

## ULSTER COUNTY LEGISLATURE COMMITTEE MEETING

Name: Public Works & Capital Projects Committee

Date: July 8, 2008

Time: 4:45 p.m.

Place: Library

Legislators Present: Chairman Loughran, Legislators Cahill, Decker, Fabiano, Felicello, Lomita and Roberts

Legislators Excused: None

Others Attending: Commissioner of Public Works, Dave Sheeley; B&G Administrative Manager, Victor Work; Public Works Controller, Lynda Bertling; Sr. Projects Manager, Brian Cunningham; Horizon Center employees Gus Ramirez and Tana Agostini; Legislator Laura Petit and Recording Secretary, Kathy Jansen

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Chairman Loughran called to meeting to order at 4:50 p.m.

Horizon Center employees Gus Ramirez and Tana Agostini described to the committee how their program operates. The program, under contract with the State to monitor parolees being released from prison that are homeless, provides re-entry services to these parolees. The non-profit organization was noted to be a secured stabilization community corrections center looking to establish a facility in Ulster County, most notably in the Administrative wing of the old jail. Concerns and questions by the committee were addressed. Gus Ramirez noted that a request for consideration would be sought following the election of the new County Executive. The committee advised them to also meet with the host community leaders.

Legislator Petit requested an update on the status of River Road in the Town of Esopus. Commissioner Sheeley advised that the road has been damaged by a landslide situation emanating from a ridgeline water runoff problem from private property above the County road. He noted the Town of Esopus needs to make the property owner (who plans to develop the property) rectify the situation. The County Attorney's office has agreed that permits to access the County road will not be approved until the situation is addressed. Commissioner Sheeley noted that the broken area of road is scheduled to be ground and smoothed this week. Chairman Loughran asked Commissioner Sheeley to send a letter to everyone on the road advising them of the situation. Legislator Petit noted she would provide the names and addresses needed.

### **HIGHWAYS & BRIDGES DIVISION**

#### **1) Progress Report**

Commissioner Sheeley asked the committee to please read the progress report. He noted that construction season was in full swing.

**2) Request-To-Fills (Budgeted):**

- a) **CEO I – 5110-1652 – Vacancy exists due to the promotion of previous employee (H. Davis)**
- b) **MEO – 5110-1020 – Vacancy exists due to lateral move of previous employee (D. Marano)**

A motion to approve the two request-to-fills was made by Legislator Cahill and seconded by Legislator Decker. The motion passed unanimously.

**3) Purchase Request – Paint Striping Machine - Budgeted**

A motion to approve the purchase of a walk-behind paint striping machine was made by Legislator Fabiano and seconded by Legislator Cahill. The motion passed unanimously.

**4) General Update**

Commissioner Sheeley advised the committee that the last piece of pipe for MS4 compliance in the Quarry complex was completed that day. He commended the crew for their hard work and noted that the same crew would most likely be assigned to the salt shed project in New Paltz.

Commissioner Sheeley informed the committee that the Public Works Department as a whole had cut 2% of their 2008 budget as requested by the County Administrator.

The committee requested an update on the one-man plow operator pilot program from the previous snow season. Commissioner Sheeley noted he would bring a package to next month's meeting.

**BUILDINGS & GROUNDS DIVISION**

**1) Purchase Request – 2 ½ ton AC Unit Old Jail Dorm (for voting machines) - Budgeted**

A motion to approve the request to purchase a 2 ½ ton AC unit for the old jail dorm, where the voting machines are being stored was made by Legislator Cahill and seconded by Legislator Fabiano. The motion passed unanimously.

**2) Project Update**

B&G Administrative Manager Work advised the committee that the dance performance outside the County Office Building by Jaroslow Modern Dancers was very successful.

The committee was apprised of the continuing problem with delays in having contracts approved by Contract Management in a timely manner. Discussion followed with suggestions from the committee on ways that may possibly help speed the process. Chairman Loughran noted that a meeting would be scheduled with the Leadership Committee to address the matter.

Discussion followed on an independent film crew's request to film scenes at the Ulster County Fair. It was noted that the Agricultural Society had declined the request as the vendor contracted at the fair is opposed to the idea. The committee was in agreement that the request is a positive way to promote tourism and supported the idea. B&G Administrative Manager Work noted that the film people have not been told no by Ulster County. It was noted that the fair is in 2 ½ weeks and required immediate action. The consensus of the committee was to move forward. Chairman Loughran appointed a sub-committee of himself and Legislator Felicello to meet with the Agricultural Society Board on Friday at 3:00 p.m. at the Ulster County Pool. B&G Administrative Manager Work was asked to set the meeting up with the Agricultural Society Board.

## **ADDITIONAL BUSINESS**

A motion to approve the request to purchase a standard service utility body was made by Legislator Felicello and seconded by Legislator Fabiano. The motion passed with Legislator Roberts voting no. The committee suggested that an operating procedure for evaluating vehicles be implemented requiring a sign-off for equipment determined to need replacement, in order to avoid these types of separate purchases in the future.

B&G Administrative Manager Work advised the committee that a certificate was received that day for buying wind generated electricity.

Legislator Felicello requested next month's committee meeting take place at the Ulster County Pool and that it be catered by him. Chairman Loughran noted that a memo would go out as a reminder of the location change for next month's meeting. B&G Administrative Manager Work noted he would make sure everything would be ready for the meeting at the pool.

A motion to adjourn at 6:24 p.m. was made by Legislator Fabiano and seconded by Legislator Cahill. The motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,