

Public Works Committee Minutes
March 3, 2021 – 3:30 p.m.

Present: Chairman Phil Barrett; Committee Members John Lant, Darren O'Connor, Benny Zlotnick and Chairman of the Board Todd Kusnierz; Steve Bulger, Matt Rose, Audra Hedden County Administrator; Hugh Burke, County Attorney; Chad Cooke, Public Works.

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

On a motion made by Mr. Lant, seconded by Mr. Kusnierz, the minutes of the February 3 2021 meeting were approved unanimously.

A motion was made by Mr. Lant, seconded by Mr. Kusnierz, to amend the 2021 budget to re-appropriate unspent funds related to the Department of Public Works capital projects in the amount of \$1,363,000. Unanimous.

Mr. Cooke said that there are a number of projects that are either in the midst of engineering or in the middle of construction. Approximately \$400K is covered by State or Federal aid and the remaining \$971,000 would be a transfer from the general fund. Many of the projects on the list are being conducted with County forces and County funds and that is the reason why the bulk of the transfer requires an appropriation from fund balance.

Mr. Barrett asked Mr. Cooke to give an update on the LED lighting, and solar projects. Mr. Cooke said that they engaged with Centrica, previously known as Smartwatt. Smartwatt did the switch to compact fluorescent lighting at the County around a decade ago and they still have all of the information available in their files. Mr. Cooke said that moving to LED is a relatively simple process. There is also the ability to do this upgrade Countywide. Mr. Cooke said that he can present the costs at a later date depending on the magnitude of the project. Regarding solar, Mr. Cooke said that he was initially hesitant about rooftop solar, however there is technology that allows solar on the metal roofs without roof penetrations. Options would be to either do a very large array or something that only addresses the DPW. The larger the array the more expensive it is. Mr. Cooke said that he is in the process of reviewing the options and will report back.

Mr. Barrett said that he has asked Mr. Kemper to touch base with CDRPC regarding climate smart program grants. The Town of Clifton Park has taken advantage of this and received \$50K to offset LED lighting in some of their facilities. Mr. Barrett asked Ms. Gaston and the Resiliency Committee to continue the push on Climate Smart Communities Program for the County. Ms. Gaston agreed.

On a motion made by Mr. Lant, seconded by Mr. O'Connor, the meeting was adjourned unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,
Therese Connolly
Deputy Clerk of the Board