

**PHYSICAL SERVICES COMMITTEE MEETING
HELD IN ROOM 318
PUTNAM COUNTY OFFICE BUILDING
CARMEL, NEW YORK 10512
(Chairman Albano, Legislators Gouldman & Nacerino)**

Tuesday

November 12, 2019

(Immediately Followed the Special Full Mtg.)

The meeting was called to order at 7:55p.m. by Chairman Albano who requested that Legislator Nacerino lead in the Pledge of Allegiance. Upon roll call, Legislators Gouldman, Nacerino and Chairman Albano were present.

Item #3 – Approval/ Physical Services Meeting Minutes/ August 20 & September 19, 2019

Chairman Albano stated the minutes were accepted as submitted.

Item #4 - Presentation/ Enterprise Fleet Management/ Director of Purchasing Alex Mazzotta (copy of Fleet Synopsis/ Putnam County, New York (Synopsis) attached to minutes)

Chairman Albano stated that the Administration is considering leasing vehicles for the County, versus purchasing vehicles, in the hope that it would be more cost effective. He stated Director Mazzotta has been meeting with Enterprise – Fleet Management Division. He stated this evening Ryan Forrest, Senior Account Executive with Enterprise – Fleet Management will make a presentation and will address questions at the end.

Director of Purchasing Mazzotta stated he, Finance Commissioner William Carlin, and Asset Manager for Highways & Facilities John Nuculovic, have been researching and meeting with Senior Account Executive with Enterprise Forrest for approximately a year. He stated this program has been successfully rolled out to a number of municipalities in New York and New Jersey. He stated after their review of the program they were interested in pursuing this for Putnam County. He stated that is why it was reflected in the 2020 Budget. He stated he is thankful for the Legislature's support.

Senior Account Executive with Enterprise– Fleet Management Forrest stated he would like to hand out a synopsis of his presentation.

Chairman Albano made a motion to waive the rules and accept the Additional; Seconded by Legislator Nacerino. All in favor.

Senior Account Executive with Enterprise– Fleet Management Ryan Forrest stated his presentation includes an overview of the work that was done with Purchasing Director Mazzotta and his team, an overview about Enterprise and what the plan looks like moving forward. He stated one of the goals is to lower the age of the County's fleet, for less than what the County is currently paying. He stated currently close to 45% of the County's fleet is over 10 years old. He stated a vehicle 10 years old begins to cost the

owner in terms of repairs and maintenance, and there is not a whole lot of resale value. He stated by lowering the age of the fleet, the County would reduce its operating expenses. He stated this will help maintain a more manageable vehicle budget over time. He stated governments are able to buy vehicles cheaper than consumers. He stated Enterprise Fleet Management is already doing business with approximately 65 municipalities in New York alone with over 2,000 vehicles funded. He stated Enterprise owns over 2,000,000 vehicles overall and would handle the County's fleet as if it was their own. He stated in 2014 the County purchased 22 vehicles which required a lot of money, but in 2013 there were only three (3) vehicles purchased. He stated Enterprise will help keep the numbers more consistent. He stated the goal is to lower the age of the fleet. He stated the first step is to get rid of any vehicle that is 10 years old or has an odometer over 100,000 miles. He stated in addition to lowering operating costs, it will increase the equity the County has in its fleet. He stated there are flexible funding options. He stated the most well-known option is the close-end lease, which is similar to how dealerships lease cars, and tend to have a low monthly payment. He stated the majority of their customers use the open-end lease. He stated that is a flexible financing option. He stated at the end of an open-end lease, Enterprise sells the vehicle on behalf of the customer, and the customer gets to keep the equity. He stated there are no mileage restrictions, wear and tear penalties, or early termination fees. He stated Enterprise rarely puts vehicles to auction. He stated they prefer to sell them right to dealerships so that they can control the market more. He stated Enterprise has annual client review to go over the costs. He stated each client has an account manager who acts as a point of contact on an analytical basis and there is an account fleet coordinator who is more of a day to day point of contact. He stated as far as safety, newer vehicles are safer to drive with their technological advancements. He stated vehicles from before 2012 do not have electronic stability control. He stated the current projection is after meeting with departments and assessing their needs.

Legislator Sullivan stated he believes this is a good idea. He stated he is most in favor of a closed-end lease option due to it providing the lowest monthly cost on a per vehicle basis. He stated it reduces any risk for the County. He stated the open-end lease has risk for the County, he does not want the County to take on. He stated the newer vehicles will help free up the County mechanics, due to there being limited repairs. He stated hopefully fuel efficient vehicles will be brought in.

Chairman Albano stated he agrees with Legislator Sullivan. He stated the predictability also helps. He requested a copy of the presentation Mr. Forrest is giving be provided to the Legislature.

Legislator Jonke stated he likes the idea that it gives the fleet stability. He stated this will help the County avoid years where they need to purchase many cars. He stated it is financially wise to know the cost from year to year.

Legislator Sullivan stated that is important for budgeting purposes.

Legislator Sayegh questioned where the current cars are from.

Director of Purchasing Mazzotta stated it is through State bids, which is tremendous pricing.

Legislator Sayegh questioned if there is competition between fleet management companies.

Director of Purchasing Mazzotta stated with Enterprise the County is piggy-backing off of an RFP (Request for Proposal) that they won through Orange County. He stated he has reached out to the counties that Enterprise works with and they are very happy.

Legislator Castellano questioned when Enterprise got into the fleet management market.

Mr. Forrest stated nationwide it was approximately 10 years ago, and in New York it was about five (5) years ago. He stated government is their fastest growing niche.

Legislator Nacerino questioned how many miles per vehicle are allowed per year.

Mr. Forrest stated it depends. He stated the program is customizable. He stated different departments have different needs.

Director of Purchasing Mazzotta stated it would be based from the historical use of the County vehicles.

Legislator Nacerino stated this is a great concept from both a safety and fiscal perspective.

Legislator Gouldman questioned how many cars the County is looking to bring on in 2020.

Director of Purchasing Mazzotta stated the County has identified about 40-50 sedans that are not from grant funding that could be replaced. He stated he believes about 20 vehicles could be done in the first year. He stated the County can recoup some money through putting those vehicles to auction.

Legislator Gouldman questioned how this applies to vehicles acquired through grants.

Director of Purchasing Mazzotta stated it depends on the grant.

Legislator Montgomery questioned if this program can be incorporated with New York State's clean vehicle program. She stated municipalities can receive rebates through this program. She questioned if there was a way to ensure that the County is capitalizing on these opportunities. She stated that the County signed the Climate Smart Community Pledge.

Mr. Forrest stated any rebates like that would be passed-through to the County.

Legislator Montgomery questioned if Enterprise would facilitate the County getting these rebates.

Mr. Forrest stated they do not facilitate it, but would pass the rebate through to the County if they are eligible. He stated something that Enterprise does is track the carbon footprint of the fleet.

Legislator Castellano questioned how the logos on the cars are handled.

Director of Purchasing Mazzotta stated he believes they are magnets.

Item #5 - Approval/ Initial Offer Amounts of Properties to be Listed on MLS Pursuant to Chapter 31 of the Putnam County Code/ First Deputy County Attorney Andrew Negro

First Deputy County Attorney Negro stated the Legislature approved these properties to be listed rather than going through auction. He stated the real estate brokers did a comparative market analysis (CMA) and recommended initial list prices to the County. He stated the Legislature is required to approve the initial list prices before the real estate brokers list them. He recommended any discussion pertaining to specific properties, especially in regards to valuation, be done in executive session.

Legislator Jonke stated there is a property in the Village of Brewster in which the CMA does not have any sales that it is compared to, only list prices. He questioned if the agents who provided the CMAs will also be listing the properties.

First Deputy County Attorney Negro stated the brokers are randomly selected to handle the properties. He stated the CMA is not an appraisal but it is a best guess, and sometimes there are no comparable sales that are relatively recent.

Legislator Jonke questioned if these prices are approved and in six (6) months a comparable property sells and indicates that the market value has dropped, would a new list price have to be approved by the Legislature.

First Deputy County Attorney Negro stated the new list price would have to be approved by the Legislature. He stated the Legislature has to also approve the sale price of a County owned property.

Legislator Addonizio stated if a property does not sell in a certain amount of time, it would go through the auction process. She questioned when the last auction was.

First Deputy County Attorney Negro stated that it has been years. He stated the County is working with Collar City Auctions to hopefully have an auction in the first quarter of 2020.

Legislator Addonizio questioned if the majority of the properties are homes or vacant land.

First Deputy County Attorney Negro stated the majority that are going to be put up for auction are vacant parcels.

Legislator Castellano stated this is a great program. He questioned how many properties the County still has on MLS and how many have sold.

First Deputy County Attorney Negro apologized for not having that information on hand. He stated he believes at least 20 have been sold. He stated it has been a learning process and the program is being streamlined and are selecting properties that will benefit from the broker process.

Chairman Albano made a motion to Approval/ Initial Offer Amounts of Properties to be Listed on MLS Pursuant to Chapter 31 of the Putnam County Code to the Full Legislative Meeting; Seconded by Legislator Gouldman. All in favor.

Item #6 - Approval/ Budgetary Amendment (19A074)/ Closeout the Completed Capital Project- Fair Street Water Improvement Project/ Commissioner Carlin

Finance Commissioner Carlin stated the project is completed so the residual funds are being transferred to debt services.

Chairman Albano questioned if this project was the retention area.

Finance Commissioner Carlin stated it was the stormwater project.

Chairman Albano made a motion to move Approval/ Budgetary Amendment (19A074)/ Closeout the Completed Capital Project- Fair Street Water Improvement Project to the Audit & Administration Committee; Seconded by Legislator Nacerino. All in favor.

Item #7 - Discussion/ Trucks on Route 311/ Legislator Ginny Nacerino

Legislator Nacerino stated she believes this is important to discuss again. She stated at the September Physical Services meeting it was discussed and Sheriff Robert Langley stated he would look into increasing signage to alert truckers. She stated a constituent sent an email to the Legislative Office saying that trucks are using Route 311 as a meeting place and suggested “no parking” signs be put up. She stated we are seeing an uptick in truckers causing congestion and possibly safety risks.

Highway Commissioner Fred Pena stated the roads are available for all legal vehicles. He stated he is unsure how the County would be permitted to restrict the legal use of the roads.

Legislator Nacerino stated her concern is that it is being done safely. She stated it is important to raise awareness about this because constituents are reaching out. She questioned what can be done to alleviate these concerns.

Highway Commissioner Pena stated there has been construction on Interstate 84 and some of the wider trucks have not been fitting through some of the detours. He stated he can look into if the County has any jurisdiction over these concerns.

Legislator Gouldman stated there has been a similar issue in Putnam Valley which he brought to the Putnam County Traffic Safety Board. He stated the area was analyzed to see if any measures could be taken. He stated now there are many signs in place. He suggested having the Traffic Safety Board look into this.

Legislator Nacerino stated the Traffic Safety Board was made aware when the trucks first started, and then it was also discussed by this Committee. She stated Sheriff Langley indicated that they are working with New York State DOT (Department of Transportation). She suggested “no parking” signs be put in place.

Highway Commissioner Pena stated specific areas can be looked into. He stated as of now he is not aware of large trucks using Route 311 to park.

Legislator Nacerino stated she is only aware of what the constituent’s email shared, and that it was discussed at a recent Kent Town Board meeting.

Legislator Montgomery stated there have been similar issues in Philipstown on State roads Route 9 and 9D. She stated they have worked closely with the State. She stated the past procedure is to go to the Town Board and ask them to pass a resolution which specifically details the concerns to send to the State.

Legislator Nacerino requested that Legislator Montgomery bring this topic forward to the Traffic Safety Board.

Legislator Montgomery stated she will. She suggested having the Town Boards involved pass a resolution.

Item #8 - Discussion/ Matters Related to the Putnam County Bike Path / Chairman of Legislature Joseph Castellano

a. Vandalism along the Bike Path/ Sheriff Robert Langley

Sergeant William Meyer stated the Sheriff’s Department’s drone took pictures to assess the area. He stated there are some graffiti and encampments. He stated the Sheriff’s Department wants to increase patrols, especially at night. He questioned if the Bike Path is open at all times.

Highway Commissioner Pena stated it is only open during the day, not at night.

Legislator Castellano stated it may not be open, but people are using it at night.

Chairman Albano questioned if there are signs that indicate the restrictions.

First Deputy County Attorney Negro stated the Legislature can work with the Highway Department to establish whatever regulations deemed necessary.

Legislator Castellano stated he has spoken with Town of Southeast Councilwoman Lynne Eckhart about these concerns. He stated he has received a number of phone calls from constituents. He stated there are two (2) segments of the bike path that do not seem to be well kept. He stated one (1) is the section closest to Connecticut and the other is behind the Village of Brewster. He stated that is where most of the complaints are coming from.

Sergeant Meyer stated he is aware of the issues in these areas.

Legislator Castellano stated another area that seems to have a lot of graffiti is going to Carmel from Cameron's Deli. He stated he has contacted the Highway Department a few times about cleaning up areas along the bike path and the response has always been timely. He stated he is wondering if the Sheriff's Department has a plan to monitor the areas after they are cleaned up, such as cameras, to make sure it does not happen again.

Sergeant Meyer stated cameras could be a good idea, and also increasing patrols.

Legislator Castellano questioned if there have been 911 calls referencing the mile markers.

Sergeant Meyer stated usually the callers reference nearby buildings.

Town of Southeast Councilwoman Lynne Eckhart read a letter into the record from a constituent who lives near the bike path and walks it frequently, listing her many concerns including the grooming of the path and multiple places of damage.

b. Plan for Maintenance on Putnam County Bike Path/ Commissioner Fred Pena

Highway Commissioner Pena stated they are recognizing that there is an increase in the amount of work to keep the bike path in decent condition. He stated Parks Supervisor Chris Ruthven has mentioned the costs and involvement is already high with normal maintenance, and now there is criminal maintenance. He stated he does not believe it was ever considered how much extra work the bike path would require. He stated it is very hard to keep up with painting over the graffiti.

Chairman Albano questioned if the County utilizes or can utilize the ATI (Alternatives to Incarceration) Program for assistance with maintenance.

Highway Commissioner Pena stated he believes the County can utilize the ATI Program.

Chairman Albano stated that resource should be utilized.

Highway Commissioner Pena stated he believes more community involvement and awareness would be great.

Chairman Albano stated maybe the Towns can also participate.

Legislator Nacerino suggested having a cleaning day tied to Earth Day.

Legislator Montgomery suggested forming a “Friends of the Putnam County Bike Path” Committee, similar to others in the County that help with maintenance in certain areas.

Chairman Albano stated these are good suggestions and worth looking into.

First Deputy Attorney Negro stated there have been organizations who have approached the County in relation to help maintain the Bike Path and these options are currently being vetted.

Legislator Sayegh stated she uses the Bike Path often and she has called about issues she has found. She stated she has never seen it being patrolled. She stated safety is paramount. She questioned how many miles long the Bike Path is.

Highway Commissioner Pena stated there is 12 miles right now. He stated there will be another three (3) soon. He stated New York State is also looking to connect the Putnam Bike Path to the Dutchess County Bike Path, which would add another eight (8)-10 miles.

Legislator Nacerino stated the responsibility will fall on the County to maintain these areas, so it is another unfunded mandate from the State.

Highway Commissioner Pena stated it is quickly becoming overwhelming.

Legislator Castellano questioned when the expected completion of the connection of the Bike Paths is.

Legislator Nacerino stated in 2020.

Highway Commissioner Pena stated and there is also a connection being done with Connecticut that will add another three (3)-four (4) miles.

Chairman Albano stated the connection with Dutchess County is a State project.

Highway Commissioner Pena stated the State will complete the project and then hand the maintenance over to the County.

Legislator Sayegh stated the safety at the road crossings is also a concern, especially at Route 6 and Mt. Hope, and Union Valley Road and Buckshollow Road. She stated reflective posts or extra signage could help with the safety concerns.

Highway Commissioner Pena stated there was a series of issue with crosswalks and addressed the most concerning crossings. He stated they can reassess the crossings.

Office for Senior Resources Director Michael Cunningham stated a problem with the Bike Path is that it is not continuous. He stated he is a frequent user of the Bike Path and has noticed that the conditions in Putnam County are far superior to those on the Westchester Bike Path. He stated this will continue to be a problem until it becomes continuous.

Legislator Castellano stated he appreciated the drone photos provided by the Sheriff's Department. He questioned if there will be more drone photos taken. He stated the drone is a great tool. He questioned how the Sheriff's Department is working with the Brewster Police Department and MTA (Metro Transit Authority) Police to monitor these areas. He stated it is important to make sure they are aware of what is going on.

Sergeant Meyer stated the Brewster PD does not have the equipment to patrol the Bike Path. He stated he does not believe the MTA patrols any of the bike paths that are not on MTA property. He stated people complained when the Bike Path was being patrolled by motorized vehicles.

Legislator Castellano suggested more signage that states when the Bike Path is open and closed.

Councilwoman Eckardt stated she has more photos and will send them to Legislator Castellano.

Legislator Castellano questioned when someone sees graffiti, what is the proper procedure.

Highway Commissioner Pena stated to call the Highway Department.

Sergeant Meyer stated to contact the Sheriff's Department as well.

Legislator Castellano requested the phone numbers.

Sergeant Meyer stated the Sheriff's Department's phone number is (845) 225-4300.

Highway Commissioner Pena stated the Highway Department's phone number is (845) 878-6331.

Item #9 - Update/ Discussion/ From Highways & Facilities Department
a. Cornell Cooperative Extension Office Work

Legislator Addonizio requested an update on the window replacements that were discussed at the September Physical Services Committee Meeting, under the Article 9 project.

Highway Commissioner Pena stated there are 22 windows which are scheduled to be replaced in the Kern Building and 44 windows that will have the glazing replaced.

Legislator Addonizio stated there is also a mold issue.

Highway Commissioner Pena stated the reports show that there is no active mold, it is staining from past mold. He stated the new windows will help. He stated they are also assessing the roof.

Chairman Albano stated some clean up and painting will help with the stains from the past mold.

Highway Commissioner Pena stated after Article 9 is finalized, they expect to do overall painting and repairs.

Legislator Addonizio questioned when this will be finalized.

Highway Commissioner Pena stated probably Spring 2020. He stated Article 9 will help the County score high on their renewable energy initiatives.

b. Maintenance and research of needed equipment for Maintenance on Bike Path

Chairman Albano questioned if there is any specialized equipment that the County should consider.

Highway Commissioner Pena stated when paving is necessary, there will need to be a new specialized piece of equipment. He stated there needs to be a way to figure out how to get large trucks onto the Bike Path. He stated the new sections being constructed have long distances

without any access points. He stated this will make it difficult for maintenance and first responders.

c. Drainage along Route 52

Chairman Albano stated there is an area around the intersection of Route 52 and Route 6 that washes out. He questioned if it is possible to have this area paved.

Highway Commissioner Pena stated these are both State roads. He questioned if the State is addressing these concerns.

Chairman Albano stated he does not believe the State is addressing anything that is off the road.

Highway Commissioner Pena stated this could be included in a larger Lake Gleneida project. He stated there are other areas that they will be looking into as well.

Item #10 - Other Business - None.

Item # - Adjournment

There being no further business at 9:30PM Chairman Albano made a motion to adjourn; Seconded by Legislator Nacerino. All in favor.

Respectfully submitted by Administrative Assistant Ed Gordon.