

COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS

Human Services Development Complex

Minutes from 1-27-2016

Present:

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> John VanSoest-Town of Catharine | <input type="checkbox"/> Brandon Theetge-Town of Cayuta |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Harold Russell-Town of Dix | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Alvin White-Town of Hector |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Irene Shellman-Town of Orange | <input type="checkbox"/> David Scott-Town of Montour |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Gary Conklin-Town of Reading | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Donald Desrochers -Town of Tyrone |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Dale Walter-Village of Burdett | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> John King-Village of Montour Falls |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Keith Pierce – Village of Odessa | <input type="checkbox"/> Sam Schimizzi-Village of Watkins Glen |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Dennis Fagan-Chairman Schuyler Co. Legis. | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Tim O’Hearn-County Administrator |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Peggy Tomassi-Schuyler County | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> J.F. Winkler, M.D., Health Officer |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Rebekah LaMoreaux – WG Area Chamber of Commerce | |

Other: Barb Halpin & Jim Howell, SC Legislature

Call to order – 7:06PM

Health Officer Reports – Dr. Winkler shared that the flu is sporadic thus far. The [Zika Virus](#), spread to people by mosquitos, is rising in cases most prevalent in Central America. The outbreak is further spread to other countries by persons who visit Central America countries. Most harmful to pregnant women who are giving birth to babies with birth defects.

Nomination/Selection of Officers 2016 – Motion for slate made by Tim; seconded by Alvin. Unanimously approved.

President – John King.
Vice President – John VanSoest.
Secretary – Peggy Tomassi.

Representation on SCOPED – The SCOPED Board is representative of both private and public entities. They would like COG to recommend representation of the public slots; two Town & two Village Representatives with a term of one year.

Rental Inspection Law Update – (handout) John King spoke of how the Village of Montour Falls has implemented Rental Property Regulations of rental properties to protect the character and stability of residential areas while preserving the value of land and buildings for the village and owners. These regulations promote housing conditions ensuring safety, health and well-being of persons occupying the dwellings. Implementing these regulations is being done in 3 parts: registration, inspection, empty & abandoned properties. Non-compliant Landlords will face penalties. NYS Law is not strong enough therefore local laws add a layer of safety checks. Property owners are in support of these regulations.

2016 Goals – The group determines the goals. Email John King & Tim O’Hearn with ideas that will foster further discussion. General political will need to be present to consider any studies for shared services or consolidations.

Sales Tax Distribution – (handout) 2015 fared well although the very last payment consisted of an adjustment from a previous payment decreasing the amount earned. The budget recognizes an increase in sales tax of approximately \$100,000. Having a concert in 2015 played a major factor with the increase in sales tax. The formula of distribution to towns is capped at 2 million to be looked at every 5 years.

Around the Table-

Alvin White – relayed that legal fees incurred due to changes in tax assessments should be shared between Town and County.

Jim Howell – Soil & Water Conservation banquet in February 5th.

Tim O’Hearn – The IDA is providing training on Board Member Roles. A local training could benefit our local IDA representatives. Group stated March would be a good month to have the training.

Next meeting: April 20, 2016.

Adjourn

COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS
Human Services Development Complex
Minutes from 4-20-2016

Present:

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> John VanSoest-Town of Catharine | <input type="checkbox"/> Brandon Theetge-Town of Cayuta |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Harold Russell-Town of Dix | <input type="checkbox"/> Alvin White-Town of Hector |
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| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Peggy Tomassi-Schuyler County | <input type="checkbox"/> J.F. Winkler, M.D., Health Officer |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Rebekah LaMoreaux – WG Area Chamber of Commerce | |

Other: Jim Howell, SC Legislature, Jim Ryan, Jay Kelly

Call to order – 7:07PM

Health Officer Report –

Code Enforcement Housing Issues/DSS – (Handout) JoAnn Fratarcangelo, Commissioner of DSS – The Department of Social Services assist clients with rents to local landlords. As DSS does not have contracts with local landlords, it is up to the client seeking housing to find appropriate housing. At times, conditions of the housing are substandard. Therefore, the DSS is asking the Towns & Village Code Enforcement personnel to collaborate ensuring safe housing for their clients. DSS does not have the legal authority or education to conduct safety inspections. Social Services Law 143B allows DSS the power to withhold rents when a residence is not up to code. This causes issues with clients living arrangements. DSS will further educate their clients to recognize unsafe situations and what recourse they have to obtain a safe environment. DSS will make contact with Code Enforcement personnel to inspect rental properties prior to clients taking residence. Montour Falls Rental Registration Law covers the rental inspection issue as long as the landlord has registered the residence.

Shared Service Grant Opportunities – Tim O’Hearn shared that infrastructure dollars are available. Sewer & water infrastructures fall in the criteria of the funds. If the County can assist anyone interested in obtaining these funds, get in contact with Tim.

Sales Tax Distribution – (handout) Dennis Fagan shared that the first quarter results which he contributes to a calm winter. Schuyler County ranked 22 out of 50 for growth. Tim O’Hearn stated the adjustments from prior years contributed to an increase of \$29,000 and will be reflected in April.

Around the Table-

Gary Conklin – Expressed his frustration with Crestwood arrests and court proceedings.

Dale Walters – Burdett Fire Department will move forward.

Jim Howell – Highway Tour of roads & upcoming projects.

John King – MF will have a Farmers Market beginning May 1st and each Thursday thereafter on Main Street from 6-8pm. Ideas of topics to discuss at COG meetings should be shared with John and Tim.

Next meeting: July 27, 2016.

Adjourn



SCHUYLER COUNTY
DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES
Human Services Complex
323 Owego Street, Unit 3
Montour Falls, NY 14865
(607) 535-8303

JoAnn S. Fratarcangelo
Commissioner

Michele Wasicki
Deputy Commissioner

Council of Governments
April 20, 2016

Criteria for withholding rent due to health and safety violations

Social Services Law 143-b "Spiegel Act," allows a district to withhold the payment of rent, on behalf of a Public Assistance recipient, under certain circumstances, including when there are housing conditions which are dangerous, hazardous, or detrimental to life and health of recipient.

In order to use this law, the cooperation of local code enforcement agencies is necessary to document the nature and severity of the code violation.

Withholding of shelter payments pursuant to the Spiegel act gives the recipient an absolute defense against the landlord's eviction based on non-payment of rent.

When the Spiegel Act has been invoked by the Social Service District, the Social Service District must advise the Public Assistance recipient.

If legal action has been initiated by the landlord, the Social Service District must notify the recipient.

If the actual rent exceeds the shelter allowance, the Social Service District may withhold only the amount of the shelter allowance, unless the recipient gives permission for the district to withhold the actual amount of rent.

In order for the Social Services District to withhold rent under the Spiegel Act, the district must have knowledge there is an outstanding housing code violation that is dangerous, hazardous or detrimental to life or health.

In order to have knowledge, the Social Service District must obtain a copy of the violation report from the appropriate code enforcement agency that specifies that the violations are dangerous, hazardous or detrimental to life or health.

The Social Service District cannot withhold rent without the determination from the code enforcement agency.

If the Recipient alleges such a violation or the Social Service District suspects such a violation, the recipient or the district can make a request that the code enforcement agency

do an inspection of the property to determine if there is a serious violation that meets this criteria.



Schuyler County

Sales Tax History 2016

County Share of Sales Tax (80%)



Prepared: 04/21/16
By: H. Vickio

	Actual Payments from NYS for Sales Tax Revenues					2016 County Share	Budget #'s are previous year's actual % of year X Budgeted Tax Revenues	% TO BUDGET
	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2016	2016 BUDGET	
JANUARY	458,484.08	490,789.00	419,982.87	480,407.86	497,175.31	397,740.25		
	138,552.98	148,162.94	127,424.78	111,302.45	181,529.62	145,223.70		
TOTAL JANUARY	597,037.06	638,951.94	547,407.65	591,710.31	678,704.93	542,963.95	482,003.44	112.65%
FEBRUARY	400,037.82	427,596.79	373,243.46	396,895.76	416,595.49	333,276.39		
	97,048.06	128,582.29	104,792.75	100,760.60	103,234.12	82,587.30		
TOTAL FEBRUARY	497,085.88	556,179.08	478,036.21	497,656.36	519,829.61	415,863.69	405,387.70	102.58%
MARCH	355,387.70	291,272.15	91,450.20	304,931.37	315,742.01	252,593.61		
	591,703.19	479,585.10	813,941.10	617,582.75	572,414.45	457,931.56		
TOTAL MARCH	947,090.89	770,857.25	905,391.30	922,514.12	888,156.46	710,525.17	751,474.12	94.55%
TOTAL 1ST QTR	2,041,213.83	1,965,988.27	1,930,835.16	2,011,880.79	2,086,691.00	1,669,352.81	1,638,865.25	
APRIL	470,581.46	522,107.40	513,190.58	458,787.37	0.00	0.00		
	107,612.57	112,687.69	140,588.68	164,876.53	0.00	0.00		
TOTAL APRIL	578,194.03	634,795.09	653,779.26	623,663.90	0.00	0.00	508,032.63	0.00%
MAY	475,222.83	506,946.76	517,497.46	548,967.27	0.00	0.00		
	113,679.66	115,610.13	120,641.43	131,872.44	0.00	0.00		
TOTAL MAY	588,902.49	622,556.89	638,138.89	680,839.71	0.00	0.00	554,607.68	0.00%
JUNE	315,000.00	315,000.00	318,000.00	321,000.00	0.00	0.00		
	414,846.48	422,318.37	433,926.61	435,403.46	0.00	0.00		
	462,382.44	289,187.93	403,867.47	360,345.94	0.00	0.00		
TOTAL JUNE	1,192,228.92	1,026,506.30	1,155,794.08	1,116,749.40	0.00	0.00	909,696.94	0.00%
TOTAL 2ND QTR	2,359,325.44	2,283,858.28	2,447,712.23	2,421,253.01	0.00	0.00	1,972,337.25	
TOTAL YEAR TO DATE	4,400,539.27	4,249,846.55	4,378,547.39	4,433,133.80	2,086,691.00	1,669,352.81	3,611,202.50	
JULY	700,899.73	703,057.74	703,057.74	774,722.05	0.00	0.00		
	156,647.73	162,376.05	208,943.78	193,440.45	0.00	0.00		
TOTAL JULY	857,547.46	865,433.79	912,001.52	968,162.50	0.00	0.00	788,659.00	0.00%
AUGUST	711,659.06	705,076.83	732,597.20	770,077.62	0.00	0.00		
	154,020.87	158,595.52	184,501.21	200,068.11	0.00	0.00		
TOTAL AUGUST	865,679.93	863,672.35	917,098.41	970,145.73	0.00	0.00	790,274.52	0.00%
SEPTEMBER	639,407.57	661,733.25	659,778.55	686,709.59	0.00	0.00		
	573,577.52	641,830.77	668,839.37	812,780.39	0.00	0.00		
TOTAL SEPTEMBER	1,212,985.09	1,303,564.02	1,328,617.92	1,499,489.98	0.00	0.00	1,221,474.97	0.00%
TOTAL 3RD QTR	2,936,212.48	3,032,670.16	3,157,717.85	3,437,798.21	0.00	0.00	2,800,408.49	
TOTAL YEAR TO DATE	7,336,751.75	7,282,516.71	7,536,265.24	7,870,932.01	2,086,691.00	1,669,352.81	6,411,610.99	
OCTOBER	522,593.03	531,592.76	561,496.66	603,014.18	0.00	0.00		
	109,170.33	116,217.35	154,428.06	119,942.20	0.00	0.00		
TOTAL OCTOBER	631,763.36	647,810.11	715,924.72	722,956.38	0.00	0.00	588,915.65	0.00%
NOVEMBER	499,647.12	535,709.46	560,083.44	582,648.79	0.00	0.00		
	105,735.23	131,766.78	160,408.48	135,879.59	0.00	0.00		
TOTAL NOVEMBER	605,382.35	667,476.24	720,491.92	718,528.38	0.00	0.00	585,308.63	0.00%
DECEMBER	309,000.00	312,000.00	315,000.00	318,000.00	0.00	0.00		
	292,209.07	256,159.32	271,017.59	293,156.00	0.00	0.00		
	496,603.60	452,507.95	511,463.10	339,213.23	0.00	0.00		
TOTAL DECEMBER	1,097,812.67	1,020,667.27	1,097,480.69	950,369.23	0.00	0.00	774,164.71	0.00%
TOTAL 4TH QTR	2,334,958.38	2,335,953.62	2,533,897.33	2,391,853.99	0.00	0.00	1,948,389.00	
GRAND TOTAL	9,671,710.13	9,618,470.33	10,070,162.57	10,262,786.00	2,086,691.00	1,669,352.81	8,360,000.00	
BUDGET ESTIMATE	10,200,000.00	10,200,000.00	10,200,000.00	10,200,000.00	10,450,000.00	8,360,000.00		
% OF GRAND TOTAL	94.82%	94.30%	98.73%	100.62%	19.97%	19.97%		County Sales Tax Comparison

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| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Tom Letteer – Village of Odessa | <input type="checkbox"/> Sam Schimizzi - Village of Watkins Glen |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Dennis Fagan - Chairman Schuyler Co. Legis. | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Tim O’Hearn - County Administrator |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> J.F. Winkler, M.D., Health Officer | <input type="checkbox"/> Rebekah LaMoreaux – WG Area Chamber of Commerce |

Other: Barb Halpin, Jim Howell

Call to order – 7:04PM

Health Officer Report – NYS DOH issued a health advisory for protection against excessive heat. Decrease activity while increasing fluid. Reminder to check on family & friends. NYS DOH is also working on strategies to combat Antimicrobial resistance in NYS. Florida is investigating whether the Zika Virus was transmitted locally as the patient did not have a history of international travel.

CCA Community Choice Aggregation presentation – Representatives from MEGA (Municipal Electric & Gas Alliance) discussed Community Choice Aggregation – a program recently approved by the New York State Public Services Commission – that allows residents to participate in the same competitive bid pricing for electricity and gas as currently enjoyed by over 270 New York municipalities, school districts, and hospitals. The aggregation of demand is organized through towns, villages, and cities, but it does not represent a government take-over of your electricity supply. Rather, it aggregates the demand into a large purchasing block that can negotiate better pricing for electricity and gas than can individual consumers. Instead of getting a card in the mail asking if you would like to change your energy supplier, participating municipalities will have a professional energy buyer negotiating on their behalf. Residents who do not wish to participate can easily opt out by returning a postcard. To view presentation, visit <http://www.schuylercounty.us/DocumentCenter/View/4645> .

Hazard Mitigation Plan Update – Tim shared that some towns/villages have not yet submitted resolutions accepting the county’s Hazard Mitigation Plan which is then tied to available federal funds. Please submit your resolutions to Bill Kennedy, Director of Schuyler Emergency Management.

Sales Tax Distribution – Dennis shared that sales tax is up 1.8% from last year at this time. As there wasn’t a concert held this year, this 3rd quarter may look different from last year. The Indy car race will take place at WGI but will not draw the magnitude of tourists the Phish concert did. Desire is to meet budget.

Around the Table-

John King – if you have any topics that your municipality would like to discuss at COG, contact he or Tim O’Hearn to add content to the COG agenda. Judy Cherry & Jeff Snyder will present at the October meeting to discuss the URI.

Jim Howell – the Seneca Lake Watershed is seeking representation from each municipality to attend the quarterly meetings. Contact Edith Davey.

Next meeting: October 26, 2016.

Adjourn 8:01pm