

# COMMISSIONERS SPECIAL MEETING

September 12, 2024

YORK,ss

At a special 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 Thursday, September 12, 2024, A. D. at 4:30 P. M.

## COMMISSIONERS PRESENT:

Richard R. Dutremble  
Richard Clark  
Robert Andrews  
Justin Chenette  
Donna Ring

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

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

09-12-2024

### ITEM

#### 1 PUBLIC COMMENT(S)

None

#### 2 NEW BUSINESS

- a. To approve the guaranteed maximum price for the site work and building for the York County Training Facility-  
County Manager Zinser explained that the Commissioners are being asked to approve the cost to build the First Responders Training Center as well as the site work for both buildings in the amount of \$23,703,886.91. Commissioner Chenette asked County Manager Zinser if he is seeing that there is any category in which costs are coming back higher than expected? County Manager Zinser replied, no, and that the response from Landry-French is that their pricing is coming in close to original estimates. He added that we do not have the pricing on the Recovery Center yet. Commissioner Clark stated that there might be a slight change in the cost. Therefore, he motioned to approve a proposed maximum cost not to exceed \$24 million.  
Commissioner Andrews seconded the motion. Vote 5-0.

Commissioner Dutremble commented that although this matter is not on the agenda, he wished to inform his fellow Commissioners that he, as President of The Maine County Commissioners' Association, recently sent out comments regarding the state mandates expecting the county to fund the jails to the legislative delegation. He urged the other Commissioners to reach out to the legislators in their districts after the elections.

Commissioner Dutremble also recommended holding a meeting with the delegation.

Commissioner Chenette responded that Commissioner Dutremble had a great point and that he loved the idea of hosting the delegation to learn about how this impacts the County's budget. He added that unless a legislator is on the Criminal Justice committee, there can sometimes be a great disconnect.

Commissioner Ring also agreed that hosting a meeting is a great idea.

County Manager Zinser commented that he would be happy to set up a meeting with the Delegation but he would need direction from the Board. Commissioner Dutremble recommended waiting until after the November elections.

County Manager Zinser gave an example of the concerns. He and Finance staff are working on the medical assistant treatment and in rough numbers, the County spends about \$600,000 a year for this program and receives only \$120,000 in State funding. We have given this number (\$600,000) to Criminal Justice and Public Safety for their next budget. He added that we also fund The Layman Way Recovery Center that pulls people out of jail and gives them treatment and we get no credit from the State for this.

Also, the County Manager reported that the jail revenue line (based on funds given the past two years by the State was approved in the budget in the amount of \$2.5 million. This was estimated as always. We just received notice that we will only be receiving \$2.2 million from the State. Our jail population reduced so this dropped York County to forth in line and reduced our 12% funding to 10%.

County Manager Zinser added that we are also faced with increasing medical costs at the jail. When inmates who have Maine Care come into the jail facility, they lose Maine Care and we are responsible for all medical bills.

Commissioner Chenette thanked County Manager Zinser and his staff for all their hard work on the two building projects. He added that this project is exciting.

**3 PUBLIC COMMENT(S)**

None

**4 ADJOURN**

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