

PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE

APRIL 14, 2021

8:45 A.M.

Attendees:	George Haynes	Joe Cetta
	Pat Davis (via phone)	John Kosier
	Bill Layton	Dennis Valente
	Jerry Vernold	Tina Molé
	Susan McIntyre	Dan Sanford
	Jared Boice	Jim Thomas
	Lisa Henderson (via phone)	

**GENERAL**

• Approval of Prior meeting minutes

- The minutes of the March 24<sup>th</sup> meeting were approved as presented.

• Equipment Authorization

- SM, We have two authorizations. The first one is for the 3 Foreman's trucks. You will notice that we have a resolution to appropriate fund balance prefiled for today. These truck came in over budget as did the tandems.

- Committee approved the trucks.

- LH, To be clear if the Resolution doesn't pass today we can't order these.

- SM, Second authorization is for a new skid steer at the landfill. This is unanticipated and unbudgeted.

This was on the list to be done next year but our current machine is a 2012, it needs over \$15K in repairs that give no guarantee it will work. We feel it would be best to just get a new one at this point. We have a quote off OGS (sourcwell) from River Valley New Holland for a model L318, for \$40,608.00. In order to cover this we will not buy any new roll-off boxes this year. That will leave us with \$3,560 in our equipment line for the year.

- GH, So will we double up on roll-off boxes next year to catch up?

- SM, If it's necessary. We are proposing to auction off the old skid steer.

- Committee approved.

• Authorization to Fill Vacancy

- This is for an internal upgrade at the SWMC. Dylan Fisk has gotten his CDL so we are upgrading him from MEO to HEO

- Committee approved.

• Flood Insurance

- SM, Annual renewal for Flood Insurance at Compost. We generally do Option B.

- Committee approved option B

• Drug & Alcohol Policy updates

- SM, We have been looking at our internal policy and considering some updates. We currently have a \$500 threshold for testing. So if there is an incident involving only DPW vehicles and the damage is greater than \$500 we test. We are proposing to up that to \$1,000. To be clear, if the accident involves the public, we automatically test, no questions asked. This is only for when there is no outside involvement.

- Committee approved this change.
- Legalization of Recreation Cannabis
  - SM, Just so we are aware, with the legalization of recreational cannabis in New York State which takes effect next year, DPW will not be changing our policy unless it becomes legal on the Federal level. All of our CDL policies run off Federal legislation so unless that changes, we will not change our policy.
- County Mileage Rate Reimbursement Amount
  - SM, Our current mileage reimbursement is \$0.505/mile. This has not been updated since 2008. At the time it was matched to the Federal IRS rate. We are currently getting push back from some of our contractors as we hold them to this rate and the current Federal rate is \$.056/mile. So I would propose that the County raise the rate to match the IRS rate.
  - LH, I feel like years ago Mr. Spinney told us we couldn't pay the contractors more than we were paying employees. I agree with Sue that this should be adjusted and kept current. I'm not sure why it hasn't been.
  - SM, It has probably just been overlooked.
  - JC, I don't know anybody who doesn't follow the Federal Rate.
  - GH, I have no problem changing it, that's a big change. Who should do that? Personnel?
  - LH, Yes, I believe that's where it should come from.
  - SM, So there are two questions. Do you support recommending a resolution?
  - TM, I feel like it was discussed in Finance and they wanted recommendations from other committees.
  - Committee approves recommendation to finance to update this and tie it to the Federal Rate.
  - TM, I would send that to Art and Tina.
  - SM, I feel this should be done as soon as possible.
  - GH, I will bring it up today.
  - DS, So for our current contracts would we adjust the rate or are they stuck at the \$0.505.
  - SM, I would say they would automatically be adjusted up to the \$0.56
- NYSDOT Pine Brook project notification
  - SM, Just an FYI, DOT is doing a project on RT 10 by Pines Brook, scheduled to be done this year.
- Weights & Measures late payments
  - SM, At the last meeting we discussed past due fees and it was the Committee's response that it was not fair to let some people not pay. I did talk to the County Attorney's office to discuss if this could be added to taxes or not. While that isn't clear at this point they were willing to go after those people who weren't paying with legal action. Lynn is reaching out to some other Counties to see what they do. About 50% of them charge. Rockland County in particular has a good record of case law for getting back payments so Lynn is reaching out to them to see what they do. We will keep you posted.

## **SOLID WASTE**

- Monitoring Well 14 abandonment
  - SM, this will affect our on-going environmental monitoring and site analytical program which is a requirement of our DEC landfill permit. This particular well is an odd ball, DEC has approved us to remove it. It is \$5,375 to do the abandonment. This will allow us to do some development in that area. This well actually sits where the new storm water basin for the Neale Road site will go in. Just wanted to be on record. No approval needed.

- Anticipated MW replacement and testing
  - SM, While we are on the subject of monitoring wells, in 2017 DEC changed the Solid Waste regulations, the new Regulations require a round of expanded analytical testing. That will take effect with the new permit. So with luck that will be this year. We didn't budget for that and it will probably cost about \$20K. The upside is we only have to do it once. Just want everyone to be aware.
- Rolloff boxes as scrap (remove from auction list)
  - SM, we have a number of old roll-off boxes that we take out of inventory every year. We currently have 10 that were to be auctioned off. They are in our way, we would like to get rid of them for scrap, prices are up right now.
  - GH, I don't know, they usually bring a good chunk of change.
  - JC, Do you know what they usually bring?
  - LH, In 2017 we had three, they went for \$2,025, \$1,525 and \$710
  - GH, If they are in the way, get rid of them but I wouldn't make a habit of it because people do pay for them.
  - DV, So they have been declared surplus?
  - SM, Yes, we just want to pull them from the auction list and get rid of them now.

After a brief discussion the Committee approved getting rid of the boxes if they are in the way.
- Cell 4s status
  - SM, We continue to slug through this process. I think we are making progress.
- DPW work on SWMC site improvements
  - SM, Delaware South has been doing some road reconstruction and ditching work down on site. I am very pleased with the work and it has been a good training opportunity for some of our new people. They have been able to work on their operator skills with the excavator and bulldozer and some other equipment.
- Helping Hands Working Solutions contract
  - SM, This one I do need approval on. Helping Hands Working Solutions is the group that runs the MRF. Covid really put a wrench in how we operate. The crew that we currently have is doing a great job. We currently have a staff of 8 and we see no reason to increase that. The rate has dropped from \$24/hour to \$23.50/hour. And that is an all-inclusive price.
  - Committee approved signing the contract.
- Waste tire management bid results
  - SM, We went out to bid with this. We got two responses.
  - JC, Were they favorable?
  - SM, No. Casings bid exactly what we are currently paying them. Which if you remember we went to bid because they had jacked their prices up. They did not come down from that. We also received a bid from a firm in Buffalo, their pricing was a little higher but they did offer the option for us to store tires on site and they will bring a chipper in on site and chip them.
  - TM, I have a question, I had three residents at my Town Board meeting say they were turned away from the landfill with tires. Do we turn people away when we are full?
  - SM, Yes and it happens a lot. DEC regulations limit the number of tires you can store on the ground to 1,000. So if you have more than that you need a permit or they will fine you and they do. So we encourage people to call before they come with tires.
  - TM, Do you charge for that disposal?

- SM, No. We talked about this at a previous meeting. Tyson is making a recommendation that we start charging again.
- PD, I am totally opposed to charging for tires. If we do that we will start seeing tires everywhere again, it's just a bad idea. Especially when we are a tourist driven economy. My people know they can get rid of them for free, all they have to do is call ahead and get permission. We went through a lot of effort to get this under control and I don't want to backslide.
- SM, When we provide a roll-off to a Town our fee is usually \$350. We would propose to up that to \$400. That fee is intended to cover the transportation. So I guess the question is are we comfortable raising these fees and/or adding fees back.
- PD, How much money does the County make on tire sales?
- SM, Nothing. It goes to the State general fund.
- PD, Ah, I see I thought it went to our general fund. So we get nothing.
- DV, As far as the temporary containers, the charge should be the same as what the transfer stations get. That would be fair. The Chipper sounds like a nice thing to have on site. What kind of skill set does that take?
- SM They would send an operator.
- DV, I think that would be a great way to ship tires, you are eliminating so much air.
- SM, I would keep the chips. They have value to us. We use them in place of stone.
- GH, Would you get a permit to stockpile more than 1,000 tires? I feel like 1,000 tires isn't a lot to chip.
- SM, I would not recommend that we become a waste tire management facility. Our permit does allow us to stockpile the chips.
- SM, So from a policy standpoint, are we going to continue on as we are and heavily subsidize this program and charge for the roll-offs.
- GH, How much of a change are we talking about?
- SM, The cost has doubled. So we've gone from \$60K to \$120K per year.
- DV, The problem is if you charge enough to make it worth it, you won't get the tires and they'll be on the side of the road. If you charge a trivial amount, it's just a nuisance to handle it on site.
- SM, So no motion to change. Got it.
- SM, I will come back to the next meeting with a proposal for the roll-offs and trailers.
- LH, A thought to cover the increase we ask for a little more of our 1%.
- SM, So instead of keeping us a \$5 million we ask for a little more. Finance people, keep that in mind. That's a good comment.
- JC, When does Brenda retire?
- SM, Next Thursday, the 22<sup>nd</sup>.

## **HIGHWAY**

- Northfield Lot subdivision status – Walton Town Planning Board

- SM, At the last meeting we passed a resolution to subdivide this property and put a portion of it back on the tax rolls. At last night's Town of Walton Planning Board meeting that subdivision was approved.
- BL, How much are we keeping?
- SM, Around 7.6 acres and returning about 22 acres.
- SM, There was an extensive conversation about the restrictive covenants placed on that deed by previous owners. I did talk to the County Attorney about that and Kent from Planning also looked into it. They can be removed in two ways, you can have all of the effected neighbors sign off or you can have a court determine that it is not enforceable. The decision was made to approve it as is.
- JC, So what is the intent here? Are we going to advertise it?
- SM, DPW is getting out of it. We are going to turn it back over to the Treasurer for that.

- Acquavita – Elk Brook land transfer to town – County Attorney to file deed transfer
  - SM, Waiting on the County Attorney to file that. I will ding Jeremy today. I will notify you when that happens.
- NYC road work
  - SM, Started working on the damns, we have been removing guide rail there. Continue to work on catch basins and some signage on the Cannonsville.
- BR 80 Bridge St V/Fleischmanns pedestrian status & CM/CI contract
  - SM, Resolution is prefiled for award on this. Finally!
  - DS, We have a proposal for CI/CA. Modjeski and Masters is working with the superstructure fabricator, per DOT specs we have to have an inspector on site when the structure is being fabricated. That is being done in South Carolina so they are trying to find a firm there that can provide the inspection. Hopefully we can get this moving.
  - SM, The CI/CA proposal is from Delaware Engineering, it is a time and material contract with a not to exceed price of \$110,000. It is a reimbursable expense.
  - DS, And a lot of it is an estimate.
  - Committee approved accepting the contract.
- BR 83 Knox Ave T/Colchester status – 1.448mil construction, support & inspection
  - DS, Out on the street now. Will hit the second paper today.
  - LH, That is correct.
  - DS, Opening May 5<sup>th</sup>. Anticipate award at the May 26<sup>th</sup> meeting. This is a Bridge New York project. We are over the original estimate so that will be the County's expense. This overage was to address public comments on the project.
  - SM, So it's 80% Feds, 15% State and 5% County.
  - LH, But only for the original estimate so the County's cost will be more than 5% but it won't be a budget issue, we have money to cover it.
- BR 32 Arbor Hill T/Delhi status
  - DS, Still negotiating with the College and the Golf course on the ROW. Hopefully we can get that settled and get this out to bid as well.
- BR 161 Mill St V/Fleischmanns NYSDOT Red Flag
  - SM, We received a Red Flag on this structure. DOT inspects bridges every other year unless they are posted in which case they are inspected yearly. It was red flagged based on the load level analysis. We believe they are going to do another analysis and try to say it doesn't need to be posted so they don't have to keep inspecting it.
  - DS, Correct and it is a dead end with the flood buyout and at one point it was going to be abandoned but we couldn't come to agreement with the property owner.
  - PD, That is all correct.
  - SM, So I just want everyone to be aware of what is happening.
- BR 119 Third Brook T/Walton status
  - JB, This is all fabricated. We need to get the beams galvanized. That is scheduled to be done this year.
  - JC, Do you know when this will start?
  - JB, Not yet.
  - JC, How long will you be there?

- JB, Probably a month.

• BR 214 Ingels Rd T/Middletown status

- JB, This is a slab bridge. The slabs are all poured. We are waiting on DEP permits to cross their property to put the bridge in. We will see what permits they require. Other than that we should be able to get that done. We currently have the crane apart working on it but that should be back together before we need it.

• GOSR house demo

- We are making progress. Will continue to take houses down until we can start building bridges. There continues to be issues with making awards and getting approval to do things.

- Asbestos abatement is on-going. We have an RFP out now for two controlled demolitions.

- Once bridge season gets here we will be done until construction season is over.

• GOSR grass cutting

- SM, OET has said they can't do any houses in Sidney this year. I have reached out to some owner operators to see if they can give us a proposal to do this. This eliminates the need for prevailing wage.

- PD, As I've stated before, these are not required by law to be cut every time they reach 9 inches. They only need to be cut twice a year. Sidney may not like it but that meets the law. So this isn't something that needs to be done. If you want the hassle and expense go for it but it isn't required.

- Proposals are due back the 21<sup>st</sup>.

• Delaware Valley Ridge Riders snowmobile trail request

- SM, We have a request from the Delaware Valley Ridge Riders to allow a snowmobile trail along CR 17. The trail would go from Baxter Mountain Road to the Horton gas station/Riverside Café and Lodging. This would go along County 17 for approximately 2500', along a section of the historic retaining wall. If the club could get permission from private landowners, the portion along 17 would be shortened to about 1000', and avoid the walls.

- After a brief discussion the Committee decided in favor of allowing snowmobile trails wherever we could, they thought it was a big benefit to the County to get/allow snowmobile trails. It was brought up that the state snowmobile insurance would cover us if needed, and we needed to take a couple steps to make the trail legal (signs, etc.). It was left that we would try to push the club to connect to the private land to shorten the distance along 17, but we would allow either version of the proposed trail.

• County Potter's Field Cemetery

- SM, The cemetery is in rough shape, several of the graves are very sunken. We have been approached by Christa to see what could do to help. We agreed to haul a couple loads of top soil to the bottom of the hill. How they get it where they need it is not our problem.

- Jim Ellis will make arrangements to fill in the depressions. Gabrielle Pierce is making arrangements to have the stones marked. Then it will be more suitable for mowing.

**DPW buildings project status**

• Project status & CM/CI contract

- Resolution is prefiled to make award.

- CM/CI contract from Delaware Engineering was accepted.

- Kortright land purchase and access/maintenance agreements
  - SM, We are working with Allison Phillips to get everything finalized. We have been in touch with the County Attorney and have received no feedback.
- IT & DTC communications coordination
  - SM, We have reached out to Delhi Telephone and IT to discuss the needs at the new facilities.
  - We have been working directly with Dave Cucciarre and have incorporated the necessary design features into the plans. We will work with Dave and Delhi telephone to establish the necessary tie-ins.
- Stoddard Lot shed
  - SM, There is an old shed on the Stoddard lot. I would just knock it down but there is a lady down the street very interested in it. Propose to put it out for sealed bid.
  - After a brief discussion the Committee approved.

## **RESOLUTIONS**

Budget Amendment – Machinery Fund

Supplemental #2 – BR 83

Award of Prop. 28-21 DPW Building Project

Award of Prop. 29-21 BR 80 Pedestrian Bridge

Award of Prop. SW1-21 Lease of Ag Land

Award of Prop. SW2-21 Tire Management Services

Award of Prop FB1-21 Stone & Gravel for Flood Buy Out Projects in Sidney