

COMMISSIONERS REGULAR MEETING

March 1, 2017

YORK,ss

At a regular meeting of the County Commissioners of the County of York, begun and holden at the York County Government Building in Alfred, within and for the County of York, being held on Wednesday, March 1, 2017 A. D. at 4:30 P. M.

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT:

Sallie Chandler
Marston D. Lovell
Richard R. Dutremble
Michael J. Cote
Richard Clark

County Manager Gregory Zinser was present at the meeting.

All present were invited to rise and salute the flag of the United States.

Call Meeting to Order

YOU ARE INVITED TO RISE AND SALUTE THE FLAG OF THE UNITED STATES

03-01-17

ITEM

- 1 PUBLIC COMMENT(S) ON ANY ITEM(S)**
Susan Wiswell from Kittery spoke regarding a referendum question that will be on the ballot regarding a casino being built in York County. Ms. Wiswell presented a letter with information on this matter (letter attached as record).
- 2 TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE FEBRUARY 16, 2017 MEETING**
Commissioner Cote motioned to approve the minutes. Commissioner Lovell seconded the motion. Vote 4-1 (Commissioner Dutremble abstained as he was absent at last meeting.)
- 3 TO APPROVE TREASURER'S WARRANTS**
 - a. Payroll warrant #201708 (\$38,056.01)
 - b. Payroll warrant #0178 (\$152,861.94)
 - c. AP warrant #CP021617 (\$12.80)

- d. AP warrant #CC01021 (\$9,023.05)
- e. AP warrant #AP02221 (\$401,963.81)

Commissioner Clark motioned to approve the above warrants. Commissioner Cote seconded the motion. Vote 5-0.

4 TO HEAR ANY REPORTS OF THE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

- a. Commissioner Dutremble and Commissioner Cote to report on meeting with Speaker of the House-

Commissioner Dutremble informed all present that some members of the Jail Working Group Committee visited Maine Speaker of the House, Sara Gideon. He stated that it was a good meeting and that County Manager Zinser gave a good report. Commissioner Dutremble added that the Speaker agreed that the Bills are good for Counties. He added that those bills reflect what we are trying to accomplish. Commissioner Lovell asked if the Commissioners and County Manager had read the e-mail from MCCA Executive Director regarding LD302 that states there is no additional money available for York County(jail). The County Manager explained that Commissioner Cote, through his role on the Maine County Commissioners Association, helped work on the bills that include Medicaid/Medicare, sentencing of prisoners and video arraignment, The County Manager stated that the Committee identified multiple items that have an effect on the jail budget. He told the Commissioners that he will send the five Bills (legislative) to them but that the Medicare/Medicaid one has not been printed yet. The County Manager continued that our goal was to get Speaker Gideon to listen and see that a cross section of individuals have gathered to get together to try and find a resolution to jail funding.

- b. Commissioner Cote to give update on MCCA meeting-
Commissioner Cote informed all that the topic of the meeting was the legislation just discussed. Everyone is talking about what their counties are doing to promote these items. Also, Executive Director, Rosi Kulow, gave her notice of retirement. The MCCA Executive Board is going to advertise for her job and interview.

5 TO HEAR ANY REPORTS OF THE COUNTY MANAGER

- a. Update on health insurance

The County Manager explained that there is a tentative agreement with NCEU on a move to NCEU's health insurance plan. Enrollment will begin next week. Non-Union is going with MMEHT and the County Manager is waiting for wording from MSEA and CPA.

6 OLD BUSINESS

None

7 NEW BUSINESS

- a. Tony Palminteri, Alfred Selectboard member to address the Board –County Manager Zinser informed all that Mr. Palminteri was unable to make this meeting due to a legitimate reason.
Commissioner Lovell motioned to postpone item a. (Alfred Selectboard member to address the Board) indefinitely. Commissioner Dutremble seconded the motion.
Vote 5-0.

Discussion: County Manager Zinser stated that he wished to discuss with the Board the e-mails from Alfred Selectmen circulating to all towns. The County Manager asked if the Commissioners are okay with the letter he has drafted regarding this matter. This letter will inform Town and City officials that we remain in a quandary as to what they are looking for. They are being paid the statutory Maine Care rates.

- b. Schedule tax abatement denial appeal hearing for Bottaros (Lebanon property) (recommended date of March 15, 2017)

Commissioner Lovell stated that he won't be present at the March 15th meeting. The other four Commissioners will be present and are fine with this date.

8 PUBLIC COMMENT(S) ON ANY ITEM(S)

Rachel Sherman addressed the Board and stated that they have submitted language and that MSEA members are excited about MMEHT. Their concern is that what they were told is not what they are being presented with. County Manager Zinser replied that he felt the issue to be the level of guarantees that the Union is looking for. Commissioner Dutremble stated that the discussion constituted negotiations so it needed to stop.

Sheriff King addressed the Board and stated that he is also working on a letter as he has been receiving telephone calls from the Town of Alfred reference released inmates but he has not received any specifics from the Town. He voiced his concerns that there were news articles in the Portsmouth Herald insinuating that the jail isn't being run well and that he wants to get his voice out there with this issue. Commissioner Dutremble replied that this is why the committee was formed. A lot of things have been discussed and it will open eyes. He continued that it isn't mismanagement. Commissioner Cote responded that until we know what Mr. Palminteri wishes to meet with us about, we don't know what he's asking. The real question is at what point does that individual become "our" problem and not the Town or City that brought them to the jail. He added, should we educate cities and towns on these items? Sheriff King added that the issue is what the criteria needs to be as sometimes the person being brought in is in the sally port area and an ambulance is called. Commissioner Cote stated that perhaps a conversation about protocol and maybe the possibility of us then creating a letter to educate towns on what their responsibility is going to be once they get to jail. County Manager Zinser stated that the specific issue is the Town (of Alfred) is sending out misleading e-mails that can quickly be proven wrong. The draft letter is narrow and addresses one specific issue.

Commissioner Lovell asked the Sheriff what the current inmate census and current number of Corrections Officers is. Sheriff King replied there are currently 234 inmates and 68 corrections officers. There are ten vacancies and most of the last recruiting class was flushed out. Sheriff King reported that there was one good candidate so hopefully at next meeting we can be ready to seek approval on that hire.

Commissioner Clark asked if the letter discussed earlier was going out. He commented that he felt the letter needs to go out as allegations were made against the County and there has been no response to that. We can't wait for Mr. Palminteri to show up. Commissioner Clark continued that he supports the letter

and one letter go out and speaking with one voice. If Mr. Palminteri has other issues, we can deal with them then. Commissioner Clark also stated that the County needs to be on record and they're (the York County cities and towns) only hearing one side of the story.

9 TO CONDUCT AN EXECUTIVE SESSION ON PERSONNEL ISSUES PURSUANT TO 1 M.R.S.A. §405 (6) (A), ACQUISITION OF REAL PROPERTY OR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PURSUANT TO 1 M.R.S.A. § 405 (6) (C), LABOR NEGOTIATIONS PURSUANT TO 1 M.R.S.A. § 405 (6) (D) AND CONSULTATION WITH LEGAL COUNSEL PURSUANT TO 1 M.R.S.A. § 405 (6) (E).

There was no executive session held.

10 ADJOURN

Commissioner Clark motioned to adjourn. Commissioner Cote seconded the motion. Vote 5-0.