

COMMISSIONERS REGULAR MEETING

April 1, 2015

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, April 1, 2015 A. D. at 3:30 P. M.

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT:

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

County Manager Gregory Zinser and H.R. Director, Linda Corliss were 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

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

2 TO REVIEW AND APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS MEETING OF MARCH 18, 2015

Commissioner Cote motioned to accept the minutes. Commissioner Dutremble seconded the motion. Vote 5-0.

3 HEAR ANY REPORTS OF THE COMMISSIONERS

Commissioner Cote mentioned that he attended the job fair at which our Sheriff's Office participated in. He stated that it was well attended.

4 HEAR A REPORT FROM THE COUNTY MANAGER

1. Introduce Sheriff King to recommend Commissioners' approval on transfer of Daniel Bean to deputy sheriff position-

County Manager Zinser introduced Sheriff King to request the transfer of Daniel Bean from the jail to the Sheriff's Office as a patrol deputy. This, stated King, is in response to the Commissioners' request that he take steps to address the jail deficit. Sheriff King added that Daniel Bean is a certified police officer. Commissioner Lovell asked if when the jail funding was more favorable would Mr. Bean be moved back to the jail. The Sheriff responded that was an option but that he didn't know when the jail budget might stabilize.

Commissioner Lovell motioned to approve the transfer of Daniel Bean from Captain at the York County Jail to the Sheriff's office as a deputy. Commissioner Dutremble seconded the motion. Vote 5-0.

2. Introduce Register of Deeds, Debra Anderson, to request hiring of Deeds Clerk –

County Manager Zinser introduced Register of Deeds, Debra Anderson to request the hiring of Emily Enger to fill a vacant position in her department. Emily is currently a corrections officer at the jail and had previously worked on a light duty assignment in the deeds office. Register Anderson reported that she was very pleased with the work done by Ms. Enger. Commissioner Dutremble asked what the starting pay would be. The County Manager responded that she would be compensated per the MSEA payscale, which is entry level salary at Class 4 and step 6 per her years of service with York County.

Commissioner Dutremble motioned to hire Emily Enger, as recommended by Register of Deeds, Debra Anderson. Commissioner Cote seconded the motion. Commissioner Lovell clarified the motion to include "*as controlled by Union contract.*" Vote 5-0.

County Manager Greg Zinser informed all that LD 166 was voted, "*Ought not to pass*". He added there was opposition from the Fire Chief's Association and the Professional Fire Fighter's Association.

The County Manager circulated a memo from H.R. Director, Linda Corliss, on behalf of EMA Director, Art, Cleaves, that the Commissioners consider approval of the hiring of Megan Arsenault as a temporary/casual employee for approximately three to four months to complete a project. This project is funded by part of the Seabrook plant planning grant. Mr. Zinser added that Megan is currently a member of the County's IMAT team. Commissioner Chair Chandler asked if when the grant was done, did the position end? Ms. Corliss replied that yes, it did, the funding is for a specific task and that Ms. Arsenault's offer letter will state this. Commissioner Cote asked the amount of hours Ms. Arsenault will work each week. H.R. Director Corliss responded approximately twenty five (25) but no more than twenty nine (29). Commissioner Lovell asked for clarification on whether this would preclude Ms. Arsenault from being hired for any other full or part time position that might become available within the County while she was employed to complete this specific assignment? Linda Corliss replied that she would still apply. Commissioner Lovell stated that he felt

this could possibly create another conflict adding that he was bothered that she might apply for another part or full-time position. County Manager Zinser replied that this is a term position so therefore different. Commissioner Lovell responded that both positions (one he is making reference to that created a conflict and Ms. Arsenault's) are grant positions with no benefits attached. The County Manager stated that Commissioner Lovell's directive was understood.

Commissioner Lovell motioned to approve the hiring of Megan Arsenault under the stipulation that if she were to apply for another position in the County while employed as a casual/temporary employee, she would have to resign from that position. Commissioner Dutremble seconded the motion. Vote 5-0.

The Commissioners discussed having a policy regarding the hiring of one employee for two part time positions and decided to address this at their next meeting.

3. County Manager to present Commissioners, Administration, building maintenance, Treasurer, benefits, debt service, public agencies and misc. reserves budgets

County Manager Zinser gave an overview of the FY '16 draft budget, pointing out the major categories for increased expenditures. ***Draft budget attached as record to these minutes.

4. Register of Probate, Carol Lovejoy, to present probate budget

(presentation heard last) County Manager Zinser explained there was an increase of \$10,946.00 in the Probate department. Register Lovejoy asked the Board if they had any questions. Commissioner Lovell questioned the decrease in the phone budget line. County Manager Zinser explained the conversion to FairPoint and the savings resulting from doing so.

Judge of Probate, Robert Nadeau, addressed the board. He distributed information (included as record). Judge Nadeau commented that he believed his position needs to be full time. He stated that it is difficult to balance the needs of the Probate Court and the County's interest in keeping costs down in conjunction with him being able to make a living. Judge Nadeau went on to state his position needs to be full time like that of the elected Sheriff and Registers of Probate and Deeds. Although paid for two days currently, Nadeau contends that he works three to three and one half days. He added that he receives a salary less than the Register of Probate. Judge Nadeau commented that he has spoken to the Cumberland County Probate Judge who agrees the Probate Court needs to be funded full time. He asked the Commissioners to consider funding this position full time, once and for all. Commissioner Chandler responded to Judge Nadeau, telling him the Commissioners would take this under advisement and discuss at their next meeting. Commissioner Dutremble questioned if the Commissioners have the authority to make the position a full-time one. The County Manager responded that they do. Commissioner Lovell asked County Manager Zinser if he had spoken with Cumberland County's Manager to see if they had any intention of making the position full-time. The County Manager responded that he had not, but, that he would do so. Probate Judge Nadeau also explained that since he now has a

private practice, there are often conflicts with attorneys so another Judge has to be brought in. He stated if he is brought on full time, this cost would be eliminated.

5. Register of Deeds, Debra Anderson to present Deeds budget (presented after C.M.'s budget presentation)

Ms. Anderson stated that her budget is slated to decrease by \$69,000.00. The County Manager added that the driver of this savings is due to County IT now providing hardware support for Deeds. Register Anderson added that another cost savings is due to her new hire having a lot less seniority than the former person in the position.

6. Sheriff William King to present Sheriff's Office budget

Commissioner Lovell asked if the transfer voted on earlier in the meeting was present in the Sheriff's budget. Sheriff King responded that it was. Commissioner Lovell questioned whether or not the Lieutenant position was included in Sheriff King's budget request. Sheriff King responded that it was and further explained that he and the County Manager had a good discussion regarding his budget but "parted ways" with the administrator position. The Sheriff stated he feels this position is needed. He believes a Lieutenant could take over some of the work the Captain did (referring to position held by Dan Bean prior to his transfer). Sheriff King continued that this position would improve their infrastructure. The County Manager clarified that his meaning of "*meeting the needs of the department*" means his demands in meeting the request of the Commissioners to fund the County budget. Sheriff Kings wishes to improve the objectives of his department. Commissioner Sinden commented that he believes at some point this position should be added. He further stated that the point is when the towns that do not fund their own police departments step up and assume the responsibility of their security. Other towns have to pay this additional amount year after year for the towns who do not choose to. He added that the concept of the contract officer is an outstanding one. Sheriff King added that he works with all police departments in York County. York County is leading the drug take back charge. Commissioner Dutremble stated that he will support the increase in the Sheriff's budget. Commissioner Cote commented that although he supports the Sheriff's office, we are answerable to the tax payers of York County. People who pay higher County taxes are the ones with big police departments. He added that he has spoken with many of his constituents and they do not believe the Sheriff's office should grow right now. Commissioner Cote further stated that a lot of people would like to see their budgets bigger but we have to concentrate on trying to work with what we have. Sheriff King reminded all that, according to the Department of Justice, based on York County's patrol size, his department should have 87 deputies. Commissioner Lovell requested a job description for the Lt. position proposed by the Sheriff as well as a job description for the part time facilities director position.

5 Minute break.
Back in session

County Manager Zinser continued his review of budgets. He informed all the communications budget would be increasing \$100,000.00. He added that he did look at other counties and towns as the Commissioners requested of him. Cumberland County did quote us a lesser amount but, clarified, this did not take into account any conversion costs, etc. He informed all that the County did make an investment when committing to go with Sanford dispatch. We upgraded our towers and gave Sanford our equipment. Commissioner Cote replied that his big concern is for the future in that Sanford's dispatch center is too small. He continued that he believed the cost will keep going up so he does not see staying with Sanford as a long term solution and advised that we need to look for one.

The County Manager responded that we are in an interesting position as we are a user of services-not a provider. He added that he feels the long term solution is that dispatch comes back to the County as it is the appropriate place for a regional dispatch center.

Commissioner Cote asked EMA Director Cleaves if he knew about any grants that might be available reference forming a dispatch center. Director Cleaves volunteered to do some initial research.

County Manager Zinser continued his review of the budgets stating that the health insurance budget has increased and will do so next year as well. He informed all that we have two bonds totaling about \$9 mil. Commissioner Lovell asked for more specifics on the bonds. The County Manager will send him the bond schedules. He then went on to the public agencies and stated that we fund three agencies per statutory authority and there are no increases in the funding for these. Mr. Zinser explained that it is the philosophy of the Commissioners to support organizations that provide assistance to the entire County. Commissioner Sinden added that we do support York County Food/Rescue in kind and with advice. He added that the Commissioners did vote to donate money for an improvement to the building.

The County Manager summed up the meeting by stating that at the next one EMA and the D.A.'s offices would be presenting their budgets. There would also be further discussions regarding facilities, the Sheriff's budget and the Judge of Probate's salary. The County Manager did add that the use of interchange judges was significantly less with the former Judge than with the current one.

5 NEW BUSINESS

None

6 OLD BUSINESS

None

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

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).

No executive session.

9 ADJOURN

Commissioner Dutremble motioned to adjourn. Commissioner Lovell seconded the motion. Vote 5-0. Meeting ended at 5:55 p.m.