

ULSTER COUNTY LEGISLATURE COMMITTEE MEETING

Name: Public Works & Capital Projects Committee

Date: October 6, 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; Brian Cunningham; Public Works Controller, Lynda Bertling; 1st Asst. County Attorney, Bea Havranak; Department of the Environment Coordinator, Amanda Lavalley; Purchasing Agent; Robin Peruso; NYC DEP, Michael Kight and Recording Secretary, Kathy Jansen

The meeting was called to order at 4:47 p.m. by Chairman Loughran.

Amanda Lavalley, Department of the Environment Coordinator, handed out copies of a draft energy policy and draft resolution to committee members for their review. She noted the draft policy was put together with the Environmental Committee and the Buildings Advisory Committee along with technical assistance from the National Renewable Energy Lab. Goals for conservation and efficiency for the County's energy use were given. It was noted that the policy would be brought to the next Environmental Committee meeting for review with a proposal to accept the policy in the form of a resolution request.

Purchasing Agent Robin Peruso updated the committee on appraisals received for the Spada property. She noted two responses were received. The results were summarized as the low bid being \$750 and a high bidder proposing two prices of \$3,000 and \$4,500 (the proposal explaining the differences in prices). Discussion followed on the bid costs discrepancy, whether a more specific RFP should be done and whether an appraisal should be done in-house. A motion to reject the current bids due to cost discrepancy and prepare a new more detailed RFP was made by Legislator Felicello and seconded by Legislator Decker. Further discussion on the matter ensued regarding the committee choosing the appraiser and the buyer being responsible for the appraisal costs. A new motion to accept the high bid subject to the buyer paying the appraisal costs was made by Legislator Fabiano and seconded by Legislator Lomita. The motion passed unanimously. First Assistant County Attorney Bea Havranak noted that her office would prepare a letter for Chairman Loughran's signature advising the applicant of the motion. The committee asked that there be a 30 day response time placed in the letter.

DEP employee Michael Kight addressed the committee concerning upcoming projects for his department to replace seven bridges around the Ashokan Reservoir. It was noted that one bridge crosses the Catskill Mountain Railroad property which is leased from the County via the IDA. Permission was sought from the committee to allow the placement of a temporary detour on the property in order to avoid a 20 mile detour around the site. Bea Havranak noted that if the committee approved the request the contract would be prepared as a license agreement. A motion contingent upon the satisfaction of the County Attorney and the Commissioner of Public Works to approve the request was made by Legislator Lomita. The motion was seconded by Legislator Cahill and passed unanimously.

Public Works Administration Division

1) Informational – Consolidation Update

Public Works Controller Lynda Bertling summarized a handout provided to the committee members on computerized payroll procedure consolidation efforts between Highways & Bridges and Buildings & Grounds. She noted that the consolidation would make payroll procedures more efficient, leave less room for error and save time which in turn will save money.

Commissioner David Sheeley advised the committee that consolidation efforts are going very well.

Highways & Bridges

1) Update – Salt Shed Project

Commissioner Sheeley updated the committee on the status of the New Paltz salt shed project. He noted the contractor is progressing well, currently doing iron work, and estimates his completion date to be 60 days.

2) Progress Report

The committee was asked to please read the progress reports handed out. It was noted that 3 or 4 bridges have recently been flagged.

Buildings & Grounds Division

1) Resolution Request – Youth Bureau Sub-Lease Renewal

Discussion took place on the proposed rent increase from the Youth Bureau for space at the BRC from \$10.50 to \$13.00 a square foot. Legislator Felicello made a motion for Buildings & Grounds to write a letter to UCCC informing them of the committee's displeasure with the rental increase, ask them to reconsider and provide justification for the requested increase in order for the resolution request to be considered. The motion was seconded by Legislator Roberts and passed unanimously.

2) Electrical Supply/Contracting Update

Robin Peruso updated the committee on the MEGA (Municipal Electrical Gas Alliance Group) electric service bid. She advised the committee that the kilowatt prices received were not too different from prices currently paid through Central Hudson. She noted that MEGA is still in negotiations with the low bidder and advised the committee the tax currently charged through Central Hudson is where there would be savings. A cooperative bid done with Rockland County produced no bids for the Central Hudson area.

Brian Cunningham advised the committee that electrical usage in County buildings is generally higher in almost every building when compared to prior year readings. He noted he would be contacting all department heads and his building department staff in order to make a concerted effort to reduce usage.

3) 918 Ulster Avenue Lease/Purchase

Chairman Loughran noted it was not necessary to discuss this item at this time. Brian Cunningham noted he would be obtaining proposals for an appraisal of the building.

4) Project Update

Commissioner Sheeley noted the new format being used on the project update. Brian Cunningham asked the committee to please read the update and to contact him with any questions.

Additional Information

Chairman Loughran asked B&G Administrative Manager Cunningham to confirm that installation of signage at the Information Services parking lot indicating that the lot is for employee parking had been done.

Legislator Cahill inquired as to the status of the Enterprise Drive project and how project priority is established. Commissioner Sheeley noted that Enterprise Drive was slated to be a TIP (Transportation Improvement Program) project with funding being controlled by the NYS DOT. Controller Bertling noted that many State projects have been pushed back including Enterprise Drive. She noted that Enterprise Drive had been placed on the TIP list for 2009. It was also noted that Enterprise Drive is in the Capital Program but cannot be established as a Capital Project until costs become available.

A motion to adjourn at 5:56 p.m. was made by Legislator Fabiano and seconded by Legislator Lomita. The motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,