

COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS
Human Services Development Complex
Minutes from 1-23-2019

Present:

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> John VanSoest-Town of Catharine | <input type="checkbox"/> Sam Schimizzi-Village of Watkins Glen |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Brandon Theetge-Town of Cayuta | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Gerry Messmer/ <u>Tom Letteer</u> – Village of Odessa |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Harold Russell-Town of Dix | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Greg Kelahan, WGSD |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Alvin White-Town of Hector | <input type="checkbox"/> Chris Wood, OMCS |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> David Scott-Town of Montour | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Judy Cherry, SCOPED |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Joanne Randall -Town of Orange | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> J.F. Winkler, M.D., Health Officer |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Gary Conklin-Town of Reading | <input type="checkbox"/> Rebekah Carroll – WG Area Chamber of Commerce |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Donald Desrochers -Town of Tyrone | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Dennis Fagan-Chairman Schuyler Co. Legis. |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Dale Walter-Village of Burdett | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Tim O'Hearn-County Administrator |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> John King-Village of Montour Falls | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Peggy Tomassi-Schuyler County |

Other: Laurie DeNardo

Call to order

Nomination & Selection of Officers: Mayor John King declined the role of President for 2019.
Nominations:

President - Supervisor Alvin White
Vice President - Supervisor John VanSoest
Secretary - Peggy Tomassi.

Motion to approve slate; unanimously approved.

Nomination & Selection of SCOPED Representatives: Alvin White stated he is interested in being the town representative for SCOPED. Motion; unanimously approved.

Laurie DeNardo & John King both expressed interest in being the village representative. Paper vote from COG members was cast. Laurie DeNardo (5) & John King (8). John King will represent the villages for 2019. Unanimously approved.

Health Officer Report – Radon tests are important. For more information, contact Peggy who has information provided by Dr. Winkler. The Flu virus is wide spread affecting over ½ of NYS. Influenza A is highest. The recommendation continues to be to get the flu vaccine as it is not too late.

SCOPED –

- **IDA Renewable Energy Pilot Draft** - Judy Cherry spoke about the IDA Uniform Tax Exemption Policy revisions. To provide consistency, the IDA is considering a change in the policy determining criteria on who/where a pilot is given. (Handout) The base value would remain the same. The strategy is to bring the energy suppliers to feed back to the community with a reduced price. Therefore, through the IDA, they would negotiate the terms, and the community would benefit from the proposed energy and the host community would benefit for 15 years. Tim stated the current process is to negotiate with the taxing jurisdiction.
- **Business Diversification and Attraction Strategy** – Presentation of the employment profile in Schuyler County. (Handout) The countywide population flattened out as of 2015. This figure is derived by taking the average population number + births – deaths. Watkins Glen has experienced growth. We need to continuously be thinking ahead.

Humane Society Presentation – Georgie Taylor presented the history of shelters in Schuyler County and the cost to maintain. The Humane Society receives 70% of each dog license acquired in Schuyler County. The thought of enumeration was that this would help reunite found dogs with their owners. As enumeration is not a requirement by law, they will no longer assume that role. A letter of such was sent to each town of this fact and contracts will resemble this decision.

Clean Energy – Katherine Herleman, CCE handed out information on the Clean Energy Community Program and how funds will become available to become a CEC. On February 7th at the Elmira EEC, a free residential/commercial energy workshop will be held. Code Enforcers are encouraged to attend. Contact Katherine with questions on engaging clean energy opportunities. Katherine will visit each municipality to discuss Clean Energy. Katherine can be reached on her cell at 941-223-7048.

DRI Update – Laurie DeNardo shared that the Planning Committee is reviewing 15 awesome RFP's. Clute Park will open in 2021; Clifford building will come down in April and be a multipurpose building; \$1.2 million dollars was allocated to Franklin St.; lighting being completed by April; sod improvement; reuse of the wastewater treatment site; and the VFW building is awaiting a letter from NYS for labor or price agreement.

Waste Water Treatment Update – John King stated \$1 million was received in December and that \$32 million is in place for this project. Road & site prep is done, and the pump station is in WG. Construction of the plant will begin in February. Some parts of this project are completed off site and brought in. The entire project will be completed the of 2019. WGI received a grant for an onsite storage tank that will be in place by NASCAR.

Woodstock 50 – Tim O'Hearn apologizes that not many were informed of this event coming to WG. For two years, Tim learned that promoter, Michael Lang had been reviewing sites for this event and WG was included. The community would welcome them they could meet all the requirements of the Mass Gathering Permit. State Police is deploying for law enforcement coverage. We will have a much better idea of what to expect. There will be approximately 100,000 people attending and will be live broadcasted. The intent is to keep the town informed and Tim is asking all towns to embrace this event. It will bring significant funds to this area. A million-dollar performance bond is being requested.

Around the Table-

Dennis Fagan shared that this will be the 3rd year of the 5-year plan regarding sales tax sharing. If the increase in the cap is above 4% at the end of the 5th year, an upward increase of 20% will be given to the towns.

Dale Walters stated that the new Burdett Fire Station will be occupied by the end of February.

Greg Kelahan shared about the Ingenuity Initiative includes embedding college and career skills into the district's curriculum with an eye toward ensuring that students graduate from the district ready to take on the challenges presented to them at work or in college. The Kick-Off will be held February 6th from 6-8pm.

Next meeting: April 24th 7:00pm

Adjourn 9:11PM

*Council of Governments/
Shared Service Panel*

Meeting Agenda

7/24/2019 7:00pm

HSC Room #120

Welcome/Introductions

- ❖ Health Officer Report
- ❖ Tompkins County Health Insurance Consortium Presentation-
- ❖ Shared Service Plan Review / Update
- ❖ Animal Control Services Update - Towns
- ❖ SCOPED /IDA Updates
- ❖ Election Reform Updates 2020
- ❖ Waste Water Treatment Plant Construction Update- John King
- ❖ Next Meeting Date: October ? @ 7:00pm
- ❖ Around the Table

COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS/SHARED SERVICES PANEL

Human Services Development Complex

Minutes from 7-24-2019

Present:

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> John VanSoest-Town of Catharine | <input type="checkbox"/> Luke Leszyk -Village of Watkins Glen |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Brandon Theetge-Town of Cayuta | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Gerry Messmer/ <u>Tom Letteer</u> – Village of Odessa |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Harold Russell-Town of Dix | <input type="checkbox"/> Greg Kelahan, WGSD |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Alvin White-Town of Hector | <input type="checkbox"/> Chris Wood, OMCS |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> David Scott-Town of Montour | <input type="checkbox"/> Judy Cherry, SCOPED |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Joanne Randall -Town of Orange | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> J.F. Winkler, M.D., Health Officer |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Gary Conklin-Town of Reading | <input type="checkbox"/> Rebekah Carroll – WG Area Chamber of Commerce |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Donald Desrochers -Town of Tyrone | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Dennis Fagan-Chairman Schuyler Co. Legis. |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Dale Walter-Village of Burdett | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Tim O’Hearn-County Administrator |
| <input type="checkbox"/> John King-Village of Montour Falls | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Peggy Tomassi-Schuyler County |

Other: Louie Perazzini, Deputy Mayor for the Village of Watkins Glen; Steven Lawton, Trustee for the Village of Montour Falls; Justin Boyette, Councilman for the Town of Hector; Amanda Rodriguez, SCOPED; Ed Fairbrother & Elin Dowd of the Tompkins Co. Health Ins. Consortium.

Call to order

Health Officer Report – As of July 18th there have been 1,148 individual cases of the measles in a total of 30 various states...NYS being one of them. The cases in NYS cases were found to be amongst religious groups in NYC who were not vaccinated against the measles. NYS has removed the exemption for certain groups to deny getting the vaccine. NYS Medical Marijuana has been approved. Physicians must go through a 4 hrs. education process to be registered online. Patients who wish to pursue obtaining medical marijuana must go through a registered physician, obtain a photo ID to get it and must have a qualifying medical disorder that warrants using.

Tompkins County Health Insurance Consortium Presentation - Presentation explaining *The Consortium*. CSEA endorses this program and change over to this program has been quick & easy. Schuyler municipalities are eligible to become members of the consortium. If you are interested in discussing this opportunity further, contact Don Barber at hiconsulting@tompkin-co.org or by calling 607.592.2152.

Shared Service Plan Review/Update – Most recent Legislation requires that an updated plan be sent in to the state. Two meetings & two public hearings are required to be held. The PH’s will be incorporated into the Legislative Meetings. Is there any desire to make changes to the current plan? Schuyler County is seeking to merge their Mental Health Depts. with another county. The three current projects are unified Code Enforcement, Centralized Purchasing, and the Waste Water Treatment Project. At this time, it is unsure if the dollar figures can be quantified. No additional comments from all present. A vote on the final plan will be held at the next meeting. Each municipality must be present to vote. The final plan is required to be submitted by December 31st.

Animal Control Services Update – Alvin White asked for this topic to be placed on the agenda. There is interest from the Towns to be given information on the cost to care for the dogs taken in. Suggestion of having a Town Supervisor on the Humane Society Board. The Sheriff’s Dept. provides a copy of the DL18 to the Humane Society. Mike Lausell will provide the Humane Society stats to the towns. The towns notice a conflict of the number of dogs shared by the Humane Society and the report provided. Tim O’Hearn encourage the Town Supervisors to talk to their town boards to allow payment to the Humane Society outside of the agreements.

SCOPED – Amanda Rodriguez spoke about the various grants being written; two for Montour Falls, one for the Town of Montour and one for Watkins Glen. A list of possible Opportunity Zone projects in Tyrone, Orange and Montour, Catharine, Cayuta.

Election Reform – The NYS Legislators enacted change in the election law & procedure. These changes created the extension of voting hours. Preliminary discussions of the Schuyler County Legislature is to not pass down the added cost to the towns for 2019 as the costs were unexpected. Rules have not yet been handed down. One voting machine will be available in the Legislative Chambers for early voting. Electronic poll books will be forth coming.

Waste Water Treatment Update – The project is very busy and ahead of schedule while being under budget. The force main is almost complete. A completion date of October or November is expected. The Magee Street project is ready for pavement.

Around the Table-

Peggy Tomassi, RMO for Schuyler County spoke of the Records Management Facility and expressed to the Towns & Villages to reach out to her if they are experiencing a lack of space with their current storage or if they seek input into the length of time records are to be kept. 535-8106

Next meeting: Thursday, October 24th 7:00pm (Note change in original date)

Adjourn 8:27PM

*Council of Governments/
Shared Service Panel*

Meeting Agenda
10/24/2019 7:00pm
HSC Room #120

Welcome/Introductions

- ❖ Health Officer Report
- ❖ SCOPED /IDA Updates
- ❖ Election Reforms
- ❖ Shared Service Plan Review / Vote
- ❖ Waste Water Treatment Plant Construction Update- John King
- ❖ RPTL 487 Exemption for Solar and Wind Energy Overview
- ❖ Next Meeting Date: January 22nd @ 7:00pm
- ❖ Around the Table

COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS/SHARED SERVICES PANEL

Human Services Development Complex

Minutes from 10-24-2019

Present:

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> John VanSoest-Town of Catharine | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Luke Leszyk -Village of Watkins Glen |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Brandon Theetge-Town of Cayuta | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <u>Gerry Messmer</u> /Tom Letteer – Village of Odessa |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Harold Russell-Town of Dix | <input type="checkbox"/> Greg Kelahan, WGSD |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Alvin White-Town of Hector | <input type="checkbox"/> Chris Wood, OMCS |
| <input type="checkbox"/> David Scott-Town of Montour | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Judy Cherry, SCOPED |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Joanne Randall -Town of Orange | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> J.F. Winkler, M.D., Health Officer |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Gary Conklin-Town of Reading | <input type="checkbox"/> Rebekah Carroll – WG Area Chamber of Commerce |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Donald Desrochers -Town of Tyrone | <input type="checkbox"/> Dennis Fagan-Chairman Schuyler Co. Legis. |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Dale Walter-Village of Burdett | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Tim O’Hearn-County Administrator |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> John King-Village of Montour Falls | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Peggy Tomassi-Schuyler County |

Other: Stephen Miller

Call to order 7:01 PM

Health Officer Report – It is now flu shot season. Vaping has nicotine and can become addictive. As pulmonary issues continue to rise from vaping, the fear is that young people will steer towards smoking cigarettes. Seven deaths in six states have been confirmed from results of vaping. The Measles outbreak has pretty much stopped in NYS and are caused primarily through international travel or under vaccination. Governor Cuomo removed the religious exemption for not getting vaccinated prior to entering the school system. NYS requires that insurance companies not charge differently if out of network care and in an emergency. NYSDEA is launching a new centralized system required by the Substance Use-Disorder Prevention to cut down on abuse of opioids. Bats are known for carriers of rabies although there haven’t been any recent cases locally.

SCOPED/IDA Updates – Handouts – Ranking of county’s unemployment rates in NYS. Employers will follow educated persons rather than inexpensive space. County’s struggle with retention & growth. Schuyler has more professional persons moving in than moving out. In 2015 the GDP was at 5% where in 2019 it is at 6.2%. The key is to create a resilient & year-round economy. Bio-Char is moving into the Seneca Hardwood space in Odessa and will produce Biochar and employ 8-10 employees. Working on more opportunities to maximize on what the area has to offer. The CFA’s are in and notification of who the recipients are to receive the grants will be known in December. The DRI work continues with a ribbon cutting ceremony on Monday. Opportunity Zone work continues. Currently the 2 zones are the towns of Tyrone & Orange and Montour, Catharine & Odessa. Any businesses in your area who are seeking a workforce, contact SCOPED.

RPTL 487 Exemption for Solar and Wind Energy Overview – Energy improvements are automatically exempt unless the municipality decides otherwise by local law. Schuyler County opted out therefore these energy sources are now taxable. To date, no other municipality in Schuyler has put this in place therefore current solar & wind energy parcels are not taxed. Any solar property in place now has a 15-year exemption for any change. Municipalities can put a local law in place and create specific guidelines to protect the property. Otherwise, the land owner or town is left to clean up the space and can be very costly to do so. There is no difference between residential or business. Contact Judy Cherry at SCOPED for guidance to protect yourself. The first Article 10 project is underway as a 50-megawatt farm in the Town of Dix. Storage & interconnection is subject to sales tax and is significant.

Election Reform – Tim sent information to the towns relating to early voting which will double the costs for 2020. Election poll books are ordered and will be in full use for the 2020 election period.

Election workers will be trained. The Legislature has chosen to absorb the 2019 costs as towns could not properly budget for this new law. There won't be security in place during the early voting evening hours as in agreement with the Election Commissioners.

Waste Water Treatment Update – John King stated that the project is moving rather quickly. The WG Pump Stations are in place & essentially done. The force main on Magee St. is on the new station & Magee St. is now paved. Trees were removed and replacement is at the homeowner's discretion. The force main leading to Montour went amazingly fast. Marina Dr. pipe is now on the other side of the bridge. Project is set to be functional by end of January although the official startup is March 24th.

Shared Service Plan Review/Update – Motion to approve the 2020 Shared Services Plan by John King; second by Don Desrochers. Vote by town/village:

Catharine- absent	Reading-aye	Burdett-aye
Cayuta-absent	Tyrone-aye	Odessa-abstain
Dix-absent	Hector-aye	Montour Falls-aye
Orange- aye	Montour-absent	Watkins Glen-aye

Around the Table-

Tim O'Hearn – There are certain circumstances when a medivac flight is not necessarily needed but utilized leaving the family with costs they cannot incur. The families can choose whether or not to utilize. Bill Kennedy will speak with the fire chiefs. The Aim payment to the towns will occur in December & March. The state is intercepting the payment. This will not change on how it is paid to towns as it is now added into the sales tax received.

Joanne Randall – The town now has their 4th solar farm. NYSEG says the town cannot have any more sites.

Luke Leszyk – There will be a gateway signage ribbon cutting ceremony on Monday at 1:30pm at Captain Bills. WG will not have the Summer Rec program this year due to construction.

Gerry Messmer – The Odessa Summer Rec Program may not continue due to the lack of funding. Letter have gone out for commitment of funds. November 7th at Rotary, he will present his journey of Ashley's Return. He will also present at the Historical Society.

Next meeting: Thursday, January 23rd 7:00pm

Adjourn 8:40PM