



Government Operations Committee

Committee Meeting

60 Central Ave.
Cortland, NY 13045
<http://www.cortland-co.org>

~ Agenda ~

Tuesday, November 7, 2023

9:00 AM

Room 302

WebEx Meeting Information

<https://cortlandny.webex.com/cortlandny/j.php?MTID=mc58a16fc88c1edca41af50c452124c73>

Tuesday, November 7, 2023 9:00 AM | 1 hour | (UTC-04:00) Eastern Time (US & Canada)

Meeting number: 2341 979 0896

Password: PDn72RJSTS4

Join by phone

+1-415-655-0001 US Toll

Access code: 234 197 90896

CALL TO ORDER

Attendee Name	Present	Absent	Late	Arrived
Committee Member Sandra Price	☐	☐	☐	
Committee Member George Wagner	☐	☐	☐	
Committee Vice Chair Kelly L. Fairchild-Preston	☐	☐	☐	
Committee Member Paul Heider	☐	☐	☐	
Committee Chair Richard Stock	☐	☐	☐	
Committee Member Susan Wilson	☐	☐	☐	
Committee Member Mitchel Eccleston	☐	☐	☐	

MINUTES

1. Government Operations Committee - Committee Meeting - Oct 17, 2023 9:00 AM

RESOLUTIONS

ON MOTION OF STOCK

AGENDA ITEM NO. 1

Local Law "J" of 2023 - a Local Law Creating the Cortland County Finance Department

WHEREAS, said Local Law has been in its final form upon the desks of the members of the Legislature at least seven (7) calendar days, exclusive of Sunday, prior to this date, AND

WHEREAS, a public hearing thereon has been held before this Legislature after publication of notice thereof as legally required, NOW THEREFORE BE IT

RESOLVED, that Local Law "J" for the year 2023 is hereby adopted and shall take effect upon the filing thereof in the Office of the Secretary of State as provided by Municipal Home Rule Law, NOW THEREFORE

Be it enacted by the Legislature of the County of Cortland as follows:

SECTION 1. Legislative Findings and Intent

It is the desire of the Cortland County Legislature, in its continuing efforts to upgrade the administration of County government, to legally define, clarify and improve the management structure of the financial operations of the County of Cortland.

Cortland County Local Law 10 of the year 2022 abolished the elected office of the County Treasurer and transferred the duties of Treasurer to the existing position of Director of Finance as the County's professional Chief Fiscal Officer in Cortland County effective December 31, 2023. Said Local Law was duly passed by the Cortland County Legislature on June 23, 2022 subject to mandatory referendum and received the affirmative vote of a majority of the qualified electors voting thereon at the general election held on November 8, 2022.

The Cortland County Legislature finds that it is in the public interest to establish the Cortland County Finance Department. It is not the purpose or intent of the Cortland County Legislature in the adoption of this local law to curtail, diminish, transfer or divest the Legislature of Cortland County of any of its functions, powers or duties.

SECTION 2. Creation of Department

There is hereby created within the County of Cortland a Department of Finance, the head of which shall be the Director of Finance, effective December 31, 2023.

SECTION 3. Powers and Duties

The Director of Finance shall be responsible for the administration of the Finance Department, financial analysis and support to the County Administrator and/or the County Legislature, and shall have general superintendence over the fiscal affairs of the County. In accordance with Local Law 10 of the year 2022, the Director of Finance shall perform the duties prescribed by law as the Chief Fiscal Officer of the County of Cortland, shall perform such additional and related duties as may be prescribed by law and directed by the Legislature, and shall be in accordance with the Civil Service job description for Director of Finance.

The Director of Finance shall have the power to appoint such personnel within the Finance Department as may be authorized by the County Legislature.

SECTION 4. No Divestiture of Powers and Duties of Legislature or Administrator

Nothing contained in this local law shall operate or be construed to divest the County Legislature of Cortland County of any of its functions, powers and duties. Nothing contained in this local law shall operate or be construed to divest the County Administrator of any of his/her/their functions, powers and duties.

SECTION 5. Severability of Provisions

If any clause, sentence, paragraph, subdivision, section or part of this local law shall be adjudged by any court of competent jurisdiction to be invalid, such judgment, decree, or order shall not affect, impair or invalidate the remainder thereof but shall be confined in its operation to the clause, sentence, paragraph, subdivision, section or part thereof directly involved in the controversy in which such judgment, decree or order have been rendered.

SECTION 6. Conflict with Previous Local Laws and Resolutions

In the event of a conflict or inconsistency between this local law and any previous local law or resolution of the County Legislature, this local law shall govern.

SECTION 7: Effective Date

This local law shall take effect when all applicable statutory requirements for its passage and adoption have been complied with fully and it has been duly filed as provided by the Municipal Home Rule Law.

ON MOTION OF STOCK

AGENDA ITEM NO. 2

Adopt Local Law "L" of 2023 - a Local Law to Increase Salary of Officers Elected or Appointed for a Fixed Term During the Term of Office

WHEREAS, said Local Law has been in its final form upon the desks of the members of the Legislature at least seven (7) calendar days, exclusive of Sunday, prior to this date, AND

WHEREAS, a public hearing thereon has been held before this Legislature after publication of notice thereof as legally required, NOW THEREFORE BE IT

RESOLVED, that Local Law "L" for the year 2023 is hereby adopted and shall take effect upon the filing thereof in the Office of the Secretary of State as provided by Municipal Home Rule Law, AND BE IT FURTHER

RESOLVED, that, as this local law is subject to permissive referendum, the Clerk of the Legislature shall cause an abstract of this local law to be published in the County's official newspaper at least once a week for two successive weeks, the first publication of which shall be had within ten days after the local law is adopted, NOW THEREFORE

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

SECTION 1. **LEGISLATIVE INTENT**

The County Legislature hereby states the intent of this local law is to preserve the integrity of the Management Compensation Plan, the goal of which is to treat all employees equally by maintaining grade level salary increments attached to years of service to the County. It is therefore necessary for the County Legislature to extend by local law the same increase in salary for those County officers elected or appointed for a fixed term, in compliance with New York State County Law §201, as has been previously adopted pursuant to the amended Grade and Step Schedule for Management Confidential Employees through Cortland County Local Laws.

SECTION II.

The Cortland County Employment Policy Manual for Department Heads, Management and Management/Confidential Employees includes a Grade and Step Schedule, with salary increments tied to grade levels and years of service. Certain officers are excluded pursuant to New York State County Law §201, as the salary of any officer elected or appointed for a fixed term may only be increased by local law subject to permissive referendum as provided for in Municipal Home Rule Law §24(2)(h).

SECTION III.

The same rate of annual salary increase for fiscal year 2024 extended to Cortland County Management and Management/Confidential Employees through the modification of the Grade and Step Schedule, shall be provided to those officers elected or appointed for a fixed term, during their term of office. The annual salary of said officers elected or appointed for a fixed term, during their term of office, is to be adjusted and paid over the balance of the 2024 calendar year, upon the effective date of this local law.

This Local Law shall function to increase the salary of the following officers elected or appointed for a fixed term, during their term of office:

Elected officers include:

County Clerk
County Coroner(s)
County Sheriff

Officers appointed for a fixed term include:

Clerk of the Legislature
County Attorney
Public Defender
Veteran's Services Officer
Commissioner of Social Services
Highway Superintendent
Personnel Officer
Public Health Director
Real Property Tax Services Director

SECTION IV:

This local law is subject to permissive referendum and shall not take effect until at least forty-five (45) days after its adoption as provided for by Municipal Home Rule Law §24.

ON MOTION OF STOCK

AGENDA ITEM NO. 3

Adopt Local Law "M" of 2023 - a Local Law Setting the Salary of Cortland County Election Commissioners

WHEREAS, said Local Law has been in its final form upon the desks of the members of the Legislature at least seven (7) calendar days, exclusive of Sunday, prior to this date, AND

WHEREAS, a public hearing thereon has been held before this Legislature after publication of notice thereof as legally required, NOW THEREFORE BE IT

RESOLVED, that Local Law "M" for the year 2023 is hereby adopted and shall take effect upon the filing thereof in the Office of the Secretary of State as provided by Municipal Home Rule Law, AND BE IT FURTHER

RESOLVED, that, as this local law is subject to permissive referendum, the Clerk of the Legislature shall cause an abstract of this local law to be published in the County's official newspaper at least once a week for two successive weeks, the first publication of which shall be had within ten days after the local law is adopted;

NOW, THEREFORE

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

Section I:

Pursuant to Election Law §3-208, each Cortland County Election Commissioner shall receive an equal annual salary, to be fixed by the County Legislature.

Section II:

The annual salary for each Cortland County Election Commissioner shall be increased from \$55,315 to \$57,528 for fiscal year 2024 and paid over the balance of 2024 calendar year, upon the effective date of this local law.

Section III:

This local law is subject to permissive referendum and shall not take effect until at least forty-five (45) days after its adoption as provided for by Municipal Home Rule Law §24.

ON MOTION OF STOCK

AGENDA ITEM NO. 4

Resolution Permitting the Execution of a Replacement Quit Claim Deed for the Conveyance of 3010 E. Freetown-Texas Valley Road, in the Town of Freetown, County of Cortland, and State of New York, Bearing Tax Map No. 111.00-02-01.000 - County Attorney's Office

WHEREAS, the Cortland County Treasurer conveyed the property located at 3010 E. Freetown-Texas Valley Road, in the Town of Freetown, County of Cortland, and State of New York, Tax Map No. 111.00-02-01.000, to Cortland County by deed dated February 9, 1996, which was recorded in the Cortland County Clerk's Office on February 15, 1996, as Instrument No. 1996-589, AND

WHEREAS, the property located at 3010 E. Freetown Texas Valley Road, in the Town of Freetown, County of Cortland, and State of New York, Tax Map No. 111.00-02-01.000, was listed as Parcel No. 4 in the Tax Foreclosure Auction held on June 5, 1996, AND

WHEREAS, the property located at 3010 E. Freetown Texas Valley Road, in the Town of Freetown, County of Cortland, and State of New York, Tax Map No. 111.00-02-01.000 was successfully purchased by Linda Bamberry at the Tax Foreclosure Auction held on June 5, 1996, for the amount of thirteen thousand two hundred dollars (\$13,200), AND

WHEREAS, the successful bidder, Linda Bamberry, has paid a ten percent (10%) deposit in the amount of one thousand two hundred dollars (\$1,200) and a ten percent (10%) Buyer's Premium in the amount of one thousand two hundred dollars (\$1,200), for a total of two thousand four hundred dollars (\$2,400), on June 5, 1996, AND

WHEREAS, the successful bidder, Linda Bamberry, signed a Purchase Agreement, on or about June 5, 1996, whereas it was stated that the transfer is to be completed at the office of the County Attorney, 60 Central Avenue, Cortland, New York, on or before July 5, 1996, or as soon thereafter as the deed can be delivered, AND

WHEREAS, on or about July 11, 1996, correspondence was mailed to the successful bidder, Linda Bamberry, notifying her that the deed to the parcel she had purchased was ready to be picked up and that she was responsible for filing the deed within the County Clerk's Office, AND

WHEREAS, the Deed conveying the property from the County of Cortland to Linda Bamberry was not properly filed within the County Clerk's Office and such deed has been misplaced, NOW THEREFORE BE IT

RESOLVED, that the County Administrator is hereby authorized to execute a replacement Quit Claim Deed, RP-5217, and TP-584, conveying the property from the County of Cortland to Linda Bamberry; the successful bidder, and to file the same with the Office of the Cortland County Clerk upon Linda Bamberry providing the County of Cortland with the necessary filing fees for proper recording of said deed and related transfer documents.

MONTHLY REPORTS

1. Monthly Activity Report October2023 - Board of Elections
2. October Weights and Measures Report
3. County Clerk Monthly Report for October 2023
4. Clerk of the Legislature Monthly FOIL Report
5. County Attorney Office Monthly Report
6. Vacancy Report November 2023

DISCUSSION ITEMS

ADJOURNMENT