

WARREN COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

COMMITTEE: PUBLIC WORKS

DATE: MARCH 19, 2019

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:	OTHERS PRESENT:
SUPERVISORS SIMPSON	KEVIN HAJOS, SUPERINTENDENT OF PUBLIC WORKS
MERLINO	RONALD CONOVER, CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD
LOEB	MARY ELIZABETH KISSANE, COUNTY ATTORNEY
HYDE	AMANDA ALLEN, CLERK OF THE BOARD
MAGOWAN	TAMMIE DELORENZO, ASSISTANT TO THE COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR
WILD	FRANK THOMAS, BUDGET OFFICER
HOGAN	SUPERVISORS BEATY
GERAGHTY	BRAYMER
	DRISCOLL
COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT:	LEGGETT
SUPERVISORS FRASIER	SOKOL
DICKINSON	SARA FRANKENFELD, GIS ADMINISTRATOR, PLANNING & COMMUNITY
DIAMOND	DEVELOPMENT
	SARAH MCLENITHAN, DEPUTY CLERK OF THE BOARD

Please note, the following contains a summarization of the March 19, 2019 meeting of the Public Works Committee; the meeting in its entirety can be viewed on the Warren County website using the following link: <http://www.warrencountyny.gov/gov/comm/Archive/2019/works/>

Mr. Simpson called the meeting of the Public Works Committee to order at 12:14 p.m.

Copies of the Parks, Recreation & Railroad and DPW agendas were distributed to the Committee members and copies of same are on file with the meeting minutes.

Motion was made by Mr. Loeb, seconded by Mr. Wild and carried unanimously to approve the minutes of the last Committee meeting, subject to correction by the Clerk of the Board.

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

Page 2- Request for a transfer of funds from the Contingent Account in the amount of \$7,500 to cover the cost of the utility bills for the County Railroad.

Mr. Hajos stated the funds should be enough to cover expenses through the end of July, adding he had discussed the request with Mr. Thomas and the County Treasurer.

Mr. Simpson asked Mr. Hajos to elaborate on an email they had both received regarding the batteries at the railroad crossings. Mr. Hajos apprised the individual who had sent the email was misinformed and thought the batteries used would last forever, meaning no trickle charge was required, but this was not the case. He explained the batteries would go bad if they did not keep the trickle charge on them and if they were to remove the batteries and store them it would destroy the plates which would cost a significant amount to replace. He remarked he felt it was worthwhile to pay the minimal amount to keep the trickle charge in place.

Motion was made by Mr. Geraghty, seconded by Mr. Merlino 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.*

Concluding the Parks, Recreation & Railroad Agenda review, Mr. Hajos stated the department was currently preparing to commence with their annual fish stocking.

Moving along to the review of the Public Works Agenda, Mr. Hajos presented the following requests:

- Page 3- Request to authorize submission of a grant application to the NYSDOT (*New York State Department of Transportation*) for funding in an amount not to exceed \$813,700 for Capital Project H375, *Culvert NY Thirteenth Lake Road (CR78) over Unnamed Watercourse in the Town of Johnsburg.*
- Page 10- Request to increase Capital Project H375, *Thirteenth Lake Road Culvert Replacement*, in the amount of \$813,700.
- Page 11- Request to authorize submission of a grant application to the NYSDOT for funding in an amount not to exceed \$778,760 for Capital Project H384, *CR 11 over Finkle Brook Culvert Replacement.*
- Page 18- Request to establish Capital Project H384, *CR 11 over Finkle Brook Culvert Replacement*, in the amount of \$778,760.
- Page 19- Request to authorize submission of a grant application to the NYSDOT for funding in an amount not to exceed \$973,636 for Capital Project H385, *CR 32 over Bennie Brook Culvert Replacement.*
- Page 26- Request to establish Capital Project H385, *CR 32 over Bennie Brook Culvert Replacement*, in the amount of \$973,636.

Motion was made by Mr. Loeb, seconded by Mr. Magowan and carried unanimously to approve the requests as outlined above and the necessary resolutions were authorized for the April 19th Board meeting for the requests listed on Pages 3, 11 and 19 and the requests listed on Pages 10, 18 and 26 were forwarded to the Finance Committee. *Copies of the resolution request forms are on file with the minutes.*

Mr. Hajos apprised he would return to the requests listed on Pages 27, 28, 30 and 32 following the presentation he would be providing later in the meeting regarding County Roads.

- Page 36- Request for transfer of funds totaling \$71,533.82 between various road projects to cover the cost of additional road salt and overtime.

Mr. Wild asked what percentage over budget they were for salt and Mr. Hajos replied he could not recall that figure was off the top of his head, but they had budgeted for about 6,700 tons of salt and thus far they had used about 1,500 tons more; he added the cost of the salt was approximately \$72 a ton. Mr. Simpson remarked he would be remiss if he did not point out the towns that plowed County Roads had also gone over budget, but this was not reflected in the agreement they had with the County. Mr. Hajos advised municipal budgets had all under budgeted for salt due to the number of rain/ice storms that had occurred this year.

A discussion ensued following which a motion was made by Mr. Loeb, seconded by Mr. Magowan and carried unanimously to approve the request as outlined above and forward same to the Finance Committee. *A copy the resolution request form is on file with the minutes.*

- Page 37- Request to fill the vacant position of Sr. Account Clerk #1, *Grade 7, Annual Base Salary \$33,600*, due to resignation.
- Page 38- Request to fill the vacant position of *MEO Heavy #14, Grade 10, Base Annual Salary \$37,633*, due to promotion.

Motion was made by Mr. Loeb, seconded by Mr. Wild and carried unanimously to approve the requests as outlined above and forward same to Personnel & Higher Education Committee for reporting purposes. *Copies of the Notices of Intent to Fill Vacant Position forms are on file with the minutes.*

Page 39- Request for a new contract with Warrensburg Collision Center for autobody repair services pursuant to the terms and provisions of the specifications (WC 75-18) and proposal commencing upon execution and termination December 31, 2019.

He stated the purpose of the request was for work on County fleet and Public Health vehicles, as well as insurance claims. He added Warrensburg Collision Center was the sole bidder for this work.

Mr. Magowan questioned how autobody repair was bid since there was no way of knowing how much work would be required and Mr. Hajos responded that it was based on an hourly rate.

Motion was made by Mr. Loeb, seconded by Mr. Magowan and carried unanimously to approve the request and the necessary resolution was authorized for the April 19th Board meeting. *A copy of the resolution request form was on file with the minutes.*

Mr. Hajos proceeded with a detailed review of the Power Point presentation entitled Warren County Department of Public Works Pavement Management Program, *a copy of which is on file with the minutes.*

Mr. Hajos stated the requests he would be presenting today which related to paving concerned awarding contracts and funding Road Work, the bulk of which would be transferred from existing road projects. He apprised he had presented a request for the 2019 Budget to include \$3.2 million for road projects, but the Budget Officer decreased this amount to \$2.5 million with the idea that if the total amount of sales tax collected for 2019 came in over budget, Mr. Hajos could return to Committee and ask for the funding that was removed from his initial request during the budgeting process. He informed of the \$1.8 million in the County Road Fund, there was about \$827,000 from previous road projects that could be transferred into existing road projects. He mentioned the prices they received from the contractors were higher than they had originally anticipated, as there was more work than had been estimated due to deteriorating conditions which occurred this winter on Gore Mountain Access Road and Glen Athol Road. He proceeded to present the following requests to the Committee:

Page 27- Request for a new contract with Rifenberg Construction Inc. for Warren County 2019 Highway Projects, Town of Johnsbury Project 19-04 CR 29 Peaceful Valley Road and CR 73 Gore Mountain Road pursuant to the terms and provisions of the specifications (WC 6-19) and proposal commencing upon execution and termination upon completion of the work.

Page 28- Request for a new contract with Peckham Road Corporation for Warren County 2019 Highway Projects CR8 Friends Lake & CR 65 Knapp Hill Road in the Town of Chester and CR52 Queensbury Avenue & CR 58 West Mountain Road in the Town of Queensbury pursuant to the terms and provisions of the specifications (WC 6-19) and proposal commencing upon execution and termination upon completion of the work.

Page 30- Request for a new contract with Evolution Construction Services for Warren County 2019 Highway Projects CR 78 13th Lake Road in the Town of Horicon, CR 15 East Shore Drive & CR 44 Beaver Pond Road in the Town of Johnsbury and CR 44 Mill and Main Streets in the Town of Lake Luzerne pursuant to the terms and provisions of the specifications (WC 6-19) and proposal commencing upon

execution and termination upon completion of the work.

Page 32- Request for transfer of funds totaling \$309,929.71 amongst various road projects to reconcile the cost based on bids and expended scope of work.

Mr. Loeb asked whether the contracts were for additional work outside of the \$2.5 million that was included in the 2019 County Budget and Mr. Hajos replied in the negative. Mr. Hajos explained because some of the bids came in higher than they had anticipated he would like to transfer funding that was available in the County Road Fund into these projects to make up the difference. He stated he would be asking for additional funding, but that was not related to the aforementioned requests.

Mr. Geraghty requested going forward that the requests for transfer of fund forms include a total.

A motion was made by Mr. Loeb and seconded by Mr. Wild to approve the requests as outlined above.

A discussion ensued following which Mr. Simpson called the question and the motion to approve the requests as presented was carried unanimously and the necessary resolutions were authorized for the items listed on Pages 27, 28 and 30 for the April 19th Board meeting and the item listed on Page 32 was referred to the Finance Committee. *Copies of the resolution request forms are on file with the minutes.*

Mr. Hajos referred to the bottom of Page 32 where Warrensburg Road and Coolidge Hill Road were listed, apprising that both of these roads had been included in his initial request for road work in the 2019 County Budget, but they had been removed. He said his intent was to transfer the remaining funds in the County Road Fund to fund these two road projects.

A discussion ensued during which Mr. Hajos explained the first step would be to establish the following new Road Projects: D.5112.8302, *2019 CR #3 Warrensburg Road*, in the amount of \$327,787.64; D.5112.8303, *2019 CR #49 Coolidge Hill Road*, in the amount of \$384,748.03; and D.5112.8304, *2019 CR # 13, Glen Athol Road*, in the amount of \$420,000.

A motion was made by Mr. Geraghty, seconded by Mr. Hogan to approve the request as outlined above and refer same to the Finance Committee. *A copy of the resolution request form is on file with the minutes.*

Mr. Hajos advised the next step would be to transfer the remaining surplus funds in the County Road Fund in the amount of \$296,407.81 to Warrensburg Road and funds in the amount of \$289,127.86 to Coolidge Hill Road to fund the projects.

Motion was made by Mr. Loeb, seconded by Mr. Merlino and carried unanimously to approve the request for transfer of funds as outlined above and forward same to the Finance Committee. *A copy of the resolution request form is on file with the minutes.*

Mr. Hajos apprised his final request related to appropriating funds in the amount of \$547,000 from the General Fund Unappropriated Surplus to pay for the Glen Athol Road Project, as well as a portion of Coolidge Hill Road because the amount that was just transferred would not cover the total cost of the project.

A motion was made by Mr. Geraghty, seconded by Mr. Merlino to approve the request as outlined above and refer same to the Finance Committee. *A copy of the resolution request form is on file with the minutes.*

Mr. Hajos stated he had included a request for \$1.1 million to be included in the 2019 County Budget

to purchase new equipment, but this amount was decreased to \$688,000 during the budgeting process. He stated he would like to be able to purchase a new gradeall which was used to do a significant amount of the County's ditch work since the current one was close to exceeding its useful life. He requested approximately \$502,000 to fund the equipment line at the original amount he requested. He mentioned the other piece of equipment he would like to purchase was what was referred to as a hot box which was used to warm pavement to make it more suitable to use in potholes and stay in place. He said the cost was about \$36,000 and the towns could use it when the County was in their towns working on potholes. He said he felt it was worthwhile to invest in this equipment and share it with the towns. He stated the total cost of purchasing a gradeall and hotbox was approximately \$502,000.

A motion was made by Mr. Loeb and seconded by Mr. Merlino to approve the request as outlined above.

Chairman Conover stated he believed the hot box was an asset and he was surprised that the County did not already own one. Mr. Geraghty asked how much money Mr. Hajos felt he could get for the old gradeall if it were sold at auction and Mr. Hajos replied he believed the most it would sell for was \$40,000.

A discussion ensued following which Mr. Loeb amended his motion and Mr. Merlino amended his second to include appropriating funds in the amount of \$502,000 from the General Fund Unappropriated Surplus to fund the purchase of a new gradeall and hotbox. Mr. Simpson called the question and the motion was carried unanimously to approve the appropriation of funds and refer same to the Finance Committee. *A copy of the resolution request form is on file with the minutes.*

With regard to the Information for Discussion/Review section of the agenda, Mr. Hajos stated he had planned on discussing the Village of Lake George Sewer Treatment Plan, but Robert Blais, *Mayor for the Village of Lake George*, was unable to attend the meeting.

Mr. Hajos stated he was in the process of compiling the figures to update the snow and ice removal contracts with the towns and he requested that if the towns had the means available that they track their time, materials, depreciation of their trucks or equipment and cost for any repairs as a result of damages and provide this information to him to assist him with updating the reimbursement rates.

Concluding the agenda review, Mr. Hajos apprised one of the items he proposed to Assemblymen Stec and Senator Litte during Advocacy Day was the possibility of increasing the gas tax for the purpose of funding infrastructure improvements. He pointed out the State of Alabama had just increased their gas tax for this purpose without any issues from their voters. Mr. Simpson added this was a hot topic at the NACo (*National Association of Counties*) Conference he had just attended in Washington D.C. Mr. Merlino apprised the issue with raising this tax was that there was no guarantee the State would allocate these funds to the County for this purpose whereas if the sales tax rate was increased the County could control where the additional funds were allocated to.

A discussion ensued.

Prior to adjourning, Mr. Simpson apprised Sara Frankenfeld, *County GIS Administrator, Planning & Community Development*, was present to review a survey she had created to use as a tool to assist with assessing the infrastructure needs in the County. Ms. Frankenfeld reviewed in detail the survey she created that would be distributed to all of the towns, City of Glens Falls and some other entities to regarding any projects that involved significant costs with a long useful-life that were in the works, or being planned for in the coming years, as well as the database she would be populating with the information provided to compile all of the data in one source during which she answered questions posed by the Committee members.

There being no further business to come before the Public Works Committee, on motion made by Mr. Wild and seconded by Ms. Hogan, Mr. Simpson adjourned the meeting at 1:48 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Sarah McLenithan, Deputy Clerk of the Board