

**PHYSICAL SERVICES COMMITTEE
MINUTES**

**TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 20, 2018
3:30 P.M.**

PRESENT: Barry J. Cheney, Chairman
Leigh J. Benton, Katie Bonelli, James M. Kulisek, Michael D. Paduch,
Paul Ruskiewicz, Peter V. Tuohy, John S. Vero

ALSO

PRESENT: L. Stephen Brescia, Chairman
Laurie R. Tautel, Legislator
Antoinette Reed, Legislative Counsel
Steven M. Neuhaus, County Executive
Wayne Booth, Deputy County Executive
Joseph Mahoney, Assistant County Attorney
Travis B. Ewald, Deputy Commissioner, DPW/Engineering Division
Brian Titsworth, Director of Professional Services for Buildings and Grounds/
Dept. of Public Works
James S. Brooks, Commissioner of Parks, Recreation & Conservation
Michael Amodio, Deputy Commissioner, Dept. of Parks, Recreation & Conservation
Ermin Siljkovic, Recycling Coordinator, Dept. of Public Works/EF&S
David Church, AICP, Commissioner of Planning
Julie Richmond, Deputy Commissioner of Planning
Tim Tucker, Budget Analyst
Mike Ventre, Budget Analyst
Mike Sweeton, Town Supervisor, Town of Warwick
Roger Moss, Sustainable Warwick

Chairman Cheney opened the committee meeting at 3:30p.m. by asking everyone to stand for the Pledge of Allegiance. All committee members were present.

Mr. Paduch moved the request for supplemental appropriation of \$2,200,000.00 to make improvements to the City of Middletown owned railbed subject to an easement being executed in favor of the County of Orange by the City of Middletown for public access over such property. This segment begins at East Main Street in the City of Middletown and heads northwest to Ingrassia Road, in the Town of Wallkill, Orange County (bonding), seconded by Mrs. Bonelli.

Mr. Brooks stated this request is for a section that is located outside of Goshen and goes to Ingrassia Road in case the TIP money is not received. The genesis of this comes from the Port Jervis project that is currently underfunded; therefore, the county is doing their part by adding money that is already appropriated.

County Executive Neuhaus added that a few legislators are already familiar with this. He explained to the other legislators that the City of Port Jervis came in over budget so they came to the Transportation Council for assistance. There is an unwritten policy by which they try to vote

unanimously and try to move the projects forward. Middletown was concerned about not receiving the money or it being delayed from the federal government and that the project could be delayed for six months. He stated that the county is currently spending money to have the design and planning done for the Heritage Trail expansion so he suggested that the county appropriate the monies for this project to be done for Port Jervis. He added that Mayor DeStefano agrees with this as well.

Mrs. Bonelli commented that it is her understanding that if the opportunity presents itself, the monies will be utilized sooner rather than later especially if certain projects are not ready to go.

County Executive Neuhaus stated that, historically, the monies will come back and his priority, as county executive is to continue to make good on his word when it comes to completing the Heritage Trail and fixing this bridge because they are becoming safety issues.

Mrs. Bonelli commented this is a good solution to an unfortunate problem.

Mr. Paduch confirmed that the monies will be earmarked next year to replace the monies being appropriated.

County Executive stated that is correct.

Mr. Vero commented that he would like to see both projects move forward but this is pre-bonding of the resolution; therefore, he would rather change it to "just in case" or "if it shouldn't happen" because this is premature.

County Executive Neuhaus stated this shows commitment to do the project.

Mr. Vero asked if they end up using the county money for taxation, do they still receive the federal funds and, if so, how.

County Executive replied they are hoping this does not get delayed and this will be a great thing for the county. He is hoping the monies will not have to be used.

Mr. Cheney asked if the resolution requires a two-thirds vote.

Mrs. Reed replied yes.

Mr. Cheney then asked if they rescind it in the future, will that also require a two-thirds vote.

Mrs. Reed replied yes.

Mr. Mahoney explained that when utilizing the federal grants, the local municipality bonds the entire project to demonstrate to the federal government that they are committed to the project.

Mr. Cheney clarified these monies are for segment 3, and segment 2 goes from Goshen into East Main Street in the City of Middletown.

Mr. Brooks stated that is correct. It is right near Tony Boffa's Resteraunt.

Mr. Cheney stated that another concern he has relative to this is the Village of Kiryas Joel. They graciously postponed their project so he would like to know why we do not expect them to come to the legislature and ask for the full amount of money.

County Executive Neuhaus replied that is something that needs to be addressed by the Transportation Council.

Mr. Brooks pointed out that he would be careful when using the word "delay" for this project because it is not the correct verbiage since the engineers are already doing the initial part of the design and there is no indication that they will not be ready to bid in January of 2019.

Mr. Cheney stated that for the past four years the legislature has shown a lot of support and commitment to the Heritage Trail but he does not believe the step they are being asked to take is necessary.

Motion carried. All in favor with the exception of Legislators Cheney and Vero who voted against.

Mr. Paduch moved to adopt a resolution authorizing the County Executive to accept a \$5,000.00 grant from the Carton Council to establish recycling in Orange County school cafeterias. Grant funds will be disbursed to eligible schools between March 2018 and June 2019, seconded by Mr. Kulisek.

Mr. Siljkovic stated that for the greater part of the year, year and a half, he has been working on developing a strategy for schools. The draft Solid Waste Management Plan for 2010 states that the focus should be working with schools and businesses; therefore, he has been learning more about recycling and solid waste in schools throughout Orange County. One of his first steps was sending out a series of surveys to all county schools and school districts. He received about a third of responses which contained valuable information and of that information, he learned that there needs to be more steps taken to be more proactive in the outreach. He then began working with Roger Moss from Sustainable Warwick and developed a strategy where they would invite schools to participate voluntarily in a program that would help them reduce solid waste, increase recycling and institute measures where the schools themselves can track their performances. The program was launched this fall after a meeting with the BOCES Instructional Council. After the meeting he gave a presentation to most of the superintendents of schools throughout the county and 13 schools enrolled in the new program. Since 2017, he has received letters of interest from each participating school, he has done site visits and worked with each school to set up green teams. Furthermore, he would coach them on how to measure and weigh their waste and they would then have to monitor and record the waste each week which measured quality and quantity during a one-week period. He then briefly reviewed a handout (see original minutes) in regard to a Carton Council School Carton Recycling Grant Program.

Motion carried. All in favor.

Mr. Siljkovic discussed the next agenda item which was an update on Solid Waste and Recycling. He explained that they are working with Organics to design, build and maintain a composting facility which is a work in progress. Regarding electronic waste, the vendor left due to a budget cut so he put together a press release to everyone in the county that they would have to

temporarily halt collection at the Newburgh and New Hampton Transfer Stations. There have been a lot of phone calls coming in about it and he is letting people know that most chain electronic retailers will accept electronic waste but each retailer may have different nuances as far as what they accept and may charge a fee for the televisions. He added that if any legislators have constituents inquiring about this, to please have them contact their local electronic retailer.

Mr. Cheney asked what the process and schedule is for getting a new vendor.

Mr. Siljkovic replied he is working on a new RFB which should be ready soon to go to the Department of General Services and then he will wait for bids.

Mr. Cheney asked if there were multiple bidders when the last contractor was selected.

Mr. Siljkovic replied yes. He stated that he asked the Department of General Services if they can select the second bidder but since it is not an emergency they cannot do that.

Mr. Cheney clarified that Mr. Siljkovic must go through a new process since the second bidder cannot be defaulted.

Mr. Siljkovic replied yes.

Mr. Tuohy asked what would constitute an emergency so that they a vendor can be chosen quickly.

Mr. Siljkovic replied he would defer to the Department of General Services or the Law Department.

Mrs. Reed pointed out that it would have to be a public safety issue.

Mr. Kulisek asked how the market is for recycling revenue.

Mr. Siljkovic replied it is almost a "crisis mode" because the China is cracking down on contaminated recycling streams which limits what can be sent out.

Mr. Ruskiewicz moved to adopt a resolution making a supplemental appropriation to the capital projects budget for drainage improvements. This project has been approved under the 2018 Capital Plan as Project No. 32. Upon approval, a new capital project will be created, \$150,000.00 (bonding), seconded by Mr. Benton.

Mr. Ewald stated this request is done frequently and is to replace various culverts on the county roads. Last year several culverts were completed and most of them are not the average size. There are a few candidates for 2018 that they are hoping to complete.

Motion carried. All in favor.

Mr. Paduch moved to adopt a resolution to accept the Traffic Signal Easement CR. 67 East Main Street dedication through the lands of Cumberland Farms, Inc., Town of Wallkill, Tax Map #78-3-2.2, seconded by Mr. Kulisek.

Mr. Ewald explained this request is for cleaning up a traffic signal because there are signal loops that extend into the lane which is exiting Cumberland Farms on East Main Street in the City of Middletown so this is to establish a permanent easement to do the maintenance.

Motion carried. All in favor.

Mr. Titsworth addressed the last agenda item which was an update on the Government Center. He stated Risk Management is currently moving into the building, Real Property moved in last week and before them the Finance Department and Budget Department moved in; therefore, the building is full except for the County Clerk who will be moving in on March 5th. Corcraft is continuing to deliver furniture and put together cubicles. He added there are a few contractors still on site as well as security contractors.

Mr. Kulisek asked when the County Clerk will be moving in.

Mr. Titsworth replied the department will be moving in three weeks and that is because they are the largest office and maintain all the records.

Mr. Kulisek asked when the DMV will be open.

Mr. Titsworth replied the Clerk has a state inspection on March 15th at which time she will be notified about an opening date.

Chairman Brescia asked when the courts will open.

Mr. Titsworth replied they will move in after the County Clerk.

Mr. Kulisek clarified that the security at the courts is finalized.

Mr. Titsworth stated it is ongoing.

Mr. Cheney asked the committee if they would like to continue to have this update on the agenda since everything is ending.

Mr. Paduch replied that we should wait until it is completely over.

Mr. Vero added that they should be finished up by the end of March beginning of April.

Mr. Kulisek asked where they stand regarding the budget for the government center.

Mr. Cheney replied that at next month's committee meeting. Mr. Titsworth can update the committee on the budget for the government center.

The meeting adjourned at 4:28 p.m.