

COMMISSIONERS REGULAR MEETING

November 15, 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, November 15, 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. Finance Director Vicki Ridlon was also present.

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

Call Meeting to Order

11-15-17

ITEM

- 1 **PUBLIC COMMENT(S) ON ANY ITEM(S)**
Susan Wiswell congratulated Commissioner Lovell on his nomination as Saco's mayor.
- 2 **TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE NOVEMBER 1, 2017 MEETING**
Commissioner Cote motioned to approve the minutes. Commissioner Dutremble seconded the motion. Vote 5-0.
- 3 **TO APPROVE TREASURER'S WARRANTS**
 - a. Warrants dated 11-01-17 in the amount of: \$529,165.30
Commissioner Clark motioned to approve the warrant. Commissioner Cote seconded the motion. Vote 5-0.
 - b. Warrants dated 11-08-17 in the amount of: \$399,170.65
Commissioner Clark motioned to approve the warrant. Commissioner Cote seconded the motion. Vote 5-0.
- 4 **TO HEAR ANY REPORTS OF THE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**
 - A. Commissioner Cote to give update on MCCA meeting. He stated after discussion the Board unanimously voted to support Coastal County Workforce Group.

Commissioner Cote informed all present that he might consider taking the county health insurance and pay for it himself. The rest of the Commission is fine with that.

Commissioner Clark mentioned an e-mail he received in regards to the Board's nomination of their MCCA representative for next year. The County Manager responded that will be an agenda item for the December 6th meeting.

5 TO HEAR ANY REPORTS FROM THE COUNTY MANAGER

County Manager Zinser commented that the Spirit of America awards ceremony went well and had doubled in size from last year.

He reminded all that the Length of Service Awards will be handed out at the December 6th Commissioners' meeting.

6 NEW BUSINESS

a. Linda Corliss, H.R. Director to seek approval to hire Jennifer Leonard as part-time confidential assistant in the Commissioners' office with a start date of 11-20-17
Commissioner Cote motioned to approve the hiring of Jennifer Leonard in the position of part time confidential assistant in the Commissioners' office with a start date of 11-20-17. Commissioner Clark seconded the motion. Vote 5-0.

b. Linda Corliss, H.R. Director to seek approval to approve the transfer of Tatum Reynolds to the position of full-time Civil Process clerk with a transfer date of 11-27-17.

Commissioner Cote motioned to approve the transfer of Tatum Reynolds.

Commissioner Clark seconded the motion. Vote 5-0.

c. Review of fund balance policy and allocation of year end surplus – The County Manager distributed documents prepared by Finance Director, Vicki Ridlon showing the fund balance calculations before and after transfers as well as other documentation (attached as record to the minutes).

Vicki Ridlon spoke on York County's fund balance policy and gave an explanation on that as well as the other documentation distributed to the Commissioners.

County Manager Greg Zinser reviewed the listing of proposed allocation of year end surplus (sheet attached). He stated that for many years there has been a discussion of a garage for EMA and Facilities.

Commissioner Cote questioned the \$212,715 capital outlay for the jail video system. The County Manager explained that is assigned capital but there are problems with the video system at the jail so that needs to be addressed.

Commissioner Dutremble clarified the transfer to special projects reserve by stating there might not be adequate funds in year two and it might not be feasible to ask for the reduced amount of \$150,000 as stated in the proposed allocation of year end surplus. County Manager Zinser concurred but stated that he is hopeful there will be year end funds at the end of the next fiscal year like there were this year.

Commissioner Dutremble moved to approve the allocation of year end funds as proposed by the County Manager. Commissioner Cote seconded the motion. Vote 5-0.

d. Scheduling of poverty abatement (recommend 12-6-17 meeting)-

The Commissioners are in agreement with this date.

County Manager Zinser and the Commissioners congratulate Commissioner Lovell on his newly elected position as Mayor of Saco.

e. Approval of Teamster's contract-

Commissioner Cote motioned to approve the contract (length of contract 7-1-2017-6-30-2020). Commissioner Clark seconded the motion. Vote 5-0.

Commissioner Dutremble motioned to authorize the County manager's signature on the contract. Commissioner Dutremble seconded the motion. Vote 5-0.

f. Jail Boarding Rate discussion-

County Manager Zinser informed the Board that the Sheriff requested a discussion regarding this matter. He continued that over a year ago the Commissioners took the position that the boarding rate was \$108.00. He continued that our jail has fared well with its population while some other counties are still experiencing overcrowding. The Sheriff would like to discuss if the Commissioners might have an appetite to move on this \$108.00 rate at all.

Sheriff King addressed the Board and stated that we may be missing opportunities. Penobscot County is paying \$65.00 a night, per inmate to board at another facility due to overcrowding at their facility. He continued that he had mentioned to the Manager a few months ago that they wanted to send 10-15 inmates to the York County jail. Sheriff King went on to state that we could be smart about it and that he is willing to work with you all (Commissioners) to make some money for the County. Commissioner Chair Sallie Chandler commented that last time Penobscot County wanted us to take inmates for free and that she is glad to see that has changed. Discussion ensued as to how the \$108.00 boarding rate came to be the rate. Commissioner Cote replied that the sending jails met a few times and that Cumberland County's Finance Director as well as our Finance Director, Vicki Ridlon, were present. This number was based on the number given to us by the people who had the financial knowledge. Then, everyone dropped from \$108 to get inmates. They didn't live up to the intention of the agreement, stated Commissioner Cote. He added that the bidding wars have gotten ridiculous. Commissioner Cote stated that if we are going to make a little bit of money, maybe it's something to think about but that we need to really evaluate and examine it.

County Manager Greg Zinser commented looking at the current boarding rate of \$108 and ways to alter that is going down a slippery slope. He reminded all that this number (\$108) is also the number identified in statute. He added that we need to figure where our budget fits in with the entire state. We don't know what the population numbers are going to be. Low balling ourselves now is opening ourselves up to criticism, stated Mr. Zinser, but, that doesn't mean we can't explore other options.

Commissioner Lovell commented that from an accounting standpoint, one would want to cover fixed costs and seek to minimize variable costs.

Commissioner Cote asked the Sheriff if he's had any conversations with anyone number wise as far as the medical part of taking inmates. Sheriff King responded that he has had some informal discussions but the number will be \$65.00 (boarding rate from Penobscot County) as that is what Cumberland County is getting.

Commissioner Dutremble asked if the prisoner is from a different county doesn't that County have insurance for them? The County Manager replied that the receiving facility takes on that liability. Commissioner Dutremble replied that would have to be stated in any contract we might have with another County for whom we board their inmates.

Commissioner Cote stated that we should at least give it some consideration in the future.

Commissioner Lovell added that he wanted to reinforce the County Manager's comment of how it might affect York County to alter its rate in future legislative Hearings.

County Manger Zinser added that might be legitimate ways around charging a daily boarding rate.

g. F.B.I. task force (executive session pursuant to consultation with legal counsel 1 M.R.S.A. §405 (6) (E)-

The County Manager stated that, at this point, there was not a need to go into executive session. The general concerns of the Commissioners were related to indemnity for this individual and protection for the County. These concerns have been alleviated. He asked what the Board wanted to do.

Commissioner Dutremble motioned to approve the FBI task force assignment for a York County Deputy. Commissioner Cote seconded the motion.

DISSCUSSION: Commissioner Cote asked if the personnel part of this assignment had been worked out. The County Manager replied no, that this is a separate process and that a side letter would be created with the Union.

Commissioner Lovell stated that he is in favor of aiding the FBI and reducing York County crime. He added that he will vote in the affirmative to allow the County Manager to proceed with the process to get the agreements.

Commissioner Clark stated that he is still concerned with this and thinks this should've gone through the budget process. By transferring an officer out, the Sheriff will reduce his ability to cover the work or it will be done with overtime and he is not sure that's a good solution. He added that he believes by reducing rural patrol and next year requesting another deputy that is going backwards.

Commissioner Cote replied that he respects and understand what Commissioner Clark says but that the Sheriff knows best where he gets the more bang for the buck. He continued that if we can take care of an issue, we may not need extra manpower. He added that he is looking at it as a diversion of manpower.

Vote- 3-2 (Commissioners Clark and Chandler opposed).

h. Procedural issue at jail (executive session pursuant to Public Records and Proceedings (FOA) 1 M.R.S.A. §402 (3) (Q) may be necessary)

Commissioner Dutremble motioned to enter into executive session. Commissioner Cote seconded the motion. Vote 5-0.

Commissioner Cote motioned to come out of executive session. Commissioner Dutremble seconded the motion. Vote 5-0.

No action taken.

7 **OLD BUSINESS**
None

8 **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).

a. 1 M.R.S. A. §405 (6) (A) personnel issues

Commissioner Lovell motioned to enter into executive session. Commissioner Cote motioned to enter into executive session. Vote 5-0.

Commissioner Dutremble motioned to come out of executive session. Commissioner Lovell seconded the motion. Vote 5-0.

No action taken.

9 PUBLIC COMMENT(S) ON ANY ITEM(S) *HEARD PRIOR TO ITEM 8*

Rachel Sherman addressed the Board and asked for a copy of the Fund Balance Policy and other related documents discussed at this meeting. Kathy Dumont will e-mail her the requested documents.

10 ADJOURN

Commissioner Lovell motioned to adjourn. Commissioner Cote seconded the motion. Vote 5-0. Meeting adjourned at 6:35 p.m.