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ULSTER COUNTY LEGISLATURE
COMMITTEE REPORT

NAME OF COMMITTEE: General Services Committee
DATE: April 15, 1996
TIME: 7:00 PM
PLACE: Legislative Chambers
LEGISLATORS PRESENT: Legislators Carle, Busick,
Every, Gerentine, Roberti, Todd.
Bertone, Smith
LEGISLATORS EXCUSED: Legislator Magarelli
OTHERS PRESENT: Kathy Posnick, Insurance Office;
Herb Hekler, Planning Board;
Priscilla McBride, Real Property
Tax; Barbara Applegate, Secretary

I. INSURANCE

Kathy Posnick presented the agenda.

Kathy apprised the committee of the physical audit that took place on workmen's compensation. The audit took three full days. In addition to the audit, an exit interview took place. The audit went smoothly. Kathy was told there were a few areas that can be tightened up. The Audit Committee was amazed the amount of work that was accomplished with the number of staff members. The financial audit has not yet been done. Kathy also explained how the 15-8 reimbursement works. A complete report will be ready at the end of the month.

Discussion on how insurance vendors are chosen.

II. PLANNING

Herb Hekler presented the agenda.

Herb introduced a resolution to amend the original resolution submitted last year, to purchase three buses, to four buses. The old buses will be kept for spares. Moved by Legislature Gerentine, seconded by Legislator Smith. Discussion. Unanimously carried (Legislators Carle, Gerentine, Busick, Every, Roberti, Todd, Bertone, Smith all in favor). Herb has requested a surplus bus from Buffalo.

Herb requested the position of Planning Technician be filled. This position was put in the budget the last two years, but was

not filled because he was waiting for funds from NYSDOT.

A Planning Seminar is scheduled for May 30th in the Legislative Chambers.

Herb reported on first quarter UCRT Operations. Miles and revenue were up in Feb, but both went down a bit for winter due to bad weather.

Report on new routes performance. The bus route requested in January for Woodstock was not doing well. As a result, the schedule has shifted. Gateway has put in a special request for buses from Plattekill to New Paltz. Promoters for Woodstock Renaissance Faire requested service for this event. Request denied, County buses are not used for charter.

III. REAL PROPERTY TAX AGENCY

Priscilla presented the agenda.

Priscilla apprised the committee that a public auction is scheduled for April 24, 25 & 26. She explained the process to the committee; distributed a list of properties that have been redeemed, and a book that identifies properties that are for sale. Photographs of the properties were available.

Copies of the Annual Report were distributed to committee members. A discussion on effective tax rates.

Priscilla also distributed copies of a letter received from NYC Water Supply. A discussion took place on the reservoir valuation project.

Update on reval projects in Town of Ulster and Town of Esopus

A Board of Assessment Review Training will be held April 16th. Priscilla distributed copies of the agenda that will be presented. One of the items discussed will be Residential Assessment Ratios within Ulster County. Equalization rates will also be discussed.

Equipment is in place for the GIS system. A new employee with experience in this area has been hired and will start working May 8th.

A report was given on a meeting that was held with town tax collectors and assessors. This group is unhappy with their working relationship with the county and some towns will take on more responsibility and do more work themselves.

III. OTHER BUSINESS

Chairman Carle informed the sub-committee studying messages on tax bills that a new format for county tax bills is being designed by the tax collectors and a space will be left for a possible

message.

The sub-committee studying putting tourism messages on UCRT buses met with Joe Munster who told them he does not want a message on the buses. Chairman Carle asked that a meeting be set up with Joe Munster, and Legislators Smith, Todd, Sinagra and Carle.

Meeting adjourned 8:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Terence G. Carle
Chairman