

**PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE**  
**OBERACKER, MCCARTY, FRAZIER, FARWELL, WILBER**  
**November 12, 2020**  
**9:00 a.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- present, via zoom  
Representative Farwell- present, via zoom  
Representative Wilber- present, via zoom

Also present: County Attorney Ellen Coccoma via zoom, County Treasurer Allen Ruffles via zoom, Personnel Officer Penney Gentile via zoom, Board Chair Bliss in the Board Chambers

**FORESTRY- JORDAN CLEMENTS FROM SOIL AND WATER via zoom, and RICH BRIMMER via zoom**

Jordan Clements updated the committee that the Forester continues to mark Taylor Hill and is working on setting up a sale. Mr. Clements added that a neighbor is questioning the property boundary lines. Mr. Clements suggested to get an official survey completed prior to the sale or maintain a 100 yd. distance buffer from the border of the property in question, hold the sale and then get a survey using the proceeds from the timber sale. Mr. Clements suggested that all of the forestry properties get surveyed in the future.

Personnel Officer Penney Gentile joined the meeting via zoom.

After further discussion by the committee, Ellen Coccoma suggested that the County look at the parcel in question, adding that in accordance with the purchasing policy, we may only need to obtain quotes for survey services to be able to move forward.

Jordan Clements stated that the three year contract for Forester services will expire at the end of this year and that Soil and Water is interested in continuing the contract for another three years.

Representative McCarty asked if the tree tops leftover from the harvest are removed from the property, sold for firewood or are they left on the property. Mr. Clements explained that it depends on the specific language written in the harvester contract.

Jordan Clements stated that he continues to get calls asking if hunting is allowed on County land. Mr. Clements explained that it is his understanding, that hunting is allowed on County property asking if a simple statement could be made and posted accordingly concerning this. Ellen Coccoma suggested the following language be used: unless posted otherwise the public is permitted to use our land and these are the rules. Representative Wilber mentioned that we need to pay special attention to the properties where our towers are located.

### **INFORMATION TECHNOLOGIES- BRIAN POKORNY via zoom**

Brian Pokorny requested approval to acquire the old 911 backup center space in the basement at 197 Main Street for the Central Business Office. Representative Wilber moved for approval. Seconded, Farwell. Total: 2,338. Ayes: 2,338. Motion carried.

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

Rich Brimmer requested approval of the 2020-2023 Snow and Ice contracts with the Towns of Plainfield, Exeter and Decatur. Representative McCarty moved for approval. Seconded, Oberacker. Total: 2,338. Ayes: 2,338. Motion carried.

Board Chair bliss joined the meeting in the Board Chambers.

Rich Brimmer requested approval of the following budget modification:

Increase rev. DM 2665 by \$6,000  
Increase Machinery DM5130.4562 Maint & Repairs by \$6,000

Representative Wilber moved for approval. Seconded, Frazier. Total: 2,338. Ayes: 2,338. Motion carried.

Rich Brimmer requested approval of the following budget modification:

Increase rev. DM 2665 by \$10,000  
Increase Machinery DM5130.4540 Parts by \$10,000

Representative McCarty moved for approval. Seconded, Frazier. Total: 2,338. Ayes: 2,338. Motion carried.

Rich Brimmer stated that the CR 8 bridge over the Butternut Creek in Butternuts was recently inspected by DOT which resulted in a PIA red flag being issued for section loss of several stringers, adding that the bridge has been posted to 4 tons and restrict travel from the inlet shoulder. Mr. Brimmer anticipates more details from DOT later this week.

Rich Brimmer and Representative Farwell updated the committee that the Town of Butternuts got the Highway building appraised and inquired if the County was interested in purchasing, adding that in the terms offered before, there is no road access allowed to the building and that the County would have to build their own driveway which would be steep, expensive and take up a lot of space that is already limited. Rich Brimmer stated that the County would need access from the CR 8 side otherwise it is not worth purchasing the building.

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

Representative McCarty mentioned that during the recent nice weather noticed that CR 54 didn't get lines. Rich Brimmer stated that he was unsure of the reason why the company was not able to stripe the road but added that the weather is not conducive to paint this time of the year. Representative McCarty asked if NYSDOT would come out and stripe it for the County. Mr. Brimmer stated that he would contact the state.

Representative McCarty asked if there was a policy about when and when not to put the plow down as he has received several complaints that the plow is down and there is nothing on the road to plow.

Representative Farwell asked if CR 18 is on the plan for paving on the Butternuts end for next year. Rich Brimmer explained that the plan is for half of CR 18 to get paved in 2021 and the other half of CR 18 to get paved the year after.

#### **PERSONNEL- PENNEY GENTILE via zoom**

Penney Gentile requested an executive session. The committee postponed the executive session until the end of the meeting.

#### **ENERGY PERFORMANCE CONTRACT/TRANE**

Ellen Coccoma respectfully asked the committee to finalize the Trane project. The committee agreed that they have done due diligence on what was proposed and suggested moving forward with the Trane contract. Allen Ruffles stated that he reached out to Chase as another lending option to see where the rates are. Representative Wilber motioned to move forward with the Trane project as proposed. Seconded, Oberacker. Total: 2,338; Ayes: 2,338. Motion carried.

#### **BUILDING SERVICES**

Representative McCarty asked about a new plow truck for Building Services that was mentioned at the budget workshop adding that he did not find in previous committee meeting minutes where that was approved for 2021, adding if we are not getting rid of a plow truck then why do we need another

one. Allen Ruffles explained that Enterprise recommended the new lease by replacing a 2018 truck, noting that the 2018 truck was not a plow truck but a plow has been requested as an add on by Building Services.

**PERSONNEL- PENNEY GENTILE via zoom**

Representative Wilber moved for an executive session at 10:26 a.m. to discuss the medical, financial, credit or employment history of a particular person(s), to include Penney Gentile and Board Chair Bliss. Seconded, Frazier. Total: 2,338. Ayes: 2,338. Motion carried.

Representative Wilber moved to come out of executive session at 11:09 a.m. Seconded, Frazier. Total: 2,338. Ayes: 2,338. Motion carried.

Representative Wilber moved to fill the vacant Director of Building Services position. Seconded, McCarty. Total: 2,338. Ayes: 2,338. Motion carried.

There being no further business to discuss, Representative McCarty moved to adjourn. Seconded, Wilber. Total: 2,338. Ayes: 2,338. Motion carried.