

Chair Forsythe called the Special Board Meeting to order at 5:15 p.m.

ROLL CALL – All Legislators were present with the exception of Mr. Fay, Mr. Gennett, and Ms. Terminelli.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA – Ms. Curran moved to approve the agenda, seconded by Mr. Smithers and Mr. Webster, and carried by a voice vote with twelve (12) yes votes, and three (3) absent (Fay, Gennett, and Terminelli).

PRESENTATION OF RESOLUTIONS:

October 28, 2024

RESOLUTION NO. 308-2024

AUTHORIZING A PROPOSAL FOR TWO COURT-BASED MENTAL HEALTH NAVIGATORS AWARDED BY NYS OFFICE OF MENTAL HEALTH FOR ST. LAWRENCE COUNTY

By Mr. Hull, Chair, Services Committee

WHEREAS, the New York State Office of Mental Health has awarded two Mental Health Court Navigators for St. Lawrence County; these Navigators will support justice-involved individuals with mental health needs who are currently in the community, and the Navigators will coordinate voluntary care for justice-involved individuals to support their health, wellness, and recovery, and

WHEREAS, the idea is for these Navigators to work within the courts and interface closely with community partners to foster the connection to services and encourage engagement and participation, and

WHEREAS, the proposal, if approved, would initially target County Court, and subsequently expand to support other courts as appropriate based on the census of referred individuals and staff capacity, and

WHEREAS, if approved, the funding will be reoccurring, very similar to the Child and Family Support Team also embedded in the Local Government Unit,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Legislators authorizes a proposal for two court-based Mental Health Navigators awarded by NYS Office of Mental Health for St. Lawrence County.

Mr. Perkins moved to adopt Resolution No. 308-2024, seconded by Ms. Curran and Mr. Burke, and carried by a voice vote with twelve (12) yes votes, and three (3) absent (Fay, Gennett, and

Terminelli).

October 28, 2024

RESOLUTION NO. 309-2024

**AUTHORIZING THE REPLACEMENT OF THE CHILLER IN THE
1993 COURTHOUSE AS A PART OF THE COURTHOUSE IMPROVEMENT
PROJECT AND MODIFYING THE 2024 BUDGET FOR THE
COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR'S OFFICE**

By Mr. Denesha, District 6; Mr. Lightfoot, District 3; and Mr. Webster, District 11

WHEREAS, on December 22, 2023, Governor Hochul signed legislation that would provide additional judges across the State of New York and included in that legislation was one (1) additional Family Court Judge for St. Lawrence County, and

WHEREAS, the County began the design process in January 2024 and during the spring the Chiller in the 1993 Court House failed and is in need of replacement, and

WHEREAS, since failure the county has rented chiller to provide environmental control of the 1993 courthouse until a replacement can be acquired, and

WHEREAS, the Buildings and Grounds Committee reviewed the Project and recommends that the Chiller be replaced as a part of the Capital Project to renovate the first floor of the 1993 Court House and as a result of displaced county departments, make renovations to the second floor as well, and

WHEREAS, the recommendation to replace the Chiller including the installation of a Building Maintenance System that would provide the ability to monitor the system remotely and make modest adjustments to the environment which is not possible at this time, and

WHEREAS, this request is being submitted at this time due to the elongated build out timeline of over six (6) months to be ready when the Project is underway and avoid unnecessary delays associated with delivery and installation,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Legislators authorizes the replacement of the Chiller in the 1993 Court House and modifying the 2024 Budget for the County Administrator's Office as follows:

Mr. Denesha moved to adopt Resolution No. 309-2024, seconded by Mr. Perkin, Ms. Curran, and Mr. Lightfoot.

Mr. Smithers asked for clarification on what this piece of equipment does, and justification for the purchase.

Mr. Denesha said the original chiller failed, and the County had to rent a replacement unit. The chiller is an intricate part of the HVAC system of the courthouse, which is critical to the courts. This is a specialized piece of equipment, and the lead time to purchase one is at least six (6) months. He said if this does not get ordered soon, the County will continue to rely on the rental

unit.

Mr. Smithers asked how large of an area this unit serves. Ms. Doyle said the chiller covers the 1993 section of the courthouse, and the rental unit costs \$12,000 a month. The old chiller was thirty-two (32) years old; the new unit will have a warranty and a maintenance contract.

Mr. Lightfoot said costs a lot to replace the chiller, but he did some research and found that considering the scope of the job, a million dollars was not out of line. He said he is in favor of this resolution.

Ms. Curran said this unit will pay for itself in eight (8) years, and she is in favor of the resolution.

Mr. Denesha said the lifetime of this unit is thirty (30) years.

Mr. Hull asked what the annual cost of the maintenance would be, and Ms. Doyle will get the information and send it to the Legislators.

Mr. Webster said he understands it is a lot of money, but there is a lot to this, and the efficiency of a new chiller will be so much better.

Mr. Denesha said he agrees with Mr. Webster and that the replacement unit will include variable frequency drives.

Resolution No. 309-2024 was adopted by a roll call vote with twelve (12) yes votes, and three (3) absent (Fay, Gennett, and Terminelli).

ADJOURNMENT – Chair Forsythe adjourned the October 28, 2024, Special Board Meeting at 5:31 p.m., as there was no further business.