I. CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Nichols called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION: APPROVING THE MINUTES OF THE APRIL 6, 2020, AND APRIL 27, 2020, MEETINGS MADE BY MR. POTTER. SECONDED BY MR. RYAN. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 5-0.

III. HIGHWAYS

A. Appropriate Insurance Proceeds for New Stone Chipper Purchase – Mr. Spagnoletti informed the committee that Mr. Sprague, Mr. Rapalee and Mr. Miller were able to secure $59,250 in insurance proceeds as a result of the car collision with our 1994 chip spreader. A new machine will cost us $317,000. He requested authorization to appropriate the $59,250 in insurance proceeds to the major equipment line to help pay for the purchase of the new chip spreader.

MOTION: AUTHORIZING THE COMMISSIONER OF PUBLIC WORKS TO APPROPRIATE $59,250 IN INSURANCE PROCEEDS TO THE MAJOR EQUIPMENT LINE TO HELP PAY FOR THE PURCHASE OF A NEW STONE CHIPPER MADE BY MR. HORTON. SECONDED BY MR. POTTER FOR DISCUSSION.

Mr. Mullen asked what major equipment are we looking at deferring the purchase of or would this be in addition to? Mr. Spagnoletti replied we had a stone chip spreader listed on our major equipment list for $150,000. We had thought we could buy a good used machine, but it turns out there are very few machines, and the ones that are available are not worth buying. He stated he has $1.2 million in the budget for major equipment and there is a lot of equipment that we cannot buy.

Mr. Malter asked what’s the useful life of the machine? Mr. Spagnoletti replied I think the one that was involved in the accident was about 26 years old. You should be able to get 25 – 30 years out of these machines.

Mr. Nichols asked is the machine you are purchasing brand new? Mr. Spagnoletti replied yes.

Mrs. Lando asked are we going to loan this machine out? Mr. Spagnoletti replied we use this machine in our shared services program and the towns depend on us to do quite a bit of chip sealing. When we do that, it is with our own operator and we only do it for towns within Steuben County.
VOTE ON PREVIOUS MOTION: ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 5-0.

B. Authorization to Rent an Excavator for Bridge Projects – Mr. Spagnoletti stated our excavator is down for repairs and he requested authorization to rent an excavator for bridge projects for two to four months at a cost of $5,000 per month.

Mr. Ryan asked the repairs will take three to four months? Mr. Spagnoletti replied we don’t know. This is the machine that we were working on the side of the road and when we were digging there was ice and the machine went over the side. We did significant repairs and started using it and the operator stated he just didn’t feel comfortable in the machine. We sent the machine to Rochester and we are not sure what it will take to repair it. We want to give ourselves the option to have another machine if the repairs take longer than we expect.

Mr. Ryan asked would there be other expenses that would be on us when we rent the excavator? Mr. Spagnoletti stated in this case when we rent, we would do the normal maintenance. As far as any major repairs, that would not be on us. If we were negligent in some way, then yes, we would be responsible for repairs.

Mr. Van Etten asked the machine that we own, if that has significant damage, are those costs covered by insurance? Mr. Spagnoletti replied I think there is some insurance on that. In fact, the first round of repairs did get covered by some insurance. I will find out and let you know.

Mr. Nichols asked is it the hydraulics or the electrical? Mr. Spagnoletti replied I don’t remember actually what the operator said. When he got on it and was cranking the boom back and turning, there was something in it that didn’t feel right to him.

Mr. Rapalee stated we have a detailed list from Five Star and there were some issues with the hydraulic system and those were reviewed. They also looked at the pin and boom. The operator does not feel comfortable using the machine as it is. Until this is resolved, we are looking at not using the machine.

Mr. Malter stated you said you had a quote. How much was the quote? Mr. Rapalee stated the quote was in excess of $50,000 so that is the reason we brought the machine back. We need to review the repairs with Mr. Sprague and check that against what the first vendor did before we proceed with the second round. We want to make sure the work being quoted for the second round shouldn’t have already been done the first time.

Mr. Malter asked what is the age of the machine, and what was the cost to purchase? Mr. Rapalee stated this is a 2008 John Deere and he is not sure how much the machine cost. Mr. Spagnoletti stated a new track hoe is up around $250,000.

MOTION: AUTHORIZING THE COMMISSIONER OF PUBLIC WORKS TO RENT AN EXCAVATOR FOR BRIDGE PROJECTS FOR A MAXIMUM OF FOUR MONTHS FROM MAY TO JUNE FOR A COST OF $5,000 PER MONTH MADE BY MR. RYAN. SECONDED BY MR. HORTON. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 5-0.

C. Appropriate State Funding for Permanent Improvement D 511200, Capital Projects 5 250 000 – Mr. Spagnoletti stated we have received verbal indication that we will be getting Extreme Winter Recovery Funding and Pave NY funding totaling $1,653,718.95. Before we spend it, I would like to have written notice from the State that we are getting it. Once we get the notice in writing, the Governor reserves the right to cut the budget or change the budget. Mr. Spagnoletti stated he will be going to Mr. Wheeler and getting his approval before he proceeds. Even if Mr. Wheeler approves proceeding with construction, if we find even then that it looks like we are not getting this funding, then I will go to the blacktop projects and delete those and do chip seal instead. This is funding that we have received in the past.

Mr. Wheeler stated in the calls that we have had, the best we can tell is we feel the money is pretty secure. The Governor has broad authority to propose cuts based on revenue shortfalls. The first round of proposed cuts should come out in the next few days. I will keep you posted. The State Legislature does have the ability to come back and propose cuts of their own; the Governor cannot make universal cuts. This is needed funding for every municipality.
Mr. Swackhamer asked does this money have to be spent this year? Mr. Wheeler replied I believe so, yes. Mr. Nichols stated I would not leave it for next year. Mr. Wheeler stated his understanding is that it has to be used during the State’s budget year. Mr. Nichols commented you have to have warm temperatures to use this and that limits them to doing projects during the summer.

Mr. Ryan asked do you have an expected date to get this in writing? Mr. Spagnoletti replied we had been told we would receive a notice last week or before. I expect that we would receive notice in May. The brunt of the season is July and August and you finish in September. He would like to get it on the books so we can make our purchases and would be able to determine those purchases based on the State funding. He commented the Pave NY funding is the Governor’s own program.

Mr. Van Etten stated there are three different times that the Governor will be able to make changes and the first one is coming up at the end of this week. Then I believe there will be one at the end of June and one in the fall. Mr. Wheeler stated that is correct.

Mr. Maio asked how do you expect the blacktop prices to be this summer given the market? Mr. Spagnoletti replied this is a strong time of opportunity. The prices of crude oil are typically $60.00 per barrel. When that goes down to $40.00 per barrel then we can do significantly more work. Right now the price is $25.00 per barrel and we expect that price will keep dropping. If we can do the project this year, it will be at a relatively low cost. The prices will go down this summer.

Mr. Maio asked with the prices going down, will we be able to spend all of this funding or add additional projects? Mr. Spagnoletti replied in the next agenda item I have added five additional projects. Mr. Maio asked with the additional projects, is that based on the price of oil now, or the previous price? Mr. Spagnoletti replied this was based on the previous price of $50.00 - $60.00 per barrel. If the price drops as we expect, we will need a portion of that. He stated he put in a $250,000 contingency on the projects. If the price drops some and I have enough contingency and the price drops more, then we can go back and do more paving of some of the roads that in the past year or so were chip sealed. There could be more projects that we could do with our paver and grinder.

Mr. Swackhamer stated there is a clause in the contracts that they have to drop their prices also. That is built into the contracts.

Mr. Mullen asked would it be too late, if the price of asphalt goes down substantially, do we have projects that are more asphalt heavy that we should shift to and get the long-term bang for our buck? Mr. Spagnoletti replied we address that by doing many of the asphalt jobs early in June. As the summer goes on, the price will go up. We try to get as much blacktop done early in the season. It really doesn’t serve a purpose to shift the projects as it is the same number of miles and the same amount of chip seal. The main thing that Mr. Rapalee will do is once we have a base price that seems to bottom out, then he will go in and get as much work done as we can.

Mr. Swackhamer stated we have done real well with our five year schedule and that is coming to an end. Hopefully we don’t have any major projects by the time we get done this year. Mr. Spagnoletti stated 2020 is the last year of the current five year plan. We will be done except for 3.5 miles of CR 6 which will cost about $700,000. He stated that Mr. Wheeler and Mr. Brewer had asked for areas where we could reduce our budget and I could delete CR 6 and that will be the only job that will not have been finished.

Mr. Van Etten stated the point of having a five year plan is to have a long-term vision. We should continue to have updated five year plans rolling forward. Granted, the big projects will be taken care of. We should always have a five year plan going forward and just update it. Mr. Spagnoletti stated that’s right, I agree with that. Our five year plan is not written in stone and we keep revising. Last year we had three of our engineers make the next five year plan and that starts in 2021. I will be giving that to you this year. The other real benefit to the five year plan is that when the field supervisors have it, they know what will be built next year and they do the pipes so they can settle for a year before we lay the blacktop.
Mr. Potter asked is CR 117 slated for 2021? Mr. Spagnoletti replied no. I will check that out and find out where that is and look at why it is not on the schedule for 2021. Mr. Potter stated we had talked about the west end of that road. Mr. Spagnoletti stated I know and I will take a look at it and get back to you.

MOTION: AUTHORIZING THE COMMISSIONER OF PUBLIC WORKS TO APPROPRIATE $642,568.88 IN EXTREME WINTER RECOVERY FUNDING AND $1,011,150.07 IN PAVE NY FUNDING INTO THE PERMANENT IMPROVEMENTS D 511200, CAPITAL PROJECTS 5 250 000 MADE BY MR. POTTER. SECONDED BY MR. MULLEN. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 5-0. Resolution Required.

D. Add Road Projects – Mr. Spagnoletti requested authorization to add five road projects to the Permanent Improvements D 511200 line. The projects are CR 5 in Tuscarora, 1.4 miles; CR 15 in Bath, 3.3 miles; CR 21 in Canisteo, 1.5 miles; CR 70 in Howard, 2.9 miles and CR 100 in Woodhull, 3.1 miles.

MOTION: AUTHORIZING THE COMMISSIONER OF PUBLIC WORKS TO ADD CR 5, CR 15, CR 21, CR 70 AND CR 100 TO THE PERMANENT IMPROVEMENTS D 511200 LINE MADE BY MR. MULLEN. SECONDED BY MR. RYAN. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 5-0. Resolution Required.

E. Transfer from Permanent Improvements to Individual Road Projects – Mr. Spagnoletti requested authorization to transfer funds from the Permanent Improvements line into each of the road projects, including the five new projects the committee just approved.

MOTION: AUTHORIZING THE COMMISSIONER OF PUBLIC WORKS TO TRANSFER FUNDING FROM THE PERMANENT IMPROVEMENTS LINE INTO INDIVIDUAL ROAD PROJECTS AS FOLLOWS: CR 4 - $10,000; CR 27 - $75,000; CR 32 - $56,000; CR 74 - $8,000; CR 66 - $83,000; CR 109 - $41,000; CR 10 - $56,000; CR 64 - $40,000; CR 28 - $110,000; CR 57 - $132,000; CR 15 - $143,000; CR 5 - $105,000; CR 21 - $226,000, CR 100 - $339,000 AND CR 70 - $422,000 MADE BY MR. HORTON. SECONDED BY MR. RYAN FOR DISCUSSION.

Mr. Mullen asked I’m assuming that these last five projects are contingent upon receiving funding from the State? Mr. Spagnoletti replied if you add these five projects to the project list and then we don’t get the funding, what I would do is not delete the project, but those that are blacktop projects, I would chip seal instead so that all the projects could get done and then blacktop them next year.

VOTE ON PREVIOUS MOTION: ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 5-0.

IV. BIDS
   A. Cutting Edges, Sander Chains & Shoes – Mr. Spagnoletti recommended awarding to lowest bidder on a line item basis. He stated this bid shows specific amounts for each type of cutting edge. He noted that on the bottom of the first page there is an item for a Polar Flex Blade System. We did not receive any bids for this. He explained this is a new type of cutting edge that is segmented. There are short segments of the cutting edge and move independently and adjust to the profile of the road. These blades scrape much cleaner. The initial cost is more expensive, but over a 20-year life the cost is about the same. We will get quotes for a couple of our plows for the drivers to get used to.

Mr. Nichols asked is this new cutting edge system rougher on the pavement? Mr. Spagnoletti replied no, but the blade scrapes the pavement a lot cleaner. It does it better because it is designed so the blade will drop down into the ruts of a road. We tried this blade last year and it is not harder on the pavement.

MOTION: AWARDING THE BID FOR CUTTING EDGES, SANDER CHAINS & SHOES TO THE FOLLOWING BIDDERS ON A LINE ITEM BASIS: CHEMUNG SUPPLY CORP.; STEEL SALES INC.; NORTHERN SUPPLY; WINTER EQUIPMENT AND GEORGE AND SWEDE MADE BY MR. HORTON. SECONDED BY MR. RYAN. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 5-0.
B.  New Structural Steel –

MOTION:  AWARDING THE BID FOR NEW STRUCTURAL STEEL TO THE LOW BIDDER, CHEMUNG SUPPLY CORP. FOR $47,228.56 MADE BY MR. HORTON.  SECONDED BY MR. RYAN.  ALL BEING IN FAVOR.  MOTION CARRIES 5-0.

C.  Asphalt Concrete; Specified In-Place Project(s) for the Village of Wayland – Mr. Spagnoletti stated as way of background, we spend a lot of time paving for the towns.  Mr. Rapalee had suggested working with the towns to put out specific bids for their projects.  This will benefit both the towns and the county as we don’t have to spend all of our time doing this.  He recommended awarding to the low bidder, Spallina Materials, Inc.

MOTION:  AWARDING THE BID FOR ASPHALT CONCRETE; SPECIFIED IN-PLACE PROJECT(S) FOR THE VILLAGE OF WAYLAND TO THE LOW BIDDER, SPALLINA MATERIALS, INC. FOR $102,822.60 MADE BY MR. HORTON.  SECONDED BY MR. RYAN.  ALL BEING IN FAVOR.  MOTION CARRIES 5-0.

D.  Asphalt Concrete; Miscellaneous In-Place Project(s) – Mr. Spagnoletti recommended awarding to bidders based on low cost and availability.

MOTION:  AWARDING THE BID FOR ASPHALT CONCRETE; MISCELLANEOUS IN-PLACE PROJECT(S) TO THE FOLLOWING BIDDERS BASED ON LOW COST AND AVAILABILITY:  BOTHAR CONSTRUCTION; DALRYMPLE GRAVEL AND CONTRACTING CO. INC.; DOLOMITE PRODUCTS CO., D/B/A A.L. BLADES INC.; AND SPALLINA MATERIALS, INC. MADE Y MR. HORTON.  SECONDED BY MR. RYAN.  ALL BEING IN FAVOR.  MOTION CARRIES 5-0.

E.  Pavement Grinding – Mr. Spagnoletti recommended awarding to the sole bidder, Suit-Kote Corporation.  We rarely use this as we bought a grinder in 2012.  Our cost to operate our grinder is $3,160 per day and that includes the operating and purchase cost versus the $5,500 per day in this bid.  He stated our grinder has saved us $600,000 over the seven years we have owned it.  Buying the grinder was a good deal.

MOTION:  AWARDING THE BID FOR PAVEMENT GRINDING TO THE SOLE BIDDER, SUIT-KOTE CORPORATION FOR $5,700 PER DAY FOR 1 DAY; $5,600 PER DAY FOR 2 – 4 DAYS; AND $5,500 PER DAY FOR 5 OR MORE DAYS MADE BY MR. HORTON.  SECONDED BY MR. RYAN.  ALL BEING IN FAVOR.  MOTION CARRIES 5-0.

F.  Ice Control Sand – Mr. Spagnoletti informed the committee that Mr. Rapalee revised this bid to require that the entire stockpile be tested before winter to prevent the purchasing war during the winter.  We will have it stockpiled and ready.  He recommended awarding to all bidders except S.T Coots as they did not submit the signed Iranian Divestment form.  This means that the total cost for purchasing will go from $205,000 to $211,000.  He stated that Mr. Morse and Ms. Prossick have gone over this and we all agree.

Mr. Ryan asked did S.T. Coots provide an explanation for why they didn’t sign this form?  Mr. Spagnoletti stated we didn’t ask for an explanation.  They did not meet the bid requirements.  Mr. Wheeler stated the Iranian Divestment Act is one of the forms that we cannot waive.  Ms. Prossick stated we have this happen every once in a while and it is not waivable under Finance Law.

MOTION:  DECLARING S.T. COOTS A NON-RESPONSIVE BIDDER AND AWARDING THE BID FOR ICE CONTROL SAND TO THE FOLLOWING BIDDERS:  DALRYMPLE GRAVEL & CONTRACTING CO. CORP.; DOLOMITE PRODUCTS COMPANY INC., D/B/A A.L. BLADES; KNIGHT SETTLEMENT SAND & GRAVEL, LLC; NEW ENTERPRISES STONE & LIME CO., INC.; SPALLINA MATERIALS, INC.; AND WILKINS DAIRY FARM, LLC D/B/A WILKINS SAND AND GRAVEL MADE BY MR. HORTON.  SECONDED BY MR. RYAN.  ALL BEING IN FAVOR.  MOTION CARRIES 5-0.

G.  Traffic Control Supplies – Mr. Spagnoletti recommended awarding to the low bidder on a line item basis.
MOTION: AWARDING THE BID FOR TRAFFIC CONTROL SUPPLIES TO THE FOLLOWING BIDDERS ON A LINE ITEM BASIS: NEWMAN SIGNS, INC.; S&S SIGNS & SAFETY EQUIPMENT; SAFETY ZONE SPECIALISTS; AND SHIRLEY’S LUMBER MADE BY MR. HORTON. SECONDED BY MR. RYAN. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 5-0.

H. Pavement Marking Painting

MOTION: AWARDING THE BID FOR PAVEMENT MARKING PAINTING TO THE LOW BIDDER, ZEBRA PAINT STRIPING FOR $8,495.00 MADE BY MR. HORTON. SECONDED BY MR. RYAN. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 5-0.

I. Approval to Bid Four (4) Overhead Doors for Prattsburgh Shop

MOTION: AUTHORIZING THE COMMISSIONER OF PUBLIC WORKS IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE PURCHASING DIRECTOR, TO BID FOUR OVERHEAD DOORS FOR THE PRATTSBURGH SHOP MADE BY MR. HORTON. SECONDED BY MR. MULLEN. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 5-0.

V. OTHER BUSINESS

A. Pavement Grinder – Mr. Malter asked going back to the previous discussion about the grinder, how old is the machine and what is the useful life? Mr. Spagnoletti replied it is a 2013 machine and we will get easily 20 years and expect 25 years. Mr. Swackhamer stated we talked to operators in Germany and they were getting 20 – 25 years depending on how rough the machine was used.

B. Building Demolitions – Mr. Orcutt reported the Town of Erwin had put in an application to demolish a house for a road realignment project. There were 34.53 tons and it was clean C&D so the rate would have been $30.00 per ton. The total amount waived was $1,035.90. Mr. Spagnoletti stated this is the second project of the five the committee has approved for this year. Mr. Orcutt stated the Town of Erwin indicated they have another project that they are working on.

C. Parks – Mr. Wheeler stated that he has talked with Chairman Van Etten, the Sheriff and Mrs. Smith and they have decided that he will not be signing an executive order extending the closure of the county parks. We will be issuing a press release. The playgrounds, pavilions and restrooms will be closed, but we will open the park facilities.

D. Gas to Energy Plant – Mr. Van Etten asked when are we going to get an update on the status of the gas to energy plant? Mr. Spagnoletti replied I can give you one now if you would like. Basically what has happened is the gas to energy plant is not operating. Our plan had been all along to let out an RFP for someone to operate the plant at the landfill for us, or to take the methane gas and turn it into liquefied natural gas and pipe away. There is big money in liquefied natural gas and piping it. However, the big money was because the refineries, the small ones, had a clause from the EPA (Environmental Protection Agency) where instead of putting ethanol in, they said it was too expensive and they wanted a waiver on that and the EPA agreed. If Steuben County makes natural gas out of methane, then those refineries have to pay the county and then they will not have to put the ethanol in. Mr. Spagnoletti stated my understanding is the EPA approved a waiver for no ethanol requirement and they would not have to pay the county. That has dropped the attractiveness of the revenue possibilities. That combined with Covid, we have thought it would be best to put out an RFP when there is more of a situation where people can come and go.

Mr. Orcutt stated we had discussions with our engineering firm, Barton and Loguidice, and the waiver the EPA had put in place has not been renewed. Developers are looking for projects for a virtual pipeline that will produce and truck to the terminal. We are updating our RFP’s for an internal peer review. We will be getting our RFP’s out within the next month or so.

Mr. Van Etten asked we have zero estimated revenue in the 2020 budget for that plant? Mr. Spagnoletti replied I think so. Mr. Van Etten stated I just wanted to make sure we have no exposure. Mr. Wheeler stated I don’t believe we estimated anything on that.
Mr. Malter asked if we are not operating the plant, are we burning off the gas at this point? Mr. Spagnoletti replied yes. We have a flare up there. We still get the carbon credits for that as we have a significant reduction in greenhouse gases. Mr. Malter asked do we get revenue for that credit? Mr. Spagnoletti stated last year we received between $100,000 - $105,000.

E. Flagging – Utility Projects – Mr. Potter stated it has recently come to his attention that the contractors putting in the fiber optic along county roads are not using adequate traffic controls. Who is responsible for that? It can be a hazardous situation. Mr. Spagnoletti replied they are not as careful as far as putting up notice signs, cones and flaggers. I have not seen anything really dangerous, but it is not up to the standards that we hope to do with our crews. He stated he will notify each MEO Supervisor to let him know when the utility companies are out and especially if they think they do not have sufficient traffic control. I will talk to Ms. Prossick about our abilities in being able to enforce that.

Mr. Potter asked do they have to get an easement to work in the County’s right-of-way? Mr. Spagnoletti replied yes. Mr. Potter asked is that a place where we can emphasize the need for this? Mr. Spagnoletti stated the utility companies are required to get our approval to work in our right-of-way. I will look at that as far as what permitting these companies are using and if it is associated with traffic control requirements. Ms. Prossick stated I have been working with Mr. Catherman and the engineers to do a better permitting process and that is one of the things we are looking into. This has not been traditionally captured on enforcement.

MOTION: TO ADJOURN REGULAR SESSION AND RECONVENE IN EXECUTIVE SESSION PURSUANT TO PUBLIC OFFICERS’ LAW, ARTICLE 7§ 105.1.D. DISCUSSIONS REGARDING PROPOSED, PENDING OR CURRENT LITIGATION AND ARTICLE 7§ 105.1.H. THE PROPOSED ACQUISITION, SALE OR LEASE OF REAL PROPERTY OR THE PROPOSED ACQUISITION OF SECURITIES OR SALE OR EXCHANGE OF SECURITIES HELD BY SUCH PUBLIC BODY, BUT ONLY WHEN PUBLICITY WOULD SUBSTANTIALLY AFFECT THE VALUE THEREOF MADE BY MR. MULLEN. SECONDED BY MR. HORTON. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 5-0.

MOTION: TO ADJOURN EXECUTIVE SESSION AND RECONVENE IN REGULAR SESSION MADE BY MR. MULLEN, SECONDED BY MR. RYAN. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 5-0.

MOTION: TO ADJOURN MADE BY MR. POTTER. SECONDED BY MR. MULLEN. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 5-0.

Respectfully Submitted by

Amanda L. Chapman
Deputy Clerk
Steuben County Legislature

**NEXT MEETING SCHEDULED FOR**
Monday, June 1, 2020
Legislative Committee Room
9:00 a.m.

Please send agenda items to the Clerk of the Legislature’s Office
NO LATER THAN NOON
Monday, May 25, 2020