

# Shared Services Property Tax Savings Plan Panel Meeting

## Attendees

David Scott, Town of Montour Supervisor  
John VanSoest, Town of Catharine Supervisor  
Brandon Theetge, Town of Cayuta Supervisor  
James Howell, County Legislator  
Don Desrochers, Town of Tyrone Supervisor  
Alvin White, Town of Hector Supervisor  
Tom Letteer, Village of Odessa Board Member  
Gary Conklin, Town of Orange Supervisor  
Shawn Rosno, Community Services Director  
Kristin VanHorn, Planning Director  
Jim Pinkard, Town of Orange Supervisor  
Harold Russell, Town of Dix Supervisor  
Dennis Fagan, Schuyler County Chairman  
Tim O'Hearn, Schuyler County Administrator  
Peggy Tomassi, Schuyler County Administrators Office

Meeting was held in the Shared Public Works Facility, Watkins Glen and began at 6:08pm.

## Points of Conversation (general discussion unless otherwise noted)

Tim O'Hearn presented a list of potential sharing of services. Areas the group chose not to pursue are crossed out.

- Centralized Code Enforcement ~~Will conduct analysis to determine potential cost savings / financial impact. Suggestion by Supervisor Russell to create three distinct areas; residential, commercial, and property maintenance.~~
- Property & Liability Insurance Consortium ~~Will conduct analysis to determine potential cost savings / financial impact. NYMIR to be further explored.~~
- Consolidated Courts ~~Explore both concepts of a district court as well as combining local courts. Financial impact dependent on level of commitment from municipalities~~
- Joint Purchasing ~~Will conduct analysis to determine potential cost savings / financial impact~~
- Fire Departments: ~~Administration/Equipment/Consolidation~~ Procurement ~~Will research as part of purchasing analysis~~
- County Wide Law Enforcement Agency / Police Consolidation ~~Need input from Village WG~~
- Consolidated / Central Board of Assessment Review (Grievance Day)
- Shared Water Operator
- Regional Wastewater Treatment / Governance
- ~~Sharing / Consolidation of Municipal Facilities~~ Possibly courts
- ~~Legal Services—County to Provide to Municipalities~~ (Possibly in large certiorari cases)
- ~~County Wide Enhanced Recycling/Composting/Curbside Pickup~~ ~~K VanHorn will further research and share as a possible COG initiative.~~
- ~~Highway Administration~~
- ~~Tax Collection Consolidation and /or Privatization~~ ~~Will conduct analysis to determine potential cost savings / financial impact. Will use the practice established by school districts (utilizing private financial institutions) as the model for research. Savings were determined to be insufficient to justify the upheaval associated with implementation~~ 5 Towns opted out.
- ~~County Role in Tax Foreclosure Extended to Villages~~

- ~~Health Insurance Consortium—Will conduct analysis to determine potential cost savings / financial impact. Tompkins County a potential partner; if not will need changes in state insurance law and or federal insurance regulations that currently limit coverage to employer plans of 50 or greater.~~
- ~~Workers Compensation Consortium—Will conduct analysis to determine potential cost savings / financial impact~~
- ~~Combined Custodial and Buildings & Grounds Department~~
- Shared PH Emergency Planner (Schuyler, Yates)
- Libraries
- Franchise Agreements (Administration/Negotiation)
- Public Transit Expansion
- ~~Planning Economic Development/Grant Writing—Will conduct analysis to determine potential—cost savings / financial impact~~ Determined that this is largely occurring already – no identifiable savings
- GIS
- Human Resources & Payroll
- Central Business Office
- Financial Audits & AUD—Accounting Support
- Centralization of Issuance of Licenses—Dog, Birth, Death, Hunting
- Web Hosting
- Municipal Consolidations

The items above will be researched to determine if any savings can be recognized and will be reviewed at the next meeting.

The Legislature will receive the plan by August 1<sup>st</sup>, and 3 public hearings will be held. The Panel will meet in September to officially vote on the plan.

## Next

The Shared Services Panel will meet on Wednesday, July 12<sup>th</sup> at 6:00pm in Highway conference room at the Shared Public Works in Watkins Glen.

Notes taken by Peggy Tomassi