



Agriculture, Planning & Environmental Committee

60 Central Ave.
Cortland, NY 13045

<https://www.cortlandcountyny.gov>

Special

~ Minutes ~

Thursday, August 22, 2024

3:30 PM

Room 302

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 3:30 PM by Committee Chair Beau Harbin

Attendee Name	Organization	Title	Status	Arrived
Reed Cleland	Cortland County, NY	Committee Member	Present	
Mitchel Eccleston	Cortland County, NY	Committee Member	Present	
Paul Heider	Cortland County, NY	Committee Member	Present	
William McGovern	Cortland County, NY	Committee Member	Present	
Sandra Price	Cortland County, NY	Committee Member	Present	
Kris Valentine Behnke	Cortland County, NY	Committee Member	Present	
Beau Harbin	Cortland County, NY	Committee Chair	Present	
Kevin Fitch	Cortland County, NY	Chair of the Legislature	Present	
Rob Corpora	Cortland County, NY	County Administrator	Present	
Savannah Hempstead	Cortland County, NY	Clerk of the Legislature	Present	
Trisha Hiemstra	Cortland County, NY	Planning Director	Present	
Laurie Leonard	Cortland County, NY	Personnel Officer	Present	
Victoria J. Monty	Cortland County, NY	County Attorney	Present	
Jeri DuVall	Cortland County, NY	Chief Assistant County Attorney	Present	
Brooke Kemak	Cortland County, NY	County Clerk	Present	
Nicole Anjeski	Cortland County, NY	Director of Public Health	Present	
Katee Padbury	Cortland County, NY	Health Department	Present	
Lisa Perfetti	Cortland County, NY	Deputy Public Health Director	Present	
Christopher Newell	Cortland County, NY	Board Member	Present	
Melanie Vilardi	Cortland County, NY	Deputy County Administrator	Present	

Ronald J. Van Dee	Cortland County, NY	Board Member	Present	
Keith VanGorder	Cortland County, NY	Board Member	Present	
Jessica Leet	Cortland County, NY	Planning Department	Present	
Cathy Bischoff	Cortland County, NY	Board Member	Present	
Joseph Nauseef	Cortland County, NY	Board Member	Present	3:48 PM
Eugene Waldbauer	Cortland County, NY	Board Member	Present	3:52 PM
Todd McAdam	Cortland Standard	Reporter	Present	
Christopher Tuff	CENTRO	Deputy Chief Executive Officer	Present	
Jackie Musengo	CENTRO	Vice President of Human Resources	Present	
Bruce Fong	CENTRO	Vice President of IT	Present	
Steve Koegel	CENTRO	Vice President of Communications & Business Planni	Present	
Bren Daiss	CENTRO	Sr. Director of Service Planning	Present	

Resolutions

AGENDA ITEM NO. 1 – Resolution Authorizing Cortland County to Become a Participating Member of the Central New York Regional Transportation Authority (CNYRTA)

Mr. Heider MADE A MOTION TO AMEND the resolution to add "or such other date as the parties may mutually agree" after September 30, 2024 in the second to last WHEREAS clause and first RESOLVED clause; Mr. McGovern SECONDED THE MOTION; and upon unanimous voice vote of members present; MOTION CARRIED.

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
	Next: 8/22/2024 6:00 PM
MOVER:	Reed Cleland, Committee Member
SECONDER:	William McGovern, Committee Member
AYES:	Cleland, Eccleston, Heider, McGovern, Price, Behnke, Harbin

ON MOTION OF HARBIN

RESOLUTION NO.

Resolution Authorizing Cortland County to Become a Participating Member of the Central New York Regional Transportation Authority (CNYRTA)

WHEREAS, the Cortland County Legislature has considered the potential benefits to its citizens of becoming a member of the Central New York Regional Transportation Authority (hereafter "CNYRTA"), also known as Centro; AND

WHEREAS, it is the intention of Cortland County that its citizens continue to have access to and receive affordable and reliable public transportation through the County's membership in the CNYRTA system, as authorized under Title 11-D of the Public Authorities Law; AND

WHEREAS, Cortland County may elect to become a participating member of CNYRTA by resolution adopted by a majority of the membership of the County Legislature; AND

WHEREAS, the current contract for public transportation services with First Transit, Inc./TransDev will terminate on or about September 30, 2024, and CNYRTA has been identified as a suitable and effective partner to ensure the continuation of these essential services; NOW THEREFORE BE IT

RESOLVED, that, pursuant to Title 11-D of the New York State Public Authorities Law, the Cortland County Legislature hereby elects to become a participating member of the Central New York Regional Transportation Authority; AND BE IT FURTHER

RESOLVED, that Cortland County's membership in the Central New York Regional Transportation Authority shall become effective following the filing of a duly certified copy of this resolution with the Authority, the Secretary of State, and upon the mailing of certified copies of this resolution to the County Clerks of Onondaga, Oswego, Oneida, Jefferson, Madison, Cayuga, and Cortland Counties; AND BE IT FURTHER

RESOLVED, that the Chair of the Cortland County Legislature, upon approval of the County Attorney, is hereby authorized to execute any and all agreements, documents, and instruments necessary to formalize the County's partnership with CNYRTA for the provision of public transportation services; AND BE IT FURTHER

RESOLVED, that the County Administrator, in coordination with the Department of Planning, is directed to oversee the transition process from First Transit, Inc./TransDev to CNYRTA and to ensure that public transportation services continue without interruption during this transition period; AND BE IT FURTHER

RESOLVED, that the Clerk of the Legislature is hereby directed to forward certified copies of this resolution to CNYRTA, the New York State Department of Transportation, and any other relevant parties.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 2 – Resolution Terminating Contract with First Transit, Inc. Dba TransDev, for the Operation of the Public Transportation System

Mr. Heider MADE A MOTION TO AMEND the resolution to add "on or before" before September 30, 2024 in the last WHEREAS clause; Mr. McGovern SECONDED THE MOTION; and upon unanimous voice vote of members present; MOTION CARRIED.

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
	Next: 8/22/2024 6:00 PM
MOVER:	William McGovern, Committee Member
SECONDER:	Paul Heider, Committee Member
AYES:	Cleland, Eccleston, Heider, McGovern, Price, Behnke, Harbin

ON MOTION OF HARBIN

RESOLUTION NO.

Resolution Terminating Contract with First Transit, Inc. Dba TransDev, for the Operation of the Public Transportation System

WHEREAS, Cortland County entered into a contractual agreement with First Transit, Inc., currently dba TransDev, in 2015, entrusting the operation of the public transportation system to their management with the goal of providing reliable, efficient, and cost-effective public transit services to the

residents of Cortland County; AND

WHEREAS, the contract between Cortland County and First Transit, Inc. does not have a defined end date, but instead allows either party to terminate the agreement at the end of any contract quarter, provided that written notice is given; AND

WHEREAS, on May 2, 2024, Cortland County issued a Request for Proposals (RFP) for the operation of its public transportation system, seeking to ensure that the County receives the most cost-effective and high-quality service for its residents; AND

WHEREAS, First Transit, Inc., dba TransDev, in response to the RFP, submitted a proposal that included a substantial increase in costs compared to the current contract, thereby placing an additional and unsustainable financial burden on County taxpayers; AND

WHEREAS, First Transit, Inc., dba TransDev was the only company to provide a proposal in response to the RFP; AND

WHEREAS, the Cortland County Legislature, after reviewing the proposal and considering the financial impact on the community, has determined that these increased costs are not in the best interest of the County; AND

WHEREAS, the Cortland County Legislature has decided to exercise its right under the contract to terminate the agreement with First Transit, Inc., dba TransDev, effective September 30, 2024, or such other date as the parties may mutually agree; AND

WHEREAS, this termination will allow the County to explore alternative options for the continued provision of public transportation services that better align with the financial constraints and service needs of the community; NOW THEREFORE BE IT

RESOLVED, that the contract between Cortland County and First Transit, Inc., dba TransDev, for the operation of the public transportation system is hereby formally terminated effective September 30, 2024, or such other date as the parties may mutually agree; AND BE IT FURTHER

RESOLVED, that the Chair of the Cortland County Legislature is hereby authorized and directed to provide written notice of termination to First Transit, Inc., dba TransDev, in strict accordance with the terms outlined in the contract, thereby ensuring that all contractual obligations and legal requirements are met; AND BE IT FURTHER

RESOLVED, that the Clerk of the Legislature shall distribute copies of this resolution to First Transit, Inc., dba TransDev, and all relevant County departments and agencies, as well as to any other stakeholders involved in the public transportation system, to ensure comprehensive communication and compliance with the termination process; AND BE IT FURTHER

RESOLVED, that the Cortland County Legislature shall identify and secure a suitable alternative for the operation of the public transportation system that meets the County's service standards and budgetary requirements.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 3 – Create Various Temporary Transit Positions - Planning Department

RESULT: APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]

Next: 8/22/2024 6:00 PM

MOVER:Reed Cleland, Committee Member

SECONDER:William McGovern, Committee Member

AYES:Cleland, Eccleston, Heider, McGovern, Price, Behnke, Harbin

ON MOTION OF HARBIN

RESOLUTION NO.

Create Various Temporary Transit Positions - Planning Department

WHEREAS, the County is in the process of transitioning to a new transportation vendor to better serve its residents and manage taxpayer funds more effectively; AND

WHEREAS, during this transition, the County remains committed to providing uninterrupted and reliable transportation services for all County residents; AND

WHEREAS, the Agricultural, Planning and Environmental Committee recommends the creation of many various temporary transit positions to cover the time period between transportation providers; AND

WHEREAS, this approach has been deemed necessary to avoid any service disruptions that could adversely affect County residents while also minimizing the financial burden on taxpayers; NOW THEREFORE BE IT

RESOLVED, that the following temporary positions be created with approval to fill effective midnight on August 22, 2024:

- Seventeen (17) full-time Bus Drivers (\$18.4165-23.3107/hr, non-competitive class, insurance benefits only)
- Three (3) part-time Bus Drivers (\$18.4165-23.3107/hr, non-competitive class, no benefits)
- Eight (8) part-time Bus Aides (\$15.6579-19.8190/hr, non-competitive class (PJC), no benefits)
- Two (2) full-time Bus Dispatchers (\$20.8680-26.4136/hr, competitive class, insurance benefits only)
- Two (2) full-time Transit Maintenance Technicians (\$23.0509-29.1766/hr, non-competitive class (PJC), insurance benefits only)
- One (1) full-time Transit Maintenance Manager (\$25.5703-32.3653/hr, competitive class, insurance benefits only)
- One (1) full-time Transit Road Supervisor (\$18.9861-24.0315/hr, competitive class, insurance benefits only)
- One (1) full-time Transit Safety Manager (\$25.5703-32.3653/hr, competitive class, insurance benefits only)
- One (1) full-time Transit Office Manager (\$22.7222-30.2433/hr, competitive class, insurance benefits only)
- One (1) full-time Transit General Manager (\$66,481-88,486/yr, competitive class, insurance benefits only)

; AND BE IT FURTHER

RESOLVED, that the 2024 Cortland County Budget be and hereby is amended as follows:

INCREASE:

A359900 - Appropriated Fund Balance \$573,195.45

A56305.51005 FT Personal Services	\$309,051.52
A56305.51010 PT Personal Services	\$ 52,045.29
A56305.58020 Retirement	\$ 43,267.20
A56305.58030 FICA	\$ 27,623.91
A56305.58040 Workers Comp	\$ 13,275.00
A56305.58060 Health Insurance	\$117,173.48
A56305.58062 Dental Insurance	\$ 541.44
<u>A56305.58065 Vision Insurance</u>	<u>\$ 117.60</u>
Total:	\$573,195.45

AGENDA ITEM NO. 4 – Authorizing the Cortland County Legislature to Enter into Agreements with First Transit, Inc. DbA TransDev

Mr. McGovern MADE A MOTION TO AMEND the resolution to strike "effective September 30, 2024" in the first WHEREAS clause; Ms. Price SECONDED THE MOTION; and upon unanimous voice vote of members present; MOTION CARRIED.

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
	Next: 8/22/2024 6:00 PM
MOVER:	Sandra Price, Committee Member
SECONDER:	Paul Heider, Committee Member
AYES:	Cleland, Eccleston, Heider, McGovern, Price, Behnke, Harbin

ON MOTION OF HARBIN

RESOLUTION NO.

Authorizing the Cortland County Legislature to Enter into Agreements with First Transit, Inc. DbA TransDev

WHEREAS, the Cortland County Legislature previously adopted a resolution to terminate its contract with First Transit, Inc., dba TransDev, for the operation of the public transportation system; AND

WHEREAS, the County is in the process of transitioning the operation of its public transportation services to Centro; AND

WHEREAS, there may be a need to maintain or adjust public transportation services during the transition period to ensure continuity of service for county residents; AND

WHEREAS, TransDev has the expertise and capability to provide necessary public transportation services during this period; AND

WHEREAS, it is in the best interest of the County to ensure that public transportation services remain uninterrupted and reliable during the transition to Centro; NOW THEREFORE BE IT

RESOLVED, that the Cortland County Legislature hereby authorizes the Chairman of the Legislature, upon review and approval by the County Attorney or designee, to enter into any necessary agreements with First Transit, Inc. dba TransDev to provide public transportation services during the transition period; AND BE IT FURTHER

RESOLVED, that this resolution shall take effect immediately.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 5 – Authorizing an Agreement with JM Murray Center, Inc. for Cortland County to Provide Transportation Services

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
	Next: 8/22/2024 6:00 PM
MOVER:	Reed Cleland, Committee Member
SECONDER:	Mitchel Eccleston, Committee Member
AYES:	Cleland, Eccleston, Heider, McGovern, Price, Behnke, Harbin

ON MOTION OF HARBIN

RESOLUTION NO.

Authorizing an Agreement with JM Murray Center, Inc. for Cortland County to Provide Transportation Services

WHEREAS, JM Murray Center, Inc. (“JM Murray”) plays a vital role in supporting individuals with disabilities in Cortland County and surrounding areas, offering a wide range of essential services that promote independence, skill development, and community integration; AND

WHEREAS, the effective delivery of these services depends in part on the availability of reliable and efficient transportation, enabling clients to access programs, medical appointments, employment opportunities, and other critical activities; AND

WHEREAS, Cortland County is committed to supporting organizations like JM Murray, which contributes to the well-being and quality of life of County residents, and the County recognizes the importance of providing transportation services that meet the specific needs of JM Murray and its clients; AND

WHEREAS, Cortland County possesses the necessary resources, personnel, and infrastructure to provide such transportation services in a manner that aligns with JM Murray’s operational requirements and enhances its ability to serve its clients; AND

WHEREAS, this agreement will foster a collaborative relationship between Cortland County and JM Murray, facilitating the delivery of essential services to some of the most vulnerable members of the community; NOW THEREFORE BE IT

RESOLVED, that the Chair of the Legislature, upon review and approval by the County Attorney or designee, is hereby authorized and directed to execute an agreement with JM Murray Center, Inc. for Cortland County to provide transportation services for JM Murray; AND BE IT FURTHER

RESOLVED, that this agreement shall commence on a date to be specified in the contract and shall include terms and conditions necessary to ensure the provision of consistent, safe, and efficient transportation services; AND BE IT FURTHER

RESOLVED, that the Clerk of the Legislature shall forward a certified copy of this resolution, along with the executed agreement, to JM Murray Center, Inc., and any other appropriate parties to ensure proper administration and implementation of this agreement.

Adjournment

The meeting was closed at 4:04 PM