COUNTY FACILITIES
COMMITTEE MINUTES – SEPTEMBER 22, 2026
CHAD RYAN, CHAIR

MEMBERS PRESENT: Mr. Ryan, Leader Hernandez, Mr. Bush, Mr. McCarron, Mr. Thompson
ALSO PRESENT: Leader May, Mr. Romeo, Ms. Denton, Ms. Block, Mr. Garland; also see attached

Chair Ryan called the meeting to order at 9:09 a.m., and the previous meeting's minutes were approved.

1. **ONONDAGA COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY:** Amanda Perrine, Executive Director
   a. 2026 Transfer Resolution

- Transfer $212,000 from the library books and materials budget line to the library professional services budget line
  - Unanticipated security needs and snow removal needs for this year

Questions/Comments:

- Specific incidents that incurred a cost, or putting in place a permanent solution?
  - Permanent solution; in the budget for next year
  - Earlier this year, a lot of incidents at Central Library downtown; increased security there
  - About three months ago, a lot of incidents at White Branch; 800 block of Butternut; security guard there as well
  - If need to move them to a different branch, funding available
- Transferring from the materials budget, supplemented with repurposed grant funds; will those grants make that whole, or still a gap?
  - Transferring the full amount, the 212; multi-prong approach for the book budget
  - Grant funds to repurpose; what can move to next year to purchase; partner organizations
- How much of a gap is left to make up?
  - None; $212,000 is the full amount
- Prior to hiring security, what did you do at the library to handle issues?
  - At Central, one security guard and the community engagement team; de-escalation help
  - Two at Central and one at White Branch
  - Training with staff on de-escalation; call 911
  - So many people coming in who wanted to cause problems; mental health issues
  - Way too much on staff; weren't feeling as safe
  - Now four security guards at Central, one armed, and still the two community engagement team people
  - At White Branch, still the one community engagement team person and an armed guard
- Engagement team will still be employed?
  - Yes

- Books and materials addressed with repurposed grant funds; any gap? Losing out on anything by transferring the $212,000 out of that line?
    - There may be; working very hard to make sure that is not the case
    - Other grants available; community partners
- Sustainability of this salary for the security; a year, two years?
    - In the budget for next year; professional services line way up
    - Working closely with the county executive's office, the head of county security; if still needing them, will ask again moving forward
- Libraries part of a larger environment and ecosystem that is challenged
    - External conditions coming into libraries; community issues
    - Restored security levels to what they had been; more complete coverage for Central and White
    - Existing grants, not new ones; rebalance funding
    - Partnerships between agencies, probation, SPD
- Don't give them the resources they need to transition from the community into the professional workforce

A motion was made by Ms. Hernandez, seconded by Mr. Thompson, to approve this item; MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

2. <u>FACILITIES MANAGEMENT</u>: Archie Wixson, Jr., Commissioner

(Attachment No. 1: Proposed Lease Area; Attachment No. 2: Exhibit A - County Revised Proposed Area Leased; Attachment No. 3: Exhibit B - Inner Harbor County Lease Legal Description; Attachment No. 4: Exhibit C – Amenities; Attachment No. 5: Exhibit D - 152-2026 Establishment of Inner Harbor Railing Standardization; Attachment No. 6: Exhibit E – Specs; Attachment No. 7: Exhibit F - Signed Certificate of Self-Funded Liability Letter)

a. Authorizing the County Executive to Enter Into a Lease Agreement

- Since the city was conveyed this strip of land from the Canal Corporation of New York State, discussing a land use agreement
    - Property adjoins the aquarium property Onondaga County owns
- L-shaped strip of land, 50 feet wide, around 600 feet in length, known as the terminal lands
    - The old barge terminal
    - About 69,000 square feet; undeveloped, unimproved
- Not part of the aquarium project; adjoining the aquarium project
- Further connection to lakefront trails; mirror what the creek walk did on the opposite side of the harbor
- Improve that property in the same timeline as unveiling the aquarium facility
- Work with the Canal Corporation; former Mayor Ben Walsh, now director of the Canal Corp
    - Cultural exhibits recognizing the history of the Erie Canal
- Don't intend to do real major improvements; keep it as a walk path
- Improvements consistent with the city's 2025 ordinance; kit of parts
    - Benches, lighting, railings will match
- Going at this for probably two years; transition of city and county attorneys
    - Eric Ennis, the city director of development
    - City attorney Megan Ryan and county attorney in agreement on the terms
- Ask the legislature to authorize the county executive to come to this agreement with the city

Questions/Comments:

- Ordinance from the city referenced 500,000?
    - In totality of all improvements, a ballpark estimate of about a $500,000 investment

    - Not committed to a particular time period; as funds become available
    - First improvement, the railing system, part of the kit of parts
- No bond ordinance; where do we expect to get the funds?
    - Greenways and Blueways funding source
- Greenways and Blueways funds already appropriated; no action needed from this body?
    - We do not
- Is that the piece of land where the Tree of Peace is going?
    - Tree of Peace at one far end, closest to where the city property begins
- For the record, a very significant funeral in the community; most members compelled to be at that funeral; here, but unable to vote; support what you're doing
- Part and parcel with the master plan for the Inner Harbor area development?
    - Not part of the Inner Harbor development
    - Under an acre; 29,000 square feet; not a large piece of property for private development
- Map of the strip of land not in the packet
- In the future, packets to the clerk to hand out

A motion was made by Ms. Hernandez, seconded by Mr. Thompson, to approve this item; MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

3. <u>COUNTY LEGISLATURE</u>:

a. DISCUSSION: Budget Discussion & Follow-Up Items

Chair Ryan reviewed follow-up items from the budget review hearings with CFO Smiley.

Countywide Staffing Report, Funded Versus Vacant Positions

- Sheriff's line; funded is 533 and filled is 576?
    - A few years back, unfunded all of the positions at Jamesville; funding remained in the budget
    - Refunded all positions filled up there, about 91; fully funded, not an F on the schedule
    - Adding those 91, just under 50 vacancies

Capital Provisions

- Facilities, the 400 grand; what are we doing with that?
    - Routine maintenance; roofing, HVAC in the countywide complex
    - Instead of bonding, an annual amount for provision for capital
- Scope specific to the downtown campus, or the work of staff under facilities?
    - Bigger items that would have gone into the CIP; not personnel costs; repairs contracted for

Project Listings

- Project listing to be provided today
- Parks; only couple open projects, the snowmobile one

Parks Revenue

- Sent over yesterday
- Functional budgeting approach; revenue never intended to sustain a park; one thing to see revenue, another to see true costs? Revenue report missing that context, efficiency?
    - Commission revenue and rentals at the parks
    - Venue sites an affordable alternative; quality of life
    - No continual return on investment for the capital projects related to parks
- Enabled the parks department to do more with less; a more efficient process

All Other Expenses

- Difference between the 2025 actuals and the current budget for all other expenses?
    - 2025 actual slightly less than budgeted; cost savings; dock installation, trash removal, cleaning, pest removal, memberships
    - Contractual increases; taxes, credit card fees at boat launches, lawn care, snow removal, tree removal, weed harvesting

Honeywell Fund

- 312,500 in there; what are we doing with that this year?
    - Need to pull that contract; overview of their work this year will come over

NBT Stadium Contract

- Contract situation with NBT Stadium?
    - They cover all of the utilities; parks does some mowing
    - Contribution into the county to reimburse upgrades; naming
    - Formal contract; asked law to pull it
- Share with the chairwoman for follow-up questions
- Non-disclosure agreement signed by legislators before taking possession of executed contracts in the past; same thing?
    - Get it from law and figure out those requirements
- Advise continuing that practice

Veterans Cemetery

- Questions about weekend staffing, burials outside of Tuesday through Thursday, potential staffing increases
- What it would take for additional days for open burials during the week; feasibility; Saturday
    - To be put together

DOT Vehicle and Equipment Inventory

- Status of the item discussed with Deputy County Executive Brian Donnelly?
    - Currently on DOT's equipment list
    - To be discussed at tomorrow's session
- Full list still being compiled

Adjournment

A motion was made by Mr. Thompson, seconded by Ms. Hernandez, to adjourn the meeting; MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:46 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,
SPENCER BERG, Deputy Clerk
Onondaga County Legislature

ATTENDANCE

MEETING: **BUDGET REVIEW DAY NO. 6,**
COUNTY FACILITIES STANDING COMMITTEE MEETING

DATE: **SEPTEMBER 22, 2026**

SPEAKER NAME (Please Print)	DEPT/AGENCY/ORGANIZATION
Amanda Perrine	OCPL