

**COMMITTEE MEETING
LAKE PLEASANT, NY
THURSDAY
OCTOBER 4, 2012**

**PUBLIC WORKS
COMMITTEE
9:30 AM**

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

Also present: Rick Wilt, Bill Farber, Ermina Pincombe, Tracy Eldridge, Dan Fish and Pete Klein, Press

Brian Towers introduced Tracy Eldridge.

Tracy wanted to discuss MEGA and signing a contract. Tracy feels it comes down to a uneducated guess. He does recommend staying with MEGA for another year.

Bill suggested having the County Attorney get a formal opinion from the Comptroller's Office if anyone still has any doubts about the need to bid.

Dan Fish addressed the Committee with regards to the seminar he attended. He reported they were primarily big picture items of where gas and electric prices were going to go in the future.

Dan reviewed the comparison of amounts he put together. National Grid does not have a fixed rate they have a fluctuating rate and through September the rate ran about 4 ½ cent per kilowatt. We have been paying 6.1 cents for the past 12 months. The proposal for the 12 month and 24 month agreements is 6.3 cents. Dan agreed to contact MEGA to get a fluctuating price, he did call Integrys and they won't give him one.

Bill asked if they have spoken to the consultant for MEGA that is out of Saratoga. Dan stated no. Bill feels that is a worthwhile conversation that we need to have prior to a recommendation between fixed and fluctuating.

Dan reported that he did secure a \$750.00 grant to purchase LED holiday lights for the County.

Buildings:

Tracy thanked Dan, Mark & crew for all the projects they have gotten done this year. We are going to hold off on the parking lot expansion, but will be digging up along the Court House by the basement stairs to try and figure out where the water is coming in.

Recycling:

Tracy stated that he sent everyone a draft local law for recycling with some changes. He then addressed some of Rick's issues. Attached is the New York State Electronic Recycling Laws for batteries and electronic equipment, he would like everyone to review it again.

Brain Towers said he would like to discuss this. He has concerns, under preparation of house hold garbage it states clear plastic bags. He knows that we don't want black bags, but there is a translucent bag. Brian stated it is hard to find clear bags, Tracy agreed but the County buys clear

bags and stated that Wal-Mart did carry clear bags. Tracy did offer to change the wording to translucent.

Bill stated Tracy could put in the local law an implementation date for all clear bags so that residents and businesses can adjust and not get stuck with a lot of non-clear garbage bags.

The other issue that Brian wanted to talk about was “securely tied”. His experience with the Recycling Centers is that this stuff shows up in a variety of ways. Brian suggested taking the word tied out and just put bundle.

Rick asked if there was anything in there saying where the garbage comes from. He has noticed that one of his households is putting out a refrigerator every year. Someone is bringing them in from out of County. Can we address that we take garbage from households in the County. Tracy stated that we could put something in there. Bill stated maybe something to the affect of “generated in Hamilton County”.

Tracy agreed with Rick along with household hazardous waste. Right now we don’t take it, but where do you tell people to take it. Rick stated that is the issue, but that is becoming less and less, Tracy agreed.

Bill stated that his highway department has spoken about the way they wrestle with non-soiled cardboard. It is very hard to predict when the cardboard got saturated, before it got put in the bag or after, should it have been recycled, etc. That is the one that they have the most trouble enforcing. Rick agreed, that is a big issue. Brian stated there is a difference between the corrugated and non-corrugated, we only take the corrugated. Tracy stated if it is corrugated and clean we can recycle it.

Tracy reported that Jillian Blake is doing the full application grant for recycling and has touched base with DEC; it looks like we can’t increase the amount from \$111,000, as we were thinking, to \$225,000. That would not include the Town of Inlet or Lake Pleasant amounts they wanted to add.

Bill stated that they have in the past, because of the time lag, allowed some substituting, modest change in the amount but we proposed a dramatic change from our original proposal. Just from a policy standpoint they were concerned with bending it that far.

Tracy reported that he trimmed his list. He would still like to purchase the bailer, the roll-off trailer, mixed paper containers and the recycling shed. This should keep it at about \$111,000.

Neil entered during the list trimming discussion.

Bill reported that DEC is universally holding up approval of Solid Waste Management Plans because they might change the requirements. NYSAC did pass a resolution opposing this.

Tracy stated under highway; DOT is now applying to the Federal Highway Administration to change some of the State Routes throughout the state to a different status, from minor arterials to principal arterials. That would allow them to get more funding through the Map 21 Federal Transportation Bill.

DOT is asking for a letter or resolution that we approve of them changing Route 30 status in Hamilton County.

Bill asked is Route 30 the only one in Hamilton County, Tracy stated as of right now yes, but he will ask about Route 8 and 28. Bill continued to discuss Routes 8 and 28.

All their road construction projects have been paved and seeded.

The bridge projects are basically completed. They are still finishing up on some rail work where they improved sections of roads.

Brian Towers was at a meeting and one of the things brought up was streams that are labeled trout streams or fisheries; the U.S. Fish & Wildlife has funding for box culverts and wanted Tracy to know. Discussion continued on four sided culvert verses three sided etc.

Meeting ended at 10:30 AM.