

**PHYSICAL SERVICES COMMITTEE
HELD IN ROOM 318
PUTNAM COUNTY OFFICE BUILDING
CARMEL, NEW YORK 10512
(Chairman Albano, Legislators Castellano & Scuccimarra)**

Tuesday

November 21, 2017

(Immediately followed the 6:00p.m. Special Full Mtg)

The meeting was called to order at 6:20 p.m. by Chairman Albano who requested that Legislator Scuccimarra lead in the Pledge of Allegiance. Upon roll call, Chairman Albano and Legislators Castellano and Scuccimarra were present.

Item #3 - Approval/Physical Services Minutes September 19, 2017

Chairman Albano accepted the minutes as they were submitted.

Item #4 - Approval/Fund Transfer (17T292)/Allocate Funds for Equipment and Supplies Thru End of Year/Highway & Facilities Department

Deputy Commissioner of Highways and Facilities John Tully stated this request is to move funds around to allow the purchase of a laptop for the Automotive Division, for diagnostics and purchase some small shop equipment. He stated they originally thought they would wait to purchase these items until 2018. He stated that there was funding still available in the 2017 budget so the decision was made to make the purchase in 2017.

Chairman Albano requested in the future if a list with the items and the price of the item be provided in a list format versus all of the separate pieces of paper with the quotes, estimates.

Deputy Commissioner of Highways and Facilities Tully stated that could be done.

Chairman Albano made a motion to approve Fund Transfer (17T292)/Allocate Funds for Equipment and Supplies Thru End of Year/Highway & Facilities Department; Seconded by Legislator Scuccimarra. All in Favor.

Item #5 - Approval/Budgetary Amendment (17A065)/Account for the Grant Funding pursuant to Consolidated Grant-for Federal Fiscal Years 2017 & 2018 (R#102- 2017)/Planning & Transportation Department

Chairman Albano made a motion to approve Budgetary Amendment (17A065)/Account for the Grant Funding pursuant to Consolidated Grant-for Federal Fiscal Years 2017 & 2018 (R#102- 2017); Seconded by Legislator Scuccimarra. All in Favor.

Item #6 - Approval/Morningthorpe Ave Pedestrian Bridge-PIN 8780.53

Deputy Commissioner of Highways and Facilities Tully stated this was already approved by the Legislature. He stated this is now a necessary step in the process to move forward the construction phase on the project. He stated this resolution, once it is approved, will be forwarded to the State.

Chairman Albano questioned what the projected total cost of this project.

Deputy Commissioner of Highways and Facilities Tully stated about \$2.5 million.

Legislator Castellano questioned if the project is anticipated to be completed in 2018.

Deputy Commissioner of Highways and Facilities Tully stated that is the County's goal. He stated the project is scheduled to go out to bid in the next few months.

Legislator Castellano stated once completed the Morningthorpe Ave Pedestrian Bridge will be of course an asset to the County. He stated it will be a real asset to the Village of Brewster.

Chairman Albano made a motion to approve Morningthorpe Ave Pedestrian Bridge-PIN 8780.53; Seconded by Legislator Castellano. All in Favor.

Item #7 - Approval/NYSEG Utility Easements-Kern Building/Southeast TM#45.-1-25 (Cell Tower Project)

Lynn Eckardt Resident, questioned if this project was going to proceed despite not having everything that is needed through the County.

Chairman Albano stated that each step brings the County closer to addressing the matters with the Interoperable Communications.

Lynn Eckardt Resident, questions which Cell Towers are not decided yet.

Chairman Albano stated the Mahopac and Putnam Valley Cell Towers.

Lynn Eckardt Resident, questioned if all of the towers are not installed, what will the Kern Building Cell Tower be used for.

Chairman Albano stated that the Cell Towers will be used. He stated each step forward gets the County closer to being 100% interoperable.

Legislator Sullivan questioned Deputy Commissioner Tully if it is correct that it will help in the particular area of the tower, in terms of approving the communication.

Deputy Commissioner Tully stated he is not involved in this project. He stated that he has heard that it will help with redundancy.

Sheriff's Department Sergeant William Meyer stated the Tower will help to improve communication, which is very important to the safety of the Officers.

Deputy Commissioner Tully stated he can report that this project has been identified as a top project by the Capital Projects Committee. He stated this project will be an improvement of critical infrastructure.

Chairman Albano stated that there is a tremendous amount of federal funding for this project.

Legislator Scuccimarra stated the primary reason for these towers addresses safety related matters for both the residents and first responders.

First Deputy County Attorney Andrew Negro stated to go into specifics of the technical side of the workings of the cell towers, Director of IT/GIS Tom Lannon would be the best person to speak to that. He stated, however as each cell tower goes up it will help to improve the communications.

Sergeant William Meyer stated there are millions of dollars in grant funding from Homeland Security that will be put towards the cost of the towers.

Lynne Eckardt, Resident, questioned how large of an area will the Town of Southeast cell tower serve.

Sergeant Meyer stated that in terms of emergency services the cell tower will improve communications capability within the town of Southeast.

Lynne Eckardt, Resident, questioned if anyone knows how much income will be generated by the tower.

Chairman Albano stated he believes there is a projected amount, however he does not have that information this evening.

Lynne Eckardt, Resident, stated that she will submit a F.O.I.L. to receive that information.

First Deputy County Attorney Andrew Negro stated he does not believe that an income from the towers can be calculated yet. He stated the income will be based on how many cell providers are put on the tower.

Chairman Albano stated of course the hope is to use the tower to its maximum potential, since it would be a benefit to the County residents as it will be revenue.

Legislator Sullivan stated that he believes the main reason for the County's involvement is to improve emergency communication for all of the first responders. He stated that in turn assists in the safety of the residents. He stated that any income received from the tower is certainly a windfall, but that is not what he is basing his decision on in terms of his support for project on.

First Deputy County Attorney Negro stated that any revenue generated from the towers will be used for further upgrades and maintenance for the operating system.

Chairman Albano stated the premise of having other users on the towers was in order to make the towers cost effective.

Lynne Eckardt, Resident questioned how many companies can be on the tower.

Chairman Albano that information was all discussed during the presentation that Homeland Towers gave at the March 2016 Physical Services meeting. He stated that he does not recall the exact number of companies.

Lynne Eckardt, Resident, questioned if the height of the Town of Southeast tower has changed in any way.

Chairman Alban stated that he is not aware of any changes to the height of the Town of Southeast tower.

Chairman Albano made a motion to approve the NYSEG Utility Easements-Kern Building/Southeast TM#45.-1-25 (Cell Tower Project); Seconded by Legislator Scuccimarra. All in favor.

Item #8 – Approval/Offer to Donate-Kent Property (TM #12.-2-27)

Chairman Albano stated that this is property that a bank took back, removed the structure off of the property and is now offering to donate to the County. He stated it could be beneficial to the County, because the County owns property near this property.

First Deputy County Attorney Andrew Negro stated yes if this proposal to donate this property is approved, it will be a marketable piece of property.

Legislator Castellano requested confirmation that the property that is being offered as a donation to the County is property currently owned by a bank that is paying the taxes on said property.

First Deputy County Attorney Andrew Negro stated correct.

Legislator Castellano requested confirmation that once the County receives the donated property the County can combine it with the other two (2) lots, which the County already owns, near the donated property (TM #12.-2-27) and sell it.

First Deputy County Attorney Andrew Negro stated correct.

Chairman Albano facilitated further discussion regarding the properties.

First Deputy County Attorney Negro stated in regards to the discussion that the all three (3) properties could be merged, it does not mean that it will happen.

Chairman Albano stated that two (2) of the three (3) properties were improperly subdivided. He stated the Town of Kent has requested that two (2) of the properties be merged together. 12.-2-27 and 12.-2-28.

Legislator Castellano made a motion to approve the Offer to Donate-Kent Property (TM #12.-2-27);
Seconded by Chairman Albano. All in favor.

Item #9 – Approval/Request to Purchase Town of Patterson TM #25.40-2-6

Legislator Nacerino questioned what street is this property located on.

Chairman Albano stated that may be printed in the backup up documents, however the copies that are provided to the legislature are not always legible. He stated that is a case of offering a parcel of property to the adjacent neighbor. He stated that this is a practice of the County’s to offer property to the adjacent homeowners.

First Deputy County Attorney Andrew Negro stated the property that is looking to make the purchase is located on Jordan Drive and the neighboring property they want to merge with is on Irby Road in Patterson.

Chairman Albano made a motion to approve Request to Purchase Town of Patterson TM #25.40-2-6;
Seconded by Legislator Scuccimarra. All in Favor.

Item #10 - Approval/Lease Agreement County of Putnam Tilly Foster Farm-Building #2

Chairman Albano stated that he would be recusing himself from the discussion and vote of this agenda item, as he is related to the person who is involved with this proposal. He stated that Legislator Castellano would facilitate the discussion and vote pertaining to this matter.

Legislator Castellano stated that this is a proposal for the County to lease Building #2 on the Tilly Foster Farm property to an individual who will in return monitor the farm and maintain the animals at the farm. He stated this person will be replacing Teresa DeAngelis, who had been serving in this role.

Legislator Scuccimarra stated that Teresa DeAngelis did a wonderful job caring for the animals at the farm.

Legislator Sullivan questioned how many animals are currently housed at the farm.

Legislator Scuccimarra stated there are four (4) alpacas, two (2) ponies, a lot of chickens, four (4) pigs and three (3) goats.

Legislator Gouldman questioned what is done with the eggs that are collected at the Tilly Foster Farm.

Deputy Commissioner of Highways & Facilities Tully stated that he will get back to the Legislature with the answer to that question.

Legislator Castellano made a motion to approve Lease Agreement County of Putnam Tilly Foster Farm-Building #2; Seconded by Legislator Scuccimarra. One Abstention. Motion passes.

Item #11 - Approval/Bond- Replacement of the Hot Water system at the County Jail/Sheriff’s Department (Bond Amt. \$350,000)

Deputy Commissioner of Highways & Facilities Tully stated this is an estimate from the County’s consultant who worked on the hot water system. He stated that if this is approved there are a design set of plans to go out to bid. He stated the next agenda item is the budgetary amendment that goes with this, that was prepared and submitted

by Commissioner of Finance William Carlin. He stated this project was identified by the Capital Projects Committee as a project that the County should be proactive on versus reactive to.

Chairman Albano questioned the progress on the Article 9 work (*New York State Energy Law Article 9-Energy*).

Deputy Commissioner of Highways & Facilities Tully stated that they are making progress.

Chairman Albano stated that this is the type of project that would speak to the mission of that New York State Energy Law (Article 9), which is to obtain long-term energy and cost savings for agencies and municipalities.

Deputy Commissioner of Highways & Facilities Tully stated that there are many more projects that the County will get benefits from Article 9.

Chairman Albano stated that he would like to get an update on what is being considered for the Article 9 projects.

Deputy Commissioner of Highways & Facilities Tully stated that they will get an update to Chair Albano.

Chairman Albano made a motion to approve Bond- Replacement of the Hot Water system at the County Jail/Sheriff's Department (Bond Amt. \$350,000); Seconded by Legislator Castellano. All in Favor.

Item #12 - Approval/Budgetary Amendment (17A071)/Correctional Facility Water Project/Sheriff's Department (Bond Amt. \$350,000)

Chairman Albano made a motion to approve Budgetary Amendment (17A071)/Correctional Facility Water Project/Sheriff's Department (Bond Amt. \$350,000); Seconded by Legislator Castellano. All in Favor.

Item #13 - FYI/Fund Transfer (17T293)/to cover Overtime to end of 2017- Funds Available in Temporary Line/Highways & Facilities – Duly Noted

Item #14 - FYI/Fund Transfer (17T317)/For Roads Materials Needed Through Y/E (i.e. blacktop, cold patch)/Highways & Facilities–

Deputy Commissioner of Highways & Facilities Tully stated this shift in funding will allow the County to purchase material that is needed through the end of the year. He stated one big purchase is guardrails. He explained that the County will supply the material and pay another company to install them. He summarized that the County pays for the material and labor to install the guardrails. He stated avoiding a middle man markup of the material costs, which will result in a cost savings. He explained guardrails are needed in various areas along county roads due to accidents, road improvements, etc.

Item #15 - FYI/Monthly Capital Projects Report –Duly Noted

Made a motion to Waive the Rules and accept the following additional items; Seconded by Legislator Castellano. All in favor.

Item #16 - Other Business

a) Update/Tiger Grant Application/Planning Department

Chairman Albano stated a copy of the Grant Application is in the Legislature Office. He stated that it was sent to the Legislature by Director of Planning and Transportation Sandra Fusco.

b) Update/Butterfield Senior Center

Deputy Commissioner of Highways & Facilities Tully stated that he is not the right person to speak to this project, in terms of the most up to date facts. He stated that he would speak to what he can. He stated some demolition of the building was done by County workers. He stated that is 100% completed. He stated that now they will commence on some of the other areas the County employees can take on.

Legislator Scuccimarra stated that the project will be rebid, because there were three (3) bids that come in very high. She stated the lowest bid came in at \$1.8million.

Deputy Commissioner of Highways & Facilities Tully stated Commissioner Pena is currently reviewing the project and the bid. He stated that there are elements of the design that will be reviewed and possibly modified, and then put the project back out to bid. He stated that he can request that Commissioner Pena contact her with more details.

Legislator Scuccimarra stated there are other projects that have run into this same problem of the bids coming in extremely high. She stated the Fjord Trail project faced the same problem, so a re-bid process was conducted. She stated that it is her opinion that she would like to see the County workforce do more work at the Butterfield site. She stated the County workforce worked on the County's renovation projects: Tilly Foster Farm and the Putnam Golf Course. She stated the in-house work on these two (2) projects resulted in a cost savings for the tax payers. She stated that she does not understand why the Butterfield project could not be handled the same way.

Deputy Commissioner of Highways & Facilities Tully stated that he will bring her recommendation back to the Administration.

Legislator Nacerino questioned if Deputy Commissioner of Highways & Facilities Tully sees a difference in the three (3) projects that would prevent the County in-house work being appropriate to be conducted at the Butterfield project. She stated specifically the golf course and farm are County owned facilities, and the Butterfield Senior center is not.

Deputy Commissioner of Highways & Facilities Tully stated he did not believe so. He stated he would defer to the County Law Department for an official opinion. He stated that he believes more of what the obstacle is that the logistics of the project. He stated the other two project referenced were close to other County facilities in the event that something may come up the employees would be able to address it with the minimum of delay.

Legislator Nacerino questioned how far out is the rebidding process pushing the timeline to open the Butterfield Senior Center facility.

Legislator Scuccimarra stated that once the rebid is published you have to wait 30 days for all bids to be sent in. She stated the hope was that the facility would be open in the Spring of 2018. She stated it is 6,000 square feet of an interior building. She stated she wouldn't think it would take that long once the work gets going. She stated the issue is getting the project work going.

Deputy Commissioner of Highways & Facilities Tully stated he agreed. He stated the right contractor could get that job done relatively quickly.

Legislator Nacerino stated while staying within budget.

Deputy Commissioner of Highways & Facilities Tully stated that is the process they are involved in at this time. He stated Commissioner Pena is reviewing the project very closely to see if there are any elements that were over designed.

Legislator Nacerino stated there was a schedule and a budget in place, so now we are back to the beginning of evaluating the overall cost.

Deputy Commissioner of Highways & Facilities Tully stated that is correct. He stated the prices came in much higher than what was anticipated.

Legislator Scuccimarra stated when the bids come in high the decision is made to look at the scope of the project again and re-bid the project or change the direction of the project.

Legislator Nacerino stated it is not a good situation either way.

Chairman Albano stated he believes with the refocus of the project and re-bidding the project at a different time of the year, he is confident that there will be more competitive and acceptable bids.

Legislator Scuccimarra stated that the County Employees did do all of the demolition, which was a positive.

Deputy Commissioner of Highways & Facilities Tully stated he will try to get a projected schedule, if there is one available and send it to the Legislature.

Legislator Sullivan agreed that he would like to review the schedule of this project.

Item #17 – Adjournment

There being no further business, at 6:55pm, Chairman Albano made a motion to adjourn; Seconded by Legislator Castellano. All in favor.

Respectfully submitted by Deputy Clerk of the Legislature, Diane Trabulsy.