

**WAYS AND MEANS COMMITTEE
MINUTES**

**TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 2020
3:30 P.M.**

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

ALSO

PRESENT: L. Stephen Brescia, Chairman
Antoinette Reed, Legislative Counsel
Dan Bloomer, Director, Operations and Cost Control
Matthew Nothnagle, Chief Asst. County Attorney
Donna McCarey, Deputy Commissioner, Human Resources
Alison Tyack, Director of Personnel Management, Human Resources
Karin Hablow, Commissioner of Finance
Kerry Gallagher, Deputy Commissioner of Finance
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
Robert Gray, Deputy Commissioner, Dept. of Public Works/EF&S
Brian Titsworth, Deputy Commissioner of Infrastructure Services, Dept. of Public Works
James S. Brooks, Commissioner of Parks, Recreation & Conservation
Mike Amodio, Deputy Commissioner, Dept. of Parks, Recreation & Conservation
Julie Richmond, Deputy Commissioner of Planning
Eric Ruscher, Director, Real Property Tax Service
Louise Vandermark, Commissioner of Elections
David C. Green, Commissioner of Elections
Laurence LaDue, Commissioner, Valley View Center
Donna Strecker, Director of Finance, Valley View Center
Deborah Slesinski, Budget Director
Deanna Crawford, Budget Analyst
Gretchen Riordan, Budget Analyst

Chairman Benton opened the committee meeting at 3:30 p.m. by asking everyone to stand for the Pledge of Allegiance. All committee members were present with the exception of Legislator Sutherland who was excused.

Mr. Kulisek moved to accept the request to reallocate Supervisor of Payroll and Employee Benefits from Grade 16 to Grade 18, seconded by Mrs. Bonelli.

Ms. Gallagher explained that a desk audit was requested, completed by the Department of Human Resources and their determination was that this position should be moved up from a Grade 16 to a Grade 18. Both the commissioner and she agree with it and request that the legislature proceed with approval.

Motion carried. All in favor.

Mr. Hines moved the request to review and discuss the Fund Balance Policy for Valley View Center for Nursing Care and Rehabilitation, seconded by Mr. Minuta.

Ms. Hablow gave the committee a brief description of the policy. She stated that they began drafting this policy over a year ago and Orange County was the first New York State to do this. She then explained this is not typical for an enterprise fund to develop a fund balance policy, because an enterprise fund is supposed to have net zero and bring in revenue that supports expenses and not operate under the anticipation of large profits or losses. Furthermore, she, the County Executive, Valley View and the Budget Department met on several occasions to develop this draft policy and in her opinion, the policy is a win-win for Valley View and Orange County. It would establish a baseline of cash reserve to be maintained at Valley View as well as provide them with time to react in the event of any interruptions and/or changes to significant revenues or expenses. This policy document is to help them make financial decisions when an opportunity presents itself by means of a capital improvement and/or equipment purchases and whether it would be appropriate to use Valley View's cash surplus or bonding. She added that the document is open for any amendments and/or considerations the legislature may have.

Mr. Anagnostakis asked if there were any changes made to the policy.

Ms. Hablow replied, she has not made any changes yet.

Mrs. Reed pointed out that recommendations and/or considerations were made at the Rules Committee meeting and it was requested that no action be taken until further information is received.

Ms. Hablow then reviewed a few language changes that may take place (see original minutes).

Mr. LaDue stated this is a working document and changes can be made at any time.

Mr. Benton reiterated that no action will be taken.

Mr. Paduch moved to approve the request to accept and appropriate NYSDOT Federal 5311 funds. The 5311 program provides formula funding to states for the purpose of supporting public transportation in areas with an urban population of less than 50,000. The current application is for Federal Fiscal Years 2019 and 2020. Funds would be used for the purchase of replacement dial-a-bus vehicles and for operating assistance payments to municipal transit operations. The total application amount is \$981,765.00 (\$647,000 for operating assistance payments: \$323,500 FFY 2019, \$323,500 FFY 2020; \$334,765; 80% Federal, 10% State and 10% Local (provided by the municipal operators) for the purchase of five replacement dial-a-bus vehicles), seconded by Mrs. Bonelli.

Ms. Richmond explained that this request is for 5311 which they have to apply for because the State releases the RFA every two years. The funding is used for the annual operating costs as well as the capital costs in cities that are considered rural with the operating costs earmarked dial-a-bus routes. The capital costs are going toward the replacement of buses. The buses that are being replaced have reached their useful life per the Transit Asset Management Plan as required by the federal government. They will receive five buses: two for the Town of Montgomery, one for the Town of Goshen and two for the city of Port Jervis and because the Town of Warwick's routes go through urban areas they will be using another source for their replacement buses as opposed to this funding. Furthermore, the local match would be paid by the municipality.

Mr. Benton asked how old the buses being replaced are and how many miles they have on them.

Ms. Richmond replied that she does not have that information but will get it and send it to the clerk.

Mr. Minuta asked what the emissions are.

Ms. Richmond replied she is unsure but thinks they may be hybrid diesel.

Mr. Kulisek commented that Westchester County now has all electric buses and he thinks this county should be moving towards that as well.

Ms. Richmond stated that she will look into that and will mention it the Transportation Council for any long-term plans.

Motion carried. All in favor.

Mr. Paduch moved to approve the request for supplemental appropriation of \$329,405.00 under proposed Capital Project No. 29 of 2020 for replacement of thirty-one (31) Dominion Imagecast voting machines. This represents year two of a five-year capital plan to replace the inventory of voting machines (bonding), seconded by Mr. Kulisek.

Mr. Green stated that these machines were used during early voting with no issues and the election inspectors found them easy to use as well as the voters. He added this passed the Rules Committee.

Mr. Benton asked if any parts can be used from the old machines.

Ms. Vandermark replied yes.

Mr. Anagnostakis clarified that these machines are not tied into the internet.

Mr. Green stated that is correct.

Motion carried. All in favor.

Mrs. Bonelli moved to approve the request for supplemental appropriation to the capital projects budget for Building and Grounds Equipment at the Government Center. This project has been approved under the 2020 Capital Plan as Project No. 71. Upon approval a new capital project will be created, \$150,000.00 (bonding), seconded by Mr. Minuta.

Mr. Titsworth stated this request is for three Dodge cargo vans to replace the old vans and referred to the attached schedule (see original minutes).

Motion carried. All in favor.

Mrs. Bonelli moved to approve the request for supplemental appropriation to the capital projects budget for Building Equipment Replacement and Installation at various Orange County locations. This project has been approved under the 2020 Capital Plan as Project No. 36. Upon approval a new capital project will be created, \$150,000.00 (bonding), seconded by Mr. Minuta.

Mr. Titsworth reviewed the Building Equipment Replacement list (see original minutes).

Motion carried. All in favor.

Mr. Paduch moved to approve the request for supplemental appropriation to the capital projects budget for ADA Improvements at various Orange County locations. This project has been approved under the 2020 Capital Plan as Project No. 53. Upon approval a new capital project will be created, \$50,000.00 (bonding), seconded by Mr. Hines.

Mr. Denega stated this is another project to assure funds are available when issues arise.

Mr. Titsworth pointed out that there is a lift at the 1887 building that has worked intermittently for years and the company has finally solved the issue, so there is no need for a replacement. There is another lift in the Newburgh Armory building with issues that needs to be fixed.

Motion carried. All in favor.

Mr. Kulisek moved to approve the request for supplemental appropriation to the capital projects budget for Asbestos and Lead Removal at various Orange County locations. This project has been approved under the 2020 Capital Plan as Project No. 39. Upon approval a new capital project will

be created, \$50,000.00 (bonding), seconded by Mrs. Bonelli.

Mr. Denega stated this is an annual request to take care of asbestos issues.

Motion carried. All in favor.

Mrs. Bonelli moved to approve the request for supplemental appropriation to the capital projects budget for Building Capital Improvements at various Orange County locations. This project has been approved under the 2020 Capital Plan as Project No. 43. Upon approval a capital project will be created, \$350,000.00 (bonding), seconded by Mr. Benton.

Mr. Titsworth reviewed the list of Building Capital Improvements at various Orange County locations (see original minutes).

Motion carried. All in favor.

Mr. Minuta moved to approve the request for supplemental appropriation to capital projects budget for Capital Improvements for the solid waste operations at the Orange County Transfer Stations #1 (Port Jervis) and #3 (New Hampton) (Paving). This project has been approved under the 2020 Capital Plan as Project No. 75. Upon approval a new capital project will be created, \$550,000.00 (bonding), seconded by Mrs. Bonelli.

Mr. Denega stated this is a paving project for the two transfer stations: Port Jervis and New Hampton. The paving cost for Port Jervis will be \$173,00.00 and a little over \$200,000.00 in New Hampton and then an additional \$165,000.00 for concrete work at the New Hampton Transfer Station. They have estimates based on their non-highway paving bids from last year, but estimates, for the new bids have not yet been received.

Motion carried. All in favor.

Mr. Minuta moved to approve the request for supplemental appropriation to create capital project to pave the back nine cart path at the Stony Ford Golf Course. Front nine cart path paving completed in 2019. This is Project No. 114 in the proposed 2020 Capital Plan, \$125,000.00 (bonding), seconded by Mrs. Bonelli.

Mr. Benton stated this request is self-explanatory, but he did ask that pictures be brought to show the committee members.

Mr. Brooks and Mr. Amodio distributed pictures to the committee members for viewing inspection.

Motion carried. All in favor.

Mr. Minuta moved the request to approve supplemental appropriation to create capital project to pave the back nine cart path at the Hickory Hill Golf Course. Front nine cart path paving completed in 2019. This is Project No. 113 in the proposed 2020 Capital Plan, \$125,000.00 (bonding), seconded by Mrs. Bonelli.

Motion carried. All in favor.

Mrs. Bonelli moved to approve the request supplemental appropriation to create capital project for improvements to various County Park facilities. This is Project No. 110 in the proposed 2020 Capital Plan, \$100,000.00 (bonding), seconded by Mr. Benton.

Mr. Amodio explained they have identified culvert replacements on the Winding Hills roadway going into the park, reviewed the list of other improvements, and distributed pictures to committee members for viewing inspection (see original minutes).

Motion carried. All in favor.

Mr. Paduch moved to approve the request for supplemental appropriation to create a capital project for parking lot and roadway improvements (micro-surface, paving and striping) to various County Park facilities. Locations for consideration: Plum Point, Winding Hills, Thomas Bull Memorial Park and sections of the Heritage Trail. This is Project No. 109 in the proposed 2020 Capital Plan, \$150,000.00 (bonding), seconded by Mrs. Bonelli.

Mr. Amodio showed the committee several pictures and stated that last year 75% of Plum Point was done so this is the second part of the paving plan. The main entrance road to Winding Hills is in bad shape; therefore, the damaged part will be removed and replaced with paving and the micro-surfacing will be from the front entrance down to the lake as well as two other sections subsequent to that next year or the following year.

Motion carried. All in favor.

Mrs. Bonelli moved to approve the request for supplemental appropriation to create capital project for improvements as required at the Stony Ford Golf Course. This is Project

No. 107 in the proposed 2020 Capital Plan,
\$25,000.00 (bonding), ~~seconded by Mr. Hines.~~
seconded by Mr. Benton.

Mr. Brooks stated this is a three-year project. They have always fallen short when it comes to improvements for the golf course throughout the year; therefore, they would like to make the commitment to improve the bunkers at both places. There is a new product called capillary concrete that they are going to use. He stated they will eliminate any bunkers that are not essential and turn them into grass bunkers then improve all other existing bunkers by removing the existing sand, installing the drainage, adding capillary concrete and putting back the white limestone. He reiterated this is for both golf courses and will be done over the next three years.

Mr. Hines clarified that two bunkers at each course is \$12,500.00 each.

Mr. Brooks stated there will be a total of four bunkers, two holes. There are two holes which is a total of four bunkers which is a total of eight. He further explained how the bunkers are installed.

Mr. Hines expressed that this is a lot of money for the bunkers and will be voting against this. He asked that he be removed as a sponsor.

Mr. Brooks stated this will be done in-house.

Mr. Hines responded that the cost is still too high.

Mr. Paduch asked if the sand for the bunker goes bad.

Mr. Brooks replied that it would have to be screened.

Discussion ensued regarding the bunkers and rounds that are played at the courses.

With several concerns from the committee members, it was agreed to withdraw this request as well as the next agenda item which was a **request for supplemental appropriation to create capital project for improvements as required at the Hickory Hill Golf Course. This Project No. 106 in the proposed 2020 Capital Plan, \$25,000.00 (bonding)**, until there is a more concrete plan moving forward.

Mr. Benton pointed out that both requests passed the Physical Services Committee; therefore, they will still go to the floor.

Mr. Paduch moved to approve the request for supplemental appropriation to enter into Supplemental Agreement #4 – D033884 with the New York State Department of Transportation to increase funding for Capital Project No. 725. The said agreement will increase funding for Preliminary Engineering, Construction/Construction Inspection along the Heritage Trail, Segment #2 – PIN #8755.98 by \$1,250,000.00 (\$1,000,000 Federal Share and \$250,000 County Share) (bonding), seconded by Mrs. Bonelli.

Mr. Amodio stated this increase began last summer when they went before the Orange County Transportation Council. He referred to the breakdown of the overall project which has been provided to committee members (see original minutes) and includes the amount of \$1,250,000.00. They estimate that federal share of the funding for Segment #2 which is 80% is \$6,764,792.00 and the other county share/outside sources is \$1,691,198.00. Furthermore, they estimate the project will cost \$8.2 million, but they do have the proper funding if the cost goes over a little.

Motion carried. All in favor.

Mr. Paduch moved to discuss deed sale parcels,
seconded by Mr. Benton.

Mr. Ruscher explained that the first and only parcel is in the Town of Montgomery (308-5-8) and has a minimum bid of \$4,000.00 and an amount bid of \$3,000.00. He recommends that the committee approve changing this to a "no," so he can do more research and get a higher bid.

The committee agreed and took no action.

The meeting adjourned at 5:20 p.m.