

1 **COMMISSIONERS MEETING**

2 **September 20, 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, September 20, 2023 A. D. at 5:00 P. M.

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12 **COMMISSIONERS PRESENT:**

- 13 Richard R. Dutremble
- 14 Richard Clark
- 15 Robert Andrews
- 16 Justin Chenette
- 17 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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25 **YOU ARE INVITED TO RISE AND SALUTE THE FLAG OF THE UNITED STATES**

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27 **09-20-2023 ITEM**

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29 **1 PUBLIC COMMENT(S) ON ANY ITEM(S)**

30 Susan Wiswell asked if (EMA vehicle) Command 2 is out of service again?
 31 County Manager Zinser explained that the air conditioning system was down and
 32 when they got it back, they needed to get it fixed again.
 33 Susan Wiswell then asked about the box truck agenda item. She asked if it was
 34 being replaced and if so, what is the cost and funding source?
 35 County Manager Zinser replied that it is junk and that Copart won't even take it.
 36 He added that it will probably go to the scrap yard. There is a need for some type
 37 of vehicle, not necessarily a box truck. We will have that conversation later on as it
 38 is on the agenda. We are maybe thinking of a truck with a lift gate that can be used
 39 for jail, EMA and Facilities, continued the County Manager. The cost runs
 40 \$60,000 to \$70,000 for a brand new vehicle.
 41 The County does have some funding set aside for vehicle replacement. County
 42 Manager Zinser added that perhaps we will check with all the other entities
 43 involved and ask for money. County Manager Zinser clarified that it will be
 44 County funds.

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46 **2 TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE FOLLOWING MEETINGS:**

- 47 a. Commissioners' meeting of September 6, 2023

48 Commissioner Clark motioned to approve the minutes as submitted.
49 Commissioner Andrews seconded the motion. Vote 5-0.

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51 **3 TO APPROVE TREASURER’S WARRANTS**

- 52 a. Warrants to be approved on September 6, 2023 in the amount of \$560,355.12
53 Commissioner Clark motioned to approve the warrants. Commissioner
54 Andrews seconded the motion. Vote 5-0.
55 b. Warrants to be approved on September 13, 2023 in the amount of
56 \$1,154,386.15
57 Commissioner Clark motioned to approve the warrants. Commissioner
58 Andrews seconded the motion.
59 Discussion: Commissioner Ring asked why the warrant was so high.
60 County Manager Zinser responded there was a payment to My Place Teen
61 Center (ARPA funds) and lots of insurance payments that added up to over
62 \$700,000.
63 Vote 5-0.
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65 **4 TO HEAR ANY REPORTS FROM THE COUNTY**
66 **COMMISSIONERS**

67 Commissioner Clark mentioned that several Commissioners and management staff
68 attended the Maine County Commissioners Association convention last week. He
69 mentioned that Jail Administrator Nathan Thayer did a presentation on
70 MAT/opioid issues and he did a great job.
71 Commissioner Ring added that several attendees complimented the presentation.
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73 **5 NEW BUSINESS**

- 74 a. To review and seek approval on Agreement between York County and
75 RSU 57 School Resource Officer
76 County Manager Zinser explained that the School Resource Officer agreement
77 was received a couple of weeks ago.
78 Commissioner Clark motioned to approve the Agreement and give the County
79 Manager authority to sign it. Commissioner Andrews seconded the motion.
80 DISCUSSION: Commissioner Ring asked if this Agreement has a fully
81 reimbursed position? County Manager Zinser replied that the County covers
82 about one month of the Agreement. He clarified that the County covers from
83 7-1 to 8-16. Commissioner Ring asked if the deputy has a vehicle paid for by
84 the county? County Manager Zinser replied, yes. Commissioner Ring asked if
85 the vehicle cost is reimbursed by the school? The County Manager replied, no.
86 Commissioner Ring stated that the county (contract deputy) contracts are
87 usually fully funded by the town. We do not get the full cost of the deputy for
88 this position. Commissioner Ring stated that she believes it is an important
89 position but from her perspective if they are not covering the full cost like the
90 towns do, maybe put that in our budget and have the reimbursements offset. It
91 should go into our operating budget, said Commissioner Ring. County
92 Manager Zinser replied that she is correct in that they are not charged for the
93 vehicle. They are looking for a second School Resource Officer and part of the
94 conversation is that they are aware that they will cover 100%.
95 Vote 5-0.
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- b. To review memo from Facilities Manager and seek action on request
Commissioner Ring motioned to approve disposal of the box truck.
Commissioner Chenette seconded the motion.
DISCUSSION: Commissioner Ring asked the County Manager if there are any ideas on how we will replace this?
Facilities Manager DeRochemont addressed the Board and stated that there have been several conversations and it seems as though a rack body type truck with a lift gate would work best to allow transportation of heavier items. He added that he can't find anything used.
Commissioner Ring asked how old the box truck was. Facilities Manager DeRochemont replied, 2003.
Vote 5-0.

County Manager Zinser asked if the Commissioners were agreeable to discussing the snowplow bid that was e-mailed to them but not on the agenda. County Manager Zinser stated that we may need a plow at some point as this was our only bid.
Facilities Manager Rick DeRochemont addressed the Board and said that this company has done landscaping for us in the past. We called all our previous companies and current ones and they just don't have the staff.
Commissioner Ring motioned to accept the snowplow bid proposal as submitted. (Year 1- \$46,000; year 2-\$48,301 and year 3-\$50,711.00 with an option to renew for 2026-2027 at the same price as year 3.)
Commissioner Chenette seconded the motion. Vote 5-0.

- c. County Manager to give update on permitting process for Training and Treatment Centers
County Manager Zinser explained that there have been quite a few meetings regarding the buildings including a traffic study by the DOT and DEP meetings and they have gone well. He added that he doesn't think there will be a hangup. They did not have any initial feedback for us from our application.
County Manager Zinser continued that with the DOT it is a numbers game. The initial impact is that perhaps a left-hand turn lane and right slip lane might be necessary. Route 11 and 202 are a little unclear. The DOT is doing a traffic study at the light. We may have to put in a right hand slip lane, said County Manager Zinser.

The local permitting process didn't go very well, explained County Manager Zinser. We presented both applications. The Alfred Planning Board had some questions on the Training Facility application and then they voted to approve the application as complete. This is the first step in a multi-step process, he explained.

The Alfred Planning Board then motioned to deny the permit application for the Recovery Center. After, quite a bit of conversation ensued regarding the completeness of the application. Their thought is that we are asking for more than the ordinance allows in terms of bed restriction, but we disagree, continued the County Manager. The purpose of meeting was to determine completion of application.
Next, another vote was taken and it was approved to table the (Recovery Center) application.

149 County Manager Zinser informed all that we are going to work with our
150 Attorneys. At the end of the day, we will have to make some decisions.
151 If we keep the current Recovery center open, we have the potential to do more.
152 Or on the flip side, explained the County Manager, we have to reduce and split
153 buildings up and maybe move one wing over. One building could be 30 feet
154 away from the main building. This new method will build a center with 30
155 beds and keep the current Layman Way Recovery Center open. We believe we
156 can do that, stated the County Manager.

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158 County Manager Greg Zinser stated that he had a conversation with the
159 County's Clinical Consultant today and she is going to come up with what
160 programs would work best in what buildings.

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162 The site walk for the Training Center is mid-October and at the next planning
163 board meeting we will have a better idea where they are going. They are
164 allowing us to submit a brief, said County Manager Zinser.
165 We will come up with Plan B and Plan C, he stated. He added that the
166 The Recovery Center will be built.

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168 County Manager Zinser stated that he had e-mailed off to the Commissioners
169 the latest update on the numbers. The construction cost is now coming in at
170 \$45 million. That is a little less than the first bid. It is \$38 million without
171 contingencies. The issue is the contingencies, explained County Manager
172 Zinser as they add up to another \$5 million. In reading the fine print, I have
173 asked the question about the quote as includes sales tax and we are tax exempt.
174 This lowers the gap.

175 We are maintaining a positive attitude and also, we are sending a letter to the
176 Maine Recovery Council, stated the County Manager.

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178 Commissioner Ring asked with the new recovery center, will we still have the
179 MAT program at the jail?

180 County Manager Zinser replied, yes, as they are two different things. He added
181 that the Sheriff, Jail Administrator and he believe that when we bring the new
182 center online, we will take that over.

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184 Commissioner Ring asked if we have asked for help to get letters of support
185 from law enforcement?

186 County Manager Zinser responded that we will ask for support when the time
187 comes.

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189 County Manager Zinser informed all that they redid the Recovery Center
190 budget with updated Maine Care rates and it will cost about \$5.2 million to
191 operate the facility. We have \$4.2 million coming in reimbursements so the
192 deficit is almost gone. We will use the funds we currently raise for the Layman
193 Way program, also.

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6 OLD BUSINESS

None

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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)

None

9 ADJOURN

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

The meeting was adjourned at 5:38 p.m.

DRAFT