

COMMISSIONERS REGULAR MEETING

April 3, 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, April 3, 2019, 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.

Call Meeting to Order

04-03-19 **ITEM**

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

None

2 **TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF MARCH 6, 2019**

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

3 **TO APPROVE TREASURER'S WARRANTS**

a. Approve treasurer's warrant dated March 20, 2019 in the amount of \$360,384.69
Commissioner Clark motioned to approve the warrant. Commissioner Cote seconded the motion. Vote 5-0.

b. Approve treasurer's warrant dated March 27, 2019 in the amount of \$507,942.76
Commissioner Clark motioned to approve the warrant. Commissioner Cote seconded the motion. Vote 5-0.

4 **TO HEAR ANY REPORTS FROM THE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**

Commissioner Clark informed all that he will attend the Coastal Counties Workforce Board meeting in a couple of weeks. They will be discussing how they deliver services in various counties. If anyone has any concerns regarding this topic, please let him know and he will bring them to Board.

Commissioner Sicard requested a Moment of Silence for Maine State Trooper Detective Benjamin Campbell killed today.

MOMENT OF SILENCE

Meeting continued

5 TO HEAR ANY REPORTS FROM THE COUNTY MANAGER

a. County Manager to give update on LD 476-County Manager Greg Zinser gave an update on the bill advanced by York County and Cumberland. The bill (attached as record to the minutes) advances services currently delivered by DHHS. The County Manager stated that this bill was well received, and that the Committee gave close to one hour of time to discussion of this bill. In a week or two there will be a work session, stated Mr. Zinser.

6 NEW BUSINESS

a. Seek Commissioner approval on Resolution to change authorized business user on County Credit card agreement with TCM Bank, N.A. from former Treasurer, Frank Wood to Finance Director, Vicki Ridlon.

Commissioner Clark motioned to approve a Resolution to change the authorized business user on the County Credit card agreement with TCM Bank, N.A. from Treasurer, Frank Wood to Finance Director, Vicki Ridlon. Commissioner Cote seconded the motion. Vote 5-0.

b. Seek Commissioner approval on Resolution to appoint Finance Director, Vicki Ridlon as authorized business officer in order to open a vendor bank account with Citibank or JP Morgan Chase for purposes of funding the newly created CIGNA HRA. Commissioner Clark moved to approve a Resolution to appoint Finance Director, Vicki Ridlon as authorized business officer in order to open a vendor bank account with Citibank or JP Morgan Chase for purposes of funding the newly created CIGNA HRA. Commissioner Cote seconded the motion. Vote 5-0.

c. County Manager to begin review of 2020 budget.-

Commissioner Chairman Richard Dutremble commented prior to the commencement of the budget process that all departments need to let the Commissioners know if they are not satisfied with any items in their budget being presented.

County Manager Greg Zinser gave a review of the budget summary and informed all that this budget shows a 2.22% overall increase resulting in a tax increase of 2.73%. He went on to explain that there is a new section in the budget book as the Commissioners requested a status quo budget. Therefore, new requests are separate and are not reflected in the Summary sheet on page 1. The County Manager resumed his review and stated that the overall municipal assessment shows 2.73% or a little over \$463,000. He stated that there is a "softening" in the real estate world resulting in a slight reduction for deeds recording, transfer tax and copying.

Layman Way Recovery Center shows an increase due to the commitment of the Board to fund this item, explained Mr. Zinser.

Supplemental information- The County Manager explained that the tax assessment as shown is based on the proposed budget (new requests not included). The comparison (historical county tax assessments) is based on the proposed budget vs. prior, fiscal years.

State valuations- Mr. Zinser informed all that the County uses 2019 for the basis of determining our tax rate.

LD 1 calculation- The County Manager stated that York County does not utilize the entire amount allowed under LD1. He added that this budget uses \$140,000 of reserve account funds in order to reduce the municipal assessment.

i. Introduce Register of Probate, Carol Lovejoy to present 2020 Probate Office budget.- The County Manager explained that one big issue in this budget year for Probate is the adoption of a new Probate code. But the overall budget is being reduced by \$14,000.00. Register of Probate, Carol Lovejoy addressed the Board and stated that, as the County Manager mentioned, the largest increase in her budget request for 2020 is in the professional services line as there is a new code slated to go into effect on July 1, 2019 that requires more appointments of attorneys. Register Lovejoy also mentioned that there are two Bills currently in the legislature LD 531 that would require an attorney be appointed in all guardianship cases and LD 1021 that would require the court to pay for all indigent cases. Commissioner Clark asked if there had been any discussion on the State level or will this be an unfunded mandate?

Probate Judge Chabot responded that there was discussion among the Judges but that he was not sure that took place in the legislature. Commissioner Clark replied that they (the State) are supposed to deal with this on their side. It would be nice if they lived up to their obligation.

Commissioner Chairman Dutremble informed the Board that, in the past, the Board has voted on each department's budget after their presentation or waited until the end (of the budget presentations). He asked the Board which procedure they would prefer to follow.

It was decided to vote on each budget after the presentation with it being made clear that the Commissioners could still revisit the budgets before moving it to the Budget Committee.

Commissioner Clark moved to approve the Probate budget of \$624,665.00.

Commissioner Cote seconded the motion. Vote 5-0.

County Manager Greg Zinser stated that part of developing this budget involved all the department heads. He added that he wished to thank all the department heads for working with him. He also thanked April Powell who was an invaluable resource. The County Manager stated that he wanted to make sure the Commissioners knew how valuable April was in the budget process this year.

ii. Introduce Sheriff King to present 2020 Sheriff's Office budget.-

County Manager Greg Zinser stated that he and the Sheriff had several conversations as to where he wants to go with his agency. Vehicle costs are going up, stated the County Manager. He added that the Sheriff's Office is looking to buy the same number of vehicles. Watchguard is also a cost and is the in-car video system. The Sheriff reduced his overtime line by \$30,000. The County Manager continued that the Sheriff does have some new requests that have been talked about in the past and added that he feels they should be looked at.

Sheriff King distributed a fact sheet hand out to the Board and reviewed the items with the Commissioners. He added that thanks to Chief Deputy Baran, the department received about \$81,000 in grant money last year. He thanked Vicki's office (Finance) for the extra work in tracking and reporting the grant monies.

Commissioner Chairman Dutremble asked the Board if they had any questions on the Sheriff's core budget. Seeing none he directed they move on to the Sheriff's new requests.

The County Manager explained to the Board that the first additional budget request is for an Office Administrator beginning six months into the new fiscal year. This would amount to roughly \$41,000 if approved and resulting in a total increase of \$89,347 for the Sheriff's Office 2020 budget.

The next item is a request to add 25% to retain the School Resource Officer. County Manager Zinser reported that he and the Sheriff sat down over a year ago and discussed with Massabesic school administration and discussed their concerns and how we calculate the costs associated with that. The school will pay 75% and the county would pay the other 25%. This way, the deputy could patrol during non-school time. This addition to the Sheriff's budget would result in an additional \$76,000 or a 2.6% increase. With both requests, stated the County Manager, the increase is: \$117,000 or a little over 4%.

The County Manager informed all that he and the Sheriff are meeting with the school district the end of April. He added that he and the Sheriff did say to them that they must go through the budget process and that they might be able to help them but that the County does not want to be in the business of giving them another officer.

Commissioner Chairman Dutremble asked the Commissioners if they had any questions. Commissioner Clark commented that he has some concerns with the School Resource Officer. He explained that his towns all have full time police departments and resource officers. Therefore, he believes that to tax them additionally, is unfair. He stated that he wants to make that concern clear. If the people want a resource officer, they need to pay for it.

County Manager Zinser stated that he and the Sheriff may want to bump up that meeting (with the School officials) as he and the Sheriff are also concerned.

Commissioner Clark reminded the other Commissioners that he and the County Manager had a meeting with the Kittery Town Manager and Police Chief, and they wanted to know what they get from the county for their money. This is the kind of thing that "sticks in their craw".

Commissioner Cote commented that at the meeting he attended with school officials, it was stated that the School Board is asking why they are paying 100% if they aren't using the School Resource Officer in the summertime. Commissioner Cote said that his feeling was that they should be sending him (the officer) to training sessions in the summertime. He added that he thinks we need to have a serious conversation of how we handle this all the time but that he would support it at this time.

Commissioner Dutremble stated that he agreed with Commissioner Clark; that in his district (cities and towns) we sponsor our own (school resource officer). Commissioner Dutremble stated that teachers get paid yearly; why is the School Resource Officer different. The County Manager replied that there is a fixed salary and teachers can pick to get paid throughout the school year or while they are teaching. He concluded that this information is what he and the Sheriff will take back for their discussion with the Superintendent. We can say this is a onetime approach.

Commissioner Sicard stated that he has a concern with the "one time" approach as once you open the door, you could have other towns wanting the same. He added this would be establishing precedence. Commissioner Sicard advised tabling this portion until the meeting with school officials has taken place.

Commissioner Clark motioned to tentatively approve the Sheriff's Office budget as presented with exception of the SRO. Commissioner Andrews seconded the motion. Vote 5-0.

Dispatch (Communications) The County Manager informed all that the contract with Sanford expires in 2020 and that the county probably should start looking at other options. Back in 2009/2010, the County consolidated into Sanford Regional. Sheriff King stated that there are no problems with Sanford but that it is a big money contract and others exist that can provide the same service. We might want a consultant to come in to assist.

County Manager Zinser clarified that nothing would change in this budget, but we should start making determinations on when we need to move forward. The Manager agreed with the Sheriff that perhaps a consultant should be engaged. Commissioner Clark stated that it's always good to see what's out there and asked what the costs are to hire a consultant to develop an RFP?

County Manager Zinser explained that he is not looking into developing a full-blown RFP but more talking to towns who have dispatch centers such as Biddeford and York. Commissioner Clark asked what (budget) line would that come out of?

The County Manager replied either professional services, Sheriff's Office or out of contracted services in the communications budget.

Commissioner Clark motioned to accept the communications budget in the amount of \$657,516.00. Commissioner Sicard seconded the motion. Vote 5-0.

iii. Introduce Lt. Col. Michael Vitiello to present 2020 Jail budget.

County Manager Zinser informed all that the jail budget shows a slight increase of approximately \$58,000.00 or 6.8%. The Manager stated that at least this year the counties are not in the position of fighting for their money from the State. He continued that he is suggesting an increase up to \$1.9 million in the DOC investment fund. The County Manager commented the jail budget has lots of variables including the handling of staffing moving forward. He continued that the Commissioners have committed to board out until December 21st, if necessary. There is also an uptick in worker's compensation usage, inmate medical has a small increase in the 2020 budget and food service costs are up.

No questions on the jail budget from the Commissioners.

Sheriff King added that there are a lot of changing demographics. We are continuously trying to recruit.

Commissioner Cote asked the Sheriff how the video visitation bill will affect our budget. Sheriff King stated that the bill says "may" now and not "shall" so, we are all set. But we do need to watch for the feminine hygiene bill, stated the Sheriff.

Commissioner Clark asked what the ballpark figure is for the additional costs for transportation of boarding costs. Lt. Col. Vitiello replied there are no specific costs associated with that. He added that so many cross the border that we are at each other's facility daily or more. Commissioner Clark clarified that this (boarding) doesn't generate more trips? Lt. Col. Vitiello replied no, just normal wear and tear operations that he doesn't think will be reflected in any line items.

Commissioner Clark replied that he thinks we should have all the costs included in the cost (boarding out inmates).

Lt. Col. Vitiello replied that he can start tracking, specifically trips for borders. He stated that he will move that forward beginning May 1st and include it in a report that he will share with the Commissioners.

Commissioner Cote asked shouldn't the costs of moving borders to and from court also be included? Lt. Col. Vitiello agreed but reminded everyone that they would have had to hire and staff to move them to the courthouse in Alfred per the contract in 4-hour increments.

Commissioner Clark motioned to approve the 2020 jail budget as presented.

Commissioner Cote seconded the motion. Vote 5-0.

Commissioners budget-County Manager Zinser informs all this budget shows an increase of 3.77%

Commissioner Clark motioned to approve the 2020 Commissioners' budget.

Commissioner Cote seconded the motion. Vote 5-0.

Administration budget- This budget shows an increase of about \$23,000 or 2.28%.

Commissioner Clark questioned why the life insurance line went to 0. The County Manager replied that when the county switched to MMA, one of the byproducts is it provides life insurance.

Commissioner Clark moved to approve the Administration budget for 2020 as presented. Commissioner Sicard seconded the motion. Vote 5-0.

Building maintenance-The County Manager explained that in this budget money is moved around but that he is not asking for more. He added that in this budget there is an additional line for plumbing repairs but just moved money from other lines.

Commissioner Cote asked Facilities Manager, Rick deRochemont if he is satisfied with this budget? Rick replied yes, definitely

Commissioner Clark motioned to approve the building maintenance budget for 2020 as presented. Commissioner Cote seconded the motion. Vote 5-0.

Treasurer- Commissioner Clark motioned to approve the treasurer's budget for 2020. Commissioner Cote seconded the motion. Vote 5-0.

Retirement benefits-County Manager Zinser informed all that this line is up by 4.62%and is affected by contractual wage increases.

Commissioner Clark motioned to approve the retirement benefits budget.

Commissioner Cote seconded the motion. Vote 5-0.

Medical/Dental- County Manager Zinser stated that this budget reflects a 4% increase amounting to \$30,000.00.

Commissioner Clark motioned to approve the medical/dental budget as presented for 2020. Commissioner Cote seconded the motion. Vote 5-0.

Debt service-The County Manager stated that this line is going down \$16,000.00.

Commissioner Cote motioned to approve the budget for debt service for 2020.

Commissioner Clark seconded the motion. Vote 5-0.

Public Agencies-County Manager Zinser informed the Board that Southern Maine Planning & Development Commission has requested an additional \$3,000.00 but the others are the same.

Commissioner Cote asked why there was a request for more funding?

Commissioner Chair Dutremble, who serves on this Board, informed all that they have increased their rates for everyone (market adjustment). He added that they provide services to all the communities and that every municipality reaps the benefits. County Manager Zinser added that they are working with us now on a Brownfield assessment at no cost to us.

Commissioner Clark motioned to accept the public agencies budget for 2020 as presented. Commissioner Cote seconded the motion. Vote 5-0.

Contingency- The County Manager explained that the request of \$50,000 is the same as last year.

Commissioner Clark motioned to approve the budget for contingency for 2020.

Commissioner Cote seconded the motion. Vote 5-0.

7 OLD BUSINESS

The County Manager asked the Commissioners to hold a special meeting for the sole purpose of approving new hires (corrections officers).

Next Thursday, April 11th at 9 a.m. was agreed upon,

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) €.**

None

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

None

10 ADJOURN

Commissioner Clark motioned to adjourn. Commissioner Cote seconded the motion.
Vote 5-0. Meeting adjourn at 6:04 p.m.