GENERAL SERVICES COMMITTEE MEETING  
April 16, 2019

Present: Legislators Larry Dolhof, Andrea Moroughan, Randy LaChausse, Thomas Osborne and Ronald Burns


Legislator Moroughan called the meeting at 2:00 p.m.

Legislator Burns made a motion to approve the 3/19/19 committee meeting minutes, seconded by Legislator LaChausse and carried.

District Attorney Leanne Moser gave an update on recently passed State Legislation that imposed new time constraints effective January 1, 2020 requiring the DA to provide all discovery evidence and witnesses to the defense to facilitate a speedy trial. She will implement policies and procedures later this year in preparation of the 1/1/2020 effective date.

Personnel will be trained for a paperless office in coordination with the Sheriff’s Department. Discovery reform will be most problematic for the DA’s office, to meet the 15-day time constraint after felony arraignment/arrest, which sometimes may take up to 6 months.

In response to Legislator Burns, DA Moser imagines that if discovery information is not provided timely to the defense, there may be preclusion of evidence and/or case dismissal. In response to Legislator LaChausse, she termed the New York requirements as extremely progressive compared to other States, noting that DNA results are unlikely to be received within 15 days. In response to Legislator Moroughan, DA Moser expects that other agencies (labs) will refine their procedures to provide timely reports. In response to Legislator Osborne, she said governing rules allow for new evidence, but everyone must adhere to the new statute.

Undersheriff Jason McIntosh reported 2018 snowmobile statistics of 27 accidents, 18 of which were investigated by the Sheriff’s Department. Of the four fatalities, three occurred in the Town of Montague and one in Martinsburg. All of the accidents involved alcohol or speed as contributing factors. Deputies patrolled 4,057 miles on the Tug Hill and Brantingham.
Dispatch Supervisor Cheryl LaLonde reviewed the attached (Lewis County Emergency Communication System Overview).

There is no warranty or service maintenance agreement for the EF Johnson radio equipment that would have cost $300,000 or more annually. The Sheriff and Cheryl are responsible to monitor the entire system in coordination with United Radio consultants. Recent repeater repairs of $4,300 will be borne by the County. There are 5 repeaters in each tower, for which replacement would cost $40,000-$50,000 each. The life of the equipment is 7 to 10 years.

There are no problems with the current system, but upgrading infrastructure to Phase 2 is planned to consistently increase talk path capacity that allows separate and distinct radio conversations.

ISSI connection to the Onondaga Master Switch is being explored, which would open seamless roaming among the regional counties for interoperability communications. Traveling patrol cars automatically switch to the local system when entering another county. This allows continued radio reception within patrol cars. Equipment is being tested to extend coverage inside buildings (Court House and Lewis County General Hospital) to enable law enforcement portable radio reception.

Cheryl reported that the communications system went live in 2015 and is maintained through grant funding. Equipment will be replaced as it ages and/or breaks down. A “dead zone” in West Leyden is currently being addressed. The 3-4 mile “dead zone” on Route 812 north of the Dutton Road is to be addressed by a strategically placed repeater with the cost covered by the 2017 grant balance.

Cheryl was asked to provide a list of items (equipment/maintenance contracts) with attendant pricing for review by the Committee to expend the 2017-2018 $341,915.54 grant balance and the 2018-2019 grant balance of $682,650. By September she will identify the next grant amount.

Grant funds will finance three mobile radios for Highway Supervisor trucks. The radios have a 5 to 6 year useful life if used 7 days/week.

Undersheriff McIntosh accentuated the communication improvements compared to the old system. Cheryl stated that all equipment has been optimized, and the radio system is stable at this time.

Supervisor of Buildings and Grounds Matt O’Connor illustrated pictures of:
- new Sheriff’s Department sign
- completed DMV building renovations. Linda Hoskins relayed the State ITS Department informed signing agreement with Spectrum, and would provide her daily updates to facilitate DMV moving operations to the new location by 4/30/2019. Matt provided a map to illustrate
the need to expand the parking lot and widen the River Street entrance for tractor trailers and large trucks. VS Virkler has quoted a low price for stone and Highway Supt. Warren Shaw and personnel will assist.

-completed renovations and moved the OFA and Community Services personnel to the Outer Stowe Street building.

The DMV, OFA and Community Services office space renovations cost $14,000; and there is one year savings of $60,000 for terminating OFA lease.

Parking lot striping at the Outer Stowe Street building and the Court House will cost about $4,000.

The contractor that painted the Court House last fall is scheduled to apply spray sealer on the south side this spring. However, Matt requests to advertise for proposals for repointing Court House brick and include spray sealer for the entire building. Otherwise, the south side would be sealed twice.

A new gate will be erected at the Osceola tower site. The gate installed by the new property owner does not allow 24/7 access as required in the tower lease. Flag poles will be erected at the Education Center and DMV buildings. Also, the new dump trailer has been delivered.

Matt posed a brick retaining wall (decorative blocks) at the Education Center location along 3,300 feet of the track to allow grass mowing. Estimated cost is $15,000. The Committee requested a written project materials list with pricing for the Committee’s consideration in May.

Highway Superintendent Warren Shaw presented the attached engineering Stantec Consulting Services, Inc. proposal to formulate a conceptual fueling system design to replace the existing system for a cost of $14,975. He would like to advertise for project bids in October-November for spring 2020 construction. In response to Legislator Kulzer, Warren said that both above and below ground tanks will be considered, above ground would be lesser cost. He will propose a 5/21/19 Committee docket to authorize retaining Stantec Consulting Services, Inc.

Warren reviewed his attached report, highlighting his thanks to personnel for repairing a mower that equated cost savings of over six thousand dollars.

At the request of local veterans, the displayed red, white and blue old snow plow at the highway garage site has been refurbished and painted.

Warren Shaw reported the NYSDOT Route 812 closure from the Ridge Road to the bridge for culvert repair. Work will start when the water recedes, currently at 4 feet. Closure will be lengthened if the culvert needs replacement instead of refurbishing. The County Highway Department will assist in any way possible.
The following docket items were then reviewed and authorizing Resolutions approved to:

1. Appropriate insurance recovery funds of $4,331.96 for damage repairs to Fire and Emergency Management vehicle.
2. Appropriate K9 Contributions of $500 into Sheriff’s Department account.
3. Authorize Agreement with NYSDOT for reimbursement of County costs to replace culvert, repair the shoulder and embankment on Burdick’s Crossing Road through Multi-Modal Capital Project Program approved by NYSDOT Commissioner - $25,000.
4. Authorize Bridge Replacement West Road over Whetstone Creek in Town of Martinsburg with cost apportionment to be borne at the ratio of 80% federal/20% non-federal funds. Pursuant to Highway Law Marchiselli Program funds determined by NYSDOT may be applied to appropriate bridge rehab phases. Authorizing to pay in the first instance 100% ($154,000) of the federal and non-federal share of the cost of the Preliminary Engineering/Design and Right-Of-Way and Incidentals Phases work.
5. Transfer $2,400 into the Highway Department Accounts to purchase water tank.
6. Authorize Agreement with NYS Department of Agriculture and Markets for inspecting, testing and sampling petroleum products from 4/1/19 3/31/24 for amount not to exceed $18,760, and for other enumerated costs upon prior written approval.
7. Set a public hearing on 6/4/19 to solicit comments regarding submission of $50,000 Consolidated Funding grant Application to study potential planning development and re-uses for the decommissioned Glenfield and Port Leyden Elementary School properties.
8. Appropriate Capital Equipment funds for the annual lease payment for the Highway Dept. 2019 John Deere 624LXT Loader in the amount of $32,453.41.
9. Oppose State Legislation that would provide for collective bargaining for farm workers and also require overtime pay.
10. Authorize Inter-Municipal Agreements for County to administer and enforce flood damage and prevention laws for: Towns Turin and West Turin, and Villages of Port Leyden and Constableville.
11. Implement $1/hr. usage charge for electric vehicle chargers at the Outer Stowe Street and JCC Lewis Education Center for all non-County owned vehicles.
12. Authorize Agreement with Chargepoint to administer electric vehicle charging usage.
13. Authorize Road Retention Agreement with Number Three Road Wind Project developer.
14. Authorize Planning Department to submit an application for consolidated federal grant funds to NYSDOT for public mass transportation services by a third-party contractor on behalf of County Public Transportation for 2019-2020 fiscal year.
15. Authorize agreement with The Paige Group to design a Riders’ Guide for Public Transportation System for a cost of $5,482.00, plus additional charges for printing.
16. Authorize MOU’s with two Osceola property owners to store Highway Department project materials at no charge.
17. Authorize an agreement with one of the vendors who submitted proposals for the Central Water Study project. The Committee will choose and recommend either CPL or Miller to the Board for approval on 5/7/19.

Motion was approved authorizing Matt O’Connor to advertise for proposals for repointing Court House exterior brick. Budget appropriations of $50,000 are expected to cover the cost.
Board Chairman Larry Dolhof posed a request on behalf of IDA/Economic Development Director Eric Vrikler to withdraw a vacant 1.7 acre rural parcel in the Town of Leyden from the Foreclosure Auction. The railroad is the sole access to the parcel having a market value of $1,300. The parcel would provide access to an adjacent 17 acre vacant property, which together may interest a developer, especially the active railway. The property is visible from Route 12, but road access is unknown. The parcel is in the State-right-of-way.

Legislator LaChausse made a motion to propose withdrawing the 1.7 acre parcel in the Town of Leyden from the 5/8/19 Foreclosure Auction, seconded by Legislator Burns and carried.

Legislator John Lehman had entered the meeting and expressed opposition to the proposed resolution to oppose State Legislation that would provide for collective bargaining for farm workers and also require overtime pay. He does not feel that any employee group should be prohibited from collective bargaining.

Legislator Burns made a motion at 3:50 p.m. to adjourn, seconded by Legislator Osborne and carried.

Respectfully submitted,
Terry Clark, Clerk of the Board