

PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE

March 12, 2025

8:45 A.M.

Attendees:	George Haynes	Joe Cetta
	John Kosier	Bill Layton
	Jerry Vernold	Tina Molé
	Jim Thomas	Jared Boice
	Lisa Henderson	Tyson Robb

GENERAL

- Equipment Authorizations
 - JT, CB Radios, we budgeted \$100,000, came in at \$100,347.56.
 - LH, It was a little over but we were well under on everything else. And this is new handhelds as well.
 - Committee approved.
 - JC, What kind are they?
 - JB, Motorola I believe.
- Authorization to Fill Vacancies
 - JT, We have three of them. An HEO II, a auto mechanic II and a Building Maintenance Mechanic II. The all went to the Town of Colchester. I talked to Dan Pinner and he said that they are getting the following increases:
2025 - 12.5%, 2026 - \$2, 2027 – 12.5%
 - LH, They also have more affordable health insurance than we do. The Mechanic said the family plan there is cheaper than a single payer here.
 - Discussion was held on what can be done. We just signed a 5-year contract that takes us to 2027 and now all the towns are renegotiating and we are left behind.
 - GH, And we didn't get people to where they should be to start with, this waiting for the Union just isn't working.
 - JT, I agree, we keep going down hill and the Towns keep going up.
 - Committee approved filing all of the vacancies.
- Travel to Hard Hat Show
 - JT, This is no cost, just out of County travel for 13 people. Will spread out over the two days and they might not all go.
 - Committee approved.
- Soil & Water Contract
 - JT, This is an annual agreement, they provide support when we need it. \$20,000.
 - Committee approved.
- 4-H Camp
 - JT, They asked if we could send a machine down to dig up a leaking waterline and dig around their grease trap that they aren't really sure where it is. I know we have done stuff there in the past but I wasn't sure if that was really a County thing or not. I told them I had to talk to the Committee.
 - JC, We do own the camp property, it is operated by Cooperative Extension.

- TM, Yes, we own the property.
- GH, If we have done it in the past I don't see why not.
- JC, I think we should support them however we can.
- Committee approved helping them.

- IT Issues

- JT, This is all over the place. We just can't seem to get anything done. We asked over a year ago for a cell phone booster for Bloomville, we are still using one an employee brought in. The scanner equipment in Bloomville and Neale Road still aren't functional. And now they want to do all the County ID's and take on more work when they can't get done what they currently have.
- TR, And I've been without a printer in compost for 2 weeks.
- TM, Well they had to stop all projects two weeks ago and they have been busy with the law suit. But they should be back up and running now.
- JB, They have no communication in Neale Road, they can't fax, they can't scan.
- LH, And I don't understand why they can't fax, the fax machine worked fine here, but it won't work there.
- JT, We have asked that they sort the phone out so that we have a number that rings in Bloomville and one that rings in Neale Road because now the same number rings in both places.
- GH, Well I wasn't aware we were having issues, I'll talk to Joe this afternoon.
- JT, They did get the autocad working, it took two weeks but it's working now.
- TR, They haven't done anything we asked. They canceled the ticket for compost software saying it was completed, I responded that nothing was completed but didn't hear back. I responded what has been done because nothing is resolved, I have heard nothing. We will figure it out when we need to, right now the computers are working but there is obsolete communication equipment that we are waiting on a quote for. We have company coming in now, we have an innerbus issue that they are going to track down, it has forced us to put the plant in manual mode, we are operating at least until this morning. There was some issue, I was on vacation last week but there was an issue, I think none of our soft starts work, I'm not sure how often that's been going on but it's a big enough issue that NYSEG saw it on their end, I got a text from my buddy that works for the regional office that there was a problem at compost and it was a compost problem not a NYSEG problem, but it's big enough to where they saw it so when we turn the plant back on they get a massive line drop. The soft starts are important because it makes our usage cheaper.
- GH, And that's something IT handles? They should be taking care of that?
- TR, No.
- JC, They are run through frequency drives right?
- TR, There are different ones. Our biggest draw is run through a variable frequency drive the others are run through soft starts. Yup.
- GH, So that isn't an IT issue.
- TR, No, it's a grey space because part of it is electrical but in order for the electrical to work you need communications to work as well. So we have issues with communications and electrical as well, so we are working that out. Mechanically we got the gear box working just in time for the agitator to go down. That bid should go out, it did go out.
- LH, No, it didn't. I sent you corrections and never heard back.
- TR, Oh, well I followed up with Jim before I left, I'll get that moving next week then. But that cord has given up so the agitator is down which means that the primary is down so that means compost is down without the agitator. So I'll be working on that today too. What else with compost? Oh, the bio replacement bid went out, prebid on Friday, that's good.

SOLID WASTE

- Conference Request
 - TR, I have a travel request for the Federation of NYS Solid Waste Trade Show and Conference (\$775), same thing I do every year.
 - Committee approved
- Cell 1 Reclamation
 - TR, Moving along, they are better than half way. Going well. I need to get a rain cover out to bid after the agitator goes.
- HPAI (Bird Flu)
 - TR, Bird flu has been quiet.
- Independent film
 - TR, guy needs to know what insurance we need. Other than that nothing.
- Middletown transfer station
 - JT, Glen reached out again earlier this week to check on stuff. I haven't caught up with the engineers because I don't want to go too far with this. We were supposed to do a rough idea to be sent to the consultant, now they keep wanting us to do more, that's what the consultant is for.
 - TR, Well mostly consultants that do these things have standard plans they use and there's certain things that you don't do like crossing lanes and traffic control stuff that's not really how we function. So that's good.
- Env tech
 - TR, I gotta call and get interviews set up. Do we have a place for them to go?
 - JT, We have a plan.
 - TR, We have a plan so we can start the hiring process.

JV, How many towns have transfer stations?

TR, 7.

JV, OK, I'm getting pressure to redo our rates so I wanted to look at what everyone else charges.

TR, A lot of them don't charge at all.

JV, The issue is with the haulers, and they are just going to pass that on to the consumer.

TR, I think Middletown charges the haulers \$500/year for a permit.

JV, It's just hard to come up with the correct formula for it, we have that camp that comes in, they bring in a lot during the summer.

TR, Yeah, I've seen private rates ya know, pretty low and then hauler rates higher, it's the low hanging fruit and someone you can kinda lean on for extra money if you needed to.

JV, If you're a senior you get yours for free.

ROAD

- Delaware North & South
 - JT, Roads are still moving, we have them posted, working with people where needed.
 - JT, Finally our cutting brush, it only took all winter.

- Call in procedures
 - JT, Meeting with Steve Hood went well. We are going to do something similar to what the deputies do. When they leave their house, they call in that they are on duty. So when the foreman leaves to go check roads, they will call in that they are going to check roads and then dispatch will know they are out there if anyone calls. They are going to give us radios that we can communicate directly with them. They can get us and we can report back. Actually a good solution because there are areas where we don't have coverage so it won't be bad for someone to know they are out. We just need to figure out what to do at the end of the day. Went much better than I expected.
 - JK, Say a call goes out for a fire or whatever and it's a private road, do we go? We aren't covered on private property.
 - GH, I think as long as it comes in as a fire call you are covered. Talk to Maggie, she can walk you through that.
 - JK, OK. Thank you. I have a meeting with Chris Slonaker tomorrow, I'm going to ask him as well.

BRIDGE

- BR 136 BridgeNY Round 3
 - JT, Still shut down for winter.
- BR 7-3 BridgeNY Round 4 (\$5.3 million)
 - Design underway
 - Have SEQR resolution prefiled for today. State is requiring this because of the ROW.
- BridgeNY Round 5 - ~\$6.6 million
 - JT, Starting design on 41-2 and BR 5 (Corbett).
- Bridge Crew
 - JT, Working in Wickhams trying to make space for us to move our stuff from the old building.
 - JT, Haven't heard back from Dave Wakin on the survey.
- Fish Creek bridge with FUDR
 - JT, Shelly jumped me yesterday all nervous about this project. She's nervous that FUDR won't follow through with the money.
 - TM, Do you know how much the County would have to commit?
 - JT, I think they were giving us around \$400,000, we had another \$300,000 top of that.
 - JT, Shelly's concern is that if we make it 50 feet, they will say that it should have been 60 and they will pull their funding. Molly has assured us that if we build it to our standards they will fund it. Supposedly Delhi did two projects and FUDR didn't pay. I don't know anything about it. Shelly is just really worried that Molly is spending our money not in Delaware County.
 - GH, As long as we are sure we are going to get our money I don't have an issue.
- BR 130 (Sidney)
 - JT, We have a red flag on the sidewalk. Jared and the bridge crew have come up with a fix for that. And the bridge deck is falling apart again. We are working with Otsego County, should be a shared cost. They applied for a state grant to replace it but it got denied. We need to get it on the State program somehow. It's too big for the BridgeNY program. It's not going to be an easy

thing. You're going to have to shut Main Street down for two years. It's probably a \$10 million dollar project to replace it. The detour isn't awful but those businesses aren't going to be happy.
- JB, All the watermains and sewer lines are attached to it. It's going to be ugly.

- Engineers

- JT, Still working on In-house designs.

- BR 32

- JT, Not sure what to do about it but the college kids are cutting the corner and driving on the wrong side of the yield sign. They have the field all torn up.

DPW BLDG PROJECT

- Construction status report

- Next stage of project

- not sure where we are.

- J&K claims

- All set here.

- DiGesare call – LD's, closeout supposed to be tomorrow, they haven't confirmed.

- 2nd floor trap not working again, have the sewer smell again.

- Wakin survey

- Still waiting

- Working on moving the rest of the stuff out of the old building. Need to auction some stuff.

- GH, Are we still using a lot of propane?

- JT, It's settled a little bit but we are struggling with the heat. Even here, it's an ongoing battle.

- LH, It's just very bizarre, it's hot in one corner, cold in the other. Pete's guys have been doing the best they can, they are frustrated too.

- JB, Neale Road is cold on Monday and by the end of the week it's ok but then it's cold again on Monday.

- JT, They were chasing a loose wire here. Nobody is really sure. We'll keep trying.

RESOLUTIONS

- Award Prop 1-25

- Award Prop 6-25

- Award Prop 7 & 8-25

- Award Prop 9-19-25

- Lead Agency - BR 7-3

BL, Does the County still make signs? Ron was buying them from someplace else. He said the sign guy retired.

JT, Jack's last day is today. But yes, we can still make them. We will replace him.