

COMMISSIONERS MEETING

August 3, 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, August 3, 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

08-03-22 ITEM

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

Daria Cullen spoke via ZOOM and asked what county resources and law enforcement efforts there are to identify and disband the neo-Nazi movement in Kittery (group holding banner at Kittery Trading Post recently). She stated that she hasn't heard any public denouncements of this by the Sheriff and Commissioners. Ms. Cullen added that she doesn't think silence is the answer here and that she wants to be sure something is going on there and these people are being identified and disbanded.

She also asked that since Nicole Turner had passed away, she is not aware if any changes have been made at the York County jail. Could the Sheriff or Commissioners provide us with an update, she asked.

Commissioner Sicard stated that he was not aware of these happenings in Kittery and hoped that the Kittery Police Department is involved.

Sheriff King replied that he was aware and made contact several times with Chief Richter and offered the full resources of the York County Sheriff's Office.

Sheriff King addressed Ms. Cullen's second question and stated that the investigation is not yet completed, and no toxicology reports have been received yet. He elaborated that a tragedy happened, and we are reviewing that and meetings are occurring.

Janet Drew spoke via ZOOM and said that she was glad that the Sheriff is meeting and talking about their processes. Could you speak to what the admission process

is as to who comes through the jail and uses the scanner. How does that process happen when somebody comes in, she asked? Ms. Drew added that she echoes what Daria stated in that it is very distressing that hate is a loud voice now. Sheriff King replied that he appreciated the stand that you would take about that group in Kittery but we choose not to respond.

People inducted into the jail that are able to be scanned safely, are scanned. They can be strip searched in some instances. We find out what medications they are on and continue the necessary ones, continued Sheriff King. If they want to get into the MAT program, they are put on a list and can participate. 78 people are currently in MAT. York County is the only county with a recovery center on our campus, commented Sheriff King.

Peggy Turner from Lincoln ME spoke via ZOOM and questioned why there is a gap in between an inmate signing up for MAT and getting into the program. Nicole was on the wait list, she stated. If you can't scan all and can't do cavity searches, what other ways can you be sure the drugs are not being brought in, she asked.

Commissioner Sicard responded that this is something that has to be ascertained once we get the full report.

Ms. Turner replied that it has already been deemed an overdose from the other person in her cell.

Commissioner Sicard replied that it helps to get all the information.

Commissioner Sicard added that the Sheriff said they are currently evaluating their processes.

2 TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE FOLLOWING MEETINGS:

- a. Commissioners meeting of July 13, 2022
Commissioner Clark motioned to approve the minutes of July 13, 2022.
Commissioner Dutremble seconded the motion. Vote 5-0.

3 TO APPROVE TREASURER'S WARRANTS

- a. Warrants to be approved on July 13, 2022 in the amount of \$827,672.83
Commissioner Clark motioned to approve the warrant. Commissioner Dutremble seconded the motion. Vote 5-0.
- b. Warrants to be approved on July 27, 2022 in the amount of \$1,058,921.71
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 Chairperson Sicard asked if MCCA is still holding their September 14 meeting? Kathy Dumont will send another e-mail out tomorrow to all to finalize who will be attending.

5 NEW BUSINESS

- a. Departmental Recognitions:
 - i. Sheriff King to recognize State of Maine Representative Matthew Harrington, Representative Heidi Sampson and Senator David Woodsome
Sheriff King honored three active legislators in York County-Representatives

Matthew Harrington and Heidi Sampson and Senator David Woodsome. All three were presented plaques by the Sheriff that contained copper from the State House dome.

- ii. Deputy EMA Director Megan Arsenault to recognize EMA Mitigation and Finance Manager Laurie Ewing-

Deputy EMA Director, Megan Arsenault addressed the Board of Commissioners and introduced EMA staff present. Deputy Director Arsenault awarded EMA Mitigation and Finance Manager Laurie Ewing a certificate and read a statement thanking Ms. Ewing for her exemplary work in working to obtain reimbursement funds during the COVID-19 pandemic.

- b. H.R. Director Linda Corliss to request approval for the following new hires:

- i. Robert Nejad in the position of Patrol Deputy in the Sheriff's Office with a hire date of ~~August 8, 2022~~ August 22, 2022

Commissioner Ring motioned to approve the hiring of Robert Nejad in the position of deputy in the Sheriff's Office with a hire date of August 22, 2022. Commissioner Andrews seconded the motion. Vote 5-0.

- ii. Michael Hersom in the reserve position of Fire Instructor II in EMA with a hire date of August 8, 2022-

Commissioner Clark motioned to approve the hiring of Michael Hersom in the reserve position of Fire Instructor II in EMA with a hire date of August 8, 2022. Commissioner Dutremble seconded the motion. Vote 5-0.

- iii. Daniel Roy in the reserve position of Fire Instructor II in EMA with a hire date of August 8, 2022

Commissioner Ring motioned to approve the hiring of Daniel Roy in the reserve position of Fire Instructor II in EMA with a hire date of August 8, 2022. Commissioner Dutremble seconded the motion. Vote 5-0.

- iv. Christine Baker in the position of Legal Secretary in the District Attorney's Office with a hire date of August 22, 2022

Commissioner Clark motioned to approve the hiring of Christine Baker in the position of Legal Secretary in the District Attorney's Office with a hire date of August 22, 2022. Commissioner Dutremble seconded the motion. Vote 5-0.

- c. Discussion of PreTrial Services and consideration of contract-

County Manager Greg Zinser introduced Elizabeth Simoni, Executive Director of Maine Pretrial Services. Ms. Simoni explained that this service was the first in the country and that they are housed in the jail and have a small office in Biddeford. She continued that they have a strong collaboration with the courts and D.A.'s office. We are requesting funding for next year, explained Executive Director Simoni.

County Manager Zinser stated that this (program) is a prime example of keeping people out of jail.

Commissioner Ring added that this program is worth every penny and that the County has saved extraordinary money through this program.

Commissioner Clark motioned to approve the Maine Pretrial Services contract in the amount of \$245,886.00 and authorize Sheriff King to sign it on behalf of York County. Commissioner Dutremble seconded the motion. Vote 5-0.

Commissioner Ring asked Sheriff King how many pretrial prisoners are in our jail right now?

Sheriff King replied that the numbers are pretrial 191 vs. 22 sentenced, 11% sentenced people. He added that this does not include the 130 or so that are out. If we didn't have that contract those people would be in jail.

Sheriff King stated that they saved over 64,000 bed days in 2020. The average daily prisoner count in July was 218. 75 people on MAT plus 20 at the Layman Way Recovery Center.

d. To review, discuss and seek Commissioners' approval of York County's 2022 Hazard Mitigation Plan

Victoria Raneses, Emergency Preparedness Coordinator presented the Plan and explained that it was updated with the help of 29 towns, MEMA and FEMA and public comments. She went on to state that it is a requirement for grant funding to have this Plan updated and reapproved every 5 years.

Commissioner Clark motioned to approve the 2022 Hazard Mitigation Plan.

Commissioner Dutremble seconded the motion. Vote 5-0.

e. To review, discuss and seek Commissioners' approval of Law Enforcement Services Agreement between the County of York and the Town of Parsonsfield
Commissioner Sicard asked County Manager Zinser if there were any major changes? County Manager Zinser responded that there were not. Sheriff King added that they are very happy with Deputy Cyr.

Commissioner Ring motioned to approve the Law Enforcement Services Agreement between the County of York and the Town of Parsonsfield and authorized the County Manager to sign the Agreement. Commissioner Andrews seconded the motion. Vote 5-0.

~~f. To review, discuss and seek Commissioners' approval of the engineering and architectural contracts for the Regional Training and Recovery facilities~~

Will be on next agenda

6 OLD BUSINESS

*****HEARD AFTER ITEM 8*****

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. Enter into executive session pursuant to 1 M.R.S.A. § 405 (6) (F) review of confidential records pursuant to Title 1, Section 402-paragraph 3 (Public Records) Q- "Security plans, staffing plans, security procedures, architectural drawings or risk assessments prepared for emergency events that are prepared for or by or kept in the custody of the Department of Corrections or a county jail if there is a reasonable possibility that public release or inspection of the records would endanger the life or physical safety of any individual or disclose security plans and procedures not generally known by the general public. Information contained in records covered by this paragraph may be disclosed to state and county officials if necessary to carry out the duties of the office of the officials

or the Department of Corrections under conditions that protect the information from further disclosure.”

Commissioner Clark motioned to enter into executive session pursuant to the above-noted statute. Com. Dutremble seconded the motion. Vote 5-0.

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

No action taken.

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

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

Janet Drew spoke via ZOOM and commented that she is happy about more money for pretrial services. Family members are victims, too. She asked Sheriff King what are serious crimes?

Sheriff King explained that for the last couple of years, we had an intake modification policy (due to COVID-19). A crime against a person is considered a violent (serious) crime.

Daria Cullen spoke via ZOOM and first agreed with Janet Drew. She questioned when you use these funds, are these folks getting services for their issues that have led them to be in the situation? She added that there is a shortage of lawyers, so what does that mean for folks who are still inside and can't make bail?

Maine Pretrial Executive Director Elizabeth Simoni explained that they screen for mental health and substance abuse disorder, education, housing etc. She added that they look for barriers and they look for strengths. They do try to employ motivational interviewing techniques as well as offer linkages to community resources. The lawyer shortage is impacting everyone, stated Ms. Simoni.

Commissioner Sicard stated that public defenders has been a real problem in the State. It follows back to money and the Legislature can't always find enough, commented Commissioner Sicard.

1. Susan Wiswell asked if the hazard mitigation plan is on the County's website? County Manager Zinser responded that it can be made available online.

9 ADJOURN

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

Meeting adjourned at 5:56 p.m.