

1 **COMMISSIONERS MEETING**

2 **June 5, 2024**

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8 At a regular meeting of the County Commissioners of the County of York, begun and
9 holden at the York County Government Building in Alfred, within and for the County of York,
10 being held on Wednesday, June 5, 2024, A. D. at 4:30 P. M.

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13 **COMMISSIONERS PRESENT:**

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

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

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25 **06-05-2024 ITEM**

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- 27 **1 PUBLIC COMMENT(S) ON ANY ITEM(S)**
- 28 Susan Wiswell spoke against the Commissioners signing a Proclamation for Pride
- 29 Month as she felt it discriminates against heterosexuals.
- 30 Erin Donovan stated, "That was weird. THE END."
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- 32 **2 TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE FOLLOWING MEETINGS:**
- 33 a. Commissioners' meeting of May 15, 2024
- 34 Commissioner Clark motioned to approve the minutes. Commissioner
- 35 Chenette seconded the motion. Vote 3-0.
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- 37 **3 TO APPROVE TREASURER'S WARRANTS**
- 38 a. Warrants to be approved on May 15, 2024 in the amount of \$500,029.96
- 39 Commissioner Clark motioned to approve the warrants. Commissioner
- 40 Chenette seconded the motion. Vote 3-0.
- 41 b. Warrants to be approved on May 22, 2024 in the amount of \$874,838.14
- 42 Commissioner Clark motioned to approve the warrants. Commissioner
- 43 Chenette seconded the motion. Vote 3-0.
- 44 c. Warrants to be approved on May 29, 2024 in the amount of \$578,966.82
- 45 Commissioner Clark motioned to approve the warrants. Commissioner
- 46 Chenette seconded the motion. Vote 3-0.
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4 TO HEAR ANY REPORTS FROM THE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Commissioner Chenette informed all that Southern Maine Planning and Development Commission will be holding its annual dinner on Wednesday, June 26th in Lyman at 6:00 p.m.

5 NEW BUSINESS

- a. Deputy County Manager/H.R. Director Corliss to present the following new hires and/or transfers:
 - i. James Foote in the position of full-time Maintenance Technician I in the Facilities Department with a date of hire of June 6, 2024-
Commissioner Clark motioned to approve the hiring of James Foote in the position of full-time Maintenance Technician I in the Facilities Department with a date of hire of June 6, 2024. Commissioner Chenette seconded the motion. Vote 3-0.
 - ii. Malcolm Johnson Philips in the position of full-time Corrections Officer in the Sheriff's Office with a date of hire of June 10, 2024-
Commissioner Clark motioned to approve the hiring of Malcolm Johnson Philips in the position of full-time Corrections Officer in the Sheriff's Office with a date of hire of June 10, 2024. Commissioner Chenette seconded the motion. Vote 3-0.
 - iii. Jose Pinto in the position of full-time Corrections Officer in the Sheriff's Office with a date of hire of June 10, 2024
Commissioner Clark motioned to approve the hiring of Jose Pinto in the position of full-time corrections officer in the Sheriff's Office with a date of hire of June 10, 2024. Commissioner Chenette seconded the motion. Vote 3-0.
 - iv. **(not on agenda)** Transfer of Diana Plante from Deeds to Probate June 24, 2024-
Commissioner Clark motioned to approve the transfer of Diana Plante from the Deeds Department to the Probate Department with an effective date of June 24,2024. Commissioner Chenette seconded the motion. Vote 3-0.
- b. To review and seek approval of Dredge Memorandum of Agreement with the town of Ogunquit-
County Manager Zinser explained this is the same MOA as the other four that the Commissioners have approved, only with the town of Ogunquit.
Commissioner Clark motioned to approve the Dredge Memorandum of Agreement with Ogunquit. Commissioner Chenette seconded the motion. Vote 3-0.
- c. To review and seek approval for York County Law Enforcement Mutual Aid Assistance Memorandum of Understanding – This is an update reflecting the new police chiefs no other changes.
County Manager Zinser explained that no other changes are being made in this Agreement. It is just that some of the Police Chiefs have changed since the last signed agreement.

97 Commissioner Clark motioned to approve the Memorandum of Agreement and
98 have the County Manager sign. Commissioner Chenette seconded the MOA.
99 Vote 3-0.
100 Commissioner Clark amended his motion to have Commissioner Dutremble
101 sign the document. Commissioner Chenette seconded the motion.
102 Vote 3-0.
103 d. To review and seek approval for Pride Month Proclamation-
104 Commissioner Chenette motioned to approve the Pride Month Proclamation.
105 Commissioner Clark seconded the motion. Vote 3-0.
106 e. To approve lease agreement with Gary Fushchillo for courthouse space
107 County Manager Zinser explained that the upstairs is vacant and that he is
108 working with several entities to rent out space. He explained that no dates are
109 on this as we weren't sure of his date of occupancy.
110 Commissioner Chenette asked if other parts of the courthouse are still available
111 and do we have a master plan of how we are dividing up the space? County
112 Manager Zinser responded that the building is self- limiting. The next entity is
113 looking to rent upstairs in the former D.A. area. Next area upstairs would be
114 where Probate was.
115 Commissioner Clark motioned to approve the Lease Agreement with Gary
116 Fushchillo with understanding that dates are to be entered later.
117 Commissioner Chenette seconded the motion. Vote 3-0.
118 f. To approve purchase of Draeger burn tower (previous conditional approval
119 given by Commissioners at August 2, 2023 meeting
120 County Manager Zinser explained that this is coming back to the
121 Commissioners now that we have the quote in the amount of \$1,264,376.39.
122 He also explained that it was coming out of ARPA but since that time we were
123 awarded our CDS request so we can use that money.
124 Commissioner Clark motioned to approve the purchase of the Draeger burn
125 tower in the amount of \$1,264,376.39 (quote attached as record of these
126 minutes).
127 Commissioner Chenette seconded the motion. Vote 3-0.
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129 County Manager Zinser informed all that approval was received from the Town
130 of Alfred for the buildings (recovery center and training facility).
131 He explained that the next steps- are the construction drawing phase that is
132 occurring now.
133 The County Manager stated that the final design on the Training Center should
134 be out the end of this week and the Recovery Center design in another week or
135 two. Landry French will be putting them both out soon.
136 We are hoping by the end of November they should have the foundation work
137 done.
138 Commissioner Dutremble added that people should know the Committees have
139 been working on the buildings for 3 years now.
140 County Manager Zinser gave kudos to Oak Point Engineers for their help-
141 Wade Lippert in particular.
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6 OLD BUSINESS

143 a. To review and seek approval for addition of alternative schedule to H.R. Policy
144 Manual
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146 Commissioner Clark motioned to take this matter off the table. Commissioner
147 Chenette seconded the motion. Vote 3-0.
148 Deputy Manager/H.R. Director Corliss informed the Board that she reviewed
149 any ripple effects regarding holidays. One can use a holiday in another week.
150 Regarding the buyback (of earned time) one working 4/10-hour days, would
151 have to sell back 80 hours for a 4-day 10-hour work week so there is not an
152 advantage.
153 DISCUSSION- Commissioner Chenette stated that he did receive some
154 questions from Commissioner Ring (who was not present at the meeting).
155 He asked on her behalf if when the trial was done, were any data points of
156 effectiveness as to what worked and what was not collected? Deputy
157 Manager/H.R. Director replied, we did, and we met periodically and she added
158 that she did give the Board that information at the last meeting. That was how
159 we determined that it was something that maybe not everyone can do.
160 Commissioner Chenette asked if the intent still a six-month trial to see how it
161 works more globally or is the intent to pass a permanent policy change?
162 Deputy Manager/H.R. Director Corliss replied that her intent was to pass the
163 policy but still come back in six months (with an update).
164 County Manager Zinser added that the Commissioner can put a caveat on it if
165 he wished.
166 Commissioner Chenette asked (on behalf of Commissioner Ring) that since it
167 was mentioned at the last meeting that there might be some other union
168 interest, had there been more communication around that?
169 Deputy Manager/H.R. Director Corliss replied that they have not sent anything
170 to the Union as it hasn't been approved yet. Once approved, we will do so.
171 Commissioner Chenette asked has this posting been shared with other
172 employees?
173 Deputy Director/H.R. Director Corliss responded that they intend to meet with
174 Tammy and do an article and put it on our website and have all employees
175 working four, ten-hour days, put their hours worked on the bottom of their e-
176 mail signature.
177 Commissioner Chenette stated that he really appreciates how this is structured.
178 Some municipalities have eliminated a full day of public service and he likes
179 how the County is structuring still five days of operations.
180 He continued that he would like to have an opportunity to come back and
181 assess a policy change. He added that he likes the idea of coming back and see
182 where we are (with this) in 6 months.
183 Commissioner Chenette stated that the only hesitation that he wanted to bring
184 up is what to do about department heads that we have jurisdiction over. He
185 said that he feels uncomfortable granting this ability to department leaders
186 mainly to the structure that he does like. The person in charge of the
187 department should be there five days, commented Commissioner Chenette. He
188 continued that he doesn't like the idea of the department leader participating
189 when their staff are there.
190 Deputy Manager/H.R. Director Linda Corliss replied that the way the county is
191 structured we ensure that all of the departments have deputies. So, if a
192 department leader is out someone else is there.
193 Commissioner Chenette responded that he appreciates that for vacations but
194 not for weekly occasions. He added that there is a reason why you are in your
195 role. It is a reflection that we want you as a leader to lead five days a week.

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Commissioner Chenette stated that he believes this six-month trial should exclude department heads. He continued that he is supportive of this policy change and being reflective of what is best for our staff and public.

Commissioner Clark asked Deputy Manager/H.R. Director Corliss if she planned to implement this July 1st? She replied, yes, she did. He stated that he supports this but does understand Commissioner Chenette's concerns. Commissioner Clark continued that he would prefer department leaders to have the same opportunity with the understanding that it will come back first week in December to see how it's working.

Deputy Manager/H.R. Director explained that Department Leaders have different roles. In the D.A.'s office there are State employees, also. Both office managers are salaried employees, so they have to stay late when their personnel have to work overtime. They are already pulling more than 8 hours a day. This 10 hour/4 days a week would cut down on that, explained Deputy Manager/H.R. Director Corliss. She continued that she has a potential hire that included in his offer letter he wants a four-day work week. He is a good fit for this position.

Commissioner Chenette stated that as a potential compromise, we consider that the Deputy Manager and County Manager should be here five (5) days a week. We make that exemption for participation in the policy, he explained.

Commissioner Clark asked if another compromise be instead that the Department Leader and assistant Department Leader cannot be off on the same day.

Deputy Manager/H.R. Director Corliss replied that it is not their intent to let people be out on the same day.

Commissioner Clark motioned to offer (D.L. and deputy/assistant D.L. cannot have the same day off) as amendment to the policy presented.

Commissioner Dutremble seconded the motion. Vote 3-0.

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)

Commissioner Clark motioned to enter into executive session pursuant to 1 M.R.S.A. § 405 (6) (A). Commissioner Chenette seconded the motion. Vote 3-0. Commissioner Clark motioned to come out of executive session. Commissioner Chenette seconded the motion. Vote 3-0. Commissioner Clark motioned to grant (NAME REDACTED) a leave of absence from June 5, 2024, to July 19, 2024. Vote 3-0.

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

None

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9 ADJOURN

Commissioner Clark motioned to adjourn. Commissioner Chenette seconded the motion. Vote 3-0.
Meeting adjourned at 5:16 p.m.