

Herkimer County Legislature
Public Safety/Emergency Management, County Properties and Ways & Means
Committee Meeting
Wednesday, December 23, 2020
Via Zoom
Follows Human Resources 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 J. Campione (Public Safety 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
Lorraine Lewandrowski, County Attorney
Sheri Ferdula, Budget Officer
Steve Billings, Personnel Officer
(Non Committee Members Signed In)
Legislator Bob D. Hollum
Legislator John L. Brezinski
Legislator Peter F. Manno

Absent:

Mark Gaworecki (County Properties committee member)

Mr. Stephens called the Public Safety/Emergency Management committee to order at 9:41 a.m. and Mr. Johnson called the County Properties committee to order at 9:41 a.m.

Items Discussed:

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

1. Approve extension of Builders Insurance Policy for the new Correctional Facility
2. Other

Committee Vote Record:

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

Mr. Stephens: "Approve extension of the Builders Insurance Policy for the new Correctional Facility."

Mr. Johnson: "It might be a first but I make a motion for all three committees that we extend it to December 2021."

Mr. Bono: "I will second all three."

Item #1 – On motion of Mr. Johnson, seconded by Mr. Bono for Public Safety/Emergency Management, on motion of Mr. Johnson, seconded by Mr. Bono for County Properties and on motion of Mr. Johnson, seconded by Mr. Bono for Ways & Means, Item #1 was voted on, approved and moved for Resolution. Unanimous. Absent: 1.

Mr. Schrader: "I'm going to address all three committees on this, are we going to get reimbursed seeing they are not done on the appropriate time that they projected to be?"

Mr. Stephens: "Great question. I don't have an answer. I don't know if Jim Bono or Ray Johnson do?"

Mr. Johnson: "John, if you don't mind, I guess I'm looking at reimburse what though Bob Schrader?"

Mr. Schrader: "For the cost of the insurance. That's not cheap. I mean, what's the cost on it Jim Wallace?"

Mr. Johnson: "Sheri said we can cancel. I think the email had it in there that we can cancel at any time."

Mr. Stephens: "Yes. It says you can cancel and get full credit."

Mr. Johnson: "Right."

Mr. Schrader: "The point is its still costing us money. Even if it's three months the point of canceling it is moot. I'm kind of curious, you know, representing the county, these people gave us a projected date to be done with the project. It's way off. It's still going to be way off and they are not getting any repercussions against them as far as I feel. Our tax payers are paying a lot of money."

Mr. Johnson: "Are you talking insurance Bob or are you talking about contractor and the project itself?"

Mr. Schrader: "I'm talking insurance. The insurance isn't free, am I right Mr. Wallace?"

Jim Wallace: "Yes, we pay \$550 a month."

Mr. Schrader: "It may not sound like a lot but it is still money that we are paying out."

Mr. Johnson: "Jim, we pay that monthly anyways don't we?"

Jim Wallace: "Sheri has it up until June but we can make the adjustment."

Mr. Johnson: "Yes just so it doesn't have to keep coming back to the committees more or less."

Jim Wallace: "And I think this is something that we will be taking under advisement once we are finished with the project."

John Stephens: "For everybody on the committees just a reminder too we have to have this approved before the resolution because this expires before we have a resolution and it will come to the floor. How do our rules and regulations go with that?"

Jim Wallace: "We would ask for consent of the committees Mr. Chairman and then we would have the resolution on the 6th backdated."

Mr. Stephens: "Ok. Is that good with your motion Ray?"

Mr. Johnson: "Yes, that's good John with my motion."

Mr. Russell: "So this motion is through December but we're only going to use it for the amount of time needed, is that correct?"

Jim Wallace: "Right."

Mr. Russell: "So getting back to Bob Schrader, I think he is wondering why and I'm wondering why I guess where we are, how long do you think we are going to need this Builders Insurance Policy?"

Jim Wallace: "Do we need to go into executive session? The questions are right on the edge."

Mr. Russell: "I don't know. Well, okay. We need the insurance obviously."

Mr. Stephens: "Does Sheri have anything to include in this?"

Sheri Ferdula: "I do need to say something. I'm sorry. There is a mistake on my letter that I just noticed. This is not for six months, it is for three months, until March 31st, which makes it \$1,131 a month. That is not a guaranteed rate because it changes based on how much of the project is done but my request should only be for three months, not six. I'm sorry. I just noticed it."

Jim Wallace: "That's ok. Thank you."

Mr. Schrader: "But Mr. Chairman, Mr. Johnson made a motion to go to the 31st of December if I'm right of 2021 correct?"

Mr. Johnson: "Yes. That was the motion."

Mr. Schrader: "Do we need to change that motion?"

Mr. Johnson: "Then you want to bring it back in six months when we are still waiting to finish the project?"

Mr. Schrader: "No. I'm just saying Sheri said three months. That's what she is stating."

Mr. Stephens: "But Ray's point is we are covering. The only thing we would have to change is the amounts."

Mr. Johnson: "And Sheri jump in, if we finish next month, it ends anyways. You just cancel the policy."

Sheri Ferdula: "Yes. We would get refunded for any amount we don't use."

Mr. Bono: "We have to have it."

Mr. Schrader: "I'm not against it. I understand we have to have it. I'm just looking at the repercussions for them. That's all."

Mr. Johnson: "I don't follow your repercussion, Bob, I guess that's where I am having trouble, for who?"

Mr. Schrader: "For them not being done on the proper time."

Mr. Johnson: "Them? Who? Not the insurance company, you're talking the other side."

Mr. Schrader: "No, no, no not the insurance company Ray, the contractors."

Mr. Johnson: "That would be our executive discussion I guess."

Mr. Schrader: "No, I understand it's not the insurance company, it's not their fault we have to carry this extra insurance."

Mr. Stephens: "I believe, Bob Schrader that will come down to the end where we will discuss on getting money back from the contractors."

Mr. Schrader: "Okay, that's fine. Thank you. Appreciate it."

Mr. Stephens: "Any other discussion?"

Item #2 – N/A

At 9:48 a.m., on motion of Mr. Schrader, seconded by Mr. Donley, the County Properties Committee adjourned.

The Public Safety/Emergency Management and Ways & Means Committees continued.