BUDGET COMMITTEE JANUARY 21, 2015

** NOT APPROVED **

<u>Committee Members Present:</u> T. Hopkins, K. LaForge, P. Curran, C. Crandall (Absent: D. Fanton, T. O'Grady)

Others Present: M. Alger, L. Ballengee, H. Budinger, K. Graves, D. Healy, R. Hollis, C. Jessup, B. Riehle, D. Root, T. Ross, C. Santora, N. Ungermann

Media Present: No media present

<u>Call to Order:</u> The meeting was called to order at 4:05 p.m. by Budget Committee Chairman Theodore Hopkins.

Approval of Minutes

A motion was made by Legislator Curran, seconded by Legislator LaForge, and carried to approve the Budget Committee minutes of December 17, 2014.

Sales Tax Report

County Treasurer Terri Ross distributed the 2014 Allegany County Sales Tax Report reflecting receipts through January 21, 2015, totaling \$786,832.69. Receipts for the current period indicate a decrease of \$197,656.22 or -20.077 percent from one year ago for the same period. The majority of the decrease was due to the state reconciliation of the quarter with adjustments from prior years.

Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the Committee, the meeting was adjourned at 4:10 p.m. following a motion by Legislator Curran, seconded by Legislator LaForge, and carried.

BUDGET COMMITTEE MARCH 18, 2015

** NOT APPROVED **

<u>Committee Members Present:</u> T. Hopkins, K. LaForge, P. Curran, D. Fanton, C. Crandall (Absent: T. O'Grady)

Others Present: M. Alger, H. Budinger, S. Burt, K. Dirlam, K. Graves, D. Healy, R. Hollis, C. Jessup, T. Miner, D. Pullen, B. Riehle, D. Root, T. Ross, C. Santora

Media Present: B. Quinn, Wellsville Daily Reporter

<u>Call to Order:</u> The meeting was called to order at 3:21 p.m. by Budget Committee Chairman Theodore Hopkins.

Approval of Minutes

A motion was made by Legislator Curran, seconded by Legislator LaForge, and carried to approve the Budget Committee minutes of January 21, 2015.

Sales Tax Report

County Treasurer Terri Ross distributed the 2015 Allegany County Sales Tax Report reflecting receipts through March 18, 2015, totaling \$3,565,427.54. Receipts for the current period indicate a small decrease of 1.865 percent of \$67,762.19 from one year ago for the same period.

Old Business

Schedule of Quarterly "Big 5" Financial Reports for April's Budget Meeting

The Budget Committee will move its regular meeting on the third Wednesday of every month from after Ways & Means to 11 a.m. Thus, at 11 a.m. on Wednesday, April 15, 2015, the Budget Committee will hear the first quarter budget reports from the "BIG 5" with Department representatives. The schedule is as follows:

- 11:05 Office for the Aging
- 11:10 Department of Health
- 11:15 Department of Public Works
- 11:20 Sheriff's Office
- 11:25 Department of Social Services

Adiournment

There being no further business to come before the Committee, the meeting was adjourned at 3:30 p.m. following a motion by Legislator LaForge, seconded by Legislator Curran, and carried.

BUDGET COMMITTEE APRIL 27, 2015

** NOT APPROVED **

<u>Committee Members Present:</u> T. Hopkins, K. LaForge, P. Curran, D. Fanton, C. Crandall (Absent: T. O'Grady)

Others Present: M. Alger, L. Ballengee, H. Budinger, D. Decker, M. Gasdik, K. Graves, D. Healy, R. Hollis, D. Horan, G. James, Y. Marks, K. Monroe, V. Pettit, D. Rahr, B. Riehle, T. Ross, C. Santora, D. Scholes, R. Whitney

Media Present: No media present

<u>Call to Order:</u> The meeting was called to order at 11:00 a.m. by Budget Committee Chairman Theodore Hopkins.

Approval of Minutes

A motion was made by Legislator Curran, seconded by Legislator Fanton, and carried to approve the Budget Committee minutes of March 18, 2015.

Department Budget Reviews ("Big 5")

Office for the Aging

Office for the Aging Director Madeleine Gasdik and OFA Accountant Vicki Pettit addressed the Committee, saying that overall, OFA is where it is supposed to be at this point in the Budget year, maybe even a little better. Ms. Gasdik noted that OFA has expended about 14 percent of its budget 25 percent through the Budget year. Although they noted that they do not foresee any budgetary problems at this time, Ms. Gasdik indicated that her current concern was about BIP (Balancing Incentive Program) which had originally been scheduled to end in April 2016, and now is scheduled to end in December 2016. Now, she said, the BIP funds will need to be spread out over this new time frame.

Department of Health

Public Health Director Lori Ballengee and DOH Accountant Dave Rahr addressed the Committee, noting the following regarding the first quarter of the DOH Budget:

The Komen Grant has once again stopped funding as of April 1. Ms. Ballengee said that the Department will refer women who need services to Komen to see what it can do for them.

Mr. Rahr indicated that typically the DOH revenues are one quarter behind which would explain some of the negative numbers on the budget report. He added that the quarterly claim numbers are not known at the time the budget summary needs to be prepared. He added that the claims have been filed, but quarterly claims are not calculated by the time the budget summary is due. He said that Article 6 can't be done until all the other claims are done. He added that they have until the end of May to do Article 6.

Ms. Ballengee noted that DOH ended 2014 \$100,000 short in Article 6 monies because the Department had generated so much revenue, and the Article 6 monies are distributed after the revenues are deducted. Ms. Ballengee said she had talked to Budget Officer Mitch Alger saying that DOH might bump up expenses for the 2016 Budget to prevent having similar deductions made in the future. Mr. Rahr added that Special Education has a large negative in the first quarter, but that is anticipated because it takes up to a year to get all the expenses recovered from the State.

Ms. Ballengee, when asked, did not foresee any major impact locally as a result of the Governor's budget. She said that she had been monitoring the Public Health and Human Services lines and she sees nothing "massive" for DOH. WIC was untouched, she said, and Public Health stayed pretty even.

Legislator Hopkins asked DOH if, in the future, it would use the one-page budget form for ease of reading. Mr. Rahr and Ms. Ballengee agreed to do so.

Legislator Curran inquired whether this would be an appropriate time to bring up the one percent reductions. Mr. Alger responded that he has already begun reaching out to Department Heads, but that more will be done as the deadline approaches.

Department of Public Works

Superintendent of Public Works Guy James addressed the Committee, saying that the DPW budget is on track and very close to projections. He added that the revenue amounts are through April 15, so it is a little beyond the first quarter and includes the CHIPs extreme winter funding that got put in the budget. He indicated that he is keeping an eye on the snow removal budget because of the severe winter we had just gone through which required a lot of spending from January 1 right through the winter season. Mr. James also said we need to know where we are going with the Solid Waste Program for 2016. He indicated that if any resident had inquiries, he was directing them to contact their respective Legislators. He said he has heard negative comments about the "per bag" plan. Deputy Superintendent of Public Works Dean Scholes said he has heard that residents hope to still have access to the Transfer Stations. Mr. James did not want to get into a lengthy discussion during the Budget Committee meeting, but he did want to bring it up so the Board could keep the issue on the front burner. He invited anyone with questions to drop by his office, and he'd be glad to answer them. Finally, Mr. James thanked Yvonne Marks for her diligence in keeping DPW within budget.

Sheriff's Office

Sheriff Whitney told the Committee that his revenue accounts are accurate and very close to projections. However, he said, E911 Dispatch is over budget. He added that the E-911 personnel budget was less than the amount that had been requested. When asked, Sheriff Whitney indicated that as of the last payroll, administrative overtime was down between eight and nine percent. He noted that he has been receiving multiple requests for participation in local parades throughout the summer season, and he is responding judiciously with an eye to costs. When asked about the impact of the Governor's budget, Sheriff Whitney indicated that should the proposal of changing the age of responsibility change, the Sheriff's Office would see more transport of 16-18-year-olds which would increase costs. Sheriff Whitney summed up by saying that the first quarter looks good so far.

Department of Social Services

Department of Social Services Director of Administrative Services Don Horan appeared on behalf of the Department of Social Services. He indicated that DSS is on track for the year thus far. He stated that DSS starts out kind of slow because DSS accruals are so big at the end of the year, and he has to wait for the State to close out its first quarter. He added that DSS had just received an increase of \$2,620 in weekly share for Medicaid which translates into \$102,180 for the year. This was taken into consideration when the Budget was put together. The bottom line, he said, is that DSS is a little over on what it needs to finish out the year, but he expects that to change. He went on to say that there is a new state recommendation on how to record FFFS (Flexible Fund for Family Services) revenue funding. They don't like us to accrue that anymore, he said, so none of that revenue is reflected in the current summary. They are not to record it until it is received. Before the report was completed, he said, DSS had received

\$973,000, but it is not reflected here. He said he is comfortable with the current status as we are one-quarter through the year, and about one-quarter through projected spending. As regards the Governor's budget, Mr. Horan said that from what he's seen, allocations are staying the same. The one increase is the Foster Care Block Grant which will be used to cover the new child welfare regulation (older children still in care).

New Business

Legislator Hopkins asked County Treasurer Terri Ross if she had any results from the Tax Sale. She said it was a successful sale, but that her Office was currently compiling the auction results.

County Administrator Mitch Alger noted that it was time to begin thinking about the 2016 Budget process. He anticipates a mid-May kick-off meeting with the Department Heads.

Mr. Alger went on to say that his office had sent out 43 letters regarding the Government Efficiency Plans to towns, villages, fire districts, etc. He said that 15 sent back the signature forms indicating their participation. Two have declined (Town of Birdsall and Village of Alfred) and would seek efficiencies on their own.

Two municipalities (Town Wellsville and Friendship) had submitted cost-savings plans. Still have 26 to hear from, but we'll see what we get this week, and after that start some follow-ups. There's a lot of work to be done in the next month or so, he said.

Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the Committee, the meeting was adjourned at 11:40 a.m. following a motion by Legislator LaForge, seconded by Legislator Fanton, and carried.

BUDGET COMMITTEE MAY 20, 2015

** NOT APPROVED**

<u>Committee Members Present:</u> T. Hopkins, P. Curran, D. Fanton, C. Crandall (Absent: K. LaForge, T. O'Grady)

Others Present: M. Alger, L. Ballengee, H. Budinger, D. Decker, L. Drake, K. Graves, D. Healy, R. Hollis, C. Knapp, B. Riehle, T. Ross, C. Santora

Media Present: No media present

<u>Call to Order:</u> The meeting was called to order at approximately 11:05 a.m. by Budget Committee Chairman Theodore Hopkins.

Approval of Minutes

A motion was made by Legislator Fanton, seconded by Legislator Curran, and carried to approve the Budget Committee minutes of April 27, 2015.

Sales Tax Report

County Treasurer Terri Ross distributed the 2014 Allegany County Sales Tax Report reflecting receipts through May 20, 2015, totaling \$6,834,134.04. Receipts for the current period indicate a small decrease (6.526 percent or \$477,146.56) from one year ago for the same period.

New York State Sales Tax Information

Ms. Ross distributed a report generated via a new program made available by the State which gives additional detail on where our sales tax comes from. This is more detailed information than we have been able to obtain in the past. The program allows a variety of reports. Ms. Ross indicated that the top page includes all four quarters of 2013-14, while page two has only the first two quarters of 2014-15. Ms. Ross added that for this report she used taxable sales from the highest (automobile sales in both years) to the lowest (which varied). Ms. Ross also indicated that training on this program had recently occurred, and she has not yet explored all the reporting options available.

Community College Year-end Report for 2014

Finally, Ms. Ross distributed the year-end report for the Allegany County contributions for students attending community colleges. The first page, she said, depicts the trends of the past six years. She added that the cost to the County continues to rise about two percent. The "A" side of the sheet is organized by college; the "B" side by town. Page two depicts the paid number of students by college; the flip side, the paid number of students by town. Pages 3 and 4 give figures for 2014 and the final page shows how cost to the County has fluctuated by college. Ms. Ross predicts a similar (2 percent) increase in cost for next year. For 2014, we paid out \$1,015,482.40 in community college costs.

New Business

Budget Process for 2016

County Administrator Mitch Alger indicated that there were some documents on the table regarding the start of the budgeting process for 2016. One is a memo that had been sent to

Department Heads and Financial Staff outlining the budget process; the second was the proposed procedures and timetable for the 2016 Budget. The dates, he said, indicate a range of possibilities and that more definitive information would be forthcoming.

Government Efficiency Plans

Mr. Alger went on to say that he had received confirmation and/or efficiency plans from about 70 percent of the municipalities. He added that two municipalities had indicated they would not participate in the County-wide effort. He also said that there are some outstanding municipalities that have indicated their intent to participate but have not yet sent in any paperwork. Mr. Alger added that several had sent in efficiency plans which would be incorporated into the County plan. He said that we have surpassed the target.

Good of the Order

Congratulations to our County Treasurer Terri Ross for being named Financial Officer of the Year by her professional organization New York State Treasurers & Finance Officers' Association.

Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the Committee, the meeting was adjourned at 11:25 a.m. following a motion by Legislator Fanton, seconded by Legislator Curran, and carried.

BUDGET COMMITTEE JUNE 17, 2015

** NOT APPROVED **

<u>Committee Members Present:</u> T. Hopkins, P. Curran, D. Fanton (Absent: K. LaForge, T. O'Grady, C. Crandall)

Others Present: M. Alger, H. Budinger, R. Christman, D. Decker, K. Graves, D. Healy, C. Knapp, B. Riehle, T. Ross, C. Santora

Media Present: No media present

<u>Call to Order:</u> The meeting was called to order at 11:00 a.m. by Budget Committee Chairman Theodore Hopkins.

Approval of Minutes

A motion was made by Legislator Curran, seconded by Legislator Fanton, and carried to approve the Budget Committee minutes of May 20, 2015.

Sales Tax Report

County Treasurer Terri Ross distributed the 2015 Allegany County Sales Tax Report reflecting receipts through June 17, 2015, totaling \$8,362,409.76. Receipts for the current period indicate a small decrease (4.384 percent or \$383,381.37) from one year ago for the same period. Ms. Ross indicated there would be a reconciliation for the first six months of the year on June 30.

New Business

County Administrator Mitch Alger distributed several documents to the Committee members. The first was an article titled "Where States Get Their Money," which delineated the mix of state revenue and how it varies among states. Additionally, Mr. Alger distributed two more graphic (visual) indicators of the data in the article mentioned above. New York State stands out as the state that gets more than 15 percent of its funds from local governments. The average for the other 49, if NYS is included in the calculation, is 1.1 percent. If NYS is omitted from that calculation, the figure is .8 percent. The final document Mr. Alger distributed is an editorial, based on the article referenced above, which appeared on the Administrators' listserv, and which, Mr. Alger believes, originated in Tompkins County. Mr. Alger said that the editorial echoes the thoughts of our own Board over the years that, among other issues, unfunded mandates wreak havoc on local governments and their budgets. In fact, according to the editorial, New York State local governments make "a particularly large contribution to health care costs incurred by Medicaid patients within their jurisdictions." The Committee were in agreement that this information should be inserted in all Board members' packets and be released to the local media as well.

Good of the Order

Legislator Hopkins indicated that at next month's Budget meeting, the Committee will want a six-month budget report from representatives of the "Big 5" Departments (Office for the Aging, Public Works, Department of Social Services, Sheriff's Office, and Department of Health). Additionally, all other departments should submit a one-page six-month budget

summary in advance of the meeting to be included with the agenda. It was decided that the schedule for the upcoming 2016 Budget meetings would be determined at a later date.

<u>Adjournment</u>

There being no further business to come before the Committee, the meeting was adjourned at 11:15 a.m. following a motion by Legislator Fanton, seconded by Legislator Curran, and carried.

BUDGET COMMITTEE JULY 15, 2015

** NOT APPROVED **

<u>Committee Members Present:</u> T. Hopkins, K. LaForge, P. Curran, D. Fanton, C. Crandall (Absent: T. O'Grady)

Others Present: M. Alger, L. Ballengee, H. Budinger, D. Decker, S. Decker, M. Gasdik, V. Grant, K. Graves, D. Healy, R. Hollis, C. Jessup, T. Miner, K. Monroe, D. Rahr, D. Root, T. Ross, C. Santora, N. Ungermann, R. Whitney

Media Present: No media present

<u>Call to Order:</u> The meeting was called to order at 11:05 a.m. by Budget Committee Chairman Theodore Hopkins.

Approval of Minutes

A motion was made by Legislator Curran, seconded by Legislator Fanton, and carried to approve the Budget Committee minutes of June 17, 2015.

Sales Tax Report

County Treasurer Terri Ross distributed the 2014 Allegany County Sales Tax Report reflecting receipts through July 15, 2015, totaling \$10,293,739.94. Receipts for the current period indicate a decrease (\$807,576.65 or -7.275 percent) from one year ago for the same period. Ms. Ross indicated that she would like to know what has caused the drop.

Department Budget Reviews (Big 5)

Mid-year reports from "BIG 5" with department representatives were presented:

Office for the Aging

Office for the Aging Director Madeleine Gasdik said that OFA is doing well and is on track per projections at this time. She added that OFA got its annual Implementation Plan approved. The State, she said, holds OFA vouchers from April 1 to March 31 until the Plan is approved. It was approved in June, so Vicki Pettit is starting to voucher now. The State is now holding three grants at this time until CSE, EISEP, WIN (formerly SNAP), until we can get our Direct Care Workers Grant submitted.

Department of Health

Public Health Director Lori Ballengee said DOH is in good shape, about the same as always. DOH is always a quarter behind in revenues, so that's why the revenue looks low. DOH has not done second quarter yet. The expenses, however, are up to date. DOH is well under at this time, but will see an increase in the fall during flu shot season.

Department of Public Works

DPW personnel were out assessing and mitigating damage that had occurred the previous evening during the severe weather. Legislator Hopkins said that based on the submitted report, DPW is on target to its projected budget. He also suggested that if anyone had any questions, they could stop in at DPW or bring them to another meeting.

Sheriff's Office

Sheriff Rick Whitney told the Committee that his area was doing okay except for 911 Dispatch which is projected to be "way behind," noting that the E-911 personnel budget was less that the amount requested and less than the prior year's actual cost. Because of the lack of Dispatchers, they are trying to fill 14 positions with 10 people, he said, and that overtime increases the costs.

Department of Social Services

Social Services Commissioner Vicki Grant said that DSS is on par for this time of the year. Expenses are pretty close to projections except for some of those done quarterly. Revenues are always a quarter behind, she said, because of how some of the contractors bill. DSS usually waits until the end of the year to consider equipment purchases, so that's low at this time. Ms. Grant said that public assistance caseloads seem to be decreasing somewhat which will help the DSS budget if that trend continues. However, foster care caseloads are increasing mostly because of sibling groups so that increases the service payments because of contract work with agencies that work with the families. Ms. Grant said she hopes it will balance out, but so far, we are okay.

Review of Submitted Mid-year Reports from Other Departments

Legislator Hopkins directed the Committee members to review the budget summaries from other departments, and if there were any questions, to bring them back to Committee.

New Business

County Administrator Mitch Alger and County Treasurer Terri Ross suggested some dates for working on the 2016 Budget. After some discussion, it was decided that the Budget Committee would meet Wednesday morning, August 19, perhaps spilling over into the regularly scheduled Budget Committee meeting. It was also determined that the group would meet again on Friday morning, August 21, to try to complete the process. Mr. Alger said he would send out an email confirming these dates.

<u>Adjournment</u>

There being no further business to come before the Committee, the meeting was adjourned at 11:25 a.m. following a motion by Legislator LaForge, seconded by Legislator Fanton, and carried.

Respectfully submitted, Cynthia Santora, Secretary to the Clerk of the Board

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Allegany County Board of Legislators

BUDGET COMMITTEE September 16, 2015 AMENDED AND APPROVED

<u>Committee Members Present:</u> T. Hopkins, K. LaForge, P. Curran, D. Fanton, D. Root (Absent: T. O'Grady, C. Crandall)

Others Present: M. Alger, L. Ballengee, K. Graves, D. Healy, R. Hollis, G. James, C. Jessup, J. Nelson, B. Riehle, D. Scholes, R. Scott

Media Present: No media present.

<u>Call to Order:</u> The meeting was called to order at 11:00 p.m. by Budget Committee Chairman Theodore Hopkins.

Approval of Minutes

A motion was made by Legislator Curran, seconded by Legislator Root, and carried to approve the Budget Committee minutes of July 15, 2015, August 19, 2015, and August 21, 2015.

Sales Tax Report

County Deputy Treasurer Jenna Nelson distributed the Sales Tax Report reflecting receipts through September 16, 2015, totaling \$13,097,353.68. Receipts for the current period indicate a \$38,000 increase for the month, but still about an \$850,000 decrease for the year. Legislator Fanton suggested by the end of the year, it may be a \$1 million decrease. Legislator Graves suggested it may be from the falling gas prices. Legislator Curran stated he has spoken to many business and they are not reporting a decrease in business. Legislator Root said she thought it was more than just the falling gas prices. County Administrator Mitch Alger stated car sales are the top factor in these figures and he wonders if there is a dip in car sales. Mr. Alger stated they continue to monitor the situation and will keep an eye on it for 2016. Legislator Hopkins asked where Mr. Alger was going to put the sales tax next year in the budget. Mr. Alger stated he is undecided.

New Business

Budget 2016

County Administrator Mitch Alger talked about having another meeting before releasing the tentative budget. Mr. Alger stated there are still some outstanding items and would like one more meeting where County Treasurer Terri Ross would be able to attend. Mr. Alger suggested, Monday, September 28, 2015, at 9:00 a.m. Legislator Root stated she would not be able to attend.

County Landfill

County Administrator Mitch Alger stated for the past two years the County has been putting money aside to plan for the landfill closure, and he would like to do this again. Mr. Alger requested approval to assign \$1 million from the unassigned fund balance for future landfill closing costs, which would bring that account up to approximately \$3 million. This should pay for the pre-closure costs, and the County may have to look at financing post-closure costs in the future. Legislator Fanton asked about pre-closure costs and if they have to put two feet of soil on top. Superintendent Guy James stated it depends on who does the work. Mr. James

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originally thought the County could do the work; however, TVGA Site Engineer Terry Ried advised against it. Legislator Curran asked if it would be put out to bid. Mr. James stated he is looking at all options since there are pros and cons to both ways. If the money does not cover all of the costs, it would get the County through a lot of the process. Mr. Alger commented as far as the impact on the budget, no money has been moved. It is earmarking the County fund balance, and does not affect the bottom line of the levy or tax rate. Approval was granted on a motion by Legislator Fanton, seconded by Legislator Curran, and carried. *Refer to Ways & Means*

Vehicle Fund

County Administrator Mitch Alger shared his recommendations for what he is including for the vehicle capital account in 2016. They are as follows:

Sheriff's Office	(1) Sedan @ \$32,000	\$32,000
Sheriff's Office	(1) Pickup Truck	\$32,000
Health Department	(1) Sedan	\$17,000
Health Department	(1) Full-Size Van	\$26,250
Office for the Aging	(2) Caravans @ \$22,000	\$44,000
	Total	\$151,250

Legislator Graves commented some vehicles have a lot of miles and need replacing. He noted the Sheriff's Department already has about 26 to 27 vehicles. Legislator Graves asked if the vehicles are being replaced or adding to their fleet. Mr. Alger stated he believes they would be replacements because when a department does a request, the form asks that question. The Sheriff's Department stated on their request they are replacements. Legislator Graves asked if they need that many vehicles. Mr. Alger stated he would get some reimbursements for the vehicles. It would be up to for 50 percent for the pickup truck because it would be used to pull the boat for boat patrol. Mr. Alger noted the State gives us grant money under the marine patrol fund that the County has to apply for and receive. Legislator Curran and Legislator Graves questioned why the SUV's could not pull the boats.

Legislator Curran commented that he doesn't think we should be patrolling the lakes. He believes if the land owners feel they need security, then they should hire someone privately. Legislator Fanton asked if the County was legally obligated to provide this service. Mr. Alger stated he was unsure about the legal obligation, but the County does receive money for it. He stated they receive up to half reimbursement. Legislator Graves stated he believes the Department of Environmental Conservation would have to step in and patrol the lakes if the County did not do it. Legislator Graves stated only about six to seven tickets were issued on Rushford Lake last year. Legislator Root stated as a landowner on that lake, she appreciates seeing the Sheriff's Department out there keeping some kind of order. Mr. Alger stated he can look at the legal obligations. Legislator Curran asked if there are four boats. Mr. Alger stated yes. Legislator Curran stated he thought the County could sell a couple. Legislator Hopkins stated the last two were bought by the State. Legislator Graves asked if the County was going to get the pickup truck because he would rather see two sedans purchased. Mr. Alger stated that was what he was recommending and ultimately it is the same amount of money. Legislator Curran suggested replacing the pickup truck with one from the Public Works Department. Superintendent Guy James stated they rotate their trucks in their fleet. Legislator Graves suggested maybe the vans could haul the boats. Legislator Hopkins suggested the committee move on and Mr. Alger should contact the Sheriff's Department about what the truck will be used for.

Mr. Alger stated the Health Department vehicles are fully reimbursed. The Office for the Aging vans are a local cost, but they have an aging fleet. Legislator Root asked if the

Information Technology request for a caravan was for them to go off-site and if they have a vehicle. Mr. Alger stated they currently have a vehicle and can continue to use it for the year.

Mr. Alger reviewed the Department of Public Works request for heavy equipment and machinery for 2016. Legislator Graves stated the County may want to look into financing some of the vehicles since they are so expensive and the costs will continue to increase. Legislator Fanton mentioned programs offered by John Deere and CAT where you pay a cost up front and then by the hour for every hour you use it. Superintendent Guy James stated some towns in Allegany County are doing this as a feasible alternative to budgeting for these items. The County would have to look into the average hours per year for the equipment and see if it is feasible. Legislator Graves stated there would be a low maintenance cost and asked if Mr. Alger, Mr. James, and Mr. Scholes could look into the programs and if it would save the County money. Mr. James stated not every piece of equipment would be ideal for this program, but they can look into it. Legislator Hopkins stated for this year the County will have to stick to this request, and then the County can start examining those types of programs for next year. Legislator Curran asked what the tractor will be used for. Mr. James stated it will be used to haul solid waste containers and as a low boy tractor.

Personnel

County Administrator Mitch Alger reviewed the requests for new positions and personnel changes in the 2016 Budget and recommended the following:

Sheriff's Department

Dispatcher	\$34,619.88
Dispatcher	\$34,619.88
Dispatcher	\$34,619.88
Dispatcher	\$34,619.88

Treasurer

Account Clerk/Typist (Step Base to Step 3)

County Attorney

Assistant County Attorney \$70,000

Mr. Alger highlighted the dispatcher positions. The County is still negotiating a new 911 schedule, but the positions still need to be budgeted. These positions are needed for the new schedule Lieutenant Shawn Grusendorf has been working on to be successful. Mr. Alger stated it should decrease overtime. Legislator Graves asked if he could get a copy of the new schedule, and Mr. Alger noted it is still in negotiations. Legislator Graves asked about the Assistant County Attorney. Mr. Alger stated it would help in the transitional period.

Capital Projects

County Administrator Mitch Alger reviewed the 2016 Capital Projects for the Department of Public Works. He stated he recommends all three projects. The three projects are:

	BR#07-01 Angelica, Peavy Road	\$487,500
	BR#09-05 Birdsall, Hiltonville Road	\$219,000
3.	BR#15-06 Cuba, Keller Hill Road	\$392,000
Total Cost		\$1,098,500

Total Cost \$1,098,500 County Share 85 percent \$933,725 Town Share 15 percent \$164,775 Superintendent Guy James stated the Department was behind from last winter and because of the flooding in the northern part of the County. Two of the structures are quite large and will take a fair amount of time to complete.

Updates

Mr. Alger talked about the bottom line and where the County is at this point. The numbers right now with some of the changes he discussed today are: The levy would be \$31,166,009; that is \$1,197,000 increase over last year and the County cap is 0.73 percent, which would be a couple hundred thousand dollars. In 2014, the County appropriated \$500,000; however, at the end of 2014, the County did not use any of the money. Last year, the County appropriated \$1 million of the fund balance toward the budget and he anticipates it will probably be around that number. Mr. Alger stated there are still some items that need to be addressed. He listed items on his to-do-list before the next meeting. They include:

- Compile a comprehensive list of all the changes.
- Take another look at other capital projects such as building and grounds.
- Review sales tax figures including updated numbers and projections.
- Asking Real Property to give assessed value figures.
- Working on the budget for the Solar City project. The County has created an account for the project, but it is for one year. Mr. Alger stated it probably won't be built until late next year, so the budget will have to be prorated.
- County Treasurer Terri Ross will do the official cap calculation and what the figure is for 2016.

Legislator Graves asked about the security upgrades including swipe cards and cameras. Mr. Alger stated it is not in the budget right now, but can be discussed with the other capital projects.

Solid Waste

Superintendent Guy James addressed the new items on the 2016 DPW Solid Waste Only spreadsheet. He noted on page two, A8160.4.99 is the new appropriations account, and it is anticipated that it will cost \$240,000 to take our garbage somewhere else. Mr. James stated the revenue fund A8160.2130.03 is \$25,000 for 2016. It is less than previous years and is based on a smaller foot print and a guarter of a year. Mr. James spoke about A8160.2130.04, permits. The \$500,000 reflects the continued use of our current system with hang tags and punch cards; and the reduction of tonnage because of the landfill closure and change in flow control law. Mr. James talked about A8160.2130.09. He believes the County will be short on tipping fees this year by as much as \$50,000. Mr. James referred to page three and spoke about the decrease in scrap revenue. Mr. James believes people are taking their own scrap metal to other places and if less users are coming, there will be less scrap coming into the system. On page four, Mr. James noted the \$1.1 million deficit. Mr. James is stating he is hoping this represents worst case scenario. Mr. Alger asked Mr. James to describe some of the assumptions he made about the hang tags and punch cards that are in the revenue numbers. Mr. James stated the assumptions were made by the rate of those people using transfer station facilities and directly to the landfill. Mr. Alger asked about continuing to sell hang tags. Mr. James stated yes because it will give a picture of who their real customers are. Legislator Fanton asked if the hang tags will change. Mr. James stated the Public Works Committee will need to discuss this and what will need to be done.

<u>Adjournment</u>

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There being no further business to come before the Committee, the meeting was adjourned at 12:01 p.m. following a motion by Legislator Fanton, seconded by Legislator Root, and carried.

BUDGET COMMITTEE September 28, 2015 NOT APPROVED

<u>Committee Members Present:</u> K. LaForge, P. Curran, D. Fanton, C.Crandall (Absent: T. Hopkins, T. O'Grady, D. Root)

Others Present: M. Alger, K. Graves, D. Healy, R. Hollis, K. Hooker, C. Ivers, K. Monroe, B. Riehle, T. Ross, R. Scott, R. Sobeck-Lynch

Media Present: No media present.

<u>Call to Order:</u> The meeting was called to order at 9:05 a.m. by Budget Committee Vice Chairman Kevin LaForge.

Approval of Minutes

Secretary to the Clerk of the Board Rebecca Scott stated she incorrectly recorded the recommended personnel changes in the September 16, 2015, meeting minutes. Ms. Scott adjusted the minutes to reflect the correct recommended personnel changes in the 2016 Budget. A motion was made by Legislator Fanton, seconded by Legislator Curran, and carried to approve the Budget Committee minutes of September 16, 2015, as amended.

<u>Updates</u>

County Administrator Mitch Alger distributed the cumulative list of all the budget changes he has made as a Budget Officer since the last few budget meetings. Mr. Alger was open to discussion and questions regarding the list. County Treasurer Terri Ross noted at the top of page two, it shows the net change to the levy from the August 19, and 21, 2015, Budget meetings. Ms. Ross stated there is a decrease in net change A from where it started. She also highlighted the 2015 levy, and the current 2016 draft levy. Ms. Ross stated by calculating the cap at 0.75 percent times the 2015 levy base, the County will only have \$224,000. She also stated the other changes on the list are what they had to do to the other funds to ensure they are balanced.

Mr. Alger highlighted Solar City. It was originally in the 2015 Budget for a full year, it has been pro-rated to three months. The Planning and Development budget has been readjusted based on some of the changes that have been made to the economic development budget. Some of the money has been moved to contractual services. Ms. Ross stated one of the big items is the retirement system. This figure is based on the second and final estimate for the County bill, and the County was able to take out approximately \$700,000. Chairman Crandall asked about the pilots. Ms. Ross stated it was the adjustments to the pilots that they have, and there is \$66,000 in the budget for pilots. She stated there will be another slight adjustment because they recently found out about another pilot from 2010 that they were not aware of. It is in the County's favor. Ms. Ross said the solid waste calculation was the result of the conversation at the last meeting. Mr. Alger stated that calculation represents the worst case scenario.

Mr. Alger had a couple of items he wanted to discuss in further detail and receive feedback from the committee. The first item was capital projects. He spoke of two projects; the first one is renovations in the County Clerk's area. The asbestos testing results were positive. Currently, there is \$67,000 budgeted for carpet, paint, and furniture. The cost will increase because of the asbestos. Legislator Fanton asked where the asbestos is located, and can it be

covered. Ms. Ross stated she believes it is in the ceiling and the floor, and is not sure if it can be covered. Mr. Alger believes it may be in the tile. Legislator LaForge stated he was willing to look at the report, since he has experience reading these types of reports. Ms. Ross stated the Department of Public Works has the report. Legislator Curran asked if it was the whole Clerk's room. Mr. Alger replied he believes it is the whole room and down below. Mr. Alger also commented that they have done projects in that area in recent years, and there may be other space needs that need to be addressed before this project. The second project is the ground floor break room the Department of Social Services uses for foster care and visitation. This area has also been tested for asbestos. The County is waiting for the test results. Mr. Alger stated he doesn't have a total cost to renovate this space. He also pointed out that the Department of Social Services does have some funds in their budget to offset some of the costs. Mr. Alger commented the Department of Social Services project helps with their space needs. Chairman Crandall stated spaces needs for the Department of Social Services has been on the list since he has been here, and it still needs to be addressed. He also said it should be a priority. Chairman Crandall asked if the Department of Social Services project could be addressed with this year's funds. Mr. Alger stated he has not looked at using this year's funds, but knows there is not a lot available. The projects can also be tentatively put in the 2016 Budget until the exact costs of the projects are determined.

The second item Mr. Alger wanted to discuss was sales tax. He stated the County still has six payments for the rest of the year. For the 2015 Budget and 2016 Budget, \$20 million is in the budget for sales tax. Mr. Alger stated we may run a little short of the \$20 million this year. He is hoping this is not the case, but wants to discuss the issue. Mr. Alger recommends to leave it "as is" for right now, and continue monitoring it for this year. Ms. Ross stated there is a public hearing, and the Budget for 2016 will not be adopted until the end of November. By then, the County will have four more payments, and may have a better idea of the sales tax.

Mr. Alger handed out the tax cap regulations and Ms. Ross discussed the calculations. Ms. Ross stated the tentative tax levy is \$31,129,668. Per the State calculator, the tax levy should be \$30,885,000. The Worker's Compensation, Real Property Tax Services, and Estimated Charge Backs are deducted, which leaves the maximum estimated budgeted tax levy allowable at \$30,442,240. Currently, the County is at \$31,129,668, which is about \$687,000 over the cap. According to the State, the County was allowed to grow \$473,000. The County needs to make up the difference, and have a little extra money as a cushion. Mr. Alger stated his goal is to have less than \$1 million appropriated from the fund balance. In 2014, there was \$500,000 in the fund balance, and at the end of the year the County did not use any of it. Ms. Ross highlighted a \$200,000 rollover last year because the County came in under the cap. This money can be used in part of the calculation, but the County will still be over \$500,000. Mr. Alger noted although they have not used the fund balance in the past, the sales tax issue may use some of those funds if it falls short this year. Chairman Crandall asked what would they put into the fund balance. Mr. Alger stated he is not sure, but is looking at \$750,000.

Ms. Ross distributed the tentative 2016 Equalization and Apportionment Table. The final table will be released on October 14, 2015. She noted that some of the towns are not at 100 percent; some of the towns need to do re-evaluations. The taxable rate on the table will decrease because it does not include any appropriate fund balance. Mr. Alger stated right now the taxable rate would be \$16.46. Legislator Fanton requested to see what the taxable rate calculations would look like if they appropriated \$750,000 or \$1 million from the fund balance. Chairman Crandall stated it has decreased the past five years. For example in 2010, the taxable rate was \$16.92 per \$1,000 of assessed value; in 2011 it was \$16.91; in 2012 it was \$16.86; in 2013 it was \$16.70; and in 2014 it was \$16.46. Mr. Alger and Ms. Ross stated they

would calculate the numbers, and do a tentative budget summary. Legislator Fanton asked if the assessed value increase is 1 or 1.5 percent. Ms. Ross stated it is about 2.3 percent.

Mr. Alger stated he would release the 2016 Tentative Budget soon. Legislator Graves noted the County should cut the 2016 Budget where they can. Chairman Crandall asked if a statement will be released, and Mr. Alger replied yes.

Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the Committee, the meeting was adjourned at 9:48 a.m. following a motion by Legislator Curran, seconded by Legislator Fanton, and carried.

BUDGET COMMITTEE October 21, 2015 NOT APPROVED

<u>Committee Members Present:</u> P. Curran, D. Root, C. Crandall (Absent: T. Hopkins, K. LaForge, D. Fanton, T. O'Grady,)

Others Present: M. Alger, L. Ballengee, K. Graves, D. Healy, R. Hollis, T. Miner, K. Monroe, V. Pettit, D. Rahr, B. Riehle, T. Ross, R. Scott, J. Tomasi, R. Whitney

Media Present: No media present.

<u>Call to Order:</u> The meeting was called to order at 11:10 a.m. by Chairman Curt Crandall.

Approval of Minutes

Since there wasn't enough committee members for a quorum, approval of minutes will be tabled until the next meeting.

Sales Tax Report

County Treasurer Terri Ross distributed the 2015 Allegany County Sales Tax Report reflecting receipts through October 21, 2015, totaling \$15,263,432.19. Receipts for the current period indicate a small decrease of about 5 percent from one year ago for the same period. Ms. Ross noted it has been positive for the last few months, but not enough to cover the whole year. Legislator Graves noted the car sales seem to be strong. He has spoken to car dealerships, and they have reported sales have been good the past few months. Ms. Ross also discussed the quarterly report. She calculated the last three quarters of adjustments the State made, which totaled \$269,000 in negative adjustments. She noted some of the adjustments go back to 2013. Ms. Ross stated the first quarter was positive; the second and third quarters were negative. County Administrator Mitch Alger explained the \$41,000 on the Comparison by Month column on the 2015 Allegany County Sales Tax handout would have been \$141,000 if the County was not hit with adjustments. Ms. Ross noted the adjustment for this guarter was \$100,000. Ms. Ross added without any adjustments, the County is 3.4 percent below the amount collected last year. Chairman Crandall asked if the County receives details on the adjustments. Ms. Ross replied the only details are the timeframe it was adjusted, and noted on the bottom of the report it says it includes current dishonored check, refunds, and bank adjustments. Legislator Graves asked if other counties in the State are affected by the adjustments. Ms. Ross replied most of the Counties in the State are in the same position. Ms. Ross noted there are six more payments before the end of the year. Chairman Crandall inquired about the next adjustments from the State. Ms. Ross stated she expects a report on the adjustments again after the January 2016 payments. Chairman Crandall asked if the January 2016 adjustments will reflect this year's calculations. Ms. Ross stated it will affect the 2016 calculation, and what quarter it goes back to, but the County doesn't make those adjustments. Ms. Ross noted the Budget is set up by the calendar year, January to December. She said they take the first payment in January, and accrue into the prior year to get twenty-six payments within a year. The State Budget calendar year is April to March.

Department Budget Reviews (Big 5)

Third-quarter reports from the "BIG 5" with department representatives were presented:

Office for the Aging

Office for the Aging Accountant Vickie Pettit attended the meeting on behalf of Director Madeleine Gasdik. She stated she doesn't see any problems, and they are staying within budget. Ms. Pettit noted they are spending \$7,000 less in County money then they budgeted.

Department of Health

Public Health Director Lori Ballengee reported the Department is doing well in most of the line items. She noted it appears revenue is down because the Department has not received the third quarter reimbursement. She noted expenses are in good shape, except for two programs she highlighted on her report. The first program is the Preschool Program. Ms. Ballengee discussed each line item in the program. The Department is lacking \$1,000 in parent transportation; more parents are transporting their kids. Center Based Tuition will be \$60,000 less than what was budgeted. She said transportation is \$53,500 over budget because of the distance the children have to travel to get to school. Ms. Ballengee reported Evaluations are \$10,000 under budget. She also discussed School Administration Fees that are about \$50,000 over budget. Schools are allowed to charge an administration fee, and the Department budgeted \$30,000 based on the trend for the last five years. However, for 2014, the School Administration Fees were \$80,000. Chairman Crandall and Legislator Curran asked how the administration fee is determined. Ms. Ballengee stated the State sets the rate, and it depends on the number of kids attending the school. Accountant David Rahr later added, "Annually the school district will report to SED that number of CPSE referrals, the salaries and employee benefits for CPSE related activity, as well as any other CPSE costs (purchased services, supplies, materials, travel, indirect costs, and equipment). From that information SED will create an "Administrative Cost Listing" report which will calculate an approved rate per child and will depict the number of students in the County STAC and the total CPSE amount that can be billed to the County. Since the rate is ultimately based on actual costs incurred by the school district, it will change from district to district. It is worth noting, however, that SED does cap the cost per child to a maximum amount. In 2012-13 that cap was \$507 per child." Ms. Ballengee stated SEIT will remain even. Finally, the Related Services such as speech, physical therapy, and occupational therapy will be \$81,000 over budget. For the Preschool Program, the Department is \$115,500 over budget. Ms. Ballengee added of the \$115,500, 59.5 percent or \$68,000 is reimbursable. Medicaid revenues were budgeted at \$150,000; however, they have already received \$198,000 through August. Ms. Ballengee stated the Department will monitor the Budget, and she is hoping they will come in about even, especially since they are over in Medicaid revenue.

The second program, Ms. Ballengee discussed was the Early Intervention Program. The Department budgeted low because they went by the five-year trend. She noted they will be \$50,000 short in Health Contracts. She commented when the 2015 Budget was prepared, expenses for the first half were \$74,000, so, \$150,000 was budgeted. The second half of 2014 had a marked increase in expenses resulting from higher needs and/or more children needing services. Expenses for 2014 totaled \$195,000. By adding the \$50,000 to Health Contracts, the 2015 Budget for Early Intervention will be \$200,000. Ms. Ballengee added the Department will be reimbursed by Medicaid at a rate of 100 percent if the children are Medicaid eligible. If the children are not Medicaid eligible, private insurance will pay a small portion, and another 49 percent will be recovered from State Aid. Ms. Ballengee also stated the revenues in the Program are doing well right now, so they are hoping to even out. She also noted that the \$50,000 is for services they are projecting they are going to need. They will not know how much they will actually need until the kids are enrolled and receiving services. This projection is based on historic trends.

Legislator Curran asked how long the County can wait to make changes for the 2016 Budget. County Administrator Mitch Alger stated the Legislators can amend the tentative Budget. County Treasurer Terri Ross stated the 2016 Budget should pass before the County will know what the 2015 year-end Budget for the programs will look like. She added they always look at the year behind when working on the Budget. Legislator Graves stated they should be able to look at a three-year average to come up with a number. Ms. Ballengee reported she looks at the five-year trend, but it is hard to budget for these two programs because they don't know how many kids they are going to have, and the services they need. Ms. Ballengee added she is on track to hit the \$650,000 of the 100 percent reimbursement under the Article 6, Public Health/General Public Health Work.

Sheriff's Office

Sheriff Rick Whitney highlighted the housing revenue from other counties. budgeted \$40,000 in revenue to house inmates from other counties, and they have already received \$48,000. Chairman Crandall and Legislator Healy asked what counties are sending inmates to the Jail. Sheriff Whitney responded the Jail houses mostly Genesee County female inmates, and some inmates from Wyoming County. Sheriff Whitney also spoke about the 911 appropriations. They will probably be over budget, but hopefully the full-time dispatchers next year will solve that problem. He also talked about the \$1,176 survey fee for one of the new tower sites that was not budgeted, and noted the grant does not cover land acquisition. Sheriff Whitney also mentioned the \$40,000 in 2015 retro pay for the staff that was not in the Budget for this year. Sheriff Whitney believes they will be close to being on budget by the end of the year. Chairman Crandall asked about federal housing. Sheriff Whitney stated they are right on track. Legislator Healy asked if the Sheriff's office had to sign a new contract for federal inmates this year. Sheriff Whitney replied there was an amendment with the Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) contract to accept funds for equipment. Legislator Healy asked how much per day the federal rate has increased comparable to labor costs. Sheriff Whitney stated it hasn't change, and the only item they have negotiated is the transportation with the Federal Marshalls. Sheriff Whitney said the inmates from the Marshalls are down, but the ICE inmates have increased since last year. Legislator Root noticed they are \$225,000 over budget, and wondered how they will be close if they are over budget right now. Sheriff Whitney stated they will have higher revenue in some areas than they anticipated, and spending less in a couple of areas. He reiterated they are already over \$8,000 in housing inmates from other counties.

Department of Social Services

Accountant Julie Tomasi attended on behalf of Social Services Commissioner Vicki Grant. She stated the line items were where they expected them, and nothing stands out.

Department of Public Works

Department of Public Works personnel were unable to attend because they were at a conference in Syracuse. County Treasurer Terri Ross reported the only concern the Department expressed to her was snow removal because of the expenditures at the beginning of the year.

New Business

County Treasurer Terri Ross stated she wanted to review the County-wide third quarter numbers. So far, the County has received 75 percent of the revenue that the County had budgeted, and has expended 70 percent of the County's appropriations. She noted the County is in good shape, and has two and a half months left in the 2015 Budget year. She added she

doesn't anticipate any surprises, and is aware of some of the budget line items the Sheriff mentioned such as the survey fee for one of the tower sites. Ms. Ross noted if anyone wanted to see summarization or details, she has them.

Ms. Ross also mentioned the Tobacco Settlement. Yesterday, she received notice that the County is scheduled to receive a payment of almost \$600,000 in addition to the normal Tobacco payments. Chairman Crandall asked about the status of the Casino payments. Ms. Ross stated they budgeted \$300,000, and the County has received \$100,000 for two quarters. Legislator Root asked if the County receives money from the Casino in Salamanca or from New York State Casinos. Ms. Ross stated no, we get money from the State under the non-host aid ten percent of the Upstate New York Gaming and Economic Development Act (UNYGEDA) of 2013.

County Administrator Mitch Alger gave an update on the County's Efficiency Plan. He stated the County has received notification that the plan was approved. Mr. Alger noted the checks going out in November this year are for last year, and this year's check will go out in 2016. Chairman Crandall stated the acceptance of the County's Efficiency Plan should be announced in a press release.

Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the Committee, the meeting was adjourned at 11:59 a.m.

BUDGET COMMITTEE November 18, 2015 NOT APPROVED

<u>Committee Members Present:</u> K. LaForge, P. Curran, D. Fanton (Absent: T. Hopkins, T. O'Grady, D. Root, C. Crandall)

Others Present: M. Alger, L. Ballengee, H. Budinger, D. Decker, L. Drake, D. Healy, K. Hooker, B. Riehle, T. Ross, R. Scott

Media Present: No media present.

<u>Call to Order:</u> The meeting was called to order at 11:05 a.m. by Budget Committee Vice Chairman Kevin LaForge.

Approval of Minutes

Since there wasn't enough committee members for a quorum, approval of the minutes will be tabled until the next meeting.

Sales Tax Report

County Treasurer Terri Ross distributed the 2015 Allegany County Sales Tax Report reflecting receipts through November 18, 2015, totaling \$16,628,381.77. Receipts for the current period indicate a small decrease of about 4 percent from one year ago for the same period. She noted this month's \$118,515 is the highest County Sales Tax revenue they have had this year. The last three payments have been positive, but they are still down about \$674,000 for this Budget year. Ms. Ross stated the County will receive four more sales tax payments.

<u>Adjournment</u>

There being no further business to come before the Committee, the meeting was adjourned at 11:08 a.m.