

Present In-Person: Committee Members Maha, Clattenburg, Yunker, Dibble, also Deleo, Klotzbach, Hawley, Stein, Legislator Torrey joined the meeting at 4:40 PM, Legislature Clerk LaGrou, County Manager Landers, Asst. County Manager Ferringer, IT Director Steve Zimmer, IT Deputy Director Melanie Inda, Co. Attny. Kevin Earl, Highway Superintendent Tim Hens joined the meeting at 4:48PM, Darien Supervisor Steve Ferry, LeRoy Mayor Greg Rogers

Present via ZOOM videoconference: Planning Director Felipe Oltramari, Sheriff William Sheron, EMS Coordinator Tim Yaeger, GLOW Solid Waste Coordinator Peggy Grayson, District Attorney Larry Freidman, Tom Schneider, David Miller

The Public Service Committee Meeting was called to order by Chair Maha at 4:30 PM in the Old Courthouse and using Zoom Video Conference.

Minutes of the January 19, 2021 Public Service Committee meeting were approved upon motion of Legislator Yunker seconded by Legislator Dibble, carried unanimously.

Planning Department Director Felipe Oltramari presented a resolution authorizing financial support of the Genesee Finger Lakes Regional Planning Council in the amount of \$9,970. This was approved for placement on the next Legislature agenda upon motion of Legislator Dibble seconded by Legislator Clattenburg, carried unanimously.

Mr. Oltramari presented a resolution authorizing the Public Employees Fidelity (blanket) Bond for coverage for officers and employees of the Genesee Finger Lakes Regional Planning Council. This was approved for placement on the next Legislature agenda upon motion of Legislator Yunker seconded by Legislator Dibble, carried unanimously.

GLOW Solid Waste Coordinator Peggy Grayson requested a contract renewal for Environmental Enterprises, Inc., for services required for the 2021 Household Hazardous Waste Collection Program with a cost not to exceed \$33,000. This is the first one year renewal. This was approved for placement on the next Legislature agenda upon motion of Legislator Clattenburg seconded by Legislator Dibble, carried unanimously.

Sheriff William Sheron requested approval of a budget amendment which would allow for the use of remaining grant funds in the amount of \$79,921. Money is coming from funds remaining in two DHSES grants, a NYS GTSC Police Traffic Services Grant, and the Agreement with the Village of Bergen. This was referred to Ways & Means with a recommendation for placement on the next Legislature agenda upon motion of Legislator Clattenburg seconded by Legislator Yunker, carried unanimously.

Sheriff Sheron requested authorization to accept grant funding from the NYS Governor's Traffic Safety Committee in the amount of \$2,000 to participate in the statewide Child Passenger Safety Program. These funds were not included in the 2021 budget therefore a budget amendment is required. This was referred to Ways & Means with a recommendation for placement on the next Legislature agenda upon motion of Legislator Yunker seconded by Legislator Clattenburg, carried unanimously.

District Attorney Larry Friedman presented a resolution for a budget amendment which would allow for using a portion of forfeiture of crimes funds to purchase a desk and chairs for the DA's office. Total amount to be used is \$1,299.00. This was referred to Ways & Means with a recommendation for placement on the next Legislature agenda upon motion of Legislator Clattenburg seconded by Legislator Dibble, carried unanimously.

Emergency Management Services Coordinator Tim Yaeger requested approval to apply and accept the FM Global Fire Prevention Grant award in the amount of \$3,800 from FM Global commercial property insurers. He explained that funding priorities have been identified to strengthen efforts and more effectively prevent fire or mitigate damage with grant funds to be used for the purchase of cameras with accessories, two circuit tracers and a tool combo kit. This was referred to Ways & Means with a recommendation for placement on the next Legislature agenda upon motion of Legislator Dibble seconded by Legislator Yunker, carried unanimously.

Highway Superintendent Tim Hens requested approval of a special event application for use of the County Park by ACORNS for their annual Walk/run fundraiser. Mr. Hens commented the ACORNS are an active group of volunteers who organize fundraisers and reinvest in the county park through their on-going efforts. The annual event is scheduled for October. This was approved for placement on the next Legislature agenda upon motion of Legislator Clattenburg seconded by Legislator Yunker, carried unanimously.

Mr. Hens requested approval of another special event application for use of the County Park by ACORNS for their annual Music in the Park event scheduled for August 7, 2021. This was approved for placement on the next Legislature agenda upon motion of Legislator Clattenburg seconded by Legislator Dibble, carried unanimously.

Mr. Hens described the need for an MOU with ACORNS who provide support and generate additional resources for the County Park. Their events and activities include the preservation, protection, environmental stewardship, interpretation and promotion of the Genesee County Parks through special work projects, special programs, special events, outreach programs, special exhibits, interpretive programs, fund raising activities and events, guided tours, and additional activities or events which are designed to meet the needs of the County Parks. This was approved for placement on the next Legislature agenda upon motion of Legislator Dibble seconded by Legislator Yunker, carried unanimously.

Mr. Hens requested approval of a budget amendment that would authorize the county to accept a \$5,700 ACORNS donation which will be used to support a student conservation association internship. This was referred to Ways & Means with a recommendation for placement on the next Legislature agenda upon motion of Legislator Clattenburg seconded by Legislator Dibble, carried unanimously.

Mr. Hens next explained the request for approval of a budget amendment and capital project amendment for the Animal Shelter improvements. The Sheriff's Department requested additional work be accomplished during the Animal Shelter Improvement and there are funds available from the Animal Shelter Donation Fund. This \$11,437 increase in funding will bring the total

funding in the project to \$221,337 and will allow the county to epoxy coat additional flooring and provide fenced-in tops to the moveable kennels for the stray side of the shelter. This was referred to Ways & Means with a recommendation for placement on the next Legislature agenda upon motion of Legislator Clattenburg seconded by Legislator Dibble, carried unanimously.

Mr. Hens explained that the Town of Byron has an existing Retail Lease Agreement with the Monroe County Water Authority (MCWA) for the operation of water districts throughout the town and they are proposing expansions to water service areas within the town and the MCWA has requested an amendment to their existing Retail Lease Agreement. He further explained that Genesee County is required to provide oversight and review of all intermunicipal agreements relative to water within Genesee County. This was approved for placement on the next Legislature agenda upon motion of Legislator Yunker seconded by Legislator Clattenburg, carried unanimously.

Highway Superintendent Tim Hens proceeded with the Unified County Water Rate discussion. There are three sections to our system – East, West and Central. The East and the West are retail areas – The West is comprised of the Town of Pembroke, Town of Darien and Village of Corfu. The East side is comprised of Byron, Bergen, Le Roy, Stafford and Pavilion and the associated villages in those areas. Both East and West are retail because Monroe County Water Authority operates the system and the ultimate authority establishing the rate resides with the MCWA board. The wholesale area, the Center portion of the county includes of Alabama, Oakfield, Elba, Batavia, Alexander and the City of Batavia, and the villages in those areas. Those towns and villages are buying water from Genesee County. The County purchases water on a wholesale basis from Monroe County at the Seven Springs connections in the Town of Stafford and that water is blended with water produced in the City of Batavia water plant. Most of the wholesale areas are operated by the Town of Batavia and have intermunicipal agreements with each of those towns, except for the Village and Town of Oakfield and the City of Batavia, which operate their own systems. The West side is unique because it is a small geographic area with fewer customers and includes operation of the Corfu water plant which is used by MCWA. Another factor is the cost of operating the pump station in Pembroke. That area is 60 to 80 miles from the home base in Monroe County. The water that comes in on the East side is a larger amount of water to a larger area with more customers and the only operational cost there is the operation of the North Rd pump station. The West Side Water is also expensive due to the higher cost of water in Erie County which MCWA must buy and then markup to cover their costs. The wholesale rate that Genesee County pays Monroe County for water is also set by the (MC) Water Authority and their board, through a study. The difference in the East and West rate came to light during negotiations over sales tax agreements a few years ago with the towns and villages. At the time it was about a 90-cent difference between the East and West, with the West being more expensive – and we received a lot of feedback from municipalities on the West side of the county – that there was a perception of unfairness in the rate. The legislature passed a resolution asking the Water Authority to study the feasibility of a unified county rate. The study report will go out to Water Resources Agency members and will be discussed at their next meeting. Mr. Hens indicated he can look into when MCWA sets their 2022 rates.

Public Defender Jerry Ader reviewed highlights of his department review; the pandemic and subsequent protocols and procedures are forcing them to be more flexible and responsive to working remotely. Grant funding is being used to purchase laptop computers for the attorneys. The department is down one paralegal however they are waiting to fill the position until vaccines are administered to the general public. Grant funding is secured for more staffing however the availability of office space and county permission to hire is on hold. They continue to apply for and received grant funding from the NY Indigent Legal Services Office. Financial incentives provided by NY ILS allows for appearances at all off-hours arraignments.

County Manager Matt Landers shared a Jail update; NYSAC had Genesee County in mind when advocating for legislation allowing for a joint jail. There are on-going conversations with Orleans County pertaining to a joint facility. Mr. Landers indicated an updated jail study will be completed. A spring of 2022 ground breaking is possible if further consensus is achieved.

The next meeting of the Public Service Committee is March 15, 2021 at 4:30 pm.

The meeting adjourned at 5:30 pm upon motion of Legislator Yunker seconded by Legislator Dibble, carried unanimously.

Gary Maha approved 3-15-21

Gary Maha, Chair
Public Service Committee

Submitted 2/18/2021 phl