EXPEDITED COMMUNICATIONS FOR DISTRIBUTION

January 3, 2020

(Correspondence relating to upcoming legislation, appointments, petitions, etc.)

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AVAILABLE ON WEBSITE ONLY
www.ocgov.net
December 23, 2019

The Honorable Anthony J. Picente, Jr.
Oneida County Executive
800 Park Avenue
Utica, New York 13501

Dear County Executive Picente:

During construction activities at the Oneida County Water Pollution Control Facility, it was necessary for the contractor to access the exterior south wall of the garage where the current salt storage building is located. This building stores salt for use by the Oneida County Office Building, the Oneida-Herkimer Solid Waste Authority and this Department. The storage building was in extremely poor shape and was demolished by the contractor so that they could do their work.

It was decided to have the contractor construct a new salt storage building under the existing contract we have with them. Unfortunately, the Environmental Facilities Corporation would not allow it to be funded by them as the building was not in the original plans and specifications. Consequently, and alternative funding method had to be found and funding the construction using the Department fund balance seemed to be the best alternative.

The replacement of the salt shed was not budgeted for in the adopted 2020 Oneida County Budget. Fortunately, there are enough funds available in the Water Pollution Control Fund Balance to cover this expenditure without causing any shortages in the fund balance in the future.

I therefore, respectfully request the following 2020 supplemental appropriation for the Water Pollution Control Fund:

**WATER POLLUTION CONTROL:**

TO:
AG# G8110.295 Water Pollution Control – Admin. – Other Equipment......... $ 336,200.00

This supplemental appropriation will be fully supported by:

RA# G599 Water Pollution Control – Fund Balance............................... $ 336,200.00

Sincerely,

THE ONEIDA COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF
WATER QUALITY AND WATER POLLUTION CONTROL

[Signature]

Steven P. Devan, P.E.
Commissioner

CC: Comptroller
    County Attorney
    Budget Director

Reviewed and Approved for submittal to the
Oneida County Board of Legislators by

[Signature]
Anthony J. Picente, Jr.
County Executive

Date 12/24/19
December 30, 2019

Hon. Anthony J. Picente, Jr.
Oneida County Executive
800 Park Avenue
Utica, New York 13501

Dear County Executive Picente:

I enclose herewith a proposed Local Law amending the Oneida County Hotel Occupancy Tax to reflect changes made by the State Legislature, Chapter 714 of the Laws of 2019. The proposed amendment raises the per diem tax rate from two percent (2%) to five percent (5%), and also expands the possible options for which the County may use the tax revenue generated by this Local Law.

If you wish this Local Law to be amended, please forward to the Board of County Legislators for their consideration and approval at their next meeting.

Very truly yours,

Robert E. Pronteau
Assistant County Attorney

Enc.

cc: Anthony Carvell
ONEIDA COUNTY BOARD OF LEGISLATORS

RESOLUTION NO.

INTRODUCED BY: Mr. D'Onofrio
2ND BY:

LOCAL LAW INTRO. “A” OF 2020
LOCAL LAW NO. ___ OF 2020

A LOCAL LAW AMENDING THE HOTEL OCCUPANCY TAX CURRENTLY IMPOSED BY LOCAL LAW NO. 6 OF 2019 PURSUANT TO CHAPTER 644 OF THE LAWS OF 1984, AS AMENDED.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY LEGISLATORS OF THE COUNTY OF ONEIDA AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION A. TITLE

This Local Law shall be known as the “Local Law Amending the Hotel Occupancy Tax Currently Imposed by Local Law No. 6 of 2019 Pursuant to Chapter 644 of the Laws of 1984, as Amended.”

SECTION B. LEGISLATIVE INTENT

The intent of this Local Law is to amend the Oneida County Hotel Occupancy Tax, the purpose of such tax being to promote Oneida County, its cities, towns and villages in order to increase convention, trade show and tourist business in the County, to concur with recent changes in Section 1202-d of the New York State Tax Law.

SECTION C. AMENDMENT OF THE HOTEL OCCUPANCY TAX

Section 2 of Local Law No. 3 of 1993 is hereby amended to read as follows:

“On and after January 1, 1994, there is imposed and there shall be paid, a tax of five percent upon the rent for every occupancy of a room or rooms in a hotel in this county, except that the tax shall not be imposed upon a permanent resident of any such hotel.”

Section 12 of Local Law No. 3 of 1993 is hereby amended to read as follows:

“Revenues resulting from the imposition of tax authorized by this section shall be paid into the treasury of the County of Oneida and shall be credited to and deposited in the trust and agency fund of the County; the net collections therefrom shall thereafter be allocated by the County Board of Legislators of Oneida County and shall be used for the promotion of tourism development, economic development, and other directly related and supporting activities by a not-for-profit and/or a public benefit corporation under contract with the County.”
SECTION D. EFFECTIVE DATE

This Local Law shall take effect upon on February 1, 2020.

APPROVED: Economic Development (  )
Ways and Means Committee

DATED: January 8, 2020 (Message of Necessity from Chairman Fiorini)

Adopted by the following vote:
AYES NAYS ABSENT
December 24, 2019

Gerald J. Fiorini, Chairman.
Oneida County Board of Legislators
800 Park Avenue
Utica, NY 13501

Dear Chairman Fiorini:

The Nexus Center is beginning to start the second phase of the build out of the Nexus Center Building. The Nexus Center will be 170,000 square foot building located on Whitesboro Street right next to the Adirondack Bank Center. The Nexus Center will house ice rinks, box lacrosse and soccer, along with commercial office space, retail space, food and beverages services and multi training spaces.

Funding for the project includes a New York State Empire State Development (ESD) grant for $22 million, which is included in the current state budget. On December 21, 2019, Governor Cuomo, signed into law, approving raising the Hotel Occupancy Tax to 5% in Oneida County. This increase will fund the bonds, which are being issued by the Upper Mohawk Valley Auditorium Authority to pay for this project.

The total cost of project is estimated to be approximately $49 million and it is anticipated the construction phase should be completed within a year.

In order to keep track of this project it is best to create a new capital project.

I therefore request your Board’s approval for the following:

A.) Establishment of **Capital Project H-617 – UMVAA – NEXUS Construction2**

B.) Funding for Capital Project H – 617 as follows:

- **H – 617 – 3597 State Aid - ESD**
  - $22,000,000
- **H – 617 – 2770 Other – UMVAA - Bonds**
  - $27,000,000

Thank you for kind attention to this request.

Very truly yours,

Anthony J. Picente, Jr.
Oneida County Executive

CC: Comptroller
    County Attorney
    Budget
    DPW Commissioner
December 24, 2019

Anthony J. Picente, Jr.
Oneida County Executive
800 Park Avenue
Utica, New York 13501

Dear County Executive Picente:

Attached for you review and approval is correspondence from the Commissioner of Public Works, Dennis Davis, requesting the creation of two (2) new full-time Building Maintenance Mechanic positions at grade 19B, step 2 starting at $32,753 (2020).

Commissioner Davis has expressed the need for these additional positions in the Buildings and Grounds Division of the Department of Public Works in order to provide adequate staffing to improve efficiency for emergency and preventative maintenance operations. As the Commissioner states, these positions would perform vital preventative maintenance on equipment and respond to real time possible emergencies making them imperative to the County’s capital investments.

If you concur with his request, please forward this letter to the Board of Legislators and ask that they create two (2) full-time Building Maintenance Mechanic positions at grade 19B, step 2 starting at $32,753 (2020).

Sincerely,

John P. Talerico
Commissioner of Personnel

Copy: Dennis S. Davis, Commissioner of Public Works
County Attorney
Budget
December 20, 2019

John Talerico  
Personnel Commissioner  
800 Park Ave.  
Utica, NY 13501

Dear Commissioner Talerico,

The Department of Public Works assumed responsibility for maintenance operations at the Oneida County Correctional Facility and the 911 Dispatch Center approximately two years ago. These buildings are different from any other facility maintained by Buildings and Grounds due to being open for 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days a year. As a department, we are always looking at our deficiencies and efficiencies and how we can improve operations.

I am requesting that you consider adding two (2) Building Maintenance Mechanic positions to the Division of Buildings and Grounds to greatly improve an area that Buildings and Grounds is struggling with. This includes off hours emergencies and preventative maintenance operations that cannot be done during normal working hours. Two (2) additional Building Maintenance Mechanics would alleviate these issues as well as solve others. Having two (2) Building Maintenance Mechanics on off-hours night shift could perform and monitor all of the aforementioned operations. These positions would assist in making the County’s capital investments last longer by being able to perform vital preventative maintenance on equipment that cannot be done while they are operating during normal business hours, as well as respond in real time to possible emergencies at the six new emergency communication towers that are vital to our emergency services department.

Having the additional coverage would allow Public Works the additional ability to completely take over the upkeep of the grounds at the Correctional Facility, including snow and ice control and landscaping. Buildings and Grounds currently performs this service to all other buildings that it maintains but was unable to assume responsibility of this function at the Correctional Facility and 911 Dispatch Center due to the 24/7 operations.

Thank you for your support.

Sincerely,

Dennis S. Davis  
Commissioner

cc: Matthew Baisley, Deputy Commissioner