

## Minutes February 8, 2024

**Present:**

Bob Palumbo	Mike Salotto	Bill Namestnik	Marty Aman	Dan Marshall
Jared Simpson	David Adam	Mike Gonzalez	Fred Stresing	Dale Stell
Dave LeClair				

**Necessarily Absent:** June Pendleton, John Cowley

**Staff and Guests:** Kevin Olvany, Kim McGarry, Doug Merrill, Neil Atkins

The meeting was called to order at 3:31 pm by Temporary Chair Marshall.

Temporary Chair Marshall requested nominations for officers. Mayor Palumbo nominated Supervisor Simpson for co-chair, motion carried. Co-chair Simpson nominated Temporary Chair Marshall as co-chair, motion carried. Co-chair Simpson nominated Mayor Palumbo to continue as treasurer, seconded by Mayor LeClair, motion carried. Mayor Palumbo nominated Co-chair Marshall to continue as the Personnel Committee Chair, seconded by Marty Aman. Motion carried. Councilman Salotto volunteered as a member of the Personnel Committee, along with Mayor Palumbo as treasurer.

Co-chair Marshall asked for approval of the December 6, 2023 minutes. Motion was made by Co-chair Simpson to approve the December 6, 2023 minutes, seconded by Marty Aman. Motion carried.

Co-chair Marshall asked if anyone wanted privilege of the floor to speak to the Watershed Council. No comments were made.

Mayor Palumbo reviewed the Treasurer's Report totaling \$18,796.85 for the remaining 2023 bills and \$189.95 for the February 2024 bills. Kevin Olvany explained that LSL stands for Life Science Labs, where the water samples are processed, and ESRI is the GIS software company. He also explained that the IT team built him a new computer for a substantial cost savings, as compared to just purchasing it. The Town of Gorham easement is a pass-through grant for FLOWPA. Kevin also explained that reimbursement for his personal boat use covered monitoring with the FluoroProbe and assessing harmful algal blooms 12 to 15 times. Fred Stresing inquired the time period for the bills. Kevin explained that these were from November 2023 to present. Motion was made by Supervisor Namestnik to approve the bills totaling \$18,796.85 and \$189.95, seconded by Councilman Salotto. Motion carried.

Kevin Olvany reviewed the current grants being administered by the Watershed Council. He showed a table with a description of each grant, along with their grant funds and local match. The numerous grants total \$1.3 million in grant funding, with approximately \$373,000 in local match, for a total of \$1.689 million. Co-chair Marshall asked for an explanation of local match sources. Kevin explained that for the source water grant, the match comes from the local municipality where the land is acquired. The Watershed Council and Watershed Association split the local match for the invasive species grants. The local municipalities contribute for the salt grant. The City will provide the match for the outlet gates and kayak launch grant. The hydroseeder match is from the Town of Canandaigua and other municipalities.

Kevin Olvany reviewed the purchase of a watershed vehicle or increasing personal vehicle reimbursement. Councilman Salotto was ok with the selection of a hybrid after the discussion. Kevin explained that he worked with the City fleet service manager. In their experience, the hybrid engine increased mileage by 4 to 5 mpg. Co-chair Marshall also commented that the hybrid is environmentally friendly. Supervisor Adam inquired if the truck will be traded in annually. Kevin suggested that he work with the fleet manager to determine what makes sense. He also explained that it will be registered and insured by the Watershed Council. The insurance would be \$1,150. The Watershed Council will reimburse the City for fuel and maintenance. Councilman Salotto inquired on the process to trade it in. Kevin said he will talk to the municipality on the process. Supervisor Stell made the motion to approve the resolution to purchase a Watershed Council vehicle, seconded by Supervisor Namestnik. Motion carried.

Kevin Olvany reviewed the Hopewell Watershed Resiliency Project. He suggested that the Watershed Council contribute \$5,000 to the project. The project will benefit Fall Brook, the 5&20 area, FLCC and the north end of the lake. Kevin described the project on a map. It is an approximately 3-acre basin that would help reduce peak flows. Kevin also showed video from the July 9, 2023 flooding. Kevin explained that flow from this area enters the lake via Fall Brook. Marty Aman inquired how the FLCC project improvements worked during the storms. Kevin explained that they worked well. Kevin explained that there is a line item in our budget to contribute to these types of projects. The property owner will purchase the culvert and outlet structure because they are permanent. Motion was made by Co-chair Simpon to approve \$5,000 from the Watershed Council for the Hopewell Watershed Resiliency Project, seconded by Supervisor Adam. Motion carried.

Mayor Palumbo reviewed the potential for requesting funding from Ontario County to support water quality projects completed by the Watershed Council. The occupancy tax is used for tourism and Mayor Palumbo thought that protecting the lake would be a good use of the funds. Mayor Palumbo and Kevin met with Supervisors Baker and Yacci. Kevin explained that this type of funding would be great for small to medium sized projects, but that we still need larger state grant funding. Co-chair Marshall stated that the County provides regular funding to 3 or 4 outside agencies and this could be a potential approach for a sustained source of funding. Co-chair Simpson explained these projects help keep the lake clean. Kevin explained the funding would could also be helpful as local match. Supervisor Adam explained that Yates County shared the extra occupancy tax funds with the Towns.

Kevin Olvany explained the history behind the 501c3 status for the Watershed Council. The process began in 2021 when the Watershed Council was worried that State grants may decrease. He was also looking for a way to have readily available funds for projects. The Watershed Council has received IRS approval for tax deductible donations. The funding would be tied to specific projects. He felt it was important to specify that donations were used for projects and not operating costs. He also said it was

important that this was not viewed as competition with the Watershed Association. Kevin showed a DOS publication on how local governments can accept donations. It is also important to be careful about perceptions on donations. Kevin explained that we still have grants available, but those funds cannot be used to act quickly. Supervisor Namestnik also stated the funds could be used for local match for grants.

Co-chair Marshall asked for a brief review of the Manager/Technicians Report. Kevin stated that the grant update covered most of it. He did want to mention that the update to the Uniform Docks and Moorings Law made good progress, working with Maria R. They needed to make a few additional adjustments, so they would like one more review from the committee to tighten up the language.

Marty Aman suggested that the resolution for the purchase of the watershed vehicle include some personal stops in town. He thought it needed to be stipulated. Kevin explained that the vehicle needs to be a take home vehicle due to night meetings and more. He asked if it would be possible to stop to watch a sporting event or go to Wegmans before driving home. Mayor LeClair made the motion that Kevin Olvany be allowed to use the watershed vehicle for limited personal use, seconded by Marty Aman. Motion carried.

There being no other business, motion was made by Mayor Palumbo to adjourn until April 3, 2024, at 3:30, seconded by Mayor LeClair. Motion to adjourn carried.

***Next Meeting: April 3, 2024 3:30 pm***  
**Location: Hurley Building**