

Herkimer County Legislature
Public Safety/Emergency Management, County Properties and Ways & Means
Committee Meeting
Friday, May 1, 2020
Via Teleconference
Follows Public Safety/Emergency Management and Ways & Means

Persons Attending:

John P. Stephens (Chairman, Public Safety/W&M committee member)
Gregory Malta, Sr. (Public Safety committee member)
Raymond Johnson (Chairman, County Properties, committee member, all)
Kurt J. Ackerman (Public Safety/W&M committee member)
William Weakley (Public Safety/County Properties committee member)
Peter Campione (Public Safety committee member)
Mark Gaworecki (County Properties committee member)
William E. Keeler, Sr. (County Properties committee member)
Robert J. Schrader (County Properties committee member)
Ray Donley (County Properties committee member)
Patrick E. Russell (Ways & Means Committee Chairman)
Raymond Smith (Ways & Means committee member)
Frederick J. Shaw, Jr. (committee member, both)
Vincent J. Bono, Chairman of the Legislature
James W. Wallace, Jr., County Administrator
Brandy Serow, Sec. to County Administrator
Lorraine Lewandrowski, County Attorney
Sheri Ferdula, Budget Officer
Steve Billings, Personnel Officer
Scott Scherer, Sheriff
(Non Committee Members Signed In)
Legislator Bob D. Hollum
Legislator John L. Brezinski
Legislator Peter F. Manno

Absent:

N/A

Mr. Johnson called the County Properties meeting to order at 10:38 a.m.

Items Discussed:

PUBLIC SAFETY/EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT, COUNTY PROPERTIES AND WAYS & MEANS:

1. Sheriff's facility
2. Builders Risk Policy
3. Other

Committee Vote Record:

PUBLIC SAFETY/EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT, COUNTY PROPERTIES AND WAYS & MEANS:

Mr. Stephens stated "Number one, Sheriff's facility. We've been discussing an administrative facility for the Sheriff's Department for offices. Ray, please take this over as you are the construction side of things and I'm going to say something that's probably incorrect."

Mr. Johnson stated “We’ve brought three different people in from standard buildings, to wood, to metal, to concrete. The modular design came in last week. I think we all agreed on the modular. The price was way better. I think Sheri sent out the quotes and the bids today. Everyone should have them in their email.”

Sheri Ferdula confirmed.

Mr. Johnson stated “Price wise, the modular design is pretty good. I would like to move forward and get some harder numbers on it to see where it is. Exact numbers, some drawings and move forward like that. That’s where I am with this project. I will leave it up to everybody else. I guess the only other thing is this money would come out of the \$2 million we set aside, right Jim?”

Jim Wallace said correct.

Mr. Johnson stated “And paid for by the quarter percent?”

Jim Wallace stated “No. That would be the tobacco. We saved that in case we didn’t do it then we could use the tobacco for something else. Where the quarter percent we had to use for the jail.”

Mr. Russell stated “That tobacco money could be used for other capital constructions projects should we need them and have them. Especially in considering the way things are going with are budget for next year. I’m not sure if this is such a wise thing to do.”

Mr. Bono asked “Then can we use the quarter percent? Then just implement the quarter percent to pay for this.”

Mr. Russell asked “Why do we need this building?”

Mr. Stephens stated “Because it’s less costly than renovating the existing structures we have.”

Mr. Russell stated “We don’t need to renovate it. They are using them now.”

Mr. Bono stated “I think there is some serious need in that court house, Pat. I don’t know if you have been in it lately but it’s old. We’ve got some mold issues in there and moisture issues. We can have this discussion again here.”

Mr. Russell stated “We voted not to do this prior and we knew all those things that were going on before and we had ways of making sure that we had those fixed. Now, all of a sudden they’ve become a big problem because we want to kick the side of a building and say hey, look at this wonderful 1.2 million plus whatever else it’s going to be to get the place ready. I just don’t understand the concept or the thinking on it.”

Mr. Stephens stated “That’s good Pat. That’s your choice. Go ahead Kurt.”

Mr. Ackerman stated “I think we should kick this down. I don’t mind getting some prices on it but before we vote on it I think I would wait a few months to look at a couple other things that are going on within the County. We may have space somewhere.”

Mr. Stephens stated “This is just a discussion anyway Kurt. We’re not going to be making a decision here.”

Mr. Ackerman stated "I'm just sharing. I'm not against anything. Getting the numbers is fine but there may be other options."

Mr. Johnson stated "So the committee would be good as far as us trying to get a hard number on the modular system then?"

Mr. Ackerman stated "We already got numbers so why would we object to get more numbers?"

Mr. Johnson said ok.

Mr. Ackerman stated "That's my opinion. I mean is it going to cost us anything to get more numbers?"

Mr. Bono stated "What's included in the price we got was the set, the design, the set up and that's the crane included. We would have to bid out separately a foundation which in the grand scheme of things it should be nominal in price, anywhere from \$50,000 to \$100,000. Ray, am I correct in saying that on a questiment."

Mr. Johnson stated "Yes. I think the building was 800, no architect involved. They have a site guy. Just food for thought guys, it was just on the back burner too. We talked. You're going to have an old empty jail. We've got a Treasurer's Office. The jail can't be remodeled due to specs and stuff. That's another discussion down the road when we get back together and we have the Court House that's falling apart."

Mr. Stephens stated "Ok, so we are leaving it this, we are going to get some harder numbers from the company that we spoke with. To be continued. Is that the proper way to say things?"

All agreed.

Mr. Russell stated "I think that was a misinterpretation in regards to the Court House falling apart. I don't believe the Court House is falling apart. There may be issues with it but it's not falling apart."

Mr. Bono stated "Correct. I mean it's old. It needs work. That's all."

Mr. Stephens stated "Number 2, Builders Risk Policy. Sheri, please."

Sheri Ferdula stated "The original Builders Risk Policy that we had in place for the jail ran for, I believe, a 20 month period and it expires on June 30th. Due to some of the circumstances that are going on I think it's in our best interest to extend that policy a little bit just to make sure that we are covered. We received a quote to extend it to the end of September for an amount of \$3,938. If we were to receive a Certificate of Occupancy before that date we would be refunded the premium that we don't use but this will cover us for that period of time."

Mr. Stephens asked for a motion for Public Safety.

Item #2 – On motion of Mr. Weakley, seconded by Mr. Malta for Public Safety, on motion of Mr. Donley, seconded by Mr. Johnson for County Properties, and on motion of Mr. Russell, seconded by Mr. Stephens for Ways & Means, Item #2 was voted on, approved and moved for Resolution. Unanimous.

Mr. Johnson asked "If we go out and get a full remediation cost for the Court House does that go through mine and your committee or just my committee?"

Jim Wallace responded "That would be Properties and Ways and Means."

Mr. Bono stated “A lot of the information is in that facilities Resource report I believe so if you want to note that document.”

Mr. Johnson asked “That’s how old though Jim?”

Mr. Bono responded “Two years.”

Mr. Johnson stated “Alright. I’ll pull those numbers and add 20%, give or take.”

Mr. Stephens asked if there was anything else under Public Safety and asked for a motion to adjourn.

At 10:48 a.m., on motion of Mr. Campione, seconded by Mr. Weakley the Public Safety/Emergency Management Committee adjourned.

Mr. Johnson asked for a motion to adjourn County Properties.

At 10:48 a.m., on motion of Mr. Donley, seconded by Mr. Keeler the County Properties Committee adjourned.

The Ways & Means Committee continued.