

Village of Potsdam - Airport Commission
Regular Meeting - Thursday, September 17, 1998, 7:00 p.m.
Civic Center Tech Center Classroom

The meeting was called to order by Paul McGrath at 7:00 p.m.

1. Attendance: Brad Clements, Paul McGrath, George McLean, Ed Kear, Ruth Garner, Jim Dalton, Michael Weil, Jim Parks,
2. Update on Taxiway Work: Brad said that the project is proceeding slowly. We discussed the contractors operations; pavement and base were removed totally in anticipation of expeditiously completing scarifying and re-basing. Rain interfered with the operations, making the taxiway extremely muddy and halting continued operations.
3. Airport Activity: Brad noted that there are 2-3 flights per day, or about 15-16 per week. This number is significantly lower than the 1992 data which estimated 6,000 operations per year (about 16 per day), with 1998 projections of 7,486 per year (about 21 per day).
4. Lighting/Electricity Costs: Brad led a discussion on the premise that aircraft landing at Ogdensburg are clicking up our field lights as a result of turning on Ogdensburg's. Brad noted that he would check out the time the lights are automatically on per click-up, and the associated cost. Brad will be connecting a computer to the lighting circuit to count the number of times the lighting is activated. This data can then be used to determine the cost of the lighting, and can be compared with the number of times the lighting is activated by aircraft using our field. This will help determine the desirability of looking for a new frequency for our system.

Mike reported that during the startup of the taxiway job, the runway lighting circuits were tested for "ground-leakage" using a meggar test. The results showed that the circuits have some shorts to ground. These shorts could, in part, explain increased electric costs, since electricity will go to ground as well as the lights.

5. Economic Benefit Analysis: **Brad asked for help on an economic impact and benefit study for the airport.** He wants to look at the direct vs indirect cost/benefit relationship. The intangible benefits (UPS, hospital, etc) are currently not well documented.

Brad also discussed a phone conversation he had with Steve Campbell of NYSDOT. Steve is looking state-wide for fueling needs and documenting approximate costs for inclusion in future funding opportunities.

6. Other: Mike discussed sales tax redistribution and asked commission members to contact legislators and make their view known. The Village is not in a good financial position to provide future airport support, and increased distribution from county sales tax will help. Commission members also requested to attend a September 29th county public hearing on the issue.

The next meeting is scheduled for 6:00 p.m. October 1, 1998 and is to be held in the Civic Center Tech Center Classroom.

Motion to adjourn at 8:45 p.m., all in favor.

Notes taken/prepared by M Weil