

**COUNTY OF OSWEGO
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND PLANNING COMMITTEE**

November 23, 2010 – 2:00 p.m.
County Office Building, Oswego, NY
4th Floor Conference Room “E”

PRESENT:

Leg. Morris Sorbello, Chair
Leg. Louella LeClair, Vice Chair
Leg. Jacob Mulcahey
Leg. Ronald Sakonyi

EXCUSED:

Leg. Shawn Doyle
Leg. Doug Malone
Leg. Arthur Ospelt

MEDIA:

Carol Thompson, Valley News
Aaron Curtis, Palladium Times

STAFF/GUESTS:

Legs. Amy Tresidder and John Proud
Barry Leemann, Chairman of the Legislature
Philip Church, County Administrator
Mike Treadwell, Operation Oswego County
David Turner, Planning Director
John DeHollander, Soil & Water Conservation District
Fred Maxon, Purchasing Director
Paul Santore
Myron & Sue Pringle
Wendy Falls, Deputy Clerk of the Legislature

=====
Committee Chair Sorbello called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m.

1. Minutes of October 26, 2010:

Motion to approve: Legislator LeClair

Second: Legislator Sakonyi

Vote: Unanimous, motion carried

2. Old Business:

A. Soil & Water Budget

Soil and Water Conservation Manager, John DeHollander apologized to the committee for not being in attendance at the last meeting to explain the proposed budget. Mr. DeHollander distributed an information sheet showing 20 year appropriation values. He submitted a request for a 3% increase in the 2011 budget. It was explained that retirement and health premiums are increasing at Soil & Water as well as everywhere else. Mr. DeHollander stated that the Reforestation Initiative revenue is down due to the lower timber values. Leg. LeClair inquired how many years it takes to replant. Mr. DeHollander responded that replanting is not done; they go in and thin out over a 25-30 year rotation. Leg. LeClair asked how many years reforestation has been done. Mr. DeHollander responded that it's been done since 1999, when Soil and Water took it over. He mentioned that invasive species are also a problem in forestation areas. Committee Chair Sorbello pointed out the line for evasive species had been deleted from the 2011 proposed budget. Mr. DeHollander commented that funding is still being processed through federal rules and regulations and is going to be received. He also said that due to changes in leadership, state contract monies are moving quicker than the federal funds and those can be used to payback the county the \$31,500 owed. Committee Chair Sorbello stated that with the deleted line there will be no funding for the coming year; it was originally put into the budget as a bridge loan with reimbursement from the Soil and Water Conservation District. Committee Chair Sorbello asked Administrator Church how the committee can approach if they want to increase funding to Soil and Water. County Administrator Church responded that money could not be rolled over because it's not grant money and a capital project could not be established because asset is not owned by the county; the committee can put into the budget by a motion on the floor or can do a transfer out of the fund balance next year during the 2011 budget. Committee Chair

Sorbello remarked that it would start at the committee level and move to the full legislature. Leg. LeClair suggested Soil and Water pay the county back with federal money received and use the state funds to cover the water chestnuts next year. County Administrator Church stated that the Finance and Personnel Committee has passed the budget to the floor of the legislature and any changes would have to be made at the budget hearing on December 9th through a motion. Leg. LeClair inquired if a motion could be made on the legislature floor to bring the \$30,000 remaining in the line forward to the 2011 budget. Administrator Church explained that the money remaining in that line goes to the general fund and any addition will raise the 2011 tax levy. He stated that the money gets booked back to 2010 at the time it comes in even if it comes during 2011. County Administrator Church stated that the Finance and Personnel Committee passed the entire budget and recommended the Soil & Water Conservation budget at \$136,520.

Motion made to approve the proposed Soil and Water Conservation budget as recommended by the Finance and Personnel Committee: Legislator LeClair

Second: Legislator Sakonyi

Vote: Unanimous, motion carried

3. **New Business:**

A. Appointments to Environmental Management Council

Recommendation to appoint the following members to the Environmental Management Council for a two year term upon the expiration of their terms on December 31, 2010: Don Ross, Fulton NY; Peter Rosenbaum, Oswego NY; Cary Pelc, Oswego NY; Sandra Bonanno, Fulton NY; Fran Verdoliva, Altmar NY.

Motion to support request: Legislator Mulcahey

Second: Legislator Sakonyi

Vote: Unanimous, motion carried

B. Bid/RFP Report

Purchasing Director Fred Maxon reported the following:

Bid 48-10 Timber; awarded to Reagan out of Camden, NY to thin trees. County Administrator Church asked Soil and Water Conservation Manager John DeHollander if he wanted to reject the bid and reissue. Mr. DeHollander responded negatively, stating it was a good bid and he didn't want to lose it.

RFP 16-10 Lighting Systems Projects; opened 6 proposals on October 26, 2010; Purchasing, Planning, and Buildings & Grounds recommend Patricia Electric second bid; changing amount of \$222,900 to "cost not to exceed \$244,000". Leg. LeClair inquired if it was discussed a couple years ago to put lighting on the flags. Administrator Church commented that he will talk to Buildings & Grounds about doing lighting on the flags; but this project is replacing lighting with more efficient lighting. Planning Director David Turner stated that the request was approved by the Infrastructure and Facilities Committee this morning. The project originated through a grant approved by Economic Development and Planning and this was just a follow-up.

C. Resolution Authorizing Chairman to Impose Dog Quarantine

Motion to support resolution: Legislator Sakonyi

Second: Legislator Mulcahey

Vote: Unanimous, motion carried

D. Resolution Awarding Professional Services Contract – Shoreline Access Study

Planning Director David Turner reported that the Shoreline Access Study project has been underway for several years; in 2006 when they started putting it together counties were not eligible to apply for these funds so we partnered with Scriba and Hastings to access the money. The study was to create an inventory of public access along the shoreline of Oswego County. He

explained it was first proposed to use LiDAR data, similar to radar, to capture movement to do the mapping for the project; which is very detailed and expensive. Director Turner remarked that weather and securing of funds delayed the project for a couple of years, now they have contracts and it has gone out to bid. The Town of Scriba and the Town of Hastings were willing to participate and have water in the geographic boundaries; there was no specific focus on either of the towns. Director Turner reported that five (5) responses to the bid were received and the recommendation is to award contract to Barton & Loguidice as the low bidder for the project and because they have experience with similar projects. Committee Chair Sorbello asked if this is for public access. Planning Director Turner responded that the study will show what exists in the county now, what may be missing, and may identify an area where there is no public access for a while without going across private property. He stated that the sole intent is to look at what is there, what kind of condition is it in, and what needs to be done to improve it. Director Turner also mentioned that communities can use the study to obtain grant money for improvements to public access areas.

Motion to support resolution: Legislator LeClair

Second: Legislator Sakonyi

Vote: Unanimous, motion carried

E. Resolution Allocating Hotel or Motel Occupancy Tax Revenues

Planning Director Turner presented an annual resolution that has been done since the county implemented the occupancy tax regarding collection and distribution. He reported that there were no changes except the dates. Leg. Mulcahey inquired how the distribution worked. Director Turner commented that 2% goes to the Treasurers Office for administrative expenses and the remainder is used towards promotion activities to bring people into the county. He commented that \$284,000 was estimated for next year in the proposed budget. Director Turner reported that as of today the county is 18% ahead of 2009.

Motion to support resolution: Legislator LeClair

Second: Legislator Mulcahey

Vote: Unanimous, motion carried

F. Operation Oswego County

1. County of Oswego IDA Financing (Kleis Equipment, LLC)

Operation Oswego County Executive Director, Michael Treadwell reported that the IDA approved a \$75,000 PILOT EDF loan for Kleis Equipment, LLC in the Town of Constantia for construction of a 4,224 square foot building. There will be an increase of three jobs with the expansion.

2. Incubator Building Design and Feasibility

Executive Director Treadwell reported on the potential development of an incubator building. He requested utilization of the Economic Development Fund balance of \$15,000 to develop a building design and feasibility study. Operation Oswego County received 3 out of 7 responses from the RFP sent out. Mr. Treadwell stated that VIP Structures has been selected at a cost of \$19,800 because they had the best understanding of the concept. He reported that the original incubator building in Schroepfel has been 100% occupied since being built. Mr. Treadwell mentioned that this is step one in the process. Legislature Chairman Leemann inquired about the justification for not taking the low bid. Executive Director Treadwell responded that VIP addressed the scope of work; the low bidder did not provide information that they were best qualified to do the project and experience wasn't in the area that they were looking for. The proposed site is behind North Land Filters in the City of Oswego.

Motion to approve request for utilization of Economic Development Fund balance of \$15,000: Legislator LeClair
Second: Legislator Sakonyi
Vote: Unanimous, motion carried

4. **Executive Session – Personnel Evaluations:**

Motion made to enter into executive session at 2:52 p.m.: Legislator LeClair

Second: Legislator Sakonyi

Vote: Unanimous, motion carried

Motion made to re-enter open session: Legislator LeClair

Second: Legislator Sakonyi

Vote: Unanimous, motion carried

5. **Adjournment:**

Motion made to adjourn meeting: Legislator LeClair

Second: Legislator Mulcahey

Vote: Unanimous, motion carried

Meeting adjourned at 3:57 p.m.

Oswego County Appropriations and the Oswego County SWCD

<u>YEAR</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>
2010	136,520.00
2009	136,520.00
2008	136,510.00
2007	136,500.00
2006	130,000.00
2005	125,000.00
2004	125,000.00
2003	130,000.00
2002	136,000.00
2001	136,000.00
2000	131,367.00
1999	131,367.00
1998	151,367.00
1997	141,367.00
1996	138,281.00
1995	128,698.00
1994	128,698.00
1993	115,636.00
1992	115,630.00
1991	108,536.00
1990	103,536.00

Oswego County Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD)

\$136,520.00 - 103,536.00 = 32,984.00 / 21 years = 1.15% increase/yr.

Over the past 21 years, based upon a yearly average, appropriations increased by 1.15%.

\$136,520.00 - 136,000.00 = 520.00 / 10 years = 0.04% increase/yr.

Over the past decade, based upon a yearly average, appropriations increased by 0.04%.

Realizing the above figures, coupled with today's increasing costs associated with:

⊗ New York State Retirement premiums *plus*

⊗ Health Insurance premiums *plus*

⊗ Lower timber values –

Oswego County SWCD is seeking a 3% increase in appropriations for operating capital for 2011.

2010 Appropriation = \$136,520.00 2011 Request = \$140,615.00