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County looking at Davison Road sale

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Lockport Union-Sun & Journal — The Niagara County Legislature will hold a special meeting next week to start a bidding process involving the sale of the county's Davison Road property.

The meeting will be held at 7 p.m. Tuesday in the legislative chambers of the Niagara County Court House on Hawley Street. The Administration committee will meet before, at 6 p.m. in the chambers.

Declaring the Davison Road facility surplus property was a late-added resolution for the Legislature on Tuesday night, but the measure never made it past a quick meeting of the body's Administration committee. The matter was blocked by Legislator Dennis Virtuoso, D-Niagara Falls, so the four-member minority had a chance to review it.

The Davison Road property, which used to be the home of Niagara County Social Services and, before that, the county infirmary, has gone unused since 2003. R.B. Mac of Lockport was close to purchasing the 17-acre property last year but that deal fell through.

The surplus declaration, needed in order to sell the land, does not include both of the county's records storage buildings, the An-Jo League baseball diamonds, an old nearby cemetery and the golf course storage and irrigation buildings.

Niagara County lawmakers are also requesting the U.S. Corps of Engineers to finally address the Lake Ontario Ordinance Works storage site on Balmer Road in Lewiston.

At a meeting with the Community Services committee last week, Legislator Clyde Burmaster, R-Ransomville, said the matter was long overdue for a resolution.

The Corps had set a 10-year time frame for arriving at a solution. That was 20 years ago, Burmaster said.

"There's still no decision," he said.

The Balmer Road site was used in the 1940s to make bombs, using high energy fuels that were toxic and radioactive. Tuesday's resolution asked for closure to the matter by the end of June.

Chairman Bill Ross, C-Wheatfield, said an informational meeting will be held at 6 p.m. Monday in the third building on the Lewiston-Porter school campus.

- Legislators appointed Jennifer Fronczak of North Tonawanda as the new Republican county elections commissioner. Fronczak will replace longtime GOP commissioner Mary Ann Casamento, who retired at the end of 2013.

A former elections clerk with the Board of Elections, Fronczak was formally nominated by the GOP executive committee last month.

- Lawmakers awarded a contract Tuesday to Concrete Applied Technologies Corp. of Alden for the replacement of the Lockport Road bridge over Bergholz Creek in Wheatfield.

Concrete was the low bidder at \$492,527.

- The Legislature approved a five-year contract with Info Quick Solutions, Inc. for integrated record management services in the County Clerk's Office. The tab is \$14,520 per month.
- County legislators also approved a tax exemption for a 13-mile water line for the City of Lockport.

The line runs through a number of municipalities to get to the Summit Street water filtration plant.

Originally passed by county lawmakers on June 17, 2008, the agreement gives the city a 100 percent tax exemption for five years. It was conditional on the city using the savings to set up a fund to pay for repairs or improvements needed for city water lines.

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