

HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE

Tuesday, August 24, 2021

Meeting Chambers/Zoom

Committee Members Present

Alex Stepanski, Chairman

Loren Corbin, Town of Brookfield

Eve Ann Shwartz, Town of Hamilton

James Goldstein, Vice-Chairman, Town of Lebanon, via Zoom

Joe Magliocca, City of Oneida, via Zoom

Others Present

Michael Fitzgerald, Commissioner, Social Services

Ron Raymer, Director, Veterans Agency

Eric Faisst, Director, Public Health

Teisha Cook, Director, Mental Health Services

Kathryn Hopkins, Mental Health Clinic Treatment Program Coordinator

Tina Wayland Smith, County Attorney

Mark Scimone, County Administrator

Samantha Field, Public Information Officer

Cindy Edick, Treasurer

Steven Chaires, Deputy Commissioner, Social Services

Brett Hembach, Director, Social Services

Shawn Prieto, Director, Public Health

Jim Monfort, CCI Financial Consultant

Michele Browell, Confidential Secretary, Social Services

Call Meeting to Order

Chairman Alex Stepanski called the meeting to order at 10:31 a.m., indicating that there was a quorum for the Health and Human Services Committee.

Approve Minutes

The Health and Human Services Committee reviewed the meeting minutes for July 27, 2021.

A motion by Supervisor Corbin to approve the minutes, seconded by Supervisor Magliocca and carried unanimously.

Mental Health

Director Teisha Cook presented the following resolutions to the Committee:

Authorizing the Chairman to Enter into an Agreement with Keuka College for Social Work Interns.

A motion was made by Vice-Chairman Goldstein to approve the resolution, seconded by Supervisor Corbin and carried unanimously.

Authorizing the Modification of the 2021 Adopted County Budget (Mental Health Training & Staff Development).

A motion was made by Supervisor Shwartz to approve the resolution, seconded by Supervisor Magliocca and carried unanimously.

Director Cook wanted to make the Committee aware of a resolution that had gone before the Government Operations Committee:

Abolishing a Staff Social Worker Position and creating a Senior Staff Social Worker position in the Mental Health Department.

All Committee members were in favor of the resolution.

Director Cook and Jim Monfort, Financial Consultant from CCI present the Committee with the Mental Health 2022 budget summary.

There are some fee increases due to new staff. Expenses include added position, upgrade in salary and fringe and there was funding for Pathways. There is revenue of approximately \$300,000 not included. It is anticipated but timing is uncertain. Revenue is expected to be in the positive.

Other Committee Business

A draft resolution was presented to the Committee by Commissioner Michael Fitzgerald

Authorizing the Modification of the 2021 Adopted County Budget.

This resolution is in regards to funding the County received through the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021. Some of the funds will be used for the Mental Health Study and also for affordable housing projects. Commissioner Fitzgerald explained that a site has not been chosen yet for this project. They are looking for a site that is near services such as childcare, transportation, Mental Health and stores. Once the numbers have been finalized the final resolution will be presented.

Social Services

Commissioner Michael Fitzgerald presented the Commissioners Report. These numbers are through the month of July. Almost all categories are where they should be at this point which is at or below 58%.

Commissioner Fitzgerald presented the following resolutions to the Committee:

Authorizing the Chairman to Enter into an Agreement with Berkshire Farm Center and Services for Youth.

A motion was made by Vice-Chairman Goldstein to approve the resolution, seconded by Supervisor Shwartz and carried unanimously.

Authorizing the Chairman to Renew an Agreement with Community Action Program, Inc.

A motion was made by Vice-Chairman Goldstein to approve the resolution, seconded by Supervisor Magliocca and carried unanimously.

Authorizing the Chairman to Enter into an Agreement with Stoneleigh Housing, Inc.

A motion was made by Vice-Chairman Goldstein to approve the resolution, seconded by Supervisor Corbin and carried unanimously.

Authorizing the Chairman to Enter into an Agreement with Community Action Program, Inc.

A motion was made by Supervisor Shwartz to approve the resolution, seconded by Supervisor Corbin and carried unanimously.

Authorizing the Chairman to Enter into an Agreement with Community Action Program, Inc.

A motion was made by Supervisor Corbin to approve the resolution, seconded by Supervisor Shwartz and carried unanimously.

Authorizing the Chairman to Enter into an Agreement with Madison County Office for the Aging.

A motion was made by Vice-Chairman Goldstein to approve the resolution, seconded by Supervisor Corbin and carried unanimously.

Authorizing the Modification of the 2021 Adopted County Budget (DSS Employment and Training Adj.).

A motion was made by Supervisor Shwartz to approve the resolution, seconded by Supervisor Corbin and carried unanimously.

Authorizing the Chairman to Enter into an Agreement with VenTek, Inc.

A motion was made by Chairman Stepanski to approve the resolution, seconded by Supervisor Corbin and carried unanimously.

Commissioner Fitzgerald gave an update on the ERAP program. Currently there have been 202 applications submitted. There have been seven payments made for a total for \$52,000 paid to date.

The DSS 2022 budget summary was presented. There is an approximate \$497,000 increase for the budget mostly due to Medicaid. There are some unknowns such as the weekly share funds. The budget will be presented to the budget committee in September.

Commissioner Fitzgerald also presented the 2022 Youth Bureau budget summary. This is up by \$9,028 due to salary increases.

Public Health

Director Eric Faisst presented the following resolutions to the Committee:

Authorizing the Chairman to Enter into an Agreement with Quadrant Biosciences, Inc

A motion was made by Vice-Chairman Goldstein to approve the resolution, seconded by Supervisor Corbin and carried unanimously.

Modifying the 2021 Budget for the Early Intervention Administration Grant.

A motion was made by Vice-Chairman Goldstein to approve the resolution, seconded by Supervisor Corbin and carried unanimously.

Authorizing the Chairman to Enter into an Agreement and Modify the 2021 Adopted county Budget for COVID-19 Enhanced Detection Grant.

A motion was made by Vice-Chairman Goldstein to approve the resolution, seconded by Supervisor Corbin and carried unanimously.

COVID-19 updated numbers; there are currently 79 active cases in Madison County down from 92 on Friday. The average is 11 per day. There is an anticipated spike with the holidays coming up. There was one death over the weekend bringing the total of deaths to 92. Testing is up due to college student back on campuses. There will be a Johnson & Johnson clinic in Oneida on Wednesday which is full. The clinic at the Oneida site will end on September 24th. They will be looking for new site and clinics will continue in Wampsville at the Public Health Department. There will be a POD at SUNY Morrisville on Thursday. There has been an increase in vaccinations since the FDA approval.

Director Eric Faisst presented the 2022 Public Health budget summary.

The transportation rates went up substantially. There is an increase in preschool cost and the number of children continues to increase. Permit fees have decreased. The 2022 budget will have an increase of approximately \$474,186, which is an increase of 14.28%.

Director of Administrative Services, Shawn Priervo spoke to the Committee regarding the electronic health record that Public Health and Mental Health are currently using and would like to continue to use. All Committee members were in favor of the continued use.

Veterans Agency

Director Ron Raymer gave program updates and stated that the agency continues to meet client's needs and connect them with the services they need. The agency continues with trainings. There were two trainings/events attended since last Committee meeting. Total client contact for July was 349 and so far for August is 244.

Director Raymer presented the 2022 Veterans Agency budget summary.

There were some increases in personal services, books, training and travel. Burial expenses increased by \$2,000. The total increase for 2022 is \$13,501.50.

Preferred Agenda

The Committee unanimously agreed to include all resolutions in their Preferred Agenda, upon motion by Supervisor Shwartz and seconded by Supervisor Magliocca.

Executive Session

A motion was made by Supervisor Shwartz to enter into executive session for advice of counsel, Supervisor Corbin seconded the motion, and it was unanimously carried. A motion was made by Supervisor Shwartz to exit executive session; Supervisor Corbin seconded the motion, and it was carried unanimously.

Motion to Adjourn

There being no further business to discuss, a motion was made by Supervisor Corbin to adjourn the meeting at 12:04 a.m., seconded by Supervisor Shwartz and carried unanimously.

Next meeting: September 28, 2021 at 10:30 a.m.

Respectfully submitted by Michele Browell for Chairman Alexander R. Stepanski