

**County-Wide Shared Services Initiative**  
**Legislature Chambers 121 E. Court St. Ithaca**  
**May 23rd, 2019 4:30 PM**  
**Meeting Summary**

**Attendance:**

**Required Panel-** Ric Dietrich, Supervisor, Danby; Jason Leifer, Supervisor, Dryden; Jason Molino, County Administrator, Tompkins County; Mark Witmer, Supervisor, Caroline; Linda Woodard, Mayor, Cayuga Heights;

**Staff & Observers-** Marcia Lynch, Public Information Officer, Tompkins County; Autumn Edwards, Secretary to the County Administrator, Tompkins County; Kate Shanks-Booth, Director of Youth Services, Tompkins County; Irene Weiser, Town of Caroline

Mr. Molino called the meeting to order at 4:45 pm and introductions were made.

Mr. Molino shared suggestions that were submitted within the last few weeks.

- 1) Donna Fleming, Alderperson, City of Ithaca Common Council, submitted a suggestion regarding waste water treatment plants. Donna Fleming was not in attendance, but Ms. Woodard volunteered to explain. There are two water waste treatment plants in Tompkins County, one that serves the City and Town of Ithaca, and the Town of Dryden. The other plant serves the Village of Cayuga Heights, the Village and Town of Lansing. Both have problems with rain and snow melt infiltration that brings them uncomfortably close to capacity. There is ongoing development in all municipalities with lots of pressure to issue new sewer permits. The DEC will not allow any plant to increase capacity until they have proven that they have done everything to improve the infiltration and inflow. The waste water treatment plants and their members meet every other month and the problem is very difficult to implement and will be very expensive. Ms. Woodard has been in touch with the DEC to see if there is any state money. It would be beneficial to all to use the same software and metrics. The metering system the two plants use now does not get properly monitored and fouls. Bolton Point will allow a piggyback on their 24/7 operation and meter system, but they need to figure out how to integrate.
- 2) Donna Fleming also submitted a suggestion for a water resource management plan for Cayuga Lake. Mr. Dietrich says that the group met last Monday to adopt a plan that was put forward by another County but does not know the results. Mr. Molino will reach out to the people at Cayuga Lake Watershed to discuss.
- 3) Martha Armstrong, TCAD, submitted a suggestion for a water/sewer feasibility study. Last done in 2010. They want to update it. This seems to fit under the traditional grant funding, not the shared services, but Mr. Molino submitted to State to see if it would qualify.
- 4) Liz Thomas, Ulysses Supervisor, was not in attendance, but did submit suggestions by email which include: back office administrative services-shared and centralizing for municipalities, expand County ITS role in supporting municipalities, fee-base sharing of County GIS services, shared and centralized tax collection, shared and centralized code enforcement, shared and centralized fleet maintenance, waste water, treatment, storm water management.
- 5) LED street light replacement may be re-submitted. It was submitted last year but was not completed.
- 6) Healthcare Consortium, if new municipalities want to join
- 7) Mr. Molino will put together areas for discussion about code enforcement for the next meeting.
- 8) Ms. Woodard would like to share Geographical Information System (GIS) - infrastructure mapping is very expensive. The County could purchase extra licenses and municipalities could purchase licenses from the County.
- 9) Irene Weiser, an observer from the town of Caroline, suggests putting 5G networking on the radar. Also, community choice aggregation-community owned land and solar farms.

Mr. Molino says if there are ideas and concepts for shared services it would be helpful to invite others who may be interested in the project and to understand the scope of work and planning of the ideas being submitted. Mr. Molino

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would be happy to go to town and village board meetings to facilitate and narrow the focus. He will send out an rsvp for the next meeting and if we get enough interest per topic, he may break down into groups, which will help narrow down the scope of work.

Meeting adjourned: 5:15pm

Next meetings:

June 27<sup>th</sup> @ 5:00p.m.

July 25<sup>th</sup> @ 5:00p.m.

Public Hearings:

June 4<sup>th</sup> 5:00pm Legislature Chambers

June 27<sup>th</sup> 5:00pm Legislature Chambers

July 25<sup>th</sup> 5:00pm Legislature Chambers