

Budget and Capital Committee  
April 28, 2008

**Budget and Capital Committee**  
**May 6, 2008**  
**5:00 p.m.**  
**Courthouse Conference Room**

**APPROVED**

Present: N. Shinagawa, M. Hattery (arrived at 5:12 p.m.), P. Mackesey, J. Dennis, K. Herrera  
Legislators: C. Chock, D. Kiefer, M. Robertson,  
Staff: N. Jayne, M. Lynch, County Administration; D. Squires, Finance; M. Pottorff, Legislature  
Office

**Call to Order**

Mr. Shinagawa called the meeting to order at 5:07 p.m.

**RESOLUTION NO. – ESTABLISHMENT OF 2009 COUNTY FINANCIAL GOALS**

It was **MOVED** by Mr. Dennis, seconded by Ms. Herrera, to approve the following resolution and submit to the full Legislature:

Ms. Mackesey said she will vote in support of this resolution for the purpose of moving the discussion to the floor of the full Legislature. She said she thinks the tax levy increase should be higher based on the information provided.

Mr. Dennis said a year ago when considering this resolution he was looking at zero but he will support three percent now because he thinks the Legislature will be strongly pressured to increase that number and it is likely it will end up at a higher number.

Ms. Herrera said the reason she seconded this resolution is because she is concerned it will end up higher and this number now represents a compromise to her.

Ms. Robertson called attention to the maintenance of effort percentage required of 8.6% as a result of the items outlined in the resolution. Mr. Shingawa said he will speak of those at the Legislature meeting this evening.

A voice vote on the resolution resulted as follows: Ayes – 5, Noes – 0. **RESOLUTION ADOPTED.**

WHEREAS, Tompkins County, as part of its budget policy and process, wishes to establish a guideline for development of the 2009 budget, and

WHEREAS, as of April 29, 2008, the County Administrator estimates that maintenance of effort would require an 8.6 percent tax levy increase, and

WHEREAS, the rate of inflation is currently 3.98 percent, now therefore be it

**RESOLVED**, on recommendation of the Budget and Capital Committee, That the Legislature establishes the goal of a maximum tax levy increase of three percent (3%) for 2009 resulting in a 11.2 percent tax rate decrease for 2009 (\$6.09 tax rate) and also resulting in a projected decrease of \$1,993,000 in locally controlled spending over 2009 projections,

**RESOLVED**, further, That the Legislature use 2009 to begin a process to stabilize the rate of tax levy change,

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RESOLVED, further, That the County Administrator shall be charged to recommend modifications to employee health and prescription costs and further consolidations of departments and functions where opportunities exist for improved efficiencies.

**SEQR ACTION:** TYPE II-20

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**Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 5:13 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Michelle Pottorff, TC Legislature Office