

Public Works Committee Minutes

July 12, 2010 – 4:00 p.m.

Present: Chairman Sausville; Supervisors Grattidge, Raymond, Richardson, Southworth, Veitch, Wright, Wood, and Peck; David Wickerham, County Administrator; Joseph Ritchey, Rick Gardner, Public Works; George Hodgson, Environmental Services; Joe Miranda, Recycling Coordinator; Press.

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

**On a motion made by Mr. Veitch, seconded by Mr. Richardson the minutes of the June 7, 2010 meeting were approved unanimously.**

Mr. Ritchey said Enterprise is the developer proposing to extend the existing County Road 46 approximately 800 feet. The City of Saratoga Springs is looking for assurance that the County is going to accept this and maintain it. The acceptance would be dependent on the satisfaction of completion and the exchange of title.

**A motion was made by Mr. Grattidge, seconded by Mr. Veitch to approve a resolution authorizing acceptance of approximately 800 feet of extension to County Road 46 (Duplainville Road) in the City of Saratoga Springs Industrial Park. Acceptance would take place upon satisfactory completion of construction and Transfer of title.**

Mr. Sausville said the Dix Bridge near lock five links Saratoga County with Washington County. This is an old iron bridge built in 1895 and is no longer suitable for vehicular traffic, but does provide linkage between the Saratoga County trail system and connects a park in that area.

Mr. Sausville said a request has been made to approve a resolution to authorize the County to commit to this project of \$3.125 million, with 78% Federal and 22% County money as described below:

Total Project Cost	\$3,125,000
Federal Share	\$2,450,000
Local Share	\$ 675,000

Mr. Sausville said a second request has been made to approve a resolution to amend the 2010 budget as follows should approval of the Dix Bridge project be approved.

**Highway Fund 2**

Increase expenditures

2-50-3591	Infrastructure	\$3,125,000
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Increase revenues

2-50-3591	Transportation Grant	\$2,450,000
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### **General Fund 1**

Increase

1-90-920-9902	Transfer to Fund 2	\$675,000
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Decrease

1-0599.M	Appropriated Fund Balance	\$675,000
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Mr. Richardson said approximately three years ago the historic Washington/Saratoga County partnership was formed by former Senator Bruno, Senator McDonald, Assemblyman Albright and McEneny. It was thought that this would be an asset for both local economy and tourism.

Work continues with the legislators who put the partnership together and there is a feeling of confidence they will help to offset the \$675,000 as the project moves forward.

A meeting will be taking place at the end of the week with the Saratoga County IDA with a request of approximately \$38,000 to help with the engineering fees. Many entities have an interest in this project including the snowmobile club, which will be donating \$5,000 toward the project, he said.

Mr. Richardson said this would also be a great link to the county trail system.

Mr. Peck said the County applied for this grant on behalf of the Saratoga partnership because it had to be done through a municipality. This is part federal money administered by the state. Unless the project begins the grant will be taken away. This is a phase one engineering project for this fall and then a two-year construction project.

Mr. Wood said the bridge consists of iron trusses and spans 144 ft. The issue is not so much the steel structure of the bridge as it is the stone pier work upon which the bridge rests. The erosion and deterioration of the stone piers are ultimately going to cause the demise of the bridge. Doing nothing is ultimately not an option because the bridge will be coming down if something isn't done. For this bridge, the linkage that it provides connecting the trails and recreational access between the two counties is really crucial. It is at a very historical site located just north of the confluence of the Battenkill with the Hudson River. Ironically, it is at the point where Burgoyne and his bridge of boats crossed the river coming the from the east side to the west side and into Saratoga.

The potential benefit of the trail across the bridge is tremendous for all of Saratoga County and the connections that it will provide.

Ms. Raymond said this is a terrific project. We are very fortunate in this county that we are bucking the trend; jobs are coming, the county is growing and we are adding to the industrial park growth. This is part of what we said we wanted to do and we are fortunate that we are in a position to be able to do it.

Mrs. Southworth said the one thing about this project that differs from others is that it is something that everyone can enjoy.

Mr. Grattidge said with the increase in bicycling and hiking this all plays into the green infrastructure plan for the county.

Mr. Veitch asked, after the project is done who is going to be responsible for the bridge? Mr. Ritchey said even in its current condition, it is a joint ownership.

**A motion was made by Mrs. Southworth, seconded by Ms. Raymond to approve a resolution authorizing the Chairman to enter into agreement with New York State DOT, to accept an Enhancement Grant for the rehabilitation of the closed Dix Bridge for pedestrian use, and to amend the 2010 budget and Capital Plan, thereto. Unanimous.**

Mr. Ritchey said this year the highway plan was cut back from 20 miles to 12 miles. The first project that was started was County Road 10, known as West Mountain Road in the Town of Corinth and is almost complete. The second project is a 3 1/3-mile section on County Road 13, Fayetteville Road, with expected completion in August. A third project is a 5-mile section of Wilton/Gansevoort Road in the towns of Wilton and Northumberland, and approx. 1/10 of a mile in Clifton Park on Lake Hill Road.

There are six bridge structures that are going to be worked on this year. Coons Crossing over the Anthony Kill, in the town of Halfmoon; Bath Street over the Gordon Creek and Fenwick Street Bridge in the Village of Ballston Spa; Geyser Road over the D&H Railroad is ongoing and on schedule; County Road 4 over the Glasgow Creek in the town of Day; County Road 32, in the town of Northumberland.

Mr. Miranda gave a brief update on the Recycling Report as follows: Revenues to date have increased 68%. The markets for metal and paper remain strong and if they continue at this pace the county could exceed \$500,000 in revenue this year. The total tonnage to date has decreased from 2,719 tons in 2009 to 2,314 in 2010. Mr. Sausville asked what the cause for that might be. Mr. Miranda said this year it could be single stream recycling, which both County Waste and Springer have gone to.

Metal prices have continued to rise in 2010, from \$191 per ton in January to \$216 per ton in June. Prices for paper have remained relatively flat for 2010 rising from \$63 a ton in January to \$70 a ton in June.

Ms. Raymond announced that they have actually begun to mobilize equipment for the Batchelerville Bridge. She thanked all those who helped and supported the project; in particular, Mr. Grattidge who spent much time attending meetings with her.

**On a motion made by Mr. Grattidge, seconded by Mr. Richardson the meeting was adjourned.**

Respectfully submitted,  
Chris Sansom