



# Onondaga County Legislature

**JAMIE McNAMARA**  
Clerk

**JAMES J. ROWLEY**  
Chairman

**TAMMY BARBER**  
Deputy Clerk

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## WAYS & MEANS COMMITTEE MINUTES – NOVEMBER 28, 2023 BRIAN F. MAY, CHAIR

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Mr. Ryan, Mr. Burtis, Ms. Abbott, Mr. Knapp

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** Mr. Kinne, Mrs. Ervin

**ALSO ATTENDING:** Chairman Rowley, Mr. McCarron; also see attached

Chair May called the meeting to order at 11:41 a.m., and the previous meeting's minutes were approved.

**1. EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT:** Daniel Wears, Commissioner

**a. Amending the 2023 County Budget to Accept Grant Funds from the Federal Department of Transportation for the County Department of Emergency Management to Develop and Implement Plans for Improved Preparation and Reports Concerning Hazardous Materials Incidents Involving Pipelines (\$121,000) (Sponsored by Mr. Olson)**

- Receive grant money from US DOT
- Pipeline emergency response grant, on behalf of Onondaga, Madison, Oswego counties and city of Syracuse
  - Worked together on application
- Purpose of grant to hire contractor to design and conduct table top exercises related to hazmat incidents involving pipelines in each one of the partnering counties; all part of Regional Hazardous Response Team
- Team will be involved in scope of work before it goes to RFP; about 1 year or so to get everything completed
- The grant requires that the hazmat incident involve pipelines, whether it is gas or another chemical traversing through a pipeline; will look at options and might be in scope of work
- WEP pipelines are not considered hazardous material by DOT

*A motion was made by Mr. Knapp, seconded by Mr. Ryan, to approve this item. Passed unanimously; MOTION CARRIED.*

- Emergency Management is still waiting on the switch gear to be able to move; expected to ship this month, so moving by the first of the year

**2. COUNTY CLERK:** Chris Plochocki, Deputy County Clerk

**a. Mortgage Tax Apportionment**

- April – September of this year; total apportionment is \$5,124,834.04
- Down 1% from previous report; down 22% from same period last year, but still looking at historically high numbers

*A motion was made by Mr. Knapp, seconded by Mr. Burtis, to approve this item. Passed unanimously; MOTION CARRIED.*

**3. FINANCE:** Don Weber, Director of Real Property Tax

**a. Denying the Application for Correction of Certain Errors on Tax Bills**

- First time having a denial; property owners believe their parcels were taxed incorrectly and Real Property disagrees
- First parcel is a restaurant that was assessed lower this year; because of this the owner felt it was over assessed for previous years, which is not how it works

- Salina parcel is property owner that argued to be included in the town trash district when it was created, but now does not want to pay for trash; town is saying that this property is in the district and has to pay

*A motion was made by Mr. Knapp, seconded by Mr. Burtis, to approve this item. Passed unanimously; MOTION CARRIED.*

**b. Approving and Directing the Correction of Certain Errors on Tax Bills**

- Tax bills recommending to approve over \$2,500; all legitimate errors to be corrected

*A motion was made by Ms. Abbott, seconded by Mr. Knapp, to approve this item. Passed unanimously; MOTION CARRIED.*

**c. Delegation of Authority to Approve Corrections to Tax Bills Resulting in Refunds or Credits Not Exceeding \$2,500**

- Annual resolution that gives CFO authority to approve tax corrections under \$2,500; otherwise have to come to Legislature for approval
- Every month there is a report filed with the Legislature for these

*A motion was made by Mr. Knapp, seconded by Mr. Burtis, to approve this item. Passed unanimously; MOTION CARRIED.*

**d. Bloody Brook Drainage District Tax – General Apportionment**

**e. Bloody Brook Drainage District Tax Town of Clay Apportionment**

**f. Bloody Brook Drainage District Tax Town of Salina Apportionment**

**g. Bear Trap – Ley Creek Drainage District Tax – General Apportionment**

**h. Bear Trap – Ley Creek Drainage District Tax Town of Clay Apportionment**

**i. Bear Trap – Ley Creek Drainage District Tax Town of DeWitt Apportionment**

**j. Bear Trap – Ley Creek Drainage District Tax Town of Salina Apportionment**

**k. Authorizing General Apportionment of Harbor Brook Drainage District Tax**

**l. Harbor Brook Drainage District Tax Town of Geddes**

**m. Meadowbrook Drainage District Tax General Apportionment**

**n. Meadowbrook Drainage District Tax Town of DeWitt Apportionment**

**o. 2023 City Drainage District Abstract**

**p. Onondaga County Sanitary District, 2024 City Abstract**

**q. Onondaga County Sanitary District General Apportionment**

**r. Allocation of 2024 Onondaga County Water District Special Assessment Among Zones of Assessment and Fixing Composite Rates for the Several Towns and the City of Syracuse within said District**

**s. Onondaga County Water District 2023 City Abstract**

**t. Calling for a Public Hearing on the Assessment Roll for Southwood-Jamesville Water District (December 19, 2023 at 12:55 p.m.)**

**u. Calling for a Public Hearing on the Assessment Roll for Warners Water District (December 19, 2023 at 12:57 p.m.)**

- All dollars are approved; this apportions amounts due amongst towns and city; establishing rates for drainage and water districts; also setting 2 public hearings

*A motion was made by Mr. Knapp, seconded by Mr. Ryan, to approve this item. Passed unanimously; MOTION CARRIED.*

The meeting was adjourned at 11:49 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,



JAMIE McNAMARA, Clerk  
Onondaga County Legislature

### ATTENDANCE

COMMITTEE: **WAYS & MEANS**

DATE: **NOVEMBER 28, 2023**

NAME (Please Print)	DEPARTMENT/AGENCY
Chris Pochades	County Clerk
Don Wilber	Tax
Kristi Smiley	Finance
MOISE LAUB	finance
Dan Weary	EM
Paul Rano	
Maurice Brown	
Darcie Lemick	Leg
Tim Tratschi	Leg
John DeBarto	leg
Tim Bebe	Legg
Steve Morgan	CFO