ALLEGANY COUNTY BOARD OF LEGISLATORS
REGULAR SESSION

September 23, 2026

CALL TO ORDER: The regular meeting of the Board of Legislators was called to order at 2:05 p.m. by Chairman W. Brooke Harris.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG: The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Legislator Janice L. Burdick.

INVOCATION: The Invocation was given by Legislator Philip G. Stockin.

ROLL CALL: 14 Legislators Present: Gary R. Barnes, Janice L. Burdick, Philip B. Curran, Kevin "Fred" Demick, Gretchen Hanchett, W. Brooke Harris, Steven A. Havey, Dwight "Mike" Healy, Kevin S. LaForge, William Meunier, John D. Ricci, Jennifer Ricketts-Swales, Philip G. Stockin, Ricky Whitney. (Absent: Charles Bessette)

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

The Board meeting agenda was approved on a motion made by Legislator Hanchett, seconded by Legislator Havey, and carried.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

The Board meeting minutes of September 9, 2026, were approved on a motion made by Legislator Ricci, seconded by Legislator Healy, and carried.

The Committee of the Whole meeting minutes of September 16, 2026, were approved on a motion made by Legislator Whitney, seconded by Legislator Hanchett, and carried.

PUBLIC HEARINGS:

Chairman W. Brooke Harris suspended the regular meeting to conduct a public hearing on Local Law Intro No. 4-2026, Print No. 1, a Local Law to Authorize Overriding the Property Tax Levy Limit Established by General Municipal Law Section 3-c for the 2027 Allegany County Budget. There being no members of the public present to speak, the public hearing was declared closed.

Chairman W. Brooke Harris opened a second public hearing on Local Law Intro No. 5-2026, Print No. 1, a Local Law Amending the Residency Requirement Set Forth in Public Officers Law Section 3 for the Offices of Assistant County Attorney, Assistant District Attorney, Assistant Public Defender, and Assistant Conflict Defender in the County of Allegany. There being no members of the public present to speak, the public hearing was declared closed, and the Board reconvened in regular session.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS, COMMUNICATIONS, REPORTS, ETC.

1. October 2026 Calendar

2. Correspondence from Senator George Borrello confirming receipt of our Res. No. 321-26, Calling for a Two-Year Delay of Federal SNAP Administrative and Cost Benefit Shifts Enacted Under H.R.1 and Calling on New York State to Hold Counties Harmless if the Federal Government Fails to Act.

3. Correspondence from Assemblyman Joseph Sempolinski confirming receipt of our Res. No. 321-26, opposing H.R.1 of the 119th Congress.

Chairman Harris addressed Item No. 3 under Communications, correspondence from Assemblyman Joe Sempolinski confirming receipt of Resolution No. 321-26. He clarified that the wording on the agenda could give the impression that the Board was opposed to H.R. 1 in its entirety. Chairman Harris stated that "*Resolution No. 321-26 was specifically intended to request a delay in the implementation of the SNAP cost shift and was not an expression of opposition to H.R. 1 in its entirety.*" He requested that the clarification be reflected in the minutes.

4. An Older Adult Wellness Day & Public Hearing will be held Friday, September 25 from 9:00 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. at the Genesis Bible Church in Scio.

5. Office for the Aging is holding a Medicare Insurance Fair on Friday, November 6 from 9:00 a.m. until 2 p.m. at the Crossroads Center in Belmont. Reservations are required for the event.

6. Correspondence from Casey Howe, Founder, NY 911 Retirement urging this Board to adopt a resolution supporting A.9162A/S.7635B and Allegany County's 911 professionals.

7. Letter of Resignation from Debra Root Effective September 11, 2026, from the Allegany County Telecommunications Development Corporation.

RESOLUTIONS:

RESOLUTION NO. 366-26

ADOPTION OF LOCAL LAW INTRO NO. 4-2026, PRINT NO. 1, A LOCAL LAW TO AUTHORIZE OVERRIDING THE PROPERTY TAX LEVY LIMIT ESTABLISHED BY GENERAL MUNICIPAL LAW SECTION 3-c FOR THE 2027 ALLEGANY COUNTY BUDGET

Offered by: Ways & Means Committee

RESOLVED:

1. That the proposed Local Law, Intro No. 4-2026, Print No. 1, is adopted without any change in language, to wit:

COUNTY OF ALLEGANY

Intro. No. 4-2026 Print No. 1

A LOCAL LAW TO AUTHORIZE OVERRIDING THE PROPERTY TAX LEVY LIMIT ESTABLISHED BY GENERAL MUNICIPAL LAW SECTION 3-c FOR THE 2027 ALLEGANY COUNTY BUDGET

BE IT ENACTED by the Board of Legislators of the County of Allegany, State of New York, as follows:

Section 1. Legislative Intent and Purpose. By Chapter 97 of the Laws of 2011, effective June 24, 2011, codified in Section 3-c of the General Municipal Law, the State of New York imposed upon counties, other local governments, and schools, with certain specific exceptions, a limit equal to the lesser of the rate of inflation or 2 percent on the annual increase in the amount of real property taxes that may be levied on behalf of said entities. The New York State Comptroller's Office determined that for 2027, the property tax levy growth for local governments must be capped at 2 percent.

New York State mandated programs and services, which include but are not limited to Medicaid, Public Assistance, Child Welfare, Pre-School Special Education, Community Colleges, Indigent Defense, Early Intervention, and Pension Costs, must be paid for by local governments first before local taxes may be used for county purposes. Additional unfunded mandates imposed by New York State on county governments continue to increase at a rate outpacing inflation, which places an unreasonable and unsustainable burden on counties to budget within the tax cap.

General Municipal Law Section 3-c(5) provides that a local government may adopt a budget that requires a tax levy that is greater than the tax levy limit for the coming fiscal year only if the governing body of such local government first enacts, by a vote of 60 percent of the total voting power of such governing body, a local law to override such limit. General Municipal Law Section 3-c(6) provides that if a local government's actual tax levy for a given fiscal year exceeds the tax levy limit, as determined by the State Comptroller, the local government must place the excess amount in reserve and use such funds to offset the tax levy for the ensuing fiscal year. The purpose of this Local Law is to comply with the requirements of General Municipal Law Section 3-c(5) prior to adopting the 2027 Allegany County Budget.

Section 2. Enactment Authority. This Local Law is adopted pursuant to authority provided in Municipal Home Rule Law Section 10 as well as the specific authority set forth in General Municipal Law Section 3-c(5).

Section 3. Tax Levy Limit Override Authorization. The Board of Legislators of the County of Allegany is hereby authorized to adopt a budget for the fiscal year commencing January 1, 2027, that requires a real property tax levy in excess of the amount otherwise prescribed in General Municipal Law Section 3-c.

Section 4. Severability. If any clause, sentence, paragraph, section, subdivision, or other part of this Local Law or its applications shall be adjudged by a court of competent jurisdiction to be invalid or unconstitutional, such order or judgment shall not affect, impair, or likewise invalidate the remainder of this Local Law, which shall remain in full force and effect.

Section 5. Effective Date. This Local Law shall take effect immediately upon filing and publication in accordance with Section 27 of the Municipal Home Rule Law.

Moved by: Mrs. Burdick
Seconded by: Mr. Stockin

Adopted: Roll Call
9 Ayes, 5 Noes, 1 Absent
Voting No: Barnes, Healy, LaForge, Meunier, Ricci

RESOLUTION NO. 367-26

ADOPTION OF LOCAL LAW INTRO NO. 5-2026, PRINT NO. 1, A LOCAL LAW AMENDING THE RESIDENCY REQUIREMENT SET FORTH IN PUBLIC OFFICERS LAW SECTION 3 FOR THE OFFICES OF ASSISTANT COUNTY ATTORNEY, ASSISTANT DISTRICT ATTORNEY, ASSISTANT PUBLIC DEFENDER, AND ASSISTANT CONFLICT DEFENDER IN THE COUNTY OF ALLEGANY

Offered by: Ways & Means Committee

RESOLVED:

1. That the proposed Local Law, Intro No. 5-2026, Print No. 1, is adopted without any change in language, to wit:

COUNTY OF ALLEGANY

Intro. No. 5-2026 Print No. 1

A LOCAL LAW AMENDING THE RESIDENCY REQUIREMENT SET FORTH IN PUBLIC OFFICERS LAW SECTION 3 FOR THE OFFICES OF ASSISTANT COUNTY ATTORNEY, ASSISTANT DISTRICT ATTORNEY, ASSISTANT PUBLIC DEFENDER, AND ASSISTANT CONFLICT DEFENDER IN THE COUNTY OF ALLEGANY

BE IT ENACTED, by the Board of Legislators of the County of Allegany, State of New York, as follows:

Section 1. Intent. The intent of this Local Law is to amend the residency requirement set forth in Public Officers § 3(1) for the offices of Assistant County Attorney, Assistant District Attorney, Assistant Public Defender, and Assistant Conflict Defender who are not first

in the line of succession to the County Attorney, District Attorney, Public Defender, or Conflict Defender, so that said persons can reside in either Allegany County or a county contiguous to Allegany County within the State of New York.

Section 2. Qualifications of Office.

a. In Allegany County, no provision of law, New York State or otherwise, which requires a person to be a resident of the political subdivision or municipal corporation of the State for which he or she shall be chosen, or within his or her official functions are required to be exercised, shall prevent a person from holding the office of Assistant County Attorney for Allegany County, provided that said person is not first in the line of succession to the County Attorney, and he or she resides in the State of New York and in a county contiguous to Allegany County in the State of New York.

b. An Assistant County Attorney who ceases to be a resident of New York State, Allegany County, or a county contiguous to Allegany County shall be deemed to have resigned his or her employment and vacated the position.

c. In Allegany County, no provision of law, New York State or otherwise, which requires a person to be a resident of the political subdivision or municipal corporation of the State for which he or she shall be chosen, or within his or her official functions are required to be exercised, shall prevent a person from holding the office of Assistant District Attorney for Allegany County, provided that said person is not first in the line of succession to the District Attorney, and he or she resides in the State of New York and in a county contiguous to Allegany County in the State of New York.

d. An Assistant District Attorney who ceases to be a resident of New York State, Allegany County, or a county contiguous to Allegany County shall be deemed to have resigned his or her employment and vacated the position.

e. In Allegany County, no provision of law, New York State or otherwise, which requires a person to be a resident of the political subdivision or municipal corporation of the State for which he or she shall be chosen, or within his or her official functions are required to be exercised, shall prevent a person from holding the office of Assistant Public Defender for Allegany County, provided that said person is not first in the line of succession to the Public Defender, and he or she resides in the State of New York and in a county contiguous to Allegany County in the State of New York.

f. An Assistant Public Defender who ceases to be a resident of New York State, Allegany County, or a contiguous county to Allegany County shall be deemed to have resigned his or her employment and vacated the position.

g. In Allegany County, no provision of law, New York State or otherwise, which requires a person to be a resident of the political subdivision or municipal corporation of the State for

which her or she shall be chosen, or within his or her official functions are required to be exercised, shall prevent a person from holding the office of Assistant Conflict Defender for Allegany County, provided that said person is not the first in line of succession to the Conflict Defender, and he or she resides in the State of New York and in a county contiguous to Allegany County in the State of New York.

h. An Assistant Conflict Defender who ceases to be a resident of New York State, Allegany County, or a contiguous county to Allegany County shall be deemed to have resigned his or her employment and vacated the position.

i. In Allegany County, no provision of law, New York State or otherwise, which requires a person to be a resident of the political subdivision or municipal corporation of the State for which he or she shall be chosen, or within his or her official functions are required to be exercised, shall prevent a person form holding the office of Social Services Attorney for Allegany County, provided that said person is not first in the line of succession to the County Attorney, and he or she resides in the State of New York and in a county contiguous to Allegany County in the State of New York.

Section 3. Public Officers Law – Superseded and/or Amended.

a. This Local Law is intended to supersede and/or amend Public Officers Law § 3(1), concerning the residency requirements for local public officers as the same concerns or effects the Office of Assistant County Attorney, Assistant District Attorney, Assistant Public Defender, Assistant Conflict Defender, and Social Services Attorney in Allegany County.

b. Public Officers Law § 3(1) requiring a person to be a resident of the political subdivision for which he or she is chosen shall not prevent a person from holding the Office of Assistant County Attorney of Allegany County provided that said person is not first in the line of succession to the County Attorney, and he or she resides in Allegany County or in a county contiguous to Allegany County provided the county is within the State of New York.

c. Public Officers Law § 3(1) requiring a person to be a resident of the political subdivision for which he or she is chosen shall not prevent a person from holding the Office of Assistant District Attorney of Allegany County provided that said person is not first in the line of succession to the District Attorney, and he or she resides in Allegany County or in a county contiguous to Allegany County provided the county is within the State of New York.

d. Public Officers Law § 3(1) requiring a person to be a resident of the political subdivision for which he or she is chosen shall not prevent a person from holding the Office of Assistant Public Defender of Allegany County provided that said person is not first in the line of succession to the Public Defender, and he or she resides in Allegany County or in a county contiguous to Allegany County provided the county is within the State of New York.

e. Public Officers Law § 3(1) requiring a person to be a resident of the political subdivision for which he or she is chosen shall not prevent a person from holding the Office of Assistant Conflict Defender of Allegany County provided that said person is not first in the line of succession to the Conflict Defender, and he or she resides in Allegany County or in a county contiguous to Allegany County provided the county is within the State of New York.

Section 4. Separability of Powers. If any clause, sentence, paragraph, subdivision, section, or part of this Local Law shall be adjudged by any court of competent jurisdiction to be invalid, such judgment, decree, or order shall not affect, impair, or invalidate the remainder thereof, but shall be confined in its operation of the clause, sentence, paragraph, subdivision, section, or part thereof directly involved in the controversy in which such judgment, decree, or order shall have been rendered.

Section 5. Effective Date. This Local Law shall take effect immediately upon filing and publication in accordance with Section 27 of the Municipal Home Rule Law.

Moved by: Mr. Stockin — Adopted: Roll Call
Seconded by: Mrs. Burdick — 14 Ayes, 0 Noes, 1 Absent

RESOLUTION NO. 368-26

RESOLUTION CALLING ON ALLEGANY COUNTY'S NEW YORK STATE LEGISLATIVE REPRESENTATIVES TO AMEND PUBLIC OFFICERS LAW SECTION 3 TO ENACT THE PROVISIONS OF ALLEGANY COUNTY LOCAL LAW ENTITLED "A LOCAL LAW AMENDING THE RESIDENCY REQUIREMENT SET FORTH IN PUBLIC OFFICERS LAW SECTION 3 FOR THE OFFICES OF ASSISTANT COUNTY ATTORNEY, ASSISTANT DISTRICT ATTORNEY, ASSISTANT PUBLIC DEFENDER, AND ASSISTANT CONFLICT DEFENDER IN THE COUNTY OF ALLEGANY"

Offered by: Ways & Means Committee

WHEREAS, Public Officers Law Section 3(1) requires that any person who is employed by the County and is considered a public officer must reside in Allegany County; and

WHEREAS, since the original adoption of Public Officers Law Section 3, the New York State Legislature has amended Public Officers Law Section 3 to amend the residency requirement for specific public officer titles in specific municipalities; and

WHEREAS, Allegany County has struggled with recruiting and retaining attorneys, who are responsible for legally protecting and supporting the public safety and welfare of its residents, and one of the barriers has been the residency requirement; and

WHEREAS, on September 23, 2026, the Allegany County Board of Legislators adopted a Local Law entitled "A Local Law Amending the Residency Requirement Set Forth in Public Officers Law Section 3 for the Offices of Assistant County Attorney, Assistant District Attorney, Assistant Public Defender, and Assistant Conflict Defender in the County of Allegany," which amended the residency requirement set forth in Public Officers Law Section 3(1) for the offices of Assistant County Attorney, Assistant District Attorney, Assistant Public Defender, and Assistant Conflict Defender who are not first in the line of succession to the County Attorney, District Attorney, Public Defender, or Conflict Defender, so that said persons can reside in either Allegany County or a county contiguous to Allegany County within the State of New York; and

WHEREAS, the Allegany County Board of Legislators now desires that the provisions of its Local Law be enacted in Public Officers Law Section 3 and calls upon its State Legislative Representatives to support an amendment to that effect; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED:

1. That the Allegany County Board of Legislators calls upon its State Legislative Representatives to amend Public Officers Law Section 3 to enact the provisions of the Local Law entitled "A Local Law Amending the Residency Requirement Set Forth in Public Officers Law Section 3 for the Offices of Assistant County Attorney, Assistant District Attorney, Assistant Public Defender, and Assistant Conflict Defender in the County of Allegany" so that the attorneys in the offices of the Assistant County Attorney, Assistant District Attorney, Assistant Public Defender, and Assistant Conflict Defender who are not first in line of succession to the County Attorney, District Attorney, Public Defender, or Conflict Defender, can reside in either Allegany County or a county contiguous to Allegany County within the State of New York.

2. That the Clerk of this Board is directed to send copies of this Resolution to Senator George M. Borrello, Senator Thomas F. O'Mara, and Assemblyman Joseph M. Sempolinksi.

Moved by: Mr. Stockin
Seconded by: Mrs. Burdick
Adopted: Voice Vote

RESOLUTION NO. 369-26

CREATION OF ONE FULL-TIME POSITION OF ACCOUNTANT IN THE OFFICE OF COMMUNITY SERVICES

Offered by: Personnel Committee

RESOLVED:

1. That one full-time position of Accountant (PEF, Grade 7) within the Office of Community Services is created.

2. That this resolution shall take effect September 24, 2026.

Moved by: Mr. Havey — Adopted: Roll Call
Seconded by: Mrs. Burdick — 14 Ayes, 0 Noes, 1 Absent

RESOLUTION NO. 370-26

CREATION OF ONE FULL-TIME POSITION OF MARKETING AND DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANT IN THE OFFICE OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Offered by: Personnel Committee

RESOLVED:

1. That one full-time position of Marketing and Development Assistant (General Government, Grade I) within the Office of Economic Development is created.

2. That the full-time position of Marketing and Development Assistant shall have a standard workday of seven hours.

3. That this resolution shall take effect September 24, 2026.

Moved by: Mr. Ricci — Adopted: Roll Call
Seconded by: Mrs. Hanchett — 14 Ayes, 0 Noes, 1 Absent

RESOLUTION NO. 371-26

CREATION OF ONE FULL-TIME POSITION OF DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY IN THE INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY DEPARTMENT

Offered by: Personnel Committee

RESOLVED:

1. That one full-time position of Deputy Director of Information Technology (General Government, Grade IV a) within the Information Technology Department is created.

2. That the full-time position of Deputy Director of Information Technology shall have a standard workday of seven hours.

3. That this resolution shall take effect September 24, 2026.

Moved by: Mrs. Burdick
Seconded by: Mr. Ricci

Adopted: Roll Call
14 Ayes, 0 Noes, 1 Absent

RESOLUTION NO. 372-26

APPROVAL OF GRANT APPLICATION TO THE NEW YORK STATE DIVISION OF CRIMINAL JUSTICE SERVICES 2026-2027 LAW ENFORCEMENT TECHNOLOGY (LETECH) GRANT PROGRAM FOR THE SHERIFF'S OFFICE

Offered by: Public Safety and Ways & Means Committees

WHEREAS, the County, through its Sheriff's Office, is requesting approval to apply for funding through the New York State Division of Criminal Justice Services 2026-2027 Law Enforcement Technology Grant Program; and

WHEREAS, these grant funds shall be used to purchase law enforcement technology, specifically upgrade existing license plate readers; and

WHEREAS, if approved, the total grant amount would be approximately $125,000; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED:

1. That the Sheriff's Office is authorized to act on behalf of the County of Allegany to apply for grant funds through the New York State Division of Criminal Justice Services 2026-2027 Law Enforcement Technology (LETECH) Grant Program.

Moved by: Mr. Havey
Seconded by: Mr. Whitney

Adopted: Roll Call
14 Ayes, 0 Noes, 1 Absent

A motion was made by Legislator Hanchett, seconded by Legislator Havey, and carried to block Resolution Nos. 373-26 through 375-26 together for voting purposes.

RESOLUTION NO. 373-26

ACCEPTANCE OF NEW YORK STATE DIVISION OF CRIMINAL JUSTICE SERVICES ARTICLE 13-A CLASSIFICATION/ALTERNATIVES TO INCARCERATION (ATI) GRANT FUNDS FOR THE PROBATION DEPARTMENT

Offered by: Public Safety Committee

WHEREAS, the County of Allegany, through its Probation Department, was awarded New York State Division of Criminal Justice Services Article 13-A classification/Alternatives to

Incarceration grant funds for a one-year term commencing on July 1, 2026, and remaining in effect through June 30, 2027, in the amount of $5,835; and

WHEREAS, these grant funds shall be used to offset Probation Department personnel expenses incurred by the County; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED:

1. That the New York State Division of Criminal Justice Services Article 13-A classification/Alternatives to Incarceration grant funds in the amount of $5,835 are accepted.

Moved by: Mr. Havey — Adopted: Roll Call
Seconded by: Mr. Whitney — 14 Ayes, 0 Noes, 1 Absent

RESOLUTION NO. 374-26

ACCEPTANCE AND APPROPRIATION OF NEW YORK STATE GOVERNOR'S TRAFFIC SAFETY COMMITTEE 2026 GRANT PROGRAM – CHILD PASSENGER SAFETY (CPS) FUNDS FOR THE SHERIFF'S OFFICE

Offered by: Public Safety and Ways & Means Committees

WHEREAS, the County of Allegany, through its Sheriff's Office, was awarded New York State Governor's Traffic Safety Committee 2026 Grant Program – Child Passenger Safety (CPS) funds for a one-year term commencing on October 1, 2026, and remaining in effect through September 30, 2027, in the amount of $3,830; and

WHEREAS, these grant funds shall be used to support child passenger safety programs in Allegany County, including car seat fitting stations, awareness trainings, car seat check events, and car seat education and distribution programs for low-income families; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED:

1. That the New York State Governor's Traffic Safety Committee 2026 Grant Program – Child Passenger Safety (CPS) funds in the amount of $3,830 are accepted.

2. That the grant funds of $3,830 shall be appropriated in the 2026 Budget as follows:

Appropriation:		Amount:
A3110.101	Regular Pay	$3,830

Revenue:		Amount:
A3110.3389.CPSG*	St Aid – Child Passenger Safety Grant	$3,830

Moved by: Mr. Havey — Adopted: Roll Call
Seconded by: Mr. Whitney — 14 Ayes, 0 Noes, 1 Absent

RESOLUTION NO. 375-26

ACCEPTANCE AND APPROPRIATION OF NEW YORK STATE GOVERNOR'S TRAFFIC SAFETY COMMITTEE 2026 GRANT PROGRAM – POLICE TRAFFIC SERVICES (PTS) FUNDS FOR THE SHERIFF'S OFFICE

Offered by: Public Safety and Ways & Means Committees

WHEREAS, the County of Allegany, through its Sheriff's Office was awarded New York State Governor's Traffic Safety Committee 2026 Grant Program – Police Traffic Services (PTS) funds for a one-year term commencing on October 1, 2026, and remaining in effect through September 30, 2027, in the amount of $5,950; and

WHEREAS, these grant funds shall be used to conduct traffic enforcement details with the goal of impacting motorist behavior and improving traffic safety within Allegany County communities; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED:

1. That the New York State Governor's Traffic Safety Committee 2026 Grant Program – Police Traffic Services (PTS) funds in the amount of $5,950 are accepted.

2. That the grant funds of $5,950 shall be appropriated in the 2026 Budget as follows:

Appropriations:		Amount:
A3110.101	Regular Pay	$4,800
A3110.201	Office Equipment	$1,150

Revenue:		Amount:
A3110.3389.PTSG*	St Aid – Police Traffic Services Grant	$5,950

Moved by: Mr. Havey — Adopted: Roll Call
Seconded by: Mr. Whitney — 14 Ayes, 0 Noes, 1 Absent

RESOLUTION NO. 376-26

ACCEPTANCE AND APPROPRIATION OF GRANT FUNDS AND APPROVAL OF GRANT AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE COUNTY OF ALLEGANY AND THE NEW YORK STATE DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS' SERVICES FOR THE MENTAL HEALTH FIRST AID PROGRAM GRANT FOR MILITARY, VETERANS AND THEIR FAMILIES FOR THE

VETERANS' SERVICE AGENCY; AUTHORIZING THE CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD TO EXECUTE SAID GRANT AGREEMENT

Offered by: Personnel and Ways & Means Committees

WHEREAS, the County of Allegany, through its Veterans' Service Agency, received a New York State Department of Veterans' Services Mental Health First Aid Program Grant for Military, Veterans, and their families in the amount of $10,000; and

WHEREAS, these grant funds shall be used to provide seven statewide Mental Health First Aid trainings and cover the costs of training materials, travel expenses, and other associated training expenditures; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED:

1. That the Grant Agreement between the County of Allegany and the New York State Department of Veterans' Services for the Mental Health First Aid Program Grant for Military, Veterans, and their families for the Veterans' Service Agency in the amount of $10,000 is accepted.

2. That the grant funds of $10,000 shall be appropriated in the 2026 Budget as follows:

Appropriation:		Amount:
A6510.474	Economic Opp & Dev Cont.	$10,000
Revenue:		
A6510.3710.MHFA	ST Aid – Veterans MHFA	$10,000

3. That the Chairman of this Board is authorized to execute said Grant Agreement subject to the review and approval of its terms and conditions by the County Attorney.

Moved by: Mr. Ricci — Adopted: Roll Call
Seconded by: Mr. Havey — 14 Ayes, 0 Noes, 1 Absent

RESOLUTION NO. 377-26

TRANSFER OF FUNDS WITHIN OFFICE OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT ACCOUNTS

Offered by: Public Safety Committee

RESOLVED:

1. That the sum of $2,175 shall be transferred from Account No. A3676.405 (HS OES EMPG FY 24 – Conference Expense) to Account No. A3676.207 (HS OES EMPG FY 24– Emergency Services).

Moved by: Mr. Havey — Adopted: Roll Call
Seconded by: Mr. Whitney — 14 Ayes, 0 Noes, 1 Absent

A motion was made by Legislator Whitney seconded by Legislator Ricci, and carried to block Resolution Nos. 378-26 through 380-26 together for voting purposes.

RESOLUTION NO. 378-26

APPROVAL OF RENEWAL OF INTERMUNICIPAL AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE COUNTY OF ALLEGANY AND MONROE COUNTY FOR MEDICOLEGAL DEATH INVESTIGATION SERVICES AND FORENSIC PATHOLOGY SERVICES THROUGH THE MONROE COUNTY MEDICAL EXAMINER'S OFFICE; AUTHORIZING THE CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD TO EXECUTE SAID AGREEMENT

Offered by: Public Safety Committee

Pursuant to County Law Section 675

RESOLVED:

1. That the renewal of the Intermunicipal Agreement between the County of Allegany and Monroe County for medicolegal death investigation services and forensic pathology services through the Monroe County Medical Examiner's Office, for a two-year term commencing on January 1, 2027, and remaining in effect through December 31, 2028, is approved.

2. That the County shall pay Monroe County for the services performed during the term of this Agreement in accordance with the prevailing rates for said services approved in the Monroe County Legislature's Budgets, and listed in the Public Health – Medical Examiner Fees and Charges schedule.

3. That the Chairman of this Board is authorized to execute said Agreement subject to the review and approval of its terms and conditions by the County Attorney.

Moved by: Mr. Havey — Adopted: Roll Call
Seconded by: Mr. Whitney — 14 Ayes, 0 Noes, 1 Absent

RESOLUTION NO. 379-26

APPROVAL OF RENEWAL OF AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE COUNTY OF ALLEGANY AND NMS LABS FOR FORENSIC LABORATORY SERVICES; AUTHORIZING THE CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD TO EXECUTE SAID AGREEMENT

Offered by: Public Safety Committee

Pursuant to County Law Section 675

RESOLVED:

1. That the renewal of the Agreement between the County of Allegany and NMS Labs for forensic laboratory services as ordered by the Allegany County Coroners and contracted medical examiners, for a two-year term commencing on January 1, 2027, and remaining in effect through December 31, 2028, is approved.

2. That the County shall pay NMS Labs for the services performed during the term of the Agreement at the rates set forth and agreed upon herein.

3. That the Chairman of this Board is authorized to execute said Agreement subject to the review and approval of its terms and conditions by the County Attorney.

Moved by: Mr. Havey — Adopted: Roll Call
Seconded by: Mr. Whitney — 14 Ayes, 0 Noes, 1 Absent

RESOLUTION NO. 380-26

APPROVAL OF RENEWAL OF AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE COUNTY OF ALLEGANY AND OLEAN GENERAL HOSPITAL FOR AUTOPSY, MEDICAL LABORATORY, AND PATHOLOGY SERVICES; AUTHORIZING THE CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD TO EXECUTE SAID AGREEMENT

Offered by: Public Safety Committee

Pursuant to County Law Section 675

RESOLVED:

1. That the renewal of the Agreement between the County of Allegany and Olean General Hospital for autopsy, medical laboratory, and pathology services, for a two-year term commencing on January 1, 2027, and remaining in effect through December 31, 2028, is approved.

2. That the County shall pay Olean General Hospital for the services performed during the term of the Agreement at the rates set forth and agreed upon therein.

3. That the Chairman of this Board is authorized to execute said Agreement subject to the review and approval of its terms and conditions by the County Attorney.

Moved by: Mr. Havey — Adopted: Roll Call
Seconded by: Mr. Whitney — 14 Ayes, 0 Noes, 1 Absent

RESOLUTION NO. 381-26

APPROVAL OF AMENDMENT TO AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE COUNTY OF ALLEGANY AND WATCHDOG BUILDING PARTNERS, LLC, FOR ADDITIONAL CONSTRUCTION MANAGEMENT SERVICES FOR THE TRUCK STORAGE BUILDING FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS; AUTHORIZING THE CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD TO EXECUTE SAID AGREEMENT

Offered by: Public Works Committee

RESOLVED:

1. That the Amendment to the Agreement between the County of Allegany and Watchdog Building Partners, LLC, for additional construction management services for the truck storage building for the Department of Public Works, for a term commencing upon the date of execution of this Agreement by the parties and remaining in effect until completion of the project, is approved.

2. That the County of Allegany shall pay Watchdog Building Partners, LLC, a maximum sum not to exceed $29,500 for the services provided during the term of this Agreement.

3. That the Chairman of this Board is authorized to execute said Amendment of the Agreement subject to the review and approval of its terms and conditions by the County Attorney.

Moved by: Mr. Demick — Adopted: Roll Call
Seconded by: Mr. LaForge — 14 Ayes, 0 Noes, 1 Absent

RESOLUTION NO. 382-26

APPROVAL OF GRANT APPLICATION TO NEW YORK STATE OFFICE OF INDIGENT LEGAL SERVICES 3RD FAMILY DEFENSE QUALITY IMPROVEMENT & CASELOAD REDUCTION GRANT FOR ADDITIONAL FUNDS FOR THE OFFICES OF THE PUBLIC DEFENDER AND THE CONFLICT DEFENDER

Offered by: Public Safety Committee

WHEREAS, the County, through its Offices of the Public Defender and the Conflict Defender, is requesting approval to apply for additional funding through the New York State Office of Indigent Legal Services 3rd Family Defense Quality Improvement & Caseload Reduction Grant; and

WHEREAS, the grant funds would be used to improve legal representation in Family Court through addressing caseload relief, timely access to counsel, and training and infrastructure needs; and

WHEREAS, if approved, the grant would be in the amount of up to $500,000 over the next three years; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED:

1. That the Offices of the Public Defender and the Conflict Defender are authorized to act on behalf of the County of Allegany to apply for additional funds through the New York State Office of Indigent Legal Services 3rd Family Defense Quality Improvement & Caseload Reduction Grant.

Moved by: Mr. Havey — Adopted: Roll Call
Seconded by: Mr. Whitney — 14 Ayes, 0 Noes, 1 Absent

AUDITS:

A motion was made by Legislator Stockin, seconded by Legislator Havey, and carried, that the audits be acted upon collectively and by totals.

A motion was made by Legislator Hanchett, seconded by Legislator Ricci, and adopted on a roll call vote of 14 Ayes, 0 Noes, 1 Absent, that the audit of claims, totaling $5,251,156.07 including prepaid expenses, be approved for payment as recommended by the County Administrator. *(Allegany County's Local Dollar Share of the NYS Medicaid Program paid year-to-date is $7,676,696.)*

GOOD OF THE ORDER:

Legislator LaForge reported that he had been contacted by James Lucey, Town of Ward Supervisor, regarding notices reportedly being sent by Verizon advising customers that landline service would be terminated effective December 1. Both Legislator LaForge and Chairman Harris expressed serious concern regarding the potential impacts on our rural communities, noting that many residents lack reliable internet and cellular service and continue to depend on landlines, particularly for emergency communications and public safety.

Chairman Harris suggested that the Board make its concerns known to the Public Service Commission (PSC) and state elected representatives, including Governor Hochul.

Chairman Harris asked County Administrator Knapp to gather additional information regarding the matter, including the status of any proposal before the PSC and the anticipated timetable for its consideration, and to forward that information to the Board.

It was noted that, depending upon the timeframe, the Board could consider a resolution or other correspondence expressing its concerns regarding the potential loss of landline service in rural areas of the County.

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting was adjourned at 2:29 p.m. on a motion made by Legislator Whitney, seconded by Legislator Hanchett, and carried.