

1 **COMMISSIONERS MEETING**

2 **September 20, 2023**

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5 *YORK,ss*

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7 At a regular meeting of the County Commissioners of the County of York, begun and  
8 holden at the York County Government Building in Alfred, within and for the County of York,  
9 being held on Wednesday, September 20, 2023 A. D. at 5:00 P. M.

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12 **COMMISSIONERS PRESENT:**

- 13
- 14 Richard R. Dutremble
- 15 Richard Clark
- 16 Robert Andrews
- 17 Justin Chenette
- 18 Donna Ring
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21 County Manager Gregory Zinser and Deputy County Manager Linda Corliss were present at the  
22 meeting.

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

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27 **09-20-2023 ITEM**

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29 **1 PUBLIC COMMENT(S) ON ANY ITEM(S)**

30 Susan Wiswell asked if (EMA vehicle) Command 2 is out of service again?  
 31 County Manager Zinser explained that the air conditioning system was down and  
 32 when they got it back, they needed to get it fixed again.  
 33 Susan Wiswell then asked about the box truck agenda item. She asked if it was  
 34 being replaced and if so, what is the cost and funding source?  
 35 County Manager Zinser replied that it is junk and that Copart won't even take it.  
 36 He added that it will probably go to the scrap yard. There is a need for some type  
 37 of vehicle, not necessarily a box truck. We will have that conversation later on as it  
 38 is on the agenda. We are maybe thinking of a truck with a lift gate that can be used  
 39 for jail, EMA and Facilities, continued the County Manager. The cost runs  
 40 \$60,000 to \$70,000 for a brand new vehicle.  
 41 The County does have some funding set aside for vehicle replacement. County  
 42 Manager Zinser added that perhaps we will check with all the other entities  
 43 involved and ask for money. County Manager Zinser clarified that it will be  
 44 County funds.

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46 **2 TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE FOLLOWING MEETINGS:**

- 47 a. Commissioners' meeting of September 6, 2023

48 Commissioner Clark motioned to approve the minutes as submitted.  
49 Commissioner Andrews seconded the motion. Vote 5-0.

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51 **3 TO APPROVE TREASURER’S WARRANTS**

- 52 a. Warrants to be approved on September 6, 2023 in the amount of \$560,355.12  
53 Commissioner Clark motioned to approve the warrants. Commissioner  
54 Andrews seconded the motion. Vote 5-0.  
55 b. Warrants to be approved on September 13, 2023 in the amount of  
56 \$1,154,386.15  
57 Commissioner Clark motioned to approve the warrants. Commissioner  
58 Andrews seconded the motion.  
59 Discussion: Commissioner Ring asked why the warrant was so high.  
60 County Manager Zinser responded there was a payment to My Place Teen  
61 Center (ARPA funds) and lots of insurance payments that added up to over  
62 \$700,000.  
63 Vote 5-0.  
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65 **4 TO HEAR ANY REPORTS FROM THE COUNTY**  
66 **COMMISSIONERS**

67 Commissioner Clark mentioned that several Commissioners and management staff  
68 attended the Maine County Commissioners Association convention last week. He  
69 mentioned that Jail Administrator Nathan Thayer did a presentation on  
70 MAT/opioid issues and he did a great job.  
71 Commissioner Ring added that several attendees complimented the presentation.  
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73 **5 NEW BUSINESS**

- 74 a. To review and seek approval on Agreement between York County and  
75 RSU 57 School Resource Officer  
76 County Manager Zinser explained that the School Resource Officer agreement  
77 was received a couple of weeks ago.  
78 Commissioner Clark motioned to approve the Agreement and give the County  
79 Manager authority to sign it. Commissioner Andrews seconded the motion.  
80 DISCUSSION: Commissioner Ring asked if this Agreement has a fully  
81 reimbursed position? County Manager Zinser replied that the County covers  
82 about one month of the Agreement. He clarified that the County covers from  
83 7-1 to 8-16. Commissioner Ring asked if the deputy has a vehicle paid for by  
84 the county? County Manager Zinser replied, yes. Commissioner Ring asked if  
85 the vehicle cost is reimbursed by the school? The County Manager replied, no.  
86 Commissioner Ring stated that the county (contract deputy) contracts are  
87 usually fully funded by the town. We do not get the full cost of the deputy for  
88 this position. Commissioner Ring stated that she believes it is an important  
89 position but from her perspective if they are not covering the full cost like the  
90 towns do, maybe put that in our budget and have the reimbursements offset. It  
91 should go into our operating budget, said Commissioner Ring. County  
92 Manager Zinser replied that she is correct in that they are not charged for the  
93 vehicle. They are looking for a second School Resource Officer and part of the  
94 conversation is that they are aware that they will cover 100%.  
95 Vote 5-0.  
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- b. To review memo from Facilities Manager and seek action on request  
Commissioner Ring motioned to approve disposal of the box truck.  
Commissioner Chenette seconded the motion.  
DISCUSSION: Commissioner Ring asked the County Manager if there are any ideas on how we will replace this?  
Facilities Manager DeRochemont addressed the Board and stated that there have been several conversations and it seems as though a rack body type truck with a lift gate would work best to allow transportation of heavier items. He added that he can't find anything used.  
Commissioner Ring asked how old the box truck was. Facilities Manager DeRochemont replied, 2003.  
Vote 5-0.

County Manager Zinser asked if the Commissioners were agreeable to discussing the snowplow bid that was e-mailed to them but not on the agenda. County Manager Zinser stated that we may need a plow at some point as this was our only bid.  
Facilities Manager Rick DeRochemont addressed the Board and said that this company has done landscaping for us in the past. We called all our previous companies and current ones and they just don't have the staff.  
Commissioner Ring motioned to accept the snowplow bid proposal as submitted. (Year 1- \$46,000; year 2-\$48,301 and year 3-\$50,711.00 with an option to renew for 2026-2027 at the same price as year 3.)  
Commissioner Chenette seconded the motion. Vote 5-0.

- c. County Manager to give update on permitting process for Training and Treatment Centers  
County Manager Zinser explained that there have been quite a few meetings regarding the buildings including a traffic study by the DOT and DEP meetings and they have gone well. He added that he doesn't think there will be a hangup. They did not have any initial feedback for us from our application.  
County Manager Zinser continued that with the DOT it is a numbers game. The initial impact is that perhaps a left-hand turn lane and right slip lane might be necessary. Route 11 and 202 are a little unclear. The DOT is doing a traffic study at the light. We may have to put in a right hand slip lane, said County Manager Zinser.

The local permitting process didn't go very well, explained County Manager Zinser. We presented both applications. The Alfred Planning Board had some questions on the Training Facility application and then they voted to approve the application as complete. This is the first step in a multi-step process, he explained.

The Alfred Planning Board then motioned to deny the permit application for the Recovery Center. After, quite a bit of conversation ensued regarding the completeness of the application. Their thought is that we are asking for more than the ordinance allows in terms of bed restriction, but we disagree, continued the County Manager. The purpose of meeting was to determine completion of application.  
Next, another vote was taken and it was approved to table the (Recovery Center) application.

149 County Manager Zinser informed all that we are going to work with our  
150 Attorneys. At the end of the day, we will have to make some decisions.  
151 If we keep the current Recovery center open, we have the potential to do more.  
152 Or on the flip side, explained the County Manager, we have to reduce and split  
153 buildings up and maybe move one wing over. One building could be 30 feet  
154 away from the main building. This new method will build a center with 30  
155 beds and keep the current Layman Way Recovery Center open. We believe we  
156 can do that, stated the County Manager.

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158 County Manager Greg Zinser stated that he had a conversation with the  
159 County's Clinical Consultant today and she is going to come up with what  
160 programs would work best in what buildings.

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162 The site walk for the Training Center is mid-October and at the next planning  
163 board meeting we will have a better idea where they are going. They are  
164 allowing us to submit a brief, said County Manager Zinser.  
165 We will come up with Plan B and Plan C, he stated. He added that the  
166 The Recovery Center will be built.

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168 County Manager Zinser stated that he had e-mailed off to the Commissioners  
169 the latest update on the numbers. The construction cost is now coming in at  
170 \$45 million. That is a little less than the first bid. It is \$38 million without  
171 contingencies. The issue is the contingencies, explained County Manager  
172 Zinser as they add up to another \$5 million. In reading the fine print, I have  
173 asked the question about the quote as includes sales tax and we are tax exempt.  
174 This lowers the gap.

175 We are maintaining a positive attitude and also, we are sending a letter to the  
176 Maine Recovery Council, stated the County Manager.

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178 Commissioner Ring asked with the new recovery center, will we still have the  
179 MAT program at the jail?

180 County Manager Zinser replied, yes, as they are two different things. He added  
181 that the Sheriff, Jail Administrator and he believe that when we bring the new  
182 center online, we will take that over.

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184 Commissioner Ring asked if we have asked for help to get letters of support  
185 from law enforcement?

186 County Manager Zinser responded that we will ask for support when the time  
187 comes.

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189 County Manager Zinser informed all that they redid the Recovery Center  
190 budget with updated Maine Care rates and it will cost about \$5.2 million to  
191 operate the facility. We have \$4.2 million coming in reimbursements so the  
192 deficit is almost gone. We will use the funds we currently raise for the Layman  
193 Way program, also.

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198 **6 OLD BUSINESS**

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**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)**

None

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

None

**9 ADJOURN**

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

The meeting was adjourned at 5:38 p.m.

DRAFT