

**WAYS AND MEANS COMMITTEE
MINUTES**

**(REMOTELY)
TUESDAY, MAY 25, 2021
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
Michael F. Amo, Independence Party Leader
Thomas J. Faggione, Legislator
Rob Sassi, Legislator
Peter V. Tuohy, Legislator
John S. Vero, Legislator
Betsy N. Abraham, Legislative Counsel
Harold J. Porr, III., Deputy County Executive
Dan Bloomer, Director, Operations and Cost Control
Kelly Eskew, Deputy County Clerk
Damian J. Brady, Chief Assistant County Attorney
Matthew J. Nothnagle, Chief Assistant County Attorney
Stacy Butler, Senior Assistant County Attorney
Karin Hablow, Commissioner of Finance
Kerry Gallagher, Deputy Commissioner of Finance
Brendan R. Casey, Commissioner, Department of Emergency Services
Erik Denega, Commissioner, Dept. of Public Works
James S. Brooks, Commissioner of Parks, Recreation & Conservation
Alan Sorensen, Commissioner, Planning Department
Christopher Ericson, Deputy Commissioner, Health Department
Daniel G. Castricone, Risk Officer, Risk Management
Donna Strecker, Director of Finance, Valley View Center
Edward Magryta, Director, Airport
Eric Ruscher, Director, Real Property Tax Service
Deborah Slesinski, Budget Director
Gretchen Riordan, Budget Analyst
Liz Delaney, Budget Analyst
Dina Sena, Budget Analyst

Chairman Benton opened the committee meeting at 3:31 p.m. by asking everyone to stand for the Pledge of Allegiance. All committee members were present.

Mr. Castricone addressed the committee with a power point presentation regarding Cyber Security Insurance Premiums (see original minutes) which included Premiums, Monthly, Our Current Policies Are Pro-Rata (We Pay By the Day and Can Cancel At Any Time with No Penalty), and Budget Ramifications.

Mr. Kulisek moved to approve the request authorizing the conveyance of ownership of County owned properties in the City of Newburgh, New York as follows: 48 Grand Street (SBL 31-2-18), 54 Grand Street (31-2-13.2) and 62 Grand Street (SBL 31-2-19), from the County of Orange to FSH Holding, LLC in accordance with Local Law No. 12 of 2020 and authorizing the County Executive to execute any and all agreements necessary for this conveyance, subject to the review by the County Attorney for purposes of form and content, seconded by Ms. Sutherland.

Mr. Porr stated that this project has been in the works for several months. The legislature approved it a long with a couple of directives such as, an increase in price which was negotiated with the proposed owners to \$1.3 million. Discussion took place regarding the zoning that was changed from institutional to waterfront gateway which allows the kinds of uses that the company would like to build meaning hotels, restaurants, bars, etc. He confirmed that is complete and in place. One other directive made by the legislature was to put in a revert-a-clause which would not allow the new owner to flip the property and make a profit without creating what they said they would. In addition, this project brings about \$20 million of private investment with a company that has a record of proven success. This project receives a lot of support within the community; therefore, he is asking for the approval to sign the contract to move forward.

Motion carried. All in favor.

Mrs. Bonelli moved to approve the request for supplemental appropriation to the capital projects budget for the purchase of an X-ray machine for the Medical Examiner's office. This is proposed Capital Plan No. 125 in the 2021 Capital Plan, \$133,000.00 (bonding), seconded by Mr. Kulisek.

Mr. Ericson explained this request is to replace an existing piece of equipment that has been with the office since they moved to the trailer behind the Emergency Services Building. It has outlived its capacity and parts are no longer available. These funds are to purchase a new x-ray machine that will be able to go into the new building once it is constructed.

Motion carried. All in favor.

Ms. Sutherland moved to approve the request for supplemental appropriation of funds in the amount of \$569,250.00 for a proposed 2021 capital expenditure to refurbish three (3) elevator cars in the Glenmere building (Appropriated Surplus), seconded by Mr. Kulisek.

Ms. Strecker stated they are seeking \$569,250.00 to refurbish three elevator cars which are in the Glenmere Building and support the transportation of staff, residents and meal service to the facility. Plant Operations had the Otis Elevator Company do an evaluation (see attached recommendations) for refurbishing which will go out for a formal RFP. She added that they will receive approximately .70 cents to .75 cents on the dollar back in the capital component of the Medicaid rate.

Mr. Kulisek asked if the existing cars are from the same company.

Ms. Strecker replied that she is unsure but will find out.

Motion carried. All in favor.

Mr. Kulisek moved to approve the request for supplemental appropriation of funds in the amount of \$400,000.00 for a proposed 2021 capital expenditure for new walk-in coolers and freezers (Appropriated Surplus), seconded by Ms. Sutherland.

Ms. Strecker explained that this request is to replace the coolers and freezers that support the dietary department as they are 52 years old. They have had numerous repairs and the configuration is very outdated.

Motion carried. All in favor.

Mr. Kulisek moved to approve the request for supplemental appropriation of funds in the amount of \$248,400.00 for a proposed 2021 capital expenditure to replace the emergency generator in the Couser building (Appropriated Surplus), seconded by Mr. Benton.

Ms. Strecker stated they are seeking these funds to replace the generator which is used as an alternate emergency power source for the facility. It is from 1967 and has reached it's useful life.

Motion carried. All in favor.

Ms. Sutherland moved to approve the request for supplemental appropriation to capital projects budget to finance the upgrade of the Auditorium in Emergency Services Center and command center equipment, with the additional installation of new digital signage for the main lobby of the building. To include, but not limited to, new digital 4k video wall, new digital microphones to conform with federal standards, IP cameras for broadcast and recording, digital audio systems, main lobby signage, and lighting control. This is proposed Capital Project No. 70, \$460,000.00 (bonding), seconded by Mr. Minuta.

Mr. Casey explained this is the "refresh" for the auditorium that they have been working on for the last couple of years as some of the technology has stopped working. The companies who installed the original equipment has stopped supporting the platforms, so it needs to be upgraded. He added that they have been patching the equipment together, but it has become difficult as the auditorium gets a lot of use especially now during COVID-19.

Motion carried. All in favor.

Mrs. Bonelli moved to approve the request for supplemental appropriation to capital projects budget to finance the removal and replacement of the Emergency Services data center CRAC (Computer Room Air Conditioning) units, with newer, more reliable, and efficient units. This is proposed Capital Project No. 69, \$252,000.00 (bonding), seconded by Mr. Minuta.

Mr. Casey stated this is to remove and replace the CRAC (Computer Room Air Conditioning) units which are in the data center and run 365 days a year, 24 hours a day. There is a lot of electronic equipment stored in the room that needs to operate at a certain temperature. He pointed out that they are the original units that came with the building in 2008 and they have been repaired several times.

Motion carried. All in favor.

Mr. Kulisek moved to approve the request to accept and appropriate grant funds from the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) for the Snow Removal Equipment Building at the Orange County Airport. Upon approval, the funds will increase existing Capital Project No. 566, \$9,955.00, seconded by Ms. Sutherland.

Mr. Denega stated this request is additional appropriation to the design grant for snow removal at the building. The first design bid was rejected due to high bids last year and it was re-bid this year. These funds were to allow for additional resources to prepare for the second and any other modifications relating to the Wicks Law.

Mr. Kulisek asked if there any plans to relocate the salt storage unit.

Mr. Magryta replied no, it will not interfere with the snow removal building.

Motion carried. All in favor.

Mrs. Bonelli moved to approve the request to accept and appropriate funds in the amount of \$93,880.00 from the City of Middletown for the repair of the Heritage Trail Culvert 60" Sewer Sleeve Installation under Dolsontown Road. Upon approval, funds will be added to Capital Project No. 725, seconded by Mr. Kulisek.

Mr. Brooks explained that during the course of construction, the City of Middletown agreed to repay the county which will be added back to the capital project.

Motion carried. All in favor.

Mrs. Bonelli moved to approve the request for authorization to apply for, and accept a Federal Transit Administration grant, the matching NYS grant and the local match. These funds are apportioned to Orange County via the Federal 5339 funding program. The total FTA Grant amount is \$530,630.00, the NYS

match is \$66,329.00 and the local share is \$66,329.00. The local share consists of a county share of \$66,329.00. The project consists of updating an existing park-and-ride lot. It will include improvements to comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act. The upgrades will enhance safety for riders and encourage commuter rideshare activities, in Orange County (bonding), seconded by Mr. Benton.

Mr. Sorensen stated this project is for the repaving and ADA improvements to the Warwick Park and Ride.

Motion carried. All in favor.

Mr. Hines moved to approve the request authorization to apply for, and accept a Federal Transit Administration grant, the matching NYS grant and the local match. These funds are apportioned to Orange County via the Federal 5307 funding program. The total FTA Grant county share is \$14,400,000.00, the NYS match is \$1,800,000.00 and the local share is \$1,800,000.00. The local share consists of a county share of \$1,800,000.00. The project consists of the creation of the Schunnemunk Rail Trail which once acquired by Orange County and permanently protected, would facilitate the creation of bicycle and pedestrian connections to the Salisbury Mills train station, Chester Park & Ride and Dial-a-Bus service in the Village/Town of Chester. The proposed Schunnemunk Rail Trail would dramatically improve public transit use and services by providing pedestrian and bicyclist connections to existing transit facilities while also opening opportunities to expand service with this area of Orange County. The grant application for the use of 5307 funds will include ROW Acquisitions, ROW Incidentals, Engineering & Design, Construction, Construction Review, Public Art and maintenance (bonding), seconded by Mr. Minuta.

(Amended at Rules to include ROW ACQUISITIONS, as per Planning Dept.)

Mr. Sorensen