



Cortland County Legislature

Legislative Session

Legislative Chambers
Cortland, NY 13045
<https://www.cortlandcountyny.gov>

~ Agenda ~

Thursday, April 24, 2025

6:00 PM

Board Room

Call to Order

Salute to the Flag

Roll Call

Attendee Name	Present	Absent	Late	Arrived
Legislator Douglas Bentley	☐	☐	☐	
Legislator Cathy Bischoff	☐	☐	☐	
Legislator Reed Cleland	☐	☐	☐	
Legislator Mitchel Eccleston	☐	☐	☐	
Minority Leader Beau Harbin	☐	☐	☐	
Majority Leader Paul Heider	☐	☐	☐	
Legislator Linda Jones	☐	☐	☐	
Legislator Dominick Mantella	☐	☐	☐	
Legislator William McGovern	☐	☐	☐	
Legislator Joseph Nauseef	☐	☐	☐	
Legislator Christopher Newell	☐	☐	☐	
Legislator Jason Prentice	☐	☐	☐	
Legislator Sandra Price	☐	☐	☐	
Legislator Ronald J. Van Dee	☐	☐	☐	
Legislator Keith VanGorder	☐	☐	☐	
Legislator Eugene Waldbauer	☐	☐	☐	
Chair of the Legislature Kevin Fitch	☐	☐	☐	

Approval of Minutes

1. Cortland County Legislature - Legislative Session - Mar 27, 2025 6:00 PM

Privilege of the Floor

Proclamations & Recognitions

Presentation of Petitions, Communications, Presentations and Notices

1. Review of the Grace Space

Reports of Standing, Special and Ad Hoc Committees

Receive and File

1. CCHD 2024 Annual Report
2. Department of Social Services Annual Report
3. Town of Cincinnatus Resolution
4. Municipal Sales Tax Split Agreement

Articles Postponed to Day Certain

Unfinished Business

New Business

Resolutions

Resolutions from the Chair

ON MOTION OF FITCH

AGENDA ITEM NO. 1

Appoint Member - Southern Tier East Regional Planning Development Board (STERPDB)

WHEREAS, due to the resignation of Brendan O'Bryan from the Cortland Business Development Corporation, there is a need to fill this vacant position to complete this term; AND

WHEREAS, Cortland County is entitled to three representatives; NOW THEREFORE BE IT

RESOLVED, that the following individual be appointed to STERPDB to complete a two-year term as follows:

Melanie Vilardi	Cortland County Economic Development Professional	Term Expires 12/31/25
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ON MOTION OF FITCH

AGENDA ITEM NO. 2

Establishing a Cortland County Poet Laureate

WHEREAS, poetry and the literary arts contribute to the cultural richness, historical understanding, and shared identity of communities; AND

WHEREAS, Cortland County seeks to honor and promote literary excellence, creativity, and

civic engagement through the establishment of a County Poet Laureate; AND

WHEREAS, the Poet Laureate will serve as an ambassador for poetry and the arts, encouraging the reading, writing, and appreciation of poetry throughout Cortland County; NOW THEREFORE BE IT

RESOLVED, that the Cortland County Legislature hereby establishes the position of Cortland County Poet Laureate to serve as a ceremonial and educational representative for poetry and literary arts in the County; AND BE IT FURTHER

RESOLVED, that the Chair of the Legislature is hereby authorized to designate a member of the Cortland County Legislature to coordinate and lead the Poet Laureate selection process, including forming a selection committee, developing eligibility and evaluation criteria, and making a recommendation to the full Legislature for final appointment; AND BE IT FURTHER

RESOLVED, that the Poet Laureate shall serve a term of two (2) years and shall reside in Cortland County at the time of appointment and throughout the duration of their term; AND BE IT FURTHER

RESOLVED, that the Cortland County Poet Laureate shall promote poetry as a means of enriching public discourse, support literacy and education initiatives; AND BE IT FURTHER

RESOLVED, that this resolution shall take effect immediately upon its adoption.

Referred from Building & Grounds Committee

ON MOTION OF HEIDER

AGENDA ITEM NO. 3

Amend Resolution No. 324-15 Expanding the Utilization of the Buildings & Grounds Capital Project Reserve

WHEREAS, Resolution No. 324-15 established the Building and Grounds Capital Project Reserve for the purpose of funding major building repairs for County-owned facilities; AND

WHEREAS, the County recognizes the need to address significant capital improvements not only to buildings but also to County grounds, including but not limited to infrastructure upgrades, site improvements, and outdoor projects; AND

WHEREAS, expanding the scope of the Building and Grounds Capital Project Reserve will allow for a more comprehensive approach to maintaining and improving County-owned properties; NOW THEREFORE BE IT

RESOLVED, that the Cortland County Legislature hereby amends Resolution No. 324-15 to authorize the use of funds from the Building and Grounds Capital Project Reserve for projects on County grounds, in addition to building repairs; AND BE IT FURTHER

RESOLVED, that all expenditures from the Building and Grounds Capital Project Reserve shall require legislative approval; AND BE IT FURTHER

RESOLVED, that this resolution shall take effect immediately.

Referred from Highway Committee

Authorize Agreement - New York State - Cold Brook Rd. - Over Cold Brook Creek Culvert Replacement, CR102 - Highway Department

WHEREAS, the Project for the Cold Brook Rd. over Cold Brook Creek Culvert Replacement (CR 102) Replacement Project was awarded funding under the BRIDGE-NY 2023 Program, that calls for the apportionment of the costs of such program to be borne with 100% State Funds; AND

WHEREAS, the Highway Committee desires to authorize the implementation, and funding in the first instance, 100% of the State funded eligible costs of a Transportation Aid project, and appropriating funds therefore; AND

WHEREAS, Cortland County is the Project Sponsor and is legally empowered to declare itself to act as Lead Agency under SEQRA as the County is a local agency pursuant to the New York State Environmental Quality Review Act ("SEQRA"), ECL Section 8-0101, *et seq.*, and implementing regulations 6 NYCRR Part 617 (the "Regulations"); AND

WHEREAS, the proposed project meets the criteria established for a SEQRA Type II Action, per NYCRR Section 617.5, Subdivision (c), Item 2, and does not meet or exceed any thresholds in Section 617.4; AND

WHEREAS, the project has been identified as a SEQRA Type II Action; NOW THEREFORE BE IT

RESOLVED, the County hereby concurs that the Project to replace the Cold Brook Rd over Cold Brook Creek Culvert Replacement can be classified as a Type II Action under SEQRA, and no further review under SEQRA is required; NOW THEREFORE BE IT

RESOLVED, that the County Legislature hereby approves the above-subject project; AND BE IT FURTHER

RESOLVED, that the Cortland County Legislature hereby agrees that construction of the Project shall begin no later than twenty-four (24) months after award and the construction phase of the project shall be completed within thirty (30) months; AND BE IT FURTHER

RESOLVED, that the County Legislature hereby authorizes the County of Cortland to pay in the first instance 100% of the State share of the cost of Scoping, Design, Construction and Construction Inspection for the Project or portions thereof; AND BE IT FURTHER

RESOLVED, that the Cortland County Director of Finance is hereby authorized and directed to establish appropriation accounts in the amount of \$1,500,000.00 and a revenue account for the State share and the 2025 Budget be modified as follows:

INCREASE:

HH512243.43597.CBCC	State Aid Revenue	\$1,500,000.00
HH51225.54055.CBCC	PE/Design	\$ 205,000.00
HH51225.52800.CBCC	Construction	\$1,260,000.00
HH51225.52100.CBCC	ROW	\$ 35,000.00

; AND BE IT FURTHER

RESOLVED, that in the event the full State share of costs of the project exceeds the amount appropriated, the Legislature of Cortland County shall convene as soon as possible to appropriate said

excess amount immediately upon the notification by the NYSDOT thereof; AND BE IT FURTHER

RESOLVED, that the Chair of the County Legislature of Cortland County be and hereby is authorized and directed to execute all necessary Agreements, certifications or reimbursement as approved to form by the County Attorney or designee on behalf of the County of Cortland in connection with the advancement or approval of the Project; AND BE IT FURTHER

RESOLVED, that a certified copy of this resolution be filed with the New York State Commissioner of Transportation by attaching it to any necessary Agreement in connection with the Project; AND BE IT FURTHER

RESOLVED, this Resolution shall take effect immediately.

ON MOTION OF NEWELL

AGENDA ITEM NO. 5

Authorize Agreement - New York State - Pine Hill Rd. Over Hunts Creek Bridge Replacement, BIN 2207300 - Highway Department

WHEREAS, the Project for the Pine Hill Rd over Hunts Creek Bridge Replacement (BIN 2207300) Replacement Project was awarded funding under the BRIDGE-NY Program, that calls for the apportionment of the costs of such program to be borne with 95% Federal Funds; AND

WHEREAS, the Highway Committee desires to authorize the implementation, and funding in the first instance, 95% of the Federally funded eligible costs of a Transportation Aid project, and appropriating funds therefore; AND

WHEREAS, the Town of Freetown and the Town of Marathon are funding the local share for the project at 2.5% each, for a total of the 5% local share; AND

WHEREAS, Cortland County is the Project Sponsor and is legally empowered to declare itself to act as Lead Agency under SEQRA as the County is a local agency pursuant to the New York State Environmental Quality Review Act ("SEQRA"), ECL Section 8-0101, *et seq.*, and implementing regulations 6 NYCRR Part 617 (the "Regulations"); AND

WHEREAS, the proposed project meets the criteria established for a SEQRA Type II Action, per NYCRR Section 617.5, Subdivision (c), Item 2, and does not meet or exceed any thresholds in Section 617.4; AND

WHEREAS, the project has been identified as a SEQRA Type II Action; NOW THEREFORE BE IT

RESOLVED, the County hereby concurs that the Project to replace the Pine Hill Rd over Hunts Creek Bridge Replacement (BIN 2207300) can be classified as a Type II Action under SEQRA, and no further review under SEQRA is required; NOW THEREFORE BE IT

RESOLVED, that the County Legislature hereby approves the above-subject project; AND BE IT FURTHER

RESOLVED, that the Cortland County Legislature hereby agrees that construction of the Project shall begin no later than twenty-four (24) months after award and the construction phase of the project shall be completed within thirty (30) months; AND BE IT FURTHER

RESOLVED, that the County Legislature hereby authorizes the County of Cortland to pay in the first instance 95% of the Federal share of the cost of Scoping, Design, Construction and Construction Inspection for the Project or portions thereof; AND BE IT FURTHER

RESOLVED, that the Cortland County Director of Finance is hereby authorized and directed to establish appropriation accounts in the amount of \$2,386,763.00 and revenue accounts for the Federal and local shares and the 2025 Budget be modified as follows:

INCREASE:

HH512244.44597.PHBR	Federal Revenue	\$ 2,267,425.00
HH512242.42397.PHBR	Local Share - Other Gov'ts	\$ 119,338.00
HH51225.54055.PHBR	PE/Design	\$ 356,250.00
HH51225.52800.PHBR	Construction	\$ 2,016,263.00
HH51225.52100.PHBR	ROW	\$ 14,250.00

; AND BE IT FURTHER

RESOLVED, that in the event the full Federal share costs of the project exceeds the amount appropriated, the Legislature of Cortland County shall convene as soon as possible to appropriate said excess amount immediately upon the notification by the NYSDOT thereof; AND BE IT FURTHER

RESOLVED, that the Chair of the County Legislature of Cortland County be and is hereby authorized and directed to execute all necessary Agreements, certifications or reimbursement as approved to form by the County Attorney or designee on behalf of the County of Cortland in connection with the advancement or approval of the Project; AND BE IT FURTHER

RESOLVED, that a certified copy of this resolution be filed with the New York State Commissioner of Transportation by attaching it to any necessary Agreement in connection with the Project; AND BE IT FURTHER

RESOLVED, this Resolution shall take effect immediately.

ON MOTION OF NEWELL

AGENDA ITEM NO. 6

Award Bid for Cortland County Landfill Stage 3 Closure Project – Highway Department

WHEREAS, the Cortland County Highway Department advertised for bids for the Stage 3 Closure at the Cortland County Landfill; AND

WHEREAS, sealed bids were opened on March 27, 2025 at 2:00 P.M. at the Highway Administration Building; AND

WHEREAS, the bids received are as follows:

<u>BIDDERS</u>	<u>BID AMOUNT</u>
R&L Development Company 153 Swan Lake Lane PO Box 529 New Alexandria, PA 15670	\$1,695,232.00
Adhan Piping Co., Inc. 1865 State Route 13 Cortland, NY 13045	\$1,877,000.00
Mohawk Valley Materials, Inc. 1914 Black River Road N. Rome, NY 13440	\$2,043,581.22

ZMK Construction, Inc. \$2,100,000.00
3430 State Route 434
Apalachin, NY 13732

Rifenburg Construction, Inc. \$2,186,969.00
5834 State Route 5
Herkimer, NY 13350

Byler Excavating, LLC \$2,257,750.00
745 Martin Hill Road
Harpursville, NY 13787

; NOW THEREFORE BE IT

RESOLVED, that in accordance with the recommendations of the Highway Committee, the Cortland County Legislature hereby awards the Landfill Stage 3 Closure Agreement to the lowest responsible bidder, being R&L Development Company, 153 Swan Lake Ln., PO Box 529, New Alexandria, PA 15670; for the bid price listed above; AND BE IT FURTHER

RESOLVED, that the County Administrator, upon review and approval by the County Attorney or designee and subject to appropriation of funding by the Legislature, is hereby authorized to sign an agreement with R&L Development Company for an amount not to exceed \$1,695,232.00; AND BE IT FURTHER

RESOLVED, that the Landfill Closure Reserve, EL.386300.LDCL be used for all expenditures related to the Landfill Stage 3 Closure project; AND BE IT FURTHER

RESOLVED, the 2025 Budget be amended as follows:

INCREASE:

EL81605.52100.8167 Land & Land Improvements \$1,695,232

EL.359900 Appropriated Fund Balance \$1,695,232

ON MOTION OF NEWELL

AGENDA ITEM NO. 7

Authorize 2025 Landfill Amnesty Credit for Municipalities

WHEREAS, the Highway Committee of this Legislature believes that the municipalities of Cortland County will be better served by authorizing a credit to be used at the Cortland County Landfill for the disposal of waste other than garbage at no charge; AND

WHEREAS, the Highway Committee has previously recommended that there be a 30-ton limit per municipality; AND

WHEREAS, the Cortland County Landfill no longer accepts tires at their facility; AND

WHEREAS, the Superintendent of the Highway Department is authorized to establish a credit for each municipality to dispose of waste at no charge; NOW THEREFORE BE IT

RESOLVED, the Superintendent of the Highway Department shall provide each municipality in Cortland County a credit of \$2,700.00 for 2025 and allow said municipalities to dispose of their waste other than garbage at the Cortland County Landfill; AND BE IT FURTHER

RESOLVED, that only authorized municipal representatives utilizing authorized municipal vehicles may bring the waste to the County Landfill in order to make use of the above referenced credit; AND BE IT FURTHER

RESOLVED, that any metal objects (including white goods), construction and demolition waste, and tree waste shall be separated by category at the landfill site by the municipality making delivery; AND BE IT FURTHER

RESOLVED, that tires shall be excluded as an item that is accepted from the municipalities wishing to utilize the amnesty credit; AND BE IT FURTHER

RESOLVED, the Superintendent of the Highway Department shall furnish the Legislature with an accounting of all waste delivered to the landfill utilizing the amnesty credit.

ON MOTION OF NEWELL

AGENDA ITEM NO. 8

Award 2025 Material and Service Bids and Authorize Agreements with Various Vendors - Highway Department

WHEREAS, the Cortland County Highway Department advertised, received and opened bids for various materials, supplies and services used by the Highway Department; AND

WHEREAS, the costs for these various supplies, materials and services have been appropriated in the 2025 budget; AND

WHEREAS, the Cortland County Highway Superintendent has reviewed the various said responses and recommends that the various materials, supplies and services be awarded based on lowest price, availability and best value to the County; NOW THEREFORE BE IT

RESOLVED, that in accordance with the recommendations of the Highway Superintendent that the County Highway Department may purchase the various materials, supplies and services from the lowest responsible bidder meeting specifications as well as location and availability from the attached comparison list for the 2025 material and service bid results; AND BE IT FURTHER

RESOLVED, that the County Administrator or designee and/or the Chair of the Legislature, upon review and approval by the County Attorney or designee and subject to appropriation of funding by the Legislature, is hereby authorized to execute any agreements associated with said bid awards.

ON MOTION OF NEWELL

AGENDA ITEM NO. 9

Award Playground Equipment and Installation Bid and Accept Funding and Amend Budget for Playground Dwyer Memorial County Park - Highway Department

WHEREAS, Cortland County advertised, received and opened bids for playground equipment and installation at Dwyer Memorial County Park; AND

WHEREAS, the Tobacco Asset Securitization Corporation (TASC) Board voted to provide up to \$80,000 in funding to the County for this project; AND

WHEREAS, Cortland County has received the following bids for the playground equipment and installation;

BIDDERS

BID

\$ xx.xx

_____ \$ xx.xx
_____ \$ xx.xx

; AND

WHEREAS, it is the recommendation of the Highway Committee to award the bid to the lowest responsible bidder; AND

WHEREAS, the Highway Committee recommends awarding the bid for the purchase and installation of playground equipment for Dwyer Memorial County Park to _____; NOW THEREFORE BE IT

RESOLVED, that in accordance with the recommendations of the Highway Committee, the Cortland County Legislature hereby awards the bid for the purchase and installation of playground equipment for Dwyer Memorial County Park to, _____ for the bid price listed above; AND BE IT FURTHER

RESOLVED, that the County Administrator and/or Chair of the Legislature, upon approval by the County Attorney or designee, is hereby authorized and directed to execute an agreement with _____; AND BE IT FURTHER

RESOLVED, that the 2025 Cortland County Budget be and hereby is amended as follows to accept the funding from the Tobacco Asset Securitization Corporation for use for the playground at Dwyer Memorial County Park:

INCREASE:

A71105.52015	Equipment	\$80,000
A71105.42705	Gifts & Donations	\$80,000

Referred from Government Operations Committee

ON MOTION OF NAUSEEF

AGENDA ITEM NO. 10

Establishing a Formal Proclamation Policy for Cortland County

WHEREAS, the Cortland County Legislature recognizes the importance of issuing proclamations to commemorate significant events, achievements, and contributions that positively impact the County and its residents; AND

WHEREAS, the issuance of proclamations should follow a uniform process to ensure fairness, transparency, and efficiency in granting such recognitions; NOW THEREFORE BE IT

RESOLVED, that the Cortland County Legislature hereby establishes the following policy for the issuance of proclamations:

1. **Purpose:** Proclamations are honorary, non-legally binding documents issued by the Cortland County Legislature to recognize individuals, organizations, events, or causes of countywide significance. **Proclamations shall not be issued for divisive political issues, personal, business, or political endorsements.**
2. **Request Process:**

- a) Requests for proclamations must be submitted in writing to the Clerk of the Legislature at least 14 days prior to the intended issuance date.
- b) Requests should include the proposed text, the reason for recognition, and any supporting documentation.
- c) Requests shall be reviewed by the Chair of the Legislature or their designee to determine eligibility.
- d) Proclamations may only be requested by residents or organizations that have representation with Cortland County.

3. Approval Process:

- a) Proclamations deemed appropriate will be scheduled for presentation at a legislative session or an appropriate public event.
- b) The Chair of the Legislature retains the discretion to approve, modify, or deny any request.
- c) Proclamations do not require a vote by the full Legislature but shall be noted in the legislative record.

4. Format and Presentation:

- a) Proclamations shall follow a standard format as established by the Clerk of the Legislature.
- b) The document shall be signed by the Chair of the Legislature and may be co-signed by other legislators if deemed appropriate.
- c) Proclamations may be presented in person at an event held within Cortland County, in person at a legislative meeting, or picked up in the office of the Clerk of the Legislature.
- d) Requests for legislative attendance at events for presentation of Proclamations must be included in the submission to the Clerk of the Legislature, but does not guarantee attendance.

5. Restrictions:

- a) Proclamations shall not be issued for divisive political issues, personal, business, political endorsements, or personal milestones such as birthdays and weddings, except for those of exceptional public service.
- b) Proclamations should be aligned with the values and mission of Cortland County.

6. Public Access:

- a) Information about the proclamation policy and request procedures shall be made available to the public through the official Cortland County website and the Clerk of the Legislature's office.

; AND BE IT FURTHER

RESOLVED, that this policy shall take effect immediately upon adoption and shall be reviewed periodically for necessary amendments.

ON MOTION OF NAUSEEF

AGENDA ITEM NO. 11

Amend Resolution No. 6-25 to Amend the Home Rule Request for Special Legislation to Amend the Tax Law, in Relation to Extending the Authorization for Imposition of Local Mortgage Recording Tax in Cortland County - County Clerk

WHEREAS, the Cortland County Legislature adopted Resolution No. 76-23, "A Home Rule Request For Special Legislation to Amend the Tax Law, in Relation to Extending the Authorization For Imposition of Mortgage Recording Tax in Cortland County"; AND

WHEREAS, the request for special legislation was approved and the Cortland County Legislature

adopted Local Law No. 9 of 2023 - a Local Law Amending Local Law 1 of 2007, as Last Amended by Local Law 3 of 2021, Extending the Imposition of a Mortgage Recording Tax in Cortland County; AND

WHEREAS, New York State Tax Law §253-v presently authorizes Cortland County to adopt and amend local laws imposing a mortgage recording tax of twenty five cents (\$.25) for each one hundred dollars (\$100.00) and each remaining major fraction thereof of principal debt or obligation which is or under any contingency may be secured at the date of execution thereof, or at any time thereafter, by a mortgage on real property situated in Cortland County and recorded on or after the date upon which such tax takes effect, (beginning September 30, 2007 and ending December 1, 2025); AND

WHEREAS, in the current economic climate it would create a fiscal hardship for Cortland County that receives this revenue if this source of revenue were to expire, and such a loss would result in a substantial burden on County property owners through increased property taxes or loss of essential services; AND

WHEREAS, the Cortland County Legislature adopted Resolution No. 6- 25 authorizing a “A Home Rule Request For Special Legislation to Amend the Tax Law, in Relation to Extending the Authorization For Imposition of Mortgage Recording Tax in Cortland County” for 2025; NOW THEREFORE BE IT

RESOLVED, that this Legislature endorses and requests that the necessary information and forms be forwarded to the County Legislature in order that an appropriate Home Rule Request can be acted upon by this body; AND BE IT FURTHER

RESOLVED, that the Legislature of the County of Cortland does hereby request special legislation be enacted to amend New York State Tax Law §253-v, extending the expiration date from December 1, 2025 to December 1, 2027; AND BE IT FURTHER

RESOLVED, that the Clerk of the Legislature is hereby directed to provide certified copies of this Resolution to New York State Senator Lea Webb, New York State Assemblymember Anna Kelles, and New York State Assemblymember Jeff Gallahan in order to request the introduction of Home Rule Legislation regarding this matter.

ON MOTION OF NAUSEEF

AGENDA ITEM NO. 12

Amend the Cortland County Legislature Rules of Order

WHEREAS, Local Law No. 2 for year 1972, Section 202, Paragraph 5 established that the Cortland County Legislature is empowered to enact rules governing the conduct of the members at its sessions and the manner of transacting business thereat; AND

WHEREAS, County Law Section 153[8] empowers the County Legislature to determine the rules of its own proceedings; AND

WHEREAS, the Government Operations Committee has reviewed and approved the recommended changes to the Rules of Order as attached; NOW THEREFORE BE IT

RESOLVED, that the "Rules of Order for the Cortland County Legislature" are hereby amended as attached; AND BE IT FURTHER

RESOLVED, that the rules shall be published on the Cortland County website; AND BE IT FURTHER

RESOLVED, that these amendments to the Cortland County Legislature’s Rules of Order shall take effect April 25, 2025.

Amend Tobacco and Cannabis Policy

WHEREAS, Cortland County's current Tobacco and Cannabis Use Policy allows for designated areas for County employees to smoke; AND

WHEREAS, the Cortland County Legislature wishes to amend said policy to exclude these designated areas; AND

WHEREAS, County Health Department staff is available to assist County employees in smoking cessation; NOW THEREFORE BE IT

RESOLVED, there will no longer be designated County employee smoking areas at County work sites and the Tobacco and Cannabis Policy will be amended to exclude these designated areas effective September 1, 2025.

Referred from Judiciary & Public Safety Committee

Authorization to Create Law Enforcement Reserve and Appropriate Funding

WHEREAS, a Traffic Diversion Program was created in 2020; AND

WHEREAS, in 2023, the program was discontinued; AND

WHEREAS, after paying the respective municipal partners, \$183,842.41 in funding remains in the bank account; AND

WHEREAS, it is the recommendation of the Judiciary & Public Safety Committee to move these funds into a reserve account for one time purchases which are law enforcement related; AND

WHEREAS, the District Attorney has requested the use of these funds to purchase five (5) laptops for District Attorneys at a cost not to exceed \$10,000, NOW THEREFORE BE IT

RESOLVED, that the Cortland County Legislature be and hereby establishes a Law Enforcement Reserve (Account No. A.386300.DATDP); AND BE IT FURTHER

RESOLVED, that the Director of Finance is hereby directed to deposit the remaining \$183,842.41 of funding from the Traffic Diversion Program into the Law Enforcement Reserve (Account No. A.386300.DATDP); AND BE IT FURTHER

RESOLVED, that approved allocations from this reserve must be for one time purchases that are law enforcement related; AND BE IT FURTHER

RESOLVED, that all approvals for use of the Law Enforcement Reserve (Account No. A.386300.DATDP) must be approved by the Judiciary & Public Safety Committee, or any subsequent name of the committee as it may be amended, and the Cortland County Legislature; AND BE IT FURTHER

RESOLVED, the District Attorney be and hereby is authorized to purchase five (5) laptops at a cost not to exceed \$10,000 using Law Enforcement Reserve monies; AND BE IT FURTHER

RESOLVED, the 2025 General Fund budget be amended as follows:

INCREASE:

A11655.52060	Computer Equipment	\$10,000
A.351100	Appropriated Reserves	\$10,000

Referred from Agriculture/Planning/Environment Committee

ON MOTION OF HARBIN

AGENDA ITEM NO. 15

Recommend Members for Appointment to Central New York Regional Transportation Authority (CENTRO) Board

WHEREAS, pursuant to Public Authorities Law Section 1328, the Central New York Regional Transportation Authority was created by the State of New York; AND

WHEREAS, pursuant to said law, the Cortland County Legislature is required to submit two names for recommendation for appointment by the Governor of the State of New York, with advice and consent of the Senate, where such list must recommend two individuals for each appointment to said authority; NOW THEREFORE BE IT

RESOLVED, that the Cortland County Legislature be and hereby recommends the following individuals for appointment to the Central New York Regional Transportation Authority:

Jennifer Hillman
Greg Richards

; AND BE IT FURTHER

RESOLVED, the Clerk of the Cortland County Legislature is directed to cause a certified copy of this resolution to be transmitted to the Governor of New York State and to the Secretary of the Central New York Regional Transportation Authority.

ON MOTION OF HARBIN

AGENDA ITEM NO. 16

Demanding an Independent Audit of New York State Electric & Gas (NYSEG) and National Grid Billing Practices

WHEREAS, New York State Electric & Gas (NYSEG) and National Grid provide electric and gas services to residents of Cortland County and surrounding areas; AND

WHEREAS, numerous complaints have been raised by residents and businesses regarding inaccurate billing, sudden rate spikes, delayed or estimated meter readings, and lack of transparency in NYSEG's and National Grid's billing practices; AND

WHEREAS, these billing issues have caused financial hardship for many residents and businesses in Cortland County, raising concerns about fairness, accountability, and proper regulatory oversight; AND

WHEREAS, the New York State Public Service Commission (PSC) and other state regulatory agencies have an obligation to ensure that utility companies operate transparently and in the best interest of consumers; AND

WHEREAS, a comprehensive, independent audit of NYSEG's and National Grid's billing practices would provide much needed clarity regarding the accuracy of billing procedures, the effectiveness of customer service responses, and compliance with state regulations; AND

WHEREAS, other municipalities and consumer advocacy groups across New York State have also called for increased scrutiny and oversight of NYSEG and National Grid due to similar concerns; NOW THEREFORE BE IT

RESOLVED, that the Cortland County Legislature formally requests that the New York State Public Services Commission (PSC), the New York State Attorney General's Office and the New York State Comptroller's Office conduct an independent audit of NYSEG's and National Grid's billing practices to determine the extent of errors, inconsistencies, and potential overcharges; AND BE IT FURTHER

RESOLVED, that this audit should include, but not be limited to, an examination of meter reading accuracy, estimated billing practices, customer service response times, and adherence to state-mandated billing regulations; AND BE IT FURTHER

RESOLVED, that the findings of the audit be made publicly available to ensure transparency and accountability; AND BE IT FURTHER

RESOLVED, that the Clerk of the Legislature is hereby directed to forward copies of this resolution to Governor Kathy Hochul, the New York State Public Services Commission, New York State Attorney General Letita James, New York State Comptroller Thomas DiNapoli, New York Association of Counties (NYSAC), New York State Senator Lea Webb, New York State Assemblypersons Anna Kelles and Jeff Gallahan, NYSEG leadership and National Grid leadership.

Referred from Health & Human Services Committee

ON MOTION OF VAN DEE

AGENDA ITEM NO. 17

Appoint Director of the Office for Aging

WHEREAS, due to the resignation of Dr. Pearl Reed-Klein, there is a need to appoint a new Director of Office for Aging; AND

WHEREAS, an interview committee was established and conducted interviews and offered a recommendation for this appointment; AND

WHEREAS, the County Legislature has received the recommendation for appointment of _____ as Director of the Cortland County Office for Aging; NOW THEREFORE BE IT

RESOLVED, that the Cortland County Legislature hereby appoints _____ as Director of the Office for Aging at an annual salary of \$_____ (Grade 6, Step __, Management Compensation Plan, non-competitive class) effective April 25, 2025 at 12:01 a.m.

ON MOTION OF VAN DEE

AGENDA ITEM NO. 18

Authorize Agreement with GA Brooks Consulting, LLC Under the New York State Office of Children and Family Services Safe Harbour Grant - Cortland County Child Advocacy Center

WHEREAS, the Cortland County Child Advocacy Center was awarded the New York State Office of Children and Family Services Safe Harbour Grant to develop a county-wide system response to address child trafficking and exploitation; AND

WHEREAS, the Cortland County Child Advocacy Center desires to contract with GA Brooks

Consulting, 25 Richland St, Rochester, NY 14609; AND

WHEREAS, this contract shall be for an eight (8) month time period beginning on May 1, 2025 and ending on December 31, 2025 for a total cost not to exceed \$30,000.00; AND

WHEREAS, these expenses are budgeted in account Professional Services A40505-52060-MDT; NOW THEREFORE BE IT

RESOLVED, that the County Administrator upon review and approval by the County Attorney or designee, and subject to any appropriation of funding by the Legislature, are authorized to execute agreements for the provision of said services.

ON MOTION OF VAN DEE

AGENDA ITEM NO. 19

Create Senior Mental Health Clinician

WHEREAS, the needs of the agency will be better served by creating one per diem position of Senior Mental Health Clinician; AND

WHEREAS, the Health and Human Services Committee recommends the creation of this position; NOW THEREFORE BE IT

RESOLVED, that one per diem position of Senior Mental Health Clinician (Grade 28, 38.3309-48.5172/hr, CSEA, non-competitive class, per diem, up to 17 hrs/week, no benefits), be created with approval to fill on April 24, 2025.

Referred from Finance & Administration Committee

ON MOTION OF BISCHOFF

AGENDA ITEM NO. 20

Microenterprise Assistance Program Grant Award - David's Aqua Nook

WHEREAS, the Cortland County Legislature's Finance and Administration Committee was empaneled as the Cortland County Microenterprise Assistance Program Review Committee on April 15, 2025 for the purpose of reviewing applications received for the Microenterprise Grant Program; AND

WHEREAS, following said review the Committee recommended that David's Aqua Nook, of 98 Cayuga Street, Homer, New York, 13040 be awarded \$5,000 from the Microenterprise program for the purchase of inventory and supplies; NOW THEREFORE BE IT

RESOLVED, that the Cortland County Legislature hereby accepts and approves the recommendation of the Cortland County Microenterprise Assistance Program Review Committee and hereby awards the sum \$5,000 to David's Aqua Nook from the Cortland County Microenterprise Assistance Program funding for the purchase of inventory and supplies; AND BE IT FURTHER

RESOLVED, that the County Administrator and/or Chair of the Cortland County Legislature, upon review by the County Attorney or designee, is hereby authorized to prepare and execute any and all agreements and sub-recipient agreements necessary and incident to this award.

ON MOTION OF BISCHOFF

AGENDA ITEM NO. 21

Microenterprise Assistance Program Grant Award - Finch Family Farmstead, LLC

WHEREAS, the Cortland County Legislature's Finance and Administration Committee was empaneled as the Cortland County Microenterprise Assistance Program Review Committee on April 15,

2025 for the purpose of reviewing applications received for the Microenterprise Grant Program; AND

WHEREAS, following said review the Committee recommended that Finch Family Farmstead, LLC, of 1490 McGraw Marathon Road, Marathon, New York, 13803 be awarded \$15,000 from the Microenterprise program for the purchase of equipment, furniture, fixtures, electronic devices, software and marketing materials; NOW THEREFORE BE IT

RESOLVED, that the Cortland County Legislature hereby accepts and approves the recommendation of the Cortland County Microenterprise Assistance Program Review Committee and hereby awards the sum \$15,000 to Finch Family Farmstead, LLC from the Cortland County Microenterprise Assistance Program funding for the purchase of equipment, furniture, fixtures, electronic devices, software and marketing materials; AND BE IT FURTHER

RESOLVED, that the County Administrator and/or Chair of the Cortland County Legislature, upon review by the County Attorney or designee, is hereby authorized to prepare and execute any and all agreements and sub-recipient agreements necessary and incident to this award.

ON MOTION OF BISCHOFF

AGENDA ITEM NO. 22

Microenterprise Assistance Program Grant Award - Frog Hollow Home and Property Services, LLC

WHEREAS, the Cortland County Legislature's Finance and Administration Committee was empaneled as the Cortland County Microenterprise Assistance Program Review Committee on April 15, 2025 for the purpose of reviewing applications received for the Microenterprise Grant Program; AND

WHEREAS, following said review the Committee recommended that Frog Hollow Home and Property Services, LLC, of 1935 Kohne Road, Dryden, New York, 13053 be awarded \$35,000 from the Microenterprise program for the purchase of a dump trailer, equipment, furniture and fixtures, electronics and technology, software, and working capital; NOW THEREFORE BE IT

RESOLVED, that the Cortland County Legislature hereby accepts and approves the recommendation of the Cortland County Microenterprise Assistance Program Review Committee and hereby awards the sum \$35,000 to Frog Hollow Home and Property Services, LLC from the Cortland County Microenterprise Assistance Program funding for the purchase of a dump trailer, equipment, furniture and fixtures, electronics and technology, software, and working capital; AND BE IT FURTHER

RESOLVED, that the County Administrator and/or Chair of the Cortland County Legislature, upon review by the County Attorney or designee, is hereby authorized to prepare and execute any and all agreements and sub-recipient agreements necessary and incident to this award.

ON MOTION OF BISCHOFF

AGENDA ITEM NO. 23

Microenterprise Assistance Program Grant Award - Horsetail Herb Farm

WHEREAS, the Cortland County Legislature's Finance and Administration Committee was empaneled as the Cortland County Microenterprise Assistance Program Review Committee on April 15, 2025 for the purpose of reviewing applications received for the Microenterprise Grant Program; AND

WHEREAS, following said review the Committee recommended that Horsetail Herb Farm, of 3501 Hoxie Gorge Freetown Road, Marathon, New York, 13803 be awarded \$35,000 from the Microenterprise program for the purchase of equipment, inventory, and advertising and marketing expenses; NOW THEREFORE BE IT

RESOLVED, that the Cortland County Legislature hereby accepts and approves the recommendation of the Cortland County Microenterprise Assistance Program Review Committee and

hereby awards the sum \$35,000 to Horsetail Herb Farm from the Cortland County Microenterprise Assistance Program funding for the purchase of equipment, inventory, and advertising and marketing expenses; AND BE IT FURTHER

RESOLVED, that the County Administrator and/or Chair of the Cortland County Legislature, upon review by the County Attorney or designee, is hereby authorized to prepare and execute any and all agreements and sub-recipient agreements necessary and incident to this award.

ON MOTION OF BISCHOFF

AGENDA ITEM NO. 24

Microenterprise Assistance Program Grant Award - Lotus Therapies, LLC

WHEREAS, the Cortland County Legislature's Finance and Administration Committee was empaneled as the Cortland County Microenterprise Assistance Program Review Committee on April 15, 2025 for the purpose of reviewing applications received for the Microenterprise Grant Program; AND

WHEREAS, following said review the Committee recommended that Lotus Therapies, LLC , of 3662 The Park, Cortland, New York, 13045 be awarded \$35,000 from the Microenterprise program for the purchase of equipment; NOW THEREFORE BE IT

RESOLVED, that the Cortland County Legislature hereby accepts and approves the recommendation of the Cortland County Microenterprise Assistance Program Review Committee and hereby awards the sum \$35,000 to Lotus Therapies, LLC from the Cortland County Microenterprise Assistance Program funding for the purchase of equipment; AND BE IT FURTHER

RESOLVED, that the County Administrator and/or Chair of the Cortland County Legislature, upon review by the County Attorney or designee, is hereby authorized to prepare and execute any and all agreements and sub-recipient agreements necessary and incident to this award.

ON MOTION OF BISCHOFF

AGENDA ITEM NO. 25

A Home Rule Request for Special Legislation to Amend the Tax Law, in Relation to Extending the Authorization for Imposition of Additional 1% Sales and Compensating Use Tax in Cortland County Until November 30, 2027 (Senate Bill No. 6982, Assembly Bill No. 7821)

WHEREAS, New York State Tax Law §1210(i)(12) presently authorizes Cortland County to adopt and amend local laws, ordinances, or resolutions imposing taxes at a rate which is one percent additional to the three percent rate authorized for the County for a period beginning September 1, 1992 and ending November 30, 2025; AND

WHEREAS, in the current economic climate it would create a fiscal hardship for Cortland County if this source of revenue was to expire, and such a loss would result in a substantial burden on County property owners through increased property taxes or loss of essential services; AND

WHEREAS, the Cortland County Legislature approved Resolution No. 45-25, "Requesting Special Legislation to Amend the Tax Law, in Relation to Extending the Authorization For Imposition of an Additional 1% Sales and Compensating Use Tax in Cortland County"; NOW THEREFORE BE IT

RESOLVED, that this Legislature endorses and requests Senate Bill No. 6982 (S6982) and Assembly Bill No. 7821(A7821) be enacted to amend New York State Tax Law §1210(i)(12), extending the expiration date from November 30, 2025 to November 30, 2027; AND BE IT FURTHER

RESOLVED, the Cortland County Legislature urges its elected representatives in the Senate and Assembly to support this special legislation; AND BE IT FURTHER

RESOLVED, that the Clerk of this Legislature prepare the documentation necessary for the New

York State Legislature to enact said Legislation; AND BE IT FURTHER

RESOLVED, that the Chair of the Legislature and Clerk of the Legislature, upon review and approval by the County Attorney or designee, be and hereby are authorized to execute the appropriate Home Rule Request for the enactment of said special law.

ON MOTION OF BISCHOFF

AGENDA ITEM NO. 26

Amend Resolution No. 227-24 to Withdraw Tourism Marketing Grant Funding from the Cortland Regional Sports Council

WHEREAS, the Cortland County Legislature adopted Resolution No. 227-24 on November 21, 2024, which authorized the allocation of 2025 Tourism Marketing Grant funding to a number of agencies, including \$140,800 to the Cortland Regional Sports Council, based on recommendations from the Cortland County Convention & Visitors Bureau's (CVB) Tourism Marketing Grant Review Committee; AND

WHEREAS, each agency allocated funding agrees to utilize the funding according to the Cortland County Tourism Marketing Grant Guidelines; AND

WHEREAS, an official audit has found that the Cortland Regional Sports Council failed to conform to the official criteria and terms outlined in the Tourism Marketing Grant Guidelines; AND

WHEREAS, the Cortland County Legislature has a duty to ensure the responsible, transparent, and appropriate use of taxpayer dollars allocated through the Tourism Marketing Grant Program; NOW THEREFORE BE IT

RESOLVED, that the Cortland County Legislature hereby amends Resolution No. 227-24 to rescind the allocation of \$140,800 in Tourism Marketing Grant funding to the Cortland Regional Sports Council for fiscal year 2025; AND BE IT FURTHER

RESOLVED, that the Cortland County Convention & Visitors Bureau is hereby instructed to update all applicable records and notifications to reflect this amendment; AND BE IT FURTHER

RESOLVED, that copies of this resolution be forwarded to the Cortland Regional Sports Council, the Cortland County Convention & Visitors Bureau, the County Manager of Audit and Financial Projects, and other appropriate parties.

ON MOTION OF BISCHOFF

AGENDA ITEM NO. 27

Amend Resolution No. 172-24 to Amend the Contract with the Cortland County Convention and Visitor's Bureau

WHEREAS, Resolution No. 172-24 authorized the Cortland County to enter into an agreement with the Cortland County Convention and Visitors Bureau, Inc. (CVB) to provide public benefit services for tourism promotion and publicity during the period of January 1, 2025 through December 31, 2025; AND

WHEREAS, Resolution No. 227-24, adopted on August 22, 2024, approved the allocation of 2025 Occupancy Tax funding to various agencies, including an award of \$140,800 to the Cortland Regional Sports Council; AND

WHEREAS, Resolution No. ____-25, adopted on April 24, 2025, withdrew the funding allocated to the Cortland Regional Sports Council due to findings of noncompliance with Tourism Marketing Grant Guidelines, as documented in an official audit; AND

WHEREAS, it is the recommendation of the Cortland County Finance and Administration Committee that the funds previously allocated to the Cortland Regional Sports Council now be retained by Cortland County and held for future redistribution; NOW THEREFORE BE IT

RESOLVED, that Resolution No. 172-24 is hereby amended to reduce the authorized contract amount to be remitted by the Cortland County Finance Director to the Cortland County Convention and Visitors Bureau Inc. for fiscal year 2025 by \$140,800, revising the total remittance from \$764,234.95 to \$623,434.95; AND BE IT FURTHER

RESOLVED, that the \$140,800 in occupancy tax funding originally allocated to the Cortland Regional Sports Council shall be retained by Cortland County and carried forward for consideration and redistribution in accordance with New York State Tax Law Section 1202(g); AND BE IT FURTHER

RESOLVED, that the County Administrator and/or Chair of the Legislature be and hereby is authorized and directed to execute an amended agreement with the Cortland County Convention and Visitors Bureau, Inc., upon review and approval by the County Attorney or designee; AND BE IT FURTHER

RESOLVED, that copies of this resolution be forwarded to the Cortland County Convention and Visitors Bureau, Inc., the Director of Finance, the County Manager of Audit and Financial Projects, and other appropriate parties.

ON MOTION OF BISCHOFF

AGENDA ITEM NO. 28

Implementing a Hiring Pause for Cortland County

WHEREAS, Cortland County is currently facing significant financial pressures due to unfunded state mandates, rising operational costs, and other fiscal constraints; AND

WHEREAS, in order to maintain fiscal responsibility and preserve essential services, it is necessary to take proactive measures to control expenditures, including a temporary pause on hiring new personnel; AND

WHEREAS, certain exceptions may be warranted in order to ensure the continuity of critical services and public safety; NOW THEREFORE BE IT

RESOLVED, that effective immediately, a hiring pause is hereby implemented for all Cortland County departments, agencies, and offices; AND BE IT FURTHER

RESOLVED, that this hiring pause shall apply to all full-time, part-time, and temporary positions, whether vacant or anticipated, including but not limited to those in union, non-union, and management categories; AND BE IT FURTHER

RESOLVED, that the following exceptions to the hiring pause shall be permitted:

- Director of Office for Aging
- Seasonal Workers
- Correction Officers (up to four (4) new positions)

; AND BE IT FURTHER

RESOLVED, that this hiring pause shall remain in effect until June 30, 2025.

Announcements

Adjournment