

COMMISSIONERS REGULAR MEETING

October 16, 2019

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, October 16, 2019 A. D. at 4:30 P. M.

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT:

Richard R. Dutremble
Michael J. Cote
Richard Clark
Robert Andrews
Allen Sicard

County Manager Gregory Zinser was present at the meeting.

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

Moment of silence for John Sylvester

10-16-19 ITEM

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

None

2 TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF OCTOBER 2, 2019 MEETING

Commissioner Cote motioned to approve the minutes. Commissioner Andrews seconded the motion. Vote 5-0.

3 TO APPROVE TREASURER'S WARRANTS

a. Approve treasurer's warrant dated October 2, 2019 in the amount of \$206,695.23

Commissioner Clark motioned to approve the above noted warrant.

Commissioner Cote seconded the motion. Vote 5-0.

b. Approve treasurer's warrant dated October 9, 2019 in the amount of \$1,076,291.87

Commissioner Clark motioned to approve the above noted warrant.

Commissioner Cote seconded the motion. Vote 5-0.

4 TO HEAR ANY REPORTS FROM THE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Commissioner Clark reported that the Democratic Caucus met last Thursday and submitted five (5) names for Probate Judge. He added that the decision is now in the hands of the Governor.

Commissioner Cote informed all that the State Police Colonel and Public Safety Commissioner were at the Maine County Commissioners Convention and that he distributed information to them that will be part of a discussion later in this meeting with Sheriff King regarding police coverage for York County.

5 TO HEAR ANY REPORTS FROM THE COUNTY MANAGER

No formal reports

6 ENTER INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION PURSUANT TO 1 M.R.S.A. § 405 (6) (E) CONSULTATION WITH LEGAL COUNSEL

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

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

No action taken.

7 NEW BUSINESS

a. Introduce Lt. Col. Michael Vitiello to request purchase of transport van- County Manager Greg Zinser distributed information on van (costs) and explained that only one company submitted a bid. (attached as record)

Jail Superintendent Michael Vitiello explained he submitted the bid request to four Ford Dealers and only one replied.

Commissioner Cote asked is this simply a second van like the one we purchased in July?

Michael Vitiello replied, yes, but this is a 2020 with all- wheel drive.

Commissioner Clark motioned to approve the purchase of the van with a price of \$38,373.00 to the sole bidder- Stoneham Motor Company, Inc. of Stoneham Mass.

COMMENT: Commissioner Clark requested that in the future, he wants this(information) in his packet with the rest of the agenda items on Friday.

Commissioner Cote seconded the motion. Vote 5-0.

Commissioner Clark motioned to approve the bid to equip the van from Bob Barker in the amount of \$34,576.00 Commissioner Cote seconded the motion. Vote 5-0.

b. Introduce Lt. Col. Michael Vitiello to discuss Jail MAT program-The County Manager reminded the Commissioners that in December of 2018 they heard a presentation from ENSO Recovery Services. It now appears the program has the capability to morph into something different. Jail Administrator, Michael Vitiello, explained that he has had a conversation with the State Opioid Treatment Authority. (within DHHS). They extended a courtesy call to us to check in about ENSO. Michael told the State that they have no issues (with ENSO). The State made sole source awards at the time. Other providers had informed he and the Sheriff that they'd like to compete for the business moving forward. The initial program for the jail for MAT is funded through December 31, 2019. We would issue an RFP and then notify the State as to who we have identified as a provider and contract with them, explained the Jail Administrator. We requested of the State that we be allowed to contract from January1, 2020 through June 30, 2021. They have agreed to this. Lt. Col. Vitiello stated that he thinks there are four to five providers, including ENSO, who would be bidding on MAT for the jail.

Commissioner Clark asked how many people are currently in the program? Michael Vitiello replied approximately twelve. Commissioner Clark stated that he had concerns about possible change in counseling if there was a change in the MAT vendor. Lt. Col. Vitiello replied that he was not sure how that would work. Commissioner Clark asked who makes the decision whether or not the proposal meets the demands of the jail? Michael Vitiello responded that the Sheriff's Office will evaluate the programs and decide who we think will make the best providers. We will go to the State with the recommended program. Lt. Col. Vitiello added that the State also has community provided care. This is care that happens externally to the facility. We asked ENSO to keep that piece to give us time to look at the program for a start date of July 1st.

- c. Introduce Lt. Col. Michael Vitiello to discuss case manager for release planning (Nasson Health)- The Lt. Col. stated that he and the Manager and Sheriff met about a month and a half ago with Nasson Health to discuss possible ways for their programs to network with the jail. Release planning, community placement and housing came forth as possible programs. They have a number of community case managers working on these items so they already have an existing network. Mr. Vitiello stated that he'd be interested in doing a six- month trial to see what kind of impact they could have.

Commissioner Cote questioned what the cost to the county would be. Lt. Col. Vitiello responded, \$40,000 for six months. The County Manager explained it will bring in a case manager, social worker type of individual. Prior to the individual's release they will assist individuals with trying to get them continued health care and also aid these people with finding homes. He added that there are existing funds within the jail budget. Michael Vitiello stated that while he respects the budget process and does not typically introduce a new program outside of the budget process, he feels this is a necessary service. Commissioner Cote stated that he likes the approach and he thinks it makes sense. The key is justifying it afterwards, continued Commissioner Cote. He added that it is probably going to save us money in the long run and will be good for society. He gave the program his support. Michael Vitiello informed the Commissioners that the provider has been told if the data doesn't support the investment, we will not continue with the program.

Commissioner Dutremble asked if this program will also help the individuals to find jobs? Lt. Col. Vitiello will look into that. Commissioner Andrews asked how many people did the Lt. Col. think this would effect? Lt. Col. Vitiello replied that he didn't know, but that he is asking for a part-time person to help. Commissioner Sicard asked if Nasson Health has a working relationship with Layman Way? County Manager Zinser answered, yes, they do. Michael Vitiello explained that Layman Way targets a specific population. Commissioner Clark commented that this program sounds like a great idea. He asked if there will be a contract or an MOU? County Manager Zinser replied that yes, there will be one or the other. He added that he was waiting to see if the Commissioners are on board. Commissioner Clark stated that he would like to see the contract and wants it to go before our Legal department. The County Manager responded that he would have a contract at the next meeting.

- d. Introduce Sheriff King to discuss surplus box truck at Sheriff's Office- County Manager Zinser explained that he and the Sheriff have been discussing perhaps offering the box truck to a non-profit as the County no longer has a need for it. He asked the Commissioners how they want to handle this? Commissioner Clark replied that he can support donating it, but asked how will the decision be made as to who it is given to? After discussion it was decided to allow the County Manager and Sheriff to deal with the donation of the vehicle.

Commissioner Sicard motioned to authorize the County Manager and the Sheriff the authority to come up with a method to transfer the vehicle discussed to a non-profit organization. Commissioner Cote seconded the motion. Vote 5-0.

- e. Introduce Sheriff King to discuss State Police Coverage- County Manager Zinser explained this is a statewide issue that could have implications for the County. At a recent MCCA meeting he and Commissioner Cote attended, they listened to a presentation by the State Police Colonel and the Commissioner of Public Safety. He explained that they haven't seen a proposal yet but that it would appear the State Police are having the same staffing issues as other public safety groups are. They may be focusing their efforts to more specific items (crime lab, etc.) County Manager

Zinser stated that he left that meeting believing that the Maine State Police withdrawing from rural policing in York County is inevitable.

We need to be discussing this matter in the near future.

Sheriff King added that he had a subsequent meeting with both men.

They did say something about the possibility of switching towns. However, the Sheriff stated at the recent Maine Sheriffs' Association meeting, Washington and Hancock County were told that the State Police were not doing rural patrol anymore. There is no formal proposal as of yet, stated Sheriff King. But, eventually they do plan to phase out and not be in rural patrol anymore but concentrate more on highways, computer crimes and other such specialized tasks. etc. Once we get a proposal from the State Police, we will have to go to these five towns and tell them they need a contract deputy. Sheriff King suggested that maybe the towns purchase time and we come up with a fee.

Commissioner Clark asked if in the MOU with the State Police there is any clause?

Sheriff King replied, 60 days. County Manager Zinser stated that leaves us with

somewhat of a predicament. He added that some towns who now have contract deputies may not continue if "new" towns don't get them. This is a game changer.

Commissioner Sicard commented that four out of the five towns are geographically connected. Could they share an officer and pool their money to pay for that deputy?

Sheriff King reminded all that only amounts to 40 hours and there is 160 hours a week.

The Sheriff stated that in New Hampshire there is a statute that any town with a population over 3000 people has to contract with County or State Police. He suggested perhaps talking with our legislative delegation. Commissioner Cote stated that in the short term we have to work with the State Police as best we can. Small towns have received some sort of service either from the State Police or the Sheriff's Office. He added that Contracts are supplemental- not a long term solution or a fix.

Sheriff King stated that he thinks we are going to have to reinvent ourselves.

Commissioner Sicard commented that we need to be proactive and get something for 2020 and 2021. We need numbers for the budget process, he stated. Commissioner Clark commented that he represents five (5) towns that support 35% of the budget.

They all have police forces to the tune of about \$10 million. To think that we can continue to provide the same level of service to towns with loosing State Police is ludicrous. We need to figure out how we are going to do this. Commissioner Clark continued by stating that it is a hard to swallow for towns who pay for their police departments. He added that he doesn't think the Sheriff's Office can find and train five deputies in under a year as the pool is very tight. Commissioner Clark said that he supports the idea of asking the towns to share. Somebody has to step up. Nothing is free. Commissioner Dutremble stated that his district would support it. Small towns demand certain people to patrol, bigger towns can't do that, he said. Sheriff King agreed with the Board and said that he doesn't think it's fair to ask the larger cities and towns to support this.

- f. Introduce H.R. Director, Linda Corliss, to seek hiring approval of Miranda Bernhard in the position of corrections officer with a start date of October 18, 2019- H.R. Director, Linda Corliss requested that Miranda Bernhard be hired as a full time Corrections Officer with a starting date of October 18, 2019. She informed the Board that Ms. Bernhard has prior working experience with York County Jail. Commissioner Clark motioned to approve the hiring of Miranda Bernhard with a starting date of October 18, 2019. Commissioner Cote seconded the motion. Vote 5-0.

None

- 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), REVIEW OF CONFIDENTIAL RECORDS PURSUANT TO 1 M.R.S.A. § 405 (6) (F)**

None

- 10 PUBLIC COMMENT(S) ON ANY ITEM(S)**

None

- 11 ADJOURN**

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

Meeting adjourned at 6:03 p.m.