

**RESOLUTIONS OF THE OSWEGO COUNTY LEGISLATURE FOR
APRIL 1, 2022**

- 71 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AN INDEPENDENT INVESTIGATION INTO A CHILD FATALITY OCFS CHILD FATALITY REPORT SY-21-020
- 72 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF AN AGREEMENT WITH BONADIO GROUP CONCERNING AN INVESTIGATION INTO CHILD FATALITY TRENDS
- 73 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING BUDGETARY MODIFICATION DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES CHILD FATALITY CONSULTING AND INVESTIGATIONS

OSWEGO COUNTY LEGISLATURE

RESOLUTION NO. 071

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AN INDEPENDENT INVESTIGATION INTO A CHILD FATALITY OCFS CHILD FATALITY REPORT SY-21-020

By Legislator Roy Reehil:

WHEREAS, a 17 year old Town of Palermo resident died on May 9, 2021 and the youth's mother and stepfather were responsible for the severe neglect that contributed to his death and have been criminally charged; and

WHEREAS, the Oswego County Department of Social Services had involvement with this youth and family based upon prior State Central Registry calls; and

WHEREAS, the New York State Office of Children and Family Services has issued a Child Fatality Report, SY-21-20, that noted certain compliance issues with required investigation procedures by the Department of Social Services; and

WHEREAS, this legislature is responsible for the oversight of county departments and is accountable to the public and believes an independent investigation into the Department of Social Service's response and handling of this child's death, and the facts and circumstances leading thereto, is warranted;

NOW THEREFORE, it is hereby

RESOLVED, that the Chair of the Legislature be and is hereby authorized to execute a retainer agreement with Scott W. Iseman, Esq. of Saratoga, Springs, NY to conduct an independent investigation into the facts and circumstances surrounding the Oswego County Department of Social Services response and handling of SCR calls regarding the deceased youth and the facts and circumstances leading thereto; and, it is further

RESOLVED, that investigation shall commence after all criminal proceedings are completed and a report provided to the Chair of the Legislature within the next 90 days there after, but not more than the next 120 days should additional time be warranted; and, it is further

RESOLVED, that all county officers, employees and departments shall cooperate with this investigation that the Chair shall distribute a copy of said report to the full legislature upon receipt.

ADOPTED BY ROLL CALL ON APRIL 1, 2022:

YES: 21 NO: 1 ABSENT: 3 ABSTAIN: 0

RESOLUTION NO. 072

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF AN AGREEMENT WITH
BONADIO GROUP CONCERNING AN INVESTIGATION INTO CHILD
FATALITY TRENDS**

By Legislator Roy Reehil:

WHEREAS, the recent death of a 17 year old Town of Palermo resident whose family had been involved with Oswego County Department of Social Services has raised concerns and questions about how Oswego County DSS handles SCR reports, its compliance with state regulations and staffing; and

WHEREAS, the Bonadio Group is presently looking into DSS operations in another county, is familiar with NYS Social Services Law and NYS Office of Children and Family Services regulations, and possesses the requisite skill and experience to assist the county in this regard; and

WHEREAS, a review of all NYS OCFS Child Fatality Reports from 2019 to the present, and a systemic analysis of Child Protective Services, will provide the County Legislature insight into the Department of Social Service's child protective response, trends, where its strengths and weaknesses are and identify areas for improvement; and

NOW THEREFORE, it is hereby

RESOLVED, that the Chair of the Legislature be and is hereby authorized to retain Bonadio Group, for a sum not to exceed \$115,000 to look into DSS response to SCR reports resulting in child fatalities and Child Fatality Reports, to identify trends, strengths and weaknesses and identify areas for improvement and is to provide a written report and recommendations to the full legislature upon completion.

ADOPTED BY ROLL CALL ON APRIL 1, 2022:

YES: 21 NO: 1 ABSENT: 3 ABSTAIN: 0

RESOLUTION NO. 073

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING BUDGETARY MODIFICATION DEPARTMENT
OF SOCIAL SERVICES CHILD FATALITY CONSULTING AND
INVESTIGATIONS**

By Legislator Roy Reehil:

WHEREAS, this body has, heretofore, authorized retaining an independent investigator and consulting firm concerning Child Protective Services within the county; and

WHEREAS, by paying for same out of the Department of Social Services, the county may be eligible to receive reimbursement from the state concerning these matters; and

NOW, THEREFORE, it is hereby

RESOLVED, that the County Treasurer be, and he hereby is, authorized to transfer the funds from and to the accounts as shown on the attached budget modification request; and be it further

RESOLVED that a certified copy of this resolution delivered to the County Treasurer shall be his authority to affect such transfer and make such adjustments.

ADOPTED BY ROLL CALL ON APRIL 1, 2022:

YES: 21 NO: 1 ABSENT: 3 ABSTAIN: 0

OSWEGO COUNTY LEGISLATURE

**COUNTY OF OSWEGO
BUDGET MODIFICATION REQUEST**

2022
4/1/2022

ACCOUNT NUMBER		ACCOUNT NUMBER				DESCRIPTION	DOLLAR AMOUNT
ORG.	OBJECT	PROJ.	ORG.	OBJECT	PROJ.		
A	159900					Unappropriated Fund Balance	\$ (75,000.00)
			A6070	436090		State Aid Family Assistance	(71,300.00)
			A6070	543700		Consulting	115,000.00
			A1010	543300		Legal Fees	31,300.00
						To add Consulting line to DSS budget and Legal Fees to the Legislature Budget	
TOTAL AMOUNT							

COMMITTEE SIGNATURES _____ DATE _____

_____ COUNTY TREASURER _____ DATE _____

_____ HUMAN RESOURCES DIRECTOR _____ DATE _____

_____ COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR _____ DATE _____

_____ DEPARTMENT HEAD _____ DATE _____