

COMMISSIONERS MEETING

SEPTEMBER 4, 2012

YORK,ss

At a regular meeting of the County Commissioners of the County of York, begun and holden at the York County Government Building, Commissioners' Community Room within and for the County of York, being held on Tuesday, September 4, 2012 A. D. at 4:30 P. M.

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT:

Sallie Chandler
Daniel C. Cabral
Richard R. Dutremble
David Bowles
Gary Sinden

County Manager Gregory Zinser was present at the meeting.

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

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

None.

Item 2 TO REVIEW AND APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' REGULAR MEETING OF AUGUST 1, 2012 AND COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' SPECIAL MEETING OF AUGUST 15, 2012

Commissioner Sinden motioned to approve the minutes of the Commissioners' meeting of August 1, 2012. Commissioner Bowles seconded the motion. Vote 5-0.

Commissioner Sinden motioned to approve the minutes of the special meeting of August 15, 2012. Motion seconded by Commissioner Cabral. Vote 5-0.

Item 3 TO HEAR ANY REPORTS OF THE COMMISSIONERS

None

Item 4 TO HEAR ANY REPORTS OF THE COUNTY MANAGER

There was a brief discussion of the draft Ethics Policy with the County's Attorney, Gene Libby. It was decided that the policy be acted on at the next Commissioners' meeting.

COPS grants- Sheriff Ouellette addressed the Board and explained that he has obtained letters from Shapleigh and Parsonsfield that they will have the issue of a deputy on their warrant (annual meeting).

Commissioner Dutremble motioned to accept the grant. Commissioner Cabral seconded the motion.

Discussion- Commissioner Sinden stated he felt the motion to be premature. He stated that the Commissioners could take a vote stating Commissioners are willing to "step up" if they (towns) vote to accept taking on a deputy. Commissioner Dutremble stated that over the last couple of months some of our deputies have been assaulted. He feels times are changing and more personnel are needed. He feels this issue needs to be looked at from a safety point. Commissioner Dutremble added that he will not vote for these grant positions if communities have not stepped forth to obtain a contract deputy when the grant runs out in three years. Commissioner Sinden stated that he wondered where these towns are that cannot afford \$40,000. He went on to state that he will not punish the towns he represents by giving more money to towns who will not contribute to get their own deputy. He doesn't understand why we need to prematurely second guess voters in these communities. County Manager, Greg Zinser stated that the grant must be signed by October 10th.

Commissioner Bowles asked if the towns understand that when the contracts expire, they are responsible for the full amount. Sheriff Ouellette responded they do. The Sheriff explained that he went out and found towns that are interested. He received a call from the COPS office recently inquiring where the signed copy of the grant was. He told them the Commissioners meet tonight. Sheriff Ouellette told the Commissioners that they also want to consider that once we are awarded one of these grants and do not utilize it, he feels there would be a red flag over York County and he questions if we'd

ever get offered a grant again. He also has appointments with two other towns.

Commissioner Bowles asked if he understood the grants correctly. He understands that there is one grant for two positions for \$250,000 for four years. For the first three years, the grant pays half of the salary and the Town pays the other half and in the last year all is paid by the town. Sheriff Ouellette responded that information was correct.

Sheriff Ouellette added that his department will be down two people. Commissioner Sinden stated that's the nature of grants and added that the Department of Justice doesn't run York County and doesn't determine the staffing of York County.

Commissioner Dutremble removed his original motion. Commissioner Cabral seconded the motion. Vote 5-0.

Commissioner Dutremble amended his motion to authorize acceptance of the grant contingent upon two or more communities agreeing to a contract deputy. If not, the issue will come back to the Board for a vote. Vote. 5-0.

The County Manager sought approval from the Commissioners on the Nancy Marshall communications plan. He explained the funding for this plan would come from State pre-release center income. County Manager Zinser further stated that there are lots of positive things happening in York County that taxpayers should be made aware of. We currently have only one newspaper that covers our events. This publication is only read in one part of York County.

Commissioner Sinden stated that he is not fond of this proposal. He feels the County can issue their own press releases. Commissioner Dutremble stated that he is not against the idea just against the idea right now. He feels the County should resolve other issues first. Commissioner Bowles replied that the Journal Tribune is the only publication that supplies coverage of County activities. He added that we have a responsibility to publicize what we do so the citizens are made aware. Mr. Zinser suggested a workshop be held to further discuss the issue. The Commissioners agreed.

Commissioner Dutremble motioned to table the issue. Commissioner Cabral seconded the motion. Vote 5-0.

The County Manager asked for approval for the transfer of \$50,000 from the general capital reserve account to the government building. He explained that this would allow for the re-paving of the parking lot on the meeting side of the building and allow continuation of some other projects at the York County Government building.

Commissioner Bowles motioned to approve the transfer of \$50,000 from general capital reserve to government building. Commissioner Dutremble seconded the motion. Vote 5-0.

The County Manager asked the Commissioners to approve a quote from Patco Construction in the amount of \$19,900 for slight renovations to the former EMA building at Swetts Bridge Road which will allow the Sheriff to have storage space.

Com. Dutremble motioned to accept the quote from Patco Construction in the amount of \$19,900. Commissioner Sinden seconded the motion. Vote 5-0.

BREAK (4 mins)

ITEM 5 NEW BUSINESS

Commissioner Bowles motioned to enter into executive session for the purpose of discussing confidential records pursuant to M.R.S.A. §405 (6) (F).

Commissioner Bowles motioned to deny poverty abatement request. Commissioner Dutremble seconded the motion. Vote 5-0.

ITEM 6 OLD BUSINESS

None

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

None

ITEM 8 TO CONDUCT AN EXECUTIVE SESSION ON PERSONNEL ISSUES PURSUANT TO M.R.S.A. §405(6) (A) AND TO CONDUCT AN EXECUTIVE SESSION CONSULTATION WITH LEGAL COUNSEL PURSUANT TO M.R.S.A. §405(6) (E).

**Heard out of order.*

Commissioner Bowles motioned to enter into executive session. Commissioner Cabral seconded the motion. Vote 5-0.

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

No action taken.

ITEM 9 ADJOURN

Commissioner Sinden motioned to adjourn. Commissioner Cabral seconded the motion. Vote 5-0.

Minutes taken by Executive Administrative Assistant

SIGNED: _____
Kathryn A. Dumont

ATTEST: _____
Sallie V. Chandler-Chair