

PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE
AUGUST 24, 2022
8:45 A.M.

Attendees:

John Kosier	Joe Cetta
Dennis Valente	Bill Layton
Tina Molé	Jerry Vernold
Jared Boice	Susan McIntyre
Mary Crisafulli – The Reporter	Lisa Henderson

GENERAL

• Approval of Prior Meeting Minutes

- The minutes of the July 27th meeting were approved by presented.

• Authorization to Fill Vacancy

- SM, We have lost another employee to a town for higher pay and better health insurance. We really need to look at what needs to be done to retain employees. This is the perfect time as we are entering into contract negotiations.
- Committee approved filling the HEO II position.
- SM, Next is an upgrade for a BCM.
- Committee approved.
- SM, Next is a civil engineer, this has been vacant since Ben Balcom moved to General Highway Supervisor.
- Committee approved.
- SM, we also have an assistant civil engineer vacancy.
- Committee approved.
- SM, Next is the Motor Equipment Maintenance Supervisor; this has been vacant for a while and if we ever get a qualified applicant we will fill the position but Personnel has asked for an updated authorization.
- Committee approved.

• Conference Authorization and Travel Request

- SM, First one is a bit silly, we have had work zone safety training back in May. We had it at the Legion and had Cornell come in to do the training. We have been asked to do a travel authorization for that. Not sure why but here it is.
- Committee approved.
- SM, Next request is for the New York State Solid Waste Association conference is September. Requesting to send 3 people; myself, Tyson and Jim Thomas. Conference is in Lake Placid.
- Committee approved.

• Safety Days – invitation to Town/Village Highway Supers

- Safety days will be September 21st and 22nd. We have recently sent out a letter to the towns inviting them to participate. They can each bring two people if they want.

- Chainsaw Training – cover hotel room & lunch
 - SM, We have chainsaw training scheduled for September 28th. The guy we have been trying to get has offered to do it for free, he is requesting that we cover his hotel room and lunch. I think that is very reasonable.
 - Committee approved.
- Thank you note – CR 14 Tree in Treadwell
 - Received a note from a resident in Treadwell thanking us for removing a hazardous tree. (Copy attached). We had to bring in a company from Saratoga to get this tree down. It is a job well done.
- DSS Main St lot emergency access road site plan
 - SM, I have been in discussions with Sylvia. We are still trying to ensure that we retain our emergency access through that lot. We did have the summer interns do some survey work there to lay out the turning radius and recommendations for cutting the grade to make the driveway. They provided quantities for fill and asphalt and laid out parking for up to 76 spaces. I have shared all of that with Pete and DSS.
 - SM, I understand that DSS is looking to install their modular in the near future, the contractor has reached out to us. I also understand that the bid documents for the replacement house are under review and will then be sent out.
- GOSR Sidney properties mowing services - 2023
 - SM, No movement on the demolition at this time. However, the contractor for the mowing of the properties has reached out and indicated that they do want to extend the contract through next year. I have transitioned that contract over to Planning as they are the ones who pay the bill.
 - SM, As far as the demolitions are concerned I believe we are still waiting on the asbestos abatement, that rfp has been drafted. Once we have the final reports in we will do one rfp for all of the abatement. Once that is done, we need to clear up the historical feature issue. Shelly is working with GOSR to get approval to send the features to the Coventry historical society (museum). We just need a determination that they meet the requirements of the contract; that is currently under review. Once we have all of that, we can get the houses down and be done with this.
- NYSDOT Winter Operations Joint Meeting
 - SM, We have a meeting with DOT to go over winter preparedness. I'm sure they are going to say that they are short of drivers and want help plowing. We will respond that we don't have drivers either but if they are really in a bind they can call and if we can we will help but they shouldn't depend on us.
- Catskill Recreation Center Cycling Courses – September 4th & October 15th
 - SM, This is an annual event. They provide us with insurance.
 - Committee approved.
- 2023 Budget discussion
 - LH, I have the budget sheets from Christa. I am working on them, I was basically prepared for them. We do have in the equipment line funding for a new crane. It will be around \$600,000. In the past we have bonded for this. I am proposing that we just appropriate the necessary find

balance and buy it outright. We have the funds to do this- Discussion was held on interest rates and availability of the new crane. . (After the meeting I spoke with George and he will got to finance and talk to them about doing this now).

- DV, What are we doing on budget and salaries and such?
- LH, They added a lump sum amount to cover any increases that may come from negotiations.
- DV, What do the Health Insurance costs look like?
- LH, I haven't got that far yet. I will have it all ready for the next meeting.
- TM, I think ours was up 14%.
- SM, I'm seeing 9 and 10% in other areas.

SOLID WASTE

• Cell 1 Reclamation/Redevelopment meeting w/DEC Aug 31

- SM, The next phase of construction is the full reclamation of cell 1. We have a meeting on site with DEC on the 31st to work through the fine details of this project. This is an important meeting, we are hoping to get thorough confirmation that what we are doing and how we are planning to do it is going to be approved by them before we get too deep into the engineering and out of pocket costs.
- SM, Interestingly enough we have a separate meeting with DEC the day before with several of their new central and regional office employees who are new to their positions and/or new to the industry and would like to see operational facilities in action. We welcome this because we need them to understand how we work and how our world is integrated from the recycling facility to compost to the landfill and how they don't stand well on their own, the need to be a unit and how that is important to the implementation of regulations. Hopefully this will strengthen our relationship going forward.

• Cell 4s Construction Status

- SM, Work is going forward. We are actually laying geo-membrane on the liner system which is a substantial milestone in the construction of the cell. The plumbing and electrical work is basically done. This is the last major piece of construction. It is a double liner system, which is a combination of low permeability soil like clay or bentonite with plastic on top and then some drainage medium on that and then you do it again. What is interesting and something we have never done before is that we are performing electrical leak location testing. Which means we are validating the integrity of the plastic liner system to ensure that it does not leak by running an electrical charge through it that creates an audio signal so you can hear if there is even a pinhole size leak so we can fix it before we move forward and put the next layer on top. It is neat to see.

• Proposal for Mattress Recycling

- SM, We have for a number of years taken mattresses and furniture as part of our C&D cell. We do this because it allows us to ship them out. We do not bury them. We are now getting resistance to this. DEC is telling us we cannot put them in the C&D. There is a place that recycles mattresses, there is an expense to this and we would propose a fee to cover the cost. We are going to wrap that into the 2023 tip fee increases. From a handling standpoint the mattresses would be similar to tires where we would attempt to cover the cost if disposal.
- DV, So there is going to be a change in how the transfer stations handle this?
- SM, Yes. I would suggest that the transfer stations get out of the mattress business because if you put them in the C&D I can't take the box.

- DV, So we are going to have to have a mattress day similar to a tire day? I'm not sure how that's going to work.
- TM, Are there any towns with transfer stations that don't handle C&D?
- SM, Middletown has never handled C&D.
- DV, So we would arrange to collect the mattresses at the transfer station and then there will be a tipping fee per item? How much would that be?
- SM \$30.00.
- SM, I can see this is going over well.

- Proposal for Tipping Fee Adjustments

- SM, So we currently take recyclables and MSW at no charge. We do charge for C&D, we charge for biosolids (the result of NYC upgrades), we charge for contaminated soil and asbestos. Our cost for exporting C&D has gone up drastically so we are looking to adjust our fees to keep us in balance with our budget and keep us in line with the costs in our surrounding communities so that we don't become a vacuum for the material. The things we are looking to adjust is the sludge which hasn't changed since we instituted it and the asbestos disposal fee. That keeps our revenue in line with our expenses.
- SM, SO you will see those changes come through for next year.
- DV, What is C&D now? \$90/ton?
- SM, We are currently charging \$87/ton and our export fee is \$105/ton.
- DV, So what are we looking at for a change?
- SM, I need to look at it and evaluate it. Changes will not take place until 2023.

- NYSDEC SW Regulation Comments

- SM, DEC's proposed solid waste regulations, the comment deadline is today. I have worked closely with Kevin Young, we have compared notes with CWT, NYSASWM, NY State Association of Counties. We have drafted a 13-page document. We are really trying to drive home two points. First is that the proposed regulations have a landfill siting restriction that we take serious issue with, we think it is entirely contrary to the history of solid waste management over the last twenty years in the State of New York and where they are hoping to go forward. And these proposed regulation include the NYC Watershed as part of a larger NYC metropolitan waste impact zone that is subject to more stringent regulations than the rest of the State. We take issue with that from the perspective of what is west of the Hudson is entirely different from Westchester, Putnam and Manhattan so we in absence of any justification we should not be subject to the additional regulations. Are we not meeting the performance standards?
- A lengthy conversation was held on what the additional regulations would be. It is basically taking a material that is not waste and making it waste until you prove otherwise. It really affects the highway side more than the solid waste side.

- DC Planning & Watershed Affairs – Core Group facility tour September 27

- SM, The Core Group is bringing in the Watershed Inspector General and a slew of other folks for another tour. The Solid Waste Management facility is part of that tour.

HIGHWAYS/BRIDGES

- Bridge Preservation 2022

- SM, We were on target to do a couple bridges this year. The pricing came back very high so we have stepped back. We will rebid this with one bridge in the bid with the second as an option. Will also delay work until spring of 2023. We are hoping this will get us better pricing.

- GH, Will we have bridges to do next year?
- SM, Yes so I'm not sure how this is going to play out.
- BR 20 Dry Brook – started August 15th
 - JB, There was a washout up there, probably about 100 feet of embankment by one of our wingwalls. Finally got landowner permission so we went in and did a rock job, we straightened out the flood plain and the stream. We lack getting the rail back up but are otherwise done.
 - SM, This was a bridge we had rebuilt after 2011. We're glad we were able to get in there and get it done.
- BR 32 Arbor Hill status – NYSDOT funding delay
 - SM, Still working with DOT to get this done. It was scheduled to go out to bid this fall but that is not looking good. Over time the estimate for this structure has gone up so now we are back to the State asking for more funding and they are balking a bit. So this is delayed for now.
- BR 80 Bridge St pedestrian V/Fleischmanns
 - SM, Hoping to get this wrapped up by the end of October. We will then turn the two pedestrian bridges over to the Village of Fleischmanns. We will do a resolution to codify that. The Village is very happy to have the bridge in place.
- BR 83 Knox Ave close out
 - SM, We have the final change order prefiled today. Once that clears we can close this project out with DOT.
- BR 136 Dug Rd hydraulic capacity alternatives
 - SM, The design engineer has run some hydraulics and it may push us to drop this out of Bridge NY. Those projects need to have a quick turnaround and these issues may not be resolved quickly.
- BR 150 Ogden St flag status
 - JB, This bridge has been an ugly for a long time, the State has now red flagged it for section loss. There are so many things wrong here, it has a gas line running through the back wall and given how fast NYSEG moves I'm not sure we will get that fixed before we are forced to close it.
 - TM, Isn't that a Village Street?
 - JB, Yes, but it is a County bridge.
 - JC, It also has a water main suspended from it.
 - JB, We also have Delton Sanitation has driveways on both sides of it, to get it replaced somebody isn't going to be happy when we start moving equipment in there.
 - BL, What are the alternative?
 - JB, Go around. But that is an issue for the Village.
 - JC, It's also an issue during flooding because that's a major route to get people up to 206 when things are flooded.
 - DV, Who makes the decision to close it now that it has a red flag?
 - SM, DOT can close it or we can close it. If DOT closes it, we have to meet all of their concerns before it is reopened. If we close it we have more options.
 - Brief discussion was held on how we will proceed and what the red flag is for. It isn't going to be an easy fix.

- 1996 EWP project Cadosia
 - SM, We did a project back in 1996, those projects required a municipal sponsorship. That ownership was for a ten year period and that has come and gone so now the responsibility for repairs and maintenance goes back to the property owner. I bring this up just so it is reflected in the minutes.
 - LH, We were only the sponsor on paper, we did not pay for anything or do any work that I can find.
- CR 37 GSI Soil Nails work completed
 - SM, This work is done and they have moved out.
 - JB, They did 200 feet of wall. It is all secured and back in. We need to get the rail back up and that will be totally complete.
 - JK, Did you have to do bench work or anything?
 - JB, Yes, we had to bench it down.
 - JK, How much were the soil nails?
 - JB, \$390,000.
 - JK, We have a section on Town Brook Road that needs soil nails, it's about 40 to 50 feet.
- NYCDEP Culvert 18 – waiting on SWPPP and Stream Permit approval
 - SM, We were all ready to go on this and then DEC took issue with our SWIP for a DEP project. So now we are trying to work through that. I attribute this all to the new people in DEC who are unfamiliar with what we do and how we do it.

DPW BLDG PROJECT

- Construction status report
 - SM, Work is progressing. Here is Delhi we do have a stormwater catch basin that the Village will do some work on. I am still hoping that we can do a walk through in September. We would try to coordinate that with the Board meeting. Do we want to do this? And if so do we tie it to a Board meeting.
 - JC, You aren't going to try and do them all correct?
 - SM, I think we need to get the vans together and take those who want to go to see all of them. We can make that announcement today.

DV, 97 Main is ready for BOE so we can get them moved after the November election cycle.

SM, I have talked to Pete, we can get BOE moved but you still have Watershed affairs in there. And we have operations under there are well so you need that until Bloomville is complete.

TM, So if we had departments that needed temporary storage, is that an option?

SM, What are they storing?

TM, Records.

JB, That building has structural issues so I would say no. We have to monitor that weekly so I wouldn't put anything in there.

TM, Ok, I was just wondering if it was an option.

RESOLUTIONS

Budget Amendment – Machinery Fund

Appropriation of Surplus – Solid Waste

Change Order #2 – Final Prop 27-21