

WARREN COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

COMMITTEE: PUBLIC WORKS - DPW AND PARKS, RECREATION & RAILROAD

DATE: MARCH 30, 2010

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:

SUPERVISORS BELDEN
BENTLEY
STEC
CHAMPAGNE
PITKIN
LOEB
CONOVER

OTHERS PRESENT:

WILLIAM LAMY, SUPERINTENDENT OF PUBLIC WORKS
PAUL BUTLER, DIRECTOR OF PARKS, RECREATION & RAILROAD
JOAN SADY, CLERK OF THE BOARD
JOANN MCKINSTRY, DEPUTY COMMISSIONER OF ADMINISTRATIVE &
FISCAL SERVICES
KEVIN GERAGHTY, BUDGET OFFICER
SUPERVISORS GOODSPEED
TAYLOR
THOMAS

COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT:

SUPERVISORS MERLINO
MCCOY

JULIE PACYNA, PURCHASING AGENT
JOHN RIEGEL, UPPER HUDSON RIVER RAILROAD
DON LEHMAN, *THE POST STAR*
AMANDA ALLEN, SR. LEGISLATIVE OFFICE SPECIALIST
Please see the sign-in sheet for additional meeting attendees.

Mr. Belden called the meeting of the Public Works Committee to order at 9:30 a.m.

Motion was made by Mr. Conover, seconded by Mr. Pitkin and carried unanimously to approve the minutes from the March 2, 2010 Committee meeting, subject to correction by the Clerk of the Board.

Privilege of the floor was extended to William Lamy, Superintendent of Public Works, to begin the DPW portion of the Committee meeting. Mr. Lamy distributed copies of the meeting agenda, a copy of which is also on file with the minutes.

Mr. Lamy began with a review of the Budget Performance Report included in the agenda packet. He pointed out that he had underlined the overtime salary amounts incurred in each Public Works Division and he noted that the figures listed were well below the total amount budgeted. Mr. Lamy apprised that by reviewing the overtime hours used by the various Public Works Divisions over the past five years, he had determined a combined average figure for overtime usage during the first quarter of the year to be 8,700 hours. He added that the overtime total for the first quarter of 2010 was 3,200, which was 5,500 hours less than the average amount incurred for prior years. Mr. Lamy stated that the decrease in overtime costs, as well as fuel and salt expenses, were directly attributed to a lack of snow and ice events during the beginning of the year. Mr. Belden noted that the institution of one-man plowing operations had also helped to reduce overtime costs and Mr. Lamy agreed, adding that if the remaining winter months of 2010 included typical snowfall amounts, he felt they could easily realize the \$30,000 in savings he had estimated by using one-man plowing.

Moving on to the next agenda item, Sheriff Car Repair, Mr. Lamy apprised that repair services for the Sheriff's vehicles were typically provided by outside vendors as the DPW staffing was not sufficient to do the work as quickly as was required. However, he noted, there were certain instances when DPW staff accommodated the Sheriff's Office by providing less costly repairs, such was the case recently when they were able to perform necessary repairs for \$150, with the purchase of an \$80 tool, that had been estimated to cost \$1,600 if provided by the local vendor used. Mr. Lamy cited that although these savings would not affect the DPW budget, he wanted to point out that these cooperative abilities were available and that they were implemented whenever possible.

Mr. Lamy announced that the next agenda item referred to a summary of personnel actions which were reflected in a chart beginning on page 2. He pointed out that the chart began with a listing of annual position reductions for 2007 through 2009, including total salary reduction figures, and closed with a listing of total staffing figure statistics for the years 1996, 2006 and 2010. Mr. Lamy expounded that 169 employees had been employed for all Public Works Divisions in 1996 and that figure had decreased to 136 in 2006, and to 112 for 2010. He advised that the bulk of the position reductions from 1996 to 2006 were attributed to program reductions, such as the elimination of plowing contracts for State roads, the County recycling center and the road striping and guide-rail crews previously employed by the County. Mr. Lamy explained that over the years staffing changes had also been made commensurate with alterations to State and Federal funding requirements, as well as to meet the growing technological needs of the Department; he added that although changes had been made to transfer duties and responsibilities as necessary, staffing levels had not been increased. He concluded that this information was being provided for the Committee's consideration when determining the future of the Department for the 2011 Budget process.

A brief discussion ensued.

Continuing, Mr. Lamy apprised that agenda page 4 included a request to establish the paving rates that would be charged to local Municipalities for work performed by DPW forces as follows:

| 2010 Recommended Daily Rates: | |
|-------------------------------|-----------------|
| Labor Crew | \$182.00 hourly |
| Fringe Charge (40%) | 72.80 hourly |
| Overtime Hours | 273.00 hourly |
| Fringe Overtime (40%) | 109.20 hourly |
| Fuel + 110 gallons/day | 286.00* |

*used rate of \$2.60 per gallon as that is current rate; fuel will be charged at current daily rate.

Mr. Lamy stated that the rates had been developed by adding a 3.5% increase to the 2009 paving rates; he added that the increase was directly attributed to labor costs. He further noted that the hourly rates were projected and that the actual rate would be based on the salaries for the persons assigned to the project on the date the paving services were provided.

Motion was made by Mr. Conover, seconded by Mr. Bentley and carried unanimously to approve the request to approve the 2010 paving rates, as outlined above, and the necessary resolution was authorized for the April 16th Board meeting. *A copy of the request is on file with the minutes.*

Mr. Lamy advised that the next agenda item consisted of an informational update regarding the Alder Brook Road Bridge Project. He reminded the Committee that at their last meeting they had discussed the issues faced in relation to possible project delays caused by lagging NYSDOT (New York State Department of Transportation) approvals to advertise construction bids. Mr. Lamy stated that NYSDOT approvals had been received since their last meeting and they intended to increase the Alder Brook Road Project to fund construction and inspection costs using offsetting funds from the Harrington Road Bridge Project, which had been delayed until the new Federal fiscal year, until State and Federal reimbursements were received. He then presented a request to amend the contract with Creighton Manning Engineering, LLP to reflect the addition of construction inspection services for the Alder Brook Bridge Project for an amount not to exceed \$255,200, which was included on page 5 of the agenda.

Mr. Pitkin questioned how the \$255,200 expense would be funded and Mr. Lamy replied that the Project was

subject to 80% Federal and 15% State reimbursements, requiring a 5% Local Share.

Motion was made by Mr. Bentley, seconded by Mr. Stec and carried unanimously to approve the request to amend the existing contract with Creighton Manning Engineering, LLP as outlined above and the necessary resolution was authorized for the April 16th Board meeting. *A copy of the request is on file with the minutes.*

Proceeding to the next agenda item, Beach Road Cost Sharing Agreement, Mr. Lamy apprised that they had been in discussions with NYSDEC (New York State Department of Environmental Conservation) regarding the development of a cost sharing arrangement associated with the Beach Road Project. He said it was his feeling that NYSDEC should either pay for their share of the Project costs in advance, or be willing to share in the costs of borrowed money along with the County. Mr. Lamy stated his opinion that the County's Budget situation would not allow the availability of funds to pay for the Project and that the costs would need to be bonded to forward construction pending the Federal and State reimbursement process.

In response to Mr. Conover's question as to what would happen if NYSDEC refused both of these funding options, Mr. Lamy apprised that the County owned the majority of Beach Road, with NYSDEC retaining ownership of a small portion in the center. He added that although they preferred to reconstruct the entire road in one project, if NYSDEC was unwilling to agree with funding terms, they might be forced to consider continuing with only the County's portion of the Project and leave the portion owned by the State to be reconstructed at another time without any County coordination or participation.

Mr. Conover stated his opinion that the Beach Road Project might need to be reevaluated for possible postponement to another year in order to coincide with the County's funding abilities in light of the current Budget situation and possible delays in Federal and State reimbursements. Mr. Belden questioned whether funding for the Beach Road Project was included in the State's Budget and Mr. Lamy replied that although the money had been earmarked, he would not be willing to make any confirmations until the State Budget was adopted. Mr. Lamy stated that the question for the Committee was whether they were willing to fund all costs associated with the Beach Road Project in advance, including the NYSDEC portion, and await Federal and State reimbursement for the total, or to require NYSDEC to make arrangements to fund their portion in some manner before the start of the Project. He noted that Paul Dusek, County Attorney, was currently working with legal representation for NYSDEC to draft an agreement between the two parties regarding the funding arrangement and he felt it was important for the Committee's feelings on the matter to be reflected therein.

Mr. Loeb questioned whether a contingency plan was in place for implementation if NYSDEC was not in favor of either of these funding suggestions and Mr. Lamy replied that Mr. Dusek had been working with NYSDEC on this matter and he was not willing to articulate a final decision without his input. However, he noted, since this was a County-sponsored project, he felt there were other options available to the County, other than providing all Project costs in advance.

Pending further discussion on the matter, motion was made by Mr. Pitkin, seconded by Mr. Bentley and carried unanimously to approve a resolution stating the County's position that NYSDEC should be required to either fund their portion of the Beach Road Project costs in advance or to share in the associated borrowing costs and the necessary resolution was authorized for the April 16th Board meeting.

Mr. Lamy advised that the next agenda item pertained to the Corinth Road Project. He noted that this was a complicated Project which incorporated multiple shareholders and generated a considerable amount of interest amongst both the public and elected officials, as well. Mr. Lamy advised that in order to address these concerns,

he had appointed Kevin Hajos, Senior Civil Engineer, as the primary contact for the Corinth Road Project; he added that Mr. Hajos was very knowledgeable on the matter as he had worked as a Design Engineer for Clough, Harbor & Associates, the primary Engineers for the Project, before he was hired by the County. Mr. Lamy stated that although he would be available and would be speaking with Mr. Hajos daily, all initial inquiries regarding the Corinth Road Project should be made to Mr. Hajos.

The next agenda item, Mr. Lamy announced, included a request to waive the new purchasing policy as reflected on page 12. He explained that they had recently experienced engine problems with one of the mechanic's trucks which could not be resolved at the local Ford dealership and had required that it be sent to a more specialized repair shop, D & W Diesel, located in Latham, NY. Mr. Lamy further explained that after extensive testing was performed, including the partial disassembly of the motor to remove the fuel injectors, it was determined that the injectors required replacement. He advised that the replacement parts had been ordered and the repairs would be completed in the near future with the total anticipated cost for repairs to be approximately \$2,600. The problem, Mr. Lamy stated, was that the purchasing policy did not allow for payment of invoices between the amounts of \$2,001 and \$7,000 without the procurement of three estimates for the work to be provided. He advised that in cases such as this, there was no opportunity to seek out specialized estimates; therefore, he said, he was seeking a waiver of the Purchasing Policy. Mr. Lamy noted that Mr. Dusek and Julie Pacyna, Purchasing Agent, have agreed that modification to the Policy was required in these instances and would be presenting a revised proposal for the consideration of the Board of Supervisors at a future meeting.

Motion was made by Mr. Champagne, seconded by Mr. Conover and carried unanimously to approve the request to waive the Purchasing Policy and authorize payment to D & W Diesel for repair work provided and the necessary resolution was authorized for the April 16th Board meeting. *A copy of the request is on file with the minutes.*

Mr. Lamy stated that agenda page 13 included a request to authorize the Chairman of the Board to sign a contract with the selected firm for auctioneering services. He noted that an RFP (request for proposal) was being developed for these services and would be published and awarded as quickly as possible. Mr. Lamy added that these services would be required before the May Board meeting; therefore, he said, he was seeking the Committee's advance approval of the request.

Motion was made by Mr. Bentley, seconded by Mr. Pitkin and carried unanimously to approve the request as outlined above and the necessary resolution was authorized for the April 16th Board meeting. *A copy of the request is on file with the minutes.*

Continuing, Mr. Lamy directed the Committee members to agenda page 14 which included an Authorization to Attend Meeting or Convention form requesting approval of travel for Don DeGraw, Airport Manager, to attend the 44th International Aviation Snow Symposium in Buffalo, NY on April 25 - 28, 2010. Mr. Lamy apprised that Mr. DeGraw received a considerable amount of training at this event which he then used to train the Airport staff upon his return. He noted that the previous RFP for an airport snow blower had been withdrawn due to some complications and this event would serve as an opportunity to meet with vendors to gain information pertinent to the development of a revised RFP. Mr. Lamy noted that the GSA (Governmental Services Administration) was \$99 per night for this area; however, he said, the lowest rate Mr. DeGraw could find was \$115 per night. He concluded that funding was available within the Airport budget to support the travel costs.

Motion was made by Mr. Stec, seconded by Mr. Pitkin and carried unanimously to approve the travel request as presented. *The Authorization to Attend Meeting or Convention form is on file with the minutes.*

Mr. Lamy apprised that agenda page 19 reflected a letter from the Hudson Valley Volunteer Firemen's Association (HVVFA) regarding their annual convention and parades that would be held on June 16 - 19, 2010 at the Fort William Henry Resort and Conference Center. He noted that all road closures for parade routes would be facilitated by the Town and Village of Lake George and that no Committee action was required in relation to the event. Mr. Lamy added that although no official action was necessary, the HVVFA had requested the County's participation in a traffic meeting scheduled for April 18th and he would be sure to designate a representative for that meeting.

Concluding the agenda review, Mr. Lamy addressed the listing of items pending from prior Committee meetings, which he outlined as follows:

1. The Corinth Road Project was addressed earlier in the meeting;
2. The Budget Performance Report was presented earlier in the meeting;
3. Mr. Lamy apprised that the Scaroon Manor facility had been closed for 2010 due to State budget restraints; therefore, he said, no work would be requested of the County and he asked that the item be removed from the pending items list;
4. Mr. Lamy said he had no new information to report relative to NYSDEC violation citations at the North Creek fuel farm;
5. Mr. Lamy said he had no new information to report relative to the Stormwater Officer position;
6. With regard to the Milton Street (Woolen Mill) Bridge Project, Mr. Lamy advised that the Project was now under construction with an outside construction firm. He said he anticipated the work would be completed in the fall of 2010 and he asked that the item be removed from the pending items list;
7. Mr. Lamy said he had no new information to report relative to the Middleton Bridge Project;
8. Respective to the new sign for the Municipal Center Campus, Mr. Lamy advised they were experiencing some unexpected issues with the size of the materials available and were re-evaluating the dimensions of the sign that could be produced. He said that he felt the issues would be worked out quickly and the sign would be completed and erected during the spring season; and
9. Mr. Lamy said he had no new information to report relative to the Glendale Road right-of-way transfer.

Mr. Loeb apprised that he and his wife had recently been touring the northern parts of Warren County and found that they easily lost their way due to a lack of road signage in rural areas and he questioned why more directional signs were not erected in these areas. Mr. Lamy responded that these issues had been discussed in the past including whether they should continue to post road signs by name, or whether they should change procedures to post County Route numbers as other Counties did, as well as to determine the intervals by which the signs should be posted and at what intersections. He noted that there were also cost issues associated with the introduction of new signs. Mr. Geraghty stated that he felt these issues were already being addressed as he had recently seen new signs posted to identify County roads in the Town of Warrensburg. Mr. Belden asked Mr. Lamy to provide an estimate of cost to erect identifying signs on all County roads for presentation at a future Committee meeting.

As there was no further DPW business to come before the Committee, privilege of the floor was extended to Paul Butler, Director of Parks, Recreation & Railroad, who distributed copies of the meeting agenda to the Committee members; *a copy of the agenda is also on file with the minutes.*

As Mr. Butler was distributing information to the Committee members, Mr. Lamy addressed Agenda Item 1 on his behalf which included a request for agreements between Warren County and the Towns of Horicon, Thurman, Lake Luzerne and Hague to be automatically renewed on January 1st of each year for snowmobile trail maintenance and

equipment grant funding without further resolution. He noted that this resolution would be helpful as the snowmobile season was typically at its end before the grant funding was distributed due to the approval process entailed.

Mr. Champagne said that although he was in favor of determining a faster way to distribute snowmobile grant funds, he did not think this manner was possible as the grant amount changed each year.

Subsequent to a brief discussion on the matter, it was the consensus of the Committee that this issue should be addressed with the County Attorney's Office to determine whether the procedure requested could be implemented due to changing grant amounts and presented to the Committee again later in the year.

Mr. Butler advised that Agenda Item 2 consisted of a request to authorize the Upper Hudson River Railroad (UHRR) to erect two inflatable Bounce Around houses, three canopy tents and a portable stage on the Kellogg Property during the Day Out with Thomas event scheduled for May 22-23 & 29-30, 2010. He added that as per Local Law No. 2 of 1984, a resolution was required to authorize these actions.

Motion was made by Mr. Champagne, seconded by Mr. Loeb and carried unanimously to approve the request as outlined above, pending approval of appropriate insurance documentation by the County Attorney, and the necessary resolution was authorized for the April 16th Board meeting. *A copy of the request is on file with the minutes.*

Continuing to Agenda Item 3, Mr. Butler presented a similar request to authorize the Town of Johnsbury Chamber of Commerce to erect one or more Bounce Around houses on the Kellogg Property during the Adirondack Adventure Festival and the White Water Derby scheduled for May 1-2, 2010.

Motion was made by Mr. Bentley, seconded by Mr. Loeb and carried unanimously to approve the above referenced request, pending approval of appropriate insurance documentation by the County Attorney, and the necessary resolution was authorized for the April 16th Board meeting. *A copy of the request is on file with the minutes. (Note: Subsequent to the meeting it was determined that the organization seeking to use the Kellogg Property was actually the Gore Mountain Region Chamber of Commerce, of which the Town of Johnsbury Chamber of Commerce was a member.)*

Mr. Butler stated that Agenda Item 4 consisted of a request to amend Local Law No. 2 of 1984 to allow apparatus such as inflatable bounce houses, slides and other various structures to be erected on County property at the discretion of the Superintendent of Public Works and/or Director of Parks, Recreation & Railroad upon review and approval of appropriate insurance documentation. He noted that because these permissions were sometimes sought out between Committee meetings, it would be much more convenient if he were authorized to make determinations and authorize use without seeking Committee approval.

Mr. Belden said he felt the County Attorney's Office should be consulted on this issue before approving the request. Mr. Pitkin opined that if the Local Law was amended, a policy should be developed for property use to be approved by the Committee and Mr. Butler agreed that the Local Law would be amended to include language eluding to the policy developed. Mr. Geraghty questioned whether the events scheduled were being coordinated by not-for-profit organizations and Mr. Butler replied that he was unsure; Mr. Geraghty then noted that Mr. Butler should research this matter further as he believed there were regulations in place that limited for-profit use of County properties.

Following further discussion on the matter, it was determined that Mr. Butler should address this issue with Mr. Dusek and return to the Committee at a future meeting.

Resuming the agenda review with Item 5, Mr. Butler provided a stocking update for the Warren County Fish Hatchery. He announced that they intended to stock Hovey Pond with 400 brook trout on April 1st and Halfway Brook with 750 brook trout on April 2nd, depending on temperature and water levels; Mr. Butler displayed pictures of the fish being stocked, copies of which are included in the agenda packet. He advised that the brook trout being stocked were an average of 10.5" in length. Mr. Butler noted that the agenda included a copy of the stocking permit which indicated the stocking locations, fish type and totals.

For the benefit of the new Supervisors on the Committee, Mr. Lamy announced that the fishing industry represented a \$16 million operation and about \$500,000 in sales tax revenue; he added that subsequent to budget reductions, the cost to operate the Fish Hatchery was about \$65,000 per year. Mr. Butler stated that although there was some redundancy in the stocking locations used by the State and County, the County typically stocked larger fish. He advised that the Fish Hatchery assisted the State by taking in some of their salmon stock and allowing them to grow at the facility each year from June to November before being released in order to stock larger fish which led to a higher survival rate. Mr. Butler added that in return for these services, the State provided the County with free fish eggs and State inspection services that would otherwise represent a monetary cost to the County.

Mr. Butler apprised that Agenda Item 6 consisted of a follow-up report on the Maple Sugar Pancake Breakfast/ Maple Sugaring Festival held at the Up Yonda Farm on March 7th. He said that the event had drawn 224 participants, which was 100 more than the 2009 Festival. Mr. Butler noted that *The Lake George Mirror* had printed a glowing article on the event which could be reviewed in the copies of the publication distributed with the agenda; *a copy of The Lake George Mirror is on file with the minutes*. Finally, he advised that the agenda included several responses to a survey distributed pertaining to events, programs and experiences at the Up Yonda Farm.

Mr. Conover stated that regardless of reductions in funding which left the facility to operate only on monies received from a trust fund and parking revenues, the Up Yonda Farm was doing an exceptional job of providing programs and events for the community's benefit. He said that Up Yonda was a tremendous asset to the area and anyone who had not visited the site should do so. Mr. Belden agreed and suggested that either the May or June Committee meeting be scheduled at Up Yonda so that the new Supervisors could tour the facility when the weather was conducive.

Continuing to Agenda Item 7, Mr. Butler said the next event scheduled for the Up Yonda Far was a Wildlife Expo planned for July 10, 2010. He noted a similar event had been held in 2002 and attracted 700 participants; he added that they were hoping for nice weather for the 2010 event and a similar level of participants. Mr. Butler advised the agenda included a tentative listing of events and presenters planned for the Wildlife Expo, although none were definite.

Mr. Butler apprised that Agenda Item 8 pertained to the Warren County Railroad and he introduced John Riegel, of UHRR, who was in attendance to address the Committee. Mr. Riegel distributed copies of a brochure announcing the Day Out with Thomas, a copy of which is on file with the minutes. He said this would be the fifth year the Thomas attraction had been organized by UHRR in the Town of North Creek and they expected 8,000 to 10,000 attendees over the two weekend event. Mr. Riegel advised that the economic impact of the Thomas event was substantial for the Town of North Creek and other surrounding communities, considering the number of room rentals and gasoline, meal and miscellaneous purchases made by patrons of the event. He noted that due to the high costs associated with the event, UHRR would seek the same reprieve on the \$1 per ticket sold fee authorized by the Board of Supervisors in prior years. Mr. Riegel added that for the 2009 event, UHRR had agreed to pay the \$1 fee for each ticket sold over 8,000 and they would agree to the same terms for 2010 if the Committee was amenable.

With respect to the 2010 train schedule, Mr. Riegel announced that the service to the Town of North Creek would be the same as was offered for 2009 and he noted that they intended to increase service to the Thurman, Stony Creek and Lake Luzerne Stations. He said they would be scheduling meetings with Messrs. Pitkin, Thomas and Merlino to discuss the development of the increased service as they hoped to coincide the runs with special events in each area.

Mr. Riegel then questioned the status of the RFP for the 2011 Railroad Operators Contract and Julie Pacyna, Purchasing Agent, advised that it was currently being reviewed by the County Attorney's Office and would be advertised for bid in the near future. Mr. Champagne noted the Committee's displeasure with the previous bid submitted by UHRR as it seemed to relay all liability and maintenance expenses to the County. Mr. Pitkin advised that since the initial RFP was released, other interested parties had approached the Committee who seemed willing to assume the operational, liability and maintenance expenses associated with the railroad if they were permitted to use the tracks for both freight and transportation services and this approach was favorable. Mr. Riegel questioned whether UHRR would be permitted to respond to the revised bid once it was released and Mr. Belden replied affirmatively.

In response to Mr. Riegel's reiteration of his request for a reprieve on the \$1 per ticket fee paid to the County for the first 8,000 tickets sold, motion was made by Mr. Champagne, seconded by Mr. Stec and carried unanimously to approve the request and the necessary resolution was authorized for the April 16th Board meeting.

Resuming the agenda review with Item 9, Mr. Butler said he was asked to visit the caboos at the Riparius Station to report on its condition. He advised that the caboos seemed to be in the same general condition as when it was accepted for use as a concession stand by UHRR. Mr. Butler stated it was his assumption that the sale of the caboos would include all of the equipment located therein, such as an ice cream machine, griddle and three-bay sink. Mr. Belden questioned whether the RFP for the caboos sale had been advertised and Mr. Butler replied in the negative, noting that the Purchasing Agent was working to coordinate the release of the RFP.

Mr. Butler apprised that Agenda Item 10 referred to the revised ridership figures provided by UHRR which were reflected within the agenda and accounted for all tickets sold, including those for special events and group tours. He noted that this document was a revised version of the one presented at the prior Committee meeting.

Concluding the agenda review, Mr. Butler addressed the listing of items pending from prior Committee meetings, which he detailed as follows:

1. Mr. Butler advised he had no new information to provide relative to the Stony Creek Platform. When questioned as to the availability of grant funding for the platform construction, Mr. Butler apprised that the deadline for use of the grant funding had been extended from December 31, 2009 to December 31, 2010, but noted that he was unsure if the deadline could be extended once again;
2. Mr. Butler stated that he had no new information to provide relative to the transfer of the Kellogg Property to the County, but noted that Mr. Goodspeed wished to speak on the matter. Mr. Goodspeed said that discussions held during the last month's meeting indicated the Committee's reluctance to accept the transfer of the Kellogg Property due to the unknown costs attached; therefore, he said, he had approached Mr. Dusek to discuss the possibility of the property being transferred to the Town of Johnsbury, thereby eliminating the County's involvement. Mr. Goodspeed asked the Committee to postpone any further discussion on the matter until he was able to approach the Johnsbury Town Board and determine their position on the matter. As the Committee was in agreement, the decision was made to table the issue pending further information.

- from Mr. Goodspeed as to the inclination of the Town of Johnsbury;
3. An update on the status of the 2011 Railroad Operator Contract was provided earlier in the meeting;
 4. With respect to the RFP for the sale of the caboose located at the Riparius Station, Ms. Pacyna advised that RFP would be advertised within a month;
 5. Mr. Butler stated that further discussion on the request to amend Local Law No. 7 of 1978 to authorize use of part of the Warren County Bikeway to connect the Warren County snowmobile trail system to Washington County's had been delayed due to a lack of permissions for use of private property. He said he had spoken with Mike Fazio, President of the Southern Adirondack Snowmobile Club, who advised that he would address the Committee once again when all of the necessary permissions were secured;
 6. Mr. Butler said that he had no new information to present relative to possibly reconsidering the bid submitted for purchase of the Fairgrounds property and noted that the matter continued to be reviewed by the County Attorney's Office to determine if this constituted an alienation of parklands issue.

Steve Wildermuth, Town of Hadley resident, announced that he intended to bid on the RFP for the 2011 Railroad Operators Contract and he encouraged the Committee to work diligently to release the RFP as quickly as possible to allow the chosen contractor the appropriate amount of time to prepare themselves to begin operations. When Mr. Butler questioned what RFP deadlines would be preferable, Mr. Wildermuth replied that he hoped to see the contract awarded within the month of August. When questioned as to the release date for the RFP, Ms. Pacyna replied that she could not provide any indications on the matter without first speaking to Mr. Dusek.

JoAnne Smith, Town of Johnsbury resident, said that she too would encourage the Committee to move forward as quickly as possible to release the RFP and award the Operator contract in light of the economic impact the railroad promised for the Town of Johnsbury. She noted that the train was currently an integral part of the Town's economy and would only be furthered by the introduction of increased tourism as was promised by a connection with the Saratoga Springs Station and year-round service. Ms. Smith indicated that developers were funneling money into businesses within the Town of Johnsbury in hopes of increased tourism business and she worried that if the plans for increased train service did not come to fruition, these efforts would not be continued.

As there was no further business to come before the Committee, on motion made by Mr. Bentley and seconded by Mr. Stec, Mr. Belden adjourned the meeting at 11:07 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Amanda Allen, Sr. Legislative Office Specialist