

PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES  
MARCH 29 2022

PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT: Skellie, Rozell, Haff, O'Brien, Fedler, Shaw, Ferguson, Wilson, Fisher

PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT: None

SUPERVISORS: Hall, Henke, Hicks, Nolan, Campbell, Hogan, Clary, Griffith

Debra Prehoda, Clerk

Roger Wickes, County Attorney

Al Nolette, County Treasurer

Melissa Fitch, County Administrator

AGENDA AS PRESENTED IN COMMITTEE NOTICE:

1. Call to Order
2. Accept Minutes – March 1, 2022
3. Department Reports/Requests:
  - A. Sewer District
    - 1) Sewer District Commissioner Resignation/Appointment
  - B. Public Works
    - 1) Request to Carry Over Grants
    - 2) Discuss Staffing – Highway Worker III and Summer Help
    - 3) Award Miscellaneous Bids – Various Road Maintenance Supplies
4. Request for Executive Session
5. Other Business
6. Adjournment

Chairman Skellie called the meeting to order at 10:00 A.M. in the Supervisors' Chamber and via zoom.

A motion to accept the minutes of the March 1, 2022 meeting was moved by Mr. Shaw, seconded by Mr. O'Brien and Mrs. Fedler, and adopted.

SEWER DISTRICT: Jason Denno, Executive Director, Sewer District, addressed the following item:

- Sewer District Board of Commissioner Resignation/Appointment – Robert Cook resigned his position on the Sewer District Board of Commissioners effective February 9, 2022 and recommending the appointment of Michael Horrigan for a term commencing March 8, 2022. A motion to appoint Michael Horrigan to the Sewer District Board of Commissioners for a term commencing March 8, 2022 replacing Robert Cook was moved by Mrs. Fedler, seconded by Mr. Fisher, and adopted.

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS – Deborah Donohue, Superintendent of Public Works, addressed the following items with the committee:

- Carryover Grant Funds:
  - A motion to carryover MS4 and Lake Champlain Basin grant funds into the 2022 budget was moved by Mrs. Fedler, seconded by Mr. Wilson, and adopted.
- Staffing:
  - Summer Help – Planning to hire twelve seasonal highway workers for the construction season. Any recommendations should be sent to the DPW Superintendent.
  - Highway Worker III – A motion to upgrade eligible Highway Worker II positions to Highway Work III positions for the summer construction season so they have operators throughout the County was moved by Mr. Wilson, seconded by Mrs. Fedler and Mr. Fisher, and adopted.

- Award Miscellaneous Bids – Bids were issued for various road maintenance supplies and the bid results were distributed to all Supervisors and Town Highway Superintendents. The cost of items has increased substantially. A comparison of a bridge project done in 2020 compared to a similar bridge project in 2022, the bridge rail has increased by 75% over that time period, beams have increased by 64% and rebar has increased by 68%. Culverts are anywhere from 25% to 40% more. The slide project on Co. Rt. 46 is going up 21%. The Superintendent mentioned that they are going to try to put piers under the bridge construction projects like NYS DOT but if they cannot be acquired at a reasonable cost will continue to use lumber. A motion to award various road maintenance supplies bids was moved by Mrs. Fedler, seconded by Messrs. O'Brien and Mr. Wilson, and adopted.
- Award Bid Ford Explorer – Car Pool issued a bid for a Ford Explorer and requesting to award to the Nye Automotive Group for \$31,000. Noted that they only budgeted \$30,000 but have sufficient funds in the budget to cover the additional \$1,000. A motion to award bid for Ford Explorer to Nye Automotive Group in the amount of \$31,000 was moved by Mr. Wilson, seconded by Messrs. Fisher and O'Brien and Mrs. Fedler, and adopted.
- Enclosed Trailer for Paving Crew – The ambulance that the paving crew has been using has reached the end of life and requesting to purchase an enclosed trailer. They have obtained quotes ranging from \$7,000 to \$8,000. There is funding in the Car Pool budget to make this purchase. A motion to approve purchase of enclosed trailer for paving crew was moved by Mr. Wilson and seconded by Mrs. Fedler. Discussion. This trailer will be used to store all of the electronics and other pieces of equipment that are attached to the paver. Currently the items attached to the paver are removed daily and transported back to the barn and hope to avoid that process with this locked trailer. The trailer is 7' by 12' and the lowest quote is \$7,080. The motion to approve purchase of enclosed trailer for paving crew was moved by Mr. Wilson, seconded by Mrs. Fedler, and adopted.
- Paving Schedule – At this time every year they review the paving schedule and take into account the condition of the roads from over the winter and then tweak the schedule for that reason and also they are hoping to get a little additional money from the NYS CHIPS budget. Once the review of the schedule has been completed, it will be sent out to all Supervisors.
- Blacktop – Last year blacktop was bid out at this time for \$53.90 per ton and this year it is \$61.50 per ton, a significant increase. There will be an escalator build in in case it keeps going up this summer. The Superintendent stated they plan to look at all their projects due to the significant increases in the cost of items used during the construction period. These costs also impact grant projects and may need to remove some so that they can complete other ones.
- Marchiselli funding is starting to come in. The Treasurer stated if the Marchiselli funding continues to come in timely, he is hopeful he can retire and not renew the BAN next year.

REQUEST FOR EXECUTIVE SESSION – Reappointment of Superintendent of Public Works – A motion to enter an executive session to discuss appointment of a particular person was moved by Mr. O'Brien, seconded by Messrs. Fisher and Wilson, and adopted. A motion to return to regular session was moved by Mr. O'Brien, seconded by Mr. Wilson, and adopted. No action was taken in the executive session.

#### OTHER BUSINESS:

Reappointment of Superintendent of Public Works – A motion to reappoint Deborah Donohue to the position of Superintendent of Public Works for a four year term was moved by Mr. O'Brien, seconded by Messrs. Wilson, Fisher, Shaw, Rozell, Mrs. Fedler and Mr. Ferguson and adopted. Mr. Haff opposed.

The meeting adjourned at 11:00 A.M.

*Debra Prehoda, Clerk*  
*Washington County Board of Supervisors*