

**WAYS AND MEANS COMMITTEE
MINUTES**

**WEDNESDAY, MAY 29, 2019
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
Barry J. Cheney, Legislator
Antoinette Reed, Legislative Counsel
Dan Bloomer, Director of Operations and Cost Control
Matthew Nothnagle, Chief Asst. County Attorney
Erik Denega, Commissioner, Dept. of Public Works
Travis B. Ewald, Deputy Commissioner, Engineering Division
Gary Polhemus, Senior Sanitary Engineer, Environmental Facilities and Services
James S. Brooks, Commissioner of Parks, Recreation & Conservation
Mike Amodio, Deputy Commissioner, Dept. of Parks, Recreation & Conservation
Brendan R. Casey, Commissioner of Emergency Services
Craig Cherry, Deputy Commissioner, Emergency Services/ Police Liaison Services
John McCarey, Director, Real Property Tax Service
Laurence LaDue, Commissioner, Valley View Center
Donna Strecker, Director of Finance, Valley View Center
Deborah Slesinski, Budget Director
Deanna Crawford, 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 Minuta who arrived at 3:43 p.m.

Mr. Hines moved to approve the request appropriation of proposed Capital Project No. 68 in the 2018 Capital Plan in the amount of \$40,000.00 for Phase Two of the Renovations and Improvements to the Emergency Services Center and Fire Training Center. Phase Two is for the construction of a Tech Rescue garage at the Fire Training Center. The \$40,000.00 is for the engineering and environmental review (SEQRA) portion of the entire \$400,000.00 (bonding), seconded by Ms. Sutherland.

Mr. Casey stated that this is part two of the overall five-year plan for the Fire Training Center. Most of the equipment is stored in trailers so this garage would have three bays, an office and some storage space.

Motion carried. All in favor with the exception of Legislator Minuta who had not yet arrived. Mrs. Bonelli moved the request for supplemental appropriation of proposed Capital Project No. 69 in the 2019 Capital Plan in the amount of \$300,000.00 for Law Enforcement GPS Dispatch Support (bonding), seconded by Ms. Sutherland.

Mr. Casey stated this request is for the new modems and AVL's in police cars that needs to be replaced because of technology upgrades.

Mr. Cherry added that the system they have now was bought in 2010 and can no longer be repaired. Over 250 police cars need these new modems. They are also moving over to a new platform of broadband with a great price that is a decrease to what they currently pay.

Motion carried. All in favor with the exception of Legislator Minuta who had not yet arrived.

Mr. Paduch moved the request approval and appropriation of funds in the amount of \$50,000.00 for a proposed 2019 capital expenditure to upgrade food service equipment (Interfund Revenue), seconded by Ms. Sutherland.

Mr. LaDue explained that this is a yearly request for \$50,000.00 for kitchen equipment on a watch list that is maintained (see original minutes).

Motion carried. All in favor with the exception of Legislator Minuta who had not yet arrived.

Mr. Hines moved the request approval and appropriation of funds in the amount of \$50,000.00 for a proposed 2019 capital expenditure to continue upgrading nursing mechanical lifters (Interfund Revenue), seconded by Mr. Paduch.

Mr. LaDue stated this is also a yearly request to continue upgrading nursing medical lifters in the amount of \$50,000.00.

Motion carried. All in favor with the exception of Legislator Minuta who had not yet arrived.

Ms. Sutherland moved the request and approval and appropriation of funds in the amount of \$735,000.00 for a proposed 2019 capital expenditure to replace roof top units (RTU's) that provide heating, cooling and ventilation in the Simon and Glenmere buildings (Interfund Revenue), seconded by Mr. Kulisek.

Mr. LaDue explained that this is to replace rooftop units that provide heating, cooling, and ventilation in the Simon and Glenmere buildings and is a separate project from the Couser HVAC project. All the units are from 1996 or 1997.

Mr. Benton asked how long it will take to complete the project.

Mr. LaDue replied that it depends on how long it takes to go out to bid and receive the bids.

Mr. Benton clarified that it will not be complete for this summer.

Mr. LaDue stated that is correct, it will not be done by summer.

Motion carried. All in favor.

Mr. Minuta moved the request for supplemental appropriation to create a Capital Project for cart path paving and micro sealing the parking lot and drop-off circle at the Hickory Hill Golf Course. This project is not included in the proposed 2019 Capital Plan but would replace Capital Project No. 105, \$157,500.00 (bonding), seconded by Mr. Hines.

Mr. Amodio stated this request is for the front nine car path at the Hickory Hill Golf Course. It is approximately 1,200 tons of asphalt at \$94.00 a ton which comes out to be \$113,000.00, but they are requesting \$120,000.00 and the Micro Seal Parking/Drop-off Circle is estimated to cost \$37,500.00 which brings the total cost to \$157,500.00. He added that the last time this was repaired was in 1991-1992, when the golf course was built.

Motion carried. All in favor.

Mrs. Bonelli moved the request for supplemental appropriation to create a Capital Project for parking lot and roadway improvements (paving & striping) to various County Park facilities. This is proposed Capital Project No. 110 in the 2019 Capital Plan, \$93,300.00 (bonding), seconded by Mr. Minuta.

Mr. Amodio stated that this project consists of 11 locations for the parking lot striping and referred to the spreadsheet that lists all locations (see original minutes).

Motion carried. All in favor.

Mrs. Bonelli moved the request for supplemental appropriation to create Capital Project in the amount of \$115,000.00 to pave the front nine cart path at the Stony Ford Golf Course. The original estimated paving request was \$75,000.00 which will increase to \$115,000.00. This is Project No. 113 in the proposed 2019 Capital Plan, \$115,000.00 (bonding), seconded by Mr. Minuta.

Mr. Amodio stated that this request is for the front nine at the Stony Ford Golf Course, estimated at 11,050 tons and it was last paved in the early 1990's.

Motion carried. All in favor.

Mr. Minuta moved the request for supplemental appropriation to increase Capital Project No. 737-19 in the amount of \$48,000.00 for the purchase of a 2019 Bobcat Excavator (\$42K), and upgrade Gator model from original request of January 2019 from \$20,569.00 to \$26,236.00 (\$6K). This is proposed Project No. 104 (\$200K) in the 2019 Capital Plan, \$48,000.00 (bonding), seconded by Mr. Hines.

Mr. Amodio reviewed the items with the committee (see original minutes). He stated that they are needed at two or different locations, so it is important that it be approved.

Motion carried. All in favor.

Mr. Minuta moved the request for supplemental appropriation to the Capital Projects budget to the Orange County DPW/Environmental Facilities & Services Landfill/Transfer Stations Leachate Management, \$290,000.00 (bonding), seconded by Mr. Benton.

Mr. Denega introduced Gary Polhemus, Senior Sanitary Engineer, Environmental Facilities and Services. He stated that the Finance Department asked that this project be closed out because it has been aging. The intent is that the original capital project will be closed out and a new one started with the remaining balance of \$290,000.00. It is related to Leachate Management Solutions around the transfer station facilities. Chairman Cheney contacted him earlier today inquiring about the status on the consent orders because a lot of this is based on direction from the DEC.

Mr. Hines asked if any of this will be done in-house.

Mr. Denega replied it will be a combination of the two.

Motion carried. All in favor.

Mr. Hines moved the request for supplemental appropriation to the Capital Projects budget for the Rehabilitation of the Beaver Dam Lake Dam. Upon approval, the funds will increase existing Capital Project No. 852, \$175,000.00 (bonding), seconded by Mr. Minuta.

Mr. Denega stated that there were funds that were not released because they were under the Comptroller's approval for the project. There have been some changes that have occurred and based on the estimates received so far, they will need the rest of the funds that they were hoping not to have to release. The monies they do not need will not be used.

Motion carried. All in favor.

Mrs. Bonelli moved the request for supplemental appropriation to the Capital Projects budget for preliminary engineering and design of Bowman Bridge Replacement in the Town of Blooming Grove. This project has been approved under the 2019 Capital Plan as Project No. 54. Upon approval, a new capital project will be created, \$75,000.00 (bonding), seconded by Mr. Hines.

Mr. Ewald stated this request is for the monies for design for the Bowman Bridge which will be done in-house, but also have a consultant for hydraulic purposes. It is one of the bridges that needs potential rehabilitation or replacement and is located on Cherry Hill Road in the Town of Blooming Grove. It has a 42-foot span with scour issues and the reinforced concrete deck is showing deterioration. The money would be for in-house design which is scheduled for 2021 construction.

Motion carried. All in favor.

Ms. Sutherland moved the request for supplemental appropriation to the Capital Projects budget for preliminary engineering and design of Lake Horton Bridge Replacement in the Town of Mount Hope. This project has been approved under the 2019 Capital plan as Project No. 43. Upon approval, a new capital project will be created, \$125,000.00 (bonding), seconded by Mr. Minuta.

Mr. Ewald stated that Lake Horton Bridge is on New Vernon Road in the Town of Mount Hope and has a significant amount of traffic. The bridge has a 45-foot span and there are a few endangered species. They are anticipating that a consultant will be doing the design.

Motion carried. All in favor.

Mrs. Bonelli moved the request for supplemental appropriation to the Capital Projects budget for preliminary engineering and design of Pumpkin Swamp Bridge Replacement in the Town of Goshen. This project has been approved under the 2019 Capital plan as Project No. 50. Upon approval, a new capital project will be Created, \$125,000.00 (bonding), seconded by Ms. Sutherland.

Mr. Ewald explained that Pumpkin Swamp Bridge is located on Pumpkin Swamp Road in the Town of Goshen and has average daily trips of almost 3,500 cars a day. It was built in 1974 and has a 63-foot long span.

Motion carried. All in favor.

Mr. Paduch moved the request for supplemental appropriation to the Capital Projects budget for drainage improvements. This project has been approved under the 2019 Capital Plan as Project No. 37. Upon approval, a new capital project will be created, \$150,000.00 (bonding), seconded by Mrs. Bonelli.

Mr. Denega stated this is a semi-annual capital project for general drainage culvert replacements.

Motion carried. All in favor.

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

The first deed sale parcels are located in the Town of Deerpark (29-8-4, 29-9-4.1, 49-1-15) and all meet the minimum bids; therefore, Mr. McCarey recommended they be approved. The fourth parcel is in the Town of Highlands (16-4-2) and has a minimum bid of \$50,000.00 and an amount bid of \$25,000.00. Mr. McCarey recommends that it be approved because the demo charges are included. The fifth parcel is in the Town of Newburgh (99-1-8.1) and has a minimum bid of \$3,500.00 and an amount bid of \$4,500.00. He recommends that it be approved. Parcels six and seven are in the Town of Warwick (6-4-15, 73-5-28.1). Mr. McCarey recommends that they both be approved.

Mr. Minuta asked that parcel number four be voted on separately.

Motion carried. All in favor of Mr. McCarey's recommendation to approve deed sale parcels Nos. 1, 2, 3, 5, 6, and 7.

Motion carried. All in favor of Mr. McCarey's recommendation to approve deed sale parcel No. 4 with the exception of Legislator Minuta who abstained.

Mr. McCarey stated that the eighth deed sale parcel (241-1-5) has a minimum bid of \$25,000.00 and an amount bid of \$7,500.00; therefore, he recommends that it be denied.

Motion carried. All in favor of Mr. McCarey's recommendation to deny deed sale parcel No. 8.

The ninth and tenth parcel is a joint piece of property located in the Town of Newburgh (60-4-1). The minimum bid is \$3,000.00 and there was no amount bid on parcel nine and an amount bid of \$3,000.00 for parcel number ten. He explained that there is no bid on the ninth parcel because it was tabled in January to retain for county parklands. The property is adjacent to Cronomer Hill Park and will become part of it if accepted. He added that it will be off the tax rolls.

Mr. Benton asked what he recommends.

Mr. McCarey replied that if they sell it to a private party, the county may end up getting it back at some point. Ideally, it would be better to include it as part of the park's property.

Mr. Benton commented that he does not see it as useful parkland.

Mrs. Reed asked if there is public access to the property.

Mr. McCarey replied that there are a couple of dead-end streets that run into it as well as frontage on Route 52.

Mrs. Reed commented that she is concerned about taking precedence when it comes to taking title to lakes because the taxes should be paid by the Homeowner's Association.

Mr. Kulisek asked if the property will be designated as parkland or will it be taken under county ownership.

Mrs. Reed replied that is also a concern because once something is designated parkland, you must go through the process of alienation to get rid of it if you want it sold. It raises a lot of concerns, she just wants everyone to be aware.

Mr. McCarey stated that if they took the property and put it in the county's name, it may be able to be used for wetlands in the future, but he still has mixed feelings about it.

Mrs. Reed mentioned that her other concern is whether the DEC will come down and say that something must be repaired right away. She is asking that the committee understand the responsibility that will be taken on.

Mr. Benton clarified that Mrs. Reed feels the committee should not take any action and have the Commissioner of Finance come to the next committee meeting with a proposal.

Mrs. Reed stated that at this point, the committee should table it and speak with the Law Department to figure out a way the liability can be limited.

Mr. Benton commented that the parkland is not useful.

Ms. Sutherland asked why they cannot sell the parcel to the tenth bidder.

Mr. Benton clarified with the committee that they would be taking the bidder's \$3,000.00 and if so, then he needs a motion.

Mr. Paduch moved to approve deed sale
parcel No. 10, seconded by Ms. Sutherland.

Motion carried. All in favor with the
exception of Legislator Anagnostakis
who abstained.

Mrs. Bonelli moved the request approval of annual adjustments necessary to clean up 2018 Year End Balances in various departments, seconded by Ms. Sutherland.

Ms. Slesinski stated that this is the department's annual resolution that is required as one of the final steps to close out the 2018 books.

Motion carried. All in favor.

The last agenda item was a discussion regarding the 2020 Financial Forecast Summary.

Mr. Benton stated that everyone should have received the 2020 forecast for the upcoming year to review and the budget process will begin in a few weeks. He asked if anyone has any questions regarding this.

The committee reviewed a few budget lines with Ms. Slesinski.

The meeting adjourned at 5:02 p.m.