

Tompkins Consolidated Area Transit, Inc.
Board of Directors Special Meeting Minutes
April 6, 2020
3:30pm via Zoom

Attendees

Board Members: Deborah Dawson; Jennifer Dotson; Dan Klein; Laura Lewis; Ducson Nguyen; Gary Stewart; Denise Thompson

Excused: Bridgette Brady; Frank Proto

Staff Attendees: Rick Andrascik; Susan Brock; Patty Poist; Pamela Torelli; Scot Vanderpool

Call to Order:

Vice Chair D. Klein called the meeting to order at 3:57pm.

Action Item:

Resolution 2020-05 Extend Temporary Suspension of All Fares in Response to COVID-19 was presented. D. Dawson made a motion to approve; D. Thompson seconded. Resolution 2020-05 passed with a unanimous vote of 7-0-0 as follows:

RESOLUTION 2020 – 05
EXTEND TEMPORARY SUSPENSION OF ALL FARES
IN RESPONSE TO COVID-19

WHEREAS, the coronavirus that causes COVID-19 has caused drastic changes in daily lives, and over the past weeks Tompkins Consolidated Area Transit, Inc. (TCAT) ridership numbers have decreased drastically, and

WHEREAS, because of COVID-19's spread, Governor Cuomo has declared a State disaster emergency for all of New York State, and the Tompkins County Administrator has declared a State of Emergency for Tompkins County, and

WHEREAS, while many businesses are closed and events and social gatherings are no longer allowed due to the Governor's Executive Orders, people still need transit to get to work at essential businesses, obtain medical and social services, shop for groceries, and check in on the well-being of loved ones, and

WHEREAS, TCAT's priority is to protect its workforce while providing an essential level of service, and

WHEREAS, the temporary suspension of the collection of fares on buses avoids bus operator/customer contact that might otherwise occur through customers using the fare-box and asking for transfer slips, and

WHEREAS, on March 18, 2020, the TCAT Board approved the temporary suspension of all fares on all routes for a period of three weeks effective March 20, 2020 and lasting through April 9, 2020, and the Board's resolution stated the Board would reevaluate fare suspension after the three-week period to determine if the temporary suspension will continue or if there will be a reinstatement of fares, and

WHEREAS, TCAT staff anticipate that the need for social distancing will continue for at least the next seven weeks and recommend that the Board extend the temporary

suspension of fares through May 23, 2020, which is the end of TCAT's spring service period, now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the TCAT Board of Directors approves an extension of the temporary suspension of all fares on all routes through May 23, 2020, and be it further

RESOLVED, the Board will reevaluate fare suspension prior to May 23, 2020 to determine if the temporary suspension will continue or if there will be a reinstatement of fares.

Adopted by the TCAT Board of Directors on this the 6th day of April, 2020.

Resolution 2020-06 – Apply for the Paycheck Protection Program was presented; a motion was made by L. Lewis and seconded by D. Dawson. During discussion, it was decided an executive session was needed to discuss personnel issues.

Executive Session:

Motion to enter Executive Session made by D. Dawson, seconded by L. Lewis. The Board entered Executive Session at 3:36pm.

A motion to end Executive Session made by D. Dawson, seconded by L. Lewis. The Board returned to open session at 3:37pm

Resolution 2020-06 passed unanimously with a vote of 7-0-0 as follows:

**RESOLUTION 2020 – 06
APPLY TO THE PAYCHECK PROTECTION PROGRAM**

WHEREAS, due to the COVID-19 pandemic, Tompkins Consolidated Area Transit, Inc. (TCAT) has experienced drastic decreases in ridership and passenger fare income, and

WHEREAS, TCAT wishes to apply for funds through the Small Business Administration's Small Business Paycheck Protection Program to assist TCAT as it continues to provide the essential service of mass transit throughout Tompkins County, New York, now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the TCAT Board of Directors authorizes TCAT's application for funds through the Small Business Administration's Small Business Paycheck Protection Program and authorizes TCAT's Board Chair, General Manager, and any other Board officers and staff as necessary to execute all applications and other documents to complete and submit the application.

Adopted by the TCAT Board of Directors on this the 6th day of April, 2020.

The meeting adjourned at 3:42pm.

Next meeting:

The next meeting will be April 23, 2020

Minutes respectfully submitted by Pamela Torelli, Recording Secretary, April 23, 2020.