

GENERAL SERVICES COMMITTEE

April 15, 2025

Present: Andrea Moroughan, Chair; Josh Leviker, Vice-Chair; Herb Frost; Thomas Kalamas; and Jeff Nellenback.

Legislator Moroughan called the meeting to order at 1:02 p.m.

Legislator Moroughan moved to approve the March 18, 2025 committee meeting minutes as recorded, seconded by Legislator Frost, and carried.

Community Connections Initiative – Jackie Mahoney, Director of Recreation, Forestry & Parks

The Community Connections Initiative was created at the April 24, 2023 Round Table meeting with the various ATV Clubs in Lewis County. This initiative is to create trail connections in four areas, Martinsburg to Glenfield to Watson; Hideaway to West Leyden to Osceola; Greig to Lyons Falls; and Lyonsdale to Port Leyden. A map was shown indicating where the current access trails are located. It showed that there are no trails connecting Watson to the Northern portion of the County. The goal is to connect areas with businesses by creating trails or opening portions of roads by following New York State law and working with the Towns in the County.

The road connections have been a work in progress for some time. Letters were sent out to all adjoining landowners explaining the expansion routes. The Martinsburg to Glenfield to Watson corridor timeline was letters being mailed to all adjoining landowners on June 13, 2023; notice posted in the Journal & Republican to run from June 21st through June 27th, 2023; Notice was aired on the Moose 99.3 and 103.1 radio stations; on June 27, 2023 there was a public outreach presentation at the 3G Firehall with 29 attendees that resulted in 1 person against the expansion, 7 undecided, and 21 for.

Opening roads is not easy, New York State limits it to only roads between trails and areas. The online survey was completed by 49 people and only 4 were against trail expansion because they didn't want any trail on their property. In order to continue expansion, there is outreach done to find landowners who are willing to participate. A map was shown that indicated by blue rectangles the landowners that are willing to participate in trail expansion. Over time things happen, property gets sold and the new owner isn't willing to participate, Glenfield Complete Streets project begins, and you can't open a portion of the road when it's in the middle of construction, a landowner passes away.

The area is scaled back quite a bit to make connections in an area where the agreements with landowners are in place and ready. Another map is shown which indicates the section of roads and trails that would be added to make the connection from Martinsburg to Glenfield. The recommendation today is for the opening of Glendale Road, Main Street, Blue Street, and Glenfield Road. This process is not quick and takes quite a while even when things line up and landowners are on board. A State Environmental Quality Review has to be done on each parcel and roads to address any possible impacts. After that a public hearing is held to get comments from the public as well. There was continued discussion.

The following draft resolutions were reviewed:

1. Authorizing the purchase, acquisition, and acceptance of real property in the form of rights-of-way's adjacent to Marshey Road over West Branch Oswegatchie River in the Town of Diana and those payments of said property be charged against the Bridge Replacement project.
AYE 5 NAY 0
2. Urging Governor Hochul to oppose the New York Heat Act during the 2025 Budget Process and Legislative Session and work together to develop alternative energy policies that are affordable, sustainable, and mindful of the economic impacts on New York families and workers.
AYE 5 NAY 0
3. Declaring no significant environmental impact from the State Environmental Quality Review Act review in adding the proposed addition of approximately 3.2 miles of County property and Robert & Jacqueline Aden property to the Lewis County OHV Trail System.
AYE 5 NAY 0
4. Authorizing the addition of approximately 3.2 miles of County property and Robert & Jacqueline Aden property to the Lewis County OHV Trail System.
AYE 5 NAY 0
5. Declaring no significant environmental impact from the State Environmental Quality Review Act review in adding the proposed addition of approximately 678 feet of Lynette Franks & Scott Lampson property and Louis Jr. & Connie Gorczyca property to the Lewis County OHV Trail System.
AYE 5 NAY 0
6. Authorizing the addition of approximately 678 feet of Lynette Franks & Scott Lampson property and Louis Jr. & Connie Gorczyca property to the Lewis County OHV Trail System.
AYE 5 NAY 0
7. Adopting Local Law No. 1-2025 "A Local Law Permitting All-Terrain Vehicle/Off-Highway Vehicle Operation on Approximately 0.1 Miles of a Certain Portion of County Road 30 (Cemetery Road and Mill Street) in the Town of Martinsburg, to Connect the Existing OHV Trail System from the Town of Martinsburg Trail to and through the Franks-Lampson Property"
AYE 5 NAY 0
8. Adopting Local Law No. 2-2025 "A Local Law Permitting All-Terrain Vehicle/Off-Highway Vehicle Operation on Approximately 5 Miles of a Certain Portion of County Road 32 (Glendale Road) in the Town of Martinsburg, to Connect the Thisse Trail, the Gorczyca Trail, Whittaker Park, and the Franks-Lampson Trail"
AYE 5 NAY 0
9. Adopting Local Law No. 3-2025 "A Local Law Permitting All-Terrain Vehicle/Off-Highway Vehicle Operation on Approximately 0.3 Miles of a Certain Portion of County

Road 80 (Glenfield Road) in the Town of Martinsburg, to Connect the Existing OHV Trail System from the Thisse Trail to and through the Glenfield School Trail”

AYE 5 NAY 0

10. Adopting Local Law No. 4-2025 “A Local Law Permitting All-Terrain Vehicle/Off-Highway Vehicle Operation on Approximately 1.1 Miles of a Certain Portion of County Road 53 (Mainstreet and Blue Street) in the Town of Martinsburg, to Connect the Existing OHV Trail System from the Pioneer Trail to the Glenfield School Trail and Field Day Trail”

AYE 5 NAY 0

At 1:19 p.m. Legislator Moroughan moved to an executive session for discussion on a personnel matter leading to the appointment, employment, promotion, demotion, discipline, suspension, dismissal or removal of a particular person, seconded by Legislator Frost and carried.

At 2:00 p.m. Legislator Kalamas moved to regular session, seconded by Legislator Forst and carried.

There being no other business to come before the committee, Legislator Frost moved to adjourn at 2:01 p.m., seconded by Legislator Nellenback, and carried.

Respectfully submitted,
Cassandra Moser, Clerk of the Board