

COMMISSIONERS MEETING

February 21, 2024

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, February 21, 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 County Manager Linda Corliss were present at the meeting.

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

02-21-2024

ITEM

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

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

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

2 TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE FOLLOWING MEETINGS:

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

3 TO APPROVE TREASURER'S WARRANTS

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

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.

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 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.