

## **BUDGET COMMITTEE**

**August 17, 2022**

**Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order at 1:30 p.m. by Budget Committee Chairman Brooke Harris.

**Roll Call:** B. Harris, D. Healy, J. Burdick, K. Demick, S. Havey, J. Ricci, P. Stockin, (Absent: D. Fanton)

**Other Attendees:** G. Barnes, T. Boyde, A. Carrow, S. Cicirello, A. Cyr, G. Hanchett, K. Hooker, C. Jones, C. Knapp, T. Linn, J. Ricketts-Swales, B. Riehle, T. Ross, J. Rumpfelt, R. Whitney

### **Approval of Minutes:**

A motion was made by Legislator Havey, seconded by Legislator Ricci, and carried to approve the July 20, 2022, Budget Committee minutes.

### **Sales Tax Report**

County Treasurer Terri Ross distributed the 2022 Allegany County Sales Tax Report reflecting net receipts totaling \$16,735,250.21 through August 17, 2022. The year-to-date figures show gross receipts had an increase of \$808,913.06, or 5.006 percent more compared to last year at this time, with net collections up approximately 3.563 percent. Ms. Ross stated that they did not see the distressed hospital amount come out as anticipated and she has reached out for clarification but has not received an answer at this time. Ms. Ross stated that approximately \$35,000 would have typically been taken out for that purpose. Committee Chairman Harris asked if Ms. Ross received further clarification on the large State reconciliation. Ms. Ross stated that she was unable to get clarification because Dave Lucas had a family issue, but she hopes to receive an update at September's NYSAC conference. Committee Chairman Harris asked if the State is planning to change the formula to avoid these large swings. Ms. Ross stated that the calculations are so complicated that she does not anticipate they will change the formula but it is always a possibility. County Administrator Carissa Knapp asked if the increase in Sales Tax was taken from points of sale or inflation, and that a 5 percent increase seems to point to inflation. Ms. Knapp stated that she wondered if our points of sale are even similar to pre-COVID-19. Ms. Ross stated that she has not received any statistical details but the Statewide increase is higher than 5 percent. Committee Chairman Harris asked if they track the quantity of the points of sale. Ms. Knapp stated that NYSAC typically provides an annual general breakdown of the points of sale. Ms. Ross stated that NYSAC generally provides a breakdown of categories such as recreation, restaurants, gasoline, and online but they have not seen that at all this year. Ms. Knapp stated that the breakdown is done by total sales dollars and percentages and not by the total items sold. Ms. Ross stated that Dave Lucas is trying to prepare an analysis of the Sales Tax swings during COVID-19 starting from 2019.

### **Old Business**

Ms. Ross presented the proposed procedures and timetable in preparation for the 2023 Budget. Ms. Ross stated that this is intended as a reminder of where we are in the Budget process. Ms. Ross stated that they are currently reviewing the estimated budgets that were submitted by individual departments. Ms. Ross asked to schedule a day in September when she can present the department budget estimates for review by the Budget committee. Committee Chairman Harris asked if there would be any benefit to holding the public hearings near the beginning of September. Ms. Knapp stated that they typically prepare all of the materials for review by the second week of September. Committee Chairman Harris asked if the end of September is better. Ms. Ross stated that our regular committee meetings would have been held on September 21, but that is being shifted to September 22 due to the NYSAC conference that week. Ms. Ross suggested that the meeting be scheduled for Tuesday, September 27, 2022. Ms. Knapp explained that the Budget Hearings are an informal question and answer period with the Department Heads that allows extra participation by this Board which is an extra layer in the process that other counties don't involve their Board in.

**Adjournment**

There being no further business to come before the Committee, the meeting was adjourned at 1:41 p.m. following a motion by Legislator Healy, seconded by Legislator Ricci, and carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Tiffany Linn, Confidential Secretary  
Allegany County Board of Legislators