

GENERAL SERVICES COMMITTEE
January 18, 2022

Present: Ian Gilbert, Chair; Richard Chartrand, Vice-Chair; Andrea Moroughan; Phil Hathway; and Josh Leviker.

Others present: Legislators Larry Dolhof, Ron Burns, Jeffrey Nellenback, Lisa Virkler and Tom Osborne; County Manager Ryan Piche; County Attorney Joan McNichol; Treasurer Eric Virkler; Human Resources Director Caitlyn Smith; and Information Technology Director Conner Biolsi.

Committee Chair, Legislator Gilbert, called the meeting to order at 1:02 p.m.

Legislator Hathway made a motion to approve the November 16, 2021 committee meeting minutes, seconded by Legislator Leviker and carried.

2022 Facility Improvement Project Overview – Patrick Currier, C&S Companies

Patrick Currier from C&S Companies introduced Nick Garito as the Project Manager contracted by the county. Patrick gave the history of the project beginning with June 2021 when the county approved the Development Report and requested to move forward with the Construction documents. The project consists of removing the old pole barn and replacing it with a new one; constructing a new 14,700 sq. ft. Highway Garage; constructing a new Vehicle Wash Bay Building; renovating the current Social Services Building by completely gutting it down to the studs and reconstructing it, constructing a new Maintenance Shop Building; renovating the Old Highway Garage for Recreation, Forestry & Parks, Soil & Water, and room for the USDA office. The last 6 months have been spent on the Construction Documents to get everything finalized with 200 renderings and drawings that have been reviewed several times.

The next step is to go out to bid, with a planned walk through of each existing building on Monday, January 31st. Bids will be due on February 10th by 3:00 p.m. The Board will hold a Special Meeting on Thursday, February 24th at 5:00 p.m. to award contracts. Construction will begin in Spring 2022 on the New Highway Facility with those buildings being completed late December of 2022. The renovation of the Social Services building will begin September 2022 with that portion of the project being completed in March 2023. The renovation of the Old Highway Garage will begin April 2023 with completion estimated for October 2023. There are five (5) Main contracts to bid on: General Construction, Mechanical, Plumbing, Electrical and Sprinkler. The total budget estimate currently is \$19,000,300.00 which includes the design and contingency. Contingency allowances are roughly equal to 2% of the total project cost.

Legislator Gilbert thanked the members of the committee for their willingness to serve and then expressed gratitude for former Legislator King's service on the committee. There is a saying that has been attributed to the Ancient Greeks, that a city grows great when the elders plant trees though they may never live to rest under their shade. Legislator King's approach to government revealed a deeply rooted and principled conservatism, and also a prescience for how the decisions we made would impact the community decades into the future. He is an example that Legislator Gilbert would hope to aspire towards imitating.

General Services encompasses many of the oldest and most traditional functions of local government including highways, criminal justice, police, codes, emergency management, solid waste, and several others. These are often the departments with which citizens are most accustomed to first person contact with their government, and to that end, we are at our best when we have a good team of staff and Department Heads, as we do.

With such a good team of staff, and a culture that prioritizes hiring on the basis of qualifications and merit, our board is free to focus on big-picture goals without needing to micro-manage day-to-day operations.

2022 General Services Committee Goals – Ryan Piche, County Manager

Ryan Piche recommended the following General Services goals for 2022:

1. Building Renovation Project – overseeing the progress with bi-monthly or even monthly update presentations.
2. EMS Issue – this is an essential service for our county, and it is in rough shape with volunteerism down and Search & Rescue needing assistance. It should be studied more in depth to come up with possible solutions. Possibly put together an Ad Hoc Committee.
3. Central Lewis Water Study – the second phase of this study is ready to begin and there is a role for countywide coordination to discuss and implement solutions. *Legislator Chartrand clarified that this study is still in discussion & review status, but implementation is still a long way off. Ryan reminded everyone the next meeting is January 25th at 5:00 p.m. in the Legislative Board Room.*
4. Singing Waters Park – Hopeful for a reopen date of September 1, 2022, but still need to form governance/operations policy.
5. ATV Lobbying – receive regular updates and push to advance our mission. Ad Hoc Committee consists of Larry Dolhof, Richard Chartrand, and Thomas Osborne. First meeting went well which was a listening session and getting everyone up to speed with the process. The lobbying firm would like the county to create our story in a way that can be shared with more people to help educate them on the issue of registration weight limits. This won't happen overnight, but we can set the table for movement on it next year. Ryan gave a brief history on the registration of UTV's. He mentioned that he had a few dealers reach out and thank him for pushing this forward and asked if they too could participate.
6. Ag Sustainability – Discuss and implement study recommendations. Work to balance out dairy issues in Lewis County.
7. Rails to Trails – Continue to move this forward with taking necessary steps.

The following dockets were reviewed:

1. Authorizing the County of Lewis, by and through the Lewis County Highway Superintendent, to Act as Sponsor for 4 Town Bridge NY Projects by the Named Towns and Authorizing Intermunicipal Agreements with Each Town for the Projects.

AYE 5

NAY 0

2. Authorizing Application for CDBG-CV Funding under NYS Homes and Community Renewal for Housing Improvements to the McNeil Park Apartments, Copenhagen, NY, with Snow Belt Housing Company, Inc. Serving as Program Administrator.
 AYE 5 NAY 0

3. Authorizing Intermunicipal Agreement between the County of Lewis and the Village of Turin for Financial Assistance toward the Village's Comprehensive Plan. *Legislator Leviker abstained.*
 AYE 4 NAY 0

4. Authorizing Sub-Recipient Agreement with Lewis County Industrial Development Agency to Administer the Micro-Enterprise Revolving Loan Grant Funds and Program Under Project 636ME980-21
 AYE 5 NAY 0

5. Authorizing Agreement between the County of Lewis and Paradigm Environmental, LLC for Professional Air Monitoring Services for the NYMS Downtown Stabilization Project. *Legislator Gilbert abstained.*
 AYE 4 NAY 0

6. Setting a Public Hearing with Reference to Inclusion of Agriculturally Viable Land into the Certified Agricultural District #6.
 AYE 5 NAY 0

Motions:

1. Legislator Leviker made a motion to authorize Buildings & Grounds Director, Matt O'Connor to send out an RFP for a new heated sidewalk in front of the new Courthouse addition, seconded by Legislator Chartrand and carried.

2. Legislator Hathway made a motion to authorize C&S Companies to send out an RFP for the 2022 Facilities Improvement Project, seconded by Legislator Chartrand and carried.

3. Legislator Chartrand made a motion to authorize Sheriff Carpinelli to refill one (1) full-time Dispatcher/Corrections Officer position and all associated backfills effective immediately due to resignation, seconded by Legislator Leviker and carried.

4. Legislator Hathway made a motion to authorize Planning Director, Casandra Buell to refill one (1) full-time Community Development Program Specialist effective immediately, seconded by Legislator Leviker and carried.

There being no other business to come before the committee, Legislator Chartrand made a motion to adjourn at 1:45 p.m., seconded by Legislator Leviker and carried.

Respectfully submitted,
 Cassandra Moser, Clerk of the Board