

## Long Range Capital Planning Committee Minutes

September 30, 2009 – 3:00 p.m.

Present: Chairman Wickerham; Supervisors A. Johnson, Peck, Grattidge, and Thompson; Spencer Hellwig, Mgmt. Analyst; Joe Ritchey, Public Works; Sandy Izzo, Emily Izzo, Galway Residents; Press.

Chairman Wickerham called the meeting to order and welcomed all in attendance.

Mr. Wickerham said the charge of this committee is to act as an advisor to the Law and Finance Chairman who along with the County Administrator is in charge of the budget on the Capital Program. The county has a capital register to project the needs of the county out for five years. The purpose is to be in a position where the county doesn't have any one-year where they find everything is in need of repair and large sums of money are needed to get back up to speed. This program has worked well; as Saratoga County roads are the envy of all area counties and Saratoga County has fewer flagged bridges than any other county in the area.

Mr. Wickerham said this year the sales tax revenue has fallen way behind of what it should be which is making for a tough budget for 2010.

An outline of the 2009 budget expenses was distributed to all committee members for their review and discussion at today's meeting.

Mr. Hellwig outlined the requests for the Animal Shelter, Rec. Mgmt/Imaging System and Emergency Radio System as follows:

### **Records Mgmt/Imaging System**

Mr. Hellwig said the imaging system is a software system that was purchased by the County Clerk's office for digitizing records and indexing to make records available through the computer database in the County Clerk's office. The program is in its fourth year of a five-year contract. The payment that is scheduled for 2010 will be \$193,140. In November of 2011 the last payment will be made.

### **Animal Shelter**

Mr. Hellwig said in 2009 the county spent approximately \$350,000, most of it related to professional services, i.e. architects and engineer's. Additional cost will be incurred, as the construction is now under way. A lot of the work that is going to be done between now and the end of 2009 relates to preparation in pouring foundations and masonry work. It is anticipated that the Animal Shelter will be completed by October 2010.

### **Emergency Radio System**

Mr. Hellwig said year to date approximately \$670,000 has been spent on engineering services, tower construction and site construction.

Mr. Ritchey gave a brief outline of expenditures through the Public Works Department for 2009 as follows:

### **Highway Reconstruction**

Mr. Ritchey said there was 20.5 miles of road construction this year. They are all completed with the exception of King Road in the Town of Milton, and Grooms Road in the Town of Clifton Park. This year more emphasis was given to surface treatment of the roadways saving approximately \$500,000.

### **Bridge Reconstruction**

Mr. Ritchey said there were four construction projects to be completed this year and a few engineering. Two are done South Shore Road over the Daly Creek in the town of Day, and North Road over the Snookkill in the Town of Wilton. The Hadley/Luzerne Bridge is a joint ownership with Warren County where there is a repair on a gusset pipe at a cost to Saratoga County of approximately \$50,000. Warren County is the lead on the project. There is a project that will be done in-house, Deans Corner/Waiver Road over the Tributary/Saratoga Lake, in the Town of Stillwater.

Engineering projects include the following: North Shore Road over Glass House Creek in the town of Day, engineering in 2009 and construction in 2010. Two other projects that are federally funded projects are in the town of Malta, Kaydeross Creek over County Road 45 and Central Avenue over the Anthonykill in the City of Mechanicville. A savings of approximately \$105,000 was saved this year on bridge reconstruction projects.

### **Highway Equipment**

Mr. Ritchey said there is approximately a \$200,000 surplus this year due to the fact that Public Works was conscious of the budget and reviewing the use of some of the equipment.

### **Traffic Signal**

Mr. Ritchey said there was one traffic signal that was awarded to the town of Halfmoon at the intersection of Harris Road and Guideboard Road. It is expected that the light will be up and running by the end of December.

### **Recycling Center**

Mr. Ritchey said the recycling program is 20 years old. A program was put in place to reconstruct some of the centers over the last few years. This year the recycling center in Saratoga Springs was completed.

### **Recycling Equipment**

Mr. Ritchey said an Ejector Container used for newspaper and cardboard, and a thirty-yard container used for recycling tin cans will be replaced.

### **Building Equipment**

Mr. Ritchey said the generators in building four and two would be replaced by the end of the year and will provide full electrical emergency service.

### **Airport Improvements**

Mr. Ritchey said there were two projects budgeted for 2009: Seal coating on the runways was not funded by the State this year. Obstruction removal of the areas that have been worked on with obtaining easements has been funded and payment from the State is expected in October.

Mr. Ritchey gave a brief overview of the projected projects and expenses for 2010 as follows:

### **Highway Reconstruction**

Mr. Ritchey said every year Public Works tries to do 18 ½ miles of highway with an expected 20-year life cycle.

Mr. Ritchey said he would like to move the normal two-year reconstruction plan into a three-year plan accomplishing the same goals as the two-year plan.

Mr. Ritchey said 12.5 miles of highway would be reconstructed in 2010; 12.13 miles in 2011 and 14 miles in 2012.

Mr. Wickerham said with the three-year plan the total recommended budget for highway reconstruction would be \$3,171,955 representing approximately a \$1.3 million saving.

### **Bridge Reconstruction**

Mr. Ritchey said the following bridges in the county have been yellow flagged, and he would like to begin work on those bridges as soon as possible.

- Coons Crossing Road over Anthony Kill - Halfmoon
- Bath Street over Gordon Creek - Ballston Spa
- Fenwick Street over Gordon Creek - Ballston Spa

- Wilton-Gansevoort Road over Snook Kill - Northumberland
- South Shore Road over Parker Brook - Hadley
- North Shore Road over Glass House Creek - Day

Mr. Wickerham said historically the costs are spread out on capital equipment. A schedule has been put together that projects costs over a 15 year period.

### **Highway Equipment**

Mr. Ritchey said the county has had an excellent replacement program and the equipment is in good condition. Saratoga County is a road construction county unlike most any other county. Mr. Ritchey said because the equipment is in good shape, one year could be skipped without any serious consequences.

### **Recycling Center**

Mr. Ritchey said the rehabilitation of the Town of Corinth Recycling Center is scheduled for 2010 and the Milton Recycling Center is scheduled for rehabilitation in 2011.

### **Recycling Equipment**

Mr. Ritchey said he is looking for two 56 yard OT containers to handle metal, plastic and glass; two 40 yd OT containers to handle magazines; and one 30 yd OT container to handle tin cans.

### **Parking Lots**

Mr. Ritchey said the main entrance to Maplewood Manor from Ballston Avenue visitor's parking lot is original and has never been repaved. Several areas are in need of base repair and the whole area is in need of repaving. He is suggesting that Public Works would prep the roadway and then have someone else do the paving. Mr. Grattidge suggested going out to bid and have Public Works bring in the blacktop in county trucks and have someone else do the actual paving to save money. Mr. Grattidge suggested reducing the requested \$90,000 to \$75,000 for this project.

### **Buildings Equipment**

Mr. Ritchey said the pumps and grinder used to shred and force pump the sanitary waste from the jail to the sewer line connection in the village of Ballston Spa is original equipment and has outlived its useful life. The equipment is under constant repair, and the Sewer District has advised Public Works that all the equipment is in need of replacement. Mr. Ritchey is suggesting that the system be rebuilt with the help of the Sewer District.

### **Airport Improvements**

Mr. Ritchey said the improvements at the airport continue under the direction of the FAA to obtain easements for clearing obstructions that exist on all runway ends. The improvements would be 95% federally funded 2.5% State, and 2.5% County.

### **Courthouse Interior**

Mr. Ritchey said the NYS Court System states they are in need of more space for their operations of County Court, Supreme Court and Surrogate Court and their Commissioner of Jurors operations in Saratoga County. Available space has been identified in Building #3. Professional services are now needed to come up with conceptual designs for the best usage of the available space and to provide estimates for the renovation of those areas identified.

**A motion was made by Mr. Johnson, seconded by Mr. Peck to approve the 2010 Capital Projects as stated above for a total of \$7,884,995. Unanimous.**

Mr. Grattidge said he is concerned about skipping a full year on equipment replacement. He suggested that revenues be reviewed mid year in case something needs to be replaced.

Mr. Wickerham suggested having Mr. Ritchey track the performance of equipment throughout the year and report back to the committee if necessary.

**On a motion made by Mr. Thompson, seconded by Mr. Grattidge to adjourn the meeting.**

Respectfully submitted,  
Chris Sansom