



Finance & Administration Committee

Committee Meeting

60 Central Ave
Cortland, NY 13045
<https://www.cortlandcountyny.gov>

~ Agenda ~

Tuesday, October 15, 2024

8:30 AM

Room 302

WebEx Meeting Information

<https://cortlandny.webex.com/cortlandny/j.php?MTID=m21c8306dc6ad267d665bf924ec0f79e8>

Tuesday, October 15, 2024 8:30 AM | 2 hours 30 minutes | (UTC-04:00) Eastern Time (US & Canada)

Meeting number: 2341 437 1179

Password: 7tyUtTjKB23

Join by phone

+1-415-655-0001 US Toll

Access code: 234 143 71179

CALL TO ORDER

Attendee Name	Present	Absent	Late	Arrived
Committee Member Beau Harbin	☐	☐	☐	
Committee Member Linda Jones	☐	☐	☐	
Committee Member Joseph Nauseef	☐	☐	☐	
Committee Member Sandra Price	☐	☐	☐	
Committee Member Eugene Waldbauer	☐	☐	☐	
Committee Vice-Chair William McGovern	☐	☐	☐	
Committee Chair Cathy Bischoff	☐	☐	☐	

MINUTES

1. Finance & Administration Committee - Committee Meeting - Sep 17, 2024 9:00 AM

RESOLUTIONS

ON MOTION OF BISCHOFF

AGENDA ITEM NO. 1

Local Law "G" of 2024 - a Local Law Overriding Tax Levy Limit for Fiscal Year 2025

WHEREAS, the New York State Legislature enacted General Municipal Law §3-c which establishes a limit upon real property tax levies by local governments, AND

WHEREAS, pursuant to General Municipal Law §3-c (5), a local government may adopt a budget in excess of the tax levy limit only if the governing body of such local government first enacts a local law to override the tax levy limit for the coming fiscal year only, AND

WHEREAS, the Cortland County Legislature has not yet finalized the fiscal year 2025 budget, and may need the flexibility to exceed the property tax cap if it is deemed necessary;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT ENACTED by the Legislature of the County of Cortland, as follows:

Section 1
Legislative Intent

The Cortland County Legislature has determined that it is important to maintain flexibility in the process of finalizing the fiscal year 2025 budget, and it may be necessary to override the limit on the amount of real property taxes that may be levied by the County of Cortland for the coming fiscal year 2025.

Section 2
Override of Tax Levy Limit

Upon the adoption of this local law, the Cortland County Legislature is hereby authorized to override the tax levy limit for the coming fiscal year 2025, if the Legislature deems it necessary for the County of Cortland to adopt a budget for the fiscal year 2025 which may require a real property tax levy in excess of the “tax levy limit” as defined by General Municipal Law §3-c.

Section 3
Legal Authority

The authority to override the tax levy limit is authorized by General Municipal Law §3-c (5), which expressly authorizes a local government to override the tax levy limit for the coming fiscal year by the adoption of a local law approved by a vote of sixty percent (60%) of the total voting power of its governing body, the Cortland County Legislature.

Section 4
Effective Date

This Local Law shall take effect immediately, in accordance with the provision of the Municipal Home Rule Law of the State of New York.

ON MOTION OF BISCHOFF

AGENDA ITEM NO. 2

Authorize the Allocation of Funding to Tompkins Cortland Community College Facilities Master Plan

WHEREAS, Tompkins Cortland Community College requires the development of a Facilities Master Plan to assess and guide future infrastructure needs; AND

WHEREAS, a professional assessment is necessary to evaluate the current and future facilities requirements of Tompkins Cortland Community College to effectively create this plan; AND

WHEREAS, Cortland County is a sponsor county for Tompkins Cortland Community College; AND

WHEREAS, the total cost of the assessment is \$56,852, with the sponsor counties’ share being \$28,426, of which Cortland County's portion is \$10,801.88; AND

WHEREAS, it is the recommendation of the Cortland County Legislature’s Finance and Administration Committee to allocate \$10,801.88 to Tompkins Cortland Community College to fund a professional assessment of the facilities for the Facilities Master Plan; NOW THEREFORE BE IT

RESOLVED, that the Cortland County Legislature be and hereby authorizes the allocation of \$10,801.88 to Tompkins Cortland Community College to fund a professional assessment of its facilities as part of the Facilities Master Plan development; AND BE IT FURTHER

RESOLVED, that the Director of Finance is hereby directed to amend the 2024 budget as follows:

INCREASE:

A62935.54780	Sponsor Contributions	\$10,801.88
A359900	Appropriated Fund Balance	\$10,801.88

Referred from Building & Grounds Committee

ON MOTION OF HEIDER

AGENDA ITEM NO. 3

Authorize Agreement with NRG Energy, Inc. for Natural Gas

WHEREAS, Resolution No. 44-11 authorized the Municipal Electric and Gas Alliance (MEGA) to represent Cortland County in a bid for natural gas; AND

WHEREAS, MEGA, in conjunction with Genesee County, NY, issued invitations to bid; AND

WHEREAS, MEGA's consulting firm, Energy Next, evaluated the bids on behalf of alliance members, including Cortland County; AND

WHEREAS, upon careful review and analysis MEGA determined that NRG Energy, Inc., of 910 Louisiana St Houston, TX 77002, was the lowest responsible bidder and entered into a program agreement with NRG Energy, Inc.; AND

WHEREAS, based on the NRG Energy, Inc. agreement with MEGA, the Cortland County Buildings and Grounds and Finance and Administration Committees have recommended selecting NRG Energy, Inc.'s price protection program, which will provide the County with natural gas at a fixed rate of \$-.- per decatherm for 36 months commencing on November 1, 2024 and ending October 31, 2027, with the option of extensions; NOW THEREFORE BE IT

RESOLVED, that the Cortland County Legislature hereby authorizes the County Administrator, upon the approval of the County Attorney or designee, to enter into an agreement with NRG Energy, Inc., of 910 Louisiana St Houston, TX 77002, for natural gas; AND BE IT FURTHER

RESOLVED, that said agreement with NRG Energy, Inc. shall be for all County properties.

Referred from Highway Committee

Referred from Government Operations Committee

Referred from Judiciary & Public Safety Committee

Referred from Ag/Planning/Environmental Committee

Referred from Health & Human Services

ON MOTION OF VAN DEE

AGENDA ITEM NO. 4

Authorizing and Approving Settlement Agreements to an Action Relating to the Opioid Crisis

WHEREAS, there is pending the matter on behalf of Cortland County regarding the opioid addiction crisis, in which Cortland County is the named plaintiff in the action (the "Action"); AND

WHEREAS, the Action is against several defendants, including manufacturers of opioids,

distributors of opioids and chain pharmacies; AND

WHEREAS, after discussion the Cortland County Legislature authorized the County Attorney to accept confidential settlements for in relation to two (2) such defendants in the ongoing matter; NOW THEREFORE BE IT

RESOLVED, that the Cortland County Legislature hereby authorizes the Chairman of the Legislature to accept said settlements and execute Participation and Release Forms for each defendant; AND BE IT FURTHER

RESOLVED, that all funds received from the settlement be set aside into a special reserve account for the sole purpose of addressing the opioid epidemic in Cortland County.

Monthly Reports

1. Real Property Tax Services Monthly Report
2. Finance Department Monthly Reports
3. County Administrator Monthly Report

Discussion Items

1. Review Tentative 2025 Cortland County Budget

Adjournment