

1 **COMMISSIONERS MEETING**

2 **May 3, 2023**

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5 *YORK,ss*

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7 At a regular meeting of the County Commissioners of the County of York, begun and
8 holden at the York County Government Building in Alfred, within and for the County of York,
9 being held on Wednesday, May 3, 2023, A. D. at 5:00 P. M.

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12 **COMMISSIONERS PRESENT:**

- 13
- 14 Richard R. Dutremble
- 15 Richard Clark
- 16 Robert Andrews
- 17 Justin Chenette
- 18 Donna Ring
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21 County Manager Gregory Zinser and Deputy County Manager Linda Corliss were present at the
22 meeting.

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24 **YOU ARE INVITED TO RISE AND SALUTE THE FLAG OF THE UNITED STATES**

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26 **05-03-2023 ITEM**

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28 **1 PUBLIC COMMENT(S) ON ANY ITEM(S)**

29 None

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31 **2 TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE FOLLOWING MEETINGS:**

- 32 a. Commissioners' regular meeting of April 12, 2023
- 33 Commissioner Clark made corrections and then moved to approve the minutes.
- 34 with corrections. Commissioner Chenette seconded the motion. Vote 5-0.
- 35

36 **3 TO APPROVE TREASURER'S WARRANTS**

- 37 a. Warrants to be approved on April 12, 2023 in the amount of \$610,891.33
- 38 Commissioner Clark motioned to approve the warrant. Commissioner
- 39 Andrews seconded the motion. Vote 5-0.
- 40 b. Warrants to be approved on April 19, 2023 in the amount of \$452,435.19
- 41 Commissioner Clark motioned to approve the warrant. Commissioner
- 42 Andrews seconded the motion. Vote 5-0.
- 43 c. Warrants to be approved on April 26, 2023 in the amount of \$408,690.50
- 44 Commissioner Clark motioned to approve the warrant. Commissioner
- 45 Andrews seconded the motion. Vote 5-0.
- 46

47 **4 TO HEAR ANY REPORTS FROM THE COUNTY**
48 **COMMISSIONERS**

49 Commissioner Dutremble informed all that the convention (of counties) has
50 been approved by the Maine County Commissioners' Association in September at
51 Poland Springs Resort.
52

53 **5 NEW BUSINESS**

54 a. Introduce Bill Southwick from York County Habitat for Humanity
55 Chairperson Commissioner Dutremble introduced Bill Southwick. Mr.
56 Southwick thanked the Board for inviting them and introduced Habitat for
57 Humanity Executive Director Amy Nucci distributed a flyer (attached as part
58 of the record of minutes) with information regarding Habitat for Humanity
59 York County. Executive Director Amy Nucci explained that homeowners do
60 work alongside them. We sell the homes to the people through an affordable
61 mortgage. Executive Director Nucci informed all that they also run an aging in
62 place and weatherization program for low-income households. They also run
63 the Kennebunk Re-Store with proceeds going back into program. Executive
64 Director Nucci stated that there is an affordable housing crisis and that the
65 median home price has increased by 33%. Therefore, we have had a goal of
66 two homes a year, but our goal is to double the number this year. We are
67 working with the city of Sanford with a land bank initiative. Ms. Nucci added
68 that the City of Saco has donated land. We know we need to continue to grow
69 strategic partnerships.

70 Commissioner Chenette asked Director Amy Nucci if in regard to the Aging in
71 Place section if they partner with any AARP or Age Friendly Saco
72 organizations? Executive Director Nucci responded that they have a wonderful
73 partnership with Age Friendly Saco. She added that they are looking to add a
74 staff position to support our Aging in Place section.

75 Commissioner Chenette asked if the county had partnered with Habitat for
76 Humanity at all in the past or is this something we could be looking at?

77 Executive Director Amy Nucci replied that this is a brand-new opportunity,
78 and we are open to any ideas.

79 Commissioner Dutremble added that no one has ever approached us, so he
80 invited Bill Southwick to come and present information.
81

82 b. H.R. Director Linda Corliss to seek approval of the following new
83 hires/transfers:

84 i. Caleb Thill in the position of part-time to full time Maintenance
85 Technician I in the Facilities Department with a date of hire of May 15,
86 2023

87 H.R. Director Corliss explained that Caleb will start as a part-time
88 employee and then move into full-time due to scheduling issues. She
89 added that they he will be trained with some of our staff before they go on
90 vacation.

91 Commissioner Clark motioned to approve the hiring of Caleb Thill in the
92 position of a part time to full time Maintenance Technician I in the
93 Facilities department. Commissioner Andrews seconded the motion.

94 DISCUSSION- Commissioner Ring asked if he was being hired at entry
95 level pay. H.R. Director Corliss replied, yes, \$16.92 per hour plus the
96 MSEA \$500 sign on bonus after six months completion of employment.
97 Vote 5-0.

98 ii. James Foote in the position of full time Corrections Officer in the
99 Sheriff's Office with a starting date of April 28, 2023.

100 Commissioner Clark motioned to approve the hiring of James Foote in
101 the position of full time Corrections Officer with a starting date of April
102 28, 2023. Commissioner Andrews seconded the motion.

103 DISCUSSION- Commissioner Ring asked if he has already started
104 employment? H.R. Director Corliss, yes, and that he is at the MCJA as
105 of Monday.

106 Commissioner Clark asked where does this put us? H.R. Director
107 Corliss replied that there are 40 full-time corrections officers, 10
108 supervisors and 34 reserves. She added that there are three in the
109 academy and 2 individuals close to hiring.

110 County Manager Zinser added that there have been no declared State of
111 Emergency's since early December.

112 Commissioner Clark congratulated H.R. Director Corliss on her success
113 in hiring.

114 Vote 5-0.

- 115
116 c. Budget Committee meeting(s) update – County Manager Zinser informed all
117 that the date of Monday, May 22nd beginning at 3:00 p.m. had been decided
118 upon. The County Manager added that he is hopeful that the Budget Committee
119 will gather and complete the process all on this day. There are only seven
120 members, and we are hoping that they can all attend.

121
122 County Manager Zinser commented that maybe it is time the Board started to
123 think about the establishment of a Charter. Interest in budget committee
124 membership has been decreasing over the years.

125 Commissioner Dutremble stated that they tried it once and it is time to try
126 again.

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128 The County Manager informed the Board that yesterday we were informed
129 of another tax abatement appeal out of Berwick. We would like to schedule this
130 for the first week in June. Is the Board okay with this (date)? The Board is
131 agreeable to this date.

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133 Commissioner Chenette asked County Manager Zinser if at the budget meeting
134 they will determine the date for the Public Hearing?

135 County Manager Zinser replied, yes, at the end of the meeting.

136 Commissioner Chenette replied that hopefully it's not in the middle of the
137 afternoon. Our constituents would love to be there.

138 Commissioner Ring asked what are the major differences with us having a
139 charter?

140 County Manager Zinser responded that he is not prepared to talk about it as he
141 hasn't researched it a lot yet.

142
143 Commissioner Chenette stated that he had a follow up question regarding the
144 Budget Committee. He wondered if there is a need or desire to have the Budget
145 Committee Chairperson come before us to talk through adequate
146 communications, etc. Perhaps discuss what their strategy is as he is not seeing
147 the strategies. "We represent thousands of constituents", continued
148 Commissioner Chenette. "What can we do to use our roles and social media
149 platforms with the understanding there needs to be a separation?"
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6 OLD BUSINESS

a. Update on D.A.'s office move- County Manager Zinser thanked Facilities Manager Rick deRochemont and his crew for the immense amount of work that has gone on and continues to go on in moving the District Attorney's office. It was a tremendous undertaking including the logistics for planning the move.

Facilities Manager Rick deRochemont addressed the Board and reported that everybody is in the new location and able to do their jobs. Overall, he continued, the move went off without a lot of issues. Everything went better than expected. The moving company did a great job. Manager deRochemont stated that there was a late night after they dropped everything at the doorstep. Now to clean out the old buildings with stuff they didn't need or want. He explained that the Biddeford Office is emptied out and turned over to the State. The York office is basically done, and Springvale still needs to be completed, reported Facilities Manager deRochemont.

Commissioners thanked Facilities Manager deRochemont for his hard work.

County Manager Zinser stated that we are into it now (cost for the building) for about \$300,000. The majority of the cost is the furniture. He added that new lights were more than we planned on. We will next be putting in a camera system.

The County Manager explained that the outside needs work with new siding and the parking lot needs replacing.

County Manager Zinser informed the Commissioners that the box truck is dead. We owned it and gave it away and received it back and we got it running so we didn't give it up. We will probably start looking for another box truck. Facilities Manager Rick deRochemont stated that they had to rent a U-Haul for this move.

b. Commissioners to review and possibly approve Usher Findings of Facts – Greg explains property out of Buxton.

Commissioner Andrews motioned to approve the Findings of Facts for the Usher property tax abatement denial appeal and to authorize County Manager Zinser to sign it. Commissioner Chenette seconded the motion.

Vote 5-0.

7 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

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

Susan Wiswell asked how the County would fund the box truck? County Manager Zinser responded that the Sheriff's Office and EMA have vehicle reserves between \$300 and \$400,000 that we could draw on for that purchase as all departments have a need for this truck.

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Janet Drew spoke via ZOOM and stated that York's budget person turned treasurer was interested in serving on the County Budget Committee. There may be budget people in different towns, but everyone is talking in their silos. She thanked everyone for their work.

9 ADJOURN

Commissioner Clark motioned to adjourn. Commissioner Andrews seconded the motion. Vote 5-0. Meeting adjourned at 5:40 p.m.

DRAFT



York County Sheriff's Office

Sheriff William L. King Jr.

Jeremy D. Forbes
Chief Deputy

Nathan Thayer
Jail Administrator

Paul G. Mitchell
Major

Carl L. Ronco
Captain

David Lambert
Lieutenant

Mike Perry
Lieutenant

Lori Marks
Lieutenant

To: York County Commissioners

From: Sheriff William L King Jr.

Through: Linda Corliss, Human Resources Director

Subject: Promotion

Date: May 5, 2023

The York County Jail has a vacancy for Corporal. After a process in accordance with the collective bargaining agreement, I am recommending Corrections Officer Michael Leary for promotion to Corporal.

If approved, Leary will assume his new duties on Monday, May 22, 2023.

Thank you in advance for your consideration.

V/R

William L. King Jr.

CC: Major Nathan Thayer
CM Greg Zinser

Corrections Division
Kelly Burnham
Administrative Secretary
207-324-9001
Fax: 459-2562