

PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE

October 27, 2021

8:45 A.M.

Attendees:	George Haynes	Joe Cetta
	John Kosier	Bill Layton
	Dennis Valente	Jerry Vernold
	Tina Molé	Susan McIntyre
	Lisa Henderson	

GENERAL

• Budget update

- LH, I have made all of the changes that were requested. Reviewed all of this with George. I did make a couple other minor adjustments other than the sales tax change and the personal services changes because I missed something when I did the initial budget. I forgot the geotrackers which is a big chunk in the Machinery budget. So I upped the equipment rental line to cover that cost so the amount coming out of the machinery fund balance is unchanged. The only big change other than the personal services items is the sales tax number. That went from \$6,020,140 which was the 2020 number down to \$5,250,000 so that difference will have to come out of the Solid Waste Capital fund balance. We will still get the full one percent which will probably be more than what was budgeted but that is the number the Finance Committee is using.
- JC, So what is the amount that goes against the levy? I thought that was more than that?
- LH, It is, that is in the road funds, it is \$11,236,940.00.
- Signature sheet summary is attached. An executed copy was sent to Christa.

• Safety Report

- Copy was distributed and is attached.

• Authorizations

- SM, Have one for an HEO in East Meredith, have an employee out on a medical leave and it doesn't look optimistic. Just want to make sure we have coverage for plowing.
- Committee approved.

• Conference Request – Tyson NYSAR3

- SM, This is the annual recycling conference in Cooperstown. It's a good conference. Registration is \$180.
- Committee approved.

• Safety Conference – signature

- SM, We did get email approval for this, just need a signature now and we will send to finance. This is for Tawny's one day training in Syracuse. She has gone before and feels these are valuable sessions for her as there is a lot of networking that happens.

• Travel request no fee seminar to Utica Nov 9 – Kevin and Ben

- SM, This is travel only for Kevin and Ben. NYMIR is providing one day of training in Utica.
- Committee approved.

SOLID WASTE

- T/V Deposit recycling request – renewal

- SM, Back in May of 2020 Deposit requested that we allow them to bring us co-mingled recyclables. They had historically been sending it to the place in Appalachian that burnt down a couple years ago. We agreed to a price of \$40/ton. They mulled it over but never came to us, they got a better deal somewhere else. That deal is starting to fall apart and they now want to come to us and if our deal was still on the table. We told them it was, I just want your approval again.
- Committee approved.

- Cell 4s status

- SM, Bids are on the street. We have a good number of companies interested. There is a pre-bid meeting today at 10 am. We will have a better idea after that.
- SM, Electrical work has started, the poles have been delivered, half are set and the other half should be set this week. Then we can start running the overhead wire.
- SM, I have reached out to Broome and Chenango County to try and get an IMA for the low permeability soil that we will need for the GC. Chenango County is very willing to work with us so hopefully we can turn this in to a win/win situation.

- V/Walton leachate disposal

- Committee went into a brief executive session to discuss contract negotiation with the Village for leachate disposal.

- PFOA/PFOS class action

- SM, So PFOS compounds are affecting landfills as well, the old unlined landfill cells are a source of PFOS compounds, this includes our facility. We have found PFOS down gradient of the closed cell 1. Steve Acquario who is the executive director of the New York State Association of Counties, reached out to me after a conversation with Joe Cetta, they have worked a partnership with a Law Firm.
- DV, They are being very aggressive about signing people for this.
- JC, I will add that our Board decided to take no action on this.
- A lengthy conversation was held on what this means. The Law firm is on a contingency basis offering to provide legal recovery (a class action law suit) if the manufacturers/producers can be proven liable for any damages, similar to what happened with the opioid crisis. I can't speak for the Village of Walton, I can only speak for us. Right now there are two standards, the drinking water standard, which is very, very low, it is a very hard standard to achieve and there is the ground water effluent standard which is different. We are measured by the ground water effluent standard. Now if you are captured for ground water contamination from PFOS for a closed landfill, DEC has a program for inactive landfills to provide funding for management techniques. Those techniques typically include two things, putting in a leachate collection system and installing a new cap. What we are proposing to do is excavate all that stuff out, put in a double liner system with leachate collection and re-entomb that waste. So I don't see Delaware County being hit with a consent order because we are already going down the path they want us on. If they did hit us with a consent order it would just open us up for more funding for the recovery. I have sent this proposal to Amy for her review. I also sent it to Kevin Young for his opinion. Kevin says that we can put our old insurance companies on notice, similar to what happened with the Superfund Sites in Walton, Sidney, Masonville and Tompkins. So that is an alternate option for

recovery. His other comment is that by signing off you are admitting you suffered damages. He does not recommend advancing on it.

- DV, I am very concerned about the Walton Treatment plant, can they come back and say their contamination is coming from us?
 - SM, DEC monitored our water as well as the adjoining properties. I have not seen the results of the neighbors property but I do know how the water moves at our facility. Our groundwater heads to the river so if we have runoff it's headed to the Cannonsville and its going to be so diluted by then even at parts per trillion.
 - JC, The Village has two wells behind McDonalds and two up by Austin Lincoln Park but the river does not affect the aquifers for those wells, they are separate.
 - SM, So I think our County risk is relatively low, however I don't think we would be harmed by signing on either.
 - SM, So I need to know if the Committee feels we should sign on to this or not.
 - DV, I want to hear from the law firm what our potential exposure that you can help us with as a source of PFOS, not as drinking water.
 - SM, I will reach out to the firm and ask for a sample complaint, I think that will answer your question.
 - This was tabled for the time being.
-
- JC, We are holding a tire collection event at the highway garage for the town of Walton. Worked directly with the vendor, they dropped off the 40yrd dumpster.
 - SM, What is the date?
 - JC, I think the 4, 5 & 6th of November. Only Town of Walton residents.

HIGHWAYS/BRIDGES

• Snow and ice control practices

- SM, We are working on refining our snow and ice control practices. Trying to refine what we do. We will be meeting with our foremen on Friday to review this.
- Discussion about liquid brine and its use and application.
- DV, Can your trucks be retrofitted for that?
- SM, That is all under review at this point.

• Spaeth lawsuit status

- SM, This is from the accident on CR 7 years ago. The attorney says they are working on a motion of summary judgement. So hopefully that will be over soon.

• BR 5 Corbett status – design for deck replacement

- SM, We did a full review with Modjeski and Masters, the amount of long term repairs they suggested is not something we will be able to do in-house right away. We can do immediate repairs that with DOT approval will allow us to re-open the bridge but there is much more that will need to be done in the next two to three years to keep it open. I did reach out to DOT to see if there was any financial support available above and beyond what we are currently get. We currently get a small portion of their bridge preservation funds, we also have the BridgeNY program that we are using for the Knox Avenue bridge. I'm just looking for funding specifically for this bridge. They have come back and said it sounds like a good candidate, so they are on board with at least looking at it. So we will be proceeding with the IPP to submit for review for Federal funding.

- BR 20-9 structural repairs

- SM, We talked about this briefly at the last meeting. The amount of loss of steel is significant, we do believe we can do this under the contract however, because the volume of steel needed is going to exceed 125% of the initial bid so the contractor has the legal opportunity to renegotiate the price for the amount over the 125%. We don't have a number yet but it could be significant increase if they decide to go after that money. That being said, the other two structures did not require any repairs and the contractor preordered steel at the beginning of the contract so they have it on hand and I think our risk is small. We just don't know where this is going to go. And if we can't do the repairs we will have to take a lane or half of a lane out of service until we can do a full superstructure replacement. That replacement is going to be difficult, because the detour would be very long and the location where we would put a temporary is filled with NYSEG infrastructure. So what I am asking for is committee approval to move ahead even though we don't have a dollar amount, knowing that we will be back after the fact for approval.
- Committee agreed that the repairs are the right way to go.

- GOSR Sidney mowing contract for 2022

- SM, We have a contract for 98 properties for this year, we spent over \$20,000 mowing in Sidney this year. Over the course of this year we added 15 properties. There are 33 more in the pipeline. This contract had a renewal clause but I feel the added volume requires it to go back out for bid. So I intend to re-issue the request for services in 2022. I break this up into geographic areas with 20 to 40 homes so that it can be awarded to multiple people, it just so happens that this year it was awarded to one company.
- TM, Why do you pay for some and Planning pays for some?
- SM, We don't pay for any of it. We just administer the contract. I don't know why, I just inherited it.

- GOSR Sidney asbestos inspection

- SM, Dale is now out of this. GOSR's contractor will now be doing this work. It is a firm called LIRO group, they will be starting tomorrow.
- TM, What was the problem?
- SM, The big disagreement was what needed to be tested, Dale would not sample new products as asbestos hasn't legally been sold in the USA since the 1980's. The Department of Labor disagrees with this and says that all materials need to be sampled, even if it is new material.
- TM, Isn't that a big increase in cost?
- SM, Yes, but to my knowledge they are covering it as it is their contract. We will not be paying LIRO's invoices.

- BR 83 – Knox Avenue

- SM, Not on the agenda but we are cautiously optimistic that they will have traffic on this next week.

- Van 552

- LH, This is the van that was totaled in an accident a couple years ago, I would like permission to just send it to the scrap yard. We do not feel there is anything on it worth putting it through the auction. It's a 2005.
- Committee approved.

DPW BLDG PROJECT –

- Delhi

- Repairs to foundation work have been made and we are happy with that. Monday they tied into the water and sewer, that went well. We were able to locate the fiber optic cable and everything is good.

- Dewatering at Bloomville

- SM, Groundwater is elevated. The contractor is balking at the dewatering. We did do some additional investigation at that location and it was determined that the ground water at this location does rise and lower very quickly. The contract is very clear that dewatering is on the contractor. So there is a recommendation is that we revisit the benefit of a footer drain to facilitate the dewatering, the burden is on the contractor.
 - GH, Didn't we discuss raising the entire facility?
 - SM, We did but it is a lot of work for no benefit. And it will be fine once the building is in there won't be any ill effect from the ground water.
 - SM, So they are asking for a change order that we are denying.
 - SM, There are a few other small things that we will approve. I will get them to you once we have them finalized.
 - TM, Are you happy with the work?
 - SM, It is slow but yes, we are happy with the product. It has been painfully slow for reasons that are not entirely theirs.
 - GH, I think some of it comes back to Delaware Engineering, there are things that should have been more complete that they are messing around with that are holding things up. I think they are holding that up.
 - SM, I don't think you can put that all on Delaware, I think some of that is on the supply side as well. But that is the holdup at Bloomville and Neale Road at this point. We are proceeding with Delhi and hey actually have a mock up down there of what it will look like if you are interested.

EXECUTIVE SESSION – PERSONNEL

Committee went into executive session to discuss a personnel issue. The meeting was adjourned after the session.

RESOLUTIONS

None

DELAWARE COUNTY
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS
PO BOX 311 DELHI, NY 13753

SUSAN MCINTYRE
COMMISSIONER

MAIN OFFICE & YARD
PAGE AVENUE
DELHI, NY 13753

To: File
From: Tawny Meres
Safety & Training Manager
Re: Safety Office Report
Date: 10/27/2021

The following is an update to the activities of the Safety Office from 7/28/2021 to 10/27/2021.

1. Accidents

- #18-21. 8/9/2021. While performing mowing operations on CR16 in the town of Delhi with tractor # 669, a 2001 John Deere, the right side cab door glass was shattered. The operator had been mowing with the cab door open due to lack of air conditioning and warm temperatures. The operator stated that they had lifted the mower attachment and the attachment made contact with the open door. As a result of the contact, the door glass shattered.
- #19-21. 9/8/2021. While performing guiderail operations on the intake road of the Cannonsville Reservoir in the town of Tompkins, the right side steer tire of vehicle #436, a 2016 Freightliner, was damaged. The driver stated that he pulled over to the right to allow for an oncoming DPW truck to pass. The driver then stated that as they pulled back on to the roadway after the DPW vehicle passed, the right steer tire ran over a guiderail post resulting in tire damage.
- #20-21. 9/15/2021. While removing existing side rail along the access road to cell 5 at the Solid Waste Management Center with excavator #733, the operator failed to see an overhead electrical wire. The arm of the excavator got caught in the overhead wire causing damage to the wire. In addition to the wire damage, partial electrical service was lost at the location. No injuries were reported.
- #21-21. 10/20/2021. While traveling on CR2, in the town of Delhi, with vehicle #62, a 2013 Ford, a deer entered the roadway from the left side tree line. The driver was unable to stop in time and the vehicle struck the deer with the front center of the vehicle. Extensive damage was sustained to the front of the vehicle. The vehicle is drivable and at this time, only the plastic grill piece will be replaced by in-house mechanics.

2. Spills

- #7-21. NYS DEC #2104745. 8/19/2021. While loading a receiving container on to vehicle #897, a 2005 Sterling, at the Solid Waste Management Center, a hydraulic line failed resulting in approximately 10 gallons of hydraulic fluid being lost on to dirt and crushed stone surface. Spill was addressed immediately and cleanup measures were conducted. NYS DEC closed spill on 8/23/2021.

Safety Office Report 10-27-2021 (002).docx

*Main Office: 607-832-5800 Fax 607-746-7212 Delhi Shop: 607-832-5840 Fax 607-832-6072
Solid Waste Management Center: 607-865-5805 Fax 607-865-2216*

3. Facilities

- The Safety Officer has begun conducting annual facility inspections.
- The second annual Safety Days was held on Wednesday, September 22, 2021 and Thursday, September 23, 2021. A full summary report is being drafted and will be distributed. 77 DPW personnel attended the training, with 2 Highway Superintendents from outside municipalities attended the training.
- MSHA training was conducted on 9/21/2021 by John Douglas from the NYS DOL. 46 DPW personnel attended the training.
- On 10/5/2021, personnel from the NYS DOT traveled to Delhi to do walk around inspections with DPW mechanic personnel. DOT personnel went over items that they would inspect during a roadside inspection. This gave DPW personnel an insight in to items that they should be checking when a vehicle is brought in to the repair facility.
- Forklift training was conducted on 10/20/2021 by John Douglas of the NYS DOL. 21 DPW personnel participated and received certificates following successful completion of the course.
- FA/CPR/AED Training has been scheduled for Tuesday, November 2, 2021 and Thursday, November 4, 2021. At this time 46 DPW personnel have signed up for the course.
- On 10/25/2021 the Safety Officer traveled to Syracuse for the annual Empire State Safety Association meeting and training.
- Annual calibration of audiogram equipment has been scheduled for 11/18/2021.
- Annual audiograms have begun. At this time, one outside municipality personnel have received their annual audiograms.
- Due to the long delay in receiving annual audiogram interpretations from Southern Tier Hearing Services, the Safety Officer is now working with Dr. Nelson from The Hearing Advantage, Audiology Service Associates to conduct interpretations. Dr. Nelson's office is currently working with the Safety Officer to determine the best way to send and receive information.
- The NYS LENS database has been updated.
- The Safety Officer completed SWPPP inspections at the 26-1 bridge location and Page Avenue wetland.
- In house training was conducted for snow plow operations, bucket truck and wood chipper safety. The training was conducted at the Solid Waste Management Center during the weeks of October 4th and October 11th. This provided new hires or inexperienced personnel hands on training. For the Snow plow training, a truck was equipped with a nose plow and wing blade and a course was set up. Driver's had to navigate the course which included obstacles such as jersey barriers and a narrow bridge.

4. Near Future Objectives

- Complete annual facility inspections.
- Conduct annual limited queries for CDL drivers through the FMCSA Clearinghouse.
- Conduct a ½ hour training session on a selected topic to complete MSHA training requirements and sign off on MSHA training certificates.
- Ensure required annual Workplace Violence and Sexual Harassment training is completed.