

PUBLIC WORKS, TRANSPORTATION AND ENERGY COMMITTEE

OF THE

SUFFOLK COUNTY LEGISLATURE

Minutes

A meeting of the Public Works, Transportation and Energy Committee of the Suffolk County Legislature was held in the Rose Y. Caracappa Legislative Auditorium of the William H. Rogers Legislature Building, 725 Veterans Memorial Highway, Smithtown, New York, on November 24, 2014 at 2:00 p.m.

Members Present:

Legislator Al Krupski - Chairman

Legislator Tom Muratore - Vice-Chair

Legislator Tom Barraga

Legislator Steve Stern

Members Not Present:

Legislator Kate Browning

Also In Attendance:

George Nolan - Counsel to the Legislature

Jason Richberg - Chief Deputy Clerk/Suffolk County Legislature

Bob Doering - Legislative Budget Review Office

Bill Schilling - Aide to Legislator Calarco

Bob Martinez - Aide to Legislator Muratore

Debbie Harris - Aide to Legislator Stern

Tom Vaughn - County Executive Assistant

Kerri Suoto - County Executive's Office

Robert Braun - Deputy Bureau Chief/County Attorney's Office

Gil Anderson - Commissioner/Suffolk County Department of Public Works

Garry Lenberger - Director of Transportation/SC Department of Public Works

Lori Baldassare-Director of Program Evaluation/SC Department of Public Works

Dominick Ninivaggi-Suprintendent of Vector Control/Department of Public Works

All Other Interested Parties

Minutes Taken & Transcribed By:

Alison Mahoney - Court Stenographer

*(*The meeting was called to order at 2:02 P.M. *)*

CHAIRMAN KRUPSKI:

All right. Welcome to the regular committee meeting of Public Works, Transportation & Energy. All rise for the Pledge of Allegiance led by Legislator Barraga.

Salutation

We have one card. Joshua Tomel, if you can come up, you have three minutes, Sir

MR. TOMEL:

Yeah, I'm here discussing the resolution that's going to be coming forth today, IR 2070, Directing the Department of Public Works to hold public hearings on bus fares. I assume that it's a raise in the rates, which if it is, we respectfully request that that also include the other -- the services that the eastern buses receive at this current moment in time which is holiday service and the summer time. I'm not quite sure.

*(*Legislator Stern entered the meeting at 2:03 P.M. *)*

But also, I imagine it's going to be in line with other rates and the rate will be incremental towards, you know, the fare in Nassau, I don't know. But my points are that if it's going to be conducive to raising the rates of the bus fare, it should include an increase in service or increase of certain buses that are going to run more, like on Sundays or later hours.

CHAIRMAN KRUPSKI:

Yes, thank you. That is exactly the intention, to raise the fare to match the East End routes and to increase Sunday service.

MR. TOMEL:

Okay. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN KRUPSKI:

Thank you.

Would anyone else like to address the committee? I do have one question relating to the bus. Garry Lenberger, could you -- I've got a question about the -- someone brought that up to me about the fare collection system. And could you just give us a brief update on how that's progressing?

MR. LENBERGER:

Yeah, it's actually quite well. We have the specification written, we're looking to go to bid very shortly on the new Fast Fare Program, which is what we'll more than likely call it. The system is going to have a number of different capabilities as opposed to what the current fare collection system has. The technology for the current system, which is called the Cents-a-bill has been around since I'd say the beginning of the 1980's. The boxes that we originally purchased in 1984 were retrofitted about 15 years ago and they've out-performed their useful life. So we are receiving Federal funds for this; it's 80% Federal, 10% State matching funds and then 10% County local, which is about \$2.7 million total. So the cost to the County would be a net \$270,000, roughly.

The new system will allow for a smart card technology, which is essentially a microchip in your credit card or a stored value card that the County will be able to issue to the passengers and they can go on-line and they can refill their card with, let's say, \$50 or, you know, whatever increment is chosen. And then once they go on the bus, they're essentially going to tap the fare box, it's called a proximity card in lingo, and that \$50 will be credited to that card itself. And it could be, you know,

reused, you know, probably, you know, a couple of hundred times before it would wear out, maybe even longer. So that's one technique.

You also -- it will also be able to read on a magnetic card strip, just similar to your credit card, stored value cards which will be able to be swiped. You'll also be able to take your iPhone or your Android application and download a fare through a QR code, which is that little squiggly box that you see occasionally now, along with bar code reading, so you could essentially get your fare through the phone and then swipe it over the fare box, and then you'll download your fare there. So it has a lot of unique capabilities and, you know, we could store, say, you know, 30, 50 trips on your card, you could also use it that way. And we'll still, you know, be keeping the same mechanism in for transfers, purchase transfers, you'll still be able to use cash, which we always will be a part of. And it also has the capability of having bill recognition, so you could put a \$20 bill in that fare box and say you wanted a full fare at \$2.50, you will get a \$17.50 credit that will come out of the trim, which is the ticket-issuing machine; you could hold that and use that for additional fares later on.

CHAIRMAN KRUPSKI:

That's pretty impressive. Thank you. When is that going to be effective?

MR. LENBERGER:

Well, we have to go to bid and award it and, you know, you have to use Federal procurement guidelines, so we don't know who the vendor would be at this point. But that's generally the -- you know, there's a number of manufacturers that provide this technology. You know, I would hope if we can get this thing out to bid say in the Spring, that we would have deliveries, you know, some time during the summer for installation.

There is some technical capacity on this. You know, you really want to roll this thing out and get it on all the buses overnight, which is going to be a little bit of an issue since we have bus yards all the way from Greenport and Southampton and North Babylon, Bay Shore and whatnot. So we have a lot of locations that would have to get the new fare box installed overnight. You know, I don't know if we're going to be able to do all of them overnight but, you know, more than likely we would probably hit a couple of yards over a couple of days and get the thing rolled out as quick as we could.

What we'd also like to do is have some training for the passengers, and obviously we have to train the drivers on, you know, how to utilize this. So there's going to be some issues that we'll address as they come up. But we've done it before, I've actually programmed fare boxes myself on the old system, so I'm pretty familiar with them. You know, not that it's going to be without glitches but, you know, we're looking for a smooth transition. We'd like to have possibly a link on the County website, on the Suffolk Transit website where it would instruct the passengers on how to use the new technology.

CHAIRMAN KRUPSKI:

Thank you. Does anyone have any questions about this? It's not on the agenda, but Mr. Lenberger was kind enough to come in today to explain it to us. I had a question about it. Thank you very much.

MR. LENBERGER:

You're welcome.

CHAIRMAN KRUPSKI:

We're looking forward to working with that. That should be a big improvement.

MR. LENBERGER:

Thank you.

CHAIRMAN KRUPSKI:

All right, to the agenda.

Under **Tabled Resolutions**, **IR 1812-14 - Authorizing a study to determine the best use of the Old Fourth Precinct property, Hauppauge (Cilmi)**. I'll make a motion to table.

LEG. MURATORE:

Second.

CHAIRMAN KRUPSKI:

Second by Legislator Muratore. Any discussion? All in favor? Opposed? Abstentions? So moved. **Tabled (Not Present: Legislator Browning)**.

IR 1942-14 - Adopting Local Law No. -2014, A Local Law to amend Local Law No. 13-2014, to further deter the importation or use of hydraulic fracturing materials in Suffolk County (Spencer). Is there a motion on this? I'll make a motion. Is there a second?

LEG. STERN:

Second.

CHAIRMAN KRUPSKI:

I'd like to move it, yes. We've had the public hearing, so we can move this out now. Second by Legislator Stern. Is there any discussion? All in favor? Opposed? Abstentions? **So moved (VOTE: 4-0-0-1 -- Not Present: Legislator Browning)**.

Introductory Resolutions

IR 2017-14 - Amending Resolution No. 132-2014, creating a Tick Control Advisory Committee (Schneiderman). Anyone like to make a motion to create another --

LEG. MURATORE:

Motion.

CHAIRMAN KRUPSKI:

Motion by Legislator Muratore. Is there a second? I'll second the motion. Anyone like to -- any discussion on this, or would the Commissioner like to explain?

COMMISSIONER ANDERSON:

This resolution looks to add the Regional Director of the New York State Office of Parks to the committee, and that's the intent of the resolution.

(Brief Pause)

CHAIRMAN KRUPSKI:

I'm sorry. Go ahead.

LEG. BARRAGA:

He's finished. Take a vote.

COMMISSIONER ANDERSON:

That was it.

CHAIRMAN KRUPSKI:

Any questions for the Commissioner? Okay, thank you. All in favor? Opposed? Abstentions? So moved. **Approved (VOTE: 4-0-0-1 -- Not Present: Legislator Browning).**

IR 2019-14 - Approving the Vector Control Plan of the Department of Public Works, Division of Vector Control, pursuant to Section C8-4(B)(2) of the Suffolk County Charter (County Executive). I'll make a motion to approve. Is there a second?

LEG. BARRAGA:

Second.

CHAIRMAN KRUPSKI:

Second by Legislator Barraga. Does anyone have any questions about this? All in favor? Opposed? Abstentions? So moved. **Approved (VOTE: 4-0-0-1 -- Not Present: Legislator Browning).**

IR 2028-14 - Appropriating funds in connection with roof replacement on various County buildings (CP 1623)(County Executive). Do I have a motion? I'll make the motion. Is there a second?

LEG. BARRAGA:

Second.

CHAIRMAN KRUPSKI:

Same motion, same second. Commissioner, we had a few questions about this resolution.

COMMISSIONER ANDERSON:

Yes, Sir.

CHAIRMAN KRUPSKI:

Were there any specific locations?

COMMISSIONER ANDERSON:

These locations were the ones that we identified earlier in the year. This, in fact, is just an extension of an earlier authorization request. Originally we had requested 500,000 under this annual Capital Program. We had held back 200,000, we thought we might need it to use as an offset to pay an Order of Consent, Order on Consent fine, but we do not need to do that, so we're looking to push this -- or requesting that these funds also be added. I believe they're building -- I know one of the buildings we're looking at is the old Infirmary.

CHAIRMAN KRUPSKI:

Uh-huh.

COMMISSIONER ANDERSON:

And I can't remember the second one, but I can get that information for you, though.

CHAIRMAN KRUPSKI:

Okay. And these -- so, I'm sorry, these --

COMMISSIONER ANDERSON:

Oh, okay. Pardon me, I'm sorry.

CHAIRMAN KRUPSKI:

Go ahead.

COMMISSIONER ANDERSON:

It would be the old Infirmary. It's also the Health building over in Farmingville, right next to the college.

CHAIRMAN KRUPSKI:

So these would be bid out, private contractors.

COMMISSIONER ANDERSON:

They may, they may be our annual contractor, it depends on the need. Most of these cases they do, it would be -- most likely it would be bid out, but there is a chance that we may need to use these funds through our annual contractor.

CHAIRMAN KRUPSKI:

Thank you. Does anyone have any other questions about the roof projects on various County buildings? Hearing none, all in favor? Opposed? Abstentions? So moved. **Approved (VOTE: 4-0-0-1 -- Not Present: Legislator Browning).**

IR 2039-14 - Amending the 2014 Capital Budget and Program and appropriating funds in connection with a Traffic Impact Study in the vicinity of the Ronkonkoma HUB (CP 3301)(County Executive). Is there a motion?

LEG. MURATORE:

Motion.

LEG. BARRAGA:

Motion.

CHAIRMAN KRUPSKI:

Motion by Legislator Muratore, second by Legislator Barraga. Anybody have any questions for the Commissioner, or anything to volunteer?

COMMISSIONER ANDERSON:

This resolution requests appropriating \$250,000 for engineering in conjunction with performance of a traffic study to look at the impacts to the roads in the vicinity of the Ronkonkoma Hub. Specific items of study include the impact of the Hub, as I mentioned; the Long Island Railroad double-track; improvements to Long Island MacArthur Airport, as well as other potential revitalization projects. Of specific concern is Smithtown Avenue and CR 93, which is Ocean Avenue, where it crosses the railroad; however, other roads within the region will also be reviewed.

CHAIRMAN KRUPSKI:

All right, thank you. All right. The motion was made and is seconded. All in favor? Opposed? Abstentions? So moved. **Approved (VOTE: 4-0-0-1 -- Not Present: Legislator Browning).**

IR 2042-14 - Permitting the Village of West Hampton Dunes to purchase fuel from the County (County Executive).

LEG. MURATORE:

Motion.

CHAIRMAN KRUPSKI:

Motion by Legislator Muratore. I'll second that motion. Do you want to give us -- Commissioner, can you give us a few details?

COMMISSIONER ANDERSON:

This is -- as the title says, this will permit the Village of West Hampton Dunes to purchase fuel from the County. This is a program that we do for other municipalities and districts that will be done at no cost to the County. The Village of West Hampton Dunes will soon be responsible to pay for all fuel usage, as reported by the department's Fleet Services Unit, as well as 15% administrative fee. And they will also be responsible to obtain their own fuel dispensing equipment, the O-rings that go on the vehicles, as well as any future costs associated with maintaining and/or upgrading the system.

CHAIRMAN KRUPSKI:

So they would purchase at the County facilities.

COMMISSIONER ANDERSON:

Yeah, they would drive up, they would have the O-ring on their vehicles and then the system would just pick it right up.

CHAIRMAN KRUPSKI:

Okay. All right. We've got a motion and a second. All in favor? Opposed? Abstentions? So moved. **Approved (VOTE: 4-0-0-1 -- Not Present: Legislator Browning).**

IR 2044-14 - Making certain Findings and Determinations and an order in relation to the establishment of Suffolk County Sewer District No. 26 - Melville/Huntington (County Executive).

LEG. STERN:

Motion to table.

CHAIRMAN KRUPSKI:

Motion to table, Legislator Stern. I'll second that motion.

LEG. STERN:

This is still on in public hearing.

CHAIRMAN KRUPSKI:

Uh-huh. Thank you. All in favor? Opposed? Abstentions? So moved. **Tabled (VOTE: 4-0-0-1 -- Not Present: Legislator Browning).**

IR 2045-14 - A Resolution making certain Findings and Determinations and an order for the modification of the plan of service for Suffolk County Sewer District No. 18 – Hauppauge Industrial (CP 8126)(County Executive). I'll make a motion. Is there a second?

LEG. BARRAGA:

Second.

CHAIRMAN KRUPSKI:

Second by Legislator Barraga. Any details? Commissioner Anderson.

COMMISSIONER ANDERSON:

This resolution just establishes certain findings and determinations that were from the public hearing which was held at the last Legislative meeting. It is specific to a request of an additional \$2 million for construction fees within the Hauppauge Industrial Park to construct sewers and expand the sewer district.

CHAIRMAN KRUPSKI:

Thank you. All right, we have a motion and a second. All in favor? Opposed? Abstentions? So moved. **Approved (VOTE: 4-0-0-1 -- Not Present: Legislator Browning).**

IR 2046-14 -- no, IR 2047-14 - A resolution making certain findings --

MR. NOLAN:

No, 2046.

CHAIRMAN KRUPSKI:

Oh, okay. Thank you. I was trying to move it along (*laughter*).

IR 2046-14 - A Resolution making certain Findings and Determinations and issuing an order in relation to the increase and improvement of facilities for Sewer District No. 14 – Parkland (CP 8151)(County Executive). I'll make the motion.

LEG. BARRAGA:

Second.

CHAIRMAN KRUPSKI:

Thank you. Same motion, same second. Any questions for the Commissioner? If not, all in favor? Opposed? Abstentions? So moved. **Approved (VOTE: 4-0-0-1 -- Not Present: Legislator Browning).**

IR 2047-14 - A Resolution making certain Findings and Determinations and issuing an order in relation to the increase and improvement of facilities for Sewer District No. 9 – College Park (CP 8163)(County Executive). Same motion, same second. Any questions for the Commissioner? All in favor? Opposed? Abstentions? So moved. **Approved (VOTE: 4-0-0-1 -- Not Present: Legislator Browning).**

IR 2048-14 - A Resolution making certain Findings and Determinations and issuing an order in relation to the increase and improvement of facilities for Sewer District No. 5 – Strathmore Huntington (CP 8115) (County Executive). Same motion, same second. Any questions for the Commissioner? All in favor? Opposed? Abstentions? So moved. **Approved (VOTE: 4-0-0-1 -- Not Present: Legislator Browning).**

IR 2049-14 - A Resolution making certain Findings and Determinations and issuing an order in relation to the increase and improvement of facilities for Sewer District No. 10 – Stony Brook (CP 8175)(County Executive). Same motion, same second. Any questions for the Commissioner? All in favor? Opposed? Abstentions? So moved. **Approved (VOTE: 4-0-0-1 -- Not Present: Legislator Browning).**

IR 2070-14 - Directing the Department of Public Works to hold public hearings on bus fares (Schneiderman). Would someone like to make a motion?

LEG. MURATORE:

Motion.

CHAIRMAN KRUPSKI:

Motion by Legislator Muratore. I'll second the motion. Does anyone have any questions about the -- for the Commissioner about any of the details? This is just to set the public hearing?

MR. NOLAN:

Yes.

CHAIRMAN KRUPSKI:

All right. If there's no questions, all in favor? Opposed? Abstentions? So moved.

Approved (VOTE: 4-0-0-1 -- Not Present: Legislator Browning).

IR 2071-14 - Authorizing transfer of surplus County vehicles to the Dix Hills Fire District (Stern).

LEG. STERN:

Motion to approve.

MR. NOLAN:

Just on 2070 in terms of setting the public hearing on the bus fare increase. DPW, by this resolution, would be authorized to implement the increase after the public hearing. So I just wanted everybody to be aware of that.

CHAIRMAN KRUPSKI:

Okay. Thank you for that, George. All right, so IR 2070, motion by Legislator Stern. Is there a second?

MR. NOLAN:

This is 71.

CHAIRMAN KRUPSKI:

Seventy-one, 2071, I'm sorry.

LEG. BARRAGA:

Second.

CHAIRMAN KRUPSKI:

Second. Sorry, I got involved down here. Second by Legislator Barraga. You want to discuss the vehicles?

LEG. STERN:

Yeah. And just jump in, Commissioner, if you want to. But very briefly, these are not vehicles to use, these are vehicles to burn and train on.

COMMISSIONER ANDERSON:

Uh-huh.

LEG. STERN:

So they're junk cars that are effectively going to be used for training.

COMMISSIONER ANDERSON:

That's right, they're surplus vehicles. We take them and decommission them.

CHAIRMAN KRUPSKI:

Thank you. All right. We have a motion and a second. All in favor? Opposed? Abstentions? So moved. **Approved (VOTE: 4-0-0-1 -- Not Present: Legislator Browning).**

IR 2078-14 - Authorizing execution of an Intermunicipal Agreement with the Town of Southampton in connection with the Tiana Beach Stabilization Project (County Executive).

Is there a motion?

MR. NOLAN:

I'm just bringing to the attention of the committee that on Friday, I did contact the County Attorney's Office, because the IMA that was attached to the resolution had several problematic elements. And Dennis Brown indicated to me there was going to be an amended IMA substituted at some point before the filing deadline; it has not been filed yet and I just thought the committee should be aware of that.

COMMISSIONER ANDERSON:

Yeah. If I may, I submitted that resolution as a place saver to get this on. There is an urgency with this. The Town of Southampton has, or is in the process of enacting an agreement with the Department of Environmental Conservation to make repairs to Tiana Beach. They are going to first-instance fund up to a million dollars which will be reimbursed by New York State for dredging material. They're going to go to contract with a dredger who's already in Westhampton, and when he's finished he will -- if everything works out, he will relocate his dredge and put sand on the beach at Tiana Beach. The County has committed to do in-kind services in -- with regard to placement and shaping of the beach itself and the dunes.

CHAIRMAN KRUPSKI:

This is a Town beach?

COMMISSIONER ANDERSON:

It's a Town and a County beach.

CHAIRMAN KRUPSKI:

Oh, right, yeah.

COMMISSIONER ANDERSON:

Part of the project, probably about half to two-thirds is on County land, everything to the west is on the Town beach.

CHAIRMAN KRUPSKI:

Are they pumping from the bay or from the ocean?

COMMISSIONER ANDERSON:

From the ocean.

CHAIRMAN KRUPSKI:

What's the volume?

COMMISSIONER ANDERSON:

Ten -- I'm sorry. A hundred thousand cubic yards of material will be placed up.

CHAIRMAN KRUPSKI:

By January 15th?

COMMISSIONER ANDERSON:

No, actually I believe that they will extend it through April.

CHAIRMAN KRUPSKI:

Oh, okay.

COMMISSIONER ANDERSON:

Yeah.

CHAIRMAN KRUPSKI:

All right, thank you. So your recommendation is to approve this.

COMMISSIONER ANDERSON:

I would recommend discharging without recommendation, this way you'll be able to see the final agreement.

CHAIRMAN KRUPSKI:

And you expect to have the final agreement within --

COMMISSIONER ANDERSON:

I think we have 'til five o'clock today to get it in, and I believe that's what we are going to do. The County Attorney's Office is making the final changes to the agreement now.

CHAIRMAN KRUPSKI:

All right, thank you. Does anyone have any questions? I'll make a motion to discharge without recommendation.

LEG. BARRAGA:

Second.

CHAIRMAN KRUPSKI:

Second by Legislator Baragga. All in favor? Opposed? Abstentions? So moved. ***Discharged without recommendation (VOTE: 4-0-0-1 -- Not Present: Legislator Browning).***

Does anyone else have any other business today? Then we stand adjourned.

(*The meeting was adjourned at 2:25 PM*).