

**PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE**  
**OBERACKER, MCCARTY, WILBER, FARWELL, LAPIN**  
**March 21, 2019 @ 1:00 p.m.**

Present: Oberacker, Wilber, Farwell

Absent: McCarty, Lapin

**FORESTRY- JORDAN CLEMENTS AND JOE SWEENEY FROM SOIL AND WATER, TROY WELDY AND MATT FROM THE NATURE CONSERVANCY, PATRICIA SZARPA AND DAVID DIAZ FROM OTSEGO LAND TRUST**

Troy Weldy explained the Nature Conservancy's Working Woodlands program, which included but was not limited to:

- developing a forest management plan
- would be enrolled in a forest certificate program which ensures forest sustainability
- apply for a working forest conservation easement
- carbon credits
- permanent easement with at 10 year payment structure
- allowances/exemption
- would sub-contract with O.C. Soil and Water to assist with building the forest management plan

Representative Farwell asked if a tower could be built on our land under this agreement? Mr. Weldy stated that allowances and/or exemptions could be included in the easement agreement for such.

Representative Farwell asked, what if there is an act of nature that damages the timber? Mr. Weldy stated that an insurance risk pool is included in the written plan.

Representative Farwell asked what the next steps are? Mr. Weldy stated that he can send some legal document templates out to review, the Nature Conservancy will conduct a property survey of lands, and he needs to get clarity on the laws as related to county forestlands.

Representative Farwell moved approval to move forward with the Working Woodlands program through the Nature Conservancy by getting clarity on the state law governing county owned forests and to review the documents that the Nature Conservancy supplies. Seconded, Wilber. Total: 2,247; Ayes: 1,524; Absent: 723- McCarty, Lapin. Motion carried. Mr. Weldy stated that he would forward to the county the following documents:

1. Working Woodlands agreement
2. Carbon marketing and development agreement
3. Easement (permanent easement with a 10 year payment structure)

David Diaz from the Otsego Land Trust stated that they are excited to be a part of the Working Woodlands program.

## **SOIL AND WATER- JORDAN CLEMENTS**

Jordan Clements gave the following updates:

- still working on recovering approx. \$98,000, previous year stream moneys from DEC, which is owed to the county.

-DOT is secured for October to conduct a calibration class

-5 local Cornell Local Roads classes coming up-free to municipalities-asked if the committee/board could spread the word to their respective municipalities in hopes of better attendance-Soil and Water sends notices to the municipalities as well

-October 11<sup>th</sup> is the Farm Tour- looking for local attendance and support as various NYS legislators will be in attendance.

## **TREASURER- ANDREW CRISMAN**

Andrew Crisman requested approval to declare the following 2 vehicles surplus, which will be turned in to Enterprise:

1. Building Services-2004 Chevy Silverado 3500 vin ending 0167

2. Building Services-2006 Chevy Silverado vin ending 2820

Representative Wilber moved for approval. Seconded, Oberacker. Total: 2,247; Ayes: 1,524; Absent: 723- McCarty, Lapin. Motion carried.

Andrew Crisman stated that the two Rose Ave. foreclosed properties are no longer in bankruptcy proceeds therefore how does the committee want to proceed with selling such. Representative Wilber moved approval to put the two properties in Oneonta out for bid online on the Absolute Auctions website with a minimum bid set at \$100,000. Seconded, Oberacker. Total: 2,247; Ayes: 1,524; Absent: 723- McCarty, Lapin. Motion carried.

## **SCHUYLER LAKE FIRE DISTRICT- JOE BURDITT, SECRETARY/TREASURER**

On behalf of the Fire Chief, Joe Burditt asked if the county would be interested in donating/selling two used/surplus sheriff vehicles to the fire district. Mr. Burditt has contacted the Sheriff and that he may have a decommissioned vehicle available in May. Representative Wilber inquired as to how much does it cost the county to strip a patrol vehicle prior to it being sold/trade in, could the radios be transitioned, etc. Representative Farwell asked, what about the other fire districts/fire departments or municipalities that might be in need of a vehicle that the county no longer has in service. The committee agreed with the concept but would like a plan on how such process would work before moving forward.

## **BUILDING SERVICES- DOUG CZERKIES, KIM FIRENZE, LISA GRAMPP FROM DSS AND EVE BOUBOULIS VIA TELEPHONE**

Doug Czerkies stated that the 3<sup>rd</sup> floor DSS department is going to be renovated, adding that he lacks staff to complete such 4 month project in a

timely manner. Representative Wilber asked that due to the lack of staff, could this project be contracted out? Mr. Czerkies explained that he would like to get approval to fund two Full time TE Maintenance positions for 12 weeks with an approximate cost of \$17,300, excluding fringe. Eve Bouboulis stated that DSS has funding that can be used to fund these two FT TE positions for 12 weeks. Representative Wilber moved approval to create two (2) full time TE Maintenance positions for 12 weeks to assist with the 3<sup>rd</sup> floor DSS renovation project funded by DSS. (funding in DSS personal service budget line) Seconded, Oberacker. Total: 2,247; Ayes: 1,524; Absent: 723- McCarty, Lapin. Motion carried.

Representative Farwell stated that we need to have a productive discussion on what we are doing with the 242 Main Street Oneonta office building, adding that DSS can get federal funding to hire security for the 242 Main Street building in connection with the DSS department (6-8 staff) having space at such location. Mr. Czerkies stated that he would need a floorplan of how the space needs to be set up, for how many staff, etc. Representative Oberacker asked that Building Services and DSS draft a viable action plan for DSS to utilize vacant space at the 242 Main Street, Oneonta building.

Doug Czerkies requested approval to fill and fund an unfunded FT Cleaner position for the court occupied space which would be 100% reimbursed by the NYS Unified Court system. Representative Farwell moved for approval. Seconded, Wilber. Total: 2,247; Ayes: 1,524; Absent: 723- McCarty, Lapin. Motion carried.

Kim Firenze briefly discussed the Solar Farm credits billing issues, which she believes to be resolved. Ms. Firenze distributed a spreadsheet noting that \$27,167.90 is still owed to the county. In connection with the above, the following was discussed but not limited to:

- look at performance contract
- compare usage vs. performance
- is there a panel tracking issue as the panels don't seem to be in the correct position throughout the day
- billing related issues seem to be cleared up with Constellation
- billing related issues seem to be cleared up with NYSEG
- need to make Tesla accountable
- someone should be able to track the panel positioning remotely
- is there an alarm system in place that notifies Tesla or others of low or no production levels

Representative Oberacker added that the Public Works committee should send a letter to Tesla expressing the county's concerns.

Doug Czerkies stated that his department continues to have Purchasing issues. Representative Oberacker stated that he has contacted Andrew Trombley and trying to arrange a meeting to discuss.

## **PUBLIC SAFETY BUILDING/JAIL- DOUG CZERKIES, SHERIFF RICH DEVLIN**

Doug Czerkies presented results of the lowest bids associated with the Jail renovation project as follows:

1. General construction with alternatives-Murane Building Contractors - \$726,700
  2. Plumbing- A. Treffeisen & Sons- \$266,600
  3. Electrical- A. Treffeisen & Sons-\$123,600
  4. Mechanical- J & K Plumbing and Heating- \$229,000
- Total bids: \$1,345,900

Representative Wilber moved approval to accept the low bids as presented. Seconded, Oberacker. Total: 2,247; Ayes: 1,524; Absent: 723- McCarty, Lapin. Motion carried.

Doug Czerkies stated that the Jail renovation project will need construction administration, in which he obtained a proposal from LaBella for such base services with an additional option:

1. Base fee- \$35,260 for construction administration management, includes biweekly onsite visits/meetings plus travel incidentals nte \$4,000
2. Additional enhanced option- weekly onsite visits/meetings cost is \$14,040 plus travel incidentals nte \$4,000

Construction schedule is approximately 26 weeks of which 20 weeks is considered active construction.

Representative Wilber moved approval to amend the existing Labella contract dated 9/6/17, to add construction administration services for the Jail renovation project at a base cost of \$35,260 plus incidentals nte \$4,000 and for the additional enhanced option at a cost of \$14,040 plus incidentals nte \$4,000. Seconded, Oberacker. Total: 2,247; Ayes: 1,524; Absent: 723- McCarty, Lapin. Motion carried.

Sheriff Rich Devlin stated that there is other work that needs completing at the Jail and there seems to be a roadblock with Purchasing, which is holding up the work being completed.

Representative Wilber explained that in connection with a request from a fire district asking the county if they would donate/sell a surplus vehicle to them, approximately how much does it cost to strip a patrol vehicle. The Sheriff estimates approximately \$500-\$1,000. Sheriff Devlin stated that there has been other interest expressed from fire districts and others asking if they could acquire a vehicle from the county, which is no longer in service. Representative Oberacker stated that, if the county donates or sells vehicles to other municipalities in the future, then there needs to be some sort of equity to do so.

## **BUILDING SERVICES CON'T- DOUG CZERKIES**

Doug Czerkies stated that the 20 year old foam roof at 197 Main Street, Cooperstown building is leaking which either needs repair or replacing, noting that the roof only had a 15 year life expectancy.

Doug Czerkies stated that there is a section of floor tiles at the Meadows building that are popping up, recommending that a durable self-sticking flooring, with at 25-30 year life expectancy be applied- estimated material cost of \$8,180. Representative Farwell asked if there were other options to repair the floor? Representative Oberacker moved for approval to purchase commercial

durable flooring not to exceed \$8,180 for a specific section at the Meadows building. Seconded, Wilber. Total: 2,247; Ayes: 1,524; Absent: 723- McCarty, Lapin. Motion carried.

## **BUILDING USE- DOUG CZERKIES**

Doug Czerkies stated that the county has been approached by ONC BOCES who is looking to rent classroom space to house Health programs throughout the school year from 8-2:30, adding that they are looking for 3 classrooms and offices to fit 3 people. The committee stated that they are aware of such request and that several departments at the Meadows building may have possible space available.

## **HIGHWAY- RICH BRIMMER**

Rich Brimmer presented a consent agenda as follows:

1. Request to accept all bids for sand, stone, gravel, etc. Bid # OTGOV-003-19 from Clark Companies, Parker Excavation and Gravel, Cobleskill Stone Products, Hanson Aggregates, Kukenberger Sand and Gravel, Seward Sand and Gravel, Burrells Excavating, E&R Popes, Tri City Highway Products, and Barrett Paving.
2. Request to accept Hot Mix Asphalt in place bid # OTGOV-007-19 from Hanson Aggregates for multiple projects across the county, not to exceed \$3,500,000.
3. Request to accept painting road lines bid # OTGOV-006-19 from O.H. Striping Inc. not to exceed \$200,000.
4. Request to fill a vacant funded Auto Mechanic position above base salary at step 3, which will also require bringing the other two currently filled Auto Mechanic positions up to the same step. (\$42,384)
5. Request approval to fill the vacant funded Deputy Superintendent of Highway position at an annual salary of \$68,211.

Representative Wilber moved approval of the consent agenda as presented. Seconded, Farwell. Total: 2,247; Ayes: 1,524; Absent: 723- McCarty, Lapin. Motion carried.

Rich Brimmer gave department updates including but not limited to the following:

- Gilbertsville salt shed
- expected delivery timeframe on equipment ordered such as loader, gradall, backhoe, one ton truck, ¾ ton pickup
- expected delivery timeframe on equipment ordered last year such as utility body and one ton truck
- crews have been cutting brush/trees on Co Hwy's 18, 16, 35 and 11 in preparation of paving projects- weather permitting
- crews have been patching potholes countywide
- attended a transportation facility meeting with Montgomery County and the Maxwell School

-Looking into de-escalation training for employees

Representative Oberacker stated that he continues to get complaints about the log truck traffic on CR#42.

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting adjourned until Thursday, April 18<sup>th</sup> at 1 p.m. at the County Office Building.