

**ULSTER COUNTY LEGISLATURE  
COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES**

**NAME OF COMMITTEE:** Public Works & Capital Projects Committee  
**DATE & TIME:** August 2, 2010 @ 7:00 PM  
**PLACE:** Legislative Chambers, 6<sup>th</sup> Floor, County Office Building

**LEGISLATORS PRESENT:** Chairman Dean Fabiano, Deputy Chairman Peter Loughran, Legislators Roy Hochberg, Frank Felicello (Arrived @ 7:10), Jeanette Provenzano, Kevin Roberts

**LEGISLATORS EXCUSED:** Legislator James Maloney

**OTHERS ATTENDING:** Deputy County Executive Robert Sudlow, Marion DuBois, Danielle Cardella, Tova Weitzman, Lenore Ridgway (LWV)

---

**MEETING CALLED TO ORDER @ 7:00 PM**

**APPROVAL OF THE JULY 8, 2010 MINUTES:**

Motion offered by Legislator Roberts, Seconded by Legislator Loughran, All in Favor, Carried.

**RESOLUTIONS:**

1. **Resolution Draft No. 0802, August 17, 2010** - Authorizing The Chairman Of The Ulster County Legislature To Execute An Inter-Municipal Shared Services Agreement With Town Of Saugerties For Maintenance Of County Roads - Department Of Public Works (Highways And Bridges)

Motion offered by Legislator Provenzano, Seconded by Legislator Loughran, All in Favor, Carried.

Discussion: None

2. **Resolution Draft No. 0803, August 17, 2010** - Authorizing The Chairman Of The Ulster County Legislature To Execute An Inter-Municipal Shared Services Agreement With Town Of Woodstock For Maintenance Of County Roads - Department Of Public Works (Highways And Bridges)

Motion offered by Legislator Felicello, Seconded by Legislator Roberts, All in Favor, Carried.

Discussion: None

3. **Resolution Draft No. 0804, August 17, 2010** - Authorizing The Chairman Of The Ulster County Legislature To Execute An Inter-Municipal Shared Services Agreement With Town Of New Paltz For Maintenance Of County Roads - Department Of Public Works (Highways And Bridges)

Motion offered by Legislator Provenzano, Seconded by Legislator Loughran, All in Favor, Carried.

Discussion: None

4. Resolution Draft No. 0805, August 17, 2010 - Authorizing The Chairman Of The Ulster County Legislature To Execute A Revised Lease Agreement With Tivoli Management Corporation For The Mental Health Satellite Office In Highland - Department Of Public Works (Buildings And Grounds)

Motion offered by Legislator Felicello, Seconded by Chairman Fabiano, All in Favor, Carried.

Discussion: None

**DOG PARK UPDATE:** Dog Park Committee Members Marion DuBois, Danielle Cardella, and Tova Weitzman, gave the following updates on the Proposed Ulster County Dog Park. A second report was handed out to the Committee. Marion stated that their next challenge is to get the Public Works Committee's expertise, suggestions, and support. The packet that was handed out goes into specifics on all the following issues: Estimated Costs, How Orange County does it, Creation of a Non-profit Organization, Marketing, Fundraising, Ulster County's Involvement, Schedule A - Preliminary Budget, Schedule B - Sponsorship Dedications, and References.

DuBois: Stated that they met with Town of New Paltz Supervisor, Toni Hokanson and she is very supportive of the project. She would like to stay involved and possibly have a liaison from her Town Board if that's necessary, and will speak with the Town's Building & Grounds people and see how they can help. Town of New Paltz is willing to take care of garbage removal. Ms. Hokanson advised that as far as signage goes, to be cognitive of New Paltz's sign rules and regulations. The Dog Park Committee will be meeting with Ms. Hokanson on Wednesday morning to talk about neighbors.

Weitzman: Stated that the Orange County Dog Park is a good model for Ulster County Dog Park to follow. It is a very successful Dog Park. They met with Commissioner Rose and Paula Gorton of the Orange County Parks & Recreations Department on July 22, 2010. The meeting was very informative, very positive. In 2007, Orange County was able to fund the park through their budget. Orange County estimated over 20,000 visitors to their Dog Park in 2009. When asked about litigation, they reported that it is not an issue. When they first opened there was one incident that was more of a misunderstanding, not a legal issue. They stated that their park is a very safe, self-policing park. Legislator Loughran asked what the misunderstanding was and Ms. Weitzman explained that it was very insignificant; she believes it was between two dog owners, not a problem between their dogs, not a dog bite. They suggested having a complete list of rules and being sure to put the words "use at your own risk" in a conspicuous place. Ed Diana, the County Executive of Orange County said that he was very supportive of their initiative and would write a letter of support on their behalf. Commissioner Rose invited the Public Works Committee to come and see their Dog Park and how it is run.

Fabiano: Suggested to the Committee that they should now meet with County Executive Michael Hein and that he would be happy to attend that meeting with them to show support and to help answer any questions.

Loughran: Raised the question again about liability issues. Chairman Fabiano reiterated what Legislative Counsel (Michael Kavanagh) stated at the last meeting. The County assumes all responsibility because the property is County owned. Statistics show that nation wide, liability incidents involving dog bites is minimal. Ms. DuBois stated that in incidents involving dog bites, the owners' individual homeowner's insurance is liable. Legislator Provenzano stated that the County Attorney will have to review this project before it moves forward. Chairman Fabiano suggested that County Attorney Bea Havranek also be invited to the meeting with the County Executive.

Provenzano: Q/What specifically has the Town of New Paltz offered (money, maintenance) in regards to the Dog Park? A/It was suggested by Supervisor Hokanson, that the Town could take care of garbage removal; they are very supportive of the project and have offered to help. Legislator Provenzano suggested to the Dog Park Committee that they should get all their commitments in writing.

Felicello: Reiterated his comments from last month's Committee meeting. He is very supportive of the project and believes it would be a great asset to Ulster County. He stated that he would like to see Ulster County fund the project like Orange County. He feels that there should not be any fundraising for this project because the taxpayers of Ulster County deserve this park. He believes the start-up money to fund this project is minimal.

Provenzano: Disagrees with Legislator Felicello. She is very concerned about the upcoming Budget. There may not be any Contract Agencies receiving money. She stated that \$25,000 is not a small amount of money, especially when you are looking at programs being cut from the State for children's programs.

Loughran: Reiterated what he stated at the last Legislative Session, New York State does not have a Budget yet. He agrees with Legislator Felicello, \$25,000 may not seem like a lot of money in the grand scheme of things but that there are too many unknowns at this point. The reality is New York State is looking at a nine million dollar deficit. He stated that he supports the idea of this project and would suggest that in-kind services be used wherever possible.

Provenzano: Stated that last year after the State passed their Budget and gave Ulster County an x amount of dollars for programs, they had a Clawback and the monies had to be returned to the State.

Felicello: Agrees with the fact that the State is in a financial crisis, but he still maintains that this is a service that other Counties give and still believes that \$25,000 is a minimal amount of money to provide this service.

Cardella: Referred to page 10 in the packet to explain the Preliminary Budget to the Committee. The Budget includes the cost of the fence, dogi-pots (waste stations), plumbing, signs, benches, and marketing materials. The total estimated project cost is \$17,806.40. Paws of Distinction, a pet store in New Paltz, has offered to purchase the dogi-pots. That would bring the cost down to \$17,248.40. They would use the existing pump located on the property. Dave Clouser, the New Paltz Town Engineer has estimated that the water test would cost approximately \$200.00 and the installation of a yard hydrant to run around \$500.00. The water would be used for dogs only, not for human consumption. A possible solution to that would be to run a line from the Ulster County Pool complex's water system to the dog park area. Legislator Felicello stated that the lines could possibly be done in-house by the Public Works Department. She also addressed signage. They were unable to estimate the cost. The name of the park and the rules and regulations of the park will have to be properly displayed. They were hoping that the County might be of help in supplying appropriate signage using the County's current vendors. As far as the benches go, they would like to fund the benches by offering corporate sponsorships for them. The sponsors could be given credit by the placement of a small plaque on each bench, or benches themselves can be engraved. Marketing can be done at a very minimal price. Some extras would be shade structures. They are not necessary, but if enough money is raised they would like to purchase one. Fundraising is on-hold until they get their Non-Profit status. They are struggling with getting that status obtained and are having difficulty in finding an Attorney that will work for free and is well versed in Non-Profit corporate filings. They are open for any suggestions. The Committee suggested a few names of New Paltz Attorneys. Legislator Provenzano stated that once they get this project going that they will most likely receive ample amounts of donations from the Community. Some ideas for fundraising are: Individual donations, corporate sponsorships, silent

auctions, doggy wash, charity softball/kickball/other sports games, benefit concerts, art events, and scout projects.

Loughran: Q/Are you looking to complete this project this year? A/Yes, as soon as they possible can.

DuBois: Would like to include the Legislature in any possible photo opportunity to show their support in the project and to get that information out to the media as much as possible. They are not sure how much they can actually do at this point until they obtain their Non-Profit status.

Committee: All agreed to the fact that they do support the project and that their next step is to meet with the County Executive and suggest that in-kind services could be and should be used wherever possible. Mr. Sudlow also agreed that their next step should be to meet with the County Executive.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

- Changing the Date of the September 6<sup>th</sup> Committee Meeting (Falls on Labor Day)

Chairman Fabiano briefly explained to the Committee that on September 13<sup>th</sup> @ 6:00 PM, there would be a joint meeting with this Committee and the Government Operations and Efficiency Committee. The topic will be on the possible formation of an Oversight Committee that will approve all Capital Projects exceeding ten million dollars. Tom Kadgen from the League of Woman's Voters will be speaking on the subject. Legislator Provenzano recommended that this topic should be thoroughly researched because it is her understanding that an Oversight Committee already exists. Chairman Fabiano will be handing out a packet of information on the topic for the Committee's preview before the joint meeting on September 13<sup>th</sup>. The monthly Committee meeting will take place at 5:00 PM on the same evening.

**OLD BUSINESS:** None

**Motion to adjourn @ 7:45 PM**

Motion offered by Legislator Loughran, Seconded by Legislator Roberts, All in Favor, Carried.

Respectfully submitted,  
Tammy Wilson, Senior Legislative Employee