

**COMMITTEE MEETING
LAKE PLEASANT, NY
WEDNESDAY
NOVEMBER 14, 2012**

**PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE MEETING
9:00 AM**

Present: Brian Towers, Clark Seaman, Bob Edwards and Brian Wells

Also present: Bill Farber, John Frey, Rick Wilt, Tracy Eldridge and Pete Klein

Brian Towers introduced Tracy.

Tracy started with Solid Waste, as of last week DANC has increased our tipping fees. Tracy stated this was done on short notice and he called them on it because the towns are already budgeting. What happened is that they have a new solid waste manager and the board at DANC decided on the increase in the last part of April early May. The three partner counties typically follow the DANC's board meeting minutes on-line and they assumed we were getting them. The increase is going up \$5.00 per ton.

Tracy reported this year to date 63,533 pounds of electronics have been taken out of the way-stream, that's 30 tons of electronics that probably would have gone to DANC. Right now with the mixed paper we just added, and the word isn't really out yet, we already have 96 tons in paper this year, 20 more tons than last year. This is a sign that we are doing better.

Tracy stated that he has a bid out for the roll-off containers he wants to put at the transfer stations specifically for mix paper. The bid opening is scheduled for Tuesday November 27th and that will be around \$45,000 to \$48,000 county expense but will help off-set the increases from DANC.

Everyone present agreed that their town could take the full increase in 2013.

Tracy stated that he has all the old data that he can look up and email to everyone on what they spent last year so they can figure if they will have enough in their 2013 budgets to cover the full increase. Tracy stated all an all it is still a great rate.

Discussion continued with solid waste and how much they are taking out of the way-stream.

Tracy has one more trailer repair to get done in 2013, the last repair worked out well.

Tracy moved on to Buildings:

Tracy reviewed what he would like to do in 2013 for building improvements; put siding on the west side of the highway garage in Lake Pleasant, including insulation. The parking lot expansion in front of the Court House and fix the drainage. He would like to improve signage and do some basic maintenance to both Lake Pleasant and Indian Lake buildings. Both buildings will need parking lots paved; they will need to figure out how to finance that in the near future. Tracy asked Rick if he had anything he wanted to report, Rick replied that he spoke with Williamsen about a generator that wasn't cycling in Indian Lake. Rick reported it is the small generator and it might be an issue next year.

Bill asked what does something like that run, Rick estimated around \$5,400 for around the same size. Tracy stated they were going to at one time try to run Social Services side off of the Public Health generator and then upgrade the other wing with a little bigger generator.

Bill stated that they need to look at where the reimbursement is better, from Social Services, Public Health and what we can charge the courts.

Tracy also wanted to look at Community Services heat, should we stay with electric or go with something else. Rick stated electric is almost the same as fuel.

Tracy stated that he will talk with Roberta and Beth to compare the reimbursement between Social Services and Public Health.

Tracy reported that Mark gave him a quick estimate of \$10,000 for siding on the highway garage. The generator we will have to look into because there are some variables.

The siding is in Tracy's 2013 request along with the parking lot expansion.

He will check the drainage issues first and if there's a problem then they will put the parking lot off a year. Tracy asked if any of them knew the history of the digging around the County Clerk's Office and the Court House, has anything been done in the last 15 to 20 years? Brian stated there were some drainage improvements done between the two buildings. He can't recall if anything was done on the other side. The County Clerk's Office has always had issues with their basement being damp/wet.

Neil entered during the parking lot discussion.

The discussion then turned toward Highway issues.

Tracy stated we have to find a way of financing our bridges. He feels we have done a great job in getting our bridges up in shape, but we still have a ways to go. We don't have any unsafe bridges or concerns if we postpone a bridge here and there, we'll just do maintenance to them.

As for road projects we will probably have to scale back from 4 to 3. His biggest concern now is pavement maintenance. We need to be micro-paving our good roads to save them.

All an all Tracy stated his two biggest concerns are funding our bridges and figuring out a way to have a pavement maintenance program.

CHIPs has not increased over the last couple of years.

Tracy stated he will continue to try to find funding.

Brian T. asked Tracy if he wanted to discuss his grade and title changes, or hold it off for another day due to a possible lengthy discussion. Bill stated those are not budget impacts and continued to discuss Tracy's ideas with grade and title changes.

Tracy reviewed the equipment needs for 2013.

Tracy stated he will look at his fleet and utilize what he can from one truck to another. In 2013 a tandem axel truck is \$220,000 with a plow, we are looking at a \$150,000 budget this year, but he

will make it work. In 2014 he will need to replace a tandem axel dump truck plus other equipment as well.

Brain T. stated there was a discussion the other day on the floor with regards to what pieces of equipment were really needed and you indicated that you really needed to do something with the pickup trucks. Tracy stated yes, his focus is three crew cabs and a one ton crew cab pickup. When we pull our bridge trailer that is loaded it is very heavy and we need the one ton truck to do that. Tracy wants to put utility bodies on them so their tools are under cover and racks for carrying culverts, ladders, etc.

Tracy stated that he would like to buy a used skid steer to use around the Lake Pleasant garage, he feels it would get a lot of use.

Brian T. stated as we go into next year it is vital that we take a hard look at how we not only operate as a county but how the county interacts with the town highway departments as well as DOT. Tracy agreed, they need to have an honest conversation on how every department functions, whether it is county, town, or state.

**INTERNAL MANAGEMENT/FINANCE
COMMITTEE MEETING
9:40 AM**

Present: Bob Edwards, John Frey, Neil McGovern, Clark Seaman, Rick Wilt, Brian Towers,

Also present: Bill Farber, Brian Wells, and Pete Klein

John reported that they would start with job title changes through the budget requests.

Bill reported they received requests for budget title changes that all have budget impacts. He feels they need to be addressed so that they can get back to those departments.

The Board of Elections has changes for their technicians. Tracy also, but his really don't affect the budget amount.

John started the tentative budget review.

Bill stated his understanding is that Board of Elections is ok with the deputies and splitting the temporary lines but there was a concern with the technicians.

Rick asked for a little history on how they were being paid before.

Bill explained that they were always treated as whatever was in the budget was the equivalent of a salary item, they never assigned an hourly rate and it had to do with the Election Law; the law says that because they are party representatives that they need to be paid the same. They talked about this in the budget meeting upstairs, it's unclear in the Election Law whether you could simply set an hourly rate and we agreed that anytime that the Republican works the Democrat works. Bill continued to explain how they have been doing this.

Bill reported the other piece of the history was that the two individuals, if you look at the budget got increased with the HAVA implementation because we went to electronic voting machines that have to be tested on a monthly cycle and programming is involved. In the budget meeting it

was revealed that the Election Commissioners are doing the testing themselves. With respect to programming, one of the technicians was working as an election worker, doing programming and the other Commissioner was having a temporary person come in and do programming. There was a fair amount of discussion a couple of years ago when it became evident that we were going to have to do our own programming. With that discussion they spoke about an increase for the Commissioners salaries, deputies salaries etc. It was decided that the temps could do the programming and the Commissioner could check their work. It seems that the technicians were not excited about this, they feel they're being cut, but how do we go back to doing any hourly rate.

Brian T. asked with the new machines, how much work are they doing?

Bill stated there was a problem in Hope on Election Day and they were called out for that.

Bill suggested that they ask the Election Commissioners to join them to answer questions.

Marie and Cathy entered.

John asked how things are going with the technicians and Cathy stated that things are fine. Cathy stated it will be \$750 per election and they are fine with it.

Neil asked is it less work for the technicians with the new machines and Cathy stated it is more work than the old machines.

Bill stated along with Primary Day and General Election Day next year they will come in four times and will they be full days, half days etc. Cathy stated they can do it in a full day. Marie stated from her experience it hasn't taken that long. The last election we were there maybe six and a half hours.

Bill asked if it's a full day, when is the cycle, Cathy stated every quarter to take care of the machines four times a year and they also come in for a week before the election and then again a week after the election to seal up the machines.

Bill again stated that he would like to explore whether there was a way they could set any hourly rate for these two individuals. Commit that they will always work together and pay them based on actual hours worked. Discussion continued on how they could compensate them better.

Marie stated that it would be a good idea to pay hourly.

Neil apologized for not being at their first budget meeting. He stated there are two places in the budget where the department requests went up, Bill helped John answer any questions.

Neil stated the proceeding numbers were lower, however there was a discussion on ramping up because it was an Presidential Election and apparently one of them wanted to keep the line items there, that's how it reads here. One asked for X the other asked for Y and we split the middle. Are we requesting things for one year and then giving the excuse let's just keep it there for the next budget request.

Cathy stated we only have the Presidential Election every four years, but the General Election is only once a year. We have not expended in the past three years with the General Election account.

Marie stated that she thinks she was the one that left it at the \$16,000 mainly because she is not familiar with the budget, so she kept it the same. John stated that she made that statement before at the budget meeting.

Bill stated that Cathy said she may have cut her budget short and Marie left it the same because she didn't know how it was being used.

As there was no further business, the meeting ended.