

**JOINT ONEIDA COUNTY PUBLIC WORKS/PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT/LABOR  
RELATIONS & EMPLOYEE SERVICES COMMITTEE  
MEETING MINUTES**

**Oneida County Courthouse, County Board Meeting Room  
Thursday, October 15, 2020 8:00 a.m.**

<b>Attendance:</b>	<b>Present</b>	<b>Excused</b>	<b>Absent</b>
Ted Cushing	X		
Scott Holewinski	<b>Zoom</b>		
Mike Timmons	X		
Sonny Paszak	X		
Bob Almekinder	X		

**Also Present:** Bruce Stefonek/Highway Commissioner, Lisa Jolin/Solid Waste Director, Dan Gleason/Highway and Gerald Roou/Town of Pelican

Committee Chairman Cushing called the Public Works Committee meeting to order at 8:00 a.m. noting the meeting was ADA accessible and properly posted.

**1. Approve agenda**

Motion by Paszak/Timmons to approve the agenda. Motion carried.

**2. Approve the minutes of the Public Works Committee meeting held on September 24, 2020.**

Motion by Timmons/Paszak to approve the minutes of the Public Works Committee meeting held on September 24, 2020 as presented Motion carried.

**3. Public Comments**

Cushing offered both persons present and those participating via Zoom an opportunity to comment. No public comment.

**4. General Business Discussion/Act:**

**A. Solid Waste vendor vouchers**

Motion by Timmons/Cushing to approve the Solid Waste vendor vouchers as presented. Motion carried.

**5. Discussion/Act on Change order for Demo 4 access road**

Jolin in order to avoid future problems culverts need to be installed at a cost of \$16,000 to \$19,000.

Motion by Paszak/Timmons to approve the change for Demo 4 access road. Motion carried.

**6. Discussion/Act on Revenue/Expense Comparison thru 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter 2020**

Motion by Holewinski/Cushing to accept receipt of the Revenue/Expense comparison through the third quarter of 2020. Motion carried.

**7. Discussion/Act on Ebay purchases**

Jolin requested committee allow her to make purchases over \$5,000 with permission of the committee chair rather than waiting to bring before the committee and losing the opportunity to purchase.

Motion by Holewinski/Timmons to approve moving ahead with whichever purchase is advantageous to the Solid Waste Department dealing with the tires. Motion carried.

#### **8. Discussion/Act on hauling shingles**

Jolin requested that two employees who live in Sugar Camp be allowed to deliver shingles to Pitlik and Wick on the way home and return the truck the following day.

Motion by Almekinder/Cushing to approve employees taking the dump truck home after delivering shingles to Pitlik and Wick then returning the truck in the morning. Motion carried.

#### **9. Solid Waste Report/Discussion Operations Report**

Jolin reported:

- The department was still looking to hire a laborer
- The compost was not yet screened as the company hired to screen lost an employee
- Having trouble arranging a driver to pick up the single stream recycling
- Looking into a top loading rear dumping trailer possibly to purchase
- Sold 14 full loads of metal at \$89/ton for a total of \$25,000
- Glass company accessed the glass piles with the goal being removing 2 loads per week noting they would also take the reject piles if screened

#### **10. General Business Discussion/Act:**

##### **A. Highway Department vendor vouchers**

Motion by Cushing/Paszak to approve the Highway Department vendor vouchers as presented. Motion carried.

#### **11. Discussion/Act on Town of Pelican Road Aid From County**

Gerald Roou explained Lassig Road was in need of reconstruction and because the County uses the road to haul gravel from the County's pit he requested County contribute approximately \$81,000 to increase the blacktop from 2 1/4" to 3 1/4" for 8,150' to accommodate the heavier trucks noting the culverts have already been replaced by the Town. Stefonek reported the County contributed by graveling the portion of road approximately 26 years prior for the previous reconstruction. Stefonek noted the County recently contributed approximately \$17,000 by not charging the Town royalties, reclamation or admin for gravel crushed earlier that spring. Holewinski commented the Town received the fifty percent TRID grant based upon an application for multiple use including the gravel pit, plus the County's previous contribution of \$17,000 adding he did not know of any town that received aid for town roads accessing gravel pits. Timmons noted the neither County nor the State receive any additional funding from private companies that use their roads. Holewinski questioned Roou how the chip seal of a town road performed by the County years earlier turned out. Roou stated it did not turn out good at all. Stefonek noted the Town did not properly set the road base. Holewinski commented since the County did a bad job on the road he was not against helping out by contributing another \$15,000. Cushing noted it would take away from other County projects. Timmons questioned if this was a decision that should be made by the County Board.

Motion by Timmons/Cushing to disapprove at this point. Motion carried.

Holewinski commented he agreed with denying the request at this time as it would set precedent for other towns to come forward noting there were other forms of aid for towns.

## **12. Discussion/Act on Purchase of Salt Brine Tank Inserts for Patrol Trucks**

Stefonek commented that although the DOT provided the brine maker the department does not have all of the equipment to disperse the brine but he believed they would be aiding counties in the future. Stefonek noted they would be using the brine on county roads as well. Stefonek reported the vendor used to purchase the inserts previously still has the best deal on the whole setup at \$23,500 with funding to come from the PBM account. Stefonek requested the purchase of one tank insert now and then discuss purchasing a second after the first of the year.

Motion by Paszak/Almekinder to approve.

Stefonek stated the department has four quads on deicing routes with two inserts.

Holewinski commented the State was going to provide the equipment, but the County put up a brine building and now the County needs to buy tanks questioning why this was not laid out ahead of time. Stefonek explained the department was purchasing quads that can haul gravel, salt and brine and as they purchase the trucks, they have to purchase the inserts noting this will be an annual expense as the fleet is built. Timmons questioned if the tank should be included with the truck specification. Stefonek noted by purchasing the insert separately if helps to avoid additional markup. Holewinski stated it should be purchased at the time of the truck purchase and included in the price. Stefonek advised the DOT may purchase future inserts. Cushing agreed they should make this purchase but include the insert in future truck bid specifications. Motion carried.

## **13. Discussion/Act on Road Construction Funding Options**

Cushing stated State legislation does not allow for this referendum to be placed on the spring ballot. Since there is not an election scheduled for the fall, the County would be responsible for the cost of the special election at a cost of approximately \$25,000 to \$35,000 in addition to the cost to the towns. Stefonek commented the other option is to borrow noting the Finance Director asked for the Committee's recommendation to the amount. Holewinski noted in 1995 they were on a 15-year replacement schedule; however, the cost per mile of construction has tripled since 2005 but the construction budget has not increased.

Holewinski stated a 25-year replacement schedule at just under 7 miles per year would cost about \$1.6 million per year. Holewinski recommended borrowing only enough money so they do not fall behind until the referendum in the fall of 2022 and recommended getting additional information before making a decision. Holewinski recommended making a presentation to the County Board. Cushing stated they should have a plan in place by mid-2021. Holewinski recommended a couple members meet with the commissioner and finance director and bring back recommendations to the committee.

## **14. Discussion/Act on Presentation of 2020 Chip Seal Operation Analysis**

Stefonek reported 2020 estimate was based on previous years' costs noting the cost was less than estimated. Final cost per square yard was \$1.09, however, if admin costs were added the cost would rise to \$1.14. Cushing commented the work done on CTH D was good. Stefonek noted that although the chip spreader lost money it enables the use of several other pieces of equipment to generate revenue. Holewinski questioned the rate of oil noting the bid spec was at 0.40 but the department estimate was based on 0.36 so the department's estimate was readjusted to 0.40. Stefonek stated for the last two years the chips were sent out for analysis to determine the application rate based on size of the chips noting the rate for 2020 was .32/square yard. Holewinski stated he calculated the rate at 0.31/square yard resulting in a \$15,000 reduction in cost from 0.40/square yard adding the

chip spreader lost over \$26,000 in the equipment fund over 5 years and questioned if the other equipment used made more than that loss. Holewinski stated Pitlik & Wick chip sealed about 3 1/2 miles for the Town of Sugar Camp and due to high humidity and rain, a portion needed to be redone at a cost to the contractor of \$25,000 noting it was only a matter of time until this happens to the County.

Holewinski stated in addition to the chip spreader losing money employees are working in other counties rather than doing work in Oneida County. Stefonek stated the General Maintenance account was nearing \$0 and they have spent all of the construction dollars noting the department needs the additional work from other counties as well as other avenues. Stefonek commented the reason the chip spreader lost money was the annual depreciation was \$11,000. Holewinski requested a comparison of costs using the same rate for oil. Stefonek stated cost were compared to the department costs. Cushing stated the committee was under time constraint and would bring back to a future meeting.

#### **15. Discussion/Act on County D 2021 Road Construction**

Holewinski stated the corner in question should be straightened because cars frequently run off the road. Stefonek recommended pursuing the land need by either a land swap or acquisition. Holewinski suggest the owner may be open to donating the land.

#### **16. Commissioner Report/Discussion: Operations Report**

- Salt/Sand production was almost complete.
- American Asphalt placed CTH Y last and will wait until Hwy 51 is completed.
- Department will be back on the 5 day/week schedule beginning the following Monday.
- Brine Building exterior walls were up, the floor was graded the concrete will be poured.
- The GTA increased by \$133,511 from the prior year.

#### **17. Future Meeting Dates:**

- October 29, 2020
- November 19, 2020
- December 3, 2020
- December 17, 2020

#### **18. Future Agenda Items**

- Future Construction Funding Options
- Chip Seal Operations
- CTH D Land Acquisition
- Closed Session (Topics: Equipment Operator Leave of Absence)

#### **19. Public comments**

No public comments

#### **20. Adjourn**

Chairman Cushing adjourned the meeting at 9:25 a.m.

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Committee Chairman

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Committee Secretary