



Sullivan County

Public Works Committee

Meeting Minutes - Final

Chairman Joseph Perrello
Vice Chairman Brian McPhillips
Committee Member Amanda Ward
Committee Member Luis Alvarez
Committee Member Matt McPhillips
Committee Member Nicholas Salomone Jr.
Committee Member Terry Blosser-Bernardo

Thursday, December 12, 2024

10:30 AM

Government Center

Call To Order and Pledge of Allegiance

Chair Perrello called the Public Works Committee Meeting to order at 2:00PM.

Roll Call

It should be noted that Brian McPhillips and Matt McPhillips both joined the meeting at 2:04PM.

Present: Joseph Perrello, Luis Alvarez, Nicholas Salomone Jr. and Terry Blosser-Bernardo

Arrived Late: Brian McPhillips, Amanda Ward and Matt McPhillips

Comments:

Reports:

1. Division of Public Works Monthly Report

[ID-6992](#)

Attachments: [December Monthly Report](#)

Commissioner of Public Works Ed McAndrew gave an update on the Division of Public Works.

Terry Bernardo asked if we were required by law to run the Transfer Stations? Ed McAndrew stated he has never seen a law in writing he doesn't believe so.

Terry Bernardo stated the transfer stations can be put into three categories, 1, the town owns the land,, the town runs the operation and the town that sets the rules, collection the money and absorbs the profit/loss. That situation would be the Towns of Bethel and Neversink. Ed McAndrew stated we haul for them and bring it back to our transfer station.

Terry Bernardo then stated the second category is that there are five transfer stations where the county owns the land, the county staffs the transfer station and the county absorbs the profit/loss. Ed McAndrew stated correct.

Terry Bernardo stated the third category is where the town owns the land,, the county is staffing it, plowing it and picking up the garbage that flies around and we are losing \$100,000 per transfer station but we are paying the towns \$5,000 each for that privilege.

Terry Bernardo made a motion to take to full board that we director County Manager Potossek not to renew the \$5,000 payment to have the privilege of losing over \$100,000. Luis Alvarez this will be the 8th time we try that. Ed McAndrew stated we are in a multi-year contract with them, Terry Bernardo stated whenever it is up seconded by Joseph Perrello. Motion passes 6-0.all in favor.

Terry Bernardo stated the reason we are having this issue with the \$2 million is the transfer stations are losing money and it is the County Legislature's job to decide what our policy to be towards the towns. Do we want them to be a partner with us to absorb some of the costs. She feels the plan should be to turn the town transfer stations over to the towns. She feels that DPW can continue to maintain them but at the end of the day, she feels it is a town function, like Neversink and Bethel do and that is where we should be heading with the rest of the transfer stations. The towns should be running their own transfer stations.

Chair Perrello stated that we discussed this, as Mr. Alvarez stated, eight years ago and it didn't fly over very well.

Brian McPhillips stated in regards to Neversink, there funding is coming from NYC so they are in a different pool of taxing revenues.

Matt McPhillips stated maybe that is something we can bring up in Council of Governments early next year.

Terry Bernardo stated we can have discussion on this going forward. Even if Thompson Sanitation could raise their customer's bills 25%, that will not be good for each customer.

Please help me get an amendment passed here to bring relief to this situation.

There was a lengthy discussion about alleviating the burden of the increase to haulers.

Luis Alvarez mentioned back in 2019 we had negotiations going on with Greene and Ulster Counties and suddenly all of those negotiations disappeared. We had meetings for four years and now this board is stuck with it. This should have been fixed four years ago.

Terry Bernardo asked for a six month to year grace period. Chair Perrello stated we could grant a six month grace period. We would have to change the Solid Waste Rules because it was in our Plan.

Brian McPhillips asked if we are allowed to use domicile as a credit if the companies are Sullivan home companies and how do you prevent someone from registering a domicile geared to benefit the host credit. In other words, different rates for local and different rates for out of county. Ed McAndrew stated we haven't done that. Brian McPhillips asked, are we allowed to?

Ed McAndrew stated as far as the Solid Waste Rules, we can do that.

At this point, Luis Alvarez left the meeting at 2:27PM and returned at 2:29PM

Terry Bernardo asked if Brian McPhillips was talking about like Thompson Sanitation, which is located here in Sullivan County, give them one rate and the six months but if they are outside of the county we don't give them the six months and a different rate Brian McPhillips stated correct.

Robert Freehill stated he has some reservations about this because the DEC and favorable home rates.

Brian McPhillips stated like what Chair Perrello stated earlier you have multiple year contracts, for that particular business, it is their contract. He would like to know some of our options that are legal.

Ed McAndrew stated we are intending to go out to bid by 2026 and we will most likely have a new contract.

Brian McPhillips stated we just found out about this increase in December. We received the rate, had a meeting and made the decision.

Terry Bernardo stated the bottom line is we are talking about small businesses and the county has resources to do this and not exceed the tax cap. They don't and this will put them out of business.

Chair Perrello stated he doesn't believe that. He said he is one vote and if everyone wants to absorb the \$2 million and tell your employees that we have \$2 million less to give to them to subsidize garbage.

Ed McAndrew stated we went into contract with them in 2010 with a minimum of 50,000 tons. Now we are at 100,000 tons. The county has a Flow Control Policy in place.

Chair Perrello asked how do you want to fix the tipping fee problem,

Brian McPhillips suggested with legal's help, amending the flow control if possible over 50,000. That would allow the private hauler to utilize other sources.

Ed McAndrew just to be clear, that 50,000 number was a 10 year ago number to get that rate with IESI. If you drop that out and market 50,000 tons now instead of 100,000, our rates will be higher,

At this point, Amanda Ward joined the meeting at 2:36pm.,

Chair Perrello moved that tipping fees for MSW be \$136.50/ton from January 1 through June 30th to allow time for vendors, tipping fees for MSW be 150.00 effective July 1, 2025. C&D will be \$150.00 starting January 1, 2025, seconded by Brian McPhillips, all in favor 7-0.

Discussion:

Public Comment

- 1. Ken Walter made a public comment.
- 2. Chris Lesser made a public comment.

Resolutions:

- 1. Resolution to authorize the County Manager to execute an agreement for engineering design services with Barton & Loguidice D.P.C. for the replacement of County Bridge 51 (BRIDGE NY funded).

[ID-6972](#)

BM MM all in favor

A motion was made by Vice Chairman Brian McPhillips, seconded by District 1 Legislator Matt McPhillips, that this Resolution be carried at Committee to the County Legislature meeting on 12/19/2024. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: Chairman Perrello, Vice Chairman McPhillips, District 8 Legislator Ward, District 6 Legislator Alvarez, District 1 Legislator McPhillips, District 4 Legislator Salomone and District 9 Legislator Blosser-Bernardo
 Enactment No: 605-24

2. Resolution to authorize the County Manager to execute an agreement for engineering design services with Greenman-Pedersen, Inc. for the replacement of County Bridge 283 (BRIDGE NY funded). [ID-6973](#)

A motion was made by Vice Chairman Brian McPhillips, seconded by District 1 Legislator Matt McPhillips, that this Resolution be carried at Committee to the County Legislature meeting on 12/19/2024. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: Chairman Perrello, Vice Chairman McPhillips, District 8 Legislator Ward, District 6 Legislator Alvarez, District 1 Legislator McPhillips, District 4 Legislator Salomone and District 9 Legislator Blosser-Bernardo
Enactment No: 606-24

- b3. Resolution to authorize the application for and acceptance if offered of a NYSDOT Aviation Capital grant for the design and construction of a 10-Bay T-Hangar at the Sullivan County International Airport (SCIA). [ID-6976](#)

A motion was made by Vice Chairman Brian McPhillips, seconded by District 1 Legislator Matt McPhillips, that this Resolution be carried at Committee to the County Legislature meeting on 12/19/2024. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: Chairman Perrello, Vice Chairman McPhillips, District 8 Legislator Ward, District 6 Legislator Alvarez, District 1 Legislator McPhillips, District 4 Legislator Salomone and District 9 Legislator Blosser-Bernardo
Enactment No: 607-24

4. Resolution to authorize an increase the annual contract value by \$213,975.65, to a total annual expenditure of County Funds value of \$500,000.00. [ID-6978](#)

A motion was made by Vice Chairman Brian McPhillips, seconded by District 1 Legislator Matt McPhillips, that this Resolution be carried at Committee to the County Legislature meeting on 12/19/2024. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: Chairman Perrello, Vice Chairman McPhillips, District 8 Legislator Ward, District 6 Legislator Alvarez, District 1 Legislator McPhillips, District 4 Legislator Salomone and District 9 Legislator Blosser-Bernardo
Enactment No: 608-24

5. Resolution introduced by the Public Works Committee to authorize the County Manager to execute an agreement with TAM Enterprises, Inc. for rinse rack and wash bay system emptying, cleaning and waste water/sediment disposal. [ID-6991](#)

A motion was made by Vice Chairman Brian McPhillips, seconded by District 1 Legislator Matt McPhillips, that this Resolution be adopted. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: Chairman Perrello, Vice Chairman McPhillips, District 8 Legislator Ward, District 6 Legislator Alvarez, District 1 Legislator McPhillips, District 4 Legislator Salomone and District 9 Legislator Blosser-Bernardo
Enactment No: 609-24

Adjourn

There being no further business, Brian McPhillips moved to adjourn, seconded by Matthew McPhillips, all in favor 7-0. The Public Works Committee was declared closed at 2:49pm.