

**Ways & Means Committee
& Public Works & Capital Projects Committee
Special Joint Meeting Minutes**

DATE & TIME: March 11, 2020 – 6:00
LOCATION: KL Binder Library, 6th Floor, County Office Building,
244 Fair Street, Kingston, NY
PRESIDING OFFICERS: Lynn Archer, Chairwoman of Ways & Means
Dean Fabiano, Chairman of Public Works
LEGISLATIVE STAFF: Natalie Kelder
PRESENT: Legislators Tracey Bartels, Brian Cahill, John Gavaris,
Manna Jo Greene, Heidi Haynes, Jonathan Heppner, Herbert
Litts, III, Eve Walter
ABSENT: Mary Beth Maio, Kenneth J. Ronk, Jr.
QUORUM PRESENT: Yes
OTHER ATTENDEES: Legislator Laura Petit; Deputy County Executive, Marc
Rider; Commissioner of Public Works, Tom Jackson;
Deputy Commissioner of Public Works-Finance, Don
Quesnell; Resident, Kathy Nolan

- **Chairwoman Archer called the meeting to order at 6:15 PM**
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Chairwoman Archer explained that the purpose of the meeting is to review the Capital Improvement Plan in more detail and get a better understanding of the information provided.

GENERAL GOVERNMENT

Equipment

Central Auto Vehicles – Marc Rider, Deputy County Executive, explained that a portion of the County Fleet needs to be replaced annually and these vehicles are identified by the fleet manager. Don Quesnell, Deputy Commissioner of Public Works-Finance, added that the resolution back up will always have the details of which vehicles will be purchased. Tom Jackson, Commissioner of Public Works explained that the new vehicles will also be in alignment with the green fleet policy, replacing aging vehicles with efficient vehicles.

Legislator Bartels mentioned that over the years there has been discussion about if the vehicles should be bonded for and questioned what is typical. Marc Rider explained that you can, and Ulster County does, bond for vehicles but it is for a shorter time period that is equal to the useful life of the vehicle.

Legislator Heppner mentioned that the current green fleet policy may need to be updated.

Legislator Walter suggested adding more details to the Capital Improvement Plan, i.e., the number of total vehicles or the percentage of the fleet being replaced in each year.

Legislator Cahill questioned if there was a breakdown of the current vehicles with age and mileage. Marc Rider stated that that information will be given when the Capital Project is established. Don Quesnell noted that this just an overview plan and is similar to a 'bookmark' which will be seen for many other projects such as "various roads, various roofs, and various parking lots.

Chairman Fabiano agreed that the breakdown and details of the vehicles are provided in the Resolution for the Capital plan.

Legislator Haynes asked if there was a long-term capitalization plan in accordance with the New York State Comptrollers requirements as this would have the fleet details and information broken down. Marc Rider answered that it is within Finance / Budget.

Legislator Greene asked why the budget only goes out three years and not the full five years that other plans do. Marc Rider explained that the future mileage of the vehicles is unknown and Don Quesnell noted that the prices change.

New Tax System Software Upgrade – Chairwoman Archer noted that this project is currently in the Request for Proposal (RFP) stage. Marc Rider added that this system will add a lot of efficiencies by taking electronic payments.

Facilities

Relocation of Various Departments – Chairwoman Archer commented that this is a broad category and that intent needs to be added, there should be a list of which departments are moving locations.

Legislator Bartels noted that the Legislature will understand that this is plan and subject to change. Marc Rider, Deputy County Executive, was hesitant to put in writing details regarding a department move when the conversation with that department may not have even occurred yet. Legislator Bartels was sympathetic to this reservation but asked at the minimum, the upcoming years information being included as they are charged with approving the funds in the budget process.

Marc Rider noted that last month the Legislature approved the move for Information Services. However, when it is time for another department to move, the legislature will receive the details and exact cost of the specific move.

Legislator Gavaris questioned if, when the moves are complete, will all the space at the Business Resource Center (BRC) be occupied. Marc Rider said that this is most likely the case, but noted that the full three million in this capital project is not for moves to the BRC alone, there are moves to other locations within this Capital Project.

Legislator Heppner asked what is entailed in the cost of this project. Marc Rider and Don Quesnell, Deputy Commissioner of Public Works-Finance, explained that the it includes

materials, design, moving costs, equipment, but rent cannot be included. Tom Jackson, Commissioner of Public Works, also noted that there is significant savings when work can be done in house and that is done as much as possible.

Emergency Management Co-Location – Don Quesnell informed the Committee that last year this project was referred to as “Ulster County LEC Mezzanine”, the name was updated as the scope of this project has changed and it is no longer located in the mezzanine.

Marc Rider, Deputy County Executive, explained that they wanted to move Emergency Management to the Law Enforcement Center. A space has been identified over visitations where some additional space can be built. Safety and Stop DWI have already been moved out of this location and into the Business Resource Center. The other option would be to build upwards, architects are currently reviewing this option.

Legislator Walter questioned if any of the empty space at the jail has been considered. Marc Rider explained that using an empty pod has not been seriously considered because they would have to close the pod and it would need to be approved.

Legislator Bartels asked if a space study has been completed as there is lot of extra space at the jail. Marc Rider noted that a lot of the unused space is in the form of vast hallways. However, one plan does take space from the Sheriff, who is included and receptive to the idea, to become the Emergency Operations Center. However, this frees up other space for the Sheriff as his dispatch becomes co-located with Emergency Management dispatch creating additional efficiencies.

Veteran Cemetery Upgrades – Legislator Bartels commented that the detail is excellent in this project, however, she suggested adding the resolution numbers.

Caar Building – Legislator Cahill questioned what is housed in the Caar Building. Marc Rider, Deputy County Executive, explained that this is solely crime victims.

COB Elevators – Legislator Bartels asked which entrance is considered the rear entrance. Don Quesnell, Deputy Commissioner of Public Works-Finance, explained that the parking lot is the rear entrance and the plan is to add a freight elevator and to replace all the water pipes in the building.

Legislator Heppner noted that medical evacuations are also listed on the project and asked what the current medical evacuation plan is. Tom Jackson, Commissioner of Public Works, explained that a stretcher will not fit in current elevators and that is the prime motivator is this project. The current evacuation plan uses an evacuation chair that goes down the stairs.

Legislator Greene clarified with Marc Rider that the two current elevators will remain untouched and a third elevator will be added for freight and medical evacuations.

Courthouse Fascia – Legislator Greene noted that this project increases energy efficiencies.

Development Court Pervious Pavement – Legislator Archer asked if we are doing more pervious pavement projects. Marc Rider, Deputy County Executive, explained that it doesn't make sense in every situation, however, when it does make sense it is being done.

Information Services Technology Upgrade – Legislator Archer confirmed that this is a new project this year. Marc Rider, Deputy County Executive, explained that this expense is often in operations but there is a useful life and can be bonded for. Don Quesnell, Deputy Commissioner of Public Works-Finance, explained that this is too significant of a cost to come out of operations but Information Services needed the upgrades. The Request for Proposal (RFP) has not been completed.

Fairground Improvements – Legislator Archer noted that ADA Parking at the Fairgrounds was completed last year.

Don Quesnell, Deputy Commissioner of Public Works-Finance, confirmed with Legislator Heppner, that this project was just recently amended for design.

Legislator Walter mentioned that the book states 'potential state funding available' but requested more details regarding how much is potentially available and will there be applications submitted to receive the potential funding.

Chairwoman Archer asked when the funding is added to the box on the project page. Don Quesnell explained that the funding is only added when it is guaranteed or it is considered a certainty.

Pump House Control Upgrade – No Questions

Public Safety Training Center – Chairwoman Archer noted that the name on this project was changed from "Fire Training Center" and the price increased three million dollars due to the cost of adding the second floor. Don Quesnell, Deputy Commissioner of Public Works-Finance, explained that the name was changed due to the funding source and that it must be called the "Public Safety Training Center" to obtain the funding.

Marc Rider, Deputy County Executive, mentioned that a solution was still needed for the administration building. Bids are expected to come in higher than they are willing to pay, and Public Works may be called upon to renovate the current structure.

Golden Hill Water Tanks – Chairwoman Archer noted that this project increased \$500,000 from the prior year. Marc Rider, Deputy County Executive, explained that the project was previously slated to be a repair but is now a full replacement. Tom Jackson, Commissioner of Public Works, explained that an engineering analysis was done and the cost of replacing the tank was comparable to the cost of the of the repairs needed on the current tank. In addition, the materials used in a new tank are glass instead of paint on the inside of the current tank. Don Quesnell added that the tank is currently 49 years old and the expected lifespan is 50 years.

Legislator Haynes asked and it was clarified that the water tanks provide water for the Jail, UCAT, and the nursing home.

DSS Basement Repair – Legislator Bartels questioned the timeline of this project as it appears urgent. Chairwoman Archer stated this project came before the Legislature last year. Don Quesnell, Deputy Commissioner of Public Works-Finance, explained this project is no longer ‘in-house’ and the work has begun.

Legislator Cahill commented that the water table is high in the Town of Ulster and remembers flooding and evacuations from this building in the past. Legislator Cahill stated the priority should be to fix the flooding in the basement prior to moving additional departments into the building. Marc Rider, Deputy County Executive, noted that an engineer needs to identify the cause of the flooding. Tom Jackson, Commissioner of Public Works, explained that they are establishing hydrostatic wells to determine if the water table is high and noted that this flooding began in a very wet year – 2018.

Old Jail Demolition – Marc Rider, Deputy County Executive, explained that they are potentially looking at reusing this property for affordable housing.

Card Readers for Substations – Chairwoman Archer noted that this was just recently approved by the Legislature.

UCLEC Fire Alarm / Heating Controls – Don Quesnell, Deputy Commissioner of Public Works-Finance, stated that this project has not gone out to bid yet. The system is old and they can no longer find the parts needed to make repairs, therefore, the entire system needs to be replaced.

Legislator Gavaris questioned if Public Works is striving to centralize the building systems to be uniform throughout or purely going with the lowest bidder. Don Quesnell explained that they would take those factors into consideration however they would adhere to procurement policy and do whatever is the best value to the County.

Quarry Complex Renovations – No Questions

Records Storage Building – Chairwoman Archer noted that the cost of this project significantly decreased from last year’s Capital Improvement Program. Don Quesnell, Deputy Commissioner of Public Works-Finance, explained that in 2019 the HVAC Units failed and they were repaired under a separate Capital Plan, No. 396, that was established purely for HVAC.

Roof Replacement Program – Chairwoman Archer noted that the cost of the project doubled from the previous year’s Capital Improvement Program. Don Quesnell, Deputy Commissioner of Public Works-Finance, explained that the five-million-dollar increase was due to the inclusion of the jail roof.

Legislator Greene asked about the feasibility study regarding the roof on the jail. Don Quesnell explained they have already reached out to the Planning Department and the Department of the

Environment and a meeting is scheduled with them next week. Tom Jackson, Commissioner of Public Works, noted that they fully intend on evaluating these for buildings for solar units.

Legislator Gavaris questioned the age of the roof of the jail and mentioned that it should be under warranty as it is less than twenty years. Tom Jackson, explained that parts of the roof are in good shape and other parts are not, the warranty is not valid on the parts of the roof that are not in good shape. Tom Jackson explained that he was confident with the company's recommendations and the work that is slated to be completed in 2024.

Legislator Bartels stated that she took the tour of the jail and saw the leaky areas and expressed concern regarding the integrity of the infrastructure. Tom Jackson explained that they used a drone and infrared reading to find and address the wet spots. Tom Jackson also noted that some of the leaks date back to the construction of the jail. Public Works is currently addressing the leaks as they are informed of them.

Security Improvements Various Buildings – Tom Jackson, Commissioner of Public Works, explained that this project has remained in the book until it is decided what the correct approach to upgrade security is.

Sheriff's Office Impound Yard – Don Quesnell, Deputy Commissioner of Public Works-Finance, explained that the Legislature just executed a contract for this, next a Capital Project will be created for cameras, fencing, and some paving.

Trudy Resnick Farber Building – Legislator Bartels asked which departments are working at this location. Tom Jackson, Commissioner of Public Works answered that there was a whole list of uses for this building but didn't have the specifics at this time.

Legislator Gavaris stated that there are very few services in this building today and there has never been any true restoration.

Legislator Greene expressed that she would like to see some energy efficiencies included and she does not. Don Quesnell, Deputy Commissioner of Public Works-Finance, commented that they will consider energy efficient choices where it is applicable to this Capital Project. Legislators Cahill and Heppner noted that this project is more cosmetic.

Chairwoman Archer asked what the County is using the building for and Legislator Gavaris noted that he thinks there are some services, including mental health. However, Legislator Gavaris does not believe it is the services that people in the area truly need, considering the number of emergency housing placements that are being done in Ellenville.

Reconstruction of Various Parking Lots – Don Quesnell, Deputy Commissioner of Public Works-Finance, stated that this is another example of a 'bookmark' and if they decided to construct a parking lot they would come to the legislature with specific information to establish a capital project.

Chairwoman Archer clarified that there are no identified parking lots at this time.

Legislator Bartels commented that a true page holder is fine, however, there is a specific dollar value attached to this page holder. Don Quesnell, stated that those figures are older and get rolled forward annually. Legislator Bartels again expressed the sentiment that the Legislature will understand when a plan is created and a resolution with real numbers and comes before them.

Legislator Walter again requested the need to add the parking lots they are aware of to the Capital Improvement Plan.

Legislator Litts added that if an immediate need comes up, they can deviate from the initial list.

UCLEC Energy Upgrades – Don Quesnell, Deputy Commissioner of Public Works-Finance, explained that the one-million-dollar figure for 2020 is for the boilers. The bid came back this week and they will be conducting interviews and then coming before the Legislature with the capital project.

EDUCATION – Chairwoman Archer noted that the SUNY Ulster Capital Projects are all specific.

Equipment

SUNY Ulster Equipment – No Questions

Facilities

SUNY Ulster Roof and Exterior- Legislator Bartels questioned the status of this project. Chairwoman Archer noted that the project increased almost four million dollars as problems were found and the project expanded. Legislator Haynes explained that safety rails were added.

SUNY Ulster Sitework – Chairwoman Archer noted that this project increased approximately \$500,000 from the last year. Legislator Haynes noted that these upgrades are with the Dormitory Authority of the State of New York (DASNY).

SUNY Ulster Infrastructure Improvements – Chairwoman Archer questioned the specific elements of the project for the current year. Marc Rider, Deputy County Executive, listed the water tank, the water line, and potentially Burroughs Hall upgrades, as well as a small piece of the Public Safety Training Center.

SUNY Ulster Facilities Master Plan- No Questions

PUBLIC SAFETY

Equipment – No Questions

Rapid Response Vessel – No Questions

Live Scan Software – No Questions

Emergency Communications Radios – No Questions

Enterprise Software – Marc Rider, Deputy County Executive, noted that this program is already live. Don Quesnell, Deputy Commissioner of Public Works-Finance, added that this was left on the books so billing can be finalized.

TRANSPORTATION

Equipment

UCAT – Equipment and Facility Upgrades

UCAT – Mandatory Bus Replacement – Marc Rider, Deputy County Executive, explained that this is similar to the Central Auto Vehicles Project and fleet replacement process.

UCAT – Bus Garage – Marc Rider, Deputy County Executive, explained that this is a new project, the storage is needed to expand to accommodate the increased number of buses.

Legislator Haynes questioned whether the busses are currently stored inside vs outside. Don Quesnell, Deputy Commissioner of Public Works-Finance, explained that about thirty busses are at UCAT and there are six to seven bays, however, not all the busses fit inside of a bay. Marc Rider, explained that the goal is to house the new busses inside a bay. Legislator Haynes expressed dissatisfaction with the idea of investing money in a new fleet and allowing them to sit out in the weather.

Legislator Heppner asked if the County was able to repurpose any of the City of Kingston busses. Marc Rider stated that the County is using the City of Kingston busses for the City of Kingston routes. In addition, Public Works is leasing space from the City of Kingston to house the busses for the short term.

Salt Pre-activation System- Marc Rider, Deputy County Executive, explained that the County is now pre-activating salt before it is applied to roads. Tom Jackson, Commissioner of Public Works, went on to explain that when wet salt is applied to the road there is less scatter than when dry salt is applied. In addition, there is no waiting time for cars to drive over the salt and activate it, plus you end up using about 30% less product.

Legislator Litts noted that they also make a system with tanks that fit on either side of the salt spreader and shoots water down with the salt. Tom Jackson indicated that the new trucks have this side saddle system.

Highway Equipment / Equipment Replacement Roads & Bridges- Don Quesnell, Deputy Commissioner of Public Works-Finance, explained that this is the equivalent to the Central Auto Fleet for the Highway Department and another ‘bookmark’. When the Capital Project is established, a full list of everything being purchased will be provided to the Legislature.

Legislator Bartels questioned the price variances from year to year. Don Quesnell and Tom Jackson, Commissioner of Public Works, explained that there is staff assigned to managing the inventory and deciding what needs to be replaced.

Infrastructure

River Rd. Drainage – No Questions

Salem St. Stabilization – Chairwoman Archer questioned why Salem Street is listed twice in the Capital Improvement Program. Don Quesnell, Deputy Commissioner of Public Works-Finance, explained that there are two locations needing stabilization on the same street. Tom Jackson, Commissioner of Public Works, noted that there have been several stabilization projects in the recent years and they believe it is due to a very wet season from the Fall of 2017 and into 2018.

Dock Street Reconstruction – No Questions

Creekside Drive Slope Failure – Don Quesnell, Deputy Commissioner of Public Works-Finance, noted that there are two locations on Creekside Drive that need attention.

Highway Safety Program- Legislator Walter questioned if an analysis was done to identify the “high crash locations” throughout the County and what is the best way to reduce speeding. Marc Rider, Deputy County Executive, explained that an analysis was done through the planning department to identify the “high crash locations”.

Legislator Litts added that the Ulster County Transportation Council does analysis and puts together the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) and completes the design process.

Tom Jackson, Commissioner of Public Works, shared that an analysis is being done on all Ulster County Roads. All roads are driven with a camera that creates a database, once during the day and once at night, to pick up the reflectivity of the existing signs. This will help to identify missing or misplaced signs as well.

Asphalt Overlay of Various Roads – Marc Rider, Deputy County Executive, explained that this work will not be done until 2021, this project is completed every three years.

Bridge Flag Response – Chairwoman Archer mentioned that a discussion was had during the February Ways & Means Committee Meeting and the committee is looking for more information regarding how bridges are being assessed. Tom Jackson, Commissioner of Public Works, explained that there has been a lot of discussion regarding this topic. The engineering division is going to start collecting the data on flags historically and going forward. The intent is to be more proactive and incorporating preventative maintenance.

Legislator Litts explained that Federal Law requires every bridge be inspected by the State every two years. A full bridge report is completed and every piece of the bridge is reviewed, rated and plotted on a histogram. Legislator Litts went on to explain that Ulster County has the best record in Region 8. 7 yellow and 2 red flags out of 158 bridges is an excellent record and one bridge can have multiple flags. Legislator Litts also noted that a single overweight truck can take a highly-rated bridge and bring it right down to a red flag bridge.

Shawangunk Kill Bridge – Tom Jackson, Commissioner of Public Works, explained Ulster County was awarded a grant for this project through the “Bridge New York” program.

Samsonville Rd. Culvert - Tom Jackson, Commissioner of Public Works, explained Ulster County was awarded a grant for this project through the “Bridge New York” program.

Cape Ave Bridge- Don Quesnell, Deputy Commissioner of Public Works-Finance, explained that this is going to be absorbed into the DPW Bridge Program and this capital will go away in next year’s plan.

DPW Bridge Program – Don Quesnell, Deputy Commissioner of Public Works-Finance, stated that three bridges have been approved in 2020.

New Salem Road Stabilization – No Questions

Creekside Slope Stabilization – No Questions

Maltby Hollow Bridge Replacement – Tom Jackson, Commissioner of Public Works, noted that they just received word that Ulster County should be receiving a one-million-dollar grant on this bridge.

Flood Resiliency Work – Legislator Bartels asked for an overview of this project and how the funds are being used. Marc Rider, Deputy County Executive, stated that the Town of Olive is using their New York Rising Funding to make repairs that will keep the County’s Bridge safer. Tom Jackson, Commissioner of Public Works, added that the Town of Olive is doing repairs to the creek banks. Legislator Litts noted that the Town of Olive is protecting a County asset.

Chairwoman Archer confirmed that this project was previously named the Bushkill Stream Inspection.

Perrine’s Bridge Restoration – Chairwoman Archer clarified this is the same as Perrine’s Bridge Abutment from the previous year’s Capital Project Plan but has increased significantly in cost. Don Quesnell, Deputy Commissioner of Public Works-Finance, explained that this has been on the plan for so long that it needed newer estimates.

Marc Rider, Deputy County Executive, added that the current County Executive does not want to spend money on this bridge, noting that it is historical but a significant amount of money for a bridge that is a walking bridge only.

Legislator Litts suggested contacting the New York State Historic Preservation Office. The group was enthusiastic about the idea of reaching out for various funding opportunities.

Reconstruction of Various Shoulders – Don Quesnell, Deputy Commissioner of Public Works-Finance, noted that this is a ‘bookmark’. Legislator Bartels commented that the County should be attempting to expand the shoulders in the most generous manner to accommodate bikers and walkers. Discussion ensued regarding the process, cost, and locations of these projects.

Reconstruction Various Roads – Don Quesnell, Deputy Commissioner of Public Works-Finance, noted that this is a ‘bookmark’.

Route 299 Shoulder Widening – No Questions

Samsonville Rd. FantineKill Bridge – No Questions

Slope Analysis and Stabiliation – No Questions

Sundown Bridge- No Questions

Tongore Road – No Questions

Western Ave. Repaving – Marc Rider, Deputy County Executive, commented that this road is getting paved and it is the opportunity to look at the shoulders.

Zena Rd. over Sawkill Wolven Bridge – Don Quesnell, Deputy Commissioner of Public Works-Finance, stated that this project is currently in the design phase.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT / CULTURAL AND RECREATION

Economic Development

Planning Shovel Read Projects – Marc Rider, Deputy County Executive, explained that this is a planning project, there is New York State Legislation allowing the County to do some infrastructure work to assist.

Planning Studies

Transportation Planning Studies – No Questions

Infrastructure

Harry Thayer Park- Marc Rider, Deputy County Executive, explained that this is right off the Thruway Traffic Circle and goes down to the creek. Marc Rider, noted that it must be opened and visibility created. Tom Jackson, Commissioner of Public Works, added that this is also a flood zone.

Planning Kingston Rail Trail- Marc Rider, Deputy County Executive, explained that this is paused as there is a lawsuit.

Planning Open Space- Chairwoman Archer noted that the Open Space Plan is from 2007 and asked if it was going to be updated.

Stream Management Program- Legislator Bartels questioned how this program intersects with Soil and Water or Cornell Cooperative. Marc Rider, Deputy County Executive, noted that the plan lists funding as part of the consent order between DEP and DEC.

Midtown Linear Park- No Questions

New Business: Chairwoman Archer requested that any comments or changes to the plan be sent to legislative to Legislative Staff to be compiled.

Old Business: None

Chairwoman Archer asked the members if there was any other business, and hearing none;

Adjournment

Motion Made By: Legislator Haynes

Motion Seconded By: Legislator Litts

No. of Votes in Favor: 10

No. of Votes Against: 0

Time: 8:52 PM

Respectfully submitted: Natalie Kelder

Minutes Approved: May 12, 2020