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NASSAU COUNTY LEGISLATURE

NORMA GONSALVES,  
Presiding Officer

PUBLIC WORKS AND PARKS COMMITTEE

VINCENT MUSCARELLA, Chairman

1550 Franklin Avenue  
Mineola, New York

Monday, January 9, 2017  
2:55 P.M

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

VINCENT MUSCARELLA,  
Chairman

STEVEN RHOADS, (Substituted by  
Vice Chairman Rose Marie Walker)

DONALD MACKENZIE

C. WILLIAM GAYLOR III

ELLEN BIRNBAUM,  
Ranking

LAURA CURRAN

ARNOLD DRUCKER

MICHAEL PULITZER  
Clerk of the Legislature

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LIST OF SPEAKERS

KEN ARNOLD . . . . . 5

1                   Public Works and Parks/1-9-17

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

7                   LEGISLATOR WALKER:   Here.

8                   CHAIRMAN MUSCARELLA:   Donald  
9   MacKenzie?

10                  LEGISLATOR MACKENZIE:   Present.

11                  CHAIRMAN MUSCARELLA:   Bill  
12   Gaylor?

13                  LEGISLATOR GAYLOR:   Here.

14                  CHAIRMAN MUSCARELLA:   Ranking  
15   Member Ellen Birnbaum?

16                  LEGISLATOR BIRNBAUM:   Here.

17                  CHAIRMAN MUSCARELLA:   Laura  
18   Curran?

19                  LEGISLATOR CURRAN:   Here.

20                  CHAIRMAN MUSCARELLA:   Arnold  
21   Drucker?

22                  LEGISLATOR DRUCKER:   Here.

23                  CHAIRMAN MUSCARELLA:   We have a  
24   quorum.   We have one item before us.   It's  
25   Item 5 of 2017, an ordinance supplemental to

1                   Public Works and Parks/1-9-17  
2   the annual appropriations ordinance in  
3   connection with the Department of Public  
4   Works.   Good afternoon.

5                   LEGISLATOR GAYLOR:   So moved.

6                   LEGISLATOR WALKER:   Second.

7                   MR. ARNOLD: Good afternoon.   Ken  
8   Arnold, Public Works.

9                   CHAIRMAN MUSCARELLA:   Can you  
10   just give us a brief?

11                  MR. ARNOLD:   Yes.   The department  
12   through NYSERDA received a grant for  
13   \$100,000 to do a micro-grid study for the  
14   Bay Park East Rockaway community as it  
15   pertains to the Bay Park Sewage Treatment  
16   Plant.   So this study the department will be  
17   looking at ways to help the local village  
18   utilizing some of the power facilities that  
19   are at the Bay Park facility.

20                  CHAIRMAN MUSCARELLA:   If I might,  
21   there was a motion made by Legislator  
22   Gaylor, seconded by Rose Walker.

23                  Do we have any questions on this  
24   item?   Yes, Ms. Curran.

25                  LEGISLATOR CURRAN:   Could you

1                   Public Works and Parks/1-9-17

2     please explain more what this means so the  
3     surrounding community can use the power  
4     facility, the power from the facility, how  
5     does that work?

6                   MR. ARNOLD:   Bay Park produces  
7     all its own power for the treatment  
8     facilities.   In addition, it's behind now a  
9     completed protected barrier.

10                  This would look to help the local  
11     village hall, fire department or other  
12     municipal facilities within the Rockaway  
13     community whether they could utilize the  
14     excess power during an emergency.

15                  LEGISLATOR CURRAN:   So this is a  
16     state grant to make that happen?

17                  MR. ARNOLD:   To study it.

18                  LEGISLATOR CURRAN:   To study it.  
19     Got it.

20                  CHAIRMAN MUSCARELLA:   If I may,  
21     this grant went to the incorporated village  
22     or went to us?

23                  MR. ARNOLD:   It went to the  
24     county.

25                  CHAIRMAN MUSCARELLA:   To the

1                   Public Works and Parks/1-9-17  
2   county specifically for the incorporated  
3   village?

4                   MR. ARNOLD:   Yes.   There are  
5   other parts of the county that the villages  
6   and towns have gotten these types of grants,  
7   but in this case the county received the  
8   grant.

9                   CHAIRMAN MUSCARELLA:   It is  
10   conditioned that it be used for the village  
11   of East Rockaway?

12                  MR. ARNOLD:   The East Rockaway  
13   Bay Park community, yes, this particular  
14   grant.

15                  CHAIRMAN MUSCARELLA:   Okay.   Ms.  
16   Birnbaum.

17                  LEGISLATOR BIRNBAUM:   Did the  
18   Village of East Rockaway initiate the  
19   process of this grant?

20                  MR. ARNOLD: I believe this came  
21   out of the scoping sessions that were done  
22   by New York State as part of the community  
23   CR program when the looked at all the  
24   different problems associated with Hurricane  
25   Sandy.   They met with the various

1                   Public Works and Parks/1-9-17  
2       communities. They were looking for  
3       different solutions to different problems.

4                   Micro grids were brought up at  
5       that point and I believe that's where that  
6       came from and there were village people on  
7       those review boards, review committees.

8                   LEGISLATOR BIRNBAUM: Is that the  
9       normal process for NYSERDA to give the grant  
10      to the county to give to the village?

11                  MR. ARNOLD: I'm not sure if  
12      that's the normal process.

13                  LEGISLATOR GAYLOR: I have a  
14      question.

15                  CHAIRMAN MUSCARELLA: Ms.  
16      Birnbaum, do you have more questions?

17                  LEGISLATOR BIRNBAUM: No. No  
18      questions.

19                  CHAIRMAN MUSCARELLA: Legislator  
20      Gaylor.

21                  LEGISLATOR GAYLOR: So this is  
22      not just solely contained within the village  
23      of East Rockaway. Bay Park is the community  
24      that sits immediately outside the treatment  
25      facility, they would see the primary benefit



1                   Public Works and Parks/1-9-17  
2   of micro grid and then I guess Village of  
3   East Rockaway then could piggyback on it as  
4   well, so it's not all within the village,  
5   it's a town or a county as well benefits.

6                   MR. ARNOLD:   Well, I was looking  
7   municipal facilities so other than maybe  
8   street lighting, the LE municipal facilities  
9   that are down there are for the village.

10                  LEGISLATOR GAYLOR:   Well, there's  
11   a railroad that runs through there as well,  
12   do they benefit from this possibly?

13                  MR. ARNOLD:   I'm not sure if  
14   that's within the study scope of what we're  
15   looking to do.   I know the emergency  
16   response facilities which would include the  
17   fire department, village hall, and public  
18   works facilities, and East Rockaway are the  
19   ones that I believe are the focus of this  
20   study.

21                  LEGISLATOR GAYLOR:   Okay.

22                  CHAIRMAN MUSCARELLA:   It's my  
23   understanding, I don't know if you know if  
24   this is true or not, but I've just been told  
25   that the East Rockaway Fire Department are

1                   Public Works and Parks/1-9-17  
2   the first responders for the Bay Park  
3   treatment center; is that correct?

4                   MR. ARNOLD:   That is true.

5                   CHAIRMAN MUSCARELLA:   Okay.  
6   Honestly, I don't know whether this is the  
7   way this normally happens or it doesn't  
8   normally happen this way, or if the county  
9   has to be the vehicle through which this  
10   passes, but it seems to me that if that's in  
11   fact the case, that East Rockaway is the  
12   primary first responder for Bay Park and Bay  
13   Park is a county facility, this is something  
14   that I don't have any objection to.

15                  And, perhaps, if we have  
16   additional questions with respect to how  
17   this actually works, we can ask and get  
18   those things answered before we vote on  
19   this, but if there are no other questions --  
20   Mr. Drucker.

21                  LEGISLATOR DRUCKER:   Just one.  
22   What other sewage treatment plants are  
23   eligible?

24                  MR. ARNOLD:   I'm not sure  
25   eligibility is the right term.   I know down

1                   Public Works and Parks/1-9-17  
2     in Cedar Creek, it also produces its own  
3     power, but there was no discussion of using  
4     that as a micro grid for other communities,  
5     so I'm not sure. I think this came out of  
6     the CR committee's discussion of how we can  
7     help that community that had totally lost  
8     power during Sandy and how they can keep  
9     some of their operations up and running.

10                   So I'm not sure. This grant was  
11     given to us by NYSERDA. I'm not sure what  
12     their criteria -- why they selected Nassau  
13     County.

14                   LEGISLATOR DRUCKER: I'm just  
15     curious if you know or if you are aware of  
16     any other treatment plants that might have  
17     to have this micro grid as well?

18                   MR. ARNOLD: No, I'm not.

19                   LEGISLATOR DRUCKER: So does each  
20     of the treatment plants have their own micro  
21     grids already or was the micro grid that was  
22     installed at Bay Park was the biproduct of  
23     Hurricane Sandy --

24                   MR. ARNOLD: Let me back up. All  
25     the county sewage treatment plants produce

1                   Public Works and Parks/1-9-17

2     power.    Glen Cove produces only backup  
3     power, it's primary feed is LIPA or New York  
4     Power Authority.

5                   So this is looking at how we can  
6     utilize the power at Bay Park to support the  
7     surrounding community during an event where  
8     their first power source, which would be  
9     PSEG, was lost.

10                  So right now this is looking at a  
11     study, is it feasible, if feasible, what  
12     would we look to connect.    The second part  
13     is, which would probably be a separate grant  
14     that we would compete for, would be to  
15     supply the equipment to do that connection.

16                  LEGISLATOR DRUCKER:   Thank you.

17                  CHAIRMAN MUSCARELLA:   And would I  
18     be correct if maybe assuming that whatever  
19     this study finds in terms of the feasibility  
20     of Bay Park to provide the micro grid, that  
21     might be usable in other treatment  
22     facilities of a similar type?

23                  MR. ARNOLD:   That would be a good  
24     assumption.   There would be certain parts  
25     parts of that study that would be programmed

1                   Public Works and Parks/1-9-17

2       no matter what district the facility would  
3       be.

4                   CHAIRMAN MUSCARELLA:   Any other  
5       questions?

6                   (No verbal response.)

7                   Is there any public comment?

8                   (No verbal response.)

9                   All those in favor of moving this  
10      item on please say aye.

11                   (Aye.)

12                   Any opposed?

13                   (No verbal response.)

14                   The item carries unanimously.

15      There being no further business, motion is  
16      made --

17                   LEGISLATOR WALKER:   So moved.

18                   LEGISLATOR GAYLOR:   Second.

19                   CHAIRMAN MUSCARELLA:   By Rose  
20      Walker to adjourn, seconded by Mr. Gaylor.  
21      All those in favor?

22                   (Aye.)

23                   Any opposed?

24                   (No verbal response.)

25                   We are adjourned.   Next up is

1                   Public Works and Parks/1-9-17

2     Finance.

3                   (Whereupon, the Public Works  
4     Committee adjourned at 3:03 p.m.)

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C E R T I F I C A T E

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

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

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

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set  
my hand this 24th day of January, 2017.

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FRANK GRAY