

WESTCHESTER COUNTY BOARD OF LEGISLATORS

COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENT & ENERGY

MINUTES: April 3, 2009

MEMBERS (E&E): Chair: Abinanti; Legislators: Harckham, Kaplowitz, Myers, Nonna

IN ATTENDANCE: STAFF: C. Crane; GUESTS: G. D'Agrosa (WCDP); Hon. M. Murphy (Somers); Hon. D. Peters (Yorktown); K. Winn (Bedford DPW); N. Baage (Record Review)

Meeting called to order at 3:45 pm.

Item(s) Discussed: **East of Hudson Water Quality Projects**

Chair Abinanti initiated review of several watershed projects proposed to receive East of Hudson (EOH) funds. Yorktown Supervisor Don Peters introduced the Yorktown project for a conceptual design study on adding unsewered areas in the Hallocks Mill town sewer district. The proposed legislation includes a transfer of \$88,000 in EOH funds to a trust account and an intermunicipal agreement (IMA) between the County and Yorktown. Chair Abinanti requested a copy of the proposed IMA associated with the project. The Committee discussed the proposed project in light of other proposed EOH watershed projects. Leg. Harckham noted that the proposed project is solely local and is unrelated to county facilities or to sewage diversion. Leg. Kaplowitz moved the Yorktown project legislation for all purposes, contingent upon the IMA being provided to the Committee. Leg. Harckham seconded the motion, and the Committee approved the proposed legislation (all in favor).

The Committee next considered proposed legislation to fund a feasibility study for a new sewer district in Bedford Hills/Katonah and a wastewater treatment plant (WWTP) expansion. The proposed legislation includes a transfer of \$65,000 in EOH funds to a trust account and an IMA between the County and Bedford. Bedford DPW Commissioner Kevin Winn said the study will review the proposed project scope and develop firmer cost estimates. He provided a rough estimate of \$2,000 per homeowner for the collection system and WWTP improvements. Mr. Winn also noted that, unrelated to the project, Bedford will be constructing a new drinking water treatment

facility. Upon Chair Abinanti's suggestion that the County play a larger role in providing drinking water treatment, Leg. Harckham noted the possibility of an upcoming discussion on drinking water for the County's northeastern region. Upon the motion of Leg. Harckham, seconded by Leg. Kaplowitz, the Committee approved the legislation for all purposes, contingent upon the IMA being provided to the Committee (all in favor).

The Committee next considered an amendment to an existing agreement with the Town of Somers for an EOH water quality project. The proposed legislation amends the existing IMA between the County and Somers to revise and expand the project description to include replacement of a septic system at the Somers town library which is currently in failure. Somers Supervisor Mary Beth Murphy described the scope of the proposed project. After discussion, Leg. Kaplowitz moved approval of the legislation, which was seconded by Leg. Harckham. The Committee approved the legislation (all in favor).

At Chair Abinanti's suggestion, Supervisor Murphy, chair of the Northern Westchester Watershed Committee (NWWC), summarized the NWWC's recent activities and pending initiatives.

Chair Abinanti adjourned the meeting at 4:45 pm.

[audio recording of the meeting is on file]