

Open Work Session

Capital Improvement Budget and Program – Department of Public Works Including Roads Division and Solid Waste Division

January 16, 2018

Mr. Dallas Baker, Director of Public Works, Mr. Mark Whitelock, Deputy Director of Public Works, Mr. Lee Outten, Roads Superintendent, and Mr. David Candy, Solid Waste Superintendent, came before Council.

Mr. Cannon asked for a quick overview of the items listed so Council can get a better idea exactly what it entails. Mr. Baker said he will start with the Engineering Division. He said the first project is funding for the Chesapeake Bay Watershed Improvement Plan and Implementation Plan. He said this is a reoccurring fund for each year of \$200,000 to implement WIP projects throughout the County, and this is also something they can use for drainage improvement projects. He said, to tie this into something that has been relevant lately, this is the funding they were using for the Pratt Road drainage study. He said when they look at improving drainage and include some form of water quality improvement, this is the fund they can use to make those improvements. He said they do have a goal of 2025 to try to meet all of those implementation plan projects and goals.

Mr. Baker said the next project is the Water and Sewer Masterplan for the upcoming Fiscal Year 2019 for \$300,000. He said this is to look at recommendations for how the County can provide water and sewer to areas outside of municipal boundaries that currently do not have water and sewer that might be experiencing failing septic or failing wells. Mr. Joe Holloway asked where they are going to spend the \$300,000, to which Mr. Baker responded, that is for the actual Water and Sewer Masterplan. He said it has not been bid out yet, and it is their intention to bid that out. Mr. Joe Holloway then asked if this will follow the recommendations George, Miles and Buhr gave for the Eastside and Ocean City Road area, to which Mr. Baker responded, it would be very similar to that except, instead of just concentrating on one area, it would be the entire County. Mr. Dodd asked if the \$300,000 is for a study, to which Mr. Baker responded, yes. He said the study would make the recommendation of whether or not it is better to expand the existing municipal systems, or partner with some organization, such as MES, or Artesian, or somebody like that.

Mr. Baker said the next project is the airport water main extensions. He said it is a project for the airport, and, as Council knows, they are already working on the design. He said this is also for FY 2019. He said the project is for the airport, but because of the subject matter and expertise being on the Public Works and Engineering side, it is something that has been added into the Engineering section to oversee. Mr. Kilmer said it mentions it would be paid for by a low-interest loan from MDE. He then asked Mr. Baker if he has the details on that, or is that to be determined, to which Mr. Baker asked for clarification. He asked if Mr. Kilmer means interest rates and such, to which Mr. Kilmer responded, yes. Mr. Baker said, off the top of his head, he would have to go and find out. Mr. Wayne Strausburg, Director of Administration, came to the podium. He said, going from memory, he believes right now the interest rate would be one-half of one percent, a very, very low interest rate.

Mr. Baker said the next project gets into their Roads Division. He said this is a project to update and rehabilitate the Anderson Mill Pond Dam. He said, currently, the County owns the roadbed in the downstream section of the dam, and the upstream section of the dam is privately owned. He said this is

a project they put in the CIP. He said the property was recently sold, and during that time, one of the potential buyers had approached the County about taking ownership of both sides of that dam. He said there is a private spillway that is controlled, and there are items on MDE's dam safety list in which they go through once a year and check the County's dams. He said there is some growth and vegetation on the private side they would like to see cleaned up, and some of the improvements really are beyond that property owner's ability to maintain. He said there are some downstream improvements they would like to shore up and stabilize as well. Mr. Joe Holloway asked, seeing what the County went through with Barren Creek, would it be advantageous for them to pursue that, to which Mr. Baker responded, he thinks it would. He said that is what they would like to pursue with this project. Mr. Joe Holloway said it sounds like they have a willing participant on that side, to which Mr. Baker clarified, at the time, the owner who was going to buy it was interested. He said he has not spoken with the person who won out the bid for that property, but the County would certainly like to take that over.

Mr. Baker said the next project is the Bear Swamp Bridge replacement. He said this is a project that is a bridge on a dirt road in the middle of nowhere, and they would like to replace the existing timber bridge with a series of culverts. He said it is small enough that they could get the bridge off of their system so they do not have to keep maintaining it on their bridge program. He said the inspection is done, and the design is underway for the replacement. He said this is just funding money in the coming fiscal year for that actual construction. Mr. Joe Holloway said he thinks that is a good move. He said, if they divide the number of cars that cross that into that number, they would find it was a pretty expensive crossing, as there is not a lot of action back there, except during hunting season.

Mr. Baker said their next project is a dry storage building at the Roads Facility. He said they currently have capacity in their existing salt shed for about 700 tons of salt. He said they use roughly 160 to 180 tons per storm event when they get about 4 to 6 inches of snow. He said this would expand their capacity to hold additional salt, but also to hold other items, such as sand. He said it is helpful to have dry sand if there is a grease spill from a chicken truck, or an oil spill. He said, currently, all of their sand is stored outside in a big pile. He said it would be very helpful to have dry sand available for spill containment.

Mr. Baker said the next project is Hobbs Road at Beaverdam Creek. He said, if Council is familiar, it is out there by the Bridge's property, and the culverts underneath that road need to be replaced. He said this is a FY 2020 project, and it is their goal to use it as a design build as they think the culverts can be slip-lined instead of having to rip them out and replace, which would see a significant traffic disruption. He said, in the meantime, they would also put in an overflow pipe at a higher elevation in case those pipes did not have enough capacity to pass larger storm events. Mr. Joe Holloway asked if Mr. Baker has had any conversations with Mr. Bridge about this, to which Mr. Baker responded, no, not as of yet. He said this is something they just put in the CIP this year. Mr. Joe Holloway said Mr. Bridge has offered cost sharing on this, and he has said he would help pay for it. He said he thinks it would be wise to talk to him, as well as the gentleman on the other side because he thinks that is his son.

Mr. Baker continued, the next project, which takes place in FY 2021, is very similar to what they just discussed. He said it is on Riverside Drive at Huntington Park. He said they propose to do a design build to slip-line those culverts underneath Riverside Drive, again, to avoid the traffic disruption. He said Riverside has a lot of traffic on it, and if they can get in there and slip-line everything, it would be a lot better for everybody.

Mr. Baker said the last project under the Roads Division is phase 3 of the Westside collector. He said it is funded out for FY 2020 and FY 2021, again, just completing that work. He said they have money in this year's budget, and it is their plan to try to go in and take care of the stream crossing, and do the clearing and grubbing for that portion of the road under this year's budget, which they have money for. He said in 2020 and 2021 they would take care of the rest of the project. Mr. Dodd asked if \$2 million will complete that, to which Mr. Baker responded, that is what they are thinking.

Mr. Baker said, moving on to Solid Waste, the first project is the Civic Center Recycling Center design and relocation. He said it is currently located in the Civic Center parking lot, and it is their plan to move it a little bit to the south off of Park Drive, basically across from where the Salisbury Dog Park is. He said there is a hill there, and really the cost is going into the design of a retaining wall so they can put the bins down there. Mr. Dodd asked if this is where the antenna was put up, to which Mr. Baker responded, yes. Mr. Baker said they have permission from the antenna folks to put a camera up there the same way they have done with Delmar. He said it will include lighting, room for parking, and a concrete pad. He said, basically, getting it out of the Civic Center's way, and putting it in another location that is still secure and safe. Mr. Dodd added, kind of out of sight. He said he stopped by there this morning, and all the bins are overflowing. He asked, if there is not a crew going out there, could Mr. Baker send one, to which Mr. Baker responded, yes. He said with the loss of Salisbury University's site on Avery Street, they are emptying it as much as they can. Mr. Dodd said it is good to see people are using it. Mr. Joe Holloway asked if they would be able to expand this, to which Mr. Baker responded, yes, it will be larger. He said this would be for next year's budget, FY19.

Mr. Baker said the next project is the landfill scale and scale house replacement. He said this is also for next year, FY19, to include updating the scales and the scale houses. Mr. Baker asked Mr. Whitelock when was the last time those were updated, to which Mr. Whitelock responded, those scales have been in place for 20 years, or a little bit more, and it is the same with the scale houses. He said the scales themselves are pay scales so they have to be held to a standard. He said, due to the age of them, they actually had to up their inspection of the scales to make sure they were accurate, so they have had to have someone come in quarterly. He said it is really getting to the point now where they are just trying to maintain and hold what they have, so they want to go ahead and get those out of the way and get some replacements. Mr. Joe Holloway asked, when they have to maintain those and have them checked by a company, does the State also check them, to which Mr. Whitelock responded, yes. He said they get checked by both, and, at one point, one was condemned and they had to shut it down until they could make the repairs to it, and that was the move that created going to a quarterly deal with the scale company to make sure they were accurate.


Mr. Baker said the next project is a landfill site drainage provision. He said right now the stormwater that comes off of the hill goes to two ponds, pond A and pond C. He said one is over on Brick Kiln Road, and the other is situated between the landfill and Roads Division. He said it is their hope that they can regrade the swales such that the stormwater will drain to the existing borrow pit, and that way all of the runoff will be kept on site. He said, by keeping it on site, it eliminates an avenue for MDE to come in and ding them on a notice of violation for any type of sediment issues. He said right now both ponds A and C discharge to waters of the State, eventually making its way over to the Wicomico River. He said, again, with putting in large grass swales they will be able to settle the dirt out of the stream faster, keep everything on site, and just take out one more avenue for MDE to get them in trouble. Mr. Cannon asked if that was where they got in trouble the last time, to which Mr. Whitelock responded, it has been every time. Mr. Baker said this project is also in FY19's budget.

Mr. Baker said the next project is just general convenience center improvements. He said they are going through every year and updating the docks, the compactors, and just general maintenance on the convenience center houses, and things like that. He said they have a specific allotment, and the next one will be FY19 for Quantico's dock. He said, again, it is just a repeating amount for every year so they can keep those things in good shape.

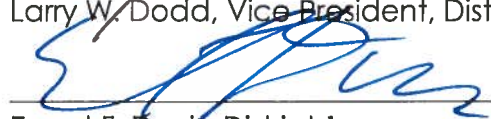
He said the last project is for cell 7 construction. He said right now they are currently building cell 9. He clarified, the cell numbers do jump around a little bit. He said this would be funding the design of cell 7 in FY 2021, and then construction in FY 2022. There was no further discussion.



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Joe Holloway, District 5



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Laura Hurley, Council Administrator