

**WAYS AND MEANS COMMITTEE
MINUTES**

**TUESDAY, JANUARY 28, 2020
3:30 P.M.**

PRESENT: Leigh J. Benton, Chairman
Mike Anagnostakis, Katie Bonelli, Janet Sutherland,
Kevin W. Hines, James M. Kulisek, Michael D. Paduch, Joseph J. Minuta,

ALSO

PRESENT: L. Stephen Brescia, Chairman
John S. Vero, Legislator
Antoinette Reed, Legislative Counsel
Harry Porr, Deputy County Executive
Matthew Nothnagle, Chief Asst. County Attorney
Karin Hablow, Commissioner of Finance
Kerry Gallagher, Deputy Commissioner of Finance
James P. Burpoe, Commissioner, Department of General Services
Alicia D'Amico, Deputy Commissioner of Procurement and Compliance,
Department of General Services
Richard Cocchiara, Deputy Commissioner, Information Technology
Erik Denega, Commissioner, Dept. of Public Works
Travis B. Ewald, Deputy Commissioner, Engineering Division
James S. Brooks, Commissioner of Parks, Recreation & Conservation
Mike Amodio, Deputy Commissioner, Dept. of Parks, Recreation & Conservation
Robert Bressler, Golf Course Superintendent
Laurence LaDue, Commissioner, Valley View Center
Donna Strecker, Director of Finance, Valley View Center
Eric Ruscher, Director, Real Property Tax Service
Deborah Slesinski, Budget Director
Deanna Crawford, Budget Analyst
Gretchen Riordan, Budget Analyst

Chairman Benton opened the committee meeting at 3:33 p.m. by asking everyone to stand for the Pledge of Allegiance. All committee members were present.

Mr. Paduch moved to approve the request
resolution to have the ¾% sales tax extended
for the period beginning December 1, 2020
and ending November 30, 2022, seconded
by Ms. Sutherland.

Ms. Hablow explained this is done every two years in order to extend the rate previously in place which is ¾% above the normal 3%. The net impact would maintain the current rate which is critical for county and municipal services as the ¾% represents about \$60 million in revenue with \$45 million retained by the county and \$15 million dispersed to the municipalities.

Motion carried. All in favor.

Mr. Anagnostakis moved to approve the request for supplemental appropriation for the 2019 budget to increase the Distribution of Sales Tax line by \$1,033,056.76 due to sales tax collections coming in higher than budgeted. Once appropriated these funds will be distributed to the cities, towns and villages, seconded by Mr. Paduch.

Ms. Hablow distributed and reviewed a handout regarding the 2019 Sales Tax Due Other Govt (see original minutes) and stated the actual distribution for the year will be \$79,132,695.76.

Motion carried. All in favor.

Mr. Paduch moved to discuss Enterprise Fund Balance, seconded by Mrs. Bonelli.

Ms. Hablow and Ms. Strecker addressed the committee with a draft report regarding the Valley View Cash Account Balance Utilization Summary (see original minutes) and pointed out that as of January 24th the current balance is \$57,714,206.00.

Mr. Benton stated that next month they will have a policy review in order to move forward.

Mr. Minuta moved to approve the request for supplemental appropriation to the capital projects budget for Strength Paving, \$1,300,000.00 bonding, seconded by Mrs. Bonelli.

Mr. Denega explained this is the annual paving request for strength paving in the amount of \$1,300,000.00 to maintain the county roads. This year they have about 13 miles planned.

Mr. Minuta clarified that they will then overlay.

Mr. Ewald stated most of the time it is just overlaying because most of the county highways are rural and they do not have the constraints of curbing.

Mr. Minuta then asked who coordinates that on a county road where they may be a local municipal sewer service underneath it. For instance, on County Route 69 the manholes are set down where the current paving is, so everyone avoids them.

Mr. Ewald replied it is coordinated through their office.

Mr. Minuta asked that Mr. Ewald to please look into the issue.

Motion carried. All in favor.

Mrs. Bonelli moved to approve the request for supplemental appropriation to the capital projects budget for Non-Highway Paving Projects, \$100,000.00 (bonding), seconded by Ms. Sutherland.

Mr. Denega stated this is also an annual request. These funds are used to repair parking lots, intersections and smaller sections of roadways.

Motion carried. All in favor.

Mr. Minuta moved to approve the request for supplemental appropriation for the purchase of various golf course equipment at the Hickory Hill Golf Course to further enhance operations, \$144,000.00 (bonding), seconded by Mr. Benton.

Mr. Brooks introduced Rob Bressler, Superintendent at the Stony Ford Golf Course who has been with the county for many years.

Mr. Benton mentioned that some of these requests passed at the Physical Services Committee yesterday and others were held for further information since there were duplications.

Mr. Brooks distributed photographs of the equipment needed (see original minutes).

Mr. Amodio addressed the committee with a list and pictures of various golf course equipment for the Hickory Hill Golf Course (see original minutes) which included a Toro Greensmaster 3320 Triflex, Toro Multi Pro 5800 Sprayer, Toro Infield Pro 5040 Traction Unit, John Deere XUV852M (MY20) and a True-Surface Vibe V. He stated that each piece of equipment will be replacing the old equipment which has exceeded its life expectancy. Furthermore, the roller/brushes were not included in the quote he received; therefore, he would like to increase the amount by \$3,000.00 to mirror the Stony Ford amount.

Mr. Benton stated that the total which will include the increase of \$3,000.00 will be corrected for the legislative session.

Motion carried. All in favor.

Mr. Minuta moved to approve the request for supplemental appropriation for the purchase of golf course equipment at the Stony Ford Golf Course to further enhance operations, \$103,000.00 (bonding), seconded by Mr. Benton.

Mr. Amodio reviewed the list and pictures of various golf course equipment for the Stony Ford Golf Course (see original minutes) which included a Toro Greensmaster 3320 Triflex Hybrid, Toro Workman HDZ Auto 4WD, Toro Cutting Units (04653, 04626), Turfco #85858 TriWave 45 Truckster Overseeder and True-Surface Vibe V. He stated that just like the prior request, each piece of equipment will be replacing the old equipment because it has exceeded its life expectancy.

Motion carried. All in favor.

Mr. Minuta moved to approve the request for supplemental appropriation for the purchase of various Parks equipment at the Thomas Bull Memorial Park to further enhance operations, \$76,000.00 (bonding), seconded by Ms. Sutherland.

Mr. Amodio reviewed the list and pictures of various parks equipment at Thomas Bull Memorial Park (see original minutes) which included two Toro Proface Turf Blowers, a Toro Proface Extension Nozzle Kit and a Toro Bed Mount Kit for the blower, a Toro Workman HDX Auto 4WD, Toro Infield Pro 5040 Traction Unit with attachments that include a Toro Hydraulic Lift Frame with Flex Plow, Toro Remote Hydraulics Kit, Rahn Lip Broom, Toro Sports Field Edger, ToroMid Mount Scarifer with Weed Tine and Leveling Blade and a Toro QAS Nail Drag Attachment with Flex Groomer.

Motion carried. All in favor.

Ms. Sutherland moved to approve the request to amend Capital Project No. 775 for Stony Ford/ Graham Skea Lodge deck replacement project to add \$140,000.00 to the project. Supplemental appropriation required (bonding), seconded by Mr. Tuohy.

Mr. Brooks stated several months ago this committee approved funds for a cost analysis and inspection of the deck which was completed. He referred to the plans (see original minutes) and explained that after the engineers inspected the deck, they concluded that the failing girders, decking, railing and stairs will need to be replaced. This cannot be done in-house because they do not have a carpenter and reiterated that there have been several falls and lawsuits; therefore, this needs to be addressed and the price is the price.

Discussion between Mr. Brooks and the committee ensued regarding having the same vendor replace the deck as it has currently failed.

Mr. Brooks emphasized this is a health and safety issue.

Mr. Minuta stated he would like to see alternative options as well as a written report and suggested this request be brought back to the committee next month.

Mrs. Bonelli pointed out that this passed at yesterday's Physical Services Committee meeting with one "no" which was Mr. Minuta.

The committee agreed to take no action and bring the request back to the committee next month.

Mr. Minuta moved to approve the request for supplemental appropriation for 2020 Records Center Expansion, Hatfield Lane, Goshen. This project has been approved under the 2020 Capital Plan as proposed Project No. 79, \$532,000.00 (bonding), seconded by Ms. Sutherland.

Mr. Burpoe explained this request is to accept supplemental appropriation for the Records Management expansion in the amount of \$531,988.00 as they are currently paying \$275,000.00 a year to Iron Mountain. They are looking to pull everything back from there and become their own Iron Mountain especially because the price will be increasing later in the year.

Chairman Brescia clarified that this will be comparable to what Iron Mountain has.

Mr. Burpoe stated that is correct.

Chairman Brescia then confirmed that this will include the County Clerk's files and sharing with the local municipalities.

Mr. Burpoe stated yes, and once all the files are settled, he will be looking to expand it and offer it as a shared service to all local municipalities.

Mr. Benton asked if this includes security.

Mr. Burpoe replied yes, there is security, motion sensors, swipes, and cameras already in place.

Mr. Minuta asked if this is hard copy storage or electronic storage.

Mr. Burpoe replied it is hard copy storage, but they will be digitizing a lot of it but certain hard copies will have to be kept there.

Mr. Minuta then asked if there is a cost to the county.

Mr. Burpoe replied there will be no cost to the county because there is staff there already. He suggested that all legislators be invited to take a tour of the space.

Motion carried.

Before moving on to the next agenda item, Mr. Benton asked how Mr. Burpoe is proceeding with the dissatisfaction with the system in the Legislative Chambers.

Mr. Burpoe replied that earlier today, he reached out to the president of Secure Watch 24 (SW24) who will be here next week with the audio/visual company. He is requesting money back for the monitors, which the company has agreed to and they will also be designing a plate similar to the one that is there now to cover the hole along with a charging station. Furthermore, this will be expedited.

Mrs. Reed stated that before any work is done, a lot of money was paid for the desks because they were handmade; therefore, she would like to make sure they are not ruined.

Mr. Burpoe reiterated there will be a customized plate that will go over the hole to fit like it was meant to have.

Mr. Benton asked that the legislative office staff is involved in the upcoming meetings.

Mr. Burpoe responded absolutely.

Mr. Minuta stated that he would like to get a drawing of what is being proposed.

Mr. Burpoe stated everyone is more than welcome to attend the meetings and they will not be pulling anything out because the microphones are attached as well as wires.

Mr. Benton commented that he wanted to mention this because he was told Mr. Burpoe met with the owner of "Secure Watch 24" months ago and this has not moved forward; therefore, he would like to make sure everyone is involved with discussions to get this moving forward.

Mr. Minuta moved to approve the request for supplemental appropriation for ongoing technology updates, \$1,765,000.00 (bonding), seconded by Mr. Hines.

Mr. Benton stated this request is done every year in order to move the county forward with hardware.

Mr. Burpoe explained that it may seem this is done every year, but there is a lot of things that happen behind the scenes.

Mr. Benton pointed out this is in the capital plan every year.

Mr. Burpoe responded it is in the capital plan every year because these are things that are constantly changing, and he is glad that Mr. Cocchiara is working with him now because he is a cyber expert and brings good knowledge as to why certain hardware and programs are needed.

Mr. Cocchiara stated Commissioner Burpoe is correct. Unfortunately, technology keeps advancing particularly in the cyber security area. He reviewed the 2020 Proposed Department of General Services Budget Detail (see original minutes) and explained why the hardware and security is important to prevent hackers and viruses from outside networks.

Motion carried. All in favor.

Mr. Minuta moved to discuss deed sale parcels, seconded by Ms. Sutherland.

The first deed sale parcel is in the Town of Goshen (12-1-62) with a minimum bid of \$27,500.00 and an amount bid of \$750.00. Mr. Ruscher recommended it be denied for more money. The second parcel is in the Town of Wallkill (53-4-3) and has a minimum of \$5,000.00 and an amount bid of \$1,000.00; therefore, he recommends it also be denied for more money.

Motion carried. All in favor of accepting Mr. Ruscher's recommendations to deny deed sale parcels Nos. 1 and 2.

Mr. Minuta moved to adopt a resolution authorizing the County Executive to enter into an agreement with certain Orange County municipalities providing

for the exemption from county taxation of lands owned and used by them for water supply and related purposes, seconded by Mr. Benton.

Mr. Ruscher stated this is an annual resolution for municipalities that own a property in a neighboring municipality, but they use it for their water system, wells and lines. There are several repeat parcels on the list (see original minutes) and a few new ones which were reviewed thoroughly.

Motion carried. All in favor.

The meeting adjourned at 5:27 p.m.