

1 **COMMISSIONERS MEETING**

2 **February 21, 2024**

3
4
5
6 YORK,ss

7
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, February 21, 2024, A. D. at 4:30 P. M.

11
12
13 **COMMISSIONERS PRESENT:**

- 14 Richard R. Dutremble
- 15 Richard Clark
- 16 Robert Andrews
- 17 Justin Chenette
- 18 Donna Ring

19
20
21 County Manager Greg Zinser and Deputy County Manager Linda were present at the meeting.

22
23 **YOU ARE INVITED TO RISE AND SALUTE THE FLAG OF THE UNITED STATES**

24
25 **02-21-2024 ITEM**

26
27 **1 PUBLIC COMMENT(S) ON ANY ITEM(S)**

28 Susan Wiswell of Kittery Maine reported that the Board of Visitors yearly report is
29 almost done and will be out for the next meeting.

30 Janet Drew spoke via Zoom and quoted a statistic that one in two U.S. adults has
31 had a family member in jail. She stated that she is concerned if we don't do things
32 to prevent this, we are failing people. Recidivism we need to work on that and
33 thank you for being there.

34
35 **2 TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE FOLLOWING MEETINGS:**

- 36 a. Commissioners' meeting of February 7, 2024
- 37 Commissioner Clark motioned to approve the minutes of February 7th.
- 38 Commissioner Ring seconded the motion. Vote 5-0.

39
40 **3 TO APPROVE TREASURER'S WARRANTS**

- 41 a. Warrants to be approved on February 7, 2024 in the amount of \$705,915.33
- 42 Commissioner Clark motioned to approve the warrant. Commissioner
- 43 Andrews seconded the motion. Vote 5-0.
- 44 b. Warrants to be approved on February 14, 2024 in the amount of \$754,727.87
- 45 Commissioner Clark motioned to approve the warrant. Commissioner
- 46 Andrews seconded the motion. Vote 5-0.

47

48
49
50
51
52
53
54
55
56
57
58
59
60
61
62
63
64
65
66
67
68
69
70
71
72
73
74
75
76
77
78
79
80
81
82
83
84
85
86
87
88
89
90
91
92
93
94
95
96
97

4 TO HEAR ANY REPORTS FROM THE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Commissioner Dutremble informed all that there is a Hearing on Jail Funding next Thursday. MCCA is asking you to attend in person, through Zoom or via letter.

Commissioner Chenette asked is there a way to know York County's impact in any so that we can reference it in our communication? Commissioner Dutremble replied that the more information we get is helpful to all.

5 NEW BUSINESS

a. Introduce Deputy Manager/H.R. Director Corliss to seek approval for the hiring/transfer of the following individuals:

i. Daniel Hotaling in the full-time position of Maintenance Technician I in the Facilities Department with a date of hire of March 4, 2024
Deputy County Manager/H.R. Director Corliss stated that Facilities Manager DeRochemont is hoping to have him (Mr. Hotaling) work on the county's new inventory program.

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

DISCUSSION-Commissioner Ring asked about the new inventory system. Deputy County Manager/H.R. Director Corliss explained that the County purchased a new inventory system to help with tracking property. County Manager Zinser added that Facilities Manager deRochemont can explain further after the new hires are presented.

ii. Alexandria Staples in the full-time position of Finance Generalist in the Finance Department with a date of hire of March 11, 2024

Commissioner Clark motioned to approve the hiring of Alexandria Staples. Commissioner Andrews seconded the motion.

DISCUSSION- Commissioner Ring asked what is the starting hourly wage? Deputy Manager/HR Director Corliss replied, \$25.00 per hour.

Commissioner Ring asked if this was a non-union position that comes with 41 days off? Deputy County Manager/H.R. Director Corliss replied, yes.

Commissioner Dutremble asked if this was one (of the positions) we approved last year?

Deputy County Manager/H.R. Director Corliss replied, yes.

Facilities Manager Rick DeRochemont approached and explained that the new inventory system is an upgrade to what we had that tracks furniture, assets, etc. The other system was not a good system. He continued that this system will work for all departments.

Commissioner Ring asked if department heads will maintain their own inventory? Facilities Manager DeRochemont replied that is correct, but this person (new hire) will assist him by going to each office and verifying items or if we switch items to different offices.

Commissioner Dutremble asked if this new system will determine how much money we have in inventory and assets?

County Manager Zinser replied that it will not and that the auditing firm does that now but that the goal is to bring them all together.

98
99
100
101
102
103
104
105
106
107
108
109
110
111
112
113
114
115
116
117
118
119
120
121
122
123
124
125
126
127
128
129
130
131
132
133
134
135
136
137
138
139
140
141
142
143
144
145
146
147

6 OLD BUSINESS

a. Dredge update

County Manager Zinser informed all that he, EMA Director Cleaves and Deputy EMA Director Arsenault attended a meeting last week with Walter Dinicola. County Manager Zinser informed all that they had a great meeting with Walter Dinicola and that they have a follow up meeting next Tuesday to review a quote from him to assist us by helping us understand how we go about setting up the dredge. This quote is about \$25,000.00.

County Manager Zinser explained that there are a couple of different scenarios including buying vs. renting. He added that he has had several communications with area town managers. We are going through the assessment of whether or not we can pull this off as we still don't know what type of money this will cost. This is all new, explained the County Manager. We are aware of other dredge crews in the area. Walter Dinicola will reach out to them. The County Manager continued that they have contacted the DEP and Army Corps of Engineers and will have a big sit-down meeting to discuss the permitting process. Once we have an idea of startup costs we will then have a discussion with you about allocating money and then we will have to talk separately with each town manager, stated County Manager Zinser. Some towns may want to work with us and some towns won't have a need. We need to ascertain up and down the coast and find out how many entities do want this. County Manager Zinser added that we also need to look at the private aspects as there is a lot of private beach up and down the coast. We will need to find out if expending public funds on private sand dunes is allowed.

Commissioner Ring asked where is the dredge? County Manager Zinser replied that it is at the Saco Public Works garage.

Commissioner Chenette commented that the first point of business is to ascertain if we as a county can operate the dredge. Otherwise, the dredge authority was going to be handling all this. We need that answer first, stated Commissioner Chenette. We talked about some EMA funds, understanding we are hiring this individual at \$25,000 to get that answer for us.

County Manager Zinser replied that is why we are having this meeting. Our approach will be different than the dredge authority. The expectation is that we would come up with a cost and enter into a contract with them and pay us.

We would be a contractor with a service to use, explained the County Manager.

Commissioner Dutremble relayed that he had spoken to two individuals in the Authority and told them this will only be done if it's feasible.

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

148
149
150
151
152
153
154
155
156
157
158
159
160
161
162
163
164
165
166
167
168
169
170
171
172
173

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)

a. To conduct an executive session pursuant to 1 M.R.S.A. § 405 (6) (D) labor negotiations- (to give update on one Union and consider request of another Union)

Commissioner Clark motioned to enter into executive session pursuant to 1 M.R.S.A. § 405 (6) (D) labor negotiations. Commissioner Andrews seconded the motion. Vote 5-0.

Commissioner Andrews motioned to come out of executive session. Commissioner Chenette seconded the motion. Vote 5-0.

******HEARD PRIOR TO ITEM 7******

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

Susan Wiswell asked what Hearing LD number was for the jail funding issue? Commissioner Dutremble stated that it is on their website under the Thursday, February Feb. 29th session in appropriations.

Janet Drew (via Zoom) stated that as far as the dredge, she hopes the decisions related to the county has a line item that includes climate in it.

9 ADJOURN

Commissioner Andrews motioned to adjourn. Commissioner Chenette seconded the motion. Vote 4-0 (Commissioner Clark not in the room).

Meeting adjourned at 5:46 p.m.

PUBLIC REQUESTS FOR PROCLAMATIONS OR RECOGNITIONS

It is the policy of the Board of Commissioners to consider requests to proclaim certain events or causes when such proclamations pertain to a York County event, person, organization, or cause with local implications. The Board of Commissioners will consider requests that are timely, have potential relevance to a majority of York County's population, and either forward positive messages or call upon the support of the community.

The following guidelines and requirements apply to requests for consideration of proclamations:

1. The person(s) or organization making the request must submit a detailed e-mail requesting a County Proclamation and submit a copy of the proposed proclamation.
2. The request should be made at least two weeks in advance of the requested Commissioners' meeting.
3. The County Manager will determine if the proposed proclamation meets the intent of this policy. When there is uncertainty in making this determination, the County Manager will consult with the County Commissioners of the Whole for its guidance.
4. The Board of Commissioners retains the right to limit the number of proclamations at a Commissioners' meeting.
5. The County retains the right to modify, edit, or otherwise amend the proposed proclamation to meet its requirements, needs, or policy determinations.
6. The County retains the right to decide if the proclamation will or will not be issued.
7. Once approved, the proclamation will be included on the appropriate Commissioners' agenda.
8. If not approved, the applicant will be notified of the decision.

YORK COUNTY FLAG AND BANNER DISPLAY POLICY

Section 1. Purpose

The purpose of this Policy is to establish clear guidelines regarding (a) the display of the Flag of the United States, the state of Maine flag, any officially adopted County of York flags, ceremonial flags, and commemorative flags at all owned flag poles at all County government facilities and properties, and (b) the display of flags and banners on all County owned or County controlled banner brackets installed on County property or on utility poles located on County property.

Section 2. Definitions

Banner means a piece of fabric or cloth, typically attached by the brackets to a utility pole intended to convey a message to the general public.

Commemorative flag means a flag that honors or celebrates an event, group, or cause associated within the County.

Ceremonial flag means a flag associated with a special observance, public ceremony, or other similar event.

Flag means a piece of cloth or similar material, typically rectangular or square, attachable by one edge to a pole or rope and used as the symbol or emblem of a country, state, municipality, institution, or in honor of an event or memorial to a person or group.

Flag of the United States means the flag established by 4USC Chapter 1, intended to be used as a symbol of the nation.

State of Maine flag means any current or former flag adopted by the Legislature of the state of Maine, intended to be used as a symbol of the state.

County of York flag means any flag intended to be used as a symbol of the County or any flag intended to be used as a symbol to represent an individual department of the County.

Third party means anyone other than a currently serving County Commissioner.

Section 3. Policy

It is the policy of the County that flags and banners should be displayed in conformance with Federal and state laws and policies, including, without limitation, 4USC Chapter 1, as may be amended, and 1 MR §§251-256, as may be amended. The County's flagpoles and banner brackets are not intended to serve as a forum for free expression by the public. The County will not display a ceremonial or commemorative flag or banner brackets to sponsor the expression of a third party. Ceremonial or commemorative flags and banners shall be displayed only as an expression of the County's official sentiments as evidenced by the majority vote of the County Commissioners.

Section 4. Procedure

(a) Display

- (1) The Flag of the United States and the state of Maine and County flags shall be flown at County facilities with outdoor flag poles.
- (2) The Flag of the United States may be flown on County owned, or County controlled flagpoles mounted on utility poles on land owned by the County, providing that the flag is illuminated between sunset and sunrise.
- (3) The County flag and any ceremonial or commemorative flags approved under section (4)(b) of this policy may be flown when there is sufficient pole space to do so. Ceremonial or commemorative flags may be flown in lieu of a county flag if authorized by a majority vote of the Commissioners.
- (4) Flags shall be displayed in the order of precedence determined by 4 USC Chapter 1, and any relevant state statutes or local ordinances.
- (5) Flags shall be displayed only in the manner determined by 4 USC Chapter 1, and any relevant state statutes or local ordinances.
- (6) Any County flags, ceremonial flags, and commemorative flags displayed along with the Flag of the United States and/or the state of Maine flag shall not exceed the size of either the Flag of the United States or the state of Maine flag.

(b) Ceremonial and Commemorative Flags

- (1) Ceremonial flags must be approved by majority vote of the Commissioners prior to display and shall be displayed for a period of time approved by the Commissioners.
- (2) Commemorative flags must be approved by majority vote of the Commissioners prior to display and shall be displayed for a period of time approved by the Commissioners.
- (3) The County will not display a ceremonial or commemorative flag based on a request from a third party, nor will the County use its flagpoles to sponsor the expression of a third party.
- (4) All ceremonial and commemorative flags shall be no larger than either the United States flag or the State of Maine flag.

(c) Lowering of Flags

- (1) The County shall follow all directives of the President of the United States and Governor of Maine regarding the lowering of the Flag of the United States and the Maine State flag to half-staff, respectively. Any County, commemorative, or ceremonial flags flown along with the Flag of the United States and the state of Maine flag shall be lowered contemporaneously with the Flag of the United States and the state of Maine flag.

(d) Banners

- (1) Banners displayed on County or County controlled banner brackets shall be approved by majority vote of the Commissioners. Such approval shall specify the duration and manner of display for all banners approved.

Section 5. Enforcement

- (a) The County Manager or their designee shall be authorized to remove any flag or banner displayed on a County owned or County controlled flagpole or banner bracket in violation of this policy.

Adopted by the York County Commissioners

{ ,2024 }

DRAFT