



Onondaga County Legislature

JAMIE McNAMARA
Clerk

JAMES J. ROWLEY
Chairman

MELANIE VILARDI
Deputy Clerk

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WAYS & MEANS COMMITTEE MINUTES – APRIL 26, 2022 BRIAN F. MAY, CHAIRMAN

MEMBERS PRESENT: Mr. Ryan, Mr. Burtis, Ms. Abbott, Mr. Kinne

MEMBERS ABSENT: Mr. Olson, Mrs. Ervin

ALSO ATTENDING: Chairman Rowley, Mr. Bush; also see attached

Chairman May called the meeting to order at 11:40 a.m. *A motion was made by Mr. Burtis, seconded by Mr. Kinne to waive the reading of the minutes of the previous committee meeting. Passed unanimously; MOTION CARRIED. A motion was made by Ms. Abbott, seconded by Mr. Burtis to approve the minutes of the previous committee meeting. Passed unanimously; MOTION CARRIED.*

CONSENT AGENDA

1. TRANSPORTATION:

- a. Amending Resolution No. 72-2021 to Increase the Authorization to Pay in the First Instance 100% of the Federal and State Aid Eligible Costs by an Additional \$190,000 for the Construction and Construction Inspection Phases of the Old Route 5 (CR 98) and Warners Road (CR 63) Paving (2R) Project, PIN 3755.69 and Authorizing Execution of Agreements (\$190,000) (*Sponsored by Ms. Cody*)
- b. Amending the 2022 County Budget to Fund in the First Instance 100 Percent of the Federal Aid Eligible Costs at a Maximum Amount of \$680,000 for the Design (Scoping I-VI) and Right-of-Way Incidentals Phase of the John Glenn Boulevard (CR 81) Paving Project, PIN 3756.71, and Authorizing the Execution of Agreements (\$680,000) (*Sponsored by Ms. Cody*)
- c. Amending the 2022 County Budget to Fund in the First Instance 100 Percent of the Federal Aid Eligible Costs at a Maximum Amount of \$552,000 for the Design (Scoping I-VI) and Right-of-Way Incidentals Phase of the Old Route 57 (CR 91) and Soule Road (CR 96) Paving Project, PIN 3756.72, and Authorizing the Execution of Agreements (\$552,000) (*Sponsored by Ms. Cody*)
- d. Amending the 2022 County Budget to Fund in the First Instance 100 Percent of the Federal Aid Eligible Costs at a Maximum Amount of \$232,000 for the Design (Scoping I-VI) and Right-of-Way Incidentals Phase of the Lakeshore Road Bridge Over Nine Mile Creek Project, PIN 3756.73, and Authorizing the Execution of Agreements (\$232,000) (*Sponsored by Ms. Cody*)
- e. Amending the 2022 County Budget to Fund in the First Instance 100 Percent of the Federal Aid Eligible Costs at a Maximum Amount of \$360,000 for the Design (Scoping I-VI) and Right-of-Way Incidentals Phase of the Limestone Plaza Bridge Over Limestone Creek Project, PIN 3756.74, and Authorizing the Execution of Agreements (\$360,000) (*Sponsored by Ms. Cody*)
- f. Amending the 2022 County Budget to Fund in the First Instance 100 Percent of the Federal Aid Eligible Costs at a Maximum Amount of \$600,000 for the Design (Scoping I-VI) and Right-of-Way Incidentals Phase of the Onondaga Boulevard (CR 240) Paving Project, PIN 3756.75, and

Authorizing the Execution of Agreements (\$600,000) (Sponsored by Ms. Cody)

- g. Amending the 2022 County Budget to Fund in the First Instance 100 Percent of the Federal Aid Eligible Costs at a Maximum Amount of \$560,000 for the Design (Scoping I-VI) and Right-of-Way Incidentals Phase of the Seventh North Street (CR 45) Paving Project, PIN 3756.76, and Authorizing the Execution of Agreements (\$560,000) (Sponsored by Ms. Cody)**
- h. Amending the 2022 County Budget to Fund in the First Instance 100 Percent of the Federal Aid Eligible Costs at a Maximum Amount of \$320,000 for the Design (Scoping I-VI) and Right-of-Way Incidentals Phase of the Buckley Road (CR 161) Paving Project, PIN 3756.78, and Authorizing the Execution of Agreements (\$320,000) (Sponsored by Ms. Cody)**
- i. Amending the 2022 County Budget to Fund in the First Instance 100 Percent of the Federal Aid Eligible Costs at a Maximum Amount of \$1,643,500 for the Design (Scoping I-VI) and Construction Phases of the North Manlius Road Bridge Over Limestone Creek (C-141) Project, PIN 3756.91, and Authorizing Execution of Agreements, and Rescinding Resolution No. 98-2019 (\$1,643,500) (Sponsored by Ms. Cody)**
- j. 2022 Transfer Resolution (\$16,567) (Sponsored by Ms. Cody)**

A motion was made by Mr. Kinne, seconded by Mr. Burtis, to approve the consent agenda. Passed unanimously; MOTION CARRIED.

REGULAR AGENDA

1. JUSTICE CENTER OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE:

- a. Confirming Reappointment to the Onondaga County Justice Center Oversight Committee (Christine TenEyck) (Sponsored by Mr. Olson)**
- b. Confirming Appointment to the Onondaga County Justice Center Oversight Committee (JoAnne Spoto Decker) (Sponsored by Mr. Rowley)**

- Both candidates excellent; Ms. TenEyck has an excellent resume and is serving; Ms. Decker is also a great candidate

A motion was made by Ms. Abbott, seconded by Mr. Ryan, to approve item 1a. Passed unanimously; MOTION CARRIED.

A motion was made by Mr. Kinne, seconded by Mr. Ryan, to approve item 1b. Passed unanimously; MOTION CARRIED.

2. TRANSPORTATION: Marty Voss, Commissioner

- a. BOND: A Resolution Authorizing Various Bridge Improvement Projects in and for the County of Onondaga, New York, at a Maximum Estimated Cost of \$1,300,000, and Authorizing the Issuance of \$1,300,000 Bonds of Said County to Pay Costs Thereof (\$1,300,000) (Sponsored by Ms. Cody)**
- b. BOND: A Resolution Authorizing the Reconstruction and Construction of Improvements to Various Highways in and for the County of Onondaga, New York, at a Maximum Estimated Cost of \$9,275,000, and Authorizing the Issuance of \$9,275,000 Bonds of Said County to Pay Costs Thereof (\$9,275,000) (Sponsored by Ms. Cody)**

- Support 2022 work plan; requires local matching for federal aid projects; cash in budget; bond amount same as 2021

- Cold and hot paving lists included in work plan
- State passed budget – in process of adding more projects in; will come back in May for Extreme Winter Recovery (EWR), Pave NY, and new program POPS (Pave our Potholes) - took money from CHIPS, same formula as Pave NY

Chair May stated for the record that he appreciates the expediency in Mr. Voss' overview. He spoke with Mr. Voss last week about DOT's rating system for prioritizing the work that needs to be done, and the process of how the work is included in the plan. It is a need and priority based proposal in front of the committee.

Mr. Kinne asked when this would go out for bonding. Mr. Morgan:

- Issuance every year; spring/summer; none of this will be this year; will be authorized as projects come to completion

Mr. Kinne asked if the policy is that cash will pay for certain projects. Mr. Morgan:

- Bond resolutions brought through process now include language (requested by the Legislature) giving CFO authority to use surplus money if it exists and decide to do so
- Took advantage with bonding approved by Legislature; used \$9 mil in cash instead of borrowing for various projects

Mr. Kinne requested a list of those projects that Mr. Morgan decides to spend cash on instead of bonds.

Mr. Ryan asked if this process happens in the fall. Mr. Morgan:

- Language in there; applicable for 2021 surplus; once that is decided, language continues and can still look at other years
- Ongoing and open door once resolution approved with that language
- Look at it in terms of newest round of authorized borrowing; handful of smaller items under \$1 mil or just over; took those and accumulated; just short of \$9 mil; use cash instead
- Prepared to determine what will issue this year; will look and make decision at that point

Chair May said Mr. Morgan is in a situation of chasing rates, which could cost more in the future. Mr. Morgan:

- Had to scramble to get refunding done; advanced and aggressive schedule; if it were in line with new issue, the savings would have evaporated
- Quickly got together without 2021 financials, which do not like to do, but to get refund and savings, had to move quickly
- Moving forward, the analysis and equation of cash on hand versus borrowing more imperative

Mr. Ryan asked if they are quarterly rates, and Mr. Morgan responded it depends on the federal government.

- Will impact rates garnered in the market; feds poised to have 3 or 4 rate increases; those will seep into bond market and will cost county more to borrow; days of 1.75% or 2% will be gone; it will be 3% - 5%
- Feds move rate, but does not equate point for point for bond market; lot of factors go into interest rate county receives

Mr. Burtis asked how much money the county saved by refinancing the bonds. Mr. Morgan:

- About \$800,000 in budgetary savings spread over 10 year period
- Initially when picking underwriter in competitive process, the savings were over \$1 mil, but rates started shifting, which is why the schedule was accelerated

Mr. Burtis said Finance is doing a great job keeping ahead of everything. The only thing not discussed is inflation, which plays a part as well. Mr. Morgan commented that they are in an unusual spot with the county's financial position. The capital program will always be mainly finance with borrowing, and as they look at the 2023 spending plan, they will look into strategic areas to invest more. Mr. Voss' plan is in line with the 2022 budget.

Ms. Abbott asked Mr. Voss how the hiring process is going. Mr. Voss:

- Still have bunch of vacancies; it is difficult competing with towns, which pay more; also compete with National Grid
- Doing what they can; had job fairs and outreach
- Having trouble finding people to do blue collar work; DOT is willing to pay, train and offer benefits
- If come across young people interested in truck driving, operating equipment and doing construction work, they are entertaining anyone they can

Mr. Ryan said it is more beneficial to have someone with a CDL, but they end up losing them. Mr. Voss:

- Losing them hurts - route has to be covered by someone else (another driver or supervisor)
- Have positions available for those with clean driving record without CDL; created in 2020 or 2021 budget (trainees)
- Have great trainer (2 Trainer titles created) - trainer and safety; have 2 field staff that field train at quarry in Jamesville
- Students at NNTS on Buckely have jobs immediately making double or triple what they can make at the county
- Ms. Moore has been effective bringing in candidates and matching titles; working on making job better and more rewarding; discussing with Finance (Mr. Morgan) on how to do this year
- Getting critical - had mass exodus of retirees in 55-60 age group; another group coming to be on the way out the door; need younger people to help solve the problem

A motion was made by Mr. Burtis, seconded by Mr. Kinne, to approve item 2a. Passed unanimously; MOTION CARRIED.

A motion was made by Mr. Kinne, seconded by Ms. Abbott, to approve item 2b. Passed unanimously; MOTION CARRIED.

3. ONONDAGA COMMUNITY COLLEGE:

- a. Calling for a Public Hearing on the Tentative 2022-2023 Budget of the Onondaga Community College**

Chair May stated the public hearing is scheduled for May 24th at 9:15 a.m.

A motion was made by Mr. Burtis, seconded by Mr. Kinne, to approve this item. Passed unanimously; MOTION CARRIED.

4. FINANCE:

- a. Approving and Directing the Correction of Certain Errors on Tax Bills**

Mr. Mahaney stated the correction is a result of incorrect reporting of water usage by the Town of DeWitt.

A motion was made by Mr. Ryan, seconded by Mr. Burtis, to approve this item. Passed unanimously; MOTION CARRIED.

5. COUNTY LEGISLATURE:

- a. Confirming Appointment of James E. Beebe as Legislative Aide of the Onondaga County Legislature (Sponsored by Ms. Abbott)**

Ms. Abbott:

- Worked together over a decade; gentle giant, work horse and loyal; he is a photographer and can write; amazing communication skills; working at News Channel 9; born and raised here, moved back to be here for his mom

A motion was made by Mr. Burtis, seconded by Ms. Abbott, to approve this item. Ayes: 4 Abstentions: 1 (Ryan); MOTION CARRIED.

- b. Standard Work Day and Reporting Resolution**

A motion was made by Mr. Ryan, seconded by Mr. Burtis, to approve this item. Passed unanimously; MOTION CARRIED.

6. LAW:

a. Settlement of Actions

Mr. Yaus stated dear Legislators, the two resolutions you are to consider concern the settlement of pending litigation, and I would therefore recommend such be discussed in executive session.

A motion was made by Mr. Burtis, seconded by Ms. Abbott, to go into executive session for the purpose of discussing proposed, pending, or current litigation. Passed unanimously; MOTION CARRIED.

A motion was made by Mr. Burtis, seconded by Mr. Kinne, to exit executive session and enter regular session. Passed unanimously; MOTION CARRIED.

Chairman May stated no motions or actions were taken during executive session.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:38 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



JAMIE McNAMARA, Clerk
Onondaga County Legislature

ATTENDANCE

COMMITTEE: WAYS & MEANS COMMITTEE

DATE: APRIL 26, 2022

NAME (Please Print)	DEPARTMENT/AGENCY
MARY ROSS	OCDOT
ODEAN DYER	OCDOT
JIN MAHANEY	Finance
Dan Muirhill	Fin Ops
Ben Yaus	Law
Josh Schick	CSEA
TENECHA MURPHY	CE office
Carl Hammel	Personnel
DARCIE LESNIAK	Leg
John DeSantis	Leg
Brian Donnelly	C.E.
Stere Morgan	CFO
Isabelle Harris	C.E.
Bob Durr	Law