



FINANCE, LEGAL & SAFETY COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES - FINANCE  
March 15, 2022 AT 10:30AM

**ATTENDANCE:**

Legislators: Ciotoli, Roberts, Monell, Brown, Mullen, Weston, Hollenbeck, Standinger  
Staff: McFadden, DeWind, Jerzak, Chandler, Haskell, Freyvogel, Thorpe  
Absent: Sauerbrey

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** Minutes of the February 15<sup>th</sup> Finance Committee were read and a motion to approve by Legislator Weston, seconded by Legislator Hollenbeck and unanimously carried.

**FINANCIAL:** Treasurer McFadden reported the YTD budget was tracking well. 1.7M has been received from IDA for PILOT payments, and a 30K IDA payment is anticipated this week. It has been a quiet winter for other revenue and expenses.

**OLD BUSINESS:** A YTD tax collection spreadsheet of 2022 warrant payment sent by Town Clerks was shared. We have collected 16M or 62% of the total due from the Towns, with 9.2M left to collect. This is on track with previous years.

: The 2022 Sales tax payments for the last two months were compared to 2021 January and February payments. Sales tax is roaring for 2022, and is up almost a million dollars over last year YTD. Inflation of 9%+ is a contributing factor, but consumers are also spending more. Historically, families drove to surrounding counties to spend, but over the last few years with the pandemic and the rising gas prices people are shopping local and online. This trend may flatten out as people gain confidence to travel.

**NEW BUSINESS:** Treasurer McFadden shared a chart on motor fuel tax collections by county, comparing 2021 over 2020. Average price in 2021 was \$3.04, a 32% increase over 2020's average of \$2.30. Tioga County came in over a million dollars, which impacts our high sales tax. Legislator Weston question if the Federal and State fuel tax had been lowered. Treasurer McFadden stated a decrease to the 18% Federal and 17.5% State taxes are being mentioned by politicians but nothing has been done yet.

: Treasurer's Office Annual Report was shared. 2021 was a great revenue year. Sales tax up 19.2%, a million coming from fuel tax. Tioga Downs came back strong. Even the foreclosures, which had four years of unpaid taxes due to COVID instead of the normal three, came in with a 700K auction surplus.

: The County's 2010 Recovery Act 20 year bond has a payment of \$661,544 due March 25, leaving a remaining balance of \$4,695,000

**PERSONNEL:** None.

**RESOLUTIONS/PROCLAMATIONS:** None.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION:** None

**ADJOURNMENT:** 10:45 am