

COMMISSIONERS MEETING

September 21, 2022

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, September 21, 2022 A. D. at 4:30 P. M.

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT:

Richard Clark
Richard Dutremble
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

09-21-22 ITEM

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

None

2 TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE FOLLOWING MEETINGS:

- a. Commissioners' meeting of September 7, 2022
Commissioner Clark motioned to approve the minutes of the September 7, 2022 Commissioners' meeting. Commissioner Dutremble seconded the minutes.
Vote 5-0.

3 TO APPROVE TREASURER'S WARRANTS

- a. Warrants to be approved on September 7, 2022 in the amount of \$610,570.16
Commissioner Clark motioned to approve the warrant. Commissioner Dutremble seconded the motion. Vote 5-0.
- b. Warrants to be approved on September 14, 2022 in the amount of \$661,597.59
Commissioner Clark motioned to approve the warrant. Commissioner Dutremble seconded the motion. Vote 5-0.

4 TO HEAR ANY REPORTS FROM THE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Commissioner Dutremble reported on the MCCA meeting held last week.

He added that Commissioners and Sheriffs agreed that more deputies are needed. Commissioner Dutremble added that Maine Gubernatorial candidates spoke.

Commissioner Dutremble also informed all that York County filed a class action suit a few years ago and we received our first \$95,000 check and we will be getting a check for the next 18 years.

Commissioner Sicard interjected that these funds are appropriated money that has to be used for opioid treatment so it will go into our Layman Way account.

Commissioner Clark stated that he attended the Coastal Counties Workforce Board's annual meeting last week as he sits on the Board as the York County Commissioner representative. One point of discussion was that there is money (Federal funds) for dental care for folks that are held out of the work force. This information was passed on to the recovery center and jail.

Commissioner Sicard said to let us know if transportation is a problem so that could be worked out.

Commissioner Sicard informed all that a packet of information came in today regarding the dredge including a letter of commitment from the town of Wells. This is one of five letters that SOS expects to come in. Senator Bailey is involved in forming a coastal commission. They are asking to give a final presentation at our October 19th meeting.

5 NEW BUSINESS

Item d. heard first

a. To review and approve Findings of Facts for abatement #220907- County Manager Zinser reminded all about the poverty abatement heard at the last meeting. He explained that the Findings of Fact summarize the Commission's Decision to the Town and the parties who submitted the appeal.

Commissioner Clark motioned to approve and authorize the Findings of Fact as presented and that they be signed and forwarded on to the person and the town. Commissioner Dutremble seconded the motion. Vote 5-0.

b. H.R. Director Corliss to seek hiring/transfer approval for:
i. Stephen Gould in the position of full-time Deputy in the Sheriff's Office with a date of hire of October 10, 2022-
Commissioner Clark motioned to approve the hiring of Stephen Gould in the position of full-time deputy within the Sheriff's Office with a hire date of October 10, 2022. Commissioner Dutremble seconded the motion. Vote 5-0. Commissioner Ring asked how many positions are open in the jail now? H.R. Director Corliss replied approximately 44. She added that there are five to seven potential new hires.

~~e. Discussion of hiring a job recruiter~~ postponed

d. MEMA Director Peter Rogers to report on the readiness status of York County EMA- York County EMA Director Art Cleaves introduced MEMA Director Rogers and explained that he was here to give a report about York County EMA's readiness.

MEMA Director Rogers addressed the Board and explained that per Maine statute the MEMA Director is required to brief the County Commissioners periodically. He stated that York County EMA is the most aggressive agency in the State.

Director Rogers continued that York County EMA has obtained over \$5 million in reimbursements for the pandemic event.

In regard to the Biddeford disaster, York County EMA convinced FEMA that the damages to the seawall were caused by the weather event and secured \$10 million in damage reimbursement.

The vaccine clinic in Sanford has been a great benefit to the State, CDC and MEMA as well.

Director Rogers continued that York County EMA also completed their 5- year mitigation plan. He added that York County EMA is a leader with preparedness initiatives.

MEMA Director Rogers announced that Megan Arseneault has won the 25th Annual EMA Manager of the Year Award by the Northeast States Emergency Consortium. He highlighted some of Megan's many extra duties such as an informational report that she generated every night during the pandemic, maintained liaison with Maine CDC and MEMA, oversaw the vaccine center that was requested by Dr. Shah in which York County gave over 75,000 shots, and hired over 120 temporary employees. Deputy Director Arsenault also oversaw the five- year update to the Hazard Mitigation Plan.

County Manager Zinser added that it has been a long ride and that the work that EMA has done has been phenomenal. He thanked Megan and all EMA employees and all public safety folks that were present at the meeting today.

Commissioner Sicard stated that it was nice to have State recognition and nice for everyone to see how important EMA is.

6 OLD BUSINESS

Commissioner Ring stated that she would like to see the annual report that was prepared years ago, prepared again. She explained that every department would prepare a letter with information. Commissioner Ring commented that she thinks this would be very helpful as she would like to have some type of reference when she talks with York County residents.

Commissioner Sicard asked County Manager Zinser if this is something that could be done as you prepare the budget?

County Manager Zinser replied that the Commissioners received that information back in April but that if the Commissioners want to see more reports, we can put them together. We can fulfill requests for statistical stuff. He added that if the Board wants this information on a regular basis, we can do that.

Commissioner Clark commented that he has been at many budget committee meetings and any department head is more than willing to give out that information.

Commissioner Ring stated that in regards to the ARPA funds, she would like to see or have some type of discussion of a bonus for employees who had to work during COVID. A lot of employees throughout the State got lump sum bonuses. I think a lot of people were expecting the money to go to employees, stated Commissioner Ring. She added that she thought we had discussed this. County Manager Zinser replied that there was some general discussion but at the time the Board didn't want to discuss it any further but that it is up to the Board. Commissioner Sicard suggested this item be discussed in executive session for the next meeting. Commissioner Clark stated that although is fine with discussing this matter, it is a strange time to start rethinking what we've done.

- 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)

A female who stated she was a survivor of domestic violence addressed the Board with her concerns regarding her offender and that he is still being allowed to run a business and hold a liquor license in Old Orchard Beach.

9 ADJOURN

Commissioner Clark motioned to adjourn. Commissioner Dutremble seconded the motion. Meeting adjourned at 5:20 p.m.