

COMMISSIONERS REGULAR MEETING

September 4, 2013

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 the Commissioners' Community Room in Alfred, within and for the County of York, being held on Wednesday, September 4, 2013 A. D. at 4:30 P. M.

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT:

Sallie Chandler
Daniel C. Cabral
Richard R. Dutremble
Michael J. Cote
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.

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

2 TO REVIEW AND APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' REGULAR MEETING OF AUGUST 7, 2013 AND THE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' SPECIAL MEETING OF AUGUST 19, 2013

Commissioner Dutremble motioned to accept the minutes of the meetings of the regular meeting of August 7th and the special meeting of August 19th, 2013. Commissioner Cabral seconded the motion.

Commissioner Cote made two changes to the minutes.

Commissioner Dutremble amended his motion to reflect approval of the minutes with corrections. Commissioner Cabral seconded the motion. Vote 5-0.

3 TO HEAR ANY REPORTS OF THE COMMISSIONERS

Commissioner Chair Chandler reported that members of the Maine County Commissioners' Association are going to meet with Governor LePage next Friday at convention.

4 TO HEAR ANY REPORTS OF THE COUNTY MANAGER

The County Manager introduced Charemon Davis from RHR Smith & Assoc. to review the 2012 audit.

Commissioner Dutremble questioned what the rate (%) for the undesignated fund balance should be.

Charemon Davis responded that York County has a healthy fund balance but that one also needs to take into account other factors, such as what is in reserves. Ms. Davis added that York County needs to complete a capital plan.

Commissioner Dutremble responded that by his calculations, York County's unassigned fund balance is about 12%. He asked if that was acceptable to offset any unforeseen expenses. Charemon responded that it depends what the capital needs and payouts might be.

County Manager Greg Zinser stated that York County doesn't have sufficient funds to repair or replace unforeseen things. He added that a capital plan needs to be assembled. Ms. Davis agreed stating that it will help to keep consistency in our budget so that the tax rate doesn't fluctuate.

Charemon Davis explained documents contained in a handout of the 2012 budget (attached as record).

The County Manager stated that "beefing" up liability accounts is a big exposure to the County. He explained that at this point the funding is about 50% - with the goal being to bring this up to 100%.

County Manager Zinser added that York County should fund through a line item appropriation, the depreciation of the county. He further stated that currently we do set aside monies in our capital accts. Mr. Zinser added that the courthouse is very old and requires lots of repairs.

Commissioner Dutremble stated that in 2007 a plan was incorporated for capital improvements but never funded. Also, it was voted but not implemented that 20% of funds were to go into undesignated funds. He added that while the Commissioners put undesignated funds into their budget requests, the budget committee typically denies that request.

Commissioner Dutremble reminded all that the fund balance policy instituted by the Commissioners states that the unassigned balance cannot exceed three million dollars. He added that if we have a large surplus next year, he will ask that it is given back to the taxpayers.

Commissioner Dutremble stated, “ We are the ones that direct the ship but the employees have to be congratulated as they steer the ship.”

The County Manager reminded all of the annual safety training breakfast on September 17th at 7:30 a.m. at the Government building and Wellness Fair and County wide blood drive- September 19th from 12:00 to 2:00 p.m.
(blood drive until 6:00 p.m.)

County Manager Zinser reminded all that the next meeting (Sept. 18th) will begin at 4:00 p.m. as there is a full agenda including the hearing of NCEU grievances.

The County Manager informed all that the Center for Disease Control will be holding a EEE public forum from 3:00 to 4:00 on September 26th here at the government building. Mr. Zinser told the Commissioners that he had been working with Adam Hartwig from the CDC about the possibility of a spraying program that could benefit all towns in the county.

County Manager Zinser gave an update on the recruitment of an HR Director. He stated that the county had received a total of 16 to 17 applications and had narrowed them down to about a dozen. He added that he is now looking at scheduling interviews and is hopeful that by the end of the month he will have a further update.

5 NEW BUSINESS

Commissioner Cabral motioned to enter into executive session pursuant to 1 M.R.S.A. §405(6)(F). Commissioner Dutremble seconded the motion. Vote 5-0.

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

Commissioner Sinden moved that the request for a poverty abatement appeal be denied. Commissioner Cabral seconded the motion. Vote 5-0.

The Town and the Plaintiff will receive follow up letters within 30 days.

Commissioner Sinden clarified the motion adding they deny the request for a poverty abatement on the grounds that the selectmen did not act outside their scope of authority in issuing their decision. Motion seconded by Commissioner Cabral. Vote 5-0.

6 OLD BUSINESS

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

8 ADJOURN

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