

PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE

December 8, 2021

8:45 A.M.

Attendees:	George Haynes	Joe Cetta
	John Kosier	Bill Layton (via phone)
	Jerry Vernold (via phone)	Sue McIntyre
	Tina Molé (via phone)	Lisa Henderson

**GENERAL**

- Approval of Prior Meeting Minutes
  - The minutes of the November 23<sup>rd</sup> meeting were approved as presented.
- NYS County Highway Superintendents Association - \$300
  - This covers the entire department.
  - Approved.
- NYS Association of Town Superintendents of Highway - \$200
  - This also covers the entire department.
  - Approved.
- Auction
  - SM, auction went well. Everything sold and it appears we made of \$200,000. Bidders have ten business days to pay and we are still in that window so time will tell. But it went well.
  - JC, Did we have a projection on this?
  - SM, No.
- Covid19 status
  - SM, We are experiencing a spike in cases downstairs right now. We have 5 or 6 confirmed positive cases. We are just starting to see the Public Health notices come in now. So we have four unvaccinated employees who have been exposed and are now in quarantine. On Monday, with the support of the field foreman I took the position to strongly encourage everyone to stay home with the understanding that they would have to use their leave time until such time that we received the public health notification.
  - JC, Did you get push back on that? If it was command directed it should be covered.
  - SM, We did get a lot of push back. But it wasn't ordered, it was strongly encouraged and it wasn't a day that we were going to get anything done anyways. This is still up in the air and we may very well get a grievance on this.
  - TM, We did get one.
  - SM, OK. I take full responsibility for endorsing the recommendation that people stay home.
  - GH, Is that what the grievance is for?
  - SM, I don't know I haven't seen it yet.
  - TM, I haven't seen it either. I just know I received a text from Linda Pinner saying she had it. And if I can ask, when these things happen please call me or text me and let me know so that when the papers call I know what is going on.

- SM, I can do that. And what I would like to do is to have a post incident review, how we made our decision, who was in the communication tree, so that we can be better prepared next time this happens.
- TM, Thank you. And just so you know they are working on a Countywide Policy Review.
- SM, Yes, I am aware. And so you know, DPW revised our policy on Monday. We did work with Linda and Mandy on that.
- GH, Do we know if the grievance is from Monday specifically or is it because of Covid protocol?
- SM, I don't know. As soon as I see the grievance I'll let you know.
- SM, So we are basically in mask wearing lockdown here in the building until the end of the year probably.

- Authorizations (thank you for the email responses)

- SM, Just want to say thank you for your prompt responses to all of our email requests.

## **SOLID WASTE**

- Signs grant

- SM, This grant runs out at the end of this year. We were unable to fully implement the terms of that grant as we had supply side issues. We are going to try to honor our commitments to the Town Transfer Stations in a different method. Just wanted to bring everyone up to speed on that.

- Cell 4s status report

- SM, We continue to have progress with the electrical contractor. The new poles are up and the wire is strung. We are going through the submittal process for all of the other electrical components that are supplied through that contract. Most of the work will actually work in the spring but I am very happy with the progress that has been made.
- SM, We have had a couple preliminary phone calls with Marcy as well.

- Compost crane status

- SM, We are having issues with the overhead crane in the receiving area. We are manually loading from the front end. The cable is the problem and we are trying to find a domestic supply for that because the only place we can find it is in Germany and we would like to avoid a long lead time.
- GH, Is that something we should have a spare of on hand?
- SM, Let us see where we end up on pricing and such. I'll keep you posted.

- Village of Walton Leachate

- SM, If you remember, the Village of Walton came to us asking for an increase to 5 cents per gallon for leachate, we countered with 4 cents for five years. Ed Snow came back with 4 cents for one year with the ability to renegotiate next year.
- JC, Ed has called me as well. Some of the back-story is that Kraft has just been sold to I think a French company. They have been dealing with them for years with no contract. He wants to sit down with the new owners and get something in place.
- After a brief discussion the committee approved 4 cents for one year.
- SM, I will let Ed know.

## **HIGHWAYS/BRIDGES**

### • BR 5 Corbett - M&M IPP proposal

- SM, we have asked Modjeski and Masters for a proposal to submit an IPP for funding for this bridge. That proposal is for \$9,665.00. We have been working on this with them for years.
- Committee approved.

### • BR 20-9 steel repairs and painting

- SM, This is the bridge in Deposit at the intersection of CR 20 and State Route 8. Steel repairs are done. I'm told the painting is done as well. I have not had time during day light hours to go down and look at this. This is the last bridge in the 2021 preservation project. We had been anticipating a price adjustment due to the amount of steel work that needed to be done but the contractor has not asked for one so it looks like this will come in within the budget.

### • CR6 Bovina - Finn property

- SM, We are meeting with their (Finns) attorney this Friday. Amy or Jeremy from the County Attorney's office will be sitting in on this meeting. This is to determine what it is that they actually want. We did determine that the County does own all of the right of way. That has been verified. There was one section that was in question but it has been confirmed that we do in fact own it and we do not like people putting stuff in our right of way. Especially fixed deadly objects. So our intention for Friday is to confirm our understanding of the boundaries of ownership and then to listen and figure out what it is that they actually want and what they are proposing to do.

SM, That's basically it for highways. Just to let you know, if we do get a break in the weather, we will be doing brush removal. This is a good time to get the bigger stuff cut back. So if you see us out there and wonder, that's what we are doing. Kind of odd for this time of year but it needs to be done.

## **DPW BLDG PROJECT**

### • Status Report

- SM, If you've been paying attention, you will notice the steel framing is up here in Delhi. We had an extensive meeting last week with the design engineers, Mancini's on site supervisors, the structural engineers. That was to resolve outstanding questions on submittal review and design feature changes and updates. Based on that meeting we are anticipating a change order for the floor joists in the Delhi building. This was an omission on Delaware Engineering's part. There are areas of the building that are designed for storage have to meet certain code requirements. The entire building was designed as office space. The design bid was for only people occupancy, this was an error on the part of the structural team. This is very time sensitive as the floors are the next thing to go in and that starts with the joists. So this change is to address the additional joists, I haven't seen any pricing from Mancini which will drive the actual change order.
- SM, Our other option is to downgrade the use of those areas and go with what was ordered.
- JC, That is a bad idea. We need to do this properly.
- SM, We are anticipating about a \$20,000 increase for this change. If it is only \$20,000 we can have a quick turn around and cover it under the field change. I think we need to give some serious thought to doing is that we have under contract with the GC a field change line that we have been using to cover these small changes. I think we need to do a change order to replenish that line item by increasing the dollar value. It is unusual and we have never done it this way but the way this contract is playing out the ability to use that field change directive line on time sensitive issues is dwindling.
- JC, How much was in that line to begin with?

- SM, \$100,000.
- JC, And how much have we used?
- SM, Around \$55,000, not all of that has been utilized, we are just keeping a running tally.
- JC, So when you get around 40% it should be replenished. Or do you do it around 50%. That is the question.
- SM, I fully expect that there will be a change order for this project in January. We should have a better handle on the numbers by then.
- GH, And this stuff is time sensitive, we can't wait on it.
- JC, Did they give you a time frame on how long it will take once the new design is approved, how long will it take to get the order?
- SM, The design is done, the directive is written, we are waiting on pricing from them. We can't tell them yes until we have the costs.
- JC, But they don't know how long it will take once they order them?
- SM, Not that we are aware.
- SM, So we are also looking at an 18" elevation change with a 6" reduction of the stone under the footers to facilitate the 24" change needed. We haven't seen any numbers on that yet either. That won't happen until spring anyways.
- SM, The supply of the buildings continues to have an extremely long lead-time.
- SM, So we are making incremental progress but the project is still at a slow slog. It is painful.

## **RESOLUTIONS**

### 4-day workweek

Committee went into a brief executive session to discuss a personnel issue.

Meeting returned to regular session.

JV, I would like to know how many of you allow your highway people to use the garage for personal use. Is that a common practice?

JC, It's not something that is discussed.

JK, I'm not aware of any in Stamford.

LH, We actually have a policy in place. There has to be two employees present, it has to be their car or their spouses car. There is no outside people allowed in the shop.

JV, We had an issue that the Highway Superintendent had his truck from his personal business in the garage having the Town mechanic change the springs on it. The mechanic's son was also in the shop. So to prevent this from happening again we have passed a resolution that no personal work can be done in the shop at all.

TM, I just wanted to say thank you for your help with DOT, I appreciate it.