

Economic Development, Tourism, Housing, Planning & Transit Committee

Committee Meeting Minutes

DATE & TIME: August 2, 2016 – 6:00 PM
LOCATION: COB, Department of Information Services
25 South Manor Avenue, Kingston, NY
PRESIDING OFFICER: Chairman James F. Maloney
LEGISLATIVE STAFF: Donald Quesnell, Fiscal Analyst
PRESENT: Legislators Berky, (arrived at 6:07 PM), Delaune, Lapp, Litts, Maio & Rodriguez
ABSENT: None
QUORUM PRESENT: Yes

OTHER ATTENDEES: Legislator Donaldson, Chris White, Planning Department, Chris Fiore, Assistant Director/Tech Support of Information Services, Sylvia Wohlfahrt, Information Services Director, Thomas Stanmyer, Assistant Director/Operations of Information Services and Robert Dibella, UCAT.

Chairman Maloney called the meeting to order at 6:02 PM.

Chairman Maloney thanked everyone for meeting at Information Services.

Sylvia Wohlfahrt thanked everyone for meeting at Information Services and explained the three branches of Information Services which are run by Chris Fiore, Assistant Director of Tech Support, Tom Stanmyer, Assistant Director of Operations and Karla Wainwright, Assistant Director of Development.

Sylvia introduced Mr. Fiore and explained his duties are to maintain the server and network infrastructure. In addition to keep the data communications running for the county.

Tom Stanmyer is in charge of running operations and handling the day to day server problems. Both branches are located at the help desk. The help desk troubleshoots County computer issues, provides assistance to the County email and public safety systems, provides desktop support to over 1000 PC, 500 laptops, assists telephone communications, landlines, cellphones and smart phones. In addition, IS orders research and receives information to make sure systems are upgraded. Lastly, part of Information Services is Central Services which handles large scale printing and copying jobs.

Karla Wainwright, handles the application development. Application development evolved from programmers programming applications from scratch. This team reviews software products, does RFP's, assists with the departments in selecting software and assists with implementing the software. They perform business analysis with departments, make recommendations and perform small scale programming for unique situations. In addition, there is the administration part that does requisitions and contracts.

Information Service's mission is to assist all County "customers" so they may do their job. Those customers include approximately 37 County departments such as elected County officials, the DA,

the Sheriff, the County Clerk, and the Comptroller. They also do work for local municipalities during assessment time and tax season. Information Services created a tax collection system for school districts and lastly, the public can utilize Information Services to print labels, reports and maps.

They are running 30 different lines for businesses including the bus transportation, police department and the health department. Forty two network sites and 120 servers. Storage is spread out around the County.

District Attorney, Public Works, UCAT, Health Department all are using tablets.

Applications are programs that allow you to do a certain jobs. Each department has specialized applications for their own needs. The following are four different websites that are maintained: Tourism, the County website, GIS (geographical information systems) mapping and County Clerk archiving. The toughest jobs are keeping on top of new technology, infrastructure design and security. GIS (geographical information systems) team makes maps that show visual representation of data for re-districting to map out election districts.

The following are currently active projects. Replacing Lotus Notes with Microsoft Office 365 which will be rolling out by the end of the year. WIFI at the fairgrounds, implementing a new help desk system, a new work order for public works, mobile access for the Sheriff, a new record management system for the clerk's office and real property system is migrating to an up-to-date platform.

Information Services works for everyone and all technology money is used to help all departments.

Chairman Maloney asked if IS does communication for the Sheriff's department. Sylvia confirmed that IS does do communication for the Sheriff's Department by running a public safety application that has computer aided dispatch which consists of police records, 911 communications and it is shared by all local PD's. Everyone uses the same system. All technologies in the cars are set up on the back end by IS.

Legislator Berky asked if IS does cross benefit analysis in general on upgrades and on the tablets. Sylvia stated "yes" on manager applications but not on the tablets. Bob Dibella, UCAT, added they were running on mobile data equipment that is \$5000 a piece and it was outdated. So to be cost efficient the tablets only cost .99 cents. The same software program is loaded onto the tablet.

Legislator Berky asked to run a cost benefit analysis on the tablets. Don Quesnell responded the clerk had been researching and asked Sylvia what is the useful life of the tablets. The response was they have a three year warranty and the devices are HP Leap pads. Sylvia suggested to reach out and IS and the Legislature can collaborate. Dave Donaldson added IS is very quick and a pleasure to work with. Legislature Maloney also added IS does many tasks and spoke very highly of them.

Discussion ensued regarding other IS updates and possibility developing a sub-committee to collaborate additional website design.

Motion No. 1: **Moved to Approve the Minutes of the July 5, 2016 & July 19, 2016 meetings**

Motion Made By: Legislator Rodriguez

Motion Seconded By: Legislator Maio

Discussion:

None

Voting In Favor: Legislators Berky, Delaune, Lapp, Litts, Maloney, Maio and Rodriguez

Voting Against: None

Votes in Favor: 7

Votes Against: 0

Disposition: Minutes approved

Resolution No. 296: Authorizing Pavement Over Existing Rails In Mid-Town Kingston

Resolution Summary: This resolution authorizes paving over the existing rails to create Ulster County Linear Park, allowing the activation of the rails if needed for Business Development or tourism.

Motion No. 2: **Resolution moved for discussion**

Motion By: Legislator Maio

Motion Seconded By: Legislator Litts

Discussion:

Legislator Donaldson spoke about the previously submitted letter from Rail Mart in support of paving over the rails. With the new Catskill Mountain Railroad contract he suggested that Rail Mart would like having a connection to the Catskill Mountain Railroad. It would economically help in the transfer of railroad equipment. Legislator Donaldson stated he is aware that Barton & Loguidice and other vendors had sent letters against the paving over rails and he has forwarded letters from areas where paving over the rails has been done. Legislator Donaldson's main point was to make sure the tracks were not removed and would like to continue to have the ability to use the rails in the future.

Legislator Rodriguez asked Chris White if there was a down side to paving over the rails. Chris White responded "yes" and previously provided correspondence from the National Park Service who highly recommends not paving over the rails. In addition, also provided letters from engineers stating that this option would be difficult to maintain when paving over metal. Mr. White also mentioned that this part of the railroad has not been active since 1991 and the Catskill Mtn. Railroad has been transporting equipment by truck.

Discussion ensued regarding paving over the rails and Mr. White stated that an engineer has not been hired and in his opinion this action would be premature due to lack of cost estimates and cost analysis.

Legislator Donaldson stated he had a difference in opinion and a discussion ensued with Chris White.

Legislator Litts added there are several examples in our area that have been paved over and it has not been detrimental. In addition, the section in Kingston would need a resolution by the Legislature to be removed.

Legislator Berky stated she sees both points of view and is interested in the protection of the railroad for industrial heritage purposes. She would like to see a cost analysis related to both sides.

Legislator Maio stated she understands Legislator Donaldson's opinion but did not feel the resolution was complete.

Discussion ensued with Legislator Donaldson regarding his thoughts on policies and how things should be taken into consideration.

Chris White stated typically when designing a trail a scope of alternatives is laid out. Mr. White suggested when the project starts they will look at the alternatives and will provide documented cost analysis.

Legislator Berky asked if the removal of the rails is a competitive bidding process to which Mr. White responded yes.

Legislator Rodriguez suggested he would err on the side of caution and vote no but if postponing the resolution he would like more information on the implications and is concerned about paving over the rails.

Resolution withdrawn by Legislator Donaldson.

Voting In Favor:	Legislators Berky, Delaune, Lapp, Litts, Maloney, Maio and Rodriguez
Voting Against:	None
Votes in Favor:	7
Votes Against:	0
Disposition:	Resolution Withdrawn by Legislator Donaldson

Resolution No. 326: Establishing A Policy For Ulster County Bus Advertising

Resolution Summary: This resolution authorizes that only public service announcements be advertised on Ulster County buses. Such as non-commercial, non-political advertising and promoting social services and public benefit programs.

Motion No. 3:	Resolution No. 326 moved for discussion
Motion By:	Legislator Rodriguez
Motion Seconded By:	Legislator Litts

Discussion:

Legislator Donaldson reasoning for putting forth this resolution was to promote more effective, healthier advertising for the County. Legislature Donaldson feels the current ads promote litigation. Discussion ensued regarding the heroin poster that was submitted recently and how Legislature Donaldson feels those types of ads should be advertised. Legislator Donaldson would like to see the cost of bill boards and asked the committee how they would like to proceed on research of this resolution.

Legislator Maloney asked Mr. Dibella approximately how many buses are on the road and how many are wrapped. Mr. Dibella responded there are 20 buses and 6 or 7 have advertisements. Discussion ensued regarding the list of current advertisements on the buses and the DOT regulations.

Legislator Berky asked what the budget numbers were currently and the costs incurred. Mr. Dibella responded the revenue thus far in 2.5 years in \$30,000 which is recycled back into the department which is a requirement of the federal government. There is no cost to UCAT.

Legislator Rodriguez asked who developed the policy and Mr. Dibella responded the DOT advises on the legal requirements.

Legislator Berky would like to know what the advertisers financial benefits are on mobile billboards verses stationary billboards and would be willing to assist in the research.

Discussion ensued regarding advertising.

Legislator Rodriguez asked Legislator Donaldson how he would like to move forward and Legislator Berky suggested she would be willing to assist in the analysis of best practices.

Motion to postpone resolution.

Motion No. 4 **Moved to postpone Resolution No. 326 for one month**
Motion By: Legislator Rodriguez
Motion Seconded By: Legislator Litts

Voting In Favor: Legislators Berky, Delaune, Lapp, Litts, Maloney, Maio and Rodriguez
Voting Against: None
Votes in Favor: 7
Votes Against: 0
Disposition: Resolution Postponed

Resolution No. 367: Approving The Execution Of A Contract In Excess Of \$50,000.00 Entered Into By The County – Alindus, Inc. – Department Of Information Services

Resolution Summary: This resolution approves the execution of a contract with Alindus, Inc. in the amount of \$112,750.00 to provide Cherwell software to the county.

Motion No. 5: **Moved to adopt Resolution No. 367**

Motion By: Legislator Maio
Motion Seconded By: Legislator Delaune

Discussion:

None

Voting In Favor: Legislators Berky, Delaune, Lapp, Litts, Maloney, Maio and Rodriguez
Voting Against: None
Votes in Favor: 7
Votes Against: 0
Disposition: Resolution Adopted

Resolution No. 370: Approving The Execution Of A Contract Amendment Causing The Aggregate Contract Amount To Be In Excess Of \$50,000.00 Entered Into By The County – Next Step Digital, LLC – Department Of Information Services

Resolution Summary: This resolution approves the execution of a contract with Next Step Digital, LLC in the amount of \$19,250.00 to provide website design, development and support services.

Motion No. 6: **Moved to adopt Resolution No. 370**
Motion By: Legislator Rodriguez
Motion Seconded By: Legislator Litts

Discussion:

None

Voting In Favor: Legislators Berky, Delaune, Lapp, Litts, Maloney, Maio and Rodriguez
Voting Against: None
Votes in Favor: 7
Votes Against: 0
Disposition: Resolution adopted

Resolution No. 375: Issuing Determination and Findings For The Hudson Valley Rail Trail West: Phase 4- PIN 8761.21- in the Town of Lloyd Pursuant to Eminent Domain Procedure Law- Department of Planning

Resolution Summary: This resolution issues determination and findings for the Hudson Valley Rail Trail.

Motion No. 7: **Resolution No. 375 moved for discussion**
Motion By: Legislator Litts
Motion Seconded By: Legislator Maio

Discussion:

Legislator Maloney called the attention to page 3, last paragraph and changed the date from October 1st to October 31st.

Motion No. 8: Moved to amend Resolution No. 375 as amended
Motion By: Legislator Maloney
Motion Seconded By: Legislator Maio

Discussion:

Legislator Rodriguez asked Chris White about eminent domain to which Mr. White responded we are not taking anything. Discussion ensued regarding eminent domain.

Motion No. 9: Moved to adopt Resolution No. 375 as amended
Motion By: Legislator Delaune
Motion Seconded By: Legislator Rodriguez

Discussion:

None

Voting In Favor: Legislators Berky, Delaune, Lapp, Litts, Maloney, Maio and Rodriguez
Voting Against: None
Votes in Favor: 7
Votes Against: 0
Disposition: Resolution Adopted

Old Business: Discussion of Resolution No. 170 - Re- Authorizing the Update of the County-Wide Economic Development Strategy Ulster Tomorrow.

Motion 10: Moved to postpone Resolution No. 170
Motion By: Legislator Rodriguez
Motion Seconded By: Legislator Maio

There being no further business, Legislator Lapp motioned to adjourn, seconded by Legislator Maio.

Time: 7:25 PM

Respectfully submitted: Donald Quesnell, Fiscal Analyst
Minutes Approved: September 6, 2016