

INFRASTRUCTURE & FACILITIES  
COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

January 22, 2008  
County Office Building, Oswego, NY  
10:00 A.M.

**Present:** Committee: Legislators Fred Beardsley, Chairman, Clayton Brewer, Barbara Brown, Shawn Doyle, Linda Lockwood, Milferd Potter, Phillip Vasho  
**Department Heads:** Highway Superintendent Kurt Ospelt, B&G Superintendent Joe Taormina, Director of Solid Waste Programs Frank Visser, Airport Manager Bruce Bisbo  
**Staff:** Charlene Schermerhorn  
**Guests:** Legislators Arthur Gearsbeck, Margaret Kastler, Barry Leemann, James Oldenburg, Arthur Ospelt, Jack Proud, County Administrator Philip Church, County Purchasing Director Fred Maxon, Ted Jerrett, Mayor of Mexico Terry Grimshaw and members of the press

***Meeting called to order***

Chairman Beardsley called the meeting to order at 10:00 A.M.

**Approval of Minutes**

A motion to approve the minutes of the November 29, 2007 meeting was made by Legislator Brown, seconded by Legislator Lockwood. Ayes: 7 Nays: 0 Motion carried.

***Buildings and Grounds***

Department Overview

Joe Taormina, B&G Superintendent explained that the Buildings and Grounds department does all the cleaning and the repairs to all the buildings in the County including the utility costs, cleaning costs, elevators, fire alarms, all the contracts, everything needed to keep the buildings running and up to code. Superintendent Taormina reported that in the last few years Buildings and Grounds have done a lot of the smaller capital improvements such as the Treasurers Department and the Board of Elections. Board of Elections office has been moved to Seneca Street, we remodeled that building and built them a new warehouse. We renovated their old office and moved the Treasurers Department there. Currently we are working on renovating the Treasurers Department The Pulaski court house gutters along the edge have lost some parts of them due to snow storms over the last couple of years. His original estimate and the architects estimate were way off, so that needs to be rebid, hopefully that will be done this spring. All the domes at the Oswego courthouse have been repainted. Computer upgrades for the HVAC controls have been replaced at the Public Safety Center, Bunner Street and the Oswego and Pulaski Courthouses. Superintendent Taoramina explained that after 20 years you can no longer find parts to replace those computers and they needed to be completely replaced.

Update on Capital Projects

Superintendent Taormina talked about possible upcoming capital projects for 2008; one of them is the Public Safety Center. He stated that the Public Safety Center is pushing 16 years old and the electronics with the jail management system and other things associated with the jail needs to be upgraded. The fire school needs to become operational and the County Office building needs to be upgraded to be more energy efficient. The lighting needs to be redone, total HVAC replacement and a few other mechanical things.

***Solid Waste***

Department Overview

Frank Visser, Director of Solid Waste stated that the Solid Waste Department manages 95,000 ton of waste and recycle about 5,000 ton each year. That number is a little bit low for our

community because of the closing of the MRF. Many of our haulers are directly hauling our recyclables to Onondaga County. During 2007, the Solid Waste Department began a new program called E waste. E waste is recycling of all electronic waste. At first this was a nonpublicized program, the Solid Waste Department was taking these items to Syracuse for free, which is a service that is no longer available for free. Currently the department is taking all e waste to a firm in Rochester, which also accepts televisions and microwaves for \$.02 per pound. Household batteries are also included, which the Solid Waste Department was paying about \$.50 a pound for these items. Last year the waste oil procedure was also changed we were paying \$50.00 a pickup which was about \$5,000.00 a year, that is now bid and now we are paid \$.40 per gallon. St. Paulies textile collection was also started in 2007. St. Paulies collects textiles, sorts, cleans and bails them and then sells them to the Red Cross. The Solid Waste Department receives \$80.00 a ton for that material.

#### RFP Report – Analytical Lab Services

Fred Maxon, Purchasing Director handed out a report listing the RFP results for Analytical Lab Services which was sent out to five vendors as well as through legal advertising and the website, with two responsible proposals received back. Health and Solid Waste staff in consultation with our contracted engineering firm Barton & Loguidice PC did evaluation of the proposals. Upstate Laboratories of Syracuse, NY submitted the low cost proposal of up to \$572,571.00. The recommendation is to award the contract for analytical lab services to Upstate Laboratories, Inc. A motion was made to accept the bid by Legislator Brown and seconded by Legislator Doyle. Ayes: 7 Nays: 0 Motion carried.

#### Household Hazardous Waste Facility

The site analysis, of all Solid Waste Facilities, performed by the Consulting Engineer, determined the Bristol Hill complex as the most suitable for the Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) Facility. Analysis of existing buildings at Bristol Hill determined that one of the cold storage buildings can be modified to function as the HHW facility. The Environmental Quality Review determined that modifying the existing building into a HHW facility is an Unlisted Action. Frank Visser, Director of Solid Waste recommended passing a resolution to approve the project as an Unlisted Action and directing the Director of Solid Waste Projects to file the Short Environmental Assessment Form and fulfill all obligations under the SEQRA and other regulatory obligations in order to modify the existing structure at Bristol Hill into a HHW facility. A motion was made to file the Short Environmental Form by Legislator Doyle and seconded by Legislator Vasho. Ayes: 7 Nays: 0 Motion carried.

#### Capital Project 163 – Metal Recovery System

Frank Visser, Director of Solid Waste Programs requested establishing a Capital Project, funded at \$50,000, for the Ferrous Recovery System at the ERF, so that they can proceed with the engineering required to prepare plans and specifications. Full funding and a funding source will have to be finalized at a later date. This project qualifies as a recycling project and matching funding can be obtained through the DEC, provided monies will be put in the recycling fund of the State budget for 2008. A motion was made to establish capital project 163 Metal Recovery System was made by Legislator Potter and seconded by Legislator Brown. Ayes: 7 Nays: 0 Motion carried.

Resolution – Landfill Gas Destruction Project

Frank Visser, Director of Solid Waste Programs requested the designation of the landfill gas destruction project as a Green House Gas (GHG) reduction project. Designating this project as a GHG reduction effort will allow Solid Waste to market carbon credits on the Chicago Climate Exchange. These monies could offset the anticipated maintenance costs of the system after installation. A motion was made to designate the landfill gas destruction project as a Green House Gas by Legislator Doyle and seconded by Legislator Brown. Ayes: 7 Nays: 0 Motion carried.

***Highway***

Volney Sewer Line

County Administrator Philip Church explained that last year this committee set up a committee to explore the possibility to establish a sewer line in Volney and to extend the sewer line into the Bristol Hill landfill and that committee was never set up. Legislator Brown stated that it would be nice to finish what we already okayed. A motion was made by Legislator Brown and seconded by Legislator Doyle to construct a committee to explore the possibility of establishing a sewer line in Volney extending into the Bristol Hill landfill. Ayes: 7 Nays: 0 Motion carried.

Department Overview

Highway Superintendent Kurt Ospelt stated that the Highway Department takes care of 505 miles of road, 114 bridges and a snowmobile trail that runs from Fulton to Oneida County. The County no longer does any of the grooming on the trail, however we are in charge of maintaining the trails and the bridges on the trail. The County Highway Department plows some roads for the State with an average revenue of 2.5-3 million dollars a year. 450 miles of our own roads are contracted out to the towns to plow; we pay roughly 2.2 million dollars for this service a year. The remaining 50 miles of road the County takes care of themselves along with some facilities parking lots, and things like that. The County Highway Department receives 2.4 million dollars a year from CHIPS money from the State. The County Highway Department also takes care of roadside mowing, cut trees and install driveways. Legislator Kastler asked if the Highway Department was expecting to do more roadside mowing this year. Superintendent Ospelt explained that the Highway Department only has six (6) mowers to do 500 miles of roads and we try make three (3) passes a year on each road. We do contract with a few towns to do the mowing for us. Currently Oswego Town and the Town of Richland contract with us for the roadside mowing. There are more towns looking into that process.

Five-Year Equipment Plan

Superintendent Ospelt stated that he was asked last year to prepare a five-year equipment plan, which he did but it was late in the year and the committee decided to table it till this year. The committee members were each given a copy of the current equipment list for the County

Highway Department along with the five-year equipment plan. He explained that it has been quite a few years since the County Highway Department has purchased much equipment and most everything on the list will bring us back money either from the State of New York or the CHIPS program. County Administrator Philip Church explained that there are two sources of money for this equipment. The Highway Reserve Fund and Fund Balance. He also explained that monies received from the sale of equipment at an auction replenish the reserve fund. Purchasing Director Fred Maxon is currently working on an auction to be held later this year.

Capital Project – Little Salmon River Bridge

Legislator Proud explained that River Street runs parallel to State Route 104 and gives the school access to Fravor Road. Currently the busses have to use State Route 104 making a lot of traffic in the mornings and afternoons. He also stated that fire equipments are not able to cross the bridge at this time either. Village of Mexico Mayor Terry Grimshaw explained that currently the buses are going 6 miles out of their way because of not being able to use this bridge. County Administrator Philip Church explained that the money for this project would come from the Bridge Fund, which currently has 1.3 million. The cost of the bridge project is \$450,000 leaving \$922,000 left in the bridge fund. The Highway Department is the only department that uses this fund and other than a few culvert replacements this is the only bridge project planned for this year. Legislator Brown wanted to know if the County Highway Department would be receiving any money back from the CHIPS fund for this project. Superintendent Ospelt explained that the County Highway Department receives \$100,000 per bridge from CHIPS. A motion was made to establish a Capital Project for the purpose of replacing the River Street Bridge was made by Legislator Brown and seconded by Legislator Lockwood. Ayes: 7 Nays: 0 Motion carried.

Capital Project 148 – Road Equipment

Superintendent Ospelt requested that the committee authorize the purchase of six (6) Dicky Johns (salt spreaders controls) and two (2) Underbody Scrapers for a total cost of \$21,112.88. There is a balance remaining in this capital project of \$21,478.55. A motion was made to authorize the use of the remaining funds to purchase highway equipment by Legislator Potter and seconded by Legislator Brown. Ayes: 7 Nays: 0 Motion carried.

Extend Snow and Ice Contract

Superintendent Ospelt requested the extension of the contract for snow and ice commencing on July 1, 2009 and expiring on June 30, 2010. A motion was made to extend the Snow and Ice Contract by Legislator Doyle and seconded by Legislator Potter. Ayes: 7 Nays: 0 Motion carried.

Progress Report – Highway Audit

County Administrator Philip Church explained that a team of people to address the Highway Audit was established. This team consists of County Administrator Philip Church, Highway Superintendent Kurt Ospelt, County Engineer Christopher Baldwin, Budget Analysis Steve Loadwick, County Treasurer John Kruk, Chief Accountant Mark See, Personnel Director Maureen Sullivan and Purchasing Director Fred Maxon. A report will be incorporated and presented to the committee next month.

**Airport**

Department Overview

Airport Manager Bruce Bisbo explained that the Oswego County Airport has 2 runways. The primary one is 5200' long and 100' wide; the secondary runway is 4000' long and 100' wide. There are 10 privately owned hangars on the Airport, one of them is the Flight School, which maintains a repair shop, flight training facility and also is a charter service. The EAA (Experimental Aircraft Association) is another private hangar at the airport. They build their own airplanes and during the summer months have many pancakes breakfasts. The remaining 8 hangars are privately owned. The Oswego County Airport also has 42 County owned T-Hangars and the Main Hangar which houses the County restaurant and four (4) airplanes.

Currently we have about nine (9) people on a waiting list for a T-Hangar. Airport Manager Bruce Bisbo also explained some capital projects that currently being worked on at this time in different phases at the Airport. The first one is Capital Project 109. The construction of a 10 bay T-Hangar, the contractor is currently finishing up on the restroom facilities and other punch list items. The second one is Capital Project 155. An obstruction evaluation study for runways 15 and 6-24. This is for the purpose of obtaining data for future federally funded projects at the Airport. The third one is Capital Project 144, which is for a security grant at the Airport. We now have two (2) turning security cameras and two (2) stationary cameras that cover almost all of the airport property. In the second phase of this project we will be replacing all of our entrance gates and openers along with approximately 2,000 feet of new perimeter fence. The fourth one is Capital Project 150, the Civil Air Patrol (CAP) Grant. This is for the purchase of new computers at the CAP so they are able to do flight training, simulators and other related items. There is a possibility of two (2) other Capital Projects in the coming year, they are EA-Obstruction removal off Airport and Runway 15-33 overlay design. These are not funded at this time.

#### Water Line

A meeting was held with OCWA Representatives, Airport Manager Bruce Bisbo and Superintendent of Highways Kurt Ospelt to discuss the extension of the water line from Airport Drive onto County property. This would include approximately 900 feet of water line and two (2) fire hydrants. This would enhance our fire protection capabilities and also make water line available for private hangar owners along with the Oswego County Airport Maintenance Facility.

#### State Grant – Lighting and Storage Building

Airport Manager Bruce Bisbo explained that a state grant is available for \$300,000 to build a cold storage building to house the two (2) fuel trucks at the Airport and also to replace some of the lighting at the Airport. A motion was made to apply for the state grant by Legislator Brown and seconded by Legislator Lockwood. Ayes: 7 Nays: 0 Motion carried.

#### **Executive Session**

At 11:55 A.M. a motion was made to go into executive session by Legislator Brown and seconded by Legislator Doyle. Ayes: 7 Nays: 0 Motion carried.

At 12:40 P.M. a motion was made to come out of executive session by Legislator Doyle and seconded by Legislator Vasho. Ayes: 7 Nays: 0 Motion carried.

#### **Adjournment**

At 12:42 P.M. a motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Legislator Vasho and seconded by Legislator Brewer. Ayes: 7 Nays: 0 Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted, Charlene Schermerhorn