

WARREN COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

COMMITTEE: PUBLIC WORKS

DATE: AUGUST 25, 2020

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:

SUPERVISORS: CONOVER
HOGAN
LEGETT
BRAYMER
BRUNO
MAGOWAN
MERLINO
STROUGH
WILD

OTHERS PRESENT:

KEVIN HAJOS, SUPERINTENDENT OF PUBLIC WORKS
TIM BENWAY, DIRECTOR OF PARKS, RECREATION & RAILROAD
FRANK THOMAS, CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD
KEVIN B. GERAGHTY, BUDGET OFFICER
RYAN MOORE, COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR
AMANDA ALLEN, CLERK OF THE BOARD
MARY ELIZABETH KISSANE, COUNTY ATTORNEY
SUPERVISORS BEATY
DICKINSON
DRISCOLL
FRASIER
SEEBER
SIMPSON
ROBERT BLAIS, MAYOR, VILLAGE OF LAKE GEORGE
TAMMIE DELORENZO, ASSISTANT TO THE COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR
LEXIE DELUREY, DIRECTOR, REAL PROPERTY TAX SERVICES
LEISA GRANT, PRINCIPLE ACCOUNT CLERK, TOURISM DEPARTMENT
DON LEHMAN, DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS
JEREMY SCRIME, SENIOR COMPUTER SYSTEMS ANALYST/PROGRAMMER
MIKE SWAN, COUNTY TREASURER
SARAH MCLENITHAN, DEPUTY CLERK OF THE BOARD

Please note, the following contains a summarization of the August 25, 2020 meeting of the Public Works Committee; the meeting in its entirety can be viewed on the Warren County website using the following link: <https://warrencountyny.gov/gov/comm/Archive/2020/works/>

Note: As per Governor Cuomo's Executive Order 202.1: "Article 7 of the Public Officers Law, to the extent necessary to permit any public body to meet and take such actions authorized by the law without permitting in public in-person access to meetings and authorizing such meetings to be held remotely by conference call or similar service, provided that the public has the ability to view or listen to such proceeding and that such meetings are recorded and later transcribed". All of the Committee members in attendance participated via video or teleconference, except for Supervisors Magowan and Merlino who were physically present.

Mr. Conover called the meeting of the Public Works Committee to order at 10:46 a.m.

Motion was made by Ms. Hogan, seconded by Mr. Bruno and carried unanimously to approve the minutes of the prior Committee meeting, subject to correction by the Clerk of the Board.

Copies of the DPW and Parks, Recreation & Railroad agendas were distributed to those in attendance, those participating remotely accessed the agendas via the Warren County website. Copies of the agendas are on file with the meeting minutes.

Commencing the review of the Parks, Recreation & Railroad agenda, Kevin Hajos, *Superintendent of Public Works*, presented the following requests:

- 1- To fill the vacant position of Up Yonda - Naturalist #2, *Annual Salary \$43,605*, due to resignation.

Mr. Leggett asked if there was an immediate need to fill the position and Mr. Hajos replied affirmatively. He said he did not foresee filling this position before October 1st because it would take time to find applicants who met the qualifications. He stated both of the Naturalist positions, as well as the Director, worked with the programs within the schools, in addition to handling all of the maintenance on the grounds at Up Yonda Farm Environmental Education Center, including the painting, mowing, weedwacking, cleaning, etc. He said with the ongoing pandemic they were changing the way they handled the programs held there by either doing them online or going to the schools themselves and holding the programs outside preventing staff from having to be in the classroom. He apprised he would not be in favor of cutting the staff down to two because the upkeep consisted of a significant amount of work.

A discussion ensued during which Mr. Hajos noted the salary for this position, as well as those of the other Naturalist and Director, were paid for by the Up Yonda Trust. Mr. Conover stated a financial trust was established when the property was conveyed to the County and the dividends from that trust supported the budget for Up Yonda Farm Environmental Education Center.

Motion was made by Mr. Leggett, seconded by Mr. Strough and carried unanimously to approve the request and forward same to the Personnel & Administration Committee for reporting purposes. *A copy of the Notice of Intent to Fill Vacant Position form is on file with the minutes.*

- 2 - To authorize acceptance of a viewing scope donated by The Friends of Up Yonda to be installed at the summit of Up Yonda Farm Environmental Education Center.

Tim Benway, *Director, Parks, Recreation & Railroad*, he would like the Chairman to send a letter thanking them for this generous donation. He said the viewing scope would be placed at the summit by the display board of the lake.

Mr. Conover acknowledged The Friends of Up Yonda, as they had previously donated two wooden benches for the viewing area and a beehive for the auditorium.

Motion was made by Mr. Magowan, seconded by Mr. Bruno and carried unanimously to approve the request and the necessary resolution was authorized for the September 18th Board meeting. *A copy of the resolution request form is on file with the minutes.*

- 3 - For a transfer of funds in the amount of \$4,600 from the Contingent Account, *Budget Code A.1990 469*, to Budget Code A.7113 417, *Railroad, Water/Sewer/Taxes*, to cover tax and utility costs associated with the Warren County railroad.

Mr. Benway advised there was a shortfall in the County Railroad budget and funding was required to pay for the utilities and taxes; he explained he had originally anticipated using the funds received from the contract with Revolution Rail Co.; however, he noted, the manner in which the contract was structured required them to make six equal installment payments and he would not have enough money to pay the amount due until all of their payments had been made.

Mr. Leggett asked if the funds would be reimbursed to the Contingent Account once the payments were received from Revolution Rail Co. and Mr. Hajos replied in the negative. Mr. Hajos explained when the contract with Revolution Rail Co. was pro-rated due to their late start and what portion of the tracks they would be using, it had caused a reduction in revenue which did not allow sufficient funding to cover the cost of the utilities and taxes for the railroad property for this year. He mentioned moving forward into next year he believed the revenue received from the contract with Revolution Rail Co. should cover the cost of the utilities.

Motion was a motion by Mr. Strough, seconded by Mr. Leggett and carried unanimously to approve the request and forward same to the Finance Committee. *A copy of the Request for Transfer of Funds is on file with the minutes.*

In regard to the Swede Fire Tower, Mr. Benway stated the trail had been fully cut out by Lyme Adirondack Timberlands I, LLC and the signs had been made for it, but it was about to close from September 10th through December which meant the County had to halt working on the trail for the next few months. He said his request for his department to continue work on the trail was denied by Lyme Adirondack Timberlands I, LLC; therefore, he advised, work would not start back up until December if the weather permitted or it would have to wait until Spring of 2021 when they would bring materials to the tower. He added the signs had been made, but they would not be placed until the trail was open to the public.

Proceeding to the Referral/Pending Items portion of the agenda, Mr. Hajos apprised the recommendation at the last Committee meeting concerning the agreement with Adirondack Safari Tent Co., LLC was to terminate the agreement, but the Committee had to authorize this and then next year an RFP (*Request for Proposal*) would be required. Mary Elizabeth Kissane, *County Attorney*, advised the Committee needed to make a decision and then her Office would execute documents accordingly.

Mr. Leggett asked if terminating the contract made more work for the County and Mr. Hajos responded he believed terminating the agreement was the most sensible avenue to take because if they decided to do some type of "Glamping" on the property in the future they had an RFP to use as a reference. He stated an RFP could be released at the end of September or early October of this year with the possibility of having a contract in place by December if they received any responses, and if not going into next year they could look for other uses to rent the property. Ryan Moore, *County Administrator*, added he believed the County Fairgrounds property was an untapped resource that he would like to see an RFP for any type of recreational activities there in addition to "Glamping".

Ms. Hogan questioned whether the County was justified in terminating the agreement and Ms. Kissane replied affirmatively. Ms. Kissane explained the contract had to be terminated for cause and because Adirondack Safari Tent Co., LLC had not met any of the benchmarks that were included in the contract for this year, including payment, she felt there were a few reasons they could terminate the contract. Ms. Hogan asked if the County's lack of response on their request harmed that justification in anyway and Ms. Kissane replied in the negative.

A discussion ensued following which a motion was made by Ms. Hogan and seconded by Mr. Bruno to terminate the lease with Adirondack Safari Tent Co., LLC.

Mr. Strough asked why they were putting an RFP out for recreational use of the County Fairgrounds property for 2022 and not attempting to get something in place for 2021; Mr. Conover responded if the Board approved terminating the contract an RFP could be released this Fall for recreational use of the property for 2021 and beyond. Ms. Braymer questioned what the lease indicated in terms of the County's ability to terminate and Mr. Conover replied much like most leases it would need to be terminated for cause and because they had not paid the County the money owed in June of this year the County was justified in terminating the lease. He said Adirondack Safari Tent Co., LLC had requested the County waive this fee, but no action was ever taken on that request; he added terminating the lease would be the formal action they were taking.

A discussion ensued during which Ms. Braymer expressed she would prefer that they notify Adirondack Safari Tent Co., LLC that the County was waiving the fees for this year and had decided not to continue with the contract going forward rather than terminating it. Ms. Kissane stated she believed it would be appropriate to contact Adirondack Safari Tent Co., LLC and ask if they would be willing to mutually terminate the agreement. She said the contract would still be terminated but if they were agreeable to

the request it would state that it was terminated on agreement by both parties, as this would prevent from assigning fault to either party. Mr. Geraghty inquired if the County had any written communications from Adirondack Safari Tent Co., LLC and Ms. Kissane replied in the negative, explaining all discussions with them had been handled via telephone. Mr. Geraghty asked if Adirondack Safari Tent Co., LLC was in violation of the contract since they had not made any payments to the County for this year and Ms. Kissane replied affirmatively. Mr. Gergaghty pointed out an issue that had arisen was that the sponsor of the Warrensburg Bike Rally was unable to change the date of their event because of the contract the County had with Adirondack Safari Tent Co., LLC for the use of the County Fairgrounds property. He suggested they send a letter to Adirondack Safari Tent Co., LLC indicating what the desire of the County was, as he did not believe Adirondack Safari Tent Co., LLC wanted to use the property next year, but this was all hearsay and he felt they should be permitted to have thirty days to respond and if they did not make the payment then the County could terminate the contract. Mr. Moore asked for clarification purposes that if Adirondack Safari Tent Co., LLC was not willing to mutually terminate the contract the County would still pursue termination and Mr. Geraghty replied he did not believe the County should waive the fee for this year if that was what they had originally agreed to. Mr. Geraghty apprised he believed this would flush out Adirondack Safari Tent Co., LLC to notify the County whether they planned on returning next year. Mr. Moore stated he would like to put this issue to bed since they had been discussing it for several months now.

Ms. Hogan amended her motion to authorize staff to contact Adirondack Safari Tent Co., LLC to inquire if they would be willing to mutually terminate the contract and advise a response was required within 30 days. Mr. Conover asked Mr. Bruno if he was agreeable to amending his second to the motion, as well, and Mr. Bruno responded affirmatively. Mr. Conover called the question and the motion was carried unanimously.

Proceeding with the agenda review, Mr. Hajos advised Lyme Adirondack Timberlands I, LLC had denied the County's request for a lower rate for use of approximately a six-mile snowmobile trail located in the Town of Hague. He stated they had indicated to him they would continue to charge the County a fee if the County decided to move forward with using the property.

Mr. Strough voiced he was troubled that the County would have to pay a substantial fee to continue to use the property, apprising if it was truly public access to the rest of the County's trail and was part of a connection then the County could likely make an argument for eminent domain. He said the fee paid to them every year would be considered in the assessment of the eminent domain price because they would be losing a source of income. Mr. Hajos interjected the County had the lease with Lyme Adirondack Timberlands I, LLC for several decades now and there was no connection to any other trails other than their trails. He stated the fee was being paid for a trail system Lyme Adirondack Timberlands I, LLC allowed the County to use.

Mr. Conover advised he felt it was necessary to determine whether they would like to lease this piece of property for snowmobiles to use this coming Winter season. Ms. Braymer asked if there was a particular snowmobile group that used this property and she asked if so whether they reimbursed the County for this cost and Mr. Benway replied the Hague Sno-Goers Inc. were the ones who used the trail. Mr. Benway stated State funding was prohibited from being used for the purpose of leasing land, but he believed the Hague Sno-Goers Inc. could use the money they received from the County for this reason. He added Lyme Adirondack Timberlands I, LLC would not do an agreement with a private entity other than a recreational easement with the County for the complete trail system.

A discussion ensued following which it was determined that Mr. Benway would ask the Hague Sno-Goers Inc. whether they felt it was worthwhile moving forward with the agreement Lyme Adirondack Timberlands I, LLC for use of this property and report back to the full Board and Mr. Moore regarding those discussions since this was a time sensitive agreement.

In regard to the proposed Forest School at Up Yonda, Mr. Hajos informed he had forwarded the proposal he received from Megan Seeley, *New York State Certified Elementary Education Teacher and small business marketer*, to Amanda Allen, *Clerk of the Board*, who forwarded it on to the Board for comments, but he had only received feedback from a few Supervisors. He stated some of the comments expressed concerned whether the County should permit a school to be conducted on the grounds of Up Yonda Farm Environmental Educational Center which narrowed the program down to those who could afford it, etc. He said in response to Ms. Seeley's request that as part of this program she receive a salary and benefits from the County he had proposed to her as an alternative for her to lease the grounds at Up Yonda Farm Educational Center to hold the Forest School, which consisted of twelve to twenty-four week programs that were held outside, as it was not sensible for the County to pay her a salary and benefits at this time. He stated he was awaiting a response from Ms. Seeley as to whether she was agreeable to exploring this notion as an alternative to her proposal.

Moving along to the review of the DPW agenda Mr. Hajos presented the following requests:

- 1 - To authorize the County Treasurer to close the following Capital Projects and return remaining funds to the funding source:
H199, *Corinth Road Reconstruction*, and return estimated funds in the amount of \$41,276.64 to Budget Code A.9950 910, *Transfers-Capital Projects*, and estimated funds in the amount of \$81,576.35 to Budget Code D.9950 910, *Transfers-Capital Projects*;
H200, *Quaker Road Signals*, with no estimated funds remaining;
H219, *Railroad Track Restoration*, with no estimated funds remaining;
H258, *Tannery Bridge over Stony Creek*, and return estimated funds in the amount of \$5,194.55 to Budget Code D.9950 910, *Transfers-Capital Projects*;
H338, *Lake George Environmental Park*, and return estimated funds in the amount of \$23,917.83 to Budget Code A.9950 910, *Transfers-Capital Projects*; and
H361, *Brant Lake Lower Dam*, and return estimated funds in the amount of \$6,025.19 to Budget Code D.9950 910, *Transfers-Capital Projects*.

Mr. Hajos advised the Treasurer's Office had requested that he close out the aforementioned Capital Projects as it had been several years since there had been any activity on them. He said following a review they determined in order to close them they would have to return the remaining funds into Budget Codes A.9950 910, *Transfers-Capital Projects* and D.9950 910, *Transfers-Capital Projects*, and then use these funds to make the projects whole. He said a few of these projects had State and Federal funding that was still owed to the County; however, he noted, they would not be receiving these funds and they would have to be written off as non-receivables; he added the funds were available as cash in some of the projects to be able to write off the State and Federal receivables.

Mr. Leggett pointed out the financial report he had received from the County Treasurer's Office this morning indicated there were no funds remaining in Capital Project H361, *Brant Lake Lower Dam*, but the request before them indicated there was \$6,025.19 and he asked if there was a discrepancy with the figure included in the request. Mr. Hajos replied he had worked with the Treasurer's Office last week to determine how much funding remained in each project.

Motion was made by Mr. Leggett, seconded by Mr. Bruno and carried unanimously to approve the request and forward same to the Finance Committee. *A copy of the resolution request form is on file with the minutes.*

- 2 - To amend the County Budget to increase Budget Code D.9950 910, *Transfers-Capital Projects*, in the amount of \$65,482.33 in accordance with transfers of surplus local match funds from various capital projects back to the fund source.

Motion was made by Mr. Magowan, seconded by Mr. Bruno and carried unanimously to approve the

request and forward same to the Finance Committee. *A copy of the resolution request form is on file with the minutes.*

- 3 - To amend the County Budget to increase Budget Code A.9950 910, *Transfers, Capital Projects*, in the amount of \$65,194.47 in accordance with transfers of surplus match funds from capital projects back to fund source.

Mr. Leggett asked for clarification purposes whether the funds were being returned to the General Fund Unappropriated Surplus and Mr. Hajos replied affirmatively.

Motion was made by Ms. Hogan, seconded by Mr. Bruno and carried unanimously to approve the request and forward same to the Finance Committee. *A copy of the resolution request form is on file with the minutes.*

- 4 - To amend Capital Project H199, *Corinth Road (CR 28)/ Main Street/Broad Street Reconstruction*, in the amount of \$22,118.22 to amend Federal, State and Local Share to reconcile final project costs and reimbursable funds.

Motion was made by Mr. Magowan, seconded by Mr. Bruno and carried unanimously to approve the request and forward same to the Finance Committee. *A copy of the resolution request form is on file with the minutes.*

- 5 - To amend Capital Project H200, *Quaker Road Signal Improvements Project*, in the amount of \$11,283 to amend Federal, State and Local Share to reconcile final project costs.

Motion was made by Ms. Braymer, seconded by Mr. Leggett and carried unanimously to approve the request and forward same to the Finance Committee. *A copy of the resolution request form is on file with the minutes.*

- 6 - To increase Capital Project H200, *Quaker Road Signal Improvements Project*, in the amount of \$136,647.43 to increase the local funding to cover the deficit fund balance so the project could be closed.

Motion was made by Ms. Braymer, seconded by Ms. Hogan and carried unanimously to approve the request and forward same to the Finance Committee. *A copy of the resolution request form is on file with the minutes.*

- 7 - To amend Capital Project H219, *Railroad Track Restoration Project*, in the amount of \$534 to amend the Federal, State and Local Share final project costs and reimbursable funds.

Motion was made by Ms. Braymer, seconded by Mr. Leggett and carried unanimously to approve the request and forward same to the Finance Committee. *A copy of the resolution request form is on file with the minutes.*

- 8 - To amend Capital Project H258, *Warrensburg Road (CR 3) over Stony Creek (Tannery Bridge) Project*, in the amount of \$63,791 to amend Federal, State and Local Share to reconcile final project costs and reimbursable funds.

Mr. Hajos stated this was also a non-receivable from the State, but it was slightly different, as there were two projects going on at the same time, the first of which was the Tannery Road Bridge and the other one was the Grist Mill Bridge. He informed during 2008-09 the Federal government had provided a stimulus package which combined both of these projects into one project which was 100% Federally

funded. He stated this request referred to a reimbursement to the State that somehow got lost in the mix through no fault of the County that the State refused to reimburse the County for. He said they had requested the reimbursement from the State on several occasions, but each time they did their request was rebuffed by the State who indicated they had closed out the project. He apprised the funding were available to increase the Local Match and decrease the State and Federal Share to reconcile the final project costs and reimbursable funds.

Mr. Leggett inquired for clarification purposes if the Federal Shares was being decreased because the project did not cost as much as was originally anticipated and Mr. Hajos replied in the negative. Mr. Hajos explained the Federal Share was 80% and the State's Share was 15% resulting in them decreasing the Federal Share by 80%, decreasing the State Share by 15% and then increasing the local match to cover the non-reimbursable portion from the State. Mr. Leggett interjected that he had been under the impression the Federal Share was 100%. Mr. Hajos advised the Federal Share changed into 100% Federally funded project when it moved into the construction phase, but the \$63,791 was under the design phase when it was funded 80% by the Federal funding and 15% by the State.

Motion was made by Ms. Hogan, seconded by Mr. Bruno and carried unanimously to approve the request and forward same to the Finance Committee. *A copy of the resolution request form is on file with the minutes.*

- 9 - To write-off State/Federal receivables for the following capital projects and identify a funding source to cover the write-off:
H199, *Corinth Road Reconstruction*, State/Federal receivable in the amount of \$22,118.22 using Budget Code D.9950 910, *Transfers, Capital Projects*;
H200, *Quaker Road Signals*, State Federal receivable in the amount of \$11,283 using Budget Code D.9950 910, *Transfers-Capital Projects*;
H219, *Railroad Track Restoration*, State/Federal receivable in the amount of \$534 using Budget Code A.9950 910, *Transfers-Capital Projects*; and
H258, *Tannery Bridge over Stony Creek*, State/Federal receivable in the amount of \$63,791 using Budget Code D.9950 910, *Transfers-Capital Projects*.

Mr. Hajos stated in the past there had always been costs that were not covered, but because he and his current staff had a better understanding of what was and was not reimbursable this was no longer an issue.

Motion was made by Ms. Braymer, seconded by Mr. Bruno and carried unanimously to approve the request and forward same to the Finance Committee. *A copy of the resolution request form is on file with the minutes.*

- 10 - To increase Capital Project H384, *Horicon Avenue (CR 11) over Finkle Brook Culvert Replacement Project*, in the amount of \$23,155.56.

Mr. Hajos stated this was one of their Bridge New York Projects and based on the estimate they had received they felt additional funding for the local share required anticipated constructions costs of approximately \$23,155.56. He said they believed they may not need all of these funds because they were working with the Warren County Soil & Water Conservation District on some funding they had available under their Lake George Watershed Program that could cover this cost anyway.

Motion was made by Ms. Braymer, seconded by Ms. Hogan and carried unanimously to approve the request and forward same to the Finance Committee. *A copy of the resolution request form is on file with the minutes.*

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- 11 - To fill the vacant position of MEO (L) #27, *Grade 7, Base Annual Salary \$33,600*, due to retirement.
 - 12 - To fill the vacant position of MEO (L) #2, *Grade 7, Base Annual Salary \$33,600*, due to promotion.

Mr. Hajos informed based on the austerity budget plan he had compiled he had held off on filling the MEO (L) #2 position for as long as he could, but moving into the winter season he needed to fill both of these vacancies because part of their job duties consisted of them plowing the roads in the winter.

Mr. Conover asked if Mr. Hajos would be able to fill this positions because MEO's were in high need and Mr. Hajos concurred it would be difficult to fill because typically the town's pay scale was greater then the County for these positions. Mr. Hajos apprised he had hired some temporary workers this summer that he hoped he could hire full-time for these positions and have them fully trained by the winter season.

Motion was made by Mr. Leggett, seconded by Ms. Braymer and carried unanimously to approve the requests as outlined above and forward same to the Personnel & Administration Committee. *Copies of the Notice of Intent to Fill Vacant Position forms are on file with the minutes.*

- 13 - To fill the vacant position of Engineer II, *Annual Salary \$73,670.*

Mr. Hajos indicated he had originally received approval from the Committee to fill this position in February, but due to the pandemic and as part of his budget austerity plan he decided to hold off filling it until August 1st. He stated they were seeking the right candidate to fill this position, with a fair amount of experience required so they would be conducting a national search. He apprised because of this he did not foresee filling it until at least October 1st if not later.

Ms. Braymer asked if this position would focus on environmental issues and Mr. Hajos responded part of this individuals qualifications would include experience working on environmental issues. He said the issue they had with the previous Environmental Analyst was that they were skilled on environmental issues, but had minimal experience with design and the majority of the workload related to engineering. Mr. Hajos stated he would be seeking a candidate for the Engineering II position with a background in environmental and engineering.

Motion was made by Mr. Magowan, seconded by Mr. Bruno and carried unanimously to approve the request and forward same to the Personnel & Administration Committee for reporting purposes. *A copy of the Notice of Intent to Fill Vacant Position form is ion file with the minutes.*

- 14 - To amend the Table of Organization and Salary Schedule to create the new position of Construction Specialist 1, *Grade 15, Base Annual Salary \$65,608*, and delete the positions of Environmental Analyst and Senior Engineering Technician, *Grade 12, Base Annual Salary \$39,502*, effective October 1, 2020.
- 15 - To fill the position of Construction Specialist 1, *Grade 15, Base Annual Salary \$65,608*, due to creation.

Mr. Hajos apprised what he was proposing to do was to delete the Senior Engineering Technician position and use the salary of this position, as well as the remaining funds from the Environmental Analyst position that was deleted to fund the Construction Specialist 1 position he was requesting to create. He stated he had been doing an overhaul of the engineering division to find the appropriate staff for the type of work they did which in the case of the Senior Engineering Technician was construction inspection and oversight on any of the County projects, as well as providing assistance to construction

staff members when projects ran into issues that required engineering knowledge. He informed the requirements for the Senior Engineering Technician did not include design work which was what he needed to be worked on during the winter months and the Construction Specialist position he was proposing to create in its place would handle this for any County program or construction projects, including road projects that an engineer needed to be involved with and provide oversight on during the summer months. He advised the personnel changes he was proposing would result in a savings of approximately \$8,000.

Mr. Leggett asked if this position would be involved with road, bridge and building construction and Mr. Hajos replied affirmatively. Mr. Hajos explained the focus of this position would mostly be on road and bridge construction, as the Engineering II position he was seeking to fill would focus more on construction of buildings. He mentioned next year he had over \$22 million in Federal Aid projects that were going to construction that the Construction Specialist I and Engineering II positions would provide oversight on even though consultants would be hired to carry them out.

Motion was made by Mr. Leggett, seconded by Mr. Magowan and carried unanimously to approve the request and forward same to Personnel & Administration. *Copies of the resolution request and Notice of Intent to Fill Vacant Positions Forms are on file with the minutes.*

- 16 - To amend the County Budget in the amount of \$98,018.60 for purchase of a mobile brine unit funded by NYS DOS grant contracted by the Lake George Watershed Management Priority Action Plan Implementation Project (C1000532) and local match funded by Washington County and Towns of Bolton, Ticonderoga, Dresden, Putnam and Queensbury.

Mr. Hajos stated about \$72,000 of the cost of the mobile brine unit was being covered by a grant from New York State Department of State and the remainder of the cost was going to be covered by contributions from the local towns and Washington County who would like to use this piece of equipment and agreements for the use would be drawn up at a later date.

Mr. Leggett asked if the mobile brine unit would be available to the subscribing towns in the County and Mr. Hajos replied affirmatively.

Motion was made by Mr. Magowan, seconded by Mr. Bruno and carried unanimously to approve the request and forward same to the Finance Committee. *A copy of the resolution request form is on file with the minutes.*

- 17 - To accept stationary brine making unit from The Fund for Lake George and authorize the Chairman to write thank you letter to the Fund for Lake George.

Mr. Hajos advised the Fund for Lake George was donating a stationary brine making unit to the County which would be stored at the Toney Pit in the Town of Warrensburg and would not be moving around, He said this unit would be used to fill the County tanks; he added he believed the Town of Hague would be getting one, as well. He informed they would be taking possession of this equipment in mid to late September and they planned to have staff fully trained and the equipment operational by October 1st.

Mr. Magowan asked if there was the potential to make brine and sell it to the local plowing contractors and Mr. Hajos responded he did not believe the County would be in the business of making brine for private contractors, but this was not a decision he could make. He said he could look into whether this was feasible, as he was unsure that it was.

Ms. Braymer pointed out the letter included in the agenda from the Deicing Depot indicated the County had some obligations they needed to adhere to and she asked if the County was prepared to meet these

obligations and Mr. Hajos replied affirmatively. He explained there was water and electricity at the Toney Pit, but they would not be purchasing the projected total season solar salt needs from the Deicing Depot because he was unable to do so, but he would procure solar salt to be used in this piece of equipment. Ms. Braymer asked if the representatives from Deicing Depot were aware of this and Mr. Hajos replied affirmatively.

Motion was made by Mr. Magowan, seconded by Mr. Bruno and carried unanimously to approve the request and the necessary resolution was authorized for the September 18th Board meeting. *A copy of the resolution request form is on file with the minutes.*

Moving along to the Information for Discussion/Review portion of the agenda, Mr. Hajos apprised that Chairman Thomas had approached him about the Gill Bridge in the Town of Stony Creek which they determined was not a County bridge, but rather a private one that had a bin number of it. He informed following further research a resolution was adopted in 1955 which authorized maintenance of bridges on town highways and indicated the County would take over the maintenance of all bridges that had a span of more than twenty-five feet and were located on any town highway in the County. He stated this meant the Gill Bridge should have fallen under the County's purview; however, he noted, he did not want any of the towns to think that if they had any other bridges over twenty-five feet that the County would take them, as any bridges the County was going to take over would have to be approved by the Superintendent of Public Works. He informed the Gill Bridge had now been added to the County's inventory of bridges based on the resolution from 1955 and maintenance would be done on it.

Proceeding to the Referral/Pending Items portion of the agenda, Mr. Hajos informed he had attended a meeting with the stakeholders regarding the County's retaining wall on Sagamore Road which included Waters Edge Marina, the Town of Bolton and the Sagamore Resort regarding how they were going to move forward. He said the County's consultant had provided an evaluation of the existing wall, as well as what they should be considering moving forward. He said the first alternative offered was to take no action, but this would not suffice because something needed to be done to that retaining wall. He advised the first of the three proposals they had received was to put in a pre cast concrete block retaining wall and taper that back towards the roadway. He mentioned this would involve them moving it in to the Lake by approximately twelve feet to place this wall which would require permitting from several different agencies. He apprised the next proposal consisted of a poured type of retaining wall which would also involve digging in the Lake and putting down a foundation, pouring a concrete wall and then back filling behind that wall to support the existing road. He mentioned the final proposal involved putting in soldier pile walls which consisted of drilling in columns or push columns into the existing bedrock and then between the columns concrete would be poured which would prevent them from having to work their way into the Lake. He stated permitting would still be required, but this option would be less obtrusive to Waters Edge Marina, the Lake and the Sagamore Resort; he added a significant amount of the work could be handled during the winter season with this option, while the others required the bulk of the work being done during the summer season which would impact The Sagamore Resort and Waters Edge Marina significantly. He advised the cost of the soldier piling was almost \$1 million and included all of the engineering work and permitting required to get in place, as well and while it appeared to be a substantial cost, it was not to repair that entire seventy foot of wall. He stated the other two proposals he mentioned cost about a half million dollars each, but they would be more intrusive and would have significant impact on Waters Edge Marina because the docks they had in place right now which were permitted through the Lake George Park Commission came up to the base of the retaining wall and pushing that wall an extra twelve feet would make that area unusable. He advised although the cost of the soldier piling was more he was recommending this as the most appropriate route to take. He said he was not seeking any money for construction costs, but he was seeking about \$100,000 to cover engineering costs and to move forward with the scoping process to get a contract in place; he added the total cost of the contract may be less than \$1 million, but he would not know this until the full scope of the work was in place.

A discussion ensued following which a motion was made by Mr. Bruno, seconded by Ms. Hogan and carried unanimously to authorize an appropriation in the amount of \$100,000 from the General Fund Unappropriated Surplus to cover the engineering costs for the retaining wall on Sagamore Road and refer same to the Finance Committee. Note: Subsequent to the meeting it was determined that a transfer from the Contingent Account to a Capital Project was preferred and both requests were presented to the Finance Committee.

Mr. Conover asked Don Lehman, *Public Relations Manager*, whether there were any public comments and Mr. Lehman replied in the negative.

There being no further business to come before the Committee, on motion made by Mr. Leggett, seconded by Ms. Braymer and carried unanimously, Mr. Conover adjourned the meeting at 12:33 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Sarah McLenithan, Deputy Clerk of the Board