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NASSAU COUNTY LEGISLATURE

NORMA GONSALVES,
Presiding Officer

PUBLIC WORKS AND PARKS COMMITTEE

VINCENT MUSCARELLA, Chairman

1550 Franklin Avenue
Mineola, New York

Monday, June 26, 2017
1:59 P.M.

1

2 A P P E A R A N C E S :

3

4 VINCENT MUSCARELLA,
Chairman5 STEVEN RHOADS,
Vice Chairman

6

DONALD MACKENZIE

7

C. WILLIAM GAYLOR III

8

9 ELLEN BIRNBAUM,
Ranking

10 LAURA CURRAN

11 ARNOLD DRUCKER

12 MICHAEL PULITZER
Clerk of the Legislature

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LIST OF SPEAKERS

KEN ARNOLD 5

1 Public Works Committee/6-26-17

2 CHAIRMAN MUSCARELLA: Public
3 Works and Parks Committee is hereby called
4 to order. I will call the roll. I am here
5 as chairman. Vice Chairman Rhoads?

6 LEGISLATOR RHOADS: Here.

7 CHAIRMAN MUSCARELLA: Donald
8 MacKenzie?

9 LEGISLATOR MACKENZIE: Present.

10 CHAIRMAN MUSCARELLA: C. William
11 Gaylor is here. Ranking Member Ellen
12 Birnbaum?

13 LEGISLATOR BIRNBAUM: Here.

14 CHAIRMAN MUSCARELLA: Laura
15 Curran?

16 LEGISLATOR CURRAN: Here.

17 CHAIRMAN MUSCARELLA: Arnold
18 Drucker?

19 LEGISLATOR DRUCKER: Here.

20 CHAIRMAN MUSCARELLA: We have a
21 quorum. We have a few matters on. The
22 first one is 255 of '17, a resolution
23 authorizing the County of Nassau County to
24 participate in a federal aid transportation
25 project providing for variable message

1 Public Works Committee/6-26-17
2 signs, capital project 62175 pin 0760.40 and
3 authorizing the County Executive of the
4 County of Nassau to execute an agreement on
5 behalf of the county with New York State
6 Department of Transportation for the
7 advancement of said federal aid
8 transportation projects in Nassau County.

9 LEGISLATOR RHOADS: So moved.

10 LEGISLATOR GAYLOR: Second.

11 CHAIRMAN MUSCARELLA: Motion by
12 Mr. Rhoads, seconded by Mr. Gaylor.

13 MR. ARNOLD: Ken Arnold,
14 Department of Public Works. 255 is a master
15 agreement with New York State DOT for the
16 county to accept federal pass through
17 dollars associated with the DMS Phase One
18 project. The federal share of this project
19 is \$4.2 million with the county responsible
20 for \$1.05 million. These are construction
21 related dollars.

22 CHAIRMAN MUSCARELLA: What
23 particularly is the project?

24 MR. ARNOLD: The installation of
25 valuable message signs. This will allow --

1 Public Works Committee/6-26-17

2 we recently put up cameras throughout the
3 county in major thoroughfares. This will
4 allow us to give feedback to the driver as
5 they're going down certain roads under road
6 conditions and travel times.

7 CHAIRMAN MUSCARELLA: Any other
8 questions? Mr. Drucker.

9 LEGISLATOR DRUCKER: Mr. Arnold,
10 do we have a location of which designated
11 roads the signs will be on?

12 MR. ARNOLD: Merrick Road will be
13 a big thoroughfare for these signs. I
14 believe Old Country and I believe Peninsula
15 has a couple but I think a few are going up
16 on Peninsula.

17 LEGISLATOR DRUCKER: Where on Old
18 Country?

19 MR. ARNOLD: I don't have the
20 locations with me. I would have to get them
21 to your office. They are still being
22 designed.

23 LEGISLATOR DRUCKER: Just those
24 three areas?

25 MR. ARNOLD: And probably roads

1 Public Works Committee/6-26-17

2 that lead into those roads.

3 LEGISLATOR DRUCKER: Do we know
4 how many message signs altogether?

5 MR. ARNOLD: I would have get
6 that information to you.

7 CHAIRMAN MUSCARELLA: Mr. Rhoads.

8 LEGISLATOR RHOADS: Thank you.
9 Are there any county funds that are
10 associated with the installation of these
11 signs?

12 MR. ARNOLD: Yes. The county is
13 responsible for \$1.05 million worth of
14 construction related funds, and then we also
15 pay for the design aspect of the work.

16 LEGISLATOR RHOADS: Has the
17 bonding already been approved for that
18 money?

19 MR. ARNOLD: A portion of the
20 bonding. I am doing that evaluation right
21 now in anticipation of supplying the outside
22 funding, the capital bond amendment once
23 these are approved and the bond ordinance
24 that the county would require would also be
25 included in that.

1 Public Works Committee/6-26-17

2 LEGISLATOR RHOADS: What is the
3 time frame? Seeing as we have a continuing
4 issue with respect to bonding for capital
5 projects, are we in jeopardy of losing
6 anything?

7 MR. ARNOLD: Not at this moment,
8 no.

9 CHAIRMAN MUSCARELLA: Any other
10 questions? Ms. Birnbaum.

11 LEGISLATOR BIRNBAUM: The
12 messages that go on these signs, are they
13 strictly about the traffic or could they be
14 used for missing people and emergencies?
15 Are they confined to a certain kind of
16 message?

17 MR. ARNOLD: The purpose is
18 traffic purposes. We do work with DOT and
19 DOT does put up amber alerts, and other
20 types of alerts on their signage. If they
21 did request us to do that, we would oblige
22 since this is federal money that is being
23 passed through the state so it is a
24 cooperative effort.

25 So, on occasion, you will see

1 Public Works Committee/6-26-17

2 some weather related emergency postings on
3 their signs, and amber and I think they are
4 called silver alerts.

5 LEGISLATOR BIRNBAUM: And what
6 about the hours that they could be posted,
7 could it be 24/7? I'm wondering if the near
8 residential areas, if the lights would be
9 bright.

10 MR. ARNOLD: My understanding, I
11 think they're on 24/7. We are working with
12 the villages to make sure that they
13 understand what we are doing and they agree
14 to what we're doing.

15 So the local villages; Lynbrook,
16 Rockville Centre, Freeport, probably missing
17 some. We have been reaching out to all the
18 villages to make sure we're coordinating our
19 effort with them.

20 LEGISLATOR BIRNBAUM: What kind
21 of signs are these? Are these solar powered
22 or are they -- are they solar power?

23 MR. ARNOLD: They are electric.

24 CHAIRMAN MUSCARELLA: Ms. Curran.

25 LEGISLATOR CURRAN: Where on

1 Public Works Committee/6-26-17

2 Merrick Road are we looking to place these?

3 MR. ARNOLD: There's a couple of
4 locations. I don't have them in front of
5 me. I would have to get them to you. But
6 they're at locations where they're visible,
7 not impacting businesses or residents.

8 The design engineers are very
9 cognizant of the fact where we want to put
10 these and not to interrupt anybody's signage
11 for their stores or anything like that.

12 LEGISLATOR CURRAN: You said that
13 these are pass throughs so we don't have to
14 put up the money and then be reimbursed; is
15 that how it works?

16 MR. ARNOLD: The county does put
17 up the money and we ask for reimbursement
18 and then the state reimburses the funds once
19 we put together the payment packages that
20 they require.

21 LEGISLATOR CURRAN: Is it state
22 or federal?

23 MR. ARNOLD: It's federal money
24 that's passed through to the state.

25 LEGISLATOR CURRAN: Okay, I see.

1 Public Works Committee/6-26-17

2 Very good. Now this is Phase One, I imagine
3 there will be a Phase Two?

4 MR. ARNOLD: Yes, we are
5 currently reviewing proposals for Phase Two.
6 A much smaller project than this one. This
7 is the larger of the two projects.

8 LEGISLATOR CURRAN: Thanks.

9 CHAIRMAN MUSCARELLA: Mr. Arnold,
10 if we could have those locations before the
11 general meeting?

12 MR. ARNOLD: Yes, I can pull them
13 out. They may change a little because we're
14 still in design.

15 When you see the construction
16 contract, that will be when they are
17 finalized, but, as of today, I can give you
18 what we're currently looking at.

19 CHAIRMAN MUSCARELLA: Give us a
20 basic?

21 MR. ARNOLD: Yes.

22 CHAIRMAN MUSCARELLA: That's
23 fine. Ms. Birnbaum.

24 LEGISLATOR BIRNBAUM: Who
25 determines the locations of where the signs

1 Public Works Committee/6-26-17

2 are going?

3 MR. ARNOLD: Our design
4 engineers.

5 LEGISLATOR BIRNBAUM: Do you know
6 if there are any rules about how near or far
7 they can be from one another because these
8 cameras are now frequently over all the
9 traffic lights that --

10 MR. ARNOLD: That's a little
11 different. The camera that you see on the
12 traffic signals, those are indicators,
13 they're not cameras. So if you see it's a
14 traffic signal on and it looks like a camera
15 sitting on top of it, that is, Old Country
16 Road we went away from putting indicators in
17 the pavement, putting them on the posts so
18 when a car pulls out, it sees an image of a
19 car, it's not a picture, and tells that
20 there's something there. So those are not
21 cameras on the signals.

22 We do have cameras on Old Country
23 Road but those are usually on separate mast
24 arms.

25 LEGISLATOR BIRNBAUM: Those are

1 Public Works Committee/6-26-17

2 the ones you are talking about?

3 MR. ARNOLD: Yes.

4 CHAIRMAN MUSCARELLA: Mr. Rhoads.

5 LEGISLATOR RHOADS: Thank you,
6 Mr. Chairman. Mr. Arnold, in addition to
7 the information with respect to the sign
8 locations, is it possible to get some sort
9 of image of what these dimensions of the
10 sign, what they would basically look like?

11 MR. ARNOLD: Sure. I can get
12 that for you.

13 LEGISLATOR RHOADS: I appreciate
14 it. Thank you.

15 CHAIRMAN MUSCARELLA: Are there
16 any other questions?

17 (No verbal response.)

18 Is there any public comment?

19 (No verbal response.)

20 Hearing none, all those in favor
21 of moving this item please say aye.

22 (Aye.)

23 Any opposed?

24 (No verbal response.)

25 The item carries unanimously.

1 Public Works Committee/6-26-17

2 The next item is 256 of '17,
3 resolution authorizing the County of Nassau
4 to participate in a federal aid
5 transportation project providing for the
6 expansion of the county's existing fiber
7 network associated with traffic signals,
8 capital project 62181 pin 0760.41 and
9 authorizing the County Executive of the
10 County of Nassau to execute an agreement on
11 behalf of the county with New York State
12 Department of Transportation for the
13 advancement of said federal aid
14 transportation project in Nassau County, New
15 York.

16 LEGISLATOR GAYLOR: So moved.

17 LEGISLATOR MACKENZIE: Second.

18 CHAIRMAN MUSCARELLA: Motion by
19 Mr. Gaylor, seconded by Mr. MacKenzie. The
20 item is before us, Mr. Arnold.

21 MR. ARNOLD: Again, this is a
22 master agreement for the county to accept
23 federal pass through funds for the state for
24 expansion of our fiber network to our areas
25 that are currently either on copper wire or

1 Public Works Committee/6-26-17

2 don't have access to our traffic management
3 system.

4 So this is strictly a project
5 where we are putting in fiber optic cable
6 for overhead and buried to our various
7 traffic signal infrastructure throughout the
8 county where we do not have proper
9 connections currently.

10 CHAIRMAN MUSCARELLA: Any
11 questions? Ms. Curran.

12 LEGISLATOR CURRAN: What was
13 Phase One?

14 MR. ARNOLD: That was the same
15 type of project. Phase One is probably at
16 least eight years old. It predates me being
17 involved in traffic projects. But that was
18 some of the early fiber that the county put
19 out for traffic signals along the South
20 Shore.

21 LEGISLATOR CURRAN: For the lay
22 people among us, why is fiber better than
23 copper?

24 MR. ARNOLD: It's quicker. Can
25 transfer more information. More

1 Public Works Committee/6-26-17

2 importantly, it can transmit images for our
3 camera systems all back to a centralized
4 station that you can view what is on the
5 cameras. On the county website you can
6 actually see these images also.

7 It's available to the public and
8 people can get an idea of what is going on
9 through images on the various county high
10 traffic roads.

11 LEGISLATOR CURRAN: Yes. I've
12 seen them. Very interesting. Thanks.

13 CHAIRMAN MUSCARELLA: Any other
14 questions from the committee?

15 (No verbal response.)

16 Hearing none, all those in favor
17 please say aye.

18 (Aye.)

19 Any opposed?

20 (No verbal response.)

21 That item carries unanimously.

22 Next up 257 of '17, a resolution
23 authorizing the County of Nassau to
24 participate in a federal aid transportation
25 project providing for expansion of county's

1 Public Works Committee/6-26-17
2 traffic signals, Phase Three; capital
3 project 62459 pin 0759.36 and authorizing
4 the County Executive of the County of Nassau
5 to execute an agreement on behalf of the
6 county with New York State Department of
7 Transportation for the advancement of said
8 federal aid transportation projects in
9 Nassau County, New York. Mr. Arnold.

10 MR. ARNOLD: Again, this is
11 another master agreement for federal pass
12 through funds to the state associated with
13 traffic signal expansion project, Phase
14 Three.

15 That project is upgrading all the
16 traffic signals on North Main Street in
17 Nassau Road in Freeport and Roosevelt.

18 In addition, there will be some
19 pedestrian access issues addressed, as part
20 of this work, we will be putting bulb outs
21 in Main Street in Freeport to help the
22 pedestrians get across the roads safer.

23 LEGISLATOR RHOADS: So moved.

24 LEGISLATOR GAYLOR: Second.

25 CHAIRMAN MUSCARELLA: Before we

1 Public Works Committee/6-26-17

2 continue, that item was moved by Mr. Rhoads,
3 seconded by Mr. Gaylor. Any questions?
4 Ms. Curran.

5 LEGISLATOR CURRAN: So this is
6 part of the whole north Main Street
7 beautification and improvement and traffic
8 calming?

9 MR. ARNOLD: Yes. This is the
10 portion of the -- there is no beautification
11 in this part of the project, the Village of
12 Freeport, they're undertaking that part of
13 the work. This is strictly a traffic signal
14 expansion project where we are going to
15 upgrade all the signals and communication
16 equipment and, in addition, in certain
17 locations where there's pedestrian access
18 issues we're going to put bulb outs which
19 will shorten the crossing length of the
20 pedestrians crossing north Main Street.

21 LEGISLATOR CURRAN: Thank you.

22 CHAIRMAN MUSCARELLA: Any other
23 questions?

24 (No verbal response.)

25 Hearing none, all those in favor

1 Public Works Committee/6-26-17

2 please say aye.

3 (Aye.)

4 Any opposed?

5 (No verbal response.)

6 That item is reported
7 unanimously.

8 Next up we have an addendum so I
9 would ask for a motion to suspend the rules.

10 LEGISLATOR GAYLOR: So moved.

11 LEGISLATOR MACKENZIE: Second.

12 CHAIRMAN MUSCARELLA: Motion by
13 Mr. Gaylor, seconded by Mr. MacKenzie.

14 All those in favor of suspending
15 the rules say aye.

16 (Aye.)

17 Any opposed?

18 (No verbal response.)

19 Next up, Item 254 of '17, a
20 resolution authorizing the County of Nassau
21 to participate in a federal aid
22 transportation project providing for Merrick
23 Road over Milburn Creek bridge
24 rehabilitation pin 0761.37, Bin 330020-2 and
25 authorizing the County Executive of the

1 Public Works Committee/6-26-17
2 County of Nassau to execute an agreement on
3 behalf of the county with New York State
4 Department of Transportation for the
5 advancement of said federal aid
6 transportation projects in Nassau County.

7 LEGISLATOR RHOADS: So moved.

8 LEGISLATOR GAYLOR: Second.

9 CHAIRMAN MUSCARELLA: Motion by
10 Mr. Rhoads, seconded by Mr. Gaylor. The
11 item is before us.

12 MR. ARNOLD: 254 of '17 is again
13 another master agreement associated with the
14 bridge New York grant that the department
15 received for the Merrick Road culvert that
16 crosses Milburn Creek in Baldwin Freeport.

17 This master agreement is strictly
18 for the preliminary engineering services of
19 the project.

20 We will be coming back to you at
21 a later date once the design is complete and
22 looking for the construction funding. The
23 department did receive a \$5 million grant
24 for this project.

25 CHAIRMAN MUSCARELLA: So at this

1 Public Works Committee/6-26-17

2 point there's no money expended by the
3 county?

4 MR. ARNOLD: No, but there will
5 be a 20 percent match for the project.

6 CHAIRMAN MUSCARELLA: Any
7 questions?

8 (No verbal response.)

9 Hearing none, all those in favor
10 of moving Item 254 please say aye.

11 (Aye.)

12 Any opposed?

13 (No verbal response.)

14 That item is reported
15 unanimously. There being no further
16 business before us, motion to adjourn.

17 LEGISLATOR RHOADS: So moved.

18 LEGISLATOR MACKENZIE: Second.

19 CHAIRMAN MUSCARELLA: Motion by
20 Mr. Rhoads, seconded by Mr. MacKenzie.

21 All those in favor of adjournment
22 please say aye.

23 (Aye.)

24 Any opposed?

25 (No verbal response.)

1 Public Works Committee/6-26-17

2 We are adjourned.

3 (Whereupon, the Public Works and
4 Parks Committee adjourned at 2:11 p.m.)

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C E R T I F I C A T E

I, FRANK GRAY, a Shorthand Reporter and
Notary Public in and for the State of New
York, do hereby stated:

THAT I attended at the time and place
above mentioned and took stenographic record
of the proceedings in the above-entitled
matter;

THAT the foregoing transcript is a true
and accurate transcript of the same and the
whole thereof, according to the best of my
ability and belief.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set
my hand this 10th day of June, 2017.

FRANK GRAY