

STATE OF NEW YORK
ONONDAGA COUNTY
TOWN OF CICERO

SS:

The Cicero Town Board held their Regular Meeting on Wednesday, April 8, 2015 at 6:30 p.m. at the Cicero Town Hall, 8236 Brewerton Road, Cicero, NY 13039.

PRESENT:

Jessica Zambrano	Supervisor
Mike Becallo	Councilor
C. Vernon Conway	Councilor
Dick Cushman	Councilor
Mark Venesky	Councilor

OTHERS PRESENT:

Bill Meyer	Deputy Supervisor
Joseph Snell	Police Chief
Robert Germain	Germain & Germain, Town Attorney
Stephen Snell	O'Brien & Gere, Town Engineer
Jody Rogers	Director of Youth Bureau and Parks & Rec.
Don Snyder	Building Advisory Committee
Bob Smith	Building Advisory Committee
Don Bloss	Building Advisory Committee
Tracy M. Cosilmon	Town Clerk
Kathy Murphy	Support Staff, Consensus
Mark Nicotra	Supervisor, Town of Salina

ABSENT:

Christopher Woznica	Highway
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Supervisor Zambrano welcomed everyone to the 7th regular meeting of the Town Board.

Supervisor Zambrano read the following statement:

I would like to point out the emergency exits-two at the back of the room and one up front to the audience's left.

Please silence you cell phone or other electronic devices so that the meeting is not unnecessarily disturbed. If you must speak on your cell phone, please exit to the back hallway or go outside. We also ask the audience to keep chatter to a minimum, so as not to disturb others.

The Town Board acknowledges the importance of full public participation in all meetings and hearings. We therefore urge all who wish to address the Board to utilize the microphone at the front of the room. If anyone is unable to hear, let us know so that we can try to make the necessary adjustments.

Supervisor Zambrano said we there were some special guests that would be talking about the Consensus report and that there was also a Building Advisory Committee report.

Councilor Conway led everyone with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Councilor Conway requested everyone to remain standing in honor of our troops who are serving overseas.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Councilor Cushman moved the adoption of a resolution to approve the minutes from the Regular Town Board Meeting held on March 25, 2015, and also for the Special Town Board Meeting that was held on March 30, 2015.

Councilor Becallo asked Councilor Cushman if they could vote on the minutes separately.

Councilor Cushman moved the adoption of a resolution to approve the minutes from the Regular Town Board Meeting held on March 25, 2015. Motion was seconded by Councilor Venesky.

Ayes- 4, Noes – 0, and Abstentions -1. *Motion carried.* Councilor Conway abstained due to his absence at that meeting.

Councilor Cushman moved the adoption of a resolution to accept the Special Town Board minutes for the meeting held on March 30, 2015. Motion was seconded by Councilor Venesky.

Ayes- 4, Noes – 0, and Abstentions -1. *Motion carried.* Councilor Becallo abstained due to his absence at that meeting.

APPROVAL OF ABSTRACT NUMBERS 13 & 14

Councilor Cushman moved the adoption of a resolution to approve Abstract #13 (dated 3/30/15), and Abstract #14 (dated 04/06/2015) as presented.

Councilor Becallo said he received Abstract #13 but didn't remember receiving Abstract #14.

Councilor Cushman said he had just received it that day.

Motion was seconded by Councilor Venesky.

Ayes – 4, Noes – 0, and Abstentions - 1. *Motion carried.* Councilor Becallo abstaining stating he never got a chance to read Abstract #14.

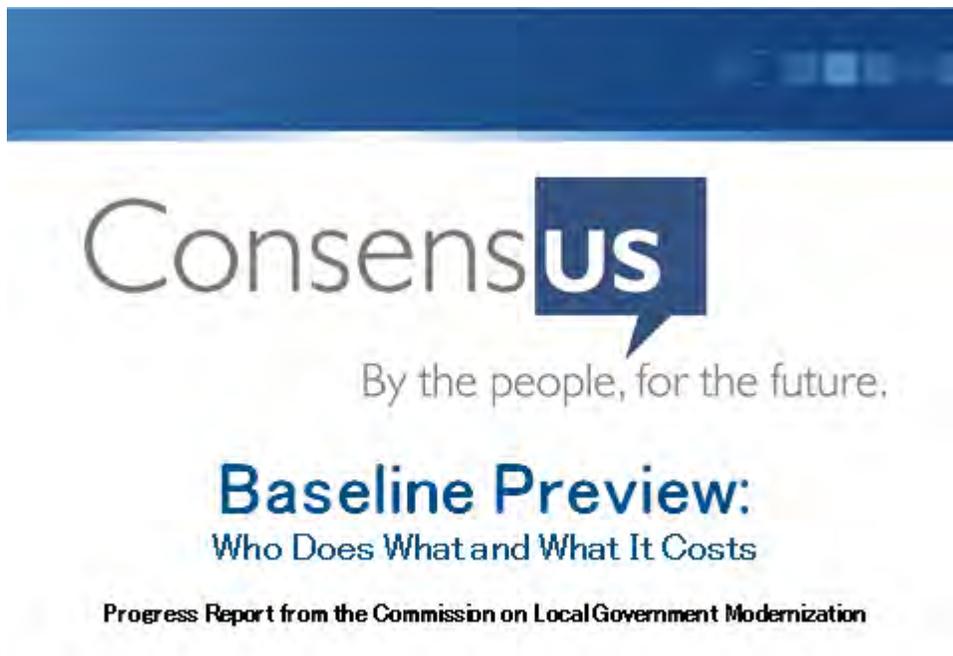
BUDGET MODIFICATIONS/AMENDMENTS

Supervisor Zambrano stated there were no budget modifications or amendments that evening.

CONSENSUS GROUP PRESENTATION

Mark Nicotra said basically they would talk a little bit about what Consensus is and about the base-line preview; the report that they just previously put out and have been doing public meetings regarding this throughout the county.

Mark Nicotra gave an overview on the following power point presentation:



What is Consensus?

- **19-member** commission on local government modernization; includes diverse cross-section of the county: towns, villages, city, schools, business, labor and not-for-profits
- **Co-chairs:** Neil Murphy, Catherine Richardson and Jim Walsh
- Launched in February 2014 with funding support from **NYS Senators DeFrancisco and Valesky**
- Supported by **Onondaga County Executive Janie Mahoney** and the **County Legislature, Mayor Stephanie Miner** and the **Syracuse Common Council**, and the **Village Mayors and Town Supervisors Associations**
- The **Center for Governmental Research (CGR)** was hired as the lead consultant to the project in June 2014



Partners



NYS Senator John A. DeFrancisco



NYS Senator David J. Valesky

Onondaga County Town Supervisors Association
Onondaga County Village Mayors Association

We Have an Opportunity

The time is now to shape a vision for more effective and efficient government in Onondaga County

- **Taxpayers** looking for more cost effective and efficient services
- **Local leadership** – elected, business, higher education – has demonstrated an extraordinary willingness to collaborate
- **Local governments** facing fiscal stress and unsustainable costs
- We have made **great progress** on a number of local initiatives and the region has been moving in the right direction
 - Shared services between Syracuse and Onondaga County (economic development, purchasing agreements)
 - Towns and Villages (regular meetings on best practices and shared services)



Consensus: Role & Actions

Consensus will:

- Look at **every level of service**, seek **public input**, and make specific **recommendations** to create a successful future
- Explore a **wide range of solutions** to modernize government, making it more responsive, more cost effective, and better at service delivery
- Help define how we want to be organized and governed locally, so public services continue to meet **high standards of quality** at a price that's **sustainable for the future**
- Complete its analysis and make recommendations by the end of 2015; our **communities will make the final decision** on how to move forward



CHARTING THE PROCESS



Baseline Review

What it *is*...

- Establish a shared, factual point of departure
- Serve as a data source to draw on for options phase
- Inform the Commission and broader community of stakeholders
 - What does the local government universe look like?
 - How many? What types?
 - Who provides what service(s) and where?
 - What is spent on local government countywide?
 - What functional similarities (≠ duplication) exist?
 - How diverse are services and spending levels?



Baseline Review

What it isn't...

- An evaluation of effectiveness or efficiency
- A determination of what's "right" or "appropriate"
- A set of recommendations
- A justification for changing what currently exists

ConsensusUS

Baseline Review

Get your copy of the report at:

www.consensusny.com

Format

- **Section 1: Overview**
- **Section 2: Government Profiles**
- **Section 3: Service Profiles**

ConsensusUS

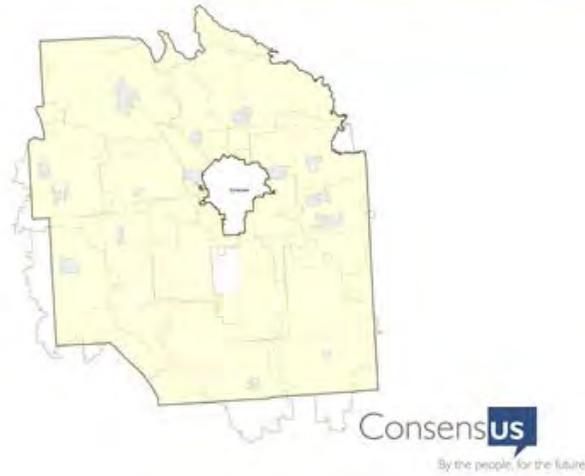
Baseline Review

Setting the Context

- **Advancing the dialogue, not starting it**
 - Strong foundation of efforts, esp. by local governments and elected officials who have pursued collaborative solutions to shared challenges
- **Competitiveness remains an issue**
 - Population flat to 1970, population declines not confined to the City of Syracuse, and CBP / Tax Foundation data evidencing more work to do
- **Economic connections across region**
 - Recognize the interconnection of the county's component units, esp. in commuting data

ConsensusUS

Government Layers



Overview

- **36 general purpose local governments in the county, serving 468,000 residents**
 - County (1)
 - City (1)
 - Towns (19)
 - Villages (15)
- **Every taxpayer is served by at least 2 general purpose governments**
- **There are 37 unique combinations of government countywide**
 - County + City (n = 1)
 - County + Town Unincorporated Area (n = 19)
 - County + Town + Village (n = 17)



Kathy Murphy said she is also the Board Chair of Syracuse 20/20, and they started a Government Modernization Committee about 10 years ago, and one of the things that they discovered early on was very little data existed with all 36 municipalities on one piece of paper. So everybody is very knowledgeable of their data within their own place, but once you get outside of your place we don't know very much about everybody else's place. And in order to first take a picture and look at it and see if it makes sense to be organized the way we are organized. If there is not a better way we needed to know what we all do together; not just what we do individually. Collectively, we spend over a billion dollars in the County of Onondaga on government services. It varies on a per capita scale; obviously based on the geographic area with which that spending occurs.

Kathy Murphy began giving an overview of the presentation:

Baseline Review

- **Local gov collectively spent \$1.8 billion in 2013**
 - Two-thirds was county government itself
 - The equivalent of 6% of regional GDP

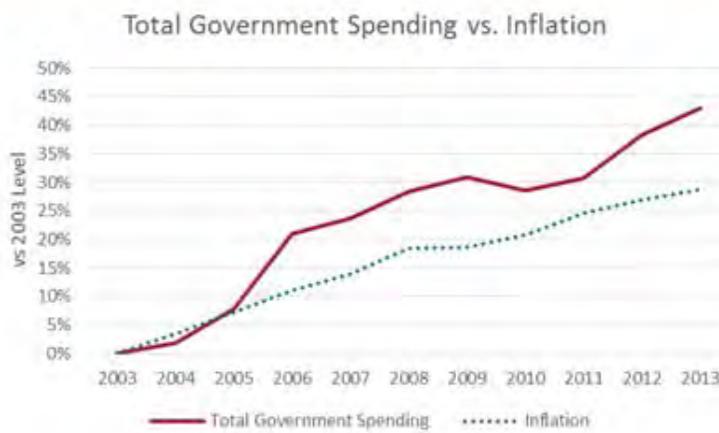
	2013	Per Capita ⁴
County	\$124 b	\$2,659
City	\$325.99 m	\$2,253
Towns	\$176.41 m	\$546
Villages	\$75.74 m	\$1,583
Fire Districts	\$11.66 m	n/a ⁵
Grand Total	\$1.83 b	\$3,900

Baseline Review

- Total spending grew **43%** over the past decade
 - Changes vary by level of government

	2003	2008	2013	Chg 03-13
County	\$865.57 m	\$1.10 b	\$1.24 b	+ 43%
City	\$229.48 m	\$280.64 m	\$325.99 m	+ 42%
Towns	\$127.38 m	\$170.58 m	\$176.41 m	+ 38%
Villages	\$57.69 m	\$82.20 m	\$75.74 m	+ 31%
Fire Districts	\$7.53 m	\$17.77 m	\$11.66 m	+ 55%
Grand Total	\$1.28 b	\$1.65 b	\$1.83 b	+ 43%

Baseline Review



Baseline Review

- **County:** 68% of total, equals \$2,659 per cap
 - **City:** 18% of total, equals \$2,253 per cap
 - **Town:** 10% of total, ranges \$255-\$948 per cap
 - **Village:** 4% of total, ranges \$257-\$4457 per cap
- Range of expenditures, per cap costs reflect local government diversity
 - Different types and levels of public service (e.g. Solvay village electric)
 - Beware the “stories” behind the numbers
 - Do not necessarily reflect higher or lower relative levels of efficiency

Baseline Review

- Property taxes account for approximately **18%** of total local government revenues
 - 10% in City, 12% in County, 27% in Village and 66% in Towns
- And each of the towns and villages on its own accounts for **1%** (or less) of the region's total local government expenditures
- But not all tax bases are created equal, so a "penny" or a tax rate "point" in the smaller jurisdictions equals less than the larger ones
 - County levy is spread on a base of \$27 billion
 - City levy is spread on a base of \$3 billion
 - Town levies spread on bases as low as \$120 million
 - Village levies spread on bases as low as \$12 million



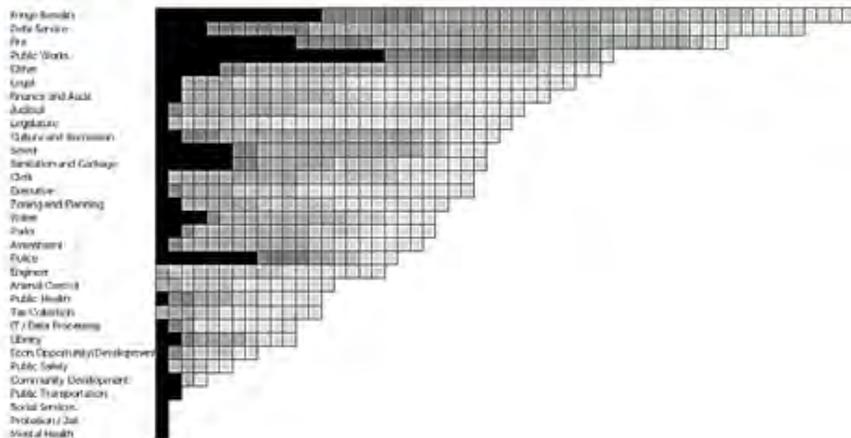
Baseline Review

- Largest functional categories:
 - **\$267m** – Social Services (entirely centralized)
 - **\$147m** – Sewer (largely centralized)
 - **\$141m** – Public Works (entirely decentralized)
 - **\$88m** – Police (largely decentralized)
 - **\$66m** – Public Health (largely centralized)
 - **\$61m** – Fire (entirely decentralized)
- Several materially large "other" categories:
 - Employee fringe benefits
 - Miscellaneous (incl. community college and sales tax transfer)
 - Debt service



Baseline Review

of Governments Spending \$10,000+ by Function



Baseline Review

Government Profiles



Standard data elements for every local government in Onondaga County

Service Profiles



Who does what, where, at what cost and to what scale differences?



Police

15 law enforcement agencies

City, County, 5 Towns, 8 Villages

All but 3 serve a single community



Collaborate through mutual aid

Scale diffs: Hi - 780 mi² Lo - < 1 mi²

Scale diffs: Hi - 468,000 Lo - 1,300

Public Works

36 DPW and highway departments

City, County, 19 Towns, 15 Villages

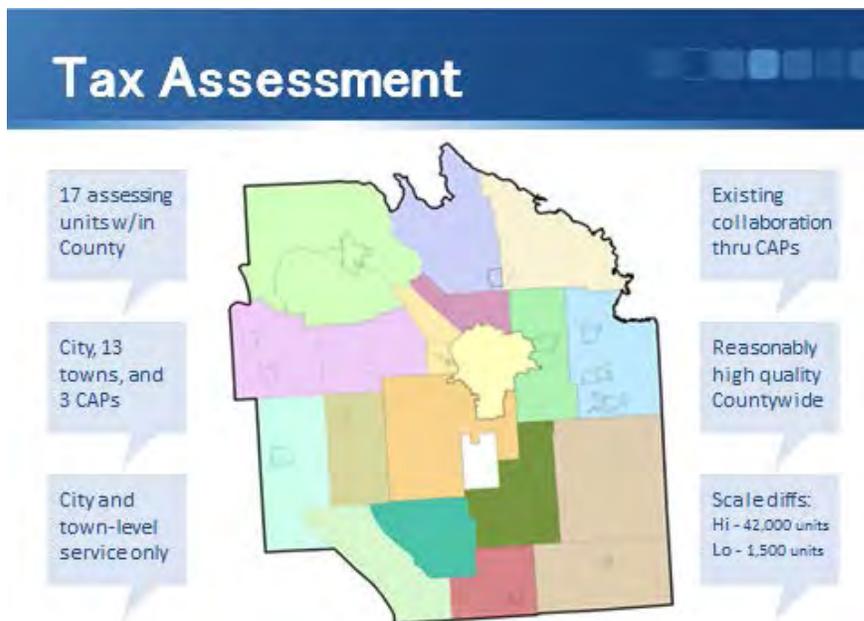
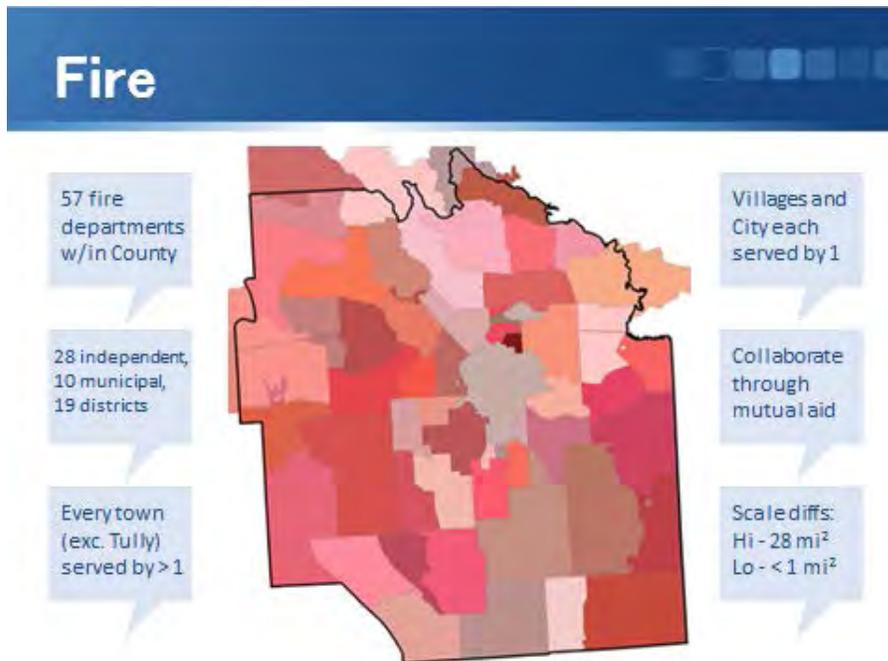
All but 1 serve a single community



Extensive, oft-informal collaboration

Scale diffs: Hi - 780 mi² Lo - < 1 mi²

Scale diffs: Hi - 794 CLM Lo - 1 CLM



Kathy Murphy said the important thing is what Consensus is doing now is actually doing a deeper dive into each service delivery area; they've broken into committees and they are working very hard. The numbers are the numbers, but there are stories behind the numbers. There are reasons for what we are doing. There are reasons for why we are organized the way we are. We have a lot of "best practice" models being brought to the table by our consultant and other communities who have addressed some of this who have found what they believe to be better ways, who have said *based on our experience this is what we think, don't do anything in this particular area*. So there are "best practice" discussions on both sides of the coin. We hope we'll incorporate all of them and continue to build the conversation, hopefully, with all of you and your input, your thoughts, your ideas on service, on quality, on efficiency, on effectiveness, etc., within your community, with a final report issued by the end of the year.

Kathy Murphy continued.

What's Next

- Engage the public in robust discussions of the baseline findings and the options discussions
- Evaluate “best practices” throughout the state and country to inform options for the region’s consideration
- Build a *continuum* of potential options for enhancing the cost effectiveness and competitiveness of service delivery and governance in the region
- Issue a final report with recommendations to the community later in 2015



A Range of Options



How You Can Get Involved

- Visit our website at www.consensuscny.com and sign up to help build consensus in support of modernizing the way local government works for the people on Onondaga County
- Participate throughout the process and keep an open mind about the options before us
- Communicate with us and share your thoughts and ideas
- Follow Consensus on social media





Kathy Murphy solicited any questions or comments.

Supervisor Zambrano solicited any questions from the Board or the audience, in which there were none.

Supervisor Zambrano asked if they could talk about the report that they expect to issue by the end of the year.

Mark Nicotra – It's a work in progress, and going into this process there were no preconceived notions on what the end result will be; everyone was going in with an open mind to let the data drive where these recommendations will be. That's the next step, and that's what we'll work on pretty hard this summer after we have finished all the public meetings and got as much public input as we can so that we can begin that next process; it could look like anything at this point.

Councilor Cushman asked if the rationale for the ranking of ideas was the bottom line.

Mark Nicotra said certainly costs are going to be a huge driver and he thinks by looking through the data and taking in apples to apples, look at it, he thinks we are going to be able to find some economies to scale or at the very least see what the cost is for some of these services across the municipalities and maybe even establish "best practices" to see if someone is doing it really well and doing it at a really affordable price or cost. He said there's no reason why the rest of us couldn't look at that and see how we could piggy-back on how they are doing it.

Supervisor Zambrano asked if the general objective is to not spend almost \$2 billion dollars in government, it's to have some kind of economy so that we are not spending so much for government.

Kathy Murphy said yes. She thinks absolutely everybody's first or second look is at cost. One of the things that impacted all of our municipalities we found is the cost of growth, so even if it's still containing the costs at where they are today or obviously at an efficient economy of scale model so that you can plan your costs over ten years or five years without these surprises that a lot of the municipalities have talked to them about; where year two was great, year three...*oh no, what happened* because of an unexpected hit. So she thinks that the containment, as well as the drive towards efficiency, quality services, is paramount.

Mark Nicotra said one other point that they didn't really talk about much is through this process the state is the hindrance of what New York State does to a lot of municipalities, and they handcuff us and pass down a lot of costs that we just don't have any options on - we just have to pay it. So that's going to be a big part of some of the recommendations, at least to talk about our issues with state government and those types of costs that we've got to do it, we've got to pay them, and we are getting handcuffed a lot of times by that so we want to make sure that people are aware of that and aware of what those challenges are.

Supervisor Zambrano said one of the concerns that she's had is the cost of benefits, for example, and every village, every town, has their own health care and within the town there are different health care plans. It would be really helpful to establish some kind of standard of what is adequate health care coverage for a municipal public employee because there's a large discrepancy; we have three large collective-bargaining units and there's discrepancy within the three. It would really be helpful to have some kind of standard of what is acceptable and some kind of joint health care plan so that the larger volumes will help in the economies of providing that kind of thing. She said health care is a big cost. Retirement, that is state mandated, we aren't going to do anything with that. She thinks health care is one of the biggest issues and that's a fixed amount. we can't do anything about it. Benefits are two-thirds of our budget so the towns are being really squeezed in its ability to be flexible in its spending and it's very difficult to plan long-range for things that we really need, like the highway garage.

Mark Nicotra - I couldn't agree more with you. That's all going to be stuff that we are going to look at and see what recommendations can be brought about through that.

Supervisor Zambrano - I hate to bring up a sore subject but we have 57 fire departments; we have the same kind of issue with that. There are different reimbursement rates. We have five different fire departments that we deal with here and they are unhappy because they don't think that they are getting enough money, so when I try to look at the apportionment there really is no formula; what they get is based on historical practice so that's a big issue - what's fair? One fire department in particular advocates that the reimbursement that they get through tax levy ought to be based on assessment, but yet that hasn't happened so there are large discrepancies with that. It's very hard to give them cogent answers that satisfy them.

Mark Nicotra - Those are good suggestions, and that's why we welcome anything like that so that we can take a look at it. There also has been broken out into several committees, from governments to public safety, to municipal operations that have been brought in, people that are actually doing the job so that we can hear what it's like to do the job, how can it be better, etc., and that's a big part of it as well, to not just do it from a 50,000 foot view; really get to know how people are doing the jobs, how they do the jobs, and how they can be better to do those jobs.

Supervisor Zambrano thanked Kathy Murphy and Mark Nicotra.

Supervisor Zambrano said just before the meeting she was advised that at the end of Public Input the Town Board would be going into Executive Session and would not be reconvening.

Someone asked what they were going into executive session for.

Supervisor Zambrano said it would be to discuss the results of an investigation.

50th ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION FOR PARKS & RECREATION REPORT AND TOWN BOARD PROCLAMATION

Councilor Venesky said on the 2nd of April there was a celebration of our Parks & Recreation department celebrating 50 years this year that they have been together. He said it was very well attended and he thinks that some of the original folks that started the parks and recreation program were there.

Councilor Venesky said they had a proclamation but before he read it he wanted to introduce Jody Rogers who he thinks has been a real asset to the program. He said he didn't realize just how well run our program is run in the town of Cicero until he got involved as a town councilor and began taking a look at it - we have a wonderful program. We have many programs that serve a lot of people, from our seniors to the youth of this community, and it really adds a lot of value to the quality of life.

Councilor Venesky read the following proclamation:

In Recognition of the

**Parks and Recreation Commission
and the Youth Bureau, Parks & Recreation Department
50th Anniversary Celebration
1965 - 2015**

Whereas, In September 1964, Town Supervisor, Millard Rogers, and Town Board members directed Cicero resident, Peter Cataldi, to form a Parks and Recreation Commission, and

Whereas, The Commission held its first official meeting in February 1965 with appointed members John Jerose, John Maywalt, James McCarthy, John McReary, Robert Shoultes, Ralph Thompson, and Chairman Peter Cataldi, and

Whereas, The many members of the Commission and Town Boards over the past 50 years have worked diligently with many community organizations, NSCSD, Fire Departments, Chamber of Commerce, Youth Leagues and service organizations to provide a well-balanced offering of recreational services and an extensive park system for all members of the community, and

Whereas, The Commission members volunteer their time, expertise and energies to support the professional staff of the Youth Bureau, Parks and Recreation Department,

Now therefore be it resolved that ^{we} ~~the~~ Jessica Zambrano, Supervisor of the Town of Cicero, along with members of the Town Board, do hereby acknowledge all the efforts, both past and present, of the Commissioners, Department employees and Town Board members who worked in concert over the past 50 years to create the finest parks and recreation programs for all of our citizens of Cicero.

Jessica Zambrano
Jessica Zambrano, Supervisor

April 8, 2015
Date

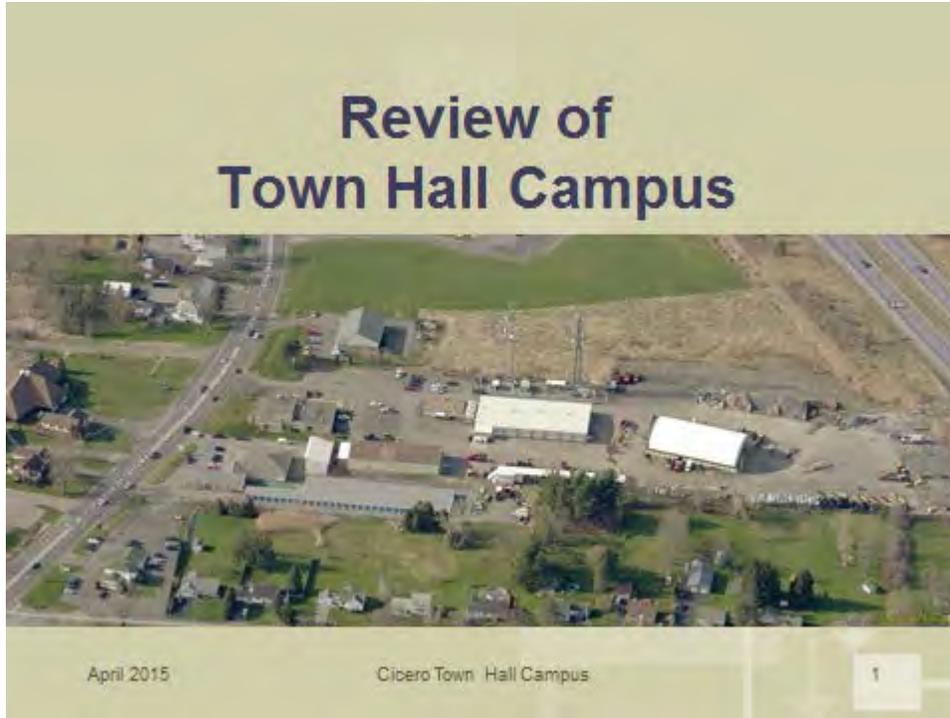
<u>Michael Becallo</u> Michael Becallo	<u>Vern Conway</u> Vern Conway
<u>Richard Cushman</u> Richard Cushman	<u>Mark Venesky</u> Mark Venesky

Councilor Venesky congratulated Jody Rogers and said “nice job”.

Supervisor Zambrano commented that it was a wonderful program with many people attending. past supervisors, past elected officials, past commissioners, past league presidents were all invited and it was a great, great, turn out, and it was a great program. She thanked Jody for organizing it. She said it was a tribute to our community to have such a nice program and to have it reflected in such a thoughtful way; all of the 50 years. She showed what she called a “chronicle” and said if you see this, this has a history of parks & recreation activities from the beginning, that this is a wonderful history book and we should get one to the Cicero Historical Association if we haven’t already.

BUILDING ADVISORY COMMITTEE REPORT-Power Point Presentation

Don Snyder and Bob Smith from the Building Advisory Committee gave a power point presentation on the Building Advisory Committee's report:



The Cicero Town Hall Campus: Don Snyder said the picture also basically shows that we are using some property that belongs to Niagara Mohawk by the power lines, in which they are not real happy and we actually have a little bit of the land to the north that is really not supposed to be used by us. The large white facility to the center of the photo is the current town highway garage and the other one that is to the right of that is our salt shed. The salt shed is a little over 10 years old; it's good for about fifteen years. He said you will see in their proposal that there will be a use for that in future, but not necessarily for salt.

Bob Smith pointed out where the Town Hall building, the Police building, and the Parks & Recreation pole barn were in the picture.

Don Snyder apologized to the Board for not having copies of the report for them yet. He explained that they were working on this up until the hour before the meeting and said that they would get it to them and put it on the website when it is working.

Don Snyder: In the middle of January, remember we talked about a roof project for the Highway garage and I stood up and said *gee, we better make sure that Highway garage really can stand a \$200,000 installment for the roof.* Out of that came a call from our Supervisor, and Jessica asked if I would be involved with Bob Smith in looking at our facilities, and I quickly grabbed Don Bloss who is much smarter than either Bob or I as it relates to facilities; especially as it relates to heating, ventilating, and air conditioning, so he was also usurped onto this committee.

Introduction

In January 2015 Supervisor Jessica Zambrano appointed a committee to review the condition and feasibility of the facilities located on the Town Hall Campus.

The committee was comprised of Don Snyder, Member of the Zoning Board of Appeals, Bob Smith, Chair of the Planning Board, and Don Bloss, Town Resident with extensive building experience.

The approach was to review the current condition and functionality of the five structures located on the campus. Town Hall, Recreation & Parks pole barn, Police Station, salt storage, and Highway Barn.

4/15/2015

[Project Name]

2

Approach

- Each of the buildings were toured, evaluated for current state of repair, functionality and ability to meet current needs. Finally consideration was given to how well the current structures would meet the towns future needs.
- Consideration was given to the functionality of each building, urgent and necessary repairs for continued operation and the feasibility (return) of extensive taxpayer investment in long term repairs of each building. Basically a triage approach was taken to each facility.

4/15/2015

[Project Name]

3

Immediate Deficiencies

- A lack of GFI(s) was noted in the highway facility. Immediate safety concern. Issue was addressed and solution implemented by the Town Board.
- Ice build-up along the roof line of the highway facility was noted posing a serious hazard due to falling ice. Issue was addressed and solution implemented by the Town Board.
- Weak spots (holes) in the floor of the police station were noted. Repairs have been made under direction of the Town Clerk.
- Significant roof leaks in the police station were noted. Temporary action was taken to stem the leaks by installation of tarps. Long term repairs are planned as soon as weather permits.

4/15/2015

[Project Name]

4

Highway Barn



Deterioration of the Exterior Walls town barn. 03/13/2015

4/15/2015

5



03/13/2015

4/15/2015

[Project Name]

6

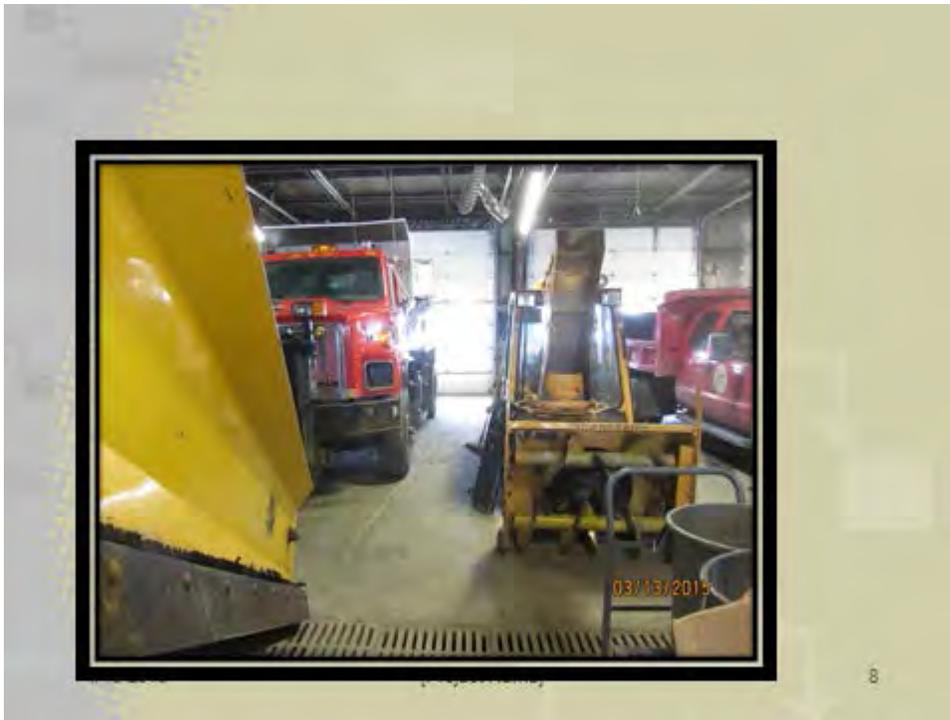


03/13/2015

4/15/2015

[Project Name]

7



8



4/15/2015

[Project Name]

9



4/15/2015

[Project Name]

10

Highway Barn



4/15/2015

[Project Name]

11

Town Barn



4/15/2015

[Project Name]

12

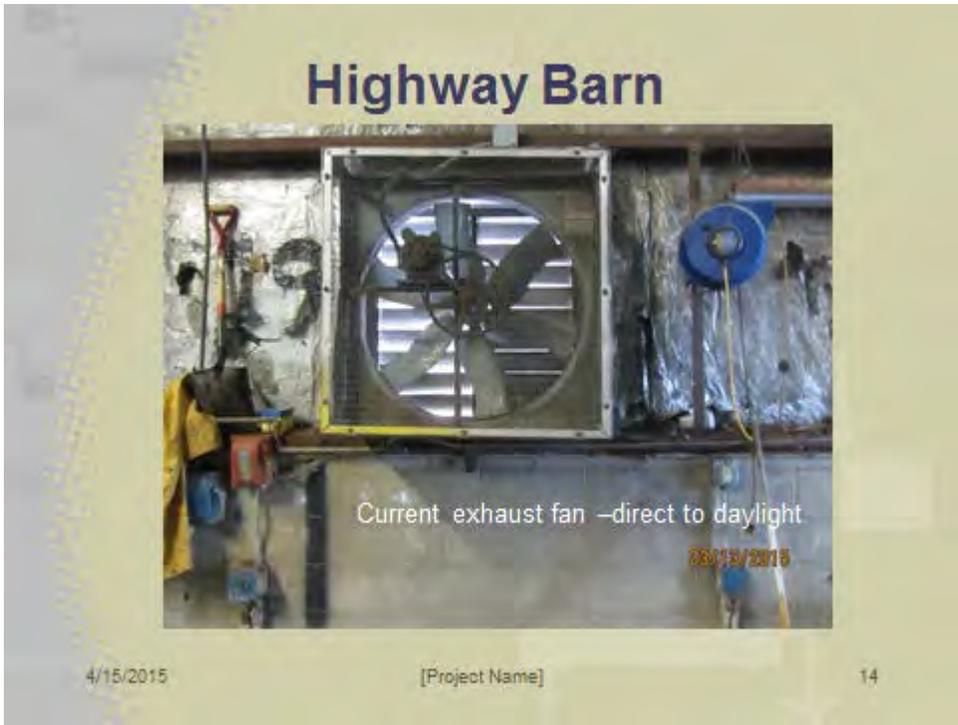
Highway Barn



4/15/2015

[Project Name]

13



Highway Barn



4/18/2015

[Project Name]

17

Highway Barn



4/18/2015

[Project Name]

18

Highway Barn



4/18/2015

[Project Name]

19

Police Station



Note the installation of bollards protecting the generator.

4/16/2015

[Project Name]

20

Police Station



4/16/2015

21

Police Station



The police station appears to be supported on piers putting the facility at risk of either an accidental or intentional dislocation. Consideration should be given to the installation of "jersery" barriers.

4/16/2015

22

Police Station



4/16/2015

Police Station



4/16/2015

[Project Name]

24

Police Station



4/16/2015

[Project Name]

25

Police Station



4/16/2015

[Project Name]

26

Police Station



4/16/2015

[Project Name]

27

Police Station



4/16/2015

[Project Name]

28

Parks & Recreation Pole Barn



4/16/2015

[Project Name]

29

Parks & Recreation Pole Barn



4/16/2015

[Project Name]

30

Parks & Recreation Pole Barn



4/16/2015

[Project Name]

31

Parks & Recreation Pole Barn



Proposed interior finish for Parks & Recreation interior finish. To permit year round vehicle maintenance.

4/16/2015

[Project Name]

32

Findings: Highway Barn

The facility, built in 1965, is in significant disrepair exposing the town residents and taxpayers to significant liability and critical service failure. The facility, even if repaired to new condition, is wholly inadequate to meet the ongoing needs of the highway department and the residents of the Town of Cicero. Since the construction of the facility 50 years ago Cicero has experienced unprecedented residential and commercial growth. That growth has required the acquisition of numerous pieces of highway maintenance equipment (such as plows/salters) and staff to operate the department. At the same time there has been no expansion of the facility that houses this critical town service. Currently, Cicero has 125.37 center line miles or 250.7 lane miles of town maintained highway and in addition plows 28.3 center line miles of county highway under a shared service agreement. Onondaga County pays \$6,800/per mile to the Town for the service.

4/16/2015

[Project Name]

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Findings: Highway Barn (cont)

The current location of the highway barn, on the town hall campus, is not conducive to efficient and effective delivery of service to a majority of the town's residents. US Route 11 (Brewerton Road) and NYS Route 31 have, over the last fifty years, developed into heavily travelled highways resulting in, at times, significant congestion. Dispatching highway equipment through this congested corridor results in escalating payroll and delay in delivery of critical service to areas of the town. There is also concern regarding the safety of having very large and cumbersome pieces of equipment accessing a congested state highway on a curve. In addition town hall campus activity has increased dramatically (such as court system) requiring this same equipment to negotiate through crowded and active parking lots. The current town hall campus does not have enough land to allow for a properly sized facility, salt storage, outdoor supply storage, equipment movement/operation, and employee parking. This is true even with the demolition of other buildings on the campus.

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While reading the third bulleted item, Don Snyder said he should have used the word “design” rather than question, but a RFQ (Request for Qualifications) to do the *design* of town highway facility.

Recommendations: Highway

- Do not invest additional funds into the current town barn, except for emergency repairs.
- Immediately begin site selection and acquisition.
- Complete a design schematic drawing for a new highway barn. Issue a RFQ (Request for Qualifications) for construction of town highway facility.
- Immediately begin identifying sources of funding for the cost of new facility. Most likely source: 30 year bond-Costing 150K home 39.90 per year for 30 years.

70,000 sf building at \$100/sf	7,000,000.
Land	200,000
Salt Storage Facility	500,000
Site work and utilities	500,000
Soft Costs (Architectural-Engineering Environmental-Legal)	1,250,000
Total Estimated Cost:	9,500,000

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Bob Smith said Don has worked tirelessly on these numbers. He has looked at every estimate he could find; he has probably called half the construction companies in Onondaga County and you also know that Don’s tighter than bark to a tree when it comes to taxpayers dollars. They were looking at possibly building a smaller barn but the realization that comes to play is we can’t proceed with the assumption that we aren’t going to add a single mile of highway - we have just enough plows to plow our town today. If you add a single mile of highway, if you indeed end up taking over more of the county’s plowing in a shared service agreement you have to buy more plows. Each of those plows (we just purchased two) are about a quarter of a million dollars apiece.

Bob Smith said it doesn’t make any sense. Construction costs are never going to go down and because of the economy we are never going to be able to borrow money as cheaply as we borrow it now. So even if we get a large enough site to expand the facility we should put some margin in there because it isn’t feasible for us to figure we’re never going to have to add another plow. He talked to one of the workers who is about ready to retire and when he came here to work Cicero had six plows. We have sixteen plows on the road right now, plus that pathetic spare sitting outside. Sixteen routes in just the last 20-25 years, it doesn’t make sense to build just what we need to handle today because we are going to find ourselves ten years later saying how we are going to expand and it’s going to be higher interest rates, higher construction costs, and we are all are going to be saying (or whoever is here at that point) why didn’t they just build it to absorb the extra costs. He said that Don really struggled with us putting up this number. The number is solid; he has done a ton of work on this. You may be able to find some economies; they are certainly hoping, but this number is realistic.

Don Snyder said another thing we would be doing with this facility, and again why we need to be somewhere else not only for the traffic issues, the safety issues, but you would build this structure on a piece of land that allows that building to be expanded if you need to do that 20-25 years down the road. We can’t expand the current building. If the building was perfect we wouldn’t have trouble right now expanding that building very much because the salt bin is the only place it could be based on the land that we owned at the time they put the salt bin in. That’s why we say when someone asks *why do you need twenty plus acres*, well we have about six acres here and we are talking about building a rather large facility, and we want to have room so we can have economy to scale in the pipe that the highway people buy, the stone they buy, all the other kinds of products that you are able to [store] in a yard, but you have got to have yard space to do that. So that’s again, one of the things they would do in siting this facility; they would make sure that the building was built in a way that you wouldn’t have a salt bin right next to it.

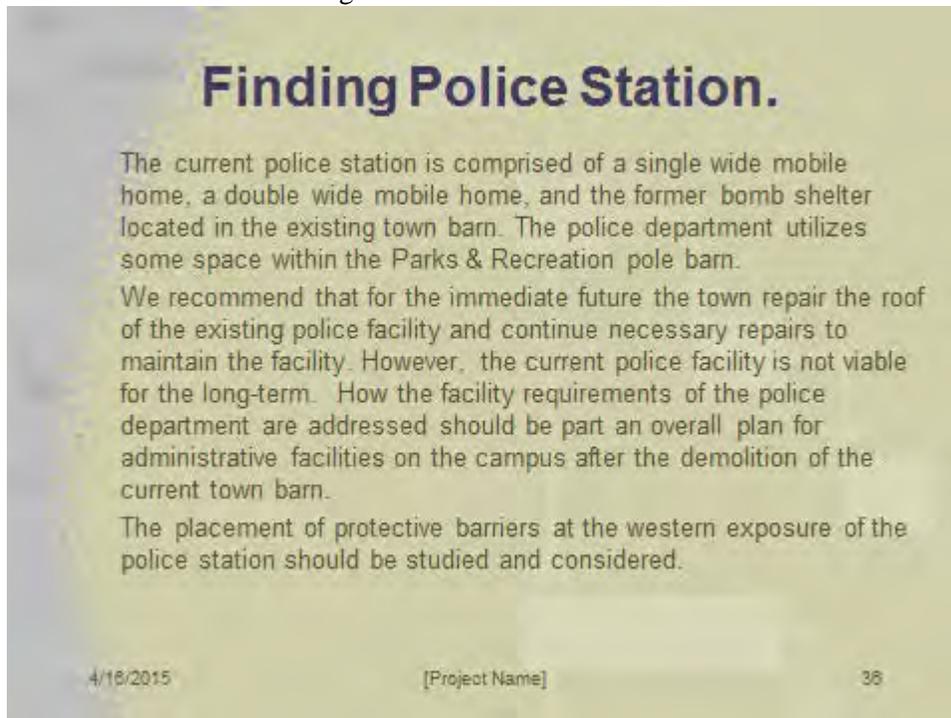
Supervisor Zambrano said you talk about a 30 year bond, but really some of the feedback I've heard is that we are not building a building that lasts thirty years. We need a building that's going to last fifty, sixty, maybe longer.

Don Snyder said without a doubt this building will last for fifty years. Back when this building was built (our old one) utilities were cheap and because they were cheap we never spent a lot of money on insulation; therefore, we spend a lot of money now on heat. In new facilities, for example, our building out there right now has a ratio of like an R15 in the ceiling; new buildings are built with a rating of R35, which means it's a whale of a heck of a lot better and the walls are built with R30.

Don Snyder – Another thing we are thinking about, and this where we get Don [Bloss] in here and get him thinking really great – we have oil. We have oil that comes out of our trucks. We have a lot of people in the community that like to get rid of their oil from when they do their own changes. We could in fact burn waste oil to be heating part of this building. Would it heat the whole building for the whole year, for all winter, maybe not, but if waste oil heated the building for only a month and it cost us nothing to do that other than the incremental cost of the boiler then that's something we got to think about.

The other thing we obviously would think about with the land we would purchase with this is - you've got to go solar. We would be absolutely out of our minds not to have solar because there are companies right now (and Jody is getting involved with that more and more) that for no out of pocket costs for us put up solar systems, that we will get money back for that as well, as we can generate power for our old facility. We'll have ten acres of land that we can certainly use for solar to cut down the costs of operating this facility.

Bob Smith read the following:



Bob Smith - When we talked about this (when you remove the town barn) we considered a number of opportunities, maybe we could sell this land. This land has been here for 50 years, the town highway facility, and previous town boards' some years ago sold those cell towers back there so we don't control that piece of the land, so us selling this is unlikely. Plus the due diligence, the environmental studies, we are unlikely to find someone who is going to pay us the kind of money. It makes sense to consider the space we have in this facility (which is sound) and utilizing the space we are going to pick up from the town barn instead of having to acquire more land. But that really can't be studied until we determine what we are going to do with the highway department and how we are going to handle that situation. At that time we should also be looking at (there's a lot of ideas) where we should locate the police with the courts; we could build a facility back here where the town barn is currently that would work and would be actually pretty inexpensive to put the court system and the police together; they sort of work together most of the time so that would make sense. And then, turn this space into the administrative space that we need for the town hall. All of those discussions, however, are predicated on what happens with the highway barn.

Don Snyder - The other thing we did based on a request from one of our councilors, very wisely we looked at the old South Bay fire barn. But we looked at it when it had seven or eight foot of snow around it. The utilities all have been shut off from that facility so we were not able to run any of the equipment. The fire department has said that they would loan us generators to do a check of that. I know from a space program that we put together with the chief, and the space that the current justice department use/the courts use, those two facilities would fit in that building, however, when you do that there's an expense involved with that and I'm afraid the expense is somewhere between probably \$600,000 and maybe \$1,000,000.00. But, I'm a bad estimator when it comes to a facility that I haven't really looked at yet. We haven't checked out the equipment, so that is something that as we get a little further, if the board would like to, we could look at that with a little more detail. We know long-term that the police department that we have is not adequate.

Don Snyder read the following:

Findings Parks & Recreation

We recommend budgeting \$50,000 to upgrade and maintain the current Park & Recreation pole barn in the 2016 budget. Future consideration and study should be given to locating the Parks & Recreation maintenance facility with the town highway barn. This would allow for shared services such a vehicle maintenance and potentially shared staffing.

The current facility needs to upgraded for year round service.

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Bob Smith - And if you ended up upgrading the parks & recreation facility here, because we really feel that we can build a police department and a court building for less than \$1 million dollars, we could take the parks & recreation facility and use it for storage of police vehicles, their equipment, and we also have town vehicles that are sitting here that we could make use of the upgrades we've put into the parks & recreation department in supporting Jody if the town board at the time decided that they wanted to combine the facilities so we wouldn't be leaving a building behind that we put all this money in with no use.

Bob Smith read the following:

Findings: Town Hall.

A shortage of space is the main concern regarding town hall. Structurally the town hall is in good shape. We recommend maintaining the status quo while the highway department is being addressed. The removal of highway operations from the town hall campus will provide a number of possible solutions to address the shortage of adequate space.

Consolidation of services looms on the horizon (ConsensusCNY) and a responsible study must consider the impacts of consolidation, if any, on town operations.

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Bob Smith – If the County should take over collecting taxes we shouldn't be adding a space and I'm just picking it apart, you heard they haven't made a decision. But we wouldn't want to be upgrading our facility and sinking taxpayer dollars into making improvements that we find in three or four years may be obsolete. And make no mistake, when we say *well geez, we need a town barn* and it sounds like we are going to flip a switch, Don (and we've traveled a lot) - Don's traveled with Don, and Jessica and Chris traveled to Farmington; this is like three years. We are not going to tomorrow go up there and borrow \$9.5 million dollars and have a new town barn someplace, so we have three years that we're just going to have to make do with what we've got.

Bob Smith read the following:

Summary

Frankly, at the beginning of this task we were shocked by the conditions at the highway barn. It became obvious that there was no reasonable or responsible repair option for the facility. The highway department delivers an essential and critical service to the community in this climate. The current town barn is entirely inadequate for supporting this operation, even if repaired.

Of equal importance are the liabilities the town residents and taxpayers incur due to conditions within the facility. These liabilities can not be overstated and can not be overcome by the current facility.

The Town of Cicero owns equipment estimated to be worth \$5.3 million dollars, including 16 plow trucks. Far too much of that equipment is stored outside, exposed to the elements, year round.

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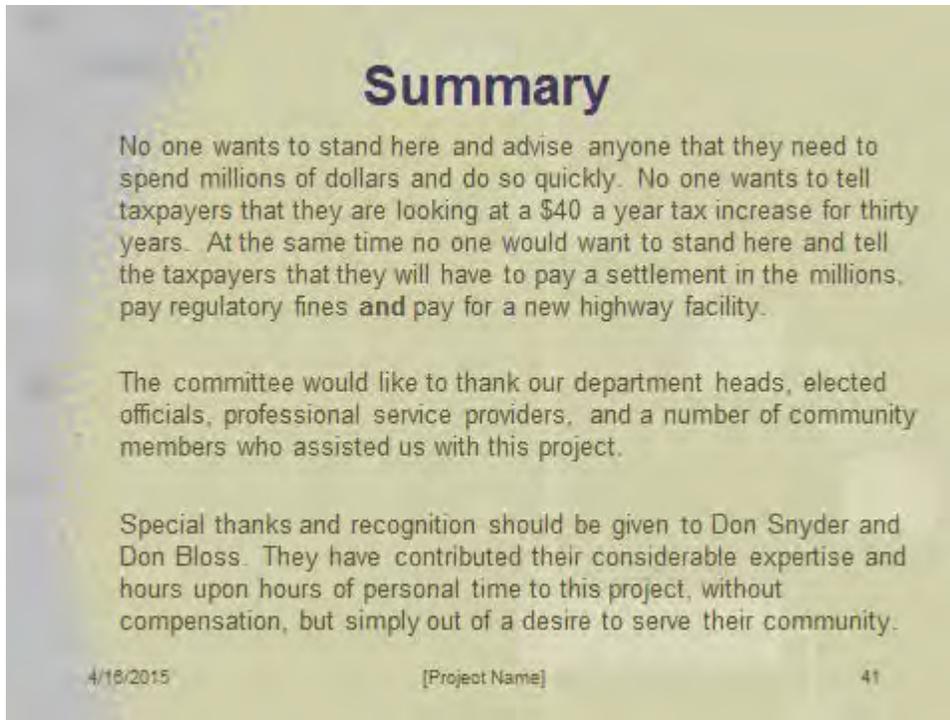
Bob Smith – Don, bless his heart, went through and inventoried and got current estimates of the equipment that we own as a community to maintain our highways, coming up to \$5.3 million dollars.

Current Equipment Inventory and Value.

- Equipment stored inside: Note there are 7 overhead doors with 14 possible spaces.
- 16- plow trucks \$3,443,000
- 1-sewer jet truck 127,000
- 1-sidewalk snow blower 125,000
- 1 - Fork lift 18,000
- Equipment stored outside:
- 1-plow truck
- 2-pay loaders 130,000
- 4-pick up trucks 51,000
- 2-10 wheel dump trucks 50,000
- 3- Work trucks 54,000
- 1- Graderall 220,000
- 1-Backhoe 60,000
- 1-excavator 72,000
- 2- pipe trucks 65,000
- 1-Brush Loader 150,000
- 1-boocat loader 150,000
- 1-street sweeper 145,000
- 6- misc equipment 159,000
- Total Estimated equipment value: \$3,119,600**

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Bob Smith went over the Summary:



Don Snyder – We did an estimate as best we could to take the building that we have and to correct as many of the items that were in that and came up with about \$640,000. Meanwhile, for \$640,000 we can't park one more vehicle in the garage. We can't make the staff space any bigger. We can't serve most of the handicapped that are required now in any public building. So you know, yup, we can go out and spend over half-a-million dollars in the garage and we'll be standing here and saying the same things we are talking about. And keep in mind, of the \$5.3 million we've got only about \$3 million dollars stored in the garage - and that's an issue. And obviously, it becomes an issue, we are finding, with our insurance companies also; they like to have stuff stored in inside. We may even have to build this building with a fire wall in-between what would be fifty-percent of the storage area and the reason for that is because the Supervisor found out from the people who are doing our insurance that they don't want all of our eggs in one basket. So if we put all of our vehicles in one building that has no fire protection..., well first, it's definitely going to be sprinkled but they would want a fire wall, so we actually have two buildings in one; therefore, there's another added level of protection for our equipment. The other thing that I just can't not say - our guys in the highway department are the pre-first responders. If we don't plow our roads the Chief's cars are not going to go down the highway to answer that call that you just made to 911 for him. The ambulances and the firetrucks are *not* going to make it down that road to in fact get to the fire or get to the medical emergency that you in fact called about. I hate to spend money, but it really is a no-brainer that we need to do this and we need to do it now.

Bob Smith said there's a ton of problems out there. He went over some of the issues again and said that the conditions were just appalling. He expressed his concerns over the supports in the highway garage. He said when Don [Snyder] talks about spending \$640,000 to make the building at least compliant, part of making that facility compliant is you've got to stick 8 snow plows somewhere. You've got fourteen spaces in the building, seven overhead doors. We're parking sixteen plows in there, plus a snow blower, this huge sewer jet that has to be stored inside, all of that is stored inside the building, plus the service department.

Bob Smith read the last paragraph of the Summary that gave thanks and recognition to Don Snyder and Don Bloss. Bob Smith said what they did was admirable. They put literally hours, and hours, and days on this project. That even if it's bad news we owe them a lot of gratitude for doing it.

Supervisor Zambrano - This is rather a sobering report. I've seen the conditions; I've been in a lot of the conditions, so I can confirm that nothing here was exaggerated. Where do we go from here? You talked about an RFQ (Request for Qualifications).

Don Snyder said they think that probably the thing before that [the RFQ]; we put together a design team to design it. He didn't know if O'Brien & Gere would want to do this part, or whether they would want to kick us off to someone who has got direct knowledge of that. He said it would be between \$5,000 and \$7,000. They can do what we call a *design schematic*, which is

just basically a one-page drawing that takes the space program that we've put together, in cooperation with the highway department, and that puts that on a drawing to show you that:

- yes, we can do it in the square footage we are talking about,
- yes, we can change it a little bit,
- yeah, maybe we don't need quite that much because we didn't do the arrangement of the equipment like someone that's a professional would do,

and then you use that document with specs to go out and get design teams to then bid on the design and the field checking of a facility. He would think that we would try to do that now; he would do it within the next two months. It would take about three weeks, from what he understands, to get that design schematic down.

Bob Smith said considering how things move in government, filing the RFP/RFQ actually only costs you the publication and people from all over the state will read it, and you will start to get at least the knowledge; this is a specialized thing. That was one of their considerations; you can go out and lease office space if we get desperate. We can lease commercial space somewhere in the town - there's plenty of it. There is no facility to go lease a town barn - there isn't one of those sitting around. Time is doing something like putting the RFQ out, it will take a little bit of time but you will start just getting packets of information on people who could manage a project like this: like the people who built Farmington, who are building LaFayette, and possibly the people who are building the new fire barn in Cicero. He said it's a specialized job and at least they would start to get to know who the players are and they would at least now know who/what we are looking for and they could start to decide whether it's in their best interest to seek it.

Don Snyder said from a price standpoint, keep in mind that there are two facilities that have just recently been approved or are in the process of being approved:

- The Manlius fire barn for \$10.8 million
- our Cicero fire barn for \$4.5 million

We are looking at about 70,000 square feet for \$9.5 million, and buying land. The fire department in Cicero is going to spend \$4.5 million dollars and it's for a 16,000 square foot building. So because we are building volume, and we are not building a taj mahal (and he's not saying that the fire department is the taj mahal), but they have some restrictions that they have got to do as first responder type facilities that we can do much cheaper in the size of the building that we are talking about building. When you look at that (he just did a thing based on miles of highway plowed and if that was a criteria, and it's not), but if it was a criteria the building in LaFayette is \$3.9 million based on what they plow vs. what we plow - our building would be \$15.5 million dollars.

Bob Smith said as you add square footage, as the square footage goes up the cost per square foot comes down. That's another reason why we should build it large enough, so that we don't have to in ten years go out and start adding bays on the thing so we can get our equipment inside. He said he hopes their communicating the urgency of this. They've talked for years about doing something for the town barn, but they've always looked at it as an individual repair. When the Supervisor sent them out she told them to look at the *whole* facility; they didn't suspect it would be as bad as it is.

Bob Smith said Tracy Cosilmon had a copy of the presentation and she would print it and distribute it to all the board members.

Councilor Venesky - First of all, I'm going to say again, thank you so much Don Bloss, Don and Bob because these gentlemen have been uncompensated and have spent an awful lot of their own time, so thank you for this very thoughtful and thorough presentation. Let me preface this thing on Consensus, the thought is on consolidations/possible consolidations but also of efficiencies and services. The Consensus study (if my understanding is correct) looked at two major metropolitan areas, one was Louisville, Kentucky and the other one was Indianapolis, Indiana and I am not quite sure what gains were made in Louisville; I know they eliminated a lot of towns, and they made Louisville, overnight, to one of the 36 largest city in America by eliminating the towns. The question that I have is, and I didn't want to go into it with those guys because I have had discussions with them before, but who is going to take care of the services that we are providing here on a local level. Is Joanie Mahoney going to plow our roads? Is she going to pick up the garbage? Is she going to take care of the brush? And no one has a clear idea of where this Consensus thing is going, I just want to put that into perspective. The other thing too, is if you looked at the numbers that they put up there, the County is responsible for about \$3600 on average in taxes, the villages are \$1500 in taxes, and the average town in Onondaga County is about \$540 (which is about \$200 more than your paying in the town of Cicero). So if you think about the services that we are providing, all of those services, it's a very reasonably cost for what we are spending. So I guess my question is, if we look at a comprehensive plan (we talked about the police department and also here; the town offices) part of that plan I would think would be

either taking a good look at that South Bay Fire Department; if that makes economic sense for us to go there either with the police department and the court system or letting them take this building and then moving our town offices. I think we should really look at all of that. I'm not disputing that we need a highway garage. But I think we also should just do, all of us a little due diligence here on the board and see if there is a shared services possibility with Salina and with North Syracuse; if we could do something with them - I don't know what their capacities are.

Bob Smith asked Councilor Venesky if he was talking about shared services on Highway.

Councilor Venesky said he was talking about Highway, if there's something we can do he doesn't know; he has additional questions.

Bob Smith said the County has been, and is, pursuing in divesting itself of highways and they're pushing that back to the towns; they're paying for the service. He doesn't think there has been any discussion (from listening to them) that they want to take over highways. Highways are sort of unique to each of the communities; we're flat, and we are a swamp. We have a lot of drifting snow, whereas if you go to LaFayette where they have primarily a lot of hills, much different from populations. Salina is much more metropolitan, they don't have the wide-open expanses that Cicero does - the equipment is a little bit different. He said if you take the town barn off this facility (you have a six acre facility), we looked at it, but he doesn't know how good of an investment it is to start building up more real estate than we already have, not knowing if we can utilize what we already have. If the town barn comes down and we have to demolish the police department (which they're going to have to) they could, in the interim, while you are tearing those facilities down, lease space for the police department. Usually in this area you are going about \$12 to \$18 a square foot depending on the retail viability of it. You can house them temporarily because you can go out and get administrative space; it's not easy, it's not what everybody would want to do but you could lease space and put the police department into a facility into the town so that they have offices that are adequate and safe while your tearing down a police garage, the police station, the highway barn, and really if you're going to expand your buildings it makes a lot of sense to keep them in one location for plowing purposes, for electrical services, for parking - there's no parking here.

Councilor Venesky said we took a look at the South Bay Fire Department because we believe that we can get a lease on that property for nothing and if what you are saying is that we could knock down the highway barn (and the old barn and the old police station have got to go).

Councilor Venesky asked Don Snyder if what he was saying when he mentioned a million dollars, if he was saying that we could build a new facility back here on the current property for our police department, maintain our town hall, and then we would just relocate the highway department.

Don Snyder said they could do that; it could be an option.

Councilor Venesky said if we were to pursue the South Bay building, which is already there, but would need some renovations...

Supervisor Zambrano said that was going to be her question. They mentioned that building, but it hasn't been evaluated. So looking at it from the outside is a lot different than going in and poking around in the corners.

Councilor Venesky - I guess my request, if all you gentlemen would want to stay on this project with us, if we could take a look at that building and then come back with a recommendation - should we build or should we renovate? If you'd be willing to do that, that would be a big help to us.

Bob Smith said really their first thing is that they are going to have to make some decisions about the town barn. Also, in consolidation it isn't just the police, or tax receivers, or assessors or anything like that. There are also discussions going on with the cost of the court system. He said what if we move ahead, obtain another building, and build a police station and a court house using South Bay (which is a large facility), and then we find out that the County indeed is working with the Unified Court System, and we are going to combine our town courts to cut the cost. He said everybody here knows what the courts are costing us with the glass, and all the requirements and the space it needs, which they could be better served given how busy we are. What happens if we do that and we spend the Cicero taxpayers dollars to get a facility and we find out that in the next two to three years that they're going to combine and unify the town court systems so that burden is off of us? Now we have a facility with just the police department in it - and what are you going to do with it? He said the reason South Bay hasn't done anything with it is there's no use. Plus, you've got the consideration of their talking about consolidation of fire

service – it's huge, but it's being discussed seriously (there's a reason they did the report). What happens if we end up with all these fire stations around our community without a purpose and one of the considerations is what are we going to do with that barn?

Supervisor Zambrano asked if it wasn't part of their report to look at the South Bay Fire Department; evaluate it for use.

Don Snyder said our main goal, as far as they understood it, was to look at the facilities that are here; which they did. When they looked at South Bay facility they did look at the inside. He did do a quick layout based on the Chief's space program that they put together, plus taking the space that we now have in this room and what the justice department has, and he knows from a square footage basis by taking the old South Bay facility we can in fact make both departments fit in that building. He said you can't test equipment when there's no water, no power, or no gas to any of the utilities, so he would want to make sure that that's a direction in which we want to go before we spend time doing it because they are going to spend a fair amount of time looking at that building to make sure that it's structurally [sound] because again, quite often what happens is that it costs as much, or more, to rehab a facility than to start from scratch because he knows that the facility that can be put over there will not be ideal to the Chief because he can't determine where the outside walls are, and if you start spending more money to make the building bigger than we have more square footage than we need. So it makes some sense that if you all decide that really it would be a good thing if they were on our campus (this is what Farmington did, they built a separate facility for their court system that's on their campus). He said he could stay on to look at that, but he would like to have the board make some decisions on where we are going from here because of the Consensus report, because of our budget things.

Don Snyder told Councilor Venesky he had made a comment last year that said *I'm scared gang, I don't know how we are going to pay for this government in a couple of years*. Don said that means that everybody in this town needs to look at what we are spending, and what we are spending it for, and is there some other way to make that service work.

Supervisor Zambrano said to Councilor Venesky's point, we all recognize that the police facility is inadequate, but it is easier to move a police department than it is to move a highway department. And the highway department, she thinks, is a longer term process. Moving the police department to a different facility, when it comes time to do that, she thinks it's a lot easier to do that. But this highway department, the people that we've talked to that are going through this process, it's a four year process and if we consider this year one (which she is not sure that it is year one because we are not anywhere past a little bit of study and talking), we're looking at maybe five years before we get a facility. In the meantime, we can deal with the police department. She said given everything she has been hearing since January, she thinks the highway garage needs to be the priority.

Bob Smith said the highway is urgent if we start moving it forward because government moves slower. If you do some of the stuff, start a schematic drawing, and start working on what your needs are, and at the same time that's why the RFQ was prepared that's ready to publish, you can start getting people out there around the state who build these things to know to put us on their radar and to start communicating with the town. He said that's where we hit the road block; we have to determine what's going to happen with the town barn. He said the police department is not going to last five years.

Chief Snell said he agrees one-hundred percent with the Consensus Study and the Unified System Proposal, that he thinks is a long-term plan; it's not something statewide that can happen overnight. He asked Bob Smith if parts of the barn could be salvaged for longer term use – not highway use. He said the reason he says that is because they are talking about looking at, down the road, why build a building for police, and build a building for courts, and then all of a sudden all of that disappears and turns into something different ten years down the road and we've spent millions of dollars. So his question is that in the short term, 5, 6, or 7 years so you get a better outlook of what's going to happen in Onondaga County, is: Can part of that barn be taken down, and part of it renovated, and that gives the police department additional space to be able to renovate and increase our safety concerns and some of our space issues that we have.

Bob Smith said no, but it's worth having the engineers and an architect look at it. Even if you look at the structure itself, literally the bolts that are supporting the roof are rusting off the floor, and you have absolutely inadequate facilities.

Chief Snell said he just thinks it's an option. He suggested that maybe it's cheaper to look at reinforcing the structure; leaving part of the current highway barn, leaving two bays, and that way it gives additional space and then leave the court here temporarily until you can determine what you're going to need to do because maybe you end up moving the courts to our new space. To him, they have to look at other options and take the burden off the town and really focus on the highway barn. He would think that we may want to look and say *can we salvage part of that highway* because from what he understands all of the furnace and electrical is on his side, so it's possible to salvage.

Don Snyder said he thinks we've always said that the first bay would always stay as long as the Chief's facility stays where it is. But the first bay, really the only area that would be usable for Chief in the first bay is the little office area.

Chief Snell said they had talked about the booking area and all of that; that all could be moved over to the bay area.

Supervisor Zambrano said she thinks the point is that we are still considering all of the options out on the table.

Bob Smith said before you can start considering your other options you are going to have to make a decision, as unpleasant as it is - *what we are going to do with the town barn?* We have no idea what your decisions are going to be. You may be deciding that we are going to start parking plows outside, and we're going to go to eight vehicles inside, and we are going to keep what we have out there - we think it's a mistake but that decision is not ours. And, if you are going to keep the highway barn there you have to make some decisions on the police department, but every decision that you make, every scenario that you want to look at, all start with *what are you going to do with the barn?*

Don Snyder said the schedule that he put together in his head, and he did write it up, he said that if we were serious about this situation, and if we wanted to quick kicking the can down the road, then he would be recommending this year we spend \$5,000 to \$7,000 to do the design schematic, and then we go out and buy a piece of land, which we know with lawyer fees, surveyors fees, is probably going to cost you around \$200,000 that we would do this year. We would January 1st, put out the RFQ (request for qualification). What he would do is spend the year 2016, the first eight or nine months, designing the facility. You would bid it in the fall of 2016, that would mean that you would start construction in March or April of 2017, and you would move into the facility the summer of 2018. So we could do this building, realistically, if we were serious about it we could do it and we could be in that building in late summer/early fall of 2018.

Councilor Venesky said one thing to Bob's point about highways and plowing, he attended a meeting with Joanie Mahoney and she had made a statement that the County had looked at taking over more of the snow removal in the county and it was a disaster. She actually made the comment that they want nothing to do with it, so he thinks either way we are going to be plowing our roads in Cicero; no matter what Cicero looks like 10 or 15 years from now we are still plowing our roads in Cicero. In regards to the building, he said he is kind of leaning that we've got to go that way.

Supervisor Zambrano asked for clarification, that what they had was the actual advertisement for the scope of services.

Bob Smith said the RFQ (request for qualifications) doesn't cost you anything. You are going to get a bunch of companies that want to build/that do build Town Hall. Maybe we can get some free advice as they look for our business. When we eventually do an RFP (request for proposals) it seems logical what our needs are going to be, our schematics, we'll also start letting people know who might give us some help, having experience in this, and the only way you're going to get those people interested is if you put out an RFQ so that they know that it's coming; so they should be down here soliciting your business. And, whenever they do that you are going to get some ideas, you're going to talk to them, and they're going to sell you on what they think you should do and maybe that would be helpful; free advice is always cheap.

Don Snyder said it is actually much like what we do when we are looking for an attorney or an engineer. He doesn't think we are looking for a design build because we are a municipality, but we are looking for a team that will design the facility based on our design schematic. If the Board would entertain it, he can obviously get a proposal from the architect that he talked to that was involved in the South Bay facility (and helped him with some drawings for that facility), he could get a proposal from him that would be put in writing what it would take to do a design schematic because that would be good if that went with the RFQ.

Bob Smith said he thinks they asked Tracy to do a publication for RFQs. Supervisor Zambrano said that's what she is concerned about; she thinks it is still about a four-year process.

Bob Smith said you still should be looking at doing both. You're not spending a lot of money but at least you're going to have something to start seriously considering. He said it is a very difficult position for the community to be in and you guys unfortunately have to deal with it.

Councilor Venesky asked about the jersey barriers around the police department. He said that seems to him that that is something we should be doing tomorrow.

Bob Smith said they never considered it, it was Todd Lascombe that said *you realize if somebody just accidentally hits the police department they are going to fall off their foundation because they don't have one.*

Councilor Venesky asked Jody Rogers if she had the jersey barriers.

Jody Rogers said they have them up at Riverfront Park because of the construction project. They took all of Chris' jersey barriers so she doesn't think that he has any.

Don Snyder commented that they are going to have the park done soon.

Jody Rogers said she would say by the end of May, maybe early June the barriers could go back there.

Don Snyder said so we just add the police department crash site to our prayer list until May and then we take those jersey barriers and put them around that facility. It's safe to say that we feel strongly enough about this facility that they would be more than willing to continue to be involved. After he retired one of his jobs was he was the clerk of the works for the owner of Delaware Transit in building a number of multi-million dollar facilities, so if in fact that's a direction in which we are going (he thinks that expertise is here and is available).

Resolution to solicit Requests for Qualifications:

Supervisor Zambrano moved the adoption of a resolution to solicit Requests for Qualifications from engineering/architectural firms to assist with building programming for site and building design of a highway garage. Motion was seconded by Councilor Venesky.

Supervisor Zambrano asked Robert Germain does that get us where we want to be.

Robert Germain said yes.

Ayes – 5, Noes – 0. *Motion carried.*

AGREEMENT FOR 2015 MS4 STORMWATER ENGINEERING SERVICES

Councilor Conway moved the adoption of a resolution to approve the Agreement for 2015 MS4 Engineering Services with O'Brien & Gere at a cost of \$2,000.00 in accordance with the April 6, 2015 letter proposal from O'Brien and Gere and to authorize the Supervisor to execute the agreement. Motion was seconded by Supervisor Zambrano.

Ayes - 5 and Noes - 0. *Motion carried.*

FISCAL ACTUARIAL REPORT

Councilor Cushman moved the adoption of a resolution to approve the proposed service agreement with Armory Associates to complete the Town's actuary reports for the years 2012, 2013, 2014 and 2015, at a cost not to exceed \$5,000.00, and to have the Supervisor execute the agreement. Motion was seconded by Councilor Venesky.

Councilor Becallo asked if this was pension related.

Supervisor Zambrano said it's related to retirement benefits and yes, some pension.

Ayes - 5 and Noes - 0. *Motion carried.*

HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT FIRE SPRINKLER SYSTEM

Councilor Conway moved the adoption of a resolution to approve and for the Supervisor to execute the Automatic Fire Sprinkler Inspection Agreement for the Highway Department to abj Fire Protection Co., in the amount of \$150.00. The term of the agreement shall begin April 1, 2015, thereafter, until terminated by (60) days written notice by either party to the other. This agreement is subject to an annual 2% price increase. Motion was seconded by Supervisor Zambrano.

Ayes - 5 and Noes - 0. *Motion carried.*

TRASH CONTRACT FOR TOWN HALL/HIGHWAY/POLICE

Councilor Conway moved the adoption of a resolution to authorize Butler Disposal (the lowest bidder) to provide trash/recycling services for the Town Hall/Highway/Police on a weekly basis, at a monthly fee of \$277.77, effective June 1, 2015 through May 31, 2016, and to authorize the Supervisor to execute the agreement. Motion was seconded by Councilor Venesky.

Ayes - 5 and Noes - 0. *Motion carried.*

TECHNOLOGY SERVICES

Councilor Venesky moved the adoption of a resolution approving the proposed Intermunicipal Contract between the Town of Cicero and the Board of Cooperative Educational Services for the Sole Supervisory District of Onondaga, Cortland and Madison Counties (BOCES) for the Providing of Technology Services through the Regional Information Center (RIC) for the period from April, 2015 to April, 2016 and authorizing the Supervisor to execute this agreement. Motion was seconded by Councilor Becallo.

Ayes - 5 and Noes - 0. *Motion carried.*

ASSESSOR'S OFFICE

Councilor Cushman moved the adoption of a resolution to declare two (2) metal filing cabinets, surplus and no use to the Town. Motion was seconded by Councilor Becallo.

Ayes - 5 and Noes - 0. *Motion carried.*

HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT

Councilor Venesky moved the adoption of a resolution to approve the following:

- \$7,950.00 to J&J Equipment for 1 month sweeper rental
- \$3,000.00 to Gerber Topsoil for 150 yards of topsoil
- \$25,000.00 to Crossroads Highway for 1900 gallons of traffic paint and glass beads
- \$20,000.00 to Vitale Ready-mix for topsoil, concrete sand, item #4 (road side drainage)
- \$1,600.00 to Thompson & Johnson for 4 tires for the Bobcat #14
- \$1,263.30 to Eberl Iron Works for 50 Deliniators and 12 unistruts bottoms (sign posts)
- \$24,820.00 to TH Kinsella for 3400 tons of runner crush
- \$3,500.00 to Merritt Seed for grass seed, mulch bales, and fertilizer
- \$3,500.00 to EJ USA for Assorted sized frame, grates and risers
- \$2,050.00 to Johnson Equipment for replacements for sweepers-main brooms, sweeper segments
- \$4,187.28 to McQuade & Bannigan, Inc. for 20inch road saw
- \$4,995.00 to J.C. Smith for 19x34 reversible plate temper
- \$1,797.76 to United Auto Supply for 193 gallons of hydraulic oil

Motion was seconded by Councilor Cushman.

Ayes – 5 and Noes – 0. *Motion carried.*

PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT

Supervisor Zambrano moved the adoption of a resolution to:

- Accept the donation of \$1,8750.50 for the purchase and installation of a Memorial Bench in memory of Annmarie Wagner (this money comes from her family)

Motion was seconded by Councilor Becallo.

Ayes – 5 and Noes – 0. *Motion carried.*

Supervisor Zambrano moved the adoption of a resolution to approve:

- \$1570.50 (donation) to Barco Products for the Memorial Bench

Motion was seconded by Councilor Becallo.

Ayes – 5 and Noes – 0. *Motion carried.*

Supervisor Zambrano said there was a \$300 discrepancy because it's going to take concrete, topseed, soil, and labor to install that bench.

Supervisor Zambrano moved the adoption of a resolution for:

- \$1862.00 to Gerber Topsoil for topsoil (Youth Leagues to pay a portion of material costs for their respective fields.)
- \$1320.90 to Northern Nurseries for fertilizer. (Youth Leagues to pay a portion of material costs for their respective fields.)
- \$4183.00 to Northern Nurseries for seed (Youth Leagues to pay a portion of material costs for their respective fields.)

Motion was seconded by Councilor Cushman.

Ayes – 5 and Noes – 0

- Amount not to exceed \$2,850.00 to Wild Goose Chasers of C.N.Y. for the annual Goose Control Contract

Justification: This is a contract with this particular company and they service all of the parks and the properties in the town.

Motion was seconded by Councilor Cushman.

Ayes – 4 and Noes – 1. *Motion carried.* Supervisor Zambrano voting no, stating she doesn't like dogs chasing geese.

POLICE DEPARTMENT

Councilor Venesky said his understanding is that the \$1,000 that we are going to pay, they are going to try to collect from the insurance company, but we are going to pay it up front.

Chief Snell said he believes we will get it back.

Councilor Venesky explained that we were hit; we didn't hit anybody.

Councilor Venesky moved the adoption of a resolution to approve \$1,000.00 to Driver's Village for the deductible of a claim on repairs to a Police Vehicle. Motion was seconded by Councilor Becallo.

Ayes – 5 and Noes – 0. *Motion carried.*

TAX RECEIVER

Supervisor Zambrano said normally we have not been reimbursing continuing education expenses unless they are mandated one way or another. Sharon Edick is very dedicated to her organizations, and to her field, and this is less than \$300.

Councilor Cushman moved the adoption of a resolution to approve an expenditure of \$275.00 to allow Sharon Edick, Receiver of Taxes to attend the New York State Association of Tax Receivers & Collectors Annual Training seminar, to be held June 7-10, 2015, at the Double Tree Hotel in East Syracuse. Motion was seconded by Councilor Conway.

Ayes – 5 and Noes – 0. *Motion carried.*

PARADE PERMIT

Councilor Conway moved the adoption of a resolution to approve the issuance of a parade permit to Post 787 for the Memorial Day Parade in the Town of Cicero, on Monday May 25, 2015, at 9:00 a.m. Motion was seconded by Councilor Becallo.

Ayes – 5 and Noes – 0. *Motion carried.*

Tracy Cosilmon said the permit was for the J.H. Spire American Legion.

EARTH DAY ANNOUNCEMENT

Tracy Cosilmon said Earth Day is a wonderful time when we work with OCRRA (Onondaga County Resource Agency) to clean up our community. After the long winter we had some of our streets and some of the areas in the town really need to be cleaned up. Earth Day will be on Saturday, April 25, 2015, and it is a chance for all of the residents in Cicero to join in and help clean up our community. She advised everyone that's participating to think of safety first.

DISCUSSION ITEMS**Ethics Training:**

Supervisor Zambrano said one of the recommendations made in the report was that we get Ethics Training to all of our employees. This is an annual thing so we should do it.

Councilor Venesky said there is a lot of discussion as to the proper way to do ethics training. It's something that we feel is necessary here in the town. We also adopted the recommendation of our own ethics board; to have that done for all elected, appointed people in the town, and we felt that we would carry that out to the hourly people as well. We haven't finalized what we are doing yet, but we are looking at some live training that would be face-to-face, we have two very competent people who have responded to us and told us they were able to do that training for us, although for one of them we haven't worked out the cost factor on that yet. The other thing that we are looking at is online training, and we found through our insurance company Trident, a website localgovu.com and they have a variety of online training, but we are thinking about annual recerts (recertifications) where people can go online at their leisure and be able to take a course, and at the end of that course (if they complete it successfully) they get a certificate. He has two because he took one for elected officials and one for local government appointed officials; he successfully passed them both. His recommendation to the Board would be that we appoint this administrator; he liked what he saw, and they could determine who the administrator would be.

Supervisor Zambrano said that has already been done, it's Richard Hooper who is our Safety Officer.

Councilor Venesky said he would ask everyone to get a password just to evaluate it and see if it's something that we feel we want to do, or if it would be a good fit for our people.

Supervisor Zambrano said she thinks they should probably send this out to the department heads and ask them to go on and look. There are two employee groups who said they are not in favor of any computerized training; they would prefer a face to face presentation.

Councilor Venesky said we should still be able to integrate it. The highway department does have down time and he is sure that not every computer is being used every moment, so they might be able to work it through that way. What he would suggest to the board at this point is that the department heads get that log in and take a look at it.

Supervisor Zambrano said she would get a memo the next day and then perhaps at the next meeting they can make a final decision on the training and how it's going to occur.

PUBLIC INPUT

Fay Gregory, Fairview Ave. said she was there for their help. Across the street from her is now Sun Auto's parking lot and what has happened is there has been a big yellow bulldozer in front of her picture window they have been looking out at all winter, plus a small one behind that. At the end of this construction that is being done there is going to be 800 cars across the street from

where she lives, and they are facing these cars. She said there has been a 6ft. berm put up, but it's a 6ft. berm on Sun Auto's side, not their side. She said you can see straight through to the back of Wegmans. You can hear Wegmans unload their supplies into the store, you can see the lights from Route 11 on that plaza where Olde Wicker Mill is, and you can see the lights at Sun Auto all from their picture windows. She said they have driven the neighborhood, they have driven around other neighborhoods, and they see that they are the only neighborhood that does not have a barrier of full grown trees or a fence; they were at the meeting and they had asked for these. They have trees planted 25ft. apart, which was stated in the meeting they would be 15ft. apart so when the 25ft. trees grow they are still going to still see straight through Wegmans and 800 cars. She said this is a residential neighborhood and it has been there for a very long time. These homes were built for veterans when they come from World War II. Her husband came home from Vietnam and that's the first neighborhood they went to because at that time the Veterans Administrations were offering loans for our veterans coming home from Vietnam so they chose those homes so they could afford to live there. She said they don't even think they can sell now. They had decided to retire there, but now all of them on that street don't what to do; to sell, pull out or what, because they are not going to be able to sell their homes because nobody is going to want to look at this. She said while they've been in construction they have had to call a number of times (tape change) take those trees away, it's all blowing. And if they are gone all day and no one is there to make the call, they come home and they find the chips, and the debris, and the dirt in their driveway and on their cars. To them, it is interfering with their lifestyle, besides the sounds, so they need something there in front of them where they are not looking at a commercial area.

Councilor Venesky said he would look into it.

Supervisor Zambrano said they would have the codes office look into it. She asked Fay Gregory if she had talked to Richard Hooper this year.

Fay Gregory said no, they talked to him at the last meeting (Planning Board meeting) because when they got home, when they mentioned verbally that the trees were going to be planted that far apart we thought we were okay with that (that if they were going to grow then they would be wide enough, maybe) but when they looked at the map it was 25ft. apart, so she did bring that up to Mr. Hooper and she did talk to him about that last year.

Supervisor Zambrano said they'll have him look and see what was approved by the planning board.

Fay Gregory asked if anything could be done.

Supervisor Zambrano said let's have him evaluate the situation and talk to her and then they could talk about that. She said she couldn't answer her if anything can be done right now until they look at that.

Fay Gregory asked if it was their responsibility to call the zoning officer every time something happens.

Supervisor Zambrano said she thinks they would prefer that, but she would relay this information to them.

Fay Gregory said we would like for future building, or a future property that's going to be used, to please, please consider other residential areas. They wouldn't want this to happen to anyone again.

Judy Boyke said on abstract no. 14 there is a line item for Onondaga County Water Authority 2015 unpaid water for \$4,924.81 where did that come from.

Supervisor Zambrano asked Councilor Cushman if he would look into that with Judy.

Judy Boyke said it seems a little steep, and she was curious as to why.

Councilor Cushman said he would check with Shirlie Stuart and then he'd get back to her.

Don Snyder said he just wanted to follow up on what was presented and asked the Board if they would like to entertain him contacting the architect that they've worked with to get him to give us a formal proposal for a design schematic on our current space program that we put together.

Supervisor Zambrano asked him if he meant to answer the RFQ.

Don Snyder said no. The RFQ is really to do the whole design, but by giving the people that come and respond to the RFQ a design schematic sort of what the building could look like helps them with the RFQ; it's something that he is used to doing with the state. They always had a design schematic done of expansion that they had at the hospital in just a rather gross way, not in detail, about how many sinks there were and that's what they gave in a RFQ to the design teams that would come in and say *okay, and by the way, based on your little design schematic and your space program we think that we would design a facility that would look like this*. He said it doesn't cost us to get that number and solicit that design.

Supervisor Zambrano asked Don if he was going to donate his services as a favor to him.

Don Snyder said no.

Supervisor Zambrano said well then we need to know specifics about how much we are talking about.

Don Snyder said right, that's why he is asking her whether she would like him to contact him and get a proposal from him, because we can give him a copy of the space program for the highway garage and based on that he could give us a set figure for how much and the time frame it would take. He said it would probably 3 or 4 weeks to put that together.

Supervisor Zambrano told him to get the proposal together and then they'll talk about it and try to get it on the next agenda, if it's appropriate to do so.

ADJOURN/EXECUTIVE SESSION

Supervisor Zambrano moved the adoption of a resolution to adjourn the regular session and that the Town Board, including Deputy Supervisor Bill Meyer reconvene into executive session.

Motion was seconded by Councilor Cushman.

Ayes - 5 and Noes- 0. *Motion carried.*

There being no further business before the Board the meeting was adjourned at 8:57 p.m.

Tracy M. Cosilmon
Town Clerk