

WARREN COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

COMMITTEE: PUBLIC WORKS

DATE: OCTOBER 20, 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, PARKS, RECREATION & RAILROAD
FRANK THOMAS, CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD
RYAN MOORE, COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR
MARY ELIZABETH KISSANE, COUNTY ATTORNEY
AMANDA ALLEN, CLERK OF THE BOARD
KEVIN B. GERAGHTY, BUDGET OFFICER
SUPERVISORS BEATY
DICKINSON
FRASIER
SIMPSON
ROBERT BLAIS, MAYOR, VILLAGE OF LAKE GEORGE
TOSHA BROWNELL, COMPUTER HELP DESK TECHNICIAN
TAMMIE DELORENZO, ASSISTANT TO THE COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR
LEXIE DELUREY, DIRECTOR, REAL PROPERTY TAX SERVICES
DON LEHMAN, DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS
JIM SIPLON, INTERIM PRESIDENT, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION
SARAH MCLENITHAN, DEPUTY CLERK OF THE BOARD

Please note, the following contains a summarization of the October 20, 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 11:32 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, Tim Benway, *Director, Parks, Recreation & Railroad*, presented the following requests:

1. To authorize an agreement with Thurman Connection Snowmobile Club for snowmobile use on Railroad Right-of-Way MP68.30 to MP72.85.

Motion was made by Mr. Leggett, seconded by Mr. Strough and carried unanimously to approve the request and the necessary resolution was authorized for the November 20th Board meeting. *A copy of*

the resolution request form is on file with the minutes.

2. To amend the County Budget in the amount of \$2,500 to reflect receipt of grant funding from the Pearsall Adirondack Foundation.

Mr. Benway apprised the grant funding was being provided to fund the purchase of three new tablets and supplies for a program at Up Yonda Farm. Mr. Conover requested that the County thank the Pearsall Adirondack Foundation for their generous donation and Kevin Hajos, *Superintendent of Public Works*, advised a letter would be sent. Ms. Hogan asked what programming the tablets would be used for and Mr. Benway replied it was an outdoor outreach program about hiking. He stated rather than having the school districts come to Up Yonda, they would be offering programming remotely.

Motion was made by Mr. Strough, 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.*

In regard to the stocking permit, Mr. Benway stated he had met with NYS DEC (*New York State Department of Environmental Conservation*) representatives, as well as representatives of several other agencies, to determine what type of fish the sportsmen were seeking. He advised it was determined larger fish were preferred over quantity resulting in the State restructuring the entire stocking permit to include 9-12 inch fish which would not be an issue for the County. He said the plan was to decrease the number of fish raised by one thousand and provide a more quality fish by holding off on stocking a certain amount of brook and rainbow trout in the spring and then stocking "super yearlings" in the fall to allow for more growth. He apprised they would also ensure they were not overlapping the State in certain places where they both stocked fish like the Schroon River. He stated he would bring a copy of the State's new permit to the Committee for review once it was completed; however, he noted, the State wanted to ensure there were no objections to stocking less fish before they moved it forward. Mr. Benway mentioned the County did not have to move forward with the program, but by doing so they would be able to offer better quality fish.

Mr. Conover asked if the loss of fish would be spread out equally amongst all of the water bodies and Mr Benway replied affirmatively.

Mr. Benway informed they had commenced with the fall stocking process with salmon stocking scheduled for next week. He stated the only two places remaining to stock were land locked salmon in Lake George and rainbow trout in Glens Lake; he added they had completed all of the stocking for the heritage program. He advised they were also doing a program with Cornell University where the University placed 20-30 fish in a pond to determine if it was ready to be stocked.

A discussion ensued.

Mr. Hajos apprised prior to reviewing the DPW Agenda he wanted to discuss a request he had received from Revolution Rail Company for a long-term success based public/private relationship with the County to allow them to make the County a major hub in their expansion plans; he added they had recently expanded their operations to Cape May, New Jersey. He suggested he could forward the information to Amanda Allen, *Clerk of the Board*, to distribute to the Committee following which the Committee members could submit their questions to him to send to Revolution Rail Company ahead of time to answer at the next Committee meeting.

Mr. Conover noted presently there was a five-year contract in place with Revolution Rail Company that had to be approved on an annual basis. Ryan Moore, *County Administrator*, advised he was unsure if it was feasible to move forward with a longer term contract due to the uncertainty of the future of the

County Railroad.

A discussion ensued.

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

1. To fill the vacant position of Highway Construction Supervisor #4, *Grade 12, Base Annual Salary \$38,818*, due to resignation.

Motion was made by Mr. Bruno, seconded by Ms. Braymer and carried unanimously to approve the request and refer 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 a transfer of funds in the amount of \$24,000 from Budget Code D.3310 410, *Co. Roads, Traffic Control, Supplies*, to Budget Code D.3310 260, *Co. Roads, Traffic Control, Other Equipment*, to cover the cost of the traffic control sign plotter and cutter.

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

3. To authorize a transfer of funds from various Budget Codes totaling \$365 to cover the cost of overtime for Waste Management and Traffic Control.

Mr. Bruno asked if transferring funds from one account to another left a shortfall in the account the funds were being transferred out of and Mr. Hajos replied in the negative, apprising the funding was available within salaries to cover the overtime expense. Mr. Bruno inquired whether this was applicable to all the transfers of funds and Mr. Hajos responded there was funding available to purchase the sign plotter and cutter because they had not purchased all of the supplies they had budgeted for as a result of the temporary shutdown due to the COVID-19 pandemic. In regard to salaries, Mr. Hajos informed because there were employees who had left positions throughout the year, there was always some savings in salaries due to the time it took to fill a position after someone resigned. He noted no new money was required for the aforementioned transfers, as the funding was available within the departmental budget. Mr. Conover interjected that there were times when transferring monies out of an account could create a shortfall at a later date. Mr. Hajos stated this could occur, but it was only on rare occasions. Mr. Moore pointed out at the end of the year when they closed the books they were required to have all of the budget account classifications in the black and transfers were required for any that had shortfalls in them to ensure the appropriation that was budgeted was adequate for operation.

A brief discussion ensued.

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

4. To authorize a new contract with the lowest responsible bidder for Household Hazardous Waste Collection pursuant to the terms and provisions of the specifications (WC 46-20) and proposal for a term commencing execution and terminating December 31, 2021 with the option to extend for up to two additional one year terms.

Mr. Hajos stated this year as a result of the pandemic they had not been able to hold a household hazardous waste collection day and due to issues the previous vendor had they decided to put this back

out to bid again for two collection periods in 2021, one of which was typically held in the Town of Warrensburg and the other in the Town of Queensbury.

Motion was made by Ms. Braymer, seconded by Mr. Bruno and carried unanimously to approve the request and the necessary resolution was authorized for the November 20th Board meeting. *A copy of the resolution request form is on file with the minutes.*

5. To authorize a new contract with the lowest responsible bidder for Fire Suppression Inspection and Maintenance for Fueling Facilities located throughout Warren County pursuant to the terms and provisions of the specifications (WC 58-20) and proposal for a term commencing execution and terminating December 31, 2021 with the option to extend for up to two additional one-year terms.

Mr. Hajos stated this was a term agreement which provided the County with the option to extend it for up to two additional one-year terms; he added the bids were due on November 5th. Mr. Conover asked that Mr. Hajos advise the Committee of who the bid was awarded to and Mr. Hajos replied he would ensure they were all aware of who the contract was awarded to.

Motion was made by Mr. Strough, seconded by Mr. Leggett and carried unanimously to approve the request and the necessary resolution was authorized for the November 20th Board meeting. *A copy of the resolution request form is on file with the minutes.*

Proceeding to the Information for Discussion/Review portion of the agenda, Mr. Hajos apprised in regard to County Road Projects, a significant amount of this work was contracted out this year and would be finished up by the end of next week. He stated the DPW had taken care of a significant amount of maintenance paving which they had planned on finishing up today, but due to the weather they postponed this work until tomorrow following which they would return the paver they rented to the vendor. In regard to County Bridge Construction Projects, Mr. Hajos informed they were ready to set the beams on the Padanarum Bridge, but it was unlikely they would be able to set the deck this year resulting in this being taken care of next spring when the contractor could resume working.

Mr. Conover asked Don Lehman, *Director of Public Affairs*, 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 Ms. Braymer, seconded by Mr. Bruno and carried unanimously, Mr. Conover adjourned the meeting at 12:08 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Sarah McLenithan, Deputy Clerk of the Board