John M.

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NOT
APPROVED
MAY 1 1 1998

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

May 7, 1998

This meeting was called to order by Chairman Walchli at 7:05 p.m., with all legislators present. Many representatives of fire departments, town boards and county fire service personnel were present.

Mr. Walchli thanked everyone for coming, especially the volunteers, noting that county officials recognize and appreciate their valuable efforts in the fire departments and rescue squads throughout the county. He stated that this was a fact-finding meeting to look into concerns which have been expressed regarding fire dispatching. He then read a statement, a copy of which is attached to these minutes.

The following people, who had indicated they wished to address the committee, were given the privilege of the floor.

Dwight Fanton, Supervisor, Town of Willing, spoke of problems with dispatching in the Towns of Alma and Willing and that people cannot get toned out with the Alma Hill Tower. He noted that it is frustrating for volunteers, particularly those who work at Dresser Rand and ABB Preheater, who cannot be dispatched out of their place of work in an emergency. He would like to see a one-button transfer to the Wellsville Dispatch Center, until the problems with the Belmont Dispatch Center can be fixed. He mentioned that the upgrade on the tower is not getting the job done and the one-button transfer is a fairly simple solution to the problem. He noted that he had given John Walchli a list of the problems they had encountered and that Mr. Walchli promised it would be taken care of.

Billy Braun, of the Wellsville Volunteer Fire Department, stated the operation of the Belmont dispatch is a disgrace and the Wellsville taxpayers should not be responsible to pay for what is going on. Mr. Braun feels that the county should work towards unity, have one dispatch center, not two.

Leland Windus, Supervisor, Town of Alma, recommended the committee members obtain a copy of the Town Law manual in order to understand the responsibilities of fire protection, which lie with the town boards. The Towns of Alma and Willing contract with their fire departments.

Shaun Taylor, Fire Chief, Allentown Fire Department, stated that we have a problem with the dispatch system and it needs to be addressed. His department wishes to go with the one-button transfer to the Wellsville Dispatch Center, just until the problems are solved with the Belmont Dispatch Center.

Tim Aiken, Wellsville Town Board member and volunteer fireman, questioned why the county did not go to neighboring counties, such as Livingston and Wyoming, to see how they operated their dispatch system, before the Belmont system was put in place. He mentioned that both Livingston and Wyoming County dispatch from one center for their entire county.

Judson Stearns, Jr., past Chief, Alfred Fire Department and Fire Advisory Board member, stated that he thinks all these problems should go through proper channels, i.e. from the Chiefs Association to the Fire Advisory Board and from there to the Public Safety Committee and then the full legislature. He stated that this is the first he had heard of all these problems in other parts of the county. In response to a question, he believed that once the Fire Advisory Board has all of the information, they can make recommendations to the Public Safety Committee within a month.

Don Lang, Alfred Station Fire Chief, stated he strongly believes in having one dispatch center in Belmont. He travels all over the county and hears many fire calls and feels that the system is working, but there is room for improvement. He thinks that there are just some places where you cannot reach because of the terrain. He suggested someone contact Wyoming County to see if they have similar problems.

Donna Gilchrist, Rushford Fire Department Member, noted that Rushford supports the dispatch center in Belmont. They experience a few "dead" spots, but basically they get good service.

Leslie Dahill, Friendship Fire Department, spoke in favor of working together to solve current problems and keeping one Dispatch Center in Belmont.

Leroy Ives, Willing Fire Chief, stated that he has a problem getting the Belmont dispatch to answer his radio. Plants, such as Dresser Rand and Preheater, can't get toned out. The Alma Hill Tower helped them somewhat, but didn't solve all the problems. He noted that last Sunday he couldn't get anyone at the Belmont Dispatch Center to answer him. He made five calls and finally got a response on the sixth call.

John Walchli stated that all the information gathered at this meeting will be given to the Fire Advisory Board at its next meeting on May 28th for its recommendation.

Rod Bennett, stated that the Public Safety Committee will attend the Fire Advisory Board meeting on May 28th to hear what their recommendations are.

Dwight Fanton said that he talked to Keith Barber, Fire Coordinator, a year ago and he is aware of these problems. The Fire Advisory Board should also be aware of what has been happening. He would like to have the one-button transfer to the Wellsville Dispatch Center for the next six months, until the problems in the Belmont Center are fixed.

Leland Windus asked the committee how long before a decision is made. This is a serious matter, the Town has a time limit. A show cause order is in process, and is contingent on this meeting and a resolution of the problem.

Rod Bennett said that we cannot bypass the procedure for the Fire Advisory Board to make recommendations. The Public Safety Committee has not discussed the problem yet.

Mr. Walchli closed the meeting by thanking everyone for attending and stated that he hopes everyone can work together toward a solution, and that the situation would be resolved shortly.

Meeting adjourned.

In 1994, the County commissioned a study of our radio communications systems which was prepared by consulting engineer Frederick S. Wood of East Amherst, NY, Mr. Wood is a well-known and highly respected consultant in various communications spectrums.

In his final report, Mr. Wood set forth five recommendations identified as

1. Equipment Replacement
2. Space and Alternate Dispatch Location
3. Coordinated Maintenance and Repair
4. System Redundancy
5. Improved Radio Coverage

With regard to equipment replacement, Mr. Wood recommended a four year plan to replace $291,000 worth of communications equipment located throughout the county. To date, we have invested over $100,000 in equipment replacement, accomplishing approximately 40% of that total recommendation and plan to invest more in the coming years.

Mr. Wood further recommended a sole, consolidated E-911 Dispatch Center with an alternate emergency back-up system. As is well known, the County has dual E-911 capability with the Village of Wellsville performing dispatch in its locale and the county providing dispatch for the remainder of our area. The County also has made provision for back-up dispatching at our tower site on Corbin Hill in the Town of Amity.

Regarding the coordination of maintenance and repair, the County presently utilizes two separate vendors who maintain and repair county owned equipment.

Mr. Woods recommendations, as they pertain to system redundancy focused on the County need to replace several aging base stations and up-date communication technologies. While we have not completely achieved the entire scope of the recommended system improvements, we have replaced the two fire service base stations on Corbin Hill and Joyce Hill, we've put remote repeaters on Hamilton Hill in town of Cuba, White Hill in the town of Alma, County Rte 4 in the town of Granger, and added three simplex repeaters on County Rte 12 in Alfred, Whitesville Fire Station in Independence, and Canaseraga Fire Station in Village of Canaseraga.

We recognize the on-going need to improve the breadth and quality of radio coverage throughout the county. As Chairman of the Board, I am personally supportive of a continued financial investment in our communications system, but in reality, we have many interests competing for a finite pot of money. Nonetheless, we must make necessary investments in our system to safeguard, as best we can, the safety and security of our residents.

John M.

NOT APPROVED

JUN 3 1998

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

May 11, 1998

This meeting was held immediately following the regular board meeting with all legislators present except Legislator Sylor.

A motion was made by Legislator Bennett, seconded by Legislator Burdick and carried, to have an Attorney/Client Consultation.

Following the Attorney/Client Consultation, there being no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned.

John M.

NOT APPROVED
JUN 17 1998

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

JUNE 8, 1998

This meeting was held following the regular meeting of the board, with all legislators present except Legislator Sylor.

John Margeson distributed the timetable and procedures leading to the adoption of a county budget for 1999. He noted that a meeting has been scheduled for June 22nd with all department heads, to distribute budget forms and discuss procedures, etc.

Mr. Lucas stated that he wants no tax increase in 1999 and that the legislature should give instructions to department heads to that effect.

The budget process was discussed at some length, with the general consensus being that department heads should be directed to submit budget estimates with an increase as close to zero as possible.

Mr. Margeson reminded the committee that bargaining unit contracts call for a 3% per cent increase, plus increments where relevant, and that alone may prohibit a zero increase budget.

Mr. Walchli suggested that if the members have any ideas to help cut costs, they should submit them to him and he will pass them along to the County Administrator.

Meeting adjourned.

John M.

NOT APPROVED

AUG 12 1998

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

August 10, 1998

This meeting was held immediately following the regular board meeting with all legislators present except Legislator Graffrath.

Linda Canfield discussed with the committee, the upcoming NYSAC Fall Conference which will be held September 13 through 15, 1998. A regular board meeting is scheduled to be held on September 14, 1998, unless there are enough members who wish to attend the conference, in which case, the board meeting will have to be changed. The committee was in consensus that the Ways & Means Committee sponsor a resolution changing the regular board meeting of September 14, 1998 and to become a co-host county for the conference at a flat rate of $2,000. which will provide unlimited registration and other special benefits.

John Margeson, Budget Officer and James Mulholland, Deputy Budget Officer, presented items which qualify as bondable and have been the subject of consideration by the Ways & Means Committee for possible inclusion in the serial bond issue which will be sent to Bond Counsel before the end of September, 1998. A copy of these items and the Budget Officers recommendations are attached.

Mr. Mulholland stated that pursuant to New York State Finance Law, the outstanding B.A.N. in the amount of $2.200 million, must be included in this serial bond issue. This was approved on a motion by Lucas, seconded by Regan and carried.

A motion was made by Truax, seconded by Burdick and ADOPTED on a roll call vote of 12 Ayes, 2 Noes, 1 Absent, that the rehabilitation of three (3) bridges on County Route 10, Scio, N.Y., in the amount of $1.8 million, be included in the serial bond issue. Voting No: Bennett, Sylor.

A motion was made by Lucas, seconded by Burdick and ADOPTED on a roll call vote of 14 Ayes, 0 Noes, 1 Absent, that the purchase of a Hydraulic Crane in the amount of $.5 million, be included in the serial bond issue.

A motion was made by Burdick, seconded by Truax and ADOPTED on a roll call vote of 12 Ayes, 2 Noes, 1 Absent, that the purchase of a Generator in the amount of $.125 million, be included in the serial bond issue. Voting No: Corkey, Myers.

A motion was made by Burdick, seconded by Lucas and DEFEATED on a roll call vote of 6 Ayes, 8 Noes, 1 Absent, that the purchase of a Tandem Axle Roll-off Truck in the amount of $.090 million, be included in the serial bond issue. Voting No: Bennett, Corkey, Dibble, Heineman, Nielsen, Reynolds, Sylor, Walchli.

A motion was made by Burdick, seconded by Sherman and DEFEATED on a roll call vote of 8 Ayes, 6 Noes, 1 Absent, that the purchase of a Front End Loader in the amount of $.210 million, be included in the serial bond issue. Voting No: Bennett, Corkey, Dibble, Reynolds, Sylor, Truax.

A motion was made by Burdick, seconded by Nielsen and DEFEATED on a roll call vote of 6 Ayes, 8 Noes, 1 Absent, that the purchase of two (2) Tandem Axle Dump Trucks in the amount of $.240 million, be included in the serial bond issue. Voting No: Bennett, Corkey, Dibble, Lucas, Myers, Reynolds, Sylor, Walchli.

A motion was made by Sylor, seconded by Bennett and DEFEATED on a roll call vote of 8 Ayes, 6 Noes, 1 Absent, that the Construction of Cells 7,8 and 9 at the County Landfill in the amount of $3.6 million, be included in the serial bond issue. Voting No: Corkey, Heineman, Lucas, Nielsen, Regan, Reynolds.

The County Attorney is requested to **prepare the necessary bond resolution** for consideration at the August 24 board meeting.

Meeting adjourned.

OFFICE OF THE
COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR
COUNTY OF ALLEGANY • COUNTY OFFICE BUILDING • BELMONT, NEW YORK 14813

TELEPHONE 716-268-9217 JOHN E. MARGESON, *County Administrator* FAX 716-268-9446

In anticipation of preparing a serial bond issue in September, 1998, it is necessary for the Board of Legislators to determine the projects or purchases which will be financed by the Bond.

The following list represents items which qualify as bondable and have been the subject of consideration by the Ways and Means Committee:

Item	**Estimated Cost**
3 bridges on County Route 10, Scio, N.Y.	$ 1.80 million
Hydraulic Crane	$ .50 million
MSW Compactor	$ .75 million
Construction of Landfill Cells 7,8, and 9	$ 3.60 million
Outstanding Bond Anticipation Notes	$ 2.20 million
~~Outstanding previous Bond Debt~~	~~$ 3.00 million~~
Rehab BIN # 7-19 County Rte 16	$ .218 million
Rehab BIN # 7-22 County Rte 16	$ .253 million
Rehab BIN # 7-20 County Rte 15	$ .383 million
or	
700' of new roadway to replace BIN # 7-20	$ .418 million

The list below represents items contained in the 1999 Department of Public Works Budget request which are subject to bond financing:

Item	**Estimated Cost**
2 – Tandem Axle Dump Truck w/Plows	$ .240 million
1 – 4 Yard Front End Loader	$ .210 million
1 – Tandem Axle Roll-off Truck	$ .090 million
Generator to Back-up Physical Plant	$ .125 million

Budget Officer Recommendation

Item		Estimated Cost
3 bridges on County Route 10		$ 1.800 million
Hydraulic Crane		$ .500 million
Construction of Cells 7,8, and 9		$ 3.600 million
Outstanding B.A.N.		$ 2.200 million
~~Outstanding Serial Bond Indebtedness~~		~~$ 3.000 million~~
Tandem Axle Dump Trucks		$ .240 million
Front End Loader		$ .210 million
Tandem Axle Roll-off Truck		$ .090 million
Generator		$ .125 million
	Total	$11.765 million

John M.

NOT APPROVED

OCT 2 8 1998

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

September 28, 1998

This meeting was held immediately following the regular board meeting with all legislators present.

Chairman Walchli stated that prior to reaching a decision regarding the construction of additional cells at the county landfill, discussion should be held on the options available to the county for solid waste disposal.

Several options were discussed, including keeping the operation of the landfill under county operation, selling the current landfill to a private firm, shipping solid waste out of Allegany County, etc.

A suggestion was made that the county employ a neutral outside consultant to make a recommendation to the Board, on their review of the solid waste operation to ascertain if it can be run more efficiently, or if it would be beneficial to the County to follow a different route.

A future Committee of the Whole meeting will be held to further discuss this issue, and Chairman Walchli requested that suggestions and recommendations be brought by the members of the committee.

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned.

John M.

NOT APPROVED

OCT 2 8 1998

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

October 13, 1998

This meeting was held immediately following the regular board meeting with all legislators present.

The Committee of the Whole will meet on October 30, 1998 at 3:00 p.m. to review the proposed 1999 County Budget.

Discussion was held on the proposal to employ an outside consultant to review the solid waste operation, to determine if it can be run more efficiently, or if it would be beneficial to the county to follow a different route.

It was recommended that Chairman Walchli be authorized to look for a consultant who would review the solid waste operation for a cost of $5,000.00. On a straw vote, eight (8) members were in favor of this recommendation.

It was questioned whether or not a recommendation by a consultant would change the consensus of the board to approve the construction of new cells at the landfill. A straw vote revealed that nine (9) members of the board would still be in favor of retaining the county landfill, regardless of the recommendation of a consultant.

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned.

John M.

NOT APPROVED

NOV 2 1998

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

OCTOBER 30, 1998

All present except Legislator Reynolds.

The purpose of this meeting was to review the 1999 County Tentative Budget.

Budget Officer John Margeson noted that the tentative budget as presented, calls for an increase of 3.32% over the tax levy for the 1998 budget. The Ways & Means Committee has subsequently approved several amendments, the net effect of which removed $114,900 from the budget and brought the increase down to 2.46%. These amendments will be acted on by resolution at the November 23rd board meeting. Mr. Margeson also noted that three revenue sources were not included in the tentative budget, i.e. for Rushford Lake, Youth Bureau and Government Interns, totaling $32,738, which would bring the tax levy increase down to 2.21%. A motion to amend the tentative budget as noted was made by Truax, seconded by Bennett and carried, as follows:

Schedule 2-A Revenues - General Fund:

State Aid - Rushford Lake Account No. A3820.01: $0. changed to $12,600;

State Aid - Youth Bureau Account No. A3820.03: $0. changed to $17,138;

State Aid - Youth - Government Interns Account No. A3820.10: $0. changed to $3,000.

County Attorney is requested to prepare a resolution.

Mr. Corkey asked for consideration of several amendments to the tentative budget, to decrease the General Natural Resources and Tourism appropriations to the 1997 levels. The motion died due to the lack of a second. Mr. Corkey asked for consideration to amend the Economic Development appropriation to the 1998 level. The motion died due to the lack of a second.

Mr. Lucas moved that Clerk of the Board Account No. A1040.1 Personal Services be decreased by $8,300. The motion was seconded by Mr. Corkey but defeated on a roll call vote of 2 Ayes, 12 Noes, 1 Absent. Voting Yes: Lucas, Corkey;

Mr. Heineman moved that Sheriff Account No. A3110.1 Personal Services be increased by $1,500 to increase the Sheriff's salary to $44,000. The motion was seconded by Mr. Truax but defeated on a tied vote of 7 Ayes, 7 Noes, 1 Absent. Voting No: Burdick, Corkey, Graffrath, Lucas, Regan, Sylor, Walchli;

Mr. Lucas moved that one position be removed from the Solid Waste budget, to eliminate a person at the Wellsville Transfer Station. The motion was seconded by Mr. Truax but defeated on a roll call vote of 1 Aye, 13 Noes, 1 Absent. Voting Yes: Lucas.

Meeting adjourned.