|  | =PW AND PARKS COMMITTEE 02.06.2023 |
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| 1 |  |
| 2 | NASSAU COUNTY LEGISLATURE |
| 3 |  |
| 4 | COMMITTEES MEETING |
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| 8 | RICHARD NICOLELLO |
| 9 | PRESIDING OFFICER |
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| 11 | ******** |
| 12 | C. WILLIAM GAYLOR, CHAIRMAN |
| 13 | ******** |
| 14 | PUBLIC WORKS AND PARKS COMMITTEE |
| 15 |  |
| 16 | County Executive and Legislative Building |
| 17 | 1550 Franklin Avenue |
| 18 | Mineola, New York |
| 19 |  |
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| 22 | Monday, February 6, 2023 |
| 23 | 3:03 p.m. |
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| 25 | TAKEN BY: KAREN LORENZO, OFFICIAL COURT REPORTER |




PW AND PARKS COMMITTEE 02.06.2023
call the Public Works and Parks Committee to order. I'll ask the Clerk to call the roll.

CLERK PULITZER: Roll call Public
Works and Parks. Legislator Carrie Solages?

LEGISLATOR SOLAGES: Here.
CLERK PULITZER: Thank you.
Legislator Arnold Drucker.
LEGISLATOR DRUCKER: Here.
CLERK PULITZER: Filling in for Ms.
Bynoe is Delia DeRiggi-Whitton.
LEGISLATOR DERIGGI-WHITTON: Here.
CLERK PULITZER: Legislator James
Kennedy?
LEGISLATOR KENNEDY: Here.
CLERK PULITZER: Legislator Laura
Schaefer?
LEGISLATOR SCHAEFER: Here.
CLERK PULITZER: Vice Chairman John Giuffre?

LEGISLATOR GIUFFRE: Present.
CLERK PULITZER: Chairman C. William


Gaylor.
CHAIRMAN GAYLOR: Present.
CLERK PULITZER: We have a quorum, sir.

CHAIRMAN GAYLOR: Thank you. So we have one item on the agenda today, which is Clerk Item 44-23.

Number 44-23 is a Resolution
authorizing the County Executive to execute an amendment to an agreement with the New York State Environmental Facilities Corporation in relation to the New York State Septic System Replacement program.

May I have a motion? Moved by Legislator Schaefer, seconded by Legislator Giuffre. The item is before us. I see we have Commissioner Arnold at the podium. The floor is all yours.

COMMISSIONER ARNOLD: Thank you.
Good afternoon. Ken Arnold, Commissioner of Public Works.

Item 44-23 is an amendment to an agreement with the New York State

Environmental Facilities Corporation for grant funds associated with the installation of septic tank systems on private properties. This is the third grant received totaling $\$ 2.03$ million, bringing the total cap to $\$ 4.03$ million for this contract. The County is also contributing funds to ARP. Currently, we have approved $\$ 5$ million for that.

I'm here for any questions. CHAIRMAN GAYLOR: Okay. Just a couple of questions. Do you know how much money we've already spent on this program to homeowners?

COMMISSIONER ARNOLD: I know we sent that over. Let me look it up (perusing). So we've spent. We've spent $\$ 836,000$ in total for both $A R P$ and EFC funding.

CHAIRMAN GAYLOR: That's good. And do we have a program to get the word out to the homeowners? Is there a Public Relations campaign to let them know, replace your old septic and you're eligible for the grant money?


COMMISSIONER ARNOLD: Yes, we do. We have a contract with the Soil and water Conservation District who's managing this for the department. They do quite a bit of outreach both industry conventions, social media, attending different meetings with officials. So they are pushing that that message.

CHAIRMAN GAYLOR: And I guess just because I don't know, how does one apply for these funds for this grant application? Is it similar to going online and making a request or -COMMISSIONER ARNOLD: We have an online portal that's on the Public Works website. I can get you the information. I think it's just a link on the website. But any resident can go to the website and get on the portal that way.

CHAIRMAN GAYLOR: And that's the Department of Public Works website?

COMMISSIONER ARNOLD: Let me
confirm, I don't -- it may not be the DPW. Let me double check that. I know
there's a link.
CHAIRMAN GAYLOR: I just want those who are listening that aren't here to see it. So maybe you could put a link on your website as well.

COMMISSIONER ARNOLD: Yeah, I'll talk to Soil and Water to make sure we get that word out.

CHAIRMAN GAYLOR: If you want, send it over to us and we'll put it out as well as a link on our Legislative pages Okay. Appreciate that.

Is there any -- yeah, go ahead, Legislator Schaefer.

LEGISLATOR SCHAEFER: Commissioner
Arnold, is this project going anywhere towards like Point Lookout as well? Or is this mainly in North Shore right now we're talking about. Do you know?

COMMISSIONER ARNOLD: I don't think it's a prohibited to be Point Lookout. I know we have a separate project looking at sewer in Point Lookout that we're working on bringing on a consultant. So


I'm not sure that if somebody from Point Lookout applied for it, we would say no to them. But $I$ know this is for enhanced septic treatment. So I think there's a limitation on the amount of property you need to do that. Point Lookout might be problematic for some certain homeowners, but I don't believe that we are denying anybody because of the location. It's anybody that's using septic that we would take an application from.

LEGISLATOR SCHAEFER: Okay. Thank you.

LEGISLATOR DERIGGI-WHITTON: Ken, I just want to thank you. This has made a huge difference. I think 90\% of Nassau is sewers and out of the $10 \%$ that's not, I think 90\% are in my area. So I appreciate it, and Legislator Lafazan.

So just real quick, out of the \$836,000, how many homes approximately would you say have now taken advantage of this?

COMMISSIONER ARNOLD: I don't have

that information in front of me. LEGISLATOR DERIGGI-WHITTON: I'm just curious. If you happen to have it at some point, $I$ would like to do a follow up press release.

COMMISSIONER ARNOLD: I don't have the number of homes in front of me. LEGISLATOR DERIGGI-WHITTON: I just want to do a little PR thing, if you speak to anyone. These septic systems, I've learned a lot about sewers and septic systems as a legislator, but anyway, they're fantastic compared to the old model of brick and mortar or cinderblocks. I know Ken can speak further, but the amount of nitrogen and other contaminants leaking into the soil or water table are diminished by a very good amount. So not only is it replacing your septic, but it's improving it to a point that it's really worth doing, especially since we all live on our water source. Thank you, Ken. COMMISSIONER ARNOLD: Welcome.
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CHAIRMAN GAYLOR: Any public
comment?
(Whereupon, no verbal
response.)
CHAIRMAN GAYLOR: So all in favor, please signify by saying, "Aye".
(Whereupon, all members of
the Public Works and Parks
Committee respond in favor
with, "Aye".)
CHAIRMAN GAYLOR: Any opposed?
(Whereupon, no verbal
response.)
CHAIRMAN GAYLOR: No. The item
passes unanimously.
Before I close, though, since we have the commissioner, $I$ wanted to ask a question on one issue. It was an issue that was that was talked about and
debated extensively in the Public Safety hearing two months ago. That was the roof to the jail. It was going to be an
emergency piece of legislation, I guess, emergency request made to work on the
roof. It's been two months and I haven't seen anything come up before this

Committee or through the Clerk's Office. Can you give me an update on the status of the roof at the jail?

COMMISSIONER ARNOLD: Currently, the Department is still proceeding as it's an emergency. There has been no declaration made yet. I'm working with the County Attorney and DCE Fox on that Item, but the Department's intent is we should have a mechanical bid solicitation going out February 17th for the mechanical equipment in anticipation of doing the roof. So we're still on track for that work.

CHAIRMAN GAYLOR: So the mechanical is like the HVAC?

COMMISSIONER ARNOLD: Yes. As I said in the hearing, the issue is that $I$ have to replace the mechanical equipment to do the roof over. And most of that mechanical mechanical equipment is passage use for life, so it became a dual
project.
CHAIRMAN GAYLOR: So you'll get
those estimates in and then make the emergency declaration?

COMMISSIONER ARNOLD: I'm hoping they get it done about the same time. That's my goal.

CHAIRMAN GAYLOR: Okay. All right. Thank you, Commissioner, for the update. Anybody else have any questions of the commissioner?
(Whereupon, no verbal
response.)
CHAIRMAN GAYLOR: All right. There
being no other business in front of this
Committee, may I have a motion to
adjourn? Moved by Legislator Solages,
seconded by Legislator Drucker. All
those in favor?
(Whereupon, all members of
the PW and Parks Committee
respond in favor with, "Aye".)
CHAIRMAN GAYLOR: All right. The
Committee is now adjourned. Finance will

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