

REGULAR MEETING
November 4, 2025

The meeting was called to order at 5:00 p.m. by Chairman of the Board, Lawrence Dolhof.

Roll Call: All Legislators were present and there were 18 other people present.

Chairman Dolhof asked Legislator Kalamas for the Invocation, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Chairman Dolhof declared the October 7, 2025, meeting minutes approved by general consent.

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR:

Commissioner of Social Services Jennifer Jones reported on certain programs like SNAP. Roughly 3,000 individuals in Lewis County receive SNAP benefits monthly, 25% are children and 28% are seniors. There are an estimated 65 to 100 new applications received and reviewed each month. The Federal Government is only going to be issuing 50% of the normal benefits they would be responsible for due to a court hearing. In order to assist individuals in our communities, Social Service is expediting food benefit applications, but they require the applicant to report all resources for household income. There have been many calls for HEAP, which was supposed to open on November 17th but then got pushed back until November 24th. Social Services is accepting applications for Emergency Public Assistance Benefits to help those in extreme need.

A Glenfield resident came forward and addressed the board on what they refer to as the Glenfield Main Street Racetrack. There are no speed limit signs on that street, just no parking signs every 50 feet or so. Drivers seem to think its okay to go 40 to 60 miles per hour down the main street, which makes in unsafe for those trying to get outside for a walk. There needs to be more speed limit signs, flashing speed signs, and police enforcement. The streets, specifically the trail around the old Glenfield School, are being opened to Four-wheelers and ATVs which make it impossible to sleep at night with the noise. The residents of Glenfield would like to be able to spend time outside, work outside, and sleep at night.

Chairman Dolhof responded by stating that the board will investigate new signs and anything else that they can do to mitigate this issue. He stated that the Lewis County Sheriff is responsible for police patrols and perhaps a call to him might help with increasing the police presence.

Linda Domagla from Glenfield stated that in the winter snowmobiles are an issue, citing an early morning knock on her door when a snowmobile driver smashed into the tree in the front of her yard. She is worried that more people are going to get hurt by riding too fast and not paying attention. She pointed out that there is no parking for the church anymore.

Geraldine Salmon of Glenfield stated that concerns about opening roads to four-wheelers and UTV's was brought up a while back and there are clear issues now, so something needs to be done about it.

Dan Salmon of Lowville stated his concern over the County purchasing the railroad line through a quick claim deed when there are many more important issues that need to be addressed. He knows that one legislator is getting already getting all the phone calls because they listen to the residents. What Lewis County has is not a trail system, it is a road system.

REPORT OF THE FINANCE AND RULES COMMITTEE:

The Finance and Rules Committee have met and they recommended waving the rules to allow action on late resolutions.

Signed by: Thomas Osborne
Jeffrey Nellenback
Herb Frost
Barry Lyndaker
Vincent Nortz

Dated: November 4, 2025

Legislator Moser moved to accept the recommendation of the Finance & Rules Committee, seconded by Legislator Frost, and carried.

REPORT OF THE CLERK OF THE BOARD:

The Semi-Annual Mortgage Tax Report for April 1, 2025 through September 30, 2025 has been completed and distributed to the Board of Legislators. The sum of \$228,843.55 has been apportioned to the Tax Districts and the Treasurer's Office has been directed to pay the respective amounts due to the Towns, Villages, and the County of Lewis, pursuant to the provisions of Section 261 of the Tax Law along with the signed warrant. The Legislators also received the Final Draft of the Lewis County Winter Recreation Master plan.

The following resolutions were received:

- Yates County "Resolution Authorizing Legislative Chair to Sign Letter Urging Congress to Maintain SNAP and HEAP Funding." and "Resolution Supporting Senate Bill S8481/Assembly Bill A8996 to Authorize Local Governments to

Opt Out of Mandates and Benchmarks Arising Under the Climate Leadership and Community Protection Act (CLCPA) and Associated Universal Electrification Requirements Pursuant to Section 153 of the County Law.”

- Essex County “Resolution Urging The New York Legislature and Governor Hochul to Enact Legislation Amending General Municipal Law In Relation to Exempting Public Employees Health Insurance Premiums Paid by Towns and Counties in New York State from the New York State Real Property Tax Cap.”
- Greene County “Resolution in Support of Congressman Nick Langworthy’s Energy Choice Act (H.R. 3699, S.1945) and In Opposition to Government-Mandated Natural Gas Bans.”

Lewis County received notification of the following grant awards:

- \$80,378.00 for Probation under the State Aid Block Grant.
- \$304,126.00 for Mill Creek Streambank Stabilization under the NYS Department of State Clean Water, Clean Air and Green Jobs Environmental Bond Act of 2022.

REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES:

Legislator Osborne, Chair of the Finance & Rules Committee, reported that Real Property has received a certified resolution from the Town of Pinckney authorizing participation in the County’s tax collection software and adoption of the installment payment option for its taxpayers. With Pinckney’s enrollment, all towns are now participating in the program – achieving 100% countywide participation.

Lewis County’s Annual 30-Day Ag Period for landowners to request inclusion into Ag District 6 opens on November 15th. The Planning & Community Development Department will accept inclusion applications through December 15th, after which staff will review eligibility with the Lewis County Agricultural Farmland Protection Board for a final recommendation to the Board of Legislators in early 2026.

Planning & Community Development has been working with the Tug Hill Commission, Naturally Lewis, and the Northern New York Community Foundation to coordinate and facilitate a series of free Nonprofit Bootcamp sessions. On November 6th, a virtual ‘Financial Oversight for Nonprofits’ session will be held from Noon to 1 PM. If interested, the session and registration information are located on the Lewis County homepage. Anyone is invited to attend.

Legislator Moroughan, Chair of the General Services Committee, reported that with winter fast approaching and snow already predicted for next week, the Lewis County Highway Department is preparing to keep our roads safe and clear. Here are some important snow safety reminders:

- Avoid pushing or piling snow onto or across roadways; it's illegal and can damage plow equipment.
- Keep areas around and beyond mailboxes free of snow. Note that mailboxes in the right-of-way are not the municipality's responsibility.
- Always drive with your headlights on and give snowplows plenty of space to operate safely.
- Additionally, the Lewis County Highway Department recently completed CPR training. Special thanks go to Bob McKenzie and Jen Maracchion for their excellent instruction.

Legislator Moser, Chair of the Human Services Committee, reported that the Lewis County Office for the Aging invites everyone to their annual holiday movie event at the Town Hall Theater on December 2, 2025, starting at 4:00 PM. This year's feature is "Christmas with the Kranks." The first 300 attendees will enjoy free popcorn, courtesy of our generous sponsors at NRCIL. They look forward to kicking off the holiday season.

Public Health will be providing flu and COVID vaccines to employees and family members, including Board of Legislator members, Thursday 11:30-12:30 at the Human Services Building and 12:45-1:45 in the Board Chambers. Anyone wishing to get the vaccines but are unavailable during that time can call Public Health to set up an appointment or go to their pharmacy.

Legislator Nortz, representative on the Lewis County Health System Board of Managers, reported that they met on October 29th. The September employee of the month was Meghan Forte, Physician Office Assistant. During the meeting there was a moment of silence memorializing Dr. Ellison's life from December 2, 1946, to September 28, 2025. He provided compassionate health care for generations of families in Lewis County as a General Surgeon and will be greatly missed.

There was a gain of \$33,389.00 versus a budgeted gain of \$62,849.00 for the month of September. The year-to-date loss is \$1,654,998.00 versus a budgeted gain of \$9,067.00. Acute admissions were 71 against a budget of 80; Observations were 67 against a budget of 56; ER visits were 1,002 against a budget of 1,024; Outpatient visits were 6,783 against a budget of 6,614; and Purchased services were over budget due to traveling nurse staff totaling around \$568,000.00.

A breakeven 2026 hospital budget was submitted to the county for inclusion in their budget as requested by the Board of Legislators. The Comfort Care Home in Lewis County was discussed but at this time there is no update. The next update should be after January 7th when the State legislation is in session.

COUNTY MANAGER REPORT:

Tim Hunt, County Manager, mentioned the possibility of using a moveable trailer with a flashing speed limit to help mitigate the speeding issues on Main Street in Glenfield as they have been proven to work better than a permanent sign. He stated that although Bob Mackenzie, Lewis County Emergency Management Director, was not present at the meeting due to being at a regional fire administrators meeting but is raising money for breast cancer this month. If he reaches his goal of \$1,000.00, he will shave his mustache off, which he has not been without for many years.

Candy Akin, Lewis County Real Property Director, was just recently elected as president for the New York State Real Property Tax Directors Association. She is the first president of that association from Lewis County, and a real asset to our team. The Glenfield School needs to be cleaned out for prepossession by Rochester Cornerstone Group so there will be a few days when it will be open to municipalities, organizations and fire departments to come down and get any furniture that is left.

The 20206 Tentative Budget was handed out tonight and is available on the website as of tomorrow or a hard copy can be picked up in the County Clerks Office. The County has closed on the railroad purchase on October 23, 2025, per resolution in 2022. The next step is a Master Plan developed with public involvement each step of the way. This will be with Alta who was hired as our consultant to help develop a Master Plan. A podcast regarding the Rail Trail will be posted on our website, along with a statement to the media. On November 13th there will be a bus trip to Tupper Lake to visit that rail trail. Any Legislator, member of the public, or member of a municipality can sign up to go. There are only 32 seats available.

TREASURER REPORT:

Eric Virkler, County Treasurer, pointed out that the Health Insurance Committee, which has been meeting regularly, is doing good work. They agreed and posted an RFP for Pharmacy Benefit Management (PBM) which received five responses. The County cash balance and investments decrease as the year winds down and with the assistance of Three Plus One it is managed well. The current focus has been to lock in investments on a ladder basis for up to 24 months to protect good interest rates.

REPORT OF THE FINANCE AND RULES COMMITTEE:

RESOLUTION NO. 212 - 2025
AUDITING AND ALLOWING CLAIMS

Introduced by Legislator Thomas Osborne, Chair of the Finance & Rules Committee.

BE IT RESOLVED that the claims presented for payment in the total amount of \$2,959,879.07 be and each is hereby audited and allowed for the amounts claimed, and that the Clerk is authorized and directed to draw checks for the County Treasurer for the amounts claimed, in favor of each of the claimants or their assigns.

Moved by Legislator Frost , seconded by Legislator Nortz .

Legislator Moser recused herself from the vote, as several payments included therein are either made payable to her for services rendered as an assigned council or reflect vouchers she approved in that capacity.

The resolution was then adopted on the 4th day of November 2025, pursuant to the following roll call vote:

AYES: Nortz, Lyndaker, Frost, Leviker, Moroughan, Nellenback, Osborne, Kalamas, and Dolhof.

NAYS: None.

ABSENT: None.

RESOLUTION NO. 213 - 2025
RESOLUTION TO SET PUBLIC HEARING ON
2026 TENTATIVE LEWIS COUNTY BUDGET

Introduced by Legislator Thomas Osborne, Chair of the Finance & Rules Committee.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED as follows:

Section 1. In accordance with County Law Section 359, the Lewis County Board of Legislators hereby sets the public hearing for comments on the 2026 Tentative Lewis County Budget to be held in the second floor Legislative Chambers of the Lewis County Courthouse, 7660 State Street, Lowville, New York on the 18th day of November 2025 to begin at 5:00 p.m.

Section 2. That this resolution shall take effect immediately.

Moved by Legislator Frost, seconded by Legislator Moser, and adopted on the 4th day of November 2025.

RESOLUTION NO. 214 - 2025
RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING A RENEWAL AGREEMENT BETWEEN
THE COUNTY OF LEWIS AND TRANE BUILDING SERVICES

Introduced by Legislator Andrea Moroughan, Chair of the General Services Committee.

WHEREAS, the County of Lewis desires to renew an agreement with Trane Building Services for the purpose of providing maintenance services for Heating, Ventilating, and Air Conditioning (“HVAC”) systems for the Department of Motor Vehicles and Board of Elections Building; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Legislators wishes to accept such services;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, as follows:

Section 1. The Lewis County Board of Legislators hereby approves the renewal contract with Trane Building Services to provide Heating, Ventilating, and Air Conditioning (“HVAC”) maintenance services for the DMV and BOE Building for the period of January 1, 2026 through December 31, 2028 at the following annual costs:

Year 1	1/1/2026 – 12/31/2026	\$13,320.00
Year 2	1/1/2027 – 12/31/2027	\$14,023.20
Year 3	1/1/2028 – 12/31/2028	\$14,768.59

Section 2. The Chair or Vice-Chair of the Board of Legislators is hereby authorized to make, execute, seal and deliver such Agreement, pending approval by the County Attorney.

Section 3. The within resolution shall take effect immediately.

Moved by Legislator Frost, seconded by Legislator Moser, and adopted on the 4th day of November 2025.

RESOLUTION NO. 215 - 2025
RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING RENEWAL AGREEMENT
BETWEEN ALCOHOL AND SUBSTANCE ABUSE COUNCIL OF JEFFERSON
COUNTY, INC., DBA PIVOT AND
LEWIS COUNTY COMMUNITY SERVICES

Introduced by Legislator Jessica Moser, Chair of the Human Services Committee.

WHEREAS, the Lewis County Community Services Board is responsible to provide the residents of the County of Lewis with alcohol and substance abuse prevention services directly, and/or by contract for the provision of those services by other units of local or state government, voluntary agencies, or professionally qualified individuals; and

WHEREAS, the Lewis County Community Services Department (“LCCSD”) entered into an agreement with Alcohol and Substance Abuse Council of Jefferson County, Inc., dba Pivot (hereinafter “Pivot”) to develop and service a Lewis County OASAS Substance Misuse Prevention program. This program and the services to be provided will focus to reduce substance misuse including underage drinking, the misuse of medications and gambling habits, and provide various primary prevention services, including the administration of the Bach Harrison Prevention Needs Assessment (PNA) Survey to 6th, 8th, 10th, and 12th graders in the five school districts of Lewis County, every other year; and

WHEREAS, LCCSD seeks to renew the agreement with Pivot to develop and service the program in Lewis County at a cost of \$314,902.00 per year, commencing January 1, 2026 through December 31, 2026. State Aid funding of \$282,152.00 per year (pro-rated for 2025) will be provided by NYS OASAS toward the costs incurred by Pivot identified on its annual itemized expense form, and the local share cost of \$32,750.00 per year being provided by the County through Community Services from JUUL Settlement funds; and

WHEREAS, it is intended for Pivot to continue to occupy a portion of the County building located at 7714 Number Three Road, Lowville, NY, which is currently identified for provision of drug and alcohol prevention services in providing the program and services herein set forth, with Pivot paying a portion of the operational costs and expenses of the building and grounds to the County, i.e., the sum of \$2,594.00 per month commencing January 1, 2026 through December 31, 2030; subject to annual adjustment based upon actual operational costs of the occupied space; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Legislators wishes to authorize said agreements for these services and operational costs;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, as follows:

Section 1. The Lewis County Board of Legislators authorizes a renewal Agreement with the Alcohol and Substance Abuse Council of Jefferson County, Inc., dba Pivot, with offices at 167 Polk St, Watertown, NY to develop and service an OASAS Substance Misuse Prevention program tailored to and for Lewis County residents, including but not limited to professional services designed to reduce substance misuse including underage drinking, the misuse of medications and gambling habits, and provide various primary prevention services, including the administration of the Bach Harrison Prevention Needs Assessment (PNA) Survey to 6th, 8th, 10th, and 12th graders in the five school districts of Lewis County, every other year.

Section 2. The term of the agreement for the provision of the program and services at the Lowville location shall be at a cost of \$314,902.00 per year with \$282,152.00/year of the cost provided by state funding (pro-rated for 2025) and \$32,750.00 of the cost payable from JUUL settlement funds paid to Lewis County and managed by the Community Services Director. The term of the agreement shall be from January 1, 2026 through December 31, 2026.

Section 3. The Agreement shall include provisions for Pivot pay a portion of the operational costs and expenses incurred by the County for maintenance, repairs, utilities and other amenities of the building and grounds occupied by staff and clients serviced by Pivot at the 7714 Number Three Road, Lowville, NY location at a cost of \$2,594.00 per month commencing on January 1, 2026 through December 31, 2030, subject to annual adjustment based upon actual costs associated with the occupied space.

Section 4. The Chair or Vice-Chair of the Board of Legislators, together with the Community Services Director are hereby authorized to make, execute, seal and deliver such Agreement, inclusive of any terms and conditions as may be recommended by the County Attorney.

Section 5. This Resolution shall take effect immediately.

Moved by Legislator Frost , seconded by Legislator Moser , and adopted on the 4th day of November 2025.

RESOLUTION NO. 216 - 2025
RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING RENEWAL AGREEMENTS
BETWEEN LEWIS COUNTY COMMUNITY SERVICES AND
COORDINATED CARE SERVICES, INC., RUBENZHAL, KNUDSEN & ASSOCIATES,
AND MENTAL HEALTH ASSOCIATION IN JEFFERSON COUNTY

Introduced by Legislator Jessica Moser, Chair of the Human Services Committee.

WHEREAS, the Community Services Board (CSB) is a local governmental unit established by the Lewis County Board of Legislators pursuant to the authority granted in Mental Hygiene Law § 41.05; and

WHEREAS, the CSB is responsible for providing local or unified mental health services and facilities directly and/or by contract for the provision of those services by other units of local or state government, by voluntary agencies or by professionally qualified individuals; and

WHEREAS, the CSB has reviewed the proposals for the following providers of mental health services and has determined that these services are necessary to meet the needs of the community at a reasonable cost; and

WHEREAS, CSB receives state aid funding for some of these services by providers, and may receive adjustments to the initial state aid funding for each named provider agency based upon a Cost-Of-Living Adjustment (“COLA”) or other funding adjustment determined by the state; and

WHEREAS, the Community Services Board has met to consider the proposed agreements with the following service providers and requests that the Board of Legislators authorize one year renewal agreements with annual automatic renewals for the identified amounts, subject to annual modification in the amounts payable to the providers, including any COLA funding adjustment granted by the state for each year’s funding;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, as follows:

Section 1. The Lewis County Board of Legislators hereby authorizes renewal Agreements between the County of Lewis and the following providers for program services, in the amounts set forth for as the 2026 funding, plus any financial adjustment(s) made by the State to said annual amounts:

2026 FUNDING

CONTRACTOR	PURPOSE	AMOUNT
Coordinated Care Services, Inc.	Professional, Specialized Financial Management Services and Training	\$125.00 per hour (Not to exceed \$24,000.00)
Rubenzahl, Knudsen & Associates	Psychological Services	\$175.00 per hour for psychological exams \$200.00 per hour for court testimony Not to exceed \$1,400.00 without prior approval
Mental Health Association in Jefferson County	Joseph P. Dwyer Veterans Peer-to-Peer Program	Annual sum not to exceed \$109,733.00. Paid at the beginning of each quarter after receipt from the Office of Mental Health

Section 2. The term of said Agreements shall be from January 1, 2026 through December 31, 2026, with annual automatic renewal unless terminated by either party upon ninety (90) days written notice prior to the end of the term, and modification based upon the annual funding awarded by the State, together with any annual COLA adjustment.

Section 3. The Lewis County Board of Legislators hereby authorizes the Treasurer to adjust the appropriation upon receipt of any adjustment notification from the state.

Section 4. The Chair or Vice-Chair of the Board of Legislators is hereby authorized to make, execute, seal and deliver said Agreements and any modifications thereto, pending approval by the County Attorney.

Section 5. The within resolution shall take effect immediately.

Moved by Legislator Frost , seconded by Legislator Moser , and adopted on the 4th day of November 2025.

**RESOLUTION NO. 217 - 2025
RESOLUTION APPOINTING MEMBER TO
COMMUNITY SERVICES BOARD
MENTAL HEALTH SUBCOMMITTEE**

Introduced by Legislator Jessica Moser, Chair of the Human Services Committee.

WHEREAS, the Lewis County Services Board Mental Health Subcommittee shall have nine members appointed by the Board of Legislators pursuant to Mental Hygiene Law § 41.11;

WHEREAS, member Ashley Waite submitted a resignation letter effective October 6, 2025, therefore creating a vacancy; and

WHEREAS, the Lewis County Community Services Board recommends the appointment of Paige Wiley of Watertown, New York to fulfill the unexpired term of Ashley Waite;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED as follows:

Section 1. That the Board of Legislators hereby appoints Paige Wiley of Watertown, New York as a member of the Mental Health Subcommittee to fulfill the unexpired term of Ashley Waite.

Section 2. That the term of said appointment shall be effective November 5, 2025 through December 31, 2026.

Section 3. That this resolution shall take effect immediately.

Moved by Legislator Frost, seconded by Legislator Moser, and adopted on the 4th day of November 2025.

RESOLUTION NO. 218 - 2025
RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AMENDMENT WITH
COORDINATED CARE SERVICES, INC. (CCSI) AND
LEWIS COUNTY COMMUNITY SERVICES
FOR SPECIALIZED FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT SERVICES

Introduced by Legislator Jessica Moser, Chair of the Human Services Committee.

WHEREAS, the County of Lewis ("County"), acting by and through Lewis County Community Services entered into an agreement with Coordinated Care Services, Inc. dated November 16, 2023 for professional, specialized financial management services for Fiscal Officer Support including but not limited to Ongoing LGU Management Services and Federal Medicaid Administration Cost Reporting and Consolidated Fiscal Reports at \$115.00 per hour, at a total annual cost not to exceed \$23,000.00 (200 hours); and

WHEREAS, the County of Lewis desires to authorize an amendment to the agreement with Coordinated Care Services, Inc. to remit an additional payment of \$4,600.00 for the additional 40 hours of time and services rendered from October through December, 2025;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, as follows:

Section 1. The Lewis County Board of Legislators hereby approves an amendment to the agreement between the County and Coordinated Care Services, Inc. to remit an additional payment of \$4,600.00 for the additional 40 hours of time rendered from October, 2025 through December 31, 2025 for the professional, specialized financial management services for Fiscal Officer Support and required reports.

Section 2. The Chair or Vice-Chair of the Board of Legislators is hereby authorized to make, execute, seal and deliver such Amendment to the Agreement, pending approval by the County Attorney.

Section 3. The within resolution shall take effect immediately.

Moved by Legislator Frost, seconded by Legislator Moser, and adopted on the 4th day of November 2025.

RESOLUTION NO. 219 - 2025
RESOLUTION TO TRANSFER FUNDS
District Attorney

Introduced by Legislator Andrea Moroughan, Chair of the General Services Committee.

BE IT RESOLVED as follows:

Section 1. The Lewis County Board of Legislators hereby approves the following 2025 budget transfer to provide necessary funding for additional professional services costs in the District Attorney accounts:

From:
A0116500 110100 District Attorney Personnel Services \$50,000.00

To:
A0116500 490100 District Attorney Professional Services \$50,000.00

Section 2. The within resolution shall take effect immediately.

Moved by Legislator Frost, seconded by Legislator Moser, and adopted on the 4th day of November 2025.

RESOLUTION NO. 220 - 2025
RESOLUTION TO TRANSFER FUNDS
Highway

Introduced by Legislator Andrea Moroughan, Chair of the General Services Committee.

BE IT RESOLVED, as follows:

Section 1. The Lewis County Board of Legislators hereby approves the following 2025 budget transfer to provide necessary funding for higher-than-expected bridge material costs in the Highway accounts:

From:

D0501000 495152 CR Striping	\$ 22,400.00
D0522290 495222 CR Sign Shop Supplies	\$ 15,000.00
D0514200 490230 Snow Road Sweeping	\$ 2,240.00

To:

D0550000 491520 CR Bridge Materials	\$ 39,640.00
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Section 2. That the within resolution shall take effect immediately.

Moved by Legislator Frost , seconded by Legislator Moser , and adopted on the 4th day of November 2025.

RESOLUTION NO. 221 - 2025
A RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF CONGRESSMAN NICK LANGWORTHY'S
ENERGY CHOICE ACT (H.R. 3699, S. 1945) AND IN OPPOSITION TO
GOVERNMENT-MANDATED NATURAL GAS BANS

Introduced by Legislator Lawrence L. Dolhof, Chairman of the Lewis County Board of Legislators.

WHEREAS, affordable and reliable energy is essential to the health, safety, and economic prosperity of New York families, businesses, and communities; and

WHEREAS, natural gas remains a dependable, cost-effective, and clean-burning energy source used by millions of New Yorkers to heat their homes, cook their food, and power their businesses; and

WHEREAS, in 2019, New York State enacted the Climate Leadership and Community Protection Act (CLCPA), which mandates aggressive emissions reductions and serves as the foundation for sweeping energy restrictions, including efforts to phase out natural gas; and

WHEREAS, building on the CLCPA, Governor Kathy Hochul and the New York State Legislature in 2023 enacted provisions in the state budget banning natural gas and other fossil fuel hookups in most new residential and commercial buildings, effective 2026 for smaller buildings, and 2029 for larger buildings, thereby eliminating consumer choice and limiting access to affordable energy; and

WHEREAS, Governor Hochul has publicly supported these bans and related measures as part of her administration's climate and energy agenda, despite widespread concerns that such mandates will increase costs, strain grid reliability, and restrict energy diversity; and

WHEREAS, these top-down policies undermine affordability, threaten reliability during peak demand, and strip away the freedom of consumers and businesses to choose the energy sources that best meet their needs; and

WHEREAS, Congressman Nick Langworthy of New York and Senator Jim Justice of West Virginia introduced the Energy Choice Act (H.R. 3699, S. 1945), federal legislation that ensures state and local governments cannot restrict consumer access to natural gas and other affordable energy sources, thereby protecting freedom of choice for New Yorkers and all Americans; and

WHEREAS, the Energy Choice Act would safeguard households, small businesses, hospitals, farmers, and manufacturers from harmful government overreach and preserve access to an "all-of-the-above" energy strategy that strengthens reliability and affordability;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, as follows:

Section 1. The Lewis County Board of Legislators strongly supports the Energy Choice Act as introduced by Congressman Langworthy (H.R. 3699) and Senator Justice (S. 1945) and stands firmly opposed to New York State's natural gas bans, the CLCPA-driven restrictions, and other state energy mandates that eliminate consumer choice.

Section 2. The Lewis County Board of Legislators urges Congress to pass the Energy Choice Act to defend consumer choice, protect energy affordability, and preserve reliable access to natural gas for New Yorkers.

Section 3. The Clerk of the Board is requested to send certified copies of this resolution to Congressman Nick Langworthy, Senator Jim Justice, the New York Congressional delegation, Senators Chuck Schumer and Kirsten Gillibrand, Governor Kathy Hochul, and leadership of the New York State Legislature.

Section 4. This resolution will take effect immediately.

Moved by Legislator Kalamas, seconded by Legislator Leviker, and adopted on the 4th day of November 2025.

RESOLUTION NO. 222 - 2025
RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING MODIFICATION TO PURCHASE AND SALE
AGREEMENT OF THE FORMER GLENFIELD SCHOOL PROPERTY (5960 MAIN
STREET, GLENFIELD, NY) WITH ROCHESTER'S CORNERSTONE GROUP LTD.

Introduced by Legislator Thomas Osborne, Chair of the Finance & Rules Committee.

WHEREAS, pursuant to Resolution No. 288 – 2022, the Board authorized an MOU with the Lewis County Development Corporation (LCDC) to market the former Glenfield School Property for innovative economic development and re-uses by sending out a Request for Expressions of Interest (RFEI); and

WHEREAS, as a result of the RFEI a formal proposal was received from Rochester's Cornerstone Group Ltd. ("Cornerstone"), of Rochester, NY for development of the property for a minimum of 50 affordable housing units; and

WHEREAS, Cornerstone's proposal was contingent upon *inter alia* its ability to obtain necessary governmental approvals, tax credits and funding awards to acquire, develop and operate its intended development of the property for a minimum of 50 affordable residential units, at a purchase price of \$300,000.00; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Resolution 105-2023 the County authorized the sale of the property to Cornerstone pursuant to a Purchase and Sale agreement, but with closing and transfer of title not likely to close until on or about December 31, 2024, given the complex funding applications anticipated; and

WHEREAS, the Cornerstone received tax credits and funding awards, but requested an extension to close title to in or about March/April, 2026; and

WHEREAS, due to the County's continued cost and responsibility of heating and maintaining the structure, the County seeks to enter into a modification agreement with Cornerstone to provide them with pre-closing possession and full responsibility and obligation for the property and building in November, 2025 so that the County will not have the obligation to maintain the building and premises through another winter; and

WHEREAS, in addition, the Planning Department seeks to have Cornerstone provide an easement for placement of a bus stop shelter on the property near the road to service the people and residents in this area;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED as follows:

Section 1. The Lewis County Board of Legislators authorizes a modification and extension agreement with Cornerstone to include provisions to provide Cornerstone with pre-closing possession of 5960 Main Street, Glenfield, NY, identified as tax map parcel # 259.04-04-08.100, and the full responsibility and obligation for costs and expenses of maintenance, repair and/or replacement of any equipment, fixtures, systems or structures upon execution of the modification agreement. In addition, the modification agreement will identify Cornerstone's agreement to enter into an easement for the placement of the Public Transportation System's bus stop shelter on the property along the main road.

Section 2. The County Attorney is directed to develop and prepare the terms and conditions of the pre-closing possession and liability modification agreement and the terms and conditions of the bus shelter easement, and establishment of the final closing date in 2026 for final transfer of title to Cornerstone.

Section 3. The Chair or Vice-Chair of the Board of Legislators is hereby authorized to make, execute, seal and deliver the modification/extension agreement, pre-closing possession agreement, and bus stop shelter easement and any other documents necessary to give effect to same.

Section 4. The within Resolution shall take effect immediately.

Moved by Legislator Frost, seconded by Legislator Moser, and adopted on the 4th day of November 2025.

RESOLUTION NO. 223 - 2025
RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING LONG TERM LEASES WITH PURCHASE OPTIONS
BETWEEN COUNTY OF LEWIS AND JLHO BOARD OF COOPERATIVE
EDUCATIONS SERVICES (BOCES) FOR THE JACK J. BOAK JR. ED CENTER AND
THE LC-JCC ED CENTER, LOWVILLE, NY

Introduced by Legislator Thomas A. Osborne, Chair of the Finance & Rules Committee.

WHEREAS, the County and the Jefferson-Lewis-Hamilton-Oneida Board of Cooperative Educational Services (“BOCES”) have a continuing interest and cooperative relationship in developing and expanding educational and skilled learning and training for residents of Lewis County through various programs offered by BOCES at the LC-JCC Ed Center (Lowville), the Jack J. Boak Jr Ed Center (Lowville), and the Howard G. Sackett Technical Center (Glenfield); and

WHEREAS, BOCES administrative staff presented an update to the Board of Legislators on its various programs and intended expansions in Lewis County based upon growing student need and populations; and

WHEREAS, BOCES seeks to expand its use and presence in the LC -JCC Ed Center by proposing long-term leases with intended simultaneous purchases of the respective properties between the parties as follows: 1) the lease and purchase option of the Boak Ed Center building and property, Shady Avenue, Lowville to and by Lewis County; and 2) the lease and purchase option of the County’s LC-JCC Ed Center building and property, East Road, Lowville to and by BOCES, based upon the appraisal values and other circumstances and conditions considered and agreed upon by the parties; and

WHEREAS, the parties seek to enter into simultaneous, reciprocal ten-year lease and purchase option agreements of the their respective properties, with the intention to simultaneously purchase the respective properties based upon agreed upon appraised values of \$4.1 M for the LC-JCC Ed Center and \$2.77 M for the Boak Ed Center. Because of the difference in values, BOCES shall pay to the County the sum of \$1.3 M by crediting BOCES with annual lease payments of \$130,000 for a ten (10) year lease term, and a \$30,000 credit for the purchase of approximately 8 acres being a portion of Tax Parcel # 195.00-01-48.412 on East Road, Lowville. Any outstanding balance owing on the \$1.3 M due at the time of purchase and transfer of the properties within the ten year period will be paid at closing of title. The County shall pay rent of \$1 per year for the first ten-year lease term, unless terminated earlier in accordance with the terms of the lease and purchase option agreement; and

WHEREAS, the terms of the lease and purchase option agreements will provide for each party to be obligated for the operational costs and expenses

associated with the property being leased, together with such other customary terms and conditions required under said lease agreements commencing July 1, 2026 and continuing through and including June 30, 2036, with the right to extend the term of the simultaneous leases for two (2) additional ten-year periods upon prior written notice; and

WHEREAS, the reciprocal purchase options are conditioned upon the County's receipt of the Resolution approved by the Lewis County Agricultural Society, Inc. Board's consent and waiver of its restrictions and rights of first refusal/recovery of the County's Ed Center property with respect to this intended property transfer to BOCES;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, as follows:

Section 1. The Lewis County Board of Legislators authorizes simultaneous lease agreements between the County of Lewis (Lewis County) and Jefferson-Lewis-Hamilton- Herkimer-Oneida Board of Cooperative Educational Services (BOCES) with reciprocal purchase options of the their respective properties (LC-JCC Ed Center and BOCES Boak Education Center, based upon agreed upon appraised values of \$4.1 M for the LC-JCC Ed Center and \$2.77 M for the BOCES Boak Ed Center. The lease and purchase option agreements shall include provisions for BOCES to pay to the County the sum of \$1.3 M by crediting BOCES with annual lease payments of \$130,000 for a ten (10) year lease term, but with any outstanding balance of the \$1.3M due at the time of purchase and transfer of the properties within the ten year period in order to equalize the valuation payments. In addition, the County shall be entitled to purchase approximately eight (8) acres of BOCES' vacant adjacent property on East Road, Lowville, NY being a portion of Tax parcel # 195.00-01-48.412 in consideration of a payment or credit to BOCES of \$30,000. The County shall pay rent of \$1 per year for both properties for the first ten-year lease term unless terminated earlier in accordance with the terms of the lease and purchase option agreement.

Section 2. The Lewis County Board of Legislators directs the County Attorney to negotiate all other terms and conditions of the simultaneous lease and reciprocal purchase option agreements, and to secure a copy of the Lewis County Agricultural Society, Inc.'s Resolution consenting to and waiving its rights to first refusals and recovery of the property intended to be transferred.

Section 3. The Chair or Vice-Chair of the Board of Legislators is hereby authorized to make, execute, seal and deliver the lease and purchase option agreements and any other documents required to give effect to this Resolution, upon review and approval as to form by the County Attorney.

Section 4. The within Resolution shall take effect immediately.

Moved by Legislator Frost , seconded by Legislator Moroughan .

Legislator Lyndaker voiced his opinion that the land was way undervalued.

The resolution was then adopted on the 4th day of November 2025, pursuant to the following roll call vote:

AYES: Frost, Moser, Nortz, Leviker, Osborne, Kalamas, Moroughan, Nellenback, and Dolhof.

NAYS: Lyndaker.

ABSENT: None.

RESOLUTION NO. 224 - 2025
RESOLUTION TO SET 2ND PUBLIC HEARING FOR LEWIS COUNTY HOUSING
REHABILITATION PROGRAM CDBG PROJECT #636HR300-23 ADMINISTERED
BY SNOW BELT HOUSING

Introduced by Legislator Thomas Osborne, Chair of the Finance & Rules Committee.

WHEREAS, All recipients of NYS Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds must meet the citizen participation requirements at 24 CFR 570.486 and New York State's Citizen Participation Plan, as amended, which require recipients to follow a citizen participation plan for one public hearing prior to the submission of an application for funding, and one public hearing, if awarded to be held during the administration of the grant to solicit comments on the effectiveness of the program's administration; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Legislators duly held a public hearing on the 3rd day of January, 2023, regarding community development, public infrastructure, housing, and other possible development activities in preparation of a CDBG Application (Project # 636HR300-23) to be administered by Snow Belt Housing; and

WHEREAS, the County, through Snow Belt Housing as the sub-recipient, received an award of \$621,950 in Lewis County Housing Rehabilitation Program funds and the Board of Legislators of Lewis County seeks to hold a second public hearing to provide residents with the opportunity to offer any comments on the accomplishments of the Program; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, as follows:

Section 1. The Lewis County Board of Legislators authorizes a public hearing to be held and set for December 2nd, 2025 at 5:00 p.m. at the Lewis County Courthouse, Board of Legislators Chambers, 7660 North State Street, Lowville, New York, 13367 to provide residents of Lewis County with the opportunity to offer any comments on the accomplishments of the current CDBG Project # 636HR300-23 Lewis County Housing Rehabilitation Program.

Section 2. The within resolution shall take effect immediately.

Moved by Legislator Osborne , seconded by Legislator Frost , and adopted on the 4th day of November 2025.

RESOLUTION NO. 225 - 2025
RESOLUTION AWARDING BID AND AUTHORIZING CONTRACT BETWEEN
THE COUNTY OF LEWIS AND LABELLA ASSOCIATES FOR THE UPDATE OF THE
LEWIS COUNTY COMPREHENSIVE PLAN

Introduced by Legislator Thomas Osborne, Chair of the Finance & Rules Committee.

WHEREAS, the Director of the Planning and Community Development Department, in consultation with the Purchasing Department, sent out an RFP to update its 2009 Comprehensive Plan pursuant to General Municipal Law §239-D; and

WHEREAS, 6 bid proposals were opened on October 6, 2025, at 10:00 am. Planning Department staff and the Purchasing Director carefully reviewed the bid submissions and assessed the criteria in accordance with the scoring sheet and criteria developed by the reviewing team. After careful consideration and review, this team recommends that the Board of Legislators award the bid and contract to LaBella Associates to complete the RFP Tasks at a cost not to exceed \$215,275.00, based upon the best interests of the County and the scoring of criteria; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Legislators seeks to accept this recommendation and award the bid and contract to LaBella Associates for this project;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, as follows:

Section 1. The Lewis County Board of Legislators awards the bid to and authorizes an agreement with LaBella Associates to complete the scope of work outlined in the Comprehensive Plan RFP at a cost not to exceed \$215,275.00, as more fully set forth in their bid proposal.

Section 2. The Chair or Vice-Chair of the Board of Legislators is hereby authorized to make, execute, seal, and deliver said Agreement and any extensions or modifications thereto, upon review and approval by the County Attorney.

Section 3. The within resolution shall take effect immediately.

Moved by Legislator Frost , seconded by Legislator Moser , and adopted on the 4th day of November 2025.

RESOLUTION NO. 226 - 2025
RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AGREEMENTS BETWEEN
LEWIS COUNTY PUBLIC HEALTH AGENCY AND PROVIDERS
FOR PRESCHOOL SPECIAL EDUCATION PROGRAMS

Introduced by Legislator Jessica Moser, Chair of the Human Services Committee.

WHEREAS, pursuant to Section 4410 of the New York State Education Law, Lewis County Public Health (“Public Health”) is tasked with providing certain Preschool Tuition-Based and Related Services for children with disabilities defined in the Program; and

WHEREAS, the contracts may include itinerant and related services, evaluations and transportation for said students; and

WHEREAS, the Commissioner of Education requires a contract between the County and the Agency(s) who will be providing such services under the Program; and

WHEREAS, the cost of the program is dependent on the number of children assigned to contracted providers, with rates set and approved by New York State Education Department; and

WHEREAS, the Lewis County Board of Legislators seeks to approve and authorize said agreements with Milestones Children’s Center and The Treehouse Hourly Child Care LLC, dba The Treehouse Child Care Center Administration and Evaluation Site. A student is already receiving services from Milestone;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, as follows:

Section 1. The Lewis County Board of Legislators hereby authorizes agreements with Milestones Children’s Center (“Milestones”), 16783 Ives Road, Watertown, NY 13601, and The Treehouse Hourly Child Care, LLC dba The Treehouse Child Care Center Administration and Evaluation Site (“Treehouse”), 1635 Ohio Street, Watertown, NY 13601 to provide services to the Preschool Special Education Program for children with special education and health care needs.

Section 2. Milestones contract period is retroactive to October 21, 2025 through October 20, 2026, and Treehouse’s contract period begins January 1, 2026 through December 31, 2026. Both agreements shall automatically renew each year unless the contract is terminated by either party and it must be upon a ninety (90) day written notice, at a cost in accordance with the rates set forth by the State Education Department dependent on the number of children assigned to contracted providers.

Section 3. The Chair or Vice-Chair of the Board of Legislators is hereby authorized to make, execute, seal and deliver such Agreement, and any amendments thereto, upon review and approval by the County Attorney.

Section 4. The within resolution shall take effect immediately.

Moved by Legislator Frost , seconded by Legislator Moser , and adopted on the 4th day of November 2025.

RESOLUTION NO. 227 - 2025
RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING PARKING LOT LEASE
WITH BONNIE HODKINSON

Introduced by Legislator Andrea Moroughan, Chair of the General Services Committee.

WHEREAS, Bonnie Hodkinson is the owner of certain real property, located on the intersection of New York State Route 177 and Seven By Nine Road (County Route 69), a portion of which is used as a public parking area for recreational users executed on December 22, 1998, by her deceased parents; and

WHEREAS, the County desires to enter into a long-time lease with the owner to continue the designated area on her property as a public parking area for recreational users; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, as follows:

Section 1. The Lewis County Board of Legislators hereby approves a lease between Bonnie Hodkinson and the County, through its Recreation, Forestry, and Parks Department for the purpose of using the following premises as recreational public parking, to commence upon execution of the agreement and continue for ninety-nine (99) years, unless terminated sooner by either party as set forth in the lease:

On a portion of the land owned by Bonnie Hodkinson located at the intersection of New York State Route 177 and Seven By Nine Road (County Route 69), identified as Tax Map No.: 171.04-03-11.1, and being approximately 1.1 acres.

Section 2. The Chair or the Vice-Chair be and the same is hereby authorized to execute and deliver such agreement upon such terms as may be approved by the County Attorney.

Section 3. The within resolution shall take effect immediately.

Moved by Legislator Leviker, seconded by Legislator Moroughan .

Legislator Lyndaker questioned if the county was just renewing the lease, and it was explained that the original land owner had passed away so the lease was redone as the daughter now owns the property.

The resolution was then adopted on the 4th day of November 2025.

RESOLUTION NO. 228 - 2025
RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE DIRECTOR OF
RECREATION, FORESTRY AND PARKS DEPARTMENT
TO EXECUTE LANDOWNER ACCESS AGREEMENTS FOR PARKING LOTS
TO BE USED BY PUBLIC RECREATION USERS

Introduced by Legislator Andrea Moroughan, Chair of the General Services Committee.

WHEREAS, outdoor recreational activities such as biking, hiking, snowshoeing, snowmobiling and ATV/OHV riding are of critical importance to the Lewis County economy and its developmental growth for residents and visitors alike. Snowmobile riding is a premier winter recreational sport in Lewis County, attracting snowmobilers from near and far; and

WHEREAS, in order to provide parking areas for recreational users, the Recreation, Forestry and Parks Department has taken over securing landowner agreements for year-round recreational parking lot access in order to have vehicle off the roads while users enjoy recreational activities; and

WHEREAS, the Director of Recreation, Forestry and Parks seeks to have the Board authorize her to enter into landowner agreements/leases for year round parking areas open to the public for recreation uses; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, as follows:

Section 1. The Lewis County Board of Legislators hereby approves and authorizes the Director of Recreation, Forestry and Parks to enter into land access lease agreements with landowners in order to establish parking lots for access and use by recreation users in Lewis County.

Section 2. The Board of Legislators directs that the Director work with the County Attorney to develop the terms and conditions of said agreements/leases. The Director shall also maintain copies of said executed agreements and develop a document to be provided to the County Attorney and Clerk of the Board containing all relevant information pertaining to landowner names, locations, site of parking lots, lease term and renewals, and any other information and data deemed appropriate.

Section 3. The within resolution shall take effect immediately.

Moved by Legislator Moroughan , seconded by Legislator Moser , and adopted. Legislator Lyndaker was opposed.

RESOLUTION NO. 229 - 2025
RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AGREEMENT BETWEEN
THE COUNTY OF LEWIS AND MOTOROLA SOLUTIONS, INC. FOR PUBLIC SAFETY
FLEX PLUS SOFTWARE & MAINTENANCE FOR THE SPILLMAN CAD SYSTEM,
RECORDS MANAGEMENT SYSTEM & MOBILE DATA SOFTWARE SYSTEM
FOR EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS

Introduced by Legislator Jessica Moser, Chair of the Human Services Committee.

WHEREAS, the County's emergency communications system for use by all emergency services includes Public Safety Computer Aided Dispatch (CAD), Records Management, and Mobile Data software systems which must be integrated and maintained on an annual basis; and

WHEREAS, Motorola Solutions, Inc., (Motorola) has provided the Sheriff's Department with a detailed proposal and agreement dated August 1, 2025 for a five-year maintenance integrated software system, i.e., the "Flex Plus Subscription Software Suite" which consists of CAD, Records Management System (RMS) and Mobile software that references a centralized database, providing quick access to all data in the system, and which allows for entry, storage, and extraction of data in real time thereby reducing response time and increasing situational awareness in the field. During the five-year term of the subscription, the County's public safety system will receive continuous software maintenance, support and upgrades, at a price of \$65,000 per year (\$325,000 total) commencing May 1, 2026 through April 30, 2031, provided that the County agrees to same by December 15, 2025 in order to lock in the pricing; and

WHEREAS, the Sheriff's Department will use the annual PSAP grant to cover the yearly fee of \$65,000, and requests that the Board of Legislators approve this contract;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. The Lewis County Board of Legislators authorizes the agreement and purchase of Motorola's Flex Plus Subscription Software Suite and maintenance services for a five-year integrated software maintenance system for the emergency communications system including the CAD, RMS and Mobile Data system software as outlined in its terms and descriptive proposal dated August 1, 2025.

Section 2. The term of the five-year agreement shall commence May 1, 2026 through April 30, 2031, with annual payments of \$65,000 payable within thirty (30) days of receipt of an invoice from Motorola at the commencement of each year of the subscription plan.

Section 3. Payment of the annual subscription fee shall be made from the Sheriff's Department annual PSAP grant.

Section 4. The Chairman, or Vice-Chairman, of the Board of Legislators is hereby authorized to make, execute, seal and deliver such Agreement, upon such form(s) as may be approved by the County Attorney.

Section 5. The within resolution shall take effect immediately.

Moved by Legislator Nortz , seconded by Legislator Osborne .

Legislator Kalamas voiced his opinion that as technology changes and software upgrades continue for emergency communications, it may eventually require I.T. support.

The resolution was then adopted on the 4th day of November 2025.

RESOLUTION NO. 230 - 2025
RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AGREEMENTS
BETWEEN DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES AND
NEW YORK STATE OFFICE OF CHILDREN AND FAMILY SERVICES AND
WITH COMMUNITY ACTION PLANNING COUNCIL
OF JEFFERSON COUNTY, INC.

Introduced by Legislator Jessica Moser, Chair of the Human Services Committee.

WHEREAS, the Commissioner of Social Services of Lewis County is an authorized Social Services official responsible and designated by the New York State Office of Children and Family Services, insofar as funds are available for that purpose, to register and inspect family daycare and school-aged child care providers in Lewis County; and

WHEREAS, the Community Action Planning Council of Jefferson County, Inc. ("CAPC") is qualified by its present established base in the community and is disposed to fulfill the required responsibilities of the Local Commissioner in fulfilling the obligation to inspect and register daycare providers. The Commissioner of Lewis County Department of Social Services ("DSS") desires to enter into an Agreement with CAPC to provide such services; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Legislators wishes to authorize said agreements;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED as follows:

Section 1. The Lewis County Board of Legislators hereby authorizes Agreements between the County of Lewis, by and through the Department of Social Services with:

A. New York State Office of Children and Family Services for the purpose of OCFS providing federal funding to the Lewis County Department of Social Services in the amount of \$10,567.50 quarterly (Maximum Funding Amount of \$42,270.00), for an acceptable level of compliance and performance as specified by the Division of Childcare Services for registration and inspection of child care providers.

and

B. Community Action Planning Council of Jefferson County, Inc. for the purpose of conducting registration and inspection of family day care and school aged child care providers in Lewis County, at an annual cost not to exceed \$40,157.00, payable in quarterly installments of \$10,039.25 upon receipt of a completed Quarterly Registration Review Report from the DCCS Regional Office, and upon receipt of funds from OCFS to DSS.

Section 2. The term of these Agreements shall be from January 1, 2026 through December 31, 2026. The cost of these services are 100% federally funded.

Section 3. The Lewis County Commissioner of Social Services is hereby authorized to make, execute, seal and deliver the New York State Office of Children and Family Services agreement and any extensions thereto, pending review and approval by the County Attorney.

Section 4. The Chair or Vice-Chair of the Board of Legislators is hereby authorized to make, execute, seal and deliver the Community Action Planning Council of Jefferson County, Inc. Agreement, and any extensions thereto provided the amount remains the same, pending approval by the County Attorney.

Section 5. That the within Resolution shall take effect immediately.

Moved by Legislator Frost , seconded by Legislator Moser , and adopted on the 4th day of November 2025.

RESOLUTION NO. 231 - 2025
RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AGREEMENTS
BETWEEN LEWIS COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES
AND VARIOUS FOSTER CARE AGENCIES

Introduced by Legislator Jessica Moser, Chair of the Human Services Committee.

WHEREAS, the Lewis County Department of Social Services wishes to enter into agreements with various foster care agencies to utilize their services of foster care, emergency respite care, post placement, residential, educational and treatment services; and

WHEREAS, the following agencies are authorized by the New York State Office of Children and Family Services to provide these services.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, as follows:

Section 1. The Lewis County Board of Legislators hereby authorizes agreements between the County of Lewis, by and through the Department of Social Services, and the following agencies for the provision of foster care services, emergency respite care, post placement, and residential, educational and treatment services;

Cayuga Home for Children – Located in Auburn, NY
Children’s Home of Jefferson County – Located in Watertown, NY
Elmcrest Children’s Center – Located in Syracuse, NY
Hillside Children’s Home – Located in Rochester, NY
House of the Good Shepherd – Located in Utica NY
Northeast Parent & Child Society- Located in Albany, NY
St. Anne Institute – Located in Albany, NY
Together For Youth – Located in Canaan, NY
William George Agency – Located in Freeville, NY

Section 2. The term of these agreements shall be from January 1, 2026 through December 31, 2027, at a per diem cost not to exceed the Maximum Aid Rate established by the State. There is no local share cost until costs exceed the foster care block grant and then the local share is approximately 25% for residential foster care and is based on the eligibility of the client. The State share is approximately 25% and Federal share is approximately 50%.

Section 3. The Chair or Vice-Chair of the Board of Legislators is hereby authorized to make, execute, seal and deliver said Agreements, pending approval by the County Attorney.

Section 4. The within Resolution shall take effect immediately.

Moved by Legislator Frost , seconded by Legislator Moser , and adopted on the 4th day of November 2025.

RESOLUTION NO. 232 - 2025
RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING SIX-MONTH RENEWAL AGREEMENT
BETWEEN THE COUNTY OF LEWIS AND
ICU SECURITY & PRIVATE INVESTIGATIONS
FOR ARMED SECURITY GUARD SERVICES AT THE
SOCIAL SERVICES/ HUMAN SERVICES BUILDING

Introduced by Legislator Jessica Moser, Chair of the Human Services Committee.

WHEREAS, the County of Lewis, Lewis County Department of Social Services (“DSS”), desires to renew the agreement with ICU Security & Private Investigations (“ICU”) for armed security guard services at the Human Services building located on Outer Stowe Street, Lowville, NY for a six month period commencing January 1, 2026 through and including June 30, 2026 in order to have the term coincide with the prevailing wage amount set by the State for said public contracts on July 1 of each year. The Commissioner intends to negotiate annual renewals thereafter effective July 1st through June 30th; and

WHEREAS, the prevailing wage for armed security guard services in the North Country was increased from \$37.60/hr to \$50.71/hr due to prevailing wage adjustment July 1, 2025. The regular hours are 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday on the days the DSS building is open or as the Commissioner may otherwise direct, with no and no more than 20 hours of overtime payable; and

WHEREAS, the security contract cost is 75% reimbursed by the State;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, as follows:

Section 1. The Lewis County Board of Legislators hereby authorizes a six-month renewal agreement between the Lewis County Commissioner of the Department of Social Security and ICU Security & Private Investigations for armed security guard services at the Human Services building.

Section 2. The term of the Agreement shall be from January 1, 2026 through June 30, 2026, at a cost not to exceed \$50.71 per hour, all inclusive of taxes, insurance, disability, benefits, and any other costs and expenses associated with providing said service, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. on the days DSS and the human services building is open or as the Commissioner may otherwise direct. Any renewals thereafter will be based on an annual agreement

Section 3 The Chair or Vice-Chair of the Board of Legislators is hereby authorized to make, execute, seal, and deliver said Agreement, pending approval by the County Attorney.

Section 4. The within resolution shall take effect immediately.

Moved by Legislator Osborne , seconded by Legislator Moroughan , and adopted on the 4th day of November 2025.

RESOLUTION NO. 233 - 2025
RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING RENEWAL AGREEMENT BETWEEN LEWIS COUNTY
OBO THE DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES AND NRCIL
FOR THE WARMING CENTER FACILITY AND SERVICES FOR
THE 2025/2026 “CODE BLUE” SEASON

Introduced by Legislator Jessica Moser, Chair of the Human Services Committee.

WHEREAS, the Lewis County Board of Legislators authorized a contract executed on November 5, 2024 between the County of Lewis on behalf of the Lewis County Department of Social Services and NRCIL to obtain Warming Center Facility and Staffing Services to provide the homeless with a warm location overnight for up to 12 hours, 7 days a week, when the temperature is below 32 degrees, pursuant to NYS Office of Temporary and Disability Assistance “Code Blue” mandate for the 2024/25 season; and

WHEREAS, the Department of Social Services wishes to renew this Agreement commencing on November 1, 2025 at 7PM through 7 AM April 1, 2026, at a cost of \$134,744.71 for a five month period;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, as follows:

Section 1. The Lewis County Board of Legislators hereby authorizes a renewal contract between the County o/b/o LC DSS and NRCIL to provide facility, amenities, and staffing services for a Warming Center for overnight stays by the homeless for up to 12 hours, 7 days a week, from November 1, 2025 through 7AM on April 1, 2026, at a cost of \$134,744.71 for the anticipated five month period.

Section 2. The Chair or Vice-Chair of the Board of Legislators is hereby authorized to make, execute, seal and deliver such Agreement together with execution by the Lewis County Department of Social Services Commissioner, and any related and necessary documents or instruments, pending approval by the County Attorney.

Section 3. The within resolution shall take effect immediately.

Moved by Legislator Frost, seconded by Legislator Moser, and adopted on the 4th day of November 2025.

RESOLUTION NO. 234 - 2025
RESOLUTION TO CLOSE ACCOUNTS

Introduced by Legislator Thomas Osborne, Chair of the Finance & Rules Committee.

WHEREAS, since the Capital Building Project is completed and will have no further activity, the Treasurer seeks to close these identified accounts and appropriate the funds;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, as follows:

Section 1. The listed Capital Account HAR (Capital Building Project) will be closed. The accounts listed below are the remaining balances and are adjusted to zero out each line item. The remaining balance of the fund totals \$396,601.05. This remaining balance will be reappropriated and transferred to the Capital Account HAC (Capital Building & Grounds) for use for future building or maintenance projects.

HAR – Capital Building Project

<u>Increase Revenue:</u>		
H0162000 324010 INT	\$	191,400.60
<u>Decrease Expense:</u>		
H0162000 499900 CONTRACT	\$	21,229,578.37
<u>Increase Expense:</u>		
H0141000 499900 DMV	\$	2,880,089.99
H0141000 490100 DMV - PROF SVC	\$	126,826.60
H0601000 499900 DSS	\$	5,412,511.34
H0601000 490100 DSS - PROF SVC	\$	4,512.50
H0601000 440700 DSS - SUPPLIES	\$	114,903.52
H0162000 499900 GLEN	\$	522,505.85
H0162000 490100 GLEN - PROF SVC	\$	200.00
H0162000 460100 GLEN - REPAIRS	\$	13,846.84
H0162000 440700 GLEN - SUPPLIES	\$	5,083.33
H0162000 430300 GLEN - UTILITY	\$	112,627.45
H0601000 221700 GLEN/DSS - COMP	\$	83,057.42
H0601000 460300 GLEN/DSS - REPAIRS	\$	5,371.67
H0601000 440700 GLEN/DSS - SUPPLIES	\$	14,085.27
H0511000 499900 HWY	\$	11,157,671.42
H0511000 490100 HWY - PROF SVC	\$	17,563.13
H0511000 460600 HWY - REPAIRS	\$	2,929.98
H0511000 440700 HWY - SUPPLIES	\$	200,301.15
H0162000 499900 MAINT	\$	744,483.35
H0162000 440700 MAINT - SUPPLIES	\$	2,408.16

Section 2. The within resolution shall take effect immediately.

Moved by Legislator Frost, seconded by Legislator Moser, and adopted on the 4th day of November 2025.

RESOLUTION NO. 235 - 2025
RESOLUTION SUPPORTING OPERATION GREEN LIGHT
IN RECOGNITION OF VETERANS, ACTIVE MILITARY SERVICE MEMBERS
AND THOSE IN TRANSITION TO CIVILIAN LIFE

Introduced by Legislator Lawrence L. Dolhof, Chairman of the Board of Legislators.

WHEREAS, the residents of Lewis County have great respect, admiration, and the utmost gratitude for all who have selflessly served our country and this community in the Armed Forces; and

WHEREAS, Veterans continue to serve their community in the American Legion, Veterans of Foreign Wars, church groups, and other community agencies; and

WHEREAS, studies indicate that 44 to 72 percent of service members experience high levels of stress during transition from military to civilian life, and are at a high risk for suicide during their first year after military service; and

WHEREAS, the Lewis County Board of Legislators appreciates the sacrifices our United States Military Personnel made while defending freedom, and believes specific recognition be accorded them to demonstrate the honor and support they deserve and have earned; and

WHEREAS, in advance of the upcoming Veterans Day holiday, and as part of the National Association of Counties collaborative initiative known as “Operation Green Light”, the Lewis County Board of Legislators encourages its citizens to focus attention on America’s service men and women by displaying a green light for Veterans in the windows of their places of business or residence;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, as follows:

Section 1. In observance of Operation Green Light, the Lewis County Board of Legislators encourages its citizens in patriotic tradition to recognize the importance of honoring all those whose immeasurable sacrifices help to preserve freedom, and to let veterans know that they are seen, appreciated, and supported by displaying an interior or exterior green light in their business or residence from November 4 – 11, 2025.

Section 2. With designation as a “Green Light for Veterans and Military Service County”, Lewis County hereby declares November 4 – 11, 2025 as a time to salute and honor the service and sacrifice of our men and women in uniform, and those transitioning from Active Service.

Section 3. The Lewis County Board of Legislators directs that an exterior green light be displayed at the Lewis County Courthouse Building and any other County buildings capable of such lighting for the period of November 4, 2025 through November 11, 2025.

Section 4. This Resolution shall take effect immediately.

Moved by Legislator Frost, seconded by Legislator Moser, and adopted on the 4th day of November 2025.

RESOLUTION NO. 236 - 2025
RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF KRAFT HEINZ AND THE NORTH COUNTRY
REGIONAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL'S APPLICATION FOR
THE NEW YORK STATE ACHIEVE GRANT

Introduced by Legislator Lawrence L. Dolhof, Chairman of the Lewis County Board of Legislators.

WHEREAS, the North Country Regional Economic Development Council (NCREDC) is applying for the New York State ACHIEVE Grant to promote sustainable economic development and strengthen key industries throughout the region; and

WHEREAS, Kraft Heinz, a global leader in food manufacturing, has demonstrated a strong and ongoing commitment to the North Country through its investment in the Philadelphia Cream Cheese plant located in Lowville, New York; and

WHEREAS, the dairy industry remains a critical economic driver for New York State, supporting thousands of farmers, haulers, producers, and related businesses; and

WHEREAS, Kraft Heinz's proposed project, supported through the ACHIEVE Grant, seeks to modernize and expand the Lowville plant by adding two new production lines and upgrading on-site infrastructure, ensuring long-term operational sustainability and competitiveness; and

WHEREAS, this investment will safeguard more than 500 local jobs, stimulate additional private investment, and strengthen the economic resilience of the North Country region; and

WHEREAS, the proposal aligns with New York State and NCREDC priorities to stimulate economic growth, advance manufacturing innovation, and preserve the vitality of the dairy sector; and

WHEREAS, the successful implementation of the project will enhance regional partnerships, reinforce New York's leadership in the dairy industry, and secure continued growth opportunities for both large employers and small agricultural producers;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, as follows:

Section 1. The Lewis County Board of Legislators hereby expresses its strong support for the North Country Regional Economic Development Council's application for the New York State ACHIEVE Grant and for Kraft Heinz's proposed modernization and expansion project at the Lowville Philadelphia Cream Cheese plant.

Section 2. The Lewis County Board of Legislators recognizes Kraft Heinz as a valued partner in strengthening the North Country's economy and encourages favorable consideration of this proposal by New York State.

Section 3. This Resolution shall take effect immediately.

Moved by Legislator Nortz, seconded by Legislator Nellenback, and adopted on the 4th day of November 2025.

RESOLUTION NO. 237 - 2025
RESOLUTION RESCINDING AND TERMINATING BID AND CONTRACT WITH
ELITE EXCAVATING & DEMOLITION INC.
AND AWARDING BID TO D&S EXCAVATING LLC FOR
DEMOLITION AND REMOVAL OF BUILDING LOCATED AT
6314 WEST MAIN STREET, VILLAGE OF TURIN

Introduced by Legislator Thomas Osborne, Chair of the Finance & Rules Committee.

WHEREAS, pursuant to Resolution 166-2025, the County, by and through the Planning Department, awarded the bid and authorized an agreement with Elite Excavating and Demolition, Inc., of Fulton, NY, the lowest bidder, to complete the demolition and removal of the building at 6214 West Main Street, in the Village of Turin pursuant to the tasks identified in the RFP, at a cost of \$24,750.00; and

WHEREAS, Elite has failed to appear at the premises to provide the services and has failed to communicate with the County, thereby necessitating the County's termination of the award and contract; and

WHEREAS, the Purchasing and Planning Directors request that the Board now award the bid and contract to the second lowest bidder, D&S Excavating LLC, of 106 Putnam Estate Drive, Frankfort, NY 13340 for \$34,800.00 as set forth in their bid documents dated July 7, 2025;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, as follows:

Section 1. The Lewis County Board of Legislators hereby rescinds the bid awarded to Elite Excavating and Demolition Inc., of Fulton, NY in the amount of \$24,750.00 as a result of the company's failure to appear on site and to abide by the terms and conditions of the award and contract.

Section 2. The County attorney is authorized to terminate the contract with Elite, and take any legal steps required to give effect to this termination and cancellation of the bid award.

Section 3. The Lewis County Board of Legislators now hereby awards the bid and contract for this project to the second lowest bidder, D&S Excavating LLC, of Frankfort, NY, to complete the scope of work outlined in the demolition and removal RFP, at a cost not to exceed \$ 34,800.00 as more fully set forth in their bid proposal.

Section 4. The Chair or Vice-Chair of the Board of Legislators is hereby authorized to make, execute, seal, and deliver said termination documents, new contract agreement and any other documents required to give effect to this project, upon such terms and conditions as the County Attorney may recommend.

Section 5. This Resolution shall take effect immediately.

Moved by Legislator Lyndaker, seconded by Legislator Moroughan, and adopted on the 4th day of November 2025.

OTHER BUSINESS:

Chairman Dolhof stated that the next full board meeting will be held on Tuesday, November 18th beginning at 5:00 p.m. for the public hearing on the 2026 Tentative Budget.

Legislator Nortz stated that the Alpine Express has one bus up and running but ridership is down but it isn't too concerning due to the federal government shutdown.

There being no other business to come before the Board, Legislator Osborne moved to adjourn the meeting at 5:55 p.m., seconded by Legislator Nellenback, and carried.