

PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE

October 11, 2023

8:45 A.M.

Attendees:	George Haynes	Joe Cetta
	John Kosier	Bill Layton
	Patricia Valente	Jerry Vernold
	Jim Thomas	Jared Boice

**GENERAL**

• Review of Previous Meeting Minutes

- The minutes of the September 27<sup>th</sup> meeting were approved as presented.

JT, No Safety Officer's report, she was already out at an accident this morning. Nothing serious, just a deer into the side of one of our new pickups. No real damage.

• County Computers down

- JT, computers are down County wide, we came in yesterday and had network drives but no email or internet, then they asked us to shut down completely and we had nothing the rest of the day. Today we have email and internet and no network drives. When I talked to Joe he said it would be Thursday at best. I don't know what happened and I didn't bug them too much, I'm sure they are busy.

**SOLID WASTE**

• Cell 4s

- JT, Sounds like we are going to have to dig up the one spot that wasn't tested. Will have to dig it up, do the test and then put it back together. It won't be great but it's what they want to issue the permit to use it.

• Bioreactor crack

- JT, This is the bigger issue. Erik got a call at home last weekend that there was a big tear, it's about 8 feet along the circumference. He ran in, patched it to get it shut down. We spent the next few days trying to get it patched enough so we can unload it and get in it during shutdown.

- JB, We will do the best we can to hold it together but the bottom line is that it has probably reached its life expectancy.

- JT, the people are coming on the 27<sup>th</sup> to do the scan and we'll know more then. But I guess they have poked knives through it in spots. It's not good.

- JC, This isn't a cheap date is it?

- JT, No, it's about \$6,000,000.00 for a new one.

- JB, Part of the building has to come off, the electric has to be shut down to that section.

- JC, So a six month time line?

- JB, The lead time is about a year and a half for a bioreactor and I'd say another 6 months for construction.

- JT, That's a lot of garbage going into the landfill. The next cells we have scheduled are 1RE and 1RW and those are cells where we have to move the old garbage and then build the cell, that's a lot of work. We also have Cell 7 in the design plan which is basically just build it and go but that is a big cell.

- GH, Do we have enough room to go 6 months or a year without building?

- JT, Probably but that will use up all our space and crunch the next cell design. So we are running numbers to see what we can do with capacity.
- GH, So we'll know more after they do the testing.
- JB, Yes and no matter what we'll have to limp it through.
- GH, Well it is steel so.
- JB, It's getting hard to patch.
- GH, So we need to start thinking about new one; you definitely don't want to come in and find a section on the ground someday.
- JB, this is our first crack that went around. The rest have been longitudinal.
- GH, Is it fairly thick in that area?
- JB, That area has been patched and fixed before.
- GH, How do they monitor that?
- JB, They check it daily. And Erik said they had done a full inspection three days before that and didn't see anything. They had originally called him because they found a little hole that compost was falling out of. When he started looking, he found the crack. It was behind one of the reinforcing bands. And the alignment is still very good, so it isn't distorting.
- GH, Had it separated or was it still tight together?
- JB, It was still together.
- JC, Is it just a welding patch?
- JB, Not really, you have to cut it out, then weld the crack, then there are sister braces on the inside.
- PV, Are there certain times of the year when there is more volume? Or is that not predicable?
- JT, the way they load it I think it is pretty constant.
- PV, I was just thinking when the time comes to do the whole thing is there a time that would be better?
- JB, We're going to have to do it in the summer because you have to open the building up.
- JC, So the cells RW and RE cells, are they a higher priority than Cell 7?
- JT, They come first on the permit from DEC, it goes 4S, then 1RE and 1RW, then 7. I'm sure we could get a variance if we had to. It's probably a million dollars to move the old garbage from Cell1 before we could start building the new cells.
- GH, I know at one point we talked about composting some of that.
- JB, Yeah, think when they did the test that all got tossed.
- JC, So would this be a capital project?
- JT, Yes.
- JC, Because the bioreactor is the original correct? So to replace that would be a capital project?
- JT, The way Solid Waste is set up money goes into an account so that we have funds for capital projects when we do them.
- JC, So we wouldn't have to bond it?
- JT, No. We can get that done, that's where our sales tax money goes.
- JB, If we get backed up with that and the cells things might get tight for a few years.
- JT, I don't have it with me but I did see an email from Tyson that the DEC said the permit for Compost should be here soon. He was very concerned about putting money into it without the permit.

## **ROAD**

- Delaware South

NYC - Cannonsville

- JT, Paving was finished last week.

- JT, Doing shoulders this week, should get rail done next week. Then we will be finished with that.
- JB, Post pounder is currently down so they aren't doing rail just yet.
- JT, Other than that, it's a slow time of year. Just catching up on things. They were hoping to get caught up on some rail but obviously that's not happening just yet.
- JT, Doing miscellaneous tree work, cutting brush, doing some ditching and getting ready for snow.

- Delaware North

- JT, Basically doing the same catchup work as the South.
- JT, Planning on doing some Grader patch CR9, we are trying to get away from it but it is the most efficient way to build the edge of the road up without bringing the paver in.

- Chainsaw Class

- JT, Chainsaw training is today down at the landfill. Everyone says it is a great class and it really cost us nothing but the hotel room. It's a good deal. Even if we had to pay him for his time, the guys that cut trees on the regular say they get a lot out of it.

## **BRIDGE**

- BR 32 – deck pour 10/18

- JT, This is the bridge by the golf course, that is going well. Deck pour is a week from today, have the pre-pour meeting today. We probably won't have traffic on that this winter. The office says yes but the field days say no. Not a big issue, the road that is there is fine and if that concrete can cure all winter with no salt on it, I'm 100% fine with that.

- BR 136 – BridgeNY round 3 – early winter bid

- JT, No change on the schedule there.

- BR 7-3 – BridgeNY round 4 - getting estimates to DOT

- JT, Working on getting stuff to DOT for the timing. That's a long way from getting done.
- GH, So you don't think that will go next year?
- JT, Definitely not. 136 should go for sure but 7-3 won't go until 2025 at least.

- Bovina catchbasins – in process

- JT, Plugging away at this. We are finding lots of disasters there.
- GH, Is that going to be done this year?
- JB, I should have 90% of the issues cleared up this year. I'm sure we'll be in trouble for not fixing the sidewalks but everywhere we have ever been, the sidewalk is the responsibility of the municipality. We have fixed what we need to that is attached to the catch basins, but we aren't going to fix all of it. So I have no doubt there will be complaints. Some people think we should be fixing their lawns, we aren't going to do that.

- Sidney Demos

- JT, moving along. We have four more we can get to, still waiting on SHPO for one. The guy is completely unresponsive, won't return phone calls. But we'll get there.
- BL, So all those in Sidney, when you are done the County owns them?
- JT, Yes.
- BL, And the County owns it forever?

- JT, Yes, and you can't do anything on them. Shelly has turned some over to the Town of Deposit and maybe Hancock. In Cadonia someone just moved in and claimed it by deed. The Town would be held to the same standard but Deposit built a bunch of fences and such. And the liability is still on the County, even if they gave it to the Town.
- BL, So we will have to mow them forever?
- JT, Yes.
- BL, So what if someone wants to buy it and build it up out of the Flood Plain?
- JT, Can't do that.
- JT, Shelly has talked about creating a Parks Department because the liability changes if it's a park.
- GH, Are there any just vacant blocks?
- JT, No. So the Village still has to maintain the water and sewer lines and such.
- JC, How many total?
- JB, Between the last round and this round we are pushing 200 in Sidney.

#### Contract Demos

- JT, Currently waiting on the signed contracts from Gorick, once we have them I don't think it will take them very long to be in and out of there.
- JB, I think they'll be in and out in a week or two.

#### • Misc. red flags

- JT, Jared has been fixing various red flags that have popped up. Some of them are the Towns, please don't oil and stone a bridge when you do the road. The Towns are doing 16 feet and the bridge is 20. And now the State is flagging that, they never did before but now they are.
- JT, We ask them to get in touch with us if they are going to be on a bridge, some are really good and others aren't.
- JB, And over time it just gets worse, it might have been an couple inches but every time they do it, it gets higher.
- JB, And they seem to be flagging more and more things.
- JT, We had one bridge go from 20% section loss to 80% in two years. That really couldn't happen but that's how the report came back. So who knows if the old inspector missed it or if the new guy is just looking at it different.

- JT, We have hired a new mechanic, he will be starting on the 30<sup>th</sup>. His application looked great so we shall see. He's been working in Jefferson and lives in Hobart. Jared made it very clear that they are moving to Neale Road and he was still interested.

- JB, He seems eager and ready to go.

#### **DPW BLDG PROJECT**

##### • Construction status report

- JT, Supposedly Delhi is working now. They are still waiting on LG to certify the repairs because it is their equipment but the contractor did the work. Delaware Engineering wanted to have the meeting tomorrow in the new building but we said no.
- PV, Do we have the CO?
- JT, No. I haven't talked to Dale but my guess is that he won't issue it until the repairs are certified by LG.
- GH, What was the repair? The leaks they found?

- JT, Yes and I think there was something inside at least one unit. That's why J&K needs LG to sign off.
- JT, Bloomville, I'm sure you've seen, they are working on the road down in there.
- GH, Right when they want to cut corn.
- JT, It is a muddy mess for sure.
- GH, I don't know how they are going to work that but he wanted to get that done.
- JT, One little hiccup there is the survey, the Town lot must have come up in grade since the original survey (on the storage side). I was talking to Delaware Bulldozing and the grade matched up great on the shed side but the other side was higher. Billy did say that he did some work in there and raised that.
- JT, They are plugging along. There is a lot of site work if they are going to pave in November.
- JT, Got a call from Paul Dibble on Saturday night that there were alarms going off in the building. I told him that we didn't have any alarms in the building at this point. Then Monday Ben came in and said that Delaware Bulldozing had a back alarm rigged on one of their tractors that had been going off all weekend. Paul had called me again at that point and told me he had turned it off.
- GH, I don't know what it is but there are some pretty good lights down in there that got left on a couple times.
- JB, I think that's the LED lights on the back of the salt shed. They aren't supposed to be on all the time.
- JT, Neale Road, they are plugging along.
- JB, They are working on rebar and the radiant for the floor.
- GH, they don't have the floor poured?
- JB, It's in the back half, not the shop. I want to say it's scheduled for the 18<sup>th</sup> but I wouldn't swear to it.
- GH, Were they planning on having any of the paving done around that this year?
- JB, I don't think so. I haven't heard anything about paving there.
- JB, And Bloomville is not going to be finished, just the base and binder. They are saying November 1<sup>st</sup> on that.
- JB, I don't know if we have heard anything from EFS either. I know they are moving forward with the upgrades at the landfill. The tank is there and they are just waiting on the pumps. They are supposed to be here any day. So hopefully November 1<sup>st</sup> they will get that done.
- GH, I was getting questions about the ARPA funds and why there were no submittals.
- JB, That is the landfill and Delhi and we haven't spent any of that yet. So the landfill should be done soon. Delhi can't go until Bloomville is done, we hope to get that done this spring.
- GH, And then that will be done?
- JB, That leaves Walton and that is in the budget for next year.

- JT, Because the computers are down we don't have anything for the audit, not sure what to do about that. No-one is answering down town.

## **RESOLUTIONS**

Appropriation of Surplus – DPW, Road Fund

- JT, Not sure what happened here but we should have encumbered funds and we didn't.

A brief executive session was held and the meeting was adjourned immediately after with no action being taken.