

PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES
APRIL 1, 2009

PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT: Brown, Rymph, Scribner, Banks, Lindsay, Suprenant, Campbell

PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT: Shay, Hurley

SUPERVISORS: Henke, LaPointe

Debra Prehoda, Clerk

Kevin Hayes, County Administrator

Roger Wickes, County Attorney

Phyllis Cooper, Treasurer

Willy Grimmke, Supt. DPW

Jack McMillan, DPW

Public: Andrew Pate, Tracey Frisch

AGENDA AS PRESENTED IN NOTICE:

1. Call to Order
2. Approval of Minutes – March 3, 2009
3. Department Request/Reports:
 - A. Department of Public Works
 - a. Discuss Supplemental Agreement w/DOT – Rexleigh Road
 - b. Discuss Highway Equipment
 - i. Authorization to Bid Lowboy
 - ii. Repair of Shoulder Machine
 - c. Project Updates – Clinton/Division/Saunders
 - d. Discuss Department Staffing
4. Subcommittee Discussions
5. Other Business
6. Department Head Evaluation – Executive Director, Sewer District
7. Adjournment

Chairman Brown called the meeting to order at 9:31 A.M.

A motion to accept the minutes of the March 3, 2009 meeting was moved by Mr.Scribner, seconded by Mr. Rymph and adopted.

Sam Hall, Project Officer to Study Transportation Issues for Washington County, updated the committee on the comprehensive study of the County's transportation needs, immediate, intermediate and long term transportation needs. The first meeting will be held this afternoon with Department Heads. On April 14th all vehicles will participate in a vehicle usage study tracking routes traveled for the day. This data will then be compiled and used for various studies on the County's transportation needs.

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS: Willy Grimmke, Superintendent of Public Works, addressed the following items with the committee:

Supplemental Agreement w/DOT – Rexleigh Road – A supplemental agreement with DOT is need to increase the reimbursable amount for federal aid \$106,000 and Marchiselli funds for the Rexleigh Road project. A motion to approve supplemental agreement with DOT for the Rexleigh Road project was moved by Mr. Banks, seconded by Mr. Lindsay and adopted.

Eagleville – A motion to approve supplemental agreement w/DOT for the Eagleville project increasing the reimbursement by \$127,000 was moved by Mr. Banks, seconded by Mr. Scribner and adopted.

These should be the final amendments for the above-mentioned projects.

Highway Equipment:

- Authorization to Bid Lowboy – A motion to authorize going to bid for lowboy was moved by Mr. Banks and seconded by Mr. Scribner. Discussion. Consideration of this item was postponed until the projected cost could be obtained. Mr. McMillan reported a lowboy cost approximately \$55,000.00 to \$60,000.000. Willy stated they have done two major rehabs on the lowboy in the last ten years and it is a 35-ton trailer and it is being asked to do more than it was made for. They are going out to bid for a 50-ton lowboy. The bid could include a trade-in option or the old machine could be placed in the auction. The motion to authorize going to bid for lowboy was moved by Mr. Banks, seconded by Mr. Scribner and adopted. Chairman Brown stated the bid should include with the trade as an option.
- Repair of Shoulder Machine – The estimate to repair is in the \$15,000 to \$20,000 range. Howe Brothers will put a cap of \$20,000.00 on the installation of the breaking system that will stop it on a hill and will not be connected to the chain drive system. Mr. Brown stated he feels we should get a written guarantee. A motion to approve repair of shoulder machine was moved by Mr. Rymph and seconded. Discussion. Mr. Rymph asked how reliable will this machine be once repaired. Mr. McMillan stated they try to get the vehicles all fixed and ready to go over the winter put the rear end of this machine has gone in the past. The motion to approve repair of shoulder machine was moved by Mr. Rymph, seconded and adopted. Mr. Banks opposed.

Project Updates – Clinton/Division/Saunders – Willy stated this project is going to be funded with stimulus monies and will be 100% federally reimbursed. In order for the feds to authorize advertising for bids, the agreements need to be place with DOT to receive this funding and Clough Harbor for construction inspection. The total project cost is approximately \$4.04M and the construction inspection and additional design will cost an additional \$612,000. Regarding administrative costs, Willy will talk to DOT to see if his time and his bookkeeper's time could be reimbursed. At this time there will be no local share for construction. CP Rail covered the local share for the design phase. The stimulus plan will pay for the construction of three bridges covering the 5% local share and 15% Marchiselli. This does not save the County any funding as this is a village project being administrated by the County. This frees up other federal funds that can go to other projects. A motion to approve agreements with DOT and Clough Harbor to allow stimulus monies to flow to the Clinton/Division/Saunders project was moved by Mr. Banks, seconded by Mr. Scribner and adopted.

Kevin distributed a settlement agreement reached between the County and Teamsters Union Local 294 regarding employees of the County's Public Works Solid Waste Division, on file. This will be a separate bargaining unit making a total of eight units throughout the County. A motion to present a resolution recognizing unit, Teamsters/Solid Waste employees, was moved by Mr. Banks and seconded by Mr. Sprenant. Discussion. Mr. Brown asked it there would be an additional fee for Mr.

Paltrowitz to negotiate this settlement. Mr. Hayes will get clarification on this matter. This matter was headed to PERB so Mr. Paltrowitz has some expenses. Mr. Suprenant asked why are these matters not covered by the County Attorney's office. Mr. Wickes stated that these matters are traditionally covered by the negotiator. He does all consultations about disciplinary proceedings within the County, he does not go to PERB. A motion to present a resolution recognizing unit, Teamsters/Solid Waste employees, was moved by Mr. Banks, seconded by Mr. Suprenant and adopted.

Roger Wickes, County Attorney, distributed and addressed a proposed local law establishing Waste/Recyclable materials hauler licensing, vehicle identification and hauler reporting requirements, attached. This would require SEQR review. Willy will be contacting some of the local haulers to let them know about this proposed local law is being considered and that many of the objections from the previous proposed law have been removed. Kevin suggested having a meeting with the haulers. Discussion on the cost to enforce this local law was discussed. Supervisors recommended meeting with the haulers at the next meeting. Mr. Brown stated our objective with this proposed local law is to get information. Mr. Lindsay stated there is nothing in the law to indicate costs. Roger Wickes, County Attorney, stated there would need to be inspection/registration enforcement (road costs) and data review/report (office costs). The committee will review and refine this document, fees and enforcement costs and then set up a meeting with the haulers.

Resolution No. 105 of 1988 created a recycling advisory board and was amended by Resolution No. 121 of 1990 that re-activated recycling advisory board, copies on file. Chairman Brown proposed establishing a recycling advisory board with membership consisting of four supervisors, four public members and the Superintendent of Public Works or his designee to streamline discussions and then report back to the Public Works Committee. A motion to create a recycling advisory committee with the following members: four supervisors, four public members and the Superintendent of Public Works or his designee was moved by Mr. Campbell, seconded by Mr. Rymph and adopted.

Department Staffing – Willy distributed and organizational chart, department organization information and copies of job descriptions/local laws, on file. Mr. McMillan, Highway General Supervisor III, was in attendance and participated in the discussion. Willy also stated that one Highway Worker I at the Putnam Highway sub-station was eliminated and that is not noted on the chart (reduced from 5 workers at the Putnam Barn to 4 workers plus the Highway Supervisor). Discussion ensued regarding having the person filling in as Waste Station Supervisor, who is from the southern end of the County, traveling to the northern end of the County to survey the road conditions during a storm. The current Solid Waste Supervisor who is from the northern end of the County was out on leave and has retired. Mr. McMillan, Highway General Supervisor III, surveys the condition of the roads in the southern end of the County. Willy will be bringing the request to backfill the Waste Station Supervisor to the Staffing Review Committee. Mr. LaPointe asked why they would not use the Whitehall Highway Foreman in the north now, as he will most likely replace Mr. McMillan when he retires rather than have two people from the Town of Jackson checking road conditions. Mr. Lindsay suggested eliminating the Solid Waste Station Supervisor position and when Mr. McMillan retires eliminate the Highway General Supervisor III. Willy stated the

department has been reducing staff and combining duties. He stated currently they are running one short in highway and three short in solid waste and has held off immediately filling these positions.

SUB COMMITTEE DISCUSSIONS:

- Paving – Willy stated when they go out to bid for paving; they are going to request figures for pavement in place (bid as an alternate). Between 1500 and 1800 tons of asphalt is used per mile.
- Snow & Ice Contract – Willy distributed and explained the attached handout detailing dump truck costs and reimbursement. “In total, our costs to run our fleet based on our newest most expensive trucks at the peak of fuel pricing were approximately \$44.59 per hour. Based on current fuel pricing it is closer to \$32.00 per hour. The current state reimbursement rate for our trucks in winter snow and ice service is \$96.06.”
- CHIPS – Willy stated he believes that CHIPS funding will be restore to essentially last year’s level.

OTHER BUSINESS: None.

DEPARTMENT HEAD EVALUATION – Executive Director, Sewer District – The department head evaluation for the Executive Director of the Sewer District was deferred until the next meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 12:42 P.M.