

**WAYS AND MEANS COMMITTEE  
MINUTES**

**(REMOTELY)  
TUESDAY, JUNE 22, 2021  
3:30 P.M.**

PRESENT: Leigh J. Benton, Chairman  
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  
Thomas J. Faggione, Legislator  
Peter V. Tuohy, Legislator  
Betsy N. Abraham, Legislative Counsel  
Harold J. Porr, III, Deputy County Executive  
Dan Bloomer, Director, Operations and Cost Control  
Matthew J. Nothnagle, Chief Assistant County Attorney  
Stacy Butler, Senior Assistant County Attorney  
Alison Tyack, Director of Personnel Management, Human Resources  
Erin Sztendor, Senior Accountant, Finance Department  
Erik Denega, Commissioner, Dept. of Public Works  
Robert Gray, Deputy Commissioner, Dept. of Public Works/EF&S  
Brian Titsworth, Deputy Commissioner of Infrastructure Services  
(Buildings and Grounds), Dept. of Public Works  
James S. Brooks, Commissioner of Parks, Recreation & Conservation  
Deanna P. Crawford, Deputy Commissioner, Parks, Recreation & Conservation  
Christopher Ericson, Deputy Commissioner, Health Department  
Edward Magryta, Director, Airport  
Eric Ruscher, Director, Real Property Tax Service  
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 with the exception of Legislator Anagnostakis who was absent.

Mr. Minuta moved to accept the request for supplemental appropriation to the Capital Projects budget in the amount of \$2,000,000.00. Funds are for the contracting of a construction management company for the oversight of construction of a Medical Examiner's building (Proposed Capital Project No. 73) (bonding), seconded by Mr. Kulisek.

Mr. Ericson stated the funds being requested are another installment for construction going toward the capital project for the Medical Examiner's building as described in the legislative request (see original minutes).

Mr. Benton pointed out that extensive discussion took place at yesterday's Physical Services Committee meeting regarding the building and specifications and clarified that this request is the financial portion.

Mr. Ericson stated that is correct.

Mr. Minuta commented he hopes his fellow legislators are in support of this as it a construction manager is important for the current level of design.

Mr. Kulisek asked if the cost for construction management a percentage is or by square footage.

Mr. Minuta replied depending on the size of the project, the range is between 1% and 3% for the construction.

Mr. Ericson indicated that the funds associated with this can be carried along to the construction phase. Although there is \$2 million associated for the capital bond, it does not mean that the \$2 million is used solely for the construction management company.

Mr. Paduch asked if three bidders will be required because it is important.

Mr. Titsworth replied this will go out for an RFP through Bid Net and there is no limit on how many bidders there can be.

Motion carried. All in favor.

Mr. Kulisek moved to approve the request for supplemental appropriation to the capital projects budget for Improvements to County Park Facilities. This project has been approved under the 2021 Capital project Plan as Project No. 102. Upon approval, a new capital project will be created, \$100,000.00 (bonding), seconded by Ms. Sutherland.

Mr. Brooks explained this is part of the continued maintenance and upgrade throughout the parks facilities that have been neglected over the last few years. For this project, they are earmarking funds for the retaining wall at Hickory Hill Golf Course, replacement of the floors at the Arboretum and the Boathouse which are original, bathroom partitions at both facilities as well as the siding. He added that the pumps are currently being replaced at the Hickory Hill Golf Course and he is also looking to replace the electrical wiring at Thomas Bull Memorial Park.

Motion carried. All in favor.

Mrs. Bonelli moved to approve the request for supplemental appropriation to the capital projects budget in the amount of \$350,000.00 to OCSD#1 to purchase equipment at a cost of \$350,000.00 (surplus). This project has been approved under

the 2021 Capital Plan as Project No. 111. Upon approval, a new capital project will be created, seconded by Mr. Kulisek.

Mr. Denega stated this request is for the Sewer District, not for the transfer stations and was discussed at the Physical Services Committee meeting yesterday.

Mr. Gray explained there are two items; a CCTV Truck Uplifting which would replace obsolete equipment and the other is a roll off truck with trade-in as the old roll has reached its useful life.

Motion carried. All in favor.

Ms. Sutherland moved to approve the request to accept and appropriate a grant from the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) for the Snow Removal Equipment Building (Construction) at the Orange County Airport. Upon approval, the funds will increase existing Capital Project No. 566, \$949,193.00 (Federal Share 90%: \$854,273.00; State Share 5%: \$47,460.00; County Share 5%: \$47,460.00) (bonding), seconded by Mr. Hines.

Mr. Magryta explained that this project relates to the SRA building which was a rebid from last year where the bids were too high and after speaking with the district office, he believes this will be moving forward and the grant will be received by the end of this month.

Motion carried. All in favor.

Mr. Kulisek moved to approve the request to accept and appropriate a grant from the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) to Rehabilitate Transient Apron (Construction) at the Orange County Airport. Upon approval, the funds will increase existing Capital Project No. 562, \$686,986.00 (Federal Share 90%: \$618,287.00; State Share 5%: \$34,349.00; County Share 5%: \$34,350.00) (bonding), seconded by Mrs. Bonelli.

Mr. Magryta stated this request is to rehabilitate an apron in front of the terminal building and fuel farm which has reached its useful life. It will be resurfaced with asphalt because there is a lot of jet traffic from transient operations that come in and out of the airport. He added that this funding is for re-doing the pavement which will help with the charter business and increased jet traffic business.

Motion carried. All in favor.

Mr. Kulisek moved to approve the request to accept and appropriate a grant from the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) for the Airport Coronavirus Response Grant Program (ACRGP) for Grounds Equipment at the Orange County Airport. Upon approval, a new capital project will be created, \$13,000.00, seconded by Ms. Sutherland.

Mr. Magryta explained that this is the second tranche of funding being given to airports in relation to COVID-19. The first set of funding received last year was for \$69,000.00 and this year will be in the amount of \$13,000.00 which is open-ended.

Motion carried. All in favor.

Mr. Kulisek moved to approve the request to create one (1) Assistant Supervisor of Payroll and Employee Benefits, Grade 14 position, seconded by Mr. Minuta.

Ms. Tyack stated this request is to create an additional position in the Payroll Department which is within the Department of Finance. The department currently has one Supervisor of Payroll Employee Benefits and a staff of three principal payroll clerks. She added that the Department of Human Resources feels that the complexity of the payroll process has grown as there are five bargaining units, the management plan, etc.

Mr. Minuta asked if the workload has increased or decreased.

Ms. Tyack replied over the last year, there was a huge increase.

Motion carried. All in favor.

Mr. Kulisek moved to approve the request to reduce previously authorized bond resolutions for various completed capital projects. The request would facilitate the closing of the completed projects and reduce the authorized but unissued debt that exceeded the actual borrowings (bonding), seconded by Mr. Hines.

Ms. Sztendor reported that there are certain departments who have projects they are ready to close, so to do that they have to lower the budget of the unspent bonding and close the projects.

Motion carried. All in favor.

Mr. Paduch moved to approve the request that the capital project budgets be adjusted due to unborrowed amounts that have passed their 10-year life and are now deemed repealed. The County's authorized and unissued bonds will also be decreased, seconded by Mrs. Bonelli.

Ms. Sztendor stated that anything that has passed their ten-year life needs to be adjusted for the unspent portion of the budget.

Motion carried. All in favor.

Mrs. Bonelli moved to approve the request to return any unspent funding back to its originating source for completed capital projects in preparation to close said projects, seconded by Mr. Minuta.

Motion carried. All in favor.

Mr. Paduch moved to approve the request to transfer any unspent revenues from completed capital projects to debt service in preparation to close said projects, seconded by Ms. Sutherland.

Motion carried. All in favor.

Ms. Sztendor addressed the next agenda item which was a monthly update regarding the County of Orange Sales Tax Received Year-To-Date, County Portion Only (see original minutes).

The next agenda item was an update regarding the Budget Department.

Ms. Riordan explained that the Capital Review Committee has completed the review of 110 proposed capital projects this month, position budgeting was completed on June 4<sup>th</sup> and the first of the growth factors to calculate the tax levy number was received and is 1.02% this year. The Budget Department continues to work on and implement the Hyperion software and has of June 18<sup>th</sup>, there are 341 full and part-time vacant positions with a year-to-date savings of \$11.7 million.

With no questions asked, the committee moved on to discuss deed sale parcels.

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

Mr. Ruscher stated the first deed sale parcel is in the Town of Blooming Grove (28-5-1, 28-5-19.1) and has a minimum bid of \$7,000.00 and an amount bid of \$7,000.00. He recommends it be approved. Parcel number two in the Town of Deerpark (48-1-22) has a minimum bid of \$2,600.00 and amount bid of \$2,800.00, therefore, he recommends that it be approved. The third deed sale parcel is in the Town of Monroe, Village of Harriman (103-2-3) and has a minimum bid of \$67,500.00 and amount bid of \$20,000.00. Mr. Ruscher recommends that it be denied because he can get more money for it. Parcel number four is in the Town of Mount Hope (102-1-18), has a minimum bid of \$4,500.00 and amount bid of \$5,500.00. He stated that originally, he recommended this parcel be approved, but is asking that it be approved because the information he was waiting on has been received. The fifth and sixth parcels are in the Town of New Windsor (47-1-30.222, 60-1-29). Mr. Ruscher recommends that the committee approve the fifth parcel and deny the sixth. Parcel number seven in the Town of Newburgh (11-1-37.1) has a minimum bid of \$15,000.00 and amount bid of \$11,500.00 which has increased since last month, therefore, he asks that it be approved.

Motion carried. All in favor of accepting Mr. Ruscher's recommendation to approve deed sale parcels Nos. 1, 2, 4, 5, and 7, and deny parcel Nos. 3 and 6.

The first set of parcels on page 2 are in the Town of Newburgh (63-1-44.2, 88-4-1). Mr. Ruscher recommends they be approved because they meet the minimum bid. Deed sale parcels 3, 4, 5, and 6 are all in the Town of Wallkill (69-1-13.2, 71-2-55.4). He pointed out that parcels 4, 5, and 6 are the same piece of property with three different bidders. He recommends that the committee only approve parcel number 7. The last parcel is in the Town of Warwick (104-1-11.1), has a minimum bid of \$5,000.00 and an amount bid of \$4,000.00. Mr. Ruscher recommends that it be approved because it is landlocked.

Motion carried. All in favor of accepting Mr. Ruscher's recommendation to approve deed sale parcels Nos. 1, 2, 6, and 7, and deny parcel Nos. 3, 4, and 5.

The meeting adjourned at 4:31 p.m.