

## COMMISSIONERS MEETING

July 7, 2021

*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 Alfred, within and for the County of York, being held on Wednesday, July 7, 2021 A. D. at 4:30 P. M.

### COMMISSIONERS PRESENT:

Richard R. Dutremble  
Richard Clark  
Robert Andrews  
Allen Sicard  
Donna Ring

County Manager Gregory Zinser and Deputy County Manager Linda Corliss were present at the meeting.

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

#### 07-07-21 ITEM

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

Janet Drew of York, ME spoke via ZOOM and asked about the discussion of ARP and wondered if before decisions are made, would there be a collation of letters? She stated that there are lots of ideas and putting them together could definitely result in coming up with a shovel ready project, but it requires partnerships. Ms. Drew continued that we have to get people together rather than individually. The reason this is important for me, continued Ms. Drew is that a lot of your work is around the jail and it is up to all of us to make sure people that don't belong there, don't end up there just because there is no other place to put them. We can do better. She suggested a forum or collation of these things (human safety net) be established, not just with the County ARP money. We need to all be part of the solution, stated Ms. Drew.

##### 2 TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE FOLLOWING MEETINGS:

- a. Regular Meeting of June 2, 2021-Commissioner Clark motioned to approve the minutes. Commissioner Sicard seconded the motion. Vote 5-0.
- b. Special Meeting of June 18, 2021-Commissioner Clark motioned to approve

- the minutes. Commissioner Sicard seconded the motion. Vote 5-0.
- c. Public Hearing ARP Funding of June 16, 2021-Commissioner Clark motioned to approve the minutes. Commissioner Sicard seconded the motion. Vote 5-0.
  - d. Public Hearing ARP Funding of June 23, 2021- Commissioner Clark motioned to approve the minutes. Commissioner Sicard seconded the motion. Vote 5-0.

**3 TO APPROVE TREASURER’S WARRANTS**

- a. Warrants dated June 2, 2021 in the amount of \$393,935.57- Commissioner Clark motioned to approve the warrant. Commissioner Sicard seconded the motion. Vote 5-0.
- b. Warrants dated June 9, 2021 in the amount of \$457,391.48- Commissioner Clark motioned to approve the warrant. Commissioner Sicard seconded the motion. Vote. 5-0.
- c. Warrants dated June 23, 2021 in the amount of \$309,475.71-Commissioner Clark motioned to approve the warrant. Commissioner Sicard seconded the motion. Vote 5-0.
- d. Warrants dated June 30, 2021 in the amount of \$484,364.16- Commissioner Clark motioned to approve the warrant. Commissioner Sicard seconded the motion. Vote 5-0.

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

None

**5 TO HEAR ANY REPORTS FROM THE COUNTY MANAGER**

County Manager Greg Zinser extended his congratulations to Captain Bean and informed all that this is his last meeting with us. He wished him the best and added how happy he was for the work Dan has done. The County Manager added that Captain Bean is the guy that brought us out of the COVID pandemic. Phenomenal work, stated County Manager Zinser. Thank you!

Commissioner Clark stated that Captain Bean formerly served in Wells and he had a good reputation there and we will miss him. We wish him well.

Commissioner Ring wished him well and added there will be a void.

Commissioner Dutremble thanked Captain Bean for all his great work.

County Manager Zinser introduced Nathan Thayer who is here from the DOC in the role of Acting Jail Administrator. The Manager stated that we are happy to have Nathan here.

Sheriff King echoed all the comments about Captain Bean. He added that he is very pleased the Commissioner Of Corrections has allowed Nathan to be here. He has already made a significant impact.

**6 NEW BUSINESS**

- a. General ARP discussion, including date to close comment period-  
County Manager Zinser addressed the Board and stated that we have had a couple of public hearings. We have prepared for you the requests we have received. He asked the Commissioners what they see as their next steps? Do the Commissioners have any indications of priority topics? Do you want to meet with anyone? First, continued County Manager Zinser, we need to decide when to close the comment period. He added that he did prepare a general review to put onto our website.

Also, we've been looking at county needs first with the larger public needs as a second, bigger item. County Manager Zinser continued by suggesting that if the Commissioners choose the closing date, it won't take much extra work as the requests have kind of stopped at this point. Then, the Commissioners could begin their discussions at the first meeting in August, stated County Manager Zinser. Commissioner Ring responded that she would like to decide the closing date so they can begin the process.

Commissioner Dutremble stated that he feels July 23<sup>rd</sup> is a good date.

Commissioner Sicard stated that he would prefer the Commissioners have a special meeting.

County Manager Zinser suggested a workshop before the regular meeting.

He directed the Commissioners to the binders distributed to them and explained that we have started to lump the requests together by types already. The county Manager added that we will try to categorize the requests made at the Public Hearings contained in the minutes, also. Commissioner Sicard commented that he would like to start with what is in the packets today that amount to about \$18 million. He continued that he wants an explanation line by line as we need to know all about these before we approve anything. He continued that he wants these requests reviewed line by line with the appropriate department heads so we can understand them.

Commissioner Dutremble and Commissioner Ring agreed that the Commissioners start with the county's requests first. Commissioner Dutremble reminded all that looking to the future, there will be a lot more space available at the courthouse.

Commissioner Clark asked is it correct that the funds are going to come to us in two blocks? The County Manager replied, yes. Commissioner Clark then asked would the Commissioners be committing everything? The County Manager responded that his suggestion would be to only commit the first \$20 million. Commissioner Clark agreed.

Commissioner Sicard commented if all of the county items are all approved, that doesn't leave us much. Commissioner Clark responded that if it's all approved, he'd be surprised as that's a lot of money. He added that there are items we discussed that he didn't see on the list submitted.

Commissioner Clark added that he is okay with the closing date of the 23<sup>rd</sup> but that he would still listen if someone comes in with a brilliant idea.

Commissioner Andrews moved to close (request) comments on July 23<sup>rd</sup>.

Commissioner Clark 2<sup>nd</sup>. Vote 5-0.

Commissioner Sicard stated that he recommended the August meeting start at 3:00 with a workshop (to review and discuss ARP funding requests). He added that the County requests need to go on the website.

Commissioner Ring added that we need to make sure department heads are available.

Commissioner Clark motioned to hold a workshop on August 4, 2021 at 3:00.

Commissioner Sicard seconded the motion. Vote 5-0.

b. Approval of sale of surplus S.O. vehicles-Commissioner Ring asked if these vehicles had been already sold and transferred? County Manager Zinser replied, no.

Commissioner Clark moved to approve the sale of items sold at auction.

Commissioner Ring seconded the motion. Vote 5-0.

c. Approval of donation of surplus S.O. items (vehicles, tent and trailers)-

Commissioner Clark motioned to donate the items (attached as record) to the

York County Shelter Programs the following (included as record) . Commissioner Ring seconded the motion. Vote 5-0.

d. Introduce H.R. Director Linda Corliss to obtain hiring approval of the following individuals:

i. Transfer of Linda Waite from part time probate clerk to full- time Probate Probate Clerk III with a hire date of July 12, 2021-

Commissioner Clark motioned to approve the transfer of Linda Waite from part time Probate Clerk to full time Probate Clerk III with a hired date of July 12, 2021. Commissioner Sicard seconded the motion.

Discussion- Commissioner Ring asked H.R. Director Linda Corliss if (Linda Waite) transferred, does her part-time longevity stay with her? H.R. Director, Linda Corliss replied that she believes that when she transfers, her full- time longevity starts when she starts full time. Vote 5-0.

ii. Hiring of Valarie Day in the position of part-time legal secretary in the District Attorney's office with a hire date of July 17, 2021-

Commissioner Clark motioned to approve the hiring of Valarie Day in the position of part-time legal secretary in the D.A.'s office with a hire date of July 17, 2021. Commissioner Sicard seconded the motion. Vote 5-0.

H.R. Director Linda Corliss asked that the Commissioners amend the request to a July 19, 2021 hire date.

Commissioner Clark motioned to amend the hiring date to Monday, July 19<sup>th</sup> 2021. Commissioner Sicard amended his second. Vote 5-0.

iii. Hiring of Kayley Conry as a full-time corrections officer at the York County Jail with a hire date of July 12, 2021-

Commissioner Clark motioned to approve the hiring of Kayley Conry as a full-time corrections officer with a hire date of July 12, 2021. Commissioner Sicard seconded the motion. Vote 5-0.

iv. Hiring of Justine Groetzinger as a full-time corrections officer at the York County Jail with a hire date of July 12, 2021-

Commissioner Clark motioned to approve the hiring of Justine Groetzinger as a full-time corrections officer with a hire date of July 12, 2021. Commissioner Sicard seconded the motion. Vote 5-0.

v. Hiring of Jason Swasey as a full-time corrections officer at the York County Jail with a hire date of July 12, 2021-

Commissioner Clark motioned to approve the hiring of Jason Swasey as a full-time corrections officer with a hire date of July 12, 2021. Commissioner Sicard seconded the motion. Vote 5-0.

vi. Hiring of Christopher Lancaster as a reserve corrections officer at the York County Jail with a hired date of July 12, 2021-

Commissioner Clark motioned to approve the hiring of Christopher Lancaster as a reserve corrections officer with a hire date of July 12, 2021. Commissioner Sicard seconded the motion. Vote 5-0.

Commissioner Clark asked that someone please talk a bit about the remote training and is there any live training in Vassalboro.

H.R. Director Linda Corliss responded that there is remote training here in the training room. The physical activity is in separate location.

Captain Bean further explained that one block instruction for mental health first aid is done in person. Also, restraint control will be taught here as we have an instructor.

vii. Hiring of David Nalchajian, Sr. in the position of temporary, full-time ARP

fund manager with a hire date of August 2, 2021.  
H.R. Director Linda Corliss informed all that the salary for this position is \$72,000 annually.  
Commissioner Ring asked if this hire will be receiving 41 days (of paid time off) upfront? H.R. Director Linda Corliss replied yes, he will be receiving the full benefits package.  
Commissioner Clark motioned to approve the hiring of David Nalchajian, Sr. with a hire date of August 2, 2021 in the position of temporary, full-time ARP fund manager. Commissioner Sicard seconded the motion. Vote 4-1 with Commissioner Ring opposed.

e. FY'22 tax commitment -

Commissioner Clark moved to approve the fiscal year '22 tax commitments as approved by the Budget Committee on May 19<sup>th</sup> \$18,130,534.00 and establish the rate of 6% for late payment of taxes. Commissioner Sicard seconded the motion. Vote 5-0.

f. Seek Commissioner approval on possible ratification of NCEU contract (1-1-21- 12-31-2024)- **HEARD PRIOR TO NEW HIRES-**

County Manager Zinser informed all that he was notified last night that the NCEU contract was ratified by a 2-1 margin. Some of the highlights of the contract include, rewriting of the scheduling process and allows a redeployment. There is added language for vacation that includes when we reach 55 officers we will allow for more vacation time. This contract also includes significant monetary increases. It recognizes corrections as a career and we hope it will help with recruitment and retention.

Commissioner Dutremble asked County Manager Zinser are the terms the same as we discussed previously? County Manager Zinser replied, yes.

Commissioner Clark moved to approve and authorize the County Manager to sign the contract. Commissioner Sicard seconded the motion. **DISCUSSION:**

Commissioner Ring asked the County Manager, they don't earn 41 days a year; do they? The County Manager replied, no.

Vote 5-0.

## **7 OLD BUSINESS**

Commissioner Ring stated that she had asked Sheriff King in January and February for physical addresses of deputies. After a brief discussion, it was decided that this item needed to be discussed in executive session.

## **8 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 Ring motioned to enter into executive session pursuant to 1 M.R.S.A. §405 (6) (A), personnel issues. Commissioner Andrews seconded the

motion. Vote 2 (Coms. Ring and Andrews) -3(Commissioners Sicard, Dutremble and Clark opposed.)

**9 PUBLIC COMMENT(S) ON ANY ITEM(S)**

Janet Drew stated that after the approval of the warrants and hiring of new employees, the Commissioners have spent around \$2 million for the next year. We are carefully treading who is going to get what for this big amount of money. She continued that it is up to everyone to plan to have less (people) going to court systems and more into the public system. I want to see before July 23<sup>rd</sup>, ideas that people are doing so we can maybe come back with something coherent. There are people who love to be at the table, continued Ms. Drew. We need a voice for prevention. County Manager Zinser replied that the website should be updated by the end of the week.

**10 ADJOURN**

Commissioner Clark motioned to adjourn. Motion seconded by Commissioner Sicard. Vote 5-0. Meeting adjourned at 5:31 p.m.