

**REGULAR MEETING
FACILITIES AND INFRASTRUCTURE COMMITTEE
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 27, 2007
3:30 P.M. - SCOTT HEYMAN CONFERENCE ROOM**

Present: K. Luz Herrera, Chair D. Kiefer, Vice Chair; P. Mackesey; D. Randall (3:45 p.m.); G. Stevenson
Staff: C. Nelson, Public Works Administrator; E. Marx, Commissioner of Planning and Public Works; T. Rudy, Airport Manager; W. Sczesny, J. Lampman, Highway; A. LeMaro, Facilities Director; K. Fuller, Deputy Clerk
Legislature: M. Robertson

Call to Order

Ms. Herrera, Chair, called the meeting to order at 3:34 p.m.

Agenda Additions or Deletions

There were no additions to, or deletions from the agenda.

Persons Wishing to Address the Committee

No one was present to speak.

Chair's Report

Air Service Board

Ms. Herrera apologized because she had reported not having discussed with Legislator Shinagawa his reappointment to the Air Service Board. Later she recalled the conversation that they had about it.

She appreciates the Committee for having approved the resolution that waives the rules of the ASB concerning the legislator appointment. The resolution waives the rules for one-year, while the appointment is for a three-year term. She recommends that the Committee consider approving the appointment for a three-year term, with the understanding that the appointment will be revisited next year by the appropriate program committee. Further discussion followed and Ms. Mackesey expressed opposition to a three-year appointment.

It was MOVED by Ms. Kiefer, seconded by Mr. Stevenson, to recommend the appointment of Nathan Shinagawa to the Air Service Board with a term that expires on December 31, 2009, with the understanding that the appointment will be reviewed in 2008 and either confirmed or changed by the program committee. Ms. Kiefer expressed surprise at the Air Service Board nomination and appointment of Mr. Shinagawa as Vice Chair prior to Legislative appointment to the Air Service Board. Ms Herrera concurred that the action was troubling. A voice vote on the appointment resulted as follows: Ayes – 3 (Legislators Herrera, Kiefer, and Stevenson); Noes – 1 (Legislator Mackesey); Excused – 1 (Legislator Randall). MOTION APPROVED.

Expression of Gratitude – Facilities and Highway Divisions

Ms. Herrera extended her appreciation to the Facilities and Highway Divisions for their efforts, including twelve-hour days, during the winter storm of February 13 – February 15. She said that the

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work completed was excellent, and that as Chair of the Committee, she is extremely proud of the Divisions. She asked that her commendations be conveyed to the employees.

Committee Minutes

Ms. Herrera provided the Committee with an example of the format for proposed amendments to the minutes. Also included was a chart specifying the dates during which the Chair would review the minutes, the dates during which Committee members could review the minutes, and the deadlines for submitting proposed changes to the minutes in time for inclusion in the Committee agenda packet for final approval. Ms. Herrera said that this method would provide Committee members the opportunity for input while reducing the time spent by Staff and Committee on minutes at meetings. She suggested that the format could be used by other Committees.

Mr. Randall arrived at this time (3:45).

Following a brief discussion on the procedure for following the amendment guidelines, Ms. Herrera offered to speak individually with Committee members who needed clarification on the subject.

Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)

Ms. Herrera said she has been contacted by individuals regarding the recent changes to the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP), in particular about Tompkins County's loss of awarded funding due to the low-volume of traffic for County projects versus the higher-volume projects that had been approved in other counties. She suggested that later in the meeting the recent round of funding and its implications for the County be addressed by Mr. Marx or Mr. Sczesny.

Senator Schumer's Legislation Regarding Truck Traffic

Ms. Herrera reported that she was contacted regarding Senator Schumer's Federal legislation that would require heavy-truck traffic to travel along specific interstate routes rather than through small communities. She asked that members of the Committee discuss whether the County should extend support to this Legislation.

Commissioner of Planning and Public Works Report

Senator Schumer's Legislation Regarding Truck Traffic

Mr. Marx reported that the topic was discussed at length at the Ithaca-Tompkins County Transportation Council (ITCTC) Planning Committee meeting. He said that some communities are showing support for the Legislation, with Skaneateles being one of the leading communities. In addition, the City of Ithaca will be taking up this issue and it is anticipated to be in the form of a supporting resolution. Mr. Marx explained that the legislation has to do with requiring larger trucks to utilize interstate routes rather than driving through other communities. Although Mr. Marx stated that he believes Pennsylvania and New Jersey may have passed similar legislation, Ms. Mackesey said she believes that the legislation requires approval from the Federal government and that only those states requesting the option will be permitted to utilize the regulations.

Mr. Marx indicated that as the legislation would not have an effect on county roads, any form of support from the County Legislature should be postponed until the City of Ithaca acts. The County could indicate support of the City's request at that time, if deemed appropriate.

Mr. Marx said he is not certain this legislation will be reviewed and acted upon by the ITCTC. He also reported that correspondence has been received from homeowners along New York State Route

89 (west side of the County), who are in support of the truck-traffic legislation due to the extremely high-volume truck traffic along the route.

Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)

Mr. Marx reported that work is underway for the five-year Capital Program. During the process, the final plan will have to take into account those projects that did not receive funding. Two steps could be taken to do this: (1) stretch the funds to enable the maximum work completion possible, which may mean not including certain design features that residents and municipalities would prefer, and (2) to determine whether it is possible to fit the projects within the Capital Program. Mr. Marx reiterated that the ranking of highway projects funded this year was determined according to a cost benefit ratio; projects that are expensive without a high-volume of traffic were less likely to be approved.

A discussion took place regarding how projects could be completed without the funding. It was noted that the shortfall could require extensive project revision, reducing it from major reconstruction to treatment that would merely extend the life of a road as much as possible. Mr. Marx also spoke of the possibility of working with municipalities and possibly the educational facilities regarding projects when it appears that improvements may coincide with planned upgrades to their gateways, special design concerns, etc. Mr. Marx said that next month the plans will be laid out, at which time judgments would be made on how to deal with the projects.

Ms. Kiefer spoke of her reporting on the TIP funding at the Legislature meeting on February 20th, at which time Mr. Booth spoke of how the loss of funding will particularly effect northern counties with even less traffic. It had been noted that the condition is the same statewide, due to planned maintenance having been deferred during difficult budget periods. Mr. Marx addressed the need to construct to standards of use. Therefore, the use of the highways by bikers and walkers cannot be ignored. Additionally, he stated, it will be a challenge to provide a clear understanding to residents of the areas that the construction design must also take into account the needs of commuters.

Ms. Robertson asked whether this topic should be taken up by the Tompkins County Council of Governments. Her belief is that it is unreasonable to expect that municipalities would take over roads; however, she thinks it would be good to see if Cornell University and/or Ithaca College would consider a joint project.

Ms. Herrera spoke of the privatization of roads that is taking place in different localities nationwide. She said it would be good to bring about an awareness that the highway infrastructure is not just a county responsibility but is one that is done for the common good, including municipalities.

Discussions with Sheriff

Mr. Marx reported on discussions with the Sheriff regarding speeding and traffic concerns within the County. Discussions will continue regarding speed enforcement and the possibility of enhancements that would assist in speed reduction.

Air Service Board (ASB)

Mr. Marx reported that the Air Service Board is working on a Request for Qualifications to fill the position previously held by Mr. Hamilton. This position provides assistance to the ASB and the airport through analytical development that could increase airport income.

Ms. Kiefer inquired about the report in the ASB minutes relating to Colgan being purchased by Pinnacle. Mr. Marx stated that this is a subcontractor for USAir. The ASB is in the process of

determining how this development could effect airport operations, and the best contact for discussions with Pinnacle.

Ithaca Tompkins Regional Airport

Airport Terminal ATM

Mr. Rudy, Assistant Director, spoke of the airport’s desire to prepare a Request for Proposals (RFP) for ATM services at the airport, due to the expiration of the present five-year contract. Mr. Rudy reported that the airport does not receive revenue; however, having an ATM available is viewed as a worthwhile customer courtesy.

Facilities Division

**RESOLUTION NO. - AUDIT OF FINAL PAYMENT - JOHNSON CONTROLS, INC.-
FOR PROFESSIONAL SERVICES - ENERGY PERFORMANCE
CONTRACT – PHASE I ENERGY IMPROVEMENTS FOR
COUNTY BUILDINGS**

Mr. LeMaro indicated that Johnson Controls, Inc., has completed Phase I of the Energy Performance Contract that entailed installation of energy-saving devices and modifications in 10 of the County’s 17 buildings. He reported that he is extremely satisfied with the work and that at times Johnson Controls went above and beyond his expectations. Mr. LeMaro briefly explained some of the work completed during Phase I, and reported that Phase II will primarily consist of work on the Main Courthouse. He said that the County will receive a full audit of energy savings next year, however, he has requested that quarterly reports be provided.

Mr. LeMaro reported that his utility usage reports have indicated the following for 2005: a reduction of 23 percent in natural gas, and a reduction of ten percent for electricity. This reduction does not include a report from the airport, however the energy-unit savings is \$116,000.

It was MOVED by Ms. Mackesey, seconded by Ms. Kiefer, and unanimously adopted by voice vote, to adopt the following Committee resolution. RESOLUTION ADOPTED.

WHEREAS, Johnson Controls, Inc., has completed Phase I of their Energy Performance contract to our satisfaction for energy improvements at county buildings, now therefore be it

RESOLVED, on recommendation of the Facilities and Infrastructure Committee, That the following claim against the County of Tompkins, be and hereby is audited by the Legislature:

<u>Vendor</u>	<u>Payment Request</u>	<u>Account No.</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Johnson Controls, Inc.	15 (Final)	HB1601.16.28	\$5,192.22

RESOLVED, further, That the Finance Director be and hereby is authorized and directed to pay said claim from Account No. HB1601.16.28.

SEQR ACTION: TYPE II – 20

Ms. Herrera requested a copy of the consumption data report from Mr. LeMaro. It was noted that the term of the contract is fifteen years. However, the term may be adjusted if desired. At the present time there is an annual charge for the consumption analysis of \$12,500 per year. Mr. LeMaro expressed his intention to discontinue the annual consumption analysis at the point the contract has exceeded the guaranteed savings amount.

Ms. Robertson reported on a Cornell Cooperative Extension Energy Efficient Construction seminar recently held and noted that Mr. LeMaro was present.

Snow Removal Report

Mr. LeMaro reported that during the recent snowstorm he had two teams of four workers each completing the plowing and salt operations at the County facilities, with employees working from 3:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., and returning on the day following the storm. Mr. LeMaro spoke of the excellent teamwork of Ms. Kissinger, Assistant Facilities Director, and Mr. Parker, General Maintenance Supervisor. In an effort to relieve County staff due to the long hours that were required, Ms. Kissinger utilized a private contractor to plow the parking areas at the Public Safety building. This was done with the knowledge and approval of union personnel.

Ms. Mackesey inquired about County ownership of K House and was informed that although selling the property is an option, the County has maintained the building for use by State Police as a satellite station.

Mr. Stevenson was excused at this time (4:30 p.m.).

Highway Division

RESOLUTION NO. - AUDIT OF FINAL PAYMENT – RINGWOOD ROAD BRIDGE REPLACEMENT PROJECT RIGHT-OF-WAY – VARIOUS PROPERTY OWNERS - PIN 375320 (BIN 3314160)

It was MOVED by Ms. Kiefer, seconded by Ms. Mackesey, to recommend approval of the following resolution to the full Legislature. Ms. Robertson thanked Mr. Lampman for his efforts to complete the Right-of-Way acquisition for this project. A voice vote resulted as follows: Ayes – 4; Noes – 0; Excused – 1 (Legislator Stevenson)

WHEREAS, the four (4) parcel acquisitions as listed below (indentures and easements) were completed in accordance with the Right-of-Way Plan for replacement of the Ringwood Road Bridge over Cascadilla Creek (BIN 3314160) in the Town of Dryden as approved by Resolution 236 of 2005, now therefore be it

RESOLVED, on recommendation of the Facilities and Infrastructure Committee, That the claim against Tompkins County, be and hereby is audited by the County Legislature:

Vendor		Payment Request			Account No.	Amount
Various Property Owners		2 (Final)			HZ5103.53.11	\$535.00
Count	Tax Map #	Acres	Type	Parcel Address	Owner	Price
1	65.-3-5	0.011	PE	809 Ringwood Road	Selman, Julia Mulks	\$ 200.00
2	65.-3-4.4	0.006	FEE	783 Ringwood Road	Hubbert, Robert & Shari	\$ 100.00
3	65.-3-4.4 65.-1-8 &	0.031	PE	783 Ringwood Road	Hubbert, Robert & Shari	\$ 435.00
4	65.-1-1.62	0.06	FEE	3 Ringwood Knoll	Cornelius, Bernard & Sandra	\$ 1.00

SEQR ACTION: TYPE II-20

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Snow Removal

Mr. Sczesny reported that his staff worked sixteen-hour days during the recent snowstorm, with many staff members choosing to stay at the Public Works facility until their next shift. He commended his staff for their efforts and positive attitudes. Mr. Sczesny noted that the only complaints he received during the period of the storm were the lack of sufficient food in vending machines and that windshield wipers iced up. Both of these items have been addressed.

Highway Status Report

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The Committee reviewed the report and noted the following items:

- Banks Road Bridge – it was reported that the problem is due to clay under the surface causing sliding. Work is underway with consultants to determine how to resolve the issue; upon reaching final design, the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) will cover the costs of repair.
- Ringwood Road – one item required by the New York State Department of Transportation was to have a single individual named as lead on the project; Mr. Lampman will serve in this capacity.
- Coddington Road – the meeting originally scheduled for this evening has been postponed.
- The pie chart will be revised to specify the time period of the project reimbursements.

Committee Goals

Ms. Herrera said that she was pleased that Ms. Younger, Deputy County Administrator, was able to attend the previous meeting to provide information relating to Committee Goals. At this time the Committee held a discussion about the setting of goals, during which the following topics were suggested as possible goals:

- County-wide broadband service
- Revised County e-mail policy
- Review of fees
- Vendor performance database
- Performance evaluations
- Best practices regarding the environment
- 20-year Solid Waste Management Plan
- Workplace Violence Act

During the discussion of goals, *it was decided to invite Ms. Younger back to the next meeting to hold a Goal Setting Work Session.* Mr. Marx said it is important to think about areas where policy issues may arise and ways to improve.

On motion the meeting adjourned at 5:19 p.m.

Respectfully submitted – Karen Fuller, Deputy Clerk.