I. CALL TO ORDER

Mrs. Ferratella called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. and asked Ms. Fitzpatrick to lead the Pledge of Allegiance.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION: APPROVING THE MINUTES OF THE MAY 5, 2021, MEETING MADE BY MR. HANNA, SECONDED BY MR. VAN CAESEELE. MOTION CARRIES 4-0. (MR. NICHOLS ABSENT FOR VOTE)

III. PRESENTATIONS

A. Youth Bureau

A. Youth-In-Government – Mr. Caudill thanked the committee for the opportunity to allow Brennan Frost, Youth-In-Government intern, to make his presentation to the committee. He stated this has been a challenge for everyone involved. Mr. Caudill introduced Brennan Frost who is a Senior at Corning-Painted Post High School. Brennan is a member of the National Honor Society and intends to attend Syracuse University in the fall with a major in Political Science and Psychology. Brennan has an interest in forensic psychology or possibly law. Brennan Frost presented his resolution for creating a Seniors to Seniors Program. He explained this would pair a senior in high school with a senior citizen to help them with technology literacy.

Mr. Swackhamer commented my grandson does this in Boston at a nursing home five to ten hours a week. It is a great thing that he and others like him are interested in doing this for seniors.

Mrs. Ferratella commented we get wonderful ideas from the Youth-In-Government presentations and these are things that we can incorporate into our programs.

IV. DEPARTMENTAL REQUESTS

A. Social Services

1. HEAP Request for Furnace Bids – Ms. Muller requested authorization to put out the bid for HEAP furnace repairs and replacements.
MOTION: AUTHORIZING THE COMMISSIONER OF SOCIAL SERVICES, IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE PURCHASING DIRECTOR, TO ISSUE A BID FOR HEAP FURNACE REPAIRS AND REPLACEMENTS MADE BY MR. VAN CAESEELE. SECONDED BY MR. HANNA. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 5-0.

2. Diono Mobility Project – Fax Server – Mr. Morse explained Social Services would like to purchase a Fax Server as part of the Diono Mobility Project. This server is available through Toshiba on the National Cooperative Contract which is authorized by our best value law. The server has to be, and is, compatible with the existing system and the cost is $35,034.04. Ms. Muller explained this is tied to our mobility management program and will allow for mobile scanning and faxing and will also provide security for the information that is being sent back and forth. We do have funding in the capital project for this.

MOTION: AUTHORIZING THE COMMISSIONER OF SOCIAL SERVICES TO PURCHASE A TOSHIBA FAX SERVER FOR THE DIONO MOBILITY PROJECT FOR $35,034.04 MADE BY MR. ROUSH. SECONDED BY MR. VAN CAESEELE. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 5-0.

3. Emergency Rental Assistance Program (ERAP) – Ms. Muller stated last month there were some questions about this program. The Emergency Rental Assistance Program (ERAP) started Tuesday, June 1st. This is the funding that we have been talking about for the last couple of months. This program helps those individuals who are in arrears on their rent due to COVID and goes back to March 2020. The program is administered by the State and we accepted the funding last month and entered into contracts with ProAction and Catholic Charities to assist clients and landlords in the application process as well as to engage in a media campaign. The State is still working through some issues with the program. There are certain categories that will be prioritized for the first 30 days and this program is based on AMI (Area Median Income). The individual applies and the landlord also has to sign on. This program will pay arrears from March 2020 forward and a landlord cannot evict a client going forward based on those arrears. If there are other issues and eviction is needed, there is still a process that the landlords can go forward with. The money gets paid directly to the landlord.

Mrs. Lando asked is there a downside to the landlords not buying into this? Ms. Muller replied there is not a downside. The tenant may be a problem tenant where the landlord may want to just move on, and this doesn’t preclude a landlord from evicting a tenant for other reasons.

Mr. Swackhamer asked what happens if the tenant doesn’t apply for the benefit? Ms. Muller replied the landlord can call and get assistance. If the client refused, the landlord can move forward with an eviction once the moratorium is lifted.

Mrs. Lando asked will you be helping tenants with applications? Ms. Muller replied yes and we have contracts with ProAction and Catholic Charities who will have case managers to assist clients and landlords.

C. Office for the Aging

1. Public Relations – Mrs. Ferratella stated that one of our goals was to publish articles about the services our departments provide. Recently an article was published focusing on the activities at Office for the Aging and specifically the Easy Rider Program which provides transportation to clients to do their shopping. I want to thank Mrs. Baroody and Ms. Perham for publishing that article and helping us meet our goal.

2. Accept and Appropriate Vaccine Access Funds – Mrs. Baroody stated we are receiving two allocations to helps us address COVID-19 vaccine activities. These funds will be used to help one of our unmet needs, which is the homebound elderly. She requested authorization to accept and appropriate ADRC/NWD funds in the amount of $11,804. These funds can be used to service people of all ages. As part of that, she would like to enter into a contract with Arnot Health to administer vaccines to the homebound elderly for a total cost of $20,000. She also requested authorization to accept VAC-5 funds in the amount of $14,549, with $8,196 to be used to fund the contract with Arnot Health to administer vaccines to the homebound elderly. The remaining
$6,353 will be reserved for a provider to do in-home vaccines going forward. She commented we are still in discussions at this point to see who will be able to take care of that.

Mr. Wheeler suggested the committee do two motions; one accepting the two funding streams and the second to authorize the contract with Arnot Health. He commented that there has been a lot of discussion between him, Mrs. Smith and Mrs. Baroody. We have utilized Arnot Health and have forwarded names of homebound elderly who want the vaccine and they are already doing this and have the capacity to expand that. Mrs. Baroody commented the rate will be $30.00 per hour for an RN and $15.00/hour for administrative support, along with the $.56 per mile. Once the funding is gone, it is gone.

**MOTION:** AUTHORIZING THE DIRECTOR OF THE OFFICE FOR THE AGING TO ACCEPT ADRC/NWD FUNDS IN THE AMOUNT OF $11,804 AND VAC-5 FUNDS IN THE AMOUNT OF $14,529 MADE BY MR. ROUSH, SECONDED BY MR. VAN CAESEELE. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 5-0.

Mrs. Lando asked how will you identify individuals? Mrs. Baroody replied we will go through NY Connects for the ADRC funding. Mrs. Lando commented the food pantries do deliver and it may be good to contact them. Mr. Wheeler stated that is a good idea. We have a number of homecare providers and none to this point have applied to be a vaccinator. Mrs. Baroody has reached out to them to try to get their lists of which clients want the vaccine.

**MOTION:** AUTHORIZING THE DIRECTOR OF THE OFFICE FOR THE AGING TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH ARNOT HEALTH TO PROVIDE COVID-19 VACCINES TO THE HOMEBOUND ELDERLY FOR A TOTAL COST OF $20,000; SAID COST TO BE COVERED BY $11,804 IN ADRC/NWD FUNDS AND $8,196 TO BE COVERED BY VAC-5 FUNDS MADE BY MR. NICHOLS. SECONDED BY MR. HANNA. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 5-0.

3. **Increase SSSF Contract** – Mrs. Baroody explained the Full Circle America pilot program has been authorized by the NYS Office for the Aging to improve supports for those wanting to age in place. She requested authorization to increase the SSSF contract $12,000 which will fund five clients to enroll in the Full Circle America program to receive in-home support. She stated they will be using EISEP Home Care funds for this purpose.

**MOTION:** AUTHORIZING THE DIRECTOR OF THE OFFICE FOR THE AGING TO INCREASE THE SSSF CONTRACT $12,000, USING EISEP HOME CARE FUNDS, WHICH WILL ENABLE FIVE CLIENTS TO ENROLL IN THE FULL CIRCLE AMERICA PROGRAM MADE BY MR. NICHOLS. SECONDED BY MR. HANNA FOR DISCUSSION.

Mrs. Lando stated I didn’t think Full Circle America was a pilot program. Mrs. Baroody replied the question has been how can we keep people from going into nursing homes or being put on waiting lists for homecare. With this program, cameras can be set up in the homes and they will be able to deliver services through Full Circle America. Mrs. Lando asked is this temporary? Mrs. Baroody replied they are giving us one year to pilot test it.

**VOTE ON PREVIOUS MOTION:** ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 5-0.

4. **Increase ProAction Contract** – Mrs. Baroody requested authorization to increase the ProAction Employment contract $3,546. This will allow us to temporarily increase a ProAction worker’s hours to help cover for a homecare caseworker who is out on extended leave.

**MOTION:** AUTHORIZING THE DIRECTOR OF THE OFFICE FOR THE AGING TO INCREASE THE PROACTION EMPLOYMENT CONTRACT $3,546 TO HELP COVER FOR A HOMECARE CASEWORKER OUT ON EXTENDED LEAVE MADE BY MR. HANNA. SECONDED BY MR. NICHOLS. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 5-0.
5. **Legal Services RFP Award** – Mrs. Baroody stated Joint and von Hagn are closing their law office and we are transitioning to a new entity. One request for proposal was received and she recommended awarding to Legal Assistance of Western NY at a rate of $100 per hour. This contract will be in addition to the one we have with the Center for Elder Law and Justice out of Buffalo, NY.

**MOTION:** AWARDING THE RFP FOR LEGAL SERVICES TO LEGAL ASSISTANCE OF WESTERN NY AT A RATE OF $100.00 PER HOUR MADE BY MR. HANNA. SECONDED BY MR. NICHOLS FOR DISCUSSION.

Mrs. Ferratella asked is there a cap on this program? Mrs. Baroody replied we allocate $20,000 per year which will be split between the two agencies. If we run out of money by the fall, these agencies have pro bono attorneys that will help in some cases.

**VOTE ON PREVIOUS MOTION:** ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 5-0.

D. **Public Health**

Mrs. Smith stated I just want to thank you. After 372 days of being at the EOC; to be back and seeing people, it is great to be back and thank you for the tangible support that you have offered me and the department over the past year. It is very much appreciated. Several of my counterparts did not enjoy that luxury. My team has been great and they never complained. I cannot say enough about them and the work they did. I am very relieved and happy to introduce Krystal Jubilee as the new Deputy Director. She comes from Corning Community College where she was the Director of the Nursing Program. Krystal comes with a lot of nursing experience, educational experience and management experience. I am very happy to have her join the county.

1. **Contracts** – Mrs. Smith requested authorization to enter into new contracts for related services with Rehabilitation Today for OT services; Kasey Johnson, Speech Language Pathologist; and Gretchen Smith, Speech Language Pathologist. These contracts are paid at the State rate of $70.00 per session and $35.00 per group session.

**MOTION:** AUTHORIZING THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC HEALTH NURSING TO ENTER INTO NEW CONTRACTS FOR RELATED SERVICES WITH THE FOLLOWING PROVIDERS: REHABILITATION TODAY – OT SERVICES, KASEY JOHNSON – SPEECH LANGUAGE PATHOLOGIST AND GRETCHEN SMITH – SPEECH LANGUAGE PATHOLOGIST WITH RATES SET BY THE STATE AT $70.00 PER SESSION AND $35.00 PER GROUP SESSION MADE BY MR. VAN CAESEELE. SECONDED BY MR. HANNA. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 5-0.

Mrs. Smith requested authorization to renew the contract with Workplace Vitality, Inc. for $3,200. She explained this is just the reporting and processing those screenings for employees who choose to use their physician. Our nurses will do the actual screening.

**MOTION:** AUTHORIZING THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC HEALTH NURSING TO RENEW THE CONTRACT WITH WORKPLACE VITALITY, INC. FOR BIOMETRIC SCREENING FOR $3,200 MADE BY MR. VAN CAESEELE. SECONDED BY MR. HANNA. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 5-0.

2. **Award Preschool Transportation Bid** – Mrs. Smith requested authorization to award Contract A of the preschool transportation bid to the sole bidder, ARC of Livingston/Wyoming at a rate of $160.00 per child per day for both the 10-month program and the summer program. She noted they did not receive any bids for Contract C.

**MOTION:** AWARDING THE PRESCHOOL TRANSPORTATION BID – CONTRACT A TO THE SOLE BIDDER, ARC OF LIVINGSTON/WYOMING AT A RATE OF $160.00 PER CHILD PER DAY FOR BOTH THE 10-MONTH PROGRAM AND THE SUMMER PROGRAM MADE BY MR. ROUSH. SECONDED BY MR. NICHOLS. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 5-0.
3. **COVID-19 Vaccination Rate** – Mrs. Smith stated I have supplied the COVID-19 vaccination rate sheet that the S2AY Rural Health Network does for each of the partner counties. I will provide an update each month for you. This shows the rates and where in the County we are behind as far as the take rate. The southern border is where our rates are lagging the most. We did hold a clinic at the Jasper-Troupsburg School and will be holding a clinic at the Addison School tomorrow night. She stated the MacDonald Health Center in Woodhull has been a great partner and has a very large following and they have done a lot of vaccinations. A lot of providers in the area are not signing on. Any doctor cannot just administer the vaccine; they have to go through an enrollment process, which many are unwilling to do. We are hoping they will be more amenable to doing it. I can easily distribute the vaccine to those providers that want it. She stated of the people that are left to get vaccinated, I think their best resource is their provider. We are still working with the providers and trying to encourage them to enroll.

Mr. Potter stated the Governor has stated that if you get vaccinated and experience side effects the following day you can get a paid sick day. Do you anticipate that being helpful? Mrs. Smith replied yes. There are a lot of hourly workers and to have that additional accommodation, I think that would sway a number of people. We have seen greater interest since the 12 – 15 age group became eligible. There has been more interest from parents than we initially saw when the 16 – 18 age group became eligible. Mr. Potter commented the Jasper-Troupsburg clinic went very well and there were a large number of young people getting vaccinated. The clinic was very well run.

Mr. Nichols asked what about the Amish community? Mrs. Smith replied we have not been able to break into that at all. We do have a volunteer who knows some within the Amish community and they are trying to make an inroad with them.

D. **Community Services**

1. **RFP Award – EMR Software** – Dr. Chapman stated several months ago we put out an RFP for EMR (Electronic Medical Record) software. We received eight proposals which ranged from $93,768 to $1,001,107. He is recommending awarding to Netsmart. The initial purchase price is $228,737.51 with an ongoing annual fee of $108,407.51. Mr. Van Caeseele asked is this budgeted? Dr. Chapman replied we have $350,000 in a capital project which will cover the initial purchase. Mr. Wheeler explained during the budget process we would need to increase the software line item. We have enough money in the budget for the installation and first year. The current software has been lacking, and in speaking with Dr. Chapman there are a number of providers in the State that utilize the company that he is recommending. Dr. Chapman stated this company has 100 New York State customers, however, not all of them are county-based.

Mr. Nichols asked does the annual maintenance include updating the security? Dr. Chapman replied yes. Mr. Wheeler explained this is a cloud-based system and those are updated constantly. Access will be via the cloud and with people working remotely it will provide easier access to records and to do case notes.

**MOTION:** AWARDING THE RFP FOR EMR (ELECTRONIC MEDICAL RECORD) SOFTWARE TO NETSMART FOR AN INITIAL PURCHASE PRICE OF $228,737.51 WITH AN ONGOING ANNUAL FEE OF $108,407.51 MADE BY MR. HANNA. SECONDED BY MR. NICHOLS. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 5-0.

Dr. Chapman stated as part of that, he would like to enter into a five-year contract with Netsmart in an amount not to exceed $662,237.55.

**MOTION:** AUTHORIZING THE DIRECTOR OF THE OFFICE OF COMMUNITY SERVICES TO ENTER INTO A FIVE-YEAR CONTRACT WITH NETSMART IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED $662,237.55 MADE BY MR. HANNA. SECONDED BY MR. NICHOLS. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 5-0.

2. **Contracts** – Dr. Chapman informed the committee that CASA Trinity submitted an application for $3.8 million in federal grant funding and we were mentioned in their proposal for providing crisis outreach. He requested authorization to enter into a contract with CASA Trinity for crisis outreach for $83,355 for one year.
commencing June 15, 2021 and ending June 15, 2022. Mr. Van Caeseele asked how long is the contract that CASA Trinity is getting? Dr. Chapman replied their funding contract is for two years.

Mrs. Lando asked are they pretty stable right now? Dr. Chapman replied they provide services in Livingston, Steuben and Chemung and as lead agency they have to be able to provide inpatient and outpatient substance abuse services along with 24/7 access to MAT for opioid addiction. We are part of their provider network. From a State and Federal perspective, they are taking a more collaborative, collective approach to providing services across the region. Mrs. Lando asked do they have the capacity to do this as a regional service? Dr. Chapman replied yes and this funding will help strengthen what they do. He would recommend having Ann Domingos come in for a Chairman’s meeting to provide an update on their services.

MOTION: AUTHORIZING THE DIRECTOR OF THE OFFICE OF COMMUNITY SERVICES TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH CASA TRINITY TO PROVIDE CRISIS OUTREACH SERVICES FOR $83,355 FOR ONE YEAR COMMENCING JUNE 15, 2021 AND ENDING JUNE 15, 2022 MADE BY MR. VAN CAESEELE. SECONDED BY MR. ROUSH. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 5-0.

Dr. Chapman requested authorization to enter into a contract with CASA Trinity to provide case management, substance abuse assessment and MAT drug treatment in the amount of $146,451 for a two-year period commencing July 1, 2021 and ending September 30, 2023. He commented this contract will provide us an opportunity to work more closely with individuals going through drug treatment court.

MOTION: AUTHORIZING THE DIRECTOR OF THE OFFICE OF COMMUNITY SERVICES TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH CASA TRINITY TO PROVIDE CASE MANAGEMENT, SUBSTANCE ABUSE ASSESSMENT AND MAT DRUG TREATMENT IN THE AMOUNT OF $146,451 FOR A TWO-YEAR PERIOD COMMENCING JULY 1, 2021 AND ENDING SEPTEMBER 30, 2023 MADE BY MR. VAN CAESEELE. SECONDED BY MR. HANNA. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 5-0.

Dr. Chapman requested authorization to increase the Pathways contract $80,500 for mental health counselor services in 24/7 outreach crisis program and also substance abuse counselor services to provide case management services to the local drug treatment court. We have money in the budget to cover this.

MOTION: AUTHORIZING THE DIRECTOR OF THE OFFICE OF COMMUNITY SERVICES TO INCREASE THE PATHWAYS CONTRACT $80,500 TO PROVIDE A MENTAL HEALTH COUNSELOR TO WORK THE 24/7 OUTREACH CRISIS PROGRAM AND A SUBSTANCE ABUSE COUNSELOR TO PROVIDE CASE MANAGEMENT SERVICES TO THE LOCAL DRUG TREATMENT COURT MADE BY MR. VAN CAESEELE. SECONDED BY MR. HANNA. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 5-0.

Mrs. Lando asked with all of this wonderful news with funding, do you have the capacity to do all of this? Dr. Chapman replied we do, but only with the ability to add staff and that is why we reached out to Pathways. Without that, no we would not have enough staff. When the funding goes away these services are billable and reimbursable by insurance and we will be able to sustain after the grant project is done. Mr. Nichols asked does Medicaid pay? Dr. Chapman replied yes, they are still our largest payor and they do reimburse for these services. It is always a challenge as insurance always finds a reason to deny payment, but our business office does a pretty good job of following up and getting the requested information for payment.

Dr. Chapman requested authorization to renew the contract with Carr Trucking and Snow Removal for snow plowing at our Corning Office as well as the Courthouse at a rate of $75.00 per plow.

MOTION: AUTHORIZING THE DIRECTOR OF THE OFFICE OF COMMUNITY SERVICES TO RENEW THE CONTRACT WITH CARR TRUCKING AND SNOW REMOVAL FOR SNOW PLOWING SERVICES AT THE CORNING MENTAL HEALTH OFFICE AS WELL AS THE CORNING COURTHOUSE AT A RATE OF $75.00 PER PLOW MADE BY MR. VAN CAESEELE. SECONDED BY MR. NICHOLS. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 5-0.

6 Human Services, Health & Education Committee Wednesday, June 2, 2021
Dr. Chapman requested authorization to renew the contract with TP’s Concrete and Contracting (Dave Parks) to plow the Hornell office and the Courthouse parking lot at a rate of $75.00 per plow. Mr. Potter commented we no longer own the Hornell Courthouse. Mr. Nichols stated we do have the DMV office in Hornell. Mr. Wheeler stated we will talk with Mr. Rose to make sure the DMV location and not the Hornell Courthouse is specified in the contract.

**MOTION: AUTHORIZING THE DIRECTOR OF THE OFFICE OF COMMUNITY SERVICES TO RENEW THE CONTRACT WITH TP’S CONCRETE AND CONTRACTING (DAVE PARKS) TO PLOW THE HORNELL MENTAL HEALTH OFFICE AS WELL AS THE HORNELL DMV LOCATION MADE BY MR. VAN CAESEELE. SECONDED BY MR. HANNA. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 5-0.**

E. **Personnel**

1. **Reclassification – Office for the Aging** – Mr. Alderman requested authorization to reclassify an Aging Services Aide, Grade V to a Social Welfare Examiner, Grade VIII. We looked at the duties and the duties this individual performs fit better with the Social Welfare Examiner title. Mrs. Baroody explained we have had the Aging Services Aide position and that has evolved over the years. This position helps individuals with benefits access and that is complicated. We found that the duties of the position better align with that of a Social Welfare Examiner.

Mr. Malter asked what is the difference in pay? Mrs. Baroody replied about $6,000. We did include this in our budget.

**MOTION: AUTHORIZING THE RECLASSIFICATION OF AN AGING SERVICES AIDE, GRADE V POSITION TO A SOCIAL WELFARE EXAMINER, GRADE VIII POSITION IN THE OFFICE FOR THE AGING MADE BY MR. VAN CAESEELE. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 5-0. Resolution Required.**

2. **Reclassification – Public Health** – Mr. Alderman requested authorization to fund and reclassify a zero-based Account Clerk-Typist position, Grade VI to a Senior Typist position, Grade VI. The Senior Clerk in Public Health will be retiring and this is one of those titles that is not used as much anymore and we typically fill that from the Senior Typist list. We have made a push over the last 15 years or so to reclassify that Account Clerk-Typist title to a Senior Typist. In this instance, the reclassification would be to a Senior Typist and we will fill and upon the Senior Clerk’s retirement the position will be zero-based back to a Senior Clerk to allow for training.

**MOTION: AUTHORIZING THE RECLASSIFICATION OF ONE ZERO-BASED ACCOUNT CLERK-TYPIST POSITION, GRADE VI TO A SENIOR TYPIST, GRADE VI IN THE PUBLIC HEALTH NURSING DEPARTMENT MADE BY MR. NICHOLS. SECONDED BY MR. VAN CAESEELE. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 5-0.**

**V. OTHER BUSINESS**

A. **Poet Laureate** – Mrs. Ferratella stated she was approached by a woman asking if we would be interested in naming a Poet Laureate of Steuben County. The County also received a letter of support for this from Pauline Emery, Director of the Southeast Steuben County Library. Mr. Hanna asked what would the function of this individual be? Mrs. Ferratella replied that is one of the things we have to work through. We have to decide if we want the position in the County and then have that approved by the Legislature.

Mr. Wheeler stated you could put some money against this if you want. Tompkins County has a designation of Poet Laureate, but it is not funded. He stated his thought, after talking with Mrs. Ferratella, is to find out if you are interested and if you like the idea. If you do, I would suggest that we put out a solicitation/application that way it would be an open process.
Mr. Van Caeseele stated I don’t think the County should spend money on this. It sounds like something that is outdated, to me personally.

Mr. Hanna asked what has been done historically? Mrs. Ferratella replied she researched this and found that it was not pursued in the past. She stated the first step would be to decide if we want the position.

Mr. Malter asked what do other counties have? Why are they asking for this now? Mrs. Ferratella replied Tompkins County is the only one that has a Poet Laureate that I am aware of. Mr. Wheeler replied the reason it is coming up now is that the Legislature was approached by an individual who was interested. Nothing says that you need to, or should, do this.

Mr. Van Caeseele asked would this just be an honorary title? Mr. Wheeler replied there would be no county cost and having an application process would be good. The only risk I see is that the Poet Laureate would not be speaking on behalf of the Legislature, but they would be speaking on behalf of the County.

**MOTION: TO PROCEED WITH THE PROCESS OF DESIGNATING A POET LAUREATE FOR STEUBEN COUNTY MADE BY MR. HANNA. MOTION FAILS DUE TO LACK OF A SECOND.**

B. Village of Bath – Ms. Fitzpatrick stated she wanted to provide the committee with a brief update. She had a meeting with the Mayor of the Village of Bath and the Acting Officer in Charge regarding the issues in the Village of Bath. She stated she did an overnight ride along with the Village PD to see the issues from their perspective. I am concerned with the number of DSS recipients who are placed in housing. She stated that she would like to gather more information and have a special meeting to address the issue. With the funding that is coming through, that may be able to lend a helping hand. What I saw on the ride along was a lot of mental health problems and a substantial amount of drug problems. If anyone is interested, I can keep you up to date on what I am doing. Ms. Muller is giving me a great deal of information. I will meet again with the Acting Officer in Charge and I also spoke with Dr. Chapman about the ride along. The Mayor is adamant about the problems in the Village and I don’t want them to feel that the County is neglecting the issue, but we need to approach this from several different angles.

Mrs. Ferratella asked was the ride along just for the Village? Ms. Fitzpatrick replied yes, the ride along was just in the Village of Bath and it was a relatively quiet night. We did get called out to one boarding house, there was a traffic stop and few other calls. There were some mental health calls and the officer did a lot of work diffusing situations and trying to keep people calm. The police department needs more resources. We did take two individuals to Ira Davenport Hospital; one for mental health concerns and one for illness. This is something they deal with every day.

**MOTION: TO ADJOURN MADE BY MR. HANNA. SECONDED BY MR. VAN CAESEELE. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 5-0.**

Respectfully Submitted by Amanda L. Chapman, Deputy Clerk, Steuben County Legislature

**NEXT MEETING SCHEDULED FOR**

Wednesday, July 7, 2021
9:00 a.m.

Please send agenda items to the Clerk of the Legislature’s Office
NO LATER THAN NOON
Wednesday, June 30, 2021