

Public Works Committee Minutes

April 13, 2009 – 4:30 p.m.

Present: Chairman Grattidge; Supervisors Barrett, Connelly, M. Johnson, Peck, Richardson and Sausville; Spencer Hellwig, Mgmt. Analyst; Joe Miranda, Recycling Coordinator; Joe Ritchey, Public Works; Press.

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

On a motion made by Mr. Peck, seconded by Mr. Barrett the minutes of the January 12, 2009 meeting were approved unanimously.

Mr. Ritchey said the county would submit \$930,000 in emergency costs related to the December 11th ice storm for federal reimbursement. It is expected that the county will receive 75% reimbursement FEMA, as well as a 12.5% reimbursement from New York State.

The \$930,000 cost figure includes salt, equipment use and public works employees' overtime that can be tied to the ice storm.

The total public cost to communities in Saratoga County has been estimated to be around \$6.4 million.

Mr. Peck thanked Mr. Ritchey and his staff for a job well done with regard to the cleanup from the December 11th ice storm and obtaining FEMA funds for the county.

Mr. Ritchey said his department has looked at every aspect of operations to see where policies could be changed to save costs.

The following were some areas that are being explored:

- **Salt regulation**
- **Waste oil furnaces to heat the highway garages**
- **Stone and oil surface treatment to roads**
- **Putting together some costs savings during contract negotiations**
- **Sharing services of labor**

Mr. Miranda distributed the monthly recycling report to all committee members for their review and gave a brief overview.

Mr. Miranda said that in 1998 the County purchased a glass-crushing machine from Andela Pulverizer. Through a State grant the County was taking their own glass bottles and jars and crushing them into aggregate to be used under the surface of roads.

The company who built the crusher has been seeking different ways to create demand for crushed glass and coming up with new products. Through their facility in Ritchfield Springs, they have been experimenting. As of this year, they are on the market with the county's glass, picking it up from the county recycling center and bringing it back to their facility.

Saratoga County's glass was of particular interest to Andela Products, because in addition to the normal green white and brown colors, it contains blue glass from Saratoga Water bottles.

Andela Products, markets the products as SunStone and suggests uses like mulch for gardens, decorative walkways, etc.

In Tennessee, a company is using 66 tons of the glass mulch to landscape their corporate offices.

Mr. Miranda said that if the product gains enough popularity, it could be a revenue stream for the county. The county currently generates approximately 700 tons of material per year.

On a motion made by Mr. Sausville, seconded by Mrs. Johnson the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,
Chris Sansom