NONE

ABSENT: SNYDER

PROPOSED LOCAL LAW NO. 6 OF 2025

COUNTY OF HAMILTON

**A LOCAL LAW SUPERCEDING COUNTY LAW SECTION 215 (4) AND (6) AND
AUTHORIZING THE LEASE OF COUNTY PROPERTY TO NEW YORK RSA 2
CELLULAR PARTNERSHIP D/B/A VERIZON WIRELESS**

BE IT ENACTED BY THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF THE COUNTY OF HAMILTON, NEW YORK, AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. Legislation Intent and Purpose. This Local Law is enacted to amend and supercede County Law Section 215 and authorize the County of Hamilton Board of Supervisors, in the name of and on behalf of the County of Hamilton to enter a lease of the County property identified in Section 3 hereof and thereby obtain a reasonable return on property not needed for County purposes. The purpose of superceding County Law Section 215 is to avoid the need to advertise and lease a portion or all of the property identified in Section 3 hereof to the highest bidder following a public auction.

Section 2. County Law Section 215 Amended and Superseded. It is the intent of this Local Law to amend and supercede pursuant to the County's authority under the Municipal Home Rule Law the following: (a) County Law Section 215 (4), which limits leases of County property to 5 year terms, and (b) County Law Section 215 (6) which provides that property no longer necessary for public use "may be sold or leased only to the highest bidder after public advertisement".

Section 3. County Property and Lease. Hamilton County is the lessor of real property located at 2698 State Route 10 [E911 Address: 984 State Route 8], Town of Arietta, Hamilton County, New York, Tax Map Number 127.000-1-1.110 ("Tower Site") on which it is constructing a new public safety radio communications tower ("Tower Property") and NEW YORK RSA 2 CELLULAR PARTNERSHIP D/B/A VERIZON WIRELESS ("Verizon Wireless") has expressed an interested in leasing space on the tower and at the base thereof for the installation, operation and maintenance of a wireless telecommunication facility ("Facility") together with an easement for access and utilities pursuant to a Tower Lease Agreement between the County and Verizon Wireless. The portion of the Tower Property to be leased is not currently needed for County purposes and the County retains the right to use the Tower Property for County purposes pursuant to and in accordance with the Tower Lease Agreement. The term of the proposed lease is five (5) years, with four (4) five-year (5) renewals to be exercised at Verizon Wireless's option. The proposed compensation to the County is annual rent of \$24,000 increasing by 2% on each anniversary of the Tower Lease Agreement. Verizon Wireless's rights and obligations in respect to Verizon Wireless's lease of the Property will be governed by and in accordance with the Tower Lease Agreement.

Section 4. Lease Authorized. The County Executive is hereby authorized, without public advertisement or auction, to enter the Tower Lease Agreement and execute any and all related documents for the lease of the above-described Property to Verizon Wireless on the terms set forth in Section 3 hereof and in the Tower Lease Agreement.

Section 5. Severability. If any part of this Local Law shall be adjudged by a Court to be invalid or unconstitutional, such order or judgment shall not affect or invalidate the remainder thereof, but shall be confined in its application to the part of this Local Law for which such order or judgment has been rendered.

Section 6. Effective Date. This local law shall not take effect until at least forty-five (45) days after its adoption or, if within forty-five (45) days after its adoption, there shall be filed with the Clerk a petition protesting against such Local Law, signed and authenticated as required by the Municipal Home Rule Law, then until approved by the affirmative vote of a majority of the

qualified electors of Hamilton County voting on a proposition for it. The Clerk shall publish this local law or abstract thereof and take such further action as may be required under the Municipal Home Rule Law governing adoption of this local law.

RESOLUTION NO. 335-25

**ACCEPTANCE OF HAZARD MITIGATION GRANT APPLICATION AMENDED
FEDERAL SHARE**

DATED: SEPTEMBER 4, 2025

BY MR. RHODES:

WHEREAS, the Sheriff recommended the County apply for the 2024 Hazard Mitigation Grant Programs (HMGP) DR-755 for Hamilton County with the amount to be determined by DHSES at the time of award, and

WHEREAS, Res. No. 275-24 adopted September 5, 2024, approved the Hamilton County Sheriff to complete and submit said grant application by the deadline of September 13, 2024, and

WHEREAS, the New York State Department of Homeland Security and Emergency Services and the Federal Emergency Management Agency decreased the Federal Share of the total project cost of the Hamilton County Hazard Mitigation Plan 2026 Update from \$112,500 (75%) to \$58,456.16 (38.97%), therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that Hamilton County accepts the Federal Share of \$58,456.16 and the County Share of \$91,543.84 for a total project cost of \$150,000 for the Hamilton County Hazard Mitigation Plan 2026 Update, and further be it

RESOLVED, that the Chairman of the Board of Supervisors is hereby authorized to sign all grant forms required for the updated budget.

Seconded by Mr. Frey and adopted by the following vote:

AYES: RHODES, TOMLINSON, WELLS, FREY, BAIN, ARSENAULT, FERNANDEZ, AND HUNT

NAYS: NONE

ABSENT: SNYDER

RESOLUTION NO. 336-25

**AUTHORIZING PAYMENT TO WARRENSBURG COLLISION CENTER, INC. –
INSURANCE REPAIR**

DATED: SEPTEMBER 4, 2025

BY MR. TOMLINSON:

WHEREAS, Vehicle #769 - 2020 Chevrolet Malibu was involved in an accident and the repairs for the damage were completed by Warrensburg Collision Center, Inc., and

WHEREAS, the Fleet Coordinator recommends the payment of said repairs of the 2020 Chevrolet Malibu, be it

RESOLVED, the County Treasurer is hereby authorized to increase Account No. A1910.0402 Repairs to Vehicles-Insurance by \$9,149.49 to be totally offset by increasing Revenue Account No. A2680.0000 Insurance Recoveries by \$9,149.49, and be it further

RESOLVED, that the County Treasurer is hereby authorized to make a check payable to:

Warrensburg Collision Center, Inc.
3985 Main Street
Warrensburg, NY 12885

for Invoice #8443 in the amount of \$10,149.49 and the funds be taken out of Account No. A1910.0402 Repairs to Vehicles-Insurance and the Fleet Coordinator and Clerk of the Board be so notified.

Seconded by Ms. Hunt and adopted by the following vote:

AYES: RHODES, TOMLINSON, WELLS, FREY, BAIN, ARSENAULT, FERNANDEZ, AND HUNT

NAYS: NONE

ABSENT: SNYDER

RESOLUTION NO. 337-25

APPROVAL OF AUDITS IN COUNTY HIGHWAY FUNDS

DATED: SEPTEMBER 4, 2025

BY MS. HUNT:

RESOLVED, that the bills in the Machinery Fund amounting to \$77,589.74 and bills in the County Road Fund amounting to \$287,018.57 presented by the County Superintendent of Highways and audited this day by the County Public Works Committee, be, and the same hereby are approved and audited.

Seconded by Ms. Bain and adopted by the following vote:

AYES: RHODES, TOMLINSON, WELLS, FREY, BAIN, ARSENAULT, FERNANDEZ, AND HUNT

NAYS: NONE

ABSENT: SNYDER

RESOLUTION NO. 338-25

**APPROVAL OF AUDITS IN THE COUNTY GENERAL FUND AND CAPITAL
PROJECT 2022-1 BIG BROOK BRIDGE**

DATED: SEPTEMBER 4, 2025

BY MR. WELLS:

RESOLVED, that the bills audited this day in the County General Fund in the amount of \$331,079.80 the following committees:

Public Works (Buildings) Committee.....	\$ 25,067.75
Public Works (Solid Waste).....	56,798.51
Finance Committee	17,517.65
Health Committee.....	73,750.73
Human Services Committee.....	18,530.03
Central Government Committee	18,231.60
Emergency Prep./Emergency Response.....	114,945.90
Internal Management Committee	6,237.63

be it further

RESOLVED, that the bills audited this day in the following Capital Projects:

Big Brook Bridge.....	\$310,700.78
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are hereby approved.

Seconded by Mr. Frey and adopted by the following vote:

AYES: RHODES, TOMLINSON, WELLS, FREY, BAIN, ARSENAULT, FERNANDEZ, AND
HUNT

NAYS: NONE

ABSENT: SNYDER

Other Reports:

County Attorney: Discussed the resolution that Mr. Rhodes mentioned where they rescinded a resolution authorizing the change order for Tyler Technologies. It does certainly explain the situation much better, and he thanked the Clerk of the Board for her assistance so often in making

the contracts work. Mr. Rhodes agreed as well as other Board members and he stated that she goes above and beyond.

The Chairman stated that the Deputy Chairman and himself met with Mr. Eldridge, Mark Stuart and Chris Gallagher in Indian Lake to discuss the new security measures; adding the ADA compliant bathroom, front doors to Public Health and the Lake Pleasant doors. Mr. Tomlinson, Mr. Eldridge and himself thought that it would be good to get a quote for both Indian Lake and Lake Pleasant doors at the same time. The Chairman thought they had a great committee meeting last month. They discussed and figured out all the Annual Session dates. He thought it was great to get that done and he thanked the Clerk of the Board for pushing him. Just so they all know the dates are Nov 6, 10, 12, 14 and 17 at 10:30AM. Hopefully they will have the public hearing and adopt on Nov 17th. The Clerk of the Board stated that the resolution to set the dates will be on the October agenda. The Chairman stated that they will set dates for the Department Heads to meet with the Board to discuss their budget requests on September 30th starting at 8:30AM and October 2nd after the regular scheduled board meeting. He stated that they had a good discussion regarding insurance costs and the idea of reducing the employee contribution to 10% or 15% from 20%. They touched on inflation rates, federal rates and the cost of insurance every year. They discussed COLA and thought it would be best to wait until they got numbers from the Budget Officer which he thanked him for. It seemed like some of the Board was leaning towards 5% COLA. They discussed the possibility of potentially bumping Grades up for employees as an added incentive. Increasing the insurance buyout from what it is to \$5,000 then the Deputy Chairman and himself met with the Budget Officer that morning and he reminded them that the COLA gets added to that every year as well. The Budget Officer stated that the buyout is adjusted by whatever the COLA is. The Chairman stated that he and the Deputy Chairman did not know that.

The Chairman stated that Mr. Wells and himself attended the Local Government Review Board meeting where most of the discussion was around cell towers and permitting them. Carrie Tuttle discussed the Hamilton County project which includes the 12-mile construction between Morehouse and Lake Pleasant. This will enhance the emergency services by improving cell tower back haul and improve cell coverage. It will provide broadband to approximately 65 unserved and underserved residential customers. The project estimate is \$550,000 but as Mr. Rhodes mentioned it's likely to be over budgeted due to make ready costs. The Chairman asked Mr. Rhodes if he had heard the project completion was going to be next August. Mr. Rhodes stated it was kind of based on the County towers being built. Their portion will be done early in 2026. It was 2025 but after this last meeting there are some hold ups with National Grid still so they have pushed it to 2026. They think they can still do it in the middle of winter, but we will see about that.

The Chairman stated that he had a ZOOM meeting on September 2nd with Carrie Tuttle and other members/engineers of DANC to discuss the development of a comprehensive plan to address public emergency communications, cell service and broadband access in the Adirondack Park. Essentially this would start with Hamilton County taking the lead on this project. The first step would be to develop a comprehensive plan to deliver a preliminary engineering report that evaluates alternatives and meets Adirondack Park permitting requirements to implement a park wide emergency communications system. This system will utilize existing NYS road right of ways to install fiber optic cable and connect to strategically located towers insuring reliable 911 access and emergency communication for the park residents and millions of annual visitors. This potential concept will be broken down in 4 phases.

- 1) Preliminary Engineering and Permitting
- 2) Funding
- 3) Final Design
- 4) Construction

The Chairman stated that the Board remembers the County was awarded \$1.5Million for development of the microcell technology. They weren't comfortable moving forward with that. That gentleman came in and gave them the presentation, and it was going to be around \$25Million to get started. He called Beth Gilles, Executive Director LCLGRPB, who helped the County get this money through Elise Stefanik's office. What they are hoping is that they can get that money appropriated for this project. If this is approved, it will more than likely require a resolution to modify this grant along with Hamilton County being the lead. The plan would find sites in the Adirondack Park and get APA approval for them first. This park wide plan would be a collaborative regional approach instead of 12 separate counties and 101 towns and villages attempting to get the permits on their own. He will keep the Board informed once he has spoken with Ms. Gilles about getting the funding. The initial reports thought that this plan would probably be about \$360,000. He thought that Hamilton County would be foolish not tackling this because they would just be giving that money back because we aren't doing the small cell. He stated that Ms. Gilles was optimistic about it and he stated that this approach has never been done. When they had their meeting Mr. Wells was there and the APA was very excited about this. He agreed with the Chairman that we should be the lead and if its \$385,000, even if we don't get the small cell money reallocated, he thinks it's something Hamilton County needs to move forward with.

The Chairman stated that it is a good time to discuss the Budget Officer's email. Mr. Frey stated that he didn't think COLA was the right number to adjust the buyout every year. He thought it should track what the insurance costs are going up. If health insurance is going up 6, 7, 12% then that's what the buyout should be going up. Then they wouldn't have to look at redoing the buyout. The Chairman thought that was interesting. The Budget Officer stated that the buyout number hadn't changed for years and then when the Department Head Committee met, that was the recommendation to at least apply the same amount of COLA to it and that it was authorized by the Board. He asked what they wanted him to do. Mr. Frey stated to pick a good number to move forward for now and then using insurance, if it is going up 8% for that year then the buyout goes up 8%. Then they don't have to revisit it every 6 or 7 years. The Chairman stated that it was a good thought.

The Board and the Budget Officer reviewed the Budget Officer's handout regarding COLA, Health Insurance contribution and Health Insurance buyout.

After a lengthy discussion, the Chairman stated that 10% Health Insurance contribution, \$5,000 Health Insurance buyout and 5% COLA is a huge move and good. Mr. Frey stated that they have been up against retention year after year. This is a path forward. The Budget Officer stated that they can see that in the turnover in the Grades 4, 5 and 6. Mr. Frey stated that it is to try to stabilize our workforce. The Chairman confirmed that the Board approved of advising the Budget Officer to use 10% Health Insurance contribution for all employees, \$5,000 Health Insurance buyout and 5% COLA for formulating the 2026 Tentative Budget. Everyone agreed. The Chairman and Deputy Chairman thanked the Budget Officer, and the Budget Officer thanked the Personnel Officer for all her help as well.

Mr. Fernandez asked Mr. Baker if they were going to discuss assessor. Mr. Baker asked if they could do that in his office because he didn't have the proper paperwork with him.

As there was no further business, motion to adjourn by Mr. Frey, seconded by Mr. Wells. Carried.