

**PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE**  
**OBERACKER, MCCARTY, FRAZIER, FARWELL, WILBER**  
**August 13, 2020**  
**12:00 p.m.**

Under the current COVID-19 emergency/Executive orders, this committee meeting was not physically open to the public at the County Office Building. The meeting was streamed via facebookLIVE.

Members: Representative Oberacker- present, via zoom  
Representative McCarty- present, via zoom  
Representative Frazier- absent  
Representative Farwell- present, via zoom  
Representative Wilber- present, via zoom

**TRANSPORTATION- TAMMIE HARRIS via zoom**

Tammie Harris requested approval to declare two (2) public transportation buses surplus and sell as follows:

- 2015 IC HC/TC vin ending 8057
- 2015 IC HC/TC vin ending 8059

Representative McCarty moved for approval. Seconded, Wilber. Total: 2,338. Ayes: 1,899; Absent: 439- Frazier. Motion carried.

**BUILDING SERVICES- KIM FIRENZE via zoom**

Kim Firenze stated that the septic at the Public Safety building and the Meadows building have been pumped.

Kim Firenze gave an update concerning the DSS space at the Meadows building and at the 242 Main Street, Oneonta building.

Kim Firenze updated the committee about the air filtration systems at various buildings in response to COVID, noting that the filters at the Public Safety building and the Annex building should be upgraded. Ms. Firenze added that the related cost to do such is \$3,125.90 for the PSB and \$1,036.95 for the Annex building which was not budgeted for and would need a related budget transfer if moving forward. Representative Farwell moved approval to purchase filters for the PSB and the Annex building and for the related budget transfer as follows:

- Transfer from 1630.4905 \$4,300
- Transfer to 1629.4500 \$3,200
- Transfer to 1626.4500 \$1,100

Representative Farwell moved for approval. Seconded, Wilber. Total: 2,338. Ayes: 1,899; Absent: 439-Frazier. Motion carried.

Kim Firenze requested to hire two (2) Cleaner positions and a FT or PT office staff person. After further discussion, Representative Wilber moved approval to fill those currently vacant funded Cleaner positions that survived the layoff, that have since been vacated due to a retirement or resignation and to hire a TE Clerical position for three (3) months to handle the billing. Brian Pokorny updated the committee that a small group was tasked to research consolidating certain functions that all county departments do such as invoice entry and purchasing, which continues to be fluid. Seconded, Oberacker. Total: 2,338. Ayes: 1,899; Absent: 439-Frazier. Motion carried.

Kim Firenze gave a brief overview of the preliminary 2021 budget noting that she will prepare a wish list for the department to assist with prioritizing.

Representative McCarty asked if the State Court System had a wish list for 2021? Ms. Firenze stated that the list includes the following:

- electrical work related to relocating the magnetometer and x-ray machine
- fix the Courthouse steps
- renovate the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor court officer room (put up walls)
- move the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor security station

Kim Firenze stated that she had a meeting with Trane yesterday to review existing issues and to recap the energy audit that was conducted.

Representative Farwell asked for a status update on repairs/issues with the air handler units at the PSB and the COB.

## **HIGHWAY- RICH BRIMMER via zoom**

Rich Brimmer requested approval of the following budget transfer in connection with purchasing the brush chipper, noting that the unexpected mini excavator purchase earlier in the year made his line over budget:

Transfer \$20,000 from D5113.2250 Capital Maint. to DM5130.2000 equipment

Representative McCarty moved for approval. Seconded, Farwell. Total: 2,338. Ayes: 1,899; Absent: 439-Frazier. Motion carried.

Rich Brimmer requested approval to fill a vacant funded Working Supervisor position due to a retirement which occurred after the layoffs, which is needed for the upcoming snow and ice season. Representative Farwell moved for approval. Seconded, Oberacker. Total: 2,338. Ayes: 1,899; Absent: 439-Frazier. Motion carried.

Rich Brimmer requested approval to create, fund and fill six (6) HMEO I positions and backfill any MEO II positions that may be created by house by promotions, which are needed for the upcoming snow and ice season. Mr. Brimmer added that he is claiming reimbursement from CHIPs for labor and

equipment for grader shimming and shoulder backup in connection with CHIPS paving projects and a FEMA culvert project totaling approx. \$51,000 which can be used towards the funding of these positions for the rest of this year.

Representative McCarty moved for approval. Seconded, Wilber. Total: 2,338. Ayes: 1,899; Absent: 439-Frazier. Motion carried.

Rich Brimmer stated that the CR 16 culvert project has begun, expecting the project to be completed by Labor Day.

Rich Brimmer requested approval to purchase the necessary sand and salt for the upcoming snow and ice season not to exceed the budgeted amounts in D5142.4555 (sand and salt) and D5110.4570 (asphalt/stone/sand), noting the usual spend for salt is around \$300,000 and for sand around \$250,000. Representative Wilber moved for approval. Seconded, McCarty. Total: 2,338; Ayes: 1,899; Absent: 439-Frazier. Motion carried.

Representative McCarty asked if the county reached out to municipalities concerning Snow and Ice contracts, suggesting that if not, then we need to soon.

Rich Brimmer discussed CR4 bridge (weight limit 18 tons) over the Butternut Creek needing floor beams, stringers and steel deck pans replaced, adding that to replace the entire structure is estimated at \$1.7 million.

Rich Brimmer discussed CR8 bridge (weight limit 8 tons) needing the stringers replaced, noting that the county can complete in house in about a week, at a cost of ~\$10,000.

Representative McCarty asked if the county still had the temporary bridge and if that is an option for CR4 if needed.

Representative Farwell asked if the county can apply for BridgeNY funding for any of the projects?

Rich Brimmer stated that the county has 89 bridges (over 20ft)-DOT inspects annually, 302 culverts that are not classified bridges (3ft to 20 ft), noting that 8 are currently flagged.

Rich Brimmer stated that a catch basin at the intersection of Co Hwy 42 and St Rt 7 has been installed which should fix the drainage issue.

Rich Brimmer sent other department updates to the committee via email that were not discussed during the meeting.

Representative McCarty asked about line striping. Rich Brimmer stated that the striping is on hold for now.

## **BUILDING SERVICES CON'T**

Representative Oberacker stated that he sent the Director of Building Services applications to the committee via email. Representative McCarty suggested that maybe for the next PW meeting the committee should meet in person, in the Board Chambers, to review the applications. The committee discussed whether the position should be reposted or not due to the lapse of time that has occurred since the original posting.

## **HIGHWAY CON'T**

Representative Farwell stated that she received correspondence from the Town of Butternuts Supervisor concerning whether the county would be interested in their buildings. Representative McCarty stated that if the county was interested, could we lease it with the option to apply the lease payments to the purchase price. Rich Brimmer stated that he will set up a follow up meeting with the town to discuss further.

There being no further business to discuss, Representative McCarty moved to adjourn. Seconded, Wilber. Total: 2,338; Ayes: 1,899; Absent: 439-Frazier. Motion carried.