

## COMMISSIONERS REGULAR MEETING

April 15, 2020

*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, April 15, 2020 A. D. at 9:00 A. M.

**\*\*PLEASE NOTE SPECIAL MEETING TIME\*\***

**Meeting was held with Public being allowed to call in due to COVID-19 restrictions.**

### COMMISSIONERS PRESENT:

Richard R. Dutremble  
Michael J. Cote  
Richard Clark  
Robert Andrews  
Allen Sicard

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

#### 04-15-20      ITEM

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

Susan Wiswell from Kittery asked how the budget committee caucus will meet. Commissioner Cote replied that he saw a Facebook post from (Acting Budget Committee Chairman) Joe Hanslip that stated they will caucus in the courthouse parking lot. The meetings (of the budget committee) might be through Zoom. Commissioner Cote added he is sure there will be more information later on.

Commissioner Cote explained how this (Commissioners') meeting will work.

##### 2      TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE FOLLOWING MEETINGS:

a. Regular Meeting of April 1, 2020- Commissioner Clark had some corrections. Commissioner Clark moved to approve the minutes with his stated corrections. Commissioner Sicard seconded the motion. Vote 5-0.

##### 3      TO APPROVE TREASURER'S WARRANTS

a. Approve treasurer's warrant dated April 1, 2020 in the amount of \$205,645.27  
Commissioner Cote motioned to approve the warrant. Commissioner Clark seconded the motion. Vote 5-0.

b. Approve treasurer's warrant dated April 8, 2020 in the amount of \$825,471.11  
Commissioner Cote motioned to approve the warrant. Commissioner Clark seconded the motion. Vote 5-0.

**4 TO HEAR ANY REPORTS FROM THE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**

Commissioner Clark commented that he spoke to Joe Hanslip last night and was told by him that County Manager Zinser and his assistant, Kathy Dumont, were very helpful in setting up the budget caucus.

Commissioner Sicard stated that he is sure there will be open meetings held for the budget committee. He stated that he has a couple of people in his district interested (in being a member.)

Commissioner Cote informed all that he participated in a Risk Pool phone meeting last Thursday. He stated that the reports were good and they will be meeting periodically. Maine County Commissioners' Association is on hold right now and he assumes at some point they will use ZOOM meetings, stated Commissioner Cote. The association will be reaching out to counties to decide by June 1<sup>st</sup> if we are going to have the convention in September.

**5 TO HEAR ANY REPORTS FROM THE COUNTY MANAGER**

a. Update on COVID-19- There were no updates given.

**6 NEW BUSINESS**

Begin fy '2021 budget process (presentation times are approximate):

a. (9:00) Introduce Sheriff King to present his budget to the Commissioners- Sheriff King addressed the Board and stated that he agrees with his submitted budget. He mentioned that he and his department are cognizant that they might have to absorb Hollis in their patrol area. The Sheriff added that item is not included in this budget but that they might have to come back at a later date. The Manager and I will have a meeting with the Major of the State Police as a result of the second letter to them. We are waiting to see what the issue is. The verbal report, continued Sheriff King, is that the State Police will eventually give us all of our towns back. We will need perhaps another captain so I will be back to you. Commissioner Sicard clarified that there has been no written response from the second letter. Sheriff King explained that the Troop Commander contacted C.D. Baran and stated that the State Police Major wants to schedule a meeting but that they have not yet received a call from him.

Commissioner Sicard stated that we need a letter to show Hollis.

Commissioner Dutremble asked Sheriff King if he has everything he needs in his Budget. Sheriff King replied that he does but that he wanted to let the Board know that he may be back depending on what happens in Hollis and that he also wants the Board to start thinking about another manager (in his department). Commissioner

Clark asked the Sheriff if he needs anything extra for PPE for his patrol people? Chief Deputy Baran informed all that he applied for a grant (on behalf of the Sheriff's Office) and received \$7800 for full respirator masks. He stated that they will be implementing full face shields. He added that the problem is bulk orders cannot currently be filled.

Commissioner Andrews stated that people do experience fatigue after long periods of wearing the masks. Chief Deputy Baran replied that there will be a medical test for all.

Sheriff King added that they did not have COVID-19 in mind when they prepared the budget. Commissioner Sicard asked if the Sheriff had enough special deputies? Sheriff King replied, yes and that he is asking for another one at this meeting.

Commissioner Sicard asked Sheriff King if he had lost any staff or had staff that has had to stay home due to exposure? Sheriff King responded, yes, on the jail side but not a

COVID-19 issue.

Commissioner Cote stated that a lot will be reimbursable. Sheriff King added that they just heard about a Hero's fund that they are going to look into. County Manager Zinser stated that York County is eligible for an additional \$58,000 through the justice assistance counsel. He cautioned that we don't want to "double dip" as everything is reimbursable right now. Sheriff King commented that York County as a whole is really employing more measures than everyone else, including sanitizing the mail.

Commissioner Cote agreed that there is a good team of folks here and that he is proud of everything everyone is doing. The Board appreciates the great team effort, stated Commissioner Cote.

Commissioner Clark stated that he believes next year is going to be difficult. The Towns that I represent have seasonable based economies. The Town of Wells has already closed town facilities to May 15th. Commissioner Clark continued that he feels there will be a lot of push back on taxes and budgets. He cautioned the Sheriff to keep that in mind and be aware when preparing his department's budget for next year.

Commissioner Cote agreed and stated that is something that has to be considered as some towns may not be able to pay us. Tax revenue from the communities may be an issue.

Commissioner Clark motioned to tentatively approve the Sheriff's Office budget for fy'2021 in the amount of \$3,126,387. Commissioner Sicard seconded the motion.

Motion amended by Commissioner Clark to approve the Sheriff's Office budget in the amount of \$3,126,399. Amended motion seconded by Commissioner Sicard. Vote 5-0.

b. (9:30) Introduce Sheriff King and Lt. Col. Michael Vitiello to present the jail budget to the Commissioners- County Manager Greg Zinser explained there is a generalized reduction at the end of the budget as we should be able to make up some of the expenses due to the staffing shortage. We do want to incrementally increase the tax cap so that in two to three years we won't be faced with a huge increase that our budget cannot afford. We know our inmate count will go up, stated County Manager Zinser. Lt. Col. Michael Vitiello addressed the Board and stated that he has concerns about the State's ability to continue (jail) funding. The Legislature is considering a jail increase but given the amount of money being spent to combat COVID-19, it could well impact the State's ability to collect taxes. Jails historically have not been sheltered, continued Lt. Col. Vitiello. He added that he does anticipate a flood (of inmates) in the fall when the courts open back up.

Lt. Col. Vitiello explained that in the budget a couple of lines were moved as there are a bunch of new supervisors that they want to provide training to. First line supervisors run the operation on nights and weekends, stated the Lt. Col. Other than that, it is the standard budget. Lt. Col. Vitiello added that there is one new request to move the current part time custodial position to full time. The need has grown that we need to fund a full – time position, stated the Lt. Col. Commissioner Sicard asked where that position is (in the budget)? County Manager Zinser replied that it appears in "new requests" portion of the budget. He added that he agrees with the Lt. Col. that more cleaning capabilities are necessary at the jail facility.

Commissioner Clark asked Lt. Col. Vitiello if he has built anything into his budget for personal protective equipment for next year? The Lt. Col. replied that he had along with cleaning supplies. Commissioner Clark asked if Lt. Col. Vitiello is able to get the items he currently needs? Lt. Col. Vitiello commented that his department has done fit testing and has appropriate masks for all staff and respirators for nursing staff. Commissioner Dutremble asked the Lt. Col. if he is planning, after this pandemic to stock for a second wave and have stock on hand. Lt. Col. Vitiello responded that, yes, we have had a small

supply of N-95 masks for tuberculosis. Commissioner Cote added that hopefully the new masks from Hampton with replaceable filters will help out. Commissioner Clark repeated his concern to Lt Col. Vitiello regarding next year's budget being difficult. He also cautioned the Lt. Col. to think about next year's budget. Commissioner Clark added that all department heads should be paying attention to what we have learned from this experience as to what we've done wrong and what we have done right so we can debrief. Commissioner Sicard asked about the scheduled projects at the jail.

Lt. Col. Vitiello stated that the projects are in the capital budget not the operating budget. He continued that the project is on hold but that he is having conversations with engineering. He continued that with the expected downturn in the construction market, he is hopeful that a smaller job might just fit the bill for some construction companies and perhaps the bids will be more attractive.

County Manager Greg Zinser explained that the money (for the jail project) is from previously committed reserves.

Commissioner Andrews asked the Lt. Col. if he was concerned as new inmates enter the jail and if he was quarantining them from the current population? Lt. Col. Vitiello replied that the inmates are not being quarantined per se but that they are kept in intake until they go to court. If they are held, they are doing the rapid test to confirm they are COVID-19 negative, stated the Lt. Col. We can also reassure current inmates of this process. Commissioner Andrews asked if there have been any positive tests? Lt. Col. Vitiello responded that there have not been. To which Commissioner Andrews asked if there was a plan in the event of a positive case. Lt. Col. Vitiello replied there was as the jail has negative pressure in the medical unit.

Commissioner Andrews asked about the increase on travel budget line for the jail. Lt. Vitiello explained that is for mileage reimbursement for corrections officers driving to the academy or air travel for conferences and/or training.

Commissioner Clark motioned to tentatively approve the fy'2021 jail budget in the amount of \$10,878,069. Commissioner Dutremble seconded the motion. Vote 5-0.

**Commissioner Cote called for a 10- minute break.**

c. (10:00) Introduce D.A. Slattery and Office Manager Jennifer Kern to present the District Attorney's budget to the Commissioners-County Manager Greg Zinser informs all that- budget increases are due to wages. D.A. Kathy Slattery approached the Board and explained that her department is switching over their case manager software. Also, she is asking for a position formally funded by a grant now be taken over by the county budget. The County Manager added that half (of the position) was being funded by the county and half grant funded.

Commissioner Sicard asked D.A. Slattery if she has had anymore correspondence with the State regarding the new courthouse. County Manager Greg Zinser responded that there has been no communications that have come to him. DA. Slattery stated that the building has been reduced significantly in size. Commissioner Sicard asked if there has been any further correspondence on the use of the old courthouse (in Biddeford)? The County Manager replied, no, and that we've been clear that our intent is they stay in Alfred as we have no other options We need everyone in a single building stated the County Manager.

Commissioner Sicard asked D.A. Slattery how much staff time is spent in the courthouse? D.A. Slattery responded, 95%.

Commissioner Sicard commented that the travel time from Alfred to Biddeford doesn't make sense. D.A. Slattery replied that everyone agreed but no one would move.

Commissioner Cote shared that a few months ago he reached out to Ryan Fecteau's office regarding leasing a space in Biddeford for \$1 a year to allow our D.A. to be in Biddeford. He added that he never heard back.

Commissioner Dutremble commented that he also had spoken to a few people and reiterated the situation to them. They are astounded. I've talked with ex -Judges who agree the D.A. should be in the courthouse, stated Commissioner Dutremble.

Commissioner Andrews asked D.A. Slattery if her office has seen any increase in domestic violence complaints during this time? The District Attorney replied that she can't measure it against what they've had previously but that they have an in- custody list everyday as there does have to be an arrest in those.

Commissioner Clark reiterated his concerns about the budget next year as well as he reminded the D.A. and Office Manager to keep a list of what their department is doing that might be more efficient.

Commissioner Dutremble asked D.A. Slattery if she has everything she wants in her budget? D.A. Kathy Slattery replied that she is satisfied with this budget and thanked the Commissioners for their support in the courthouse "drama".

Commissioner Cote thanked Kathy, Jennifer and their staff. He added that he is proud of the people who work for us.

Commissioner Clark motioned to tentatively approve the District Attorney's budget for fy '21 in the amount of \$1,478,738. Commissioner Sicard seconded the motion.

Vote 5-0.

- d. (10:30) Introduce EMA Director Art Cleaves to present his budget(s) to the Commissioners (EMA and Juvenile Fire budget to the Commissioners- heard at 10:20.

EMA Director, Art Cleaves, updated the Commissioners about the county's response to the COVID-19 pandemic. He explained that he and his department are working with towns, MEMA and CDC. Director Cleaves added that they are reporting information to the State as to what each city and town are doing (closing areas) as well as providing PPEs to towns when there is a shortfall with CDC.

Director Cleaves displayed some of the equipment such as the N-95 masks, surgical masks, face shields and Tyvek suits. He explained that the ENVO masks have a disposable filter.

Director Cleaves continued that long- term nursing homes (in Maine) have had many exposures Over three weeks ago, we reached the facilities with UNE volunteers. They have to have a respiratory exposure program in place. EMA Director Cleaves explained that York County Hazmat team is performing FIT testing (for N-95 masks) .

Commissioner Cote read a letter from Town of York Chief of Police, Charles Szeniawski praising York County EMA (attached as record of minutes). EMA Director Art Cleaves stated that he is proud of his team.

**EMA Budget-** Director Cleaves explained his budget through PowerPoint slides distributed to the Commissioners (attached as record to these minutes). He stated that the \$23,000 increase is due to wages and \$1,000 increase for vehicle maintenance. The wage increase is primary built on Chief Hooper's salary.

Commissioner Cote clarified that the total EMA budget includes the fire chief division. EMA Director Cleaves, replied, correct.

County Manager Greg Zinser added that this is the status quo budget but there is a new request. EMA is requesting a new request in the amount of roughly \$22,000 to expand the program by increasing the training capabilities and have a Fire investigation team. Currently, every Fire Department in York County is spending \$750 for their students to attend. If we factor in the charge, we will see roughly \$12,000 in revenue. We could pay the instructor \$8,000 to cover our costs and then we could lower the cost to \$550 per person to assist the towns by lowering their costs and creating a program for this type of training that is cost neutral, stated the County Manager. We could also

create a standardized schedule for cities and towns in York County, County Manager Zinser explained that we would be asking for Commissioner approval on that also. Commissioner Cote asked if this is something we have talked about before and is it supported by all 29 cities and towns? EMA Director Cleaves said certainly on training. As far as fire investigations, just about all are on board but some do their own. Commissioner Sicard asked if Director Cleaves had looked into the large box that he has seen on the news that disinfects masks and has been approved by the Government. EMA Director Art Cleaves stated that there are several different ways to disinfect masks. We are looking at a trailer to go around and disinfect masks for cities and towns in York County. He clarified that this is not a budget item but rather will be paid for under the disaster. Director Cleaves explained that the sanitizing would be done right on site.

Commissioner Dutremble asked Director Cleaves if we have enough supplies? He replied that he wants to be careful of the balance and not have too big of a stockpile and have to throw them away. Director Cleaves assured the Board that he and his staff will watch really closely.

Director Art Cleaves directed to Board to the last slide that stated EMA recoups around \$300,000 every year.

Commissioner Clark reiterated his concerns about next years' budget that he has also stated to the other Department Heads.

Commissioner Dutremble asked Director Cleaves if he was satisfied with his budget. He replied that he was. County Manager Zinser reminded the Board that they are also looking for approval of their new request.

Commissioner Clark motioned to approve the EMA fy'21 budget in the amount of \$578,859. Commissioner Sicard seconded the motion.

DISCUSSION: Commissioner Cote asked if that (number) included the new request? Commissioner Andrews stated the numbers on the budget and the PowerPoint are different and asked which one is correct? It was determined the number in the motion is correct. Vote 5-0.

Commissioner Clark motioned to approve the \$51,283 (new requests fire instruction and fire investigations team, full time maintenance tech). Commissioner Sicard seconded the motion. Vote 5-0.

Commissioner Clark amended the motion to include FICA and taxes.

Commissioner Sicard seconded the amended motion. Vote 5-0.

Juvenile Fire Prevention- EMA Director Art Cleaves stated that the two part- time employees who also have other careers do a great job.

Commissioner Clark motioned to approve the 'fy 21 budget in the amount of \$32,388.

Commissioner Sicard seconded the motion. Vote- 5-0.

Commissioner Clark suggested to Director Cleaves that these employees prepare a short, one- page summary, that would help the budget board out.

e. (11:00) Introduce Register of Probate Carol Lovejoy to present her budget to the Commissioners- Judge Houde and Casey Hartford called in.

County Manager Greg Zinser explained that the major increase is for wages.

Register of Probate Carol Lovejoy approached the Board to talk about the budget.

Register Lovejoy explained that the Registers of Probate dues went up, so she had to increase her budget line by \$25.00. Commissioner Clark asked the Probate staff how they were doing with conditions at hand. Register of Probate, Carol Lovejoy replied that Hearings are occurring by video conferencing and that work is not piling up.

She added that it has picked up a little bit in the past couple of weeks. Judge Houde added that everyone is working hard. Judge Houde added that people miss one another with half of the staff in the office at a time but we are making do with the situation. Register of Probate Lovejoy added that we have talked about restarting workout conferences that are mediations without the mediator using Zoom and Skype like we were doing before COVID-19. She added that the Probate office is continuing to move cases.

Probate Office Manager Casey Hartford echoed what Register of Probate Carol Lovejoy and Judge Houde have said. She added that spirits are staying up and everyone is working hard but that they miss our other team.

Commissioner Clark reiterated his budget concerns regarding next year's budget.

Commissioner Dutremble asked members of the Probate Office if they are satisfied with their budget? Register of Probate Carol Lovejoy replied, yes, they are satisfied.

Judge Houde added that he is satisfied with the budget and that he will work with whatever he is given.

Commissioner Clark motioned to approve the Probate Department budget in the amount of \$646,422. Commissioner Dutremble seconded the motion. Vote 5-0.

Commissioner Cote commented that it has been a real team effort on everyone's part. A lot have sacrificed, and he is proud of everything and appreciate you and your work.

Register of Probate Carol Lovejoy thanked the County for their response.

## **BREAK**

f. (11:30)Introduce Register of Deeds Nancy Hammond to present her budget to the

Commissioners- County Manager Zinser stated that the deeds budget is projected to go down (\$44,000.) There was a retirement of a long- time employee that was at the high end of the scale. There are two current vacancies in this department, but the hiring is on hold at this point due to the situation. We are very happy with her management ability, stated the County Manager.

Register of Deeds, Nancy Hammond addressed the Board and stated they have run into a couple of roadblocks with the hiring process. She added that she is looking to fill one vacancy at this time. Register Hammond added that in her department are three people that are on the upper end of the age bracket. Therefore, it would be helpful to get people trained so that once those folks hit retirement age, we will have trained employees.

Register of Deeds Hammond stated that her department has worked through some issues and continues to do so. She added that she does see that they are a cohesive team working towards the same goal. She hoped that planned renovations can be done soon where everyone will move into one area. Register Hammond added that she

believes the move is a worthwhile goal. . Register Nancy Hammond informed the

Commissioners that one of the issues her department faced is that York County is one of the few counties in the State that doesn't have all of their records online. She added that twenty years are now online since she started as Register of Deeds as well as plans.

People are anxious to get back to work and if they have that stuff available, they can work, stated Register of Deeds Hammond. Oxford County took priority from our servicer. Now they are focused more on getting our records online.

Commissioner Sicard asked if the Register was referring to the record management budget line in the amount o \$84,000? Register of Deeds Nancy Hammond replied, yes.

Commissioner Clark questioned the reduction in the deeds budget postage line by \$8,000. Register Nancy Hammond replied that is the result of the new e-filing system.

Persons used to bring their documents in, and they would have to mail them back. Now, we don't have to do that, explained the Register of Deeds. She added that York County has the highest volume of e-file in the State.

Commissioner Clark again voiced his concerns about next year budget situation. Register

Hammond stated that right now Deeds is above in revenues from last year at this time. For April, we are down just a bit from last year, she commented. Register Hammond added that she believes once this is over, sales will rebound quickly. The flipside she stated will be foreclosures and lien situations. Register Hammond stated that she doesn't see long term effects for real estate.

Commissioner Dutremble asked Register of Deeds Nancy Hammond if she is satisfied with her budget to which she replied she was satisfied.

Commissioner Cote thanked Register Nancy Hammond and her department for their hard work.

Commissioner Clark motioned to approve the fy'2021 budget for the Registry of Deeds in the amount of \$622,168. Commissioner Sicard seconded the motion. Vote 5-0.

g. Introduce Facilities Manager Rick deRochemont to present his budget to the Facilities Manager, Rick deRochemont approached the Board and stated that the only thing that has increased or change outside of the new position is payroll. Commissioner Dutremble questioned the reduced cleaning supplies budget line. Facilities Manager, Rick deRochemont answered that prior to his arrival, one company was used for most purchases and that he has switched to utilizing several different vendors. Therefore, he has been able to save quite a bit of money.

Commissioner Clark asked if all has been done to reduce our costs after looking at the electrical budget line. Facilities Manager Rick deRochemont replied that several projects have been and continue to be done in phases here and at the courthouse. Fixtures have been replaced with flat LED panels at the courthouse. Just about all lights have been upgraded at the courthouse. This building (govt. bldg.) is next, stated Rick. Commissioner Clark added that when they toured the courthouse, it was stated that painting needed to be done in the large courthouse and wouldn't now be a great time. Facilities Manager, Rick deRochemont agreed although they are still conducting court. He added that they could use the main floor courtroom and he will look into that. Commissioner Clark stated to Mr. deRochemont that he has real concerns with next years' budget. He added that he believes there will be rough times in terms of the economy as York County depends on tourism. He added that his request to Department Heads is to look at possible savings for next year's budget.

Commissioner Dutremble asked about heating and plumbing repairs. Facilities Manager, Rick deRochemont responded that the courthouse geothermal system has had some pump failures and that things are starting to break down. Some items were included under the contract so we didn't have to pay for them. Our contracts renew this summer though, so, there might possibly be some removal of coverage. Commissioner Dutremble commented that the system was installed in 2008 so it is not 20 years old yet. Commissioner Dutremble asked Facilities Manager Rick deRochemont if he was satisfied with his budget? Rick deRochemont replied that yes, he was. Commissioner Cote thanked Rick and his department for their work.

Commissioner Clark motioned to approve the Facilities Maintenance budget for fy'21 in The amount of \$543,114. Commissioner Sicard seconded the motion. Vote 5-0.

**LUNCH BREAK- Shut down phone for lunch- open back up at 12:30 p.m. Greg tells all.**

- h. (1:00) County Manager Greg Zinser to present the following budgets to Commissioners:  
Coms/Gov. Body, Layman Way Recovery Center, Management/Admin., Gov. Building/courthouse, Treasurer, Retirement Benefits, Medical and Dental insurance, debt, public agencies, reserves, contingency



**Commissioners' budget-**County Manager Zinser stated that he agrees with Commissioner Clark about next year's budget. Increases (in the Commissioners' budget) are attributed to wages.

Commissioner Clark asked about where in the budget would the (Maine County Commissioners') convention come out of? Would it be the meals, lodging, travel and conferences and meetings? County Manager Zinser replied, yes, a combination of those lines. Commissioner Cote asked if the wage increase was based on COLA? County Manager Greg Zinser replied, yes.

Commissioner Clark motioned to approve the Commissioners' 'fy21 budget in the amount of \$68,622. Commissioner Sicard seconded the motion. Vote 5-0.

**Administration budget-** The County Manager informed all that he is looking for more funding in the legal expense and a bit more in the recruitment line but other than that the only increase is mainly wages a little more in the recruitment line.

Commissioner Clark asked about the legal budget year to date. County Manager Zinser replied that it is at \$53,000 and that a small increase shows in that line for the fy '21 budget as the County will bargain with all three Unions. Commissioner Clark asked why is there a requested increase in travel? The County Manager stated that line was under budget as he did a lot of travel this year to Augusta.

Commissioner Clark motioned to approve the administration budget for fy'21 in the amount of \$1,098,448. Commissioner Sicard seconded the motion. Vote 5-0.

Commissioner Clark motioned to approve the treasurer's budget in the amount of \$562.00. Commissioner Sicard seconded the motion. Vote 5-0.

**Communications/Dispatch-** County Manager Zinser advised that this line is a contracted service and is going up by 1.8%. This increase includes \$10,000 for general repairs and maintenance for a tower in Lebanon that might be moving. Commissioner Clark asked if this affects any of the issues we allegedly have with our radios? The County Manager responded, no, but we are always looking at ways to enhance our current set of communications. The proposed location that we are looking at (for the tower) is somewhere in Shapleigh.

Commissioner Clark motioned to approve the communications budget for fy'21 in the amount of \$678,715. Commissioner Dutremble seconded the motion.

DISCUSSION: A discussion ensued regarding a York County dispatch center (in the future). Vote- 5-0.

**Layman Way Recovery Center-** County Manager Zinser introduced Megan Gean-Gendron and Steve Mazza from the Recovery Center.

Steve Mazza thanked the Commissioners for their recent visit. He continued that the number of those seeking treatment at the Recovery Center has gone up. The percentage rate on graduations (at Layman Way) is higher than the State average. People returning to jail has gone down recently, also. Megan Gean-Gendron stated that the Outpatient program (aftercare) has also been going well. Megan continued that they have just recently moved two graduates up to the farm and another graduate is likely moving there in a couple of weeks. She explained that they are attempting to obtain a recovery residence status from Maine State Housing Authority and receiving funding for this as well. It will be a recovery residence for women. Commissioner Andrews asked if this would be for women and their children? Ms. Gean-Gendron stated that this has been part of the discussion we will continue to have with DHHS about this. We haven't run such a treatment housing place yet with children.

County Manager Greg Zinser read some statistics he had received from D.A. Kathy Slattery that out of the 45 graduates, only seven have interfaced with the justice service. Commissioner Clark referenced a recent letter from a graduate shared with the Commissioners. He thanked the Layman Way staff and thanked the residents who were open to their discussions (personal) with us and that he was pretty moved by that. Commissioner Clark asked Ms. Gendron and Mr. Mazza to talk a little bit about what they are doing to make sure everyone there is safe from COVID-19. Steve Mazza replied that they were ahead of the game. Megan was in touch with Augusta and CDC. We shut down the building over one month ago, he continued. So far, we have had no cases and no one sick. Staff that has to be there are the only people entering the building now. Steve Mazza explained that residents skype and ZOOM but that they get a little restless. Megan Gean-Gendron added that masks are hard to find and that she is trying to get cloth ones.

Commissioner Sicard stated that with the requested increase of \$200,000, that brings us close to funding at \$1 million. He asked where is this money going? County Manager Zinser stated that we will have significant decreases in our debt services next year.

Commissioner Andrews asked if there was anything else needed at Layman Way Recovery Center and also asked about overall morale?

Steve Mazza replied that right now they are all set. He added that they have three laptops from RSU 57 and that the residents can communicate with their sponsors. AA has been calling in and sets up ZOOM meetings. Commissioner Sicard asked if the recovery residents at the Farm are different entities? Megan Gean-Gendron replied, yes.

Commissioner Sicard asked if they will need more resources in 2021 and 2022. Megan Gean-Gendron replied no, we will cross train our shelter employees to also work at the housing (recovery). She added that they would not ask the County for additional funding.

Commissioner Clark relayed to Ms. Gendron and Mr. Mazza his concerns about next year's budget and urged them to look at any kind of savings they can find. He added that he hopes he is wrong but that he thinks things are going to be difficult.

Commissioner Clark moved to approve the Layman Way Recovery Center in the amount of \$950,000. Commissioner Dutremble seconded the motion. Vote 5-0.

**Retirement-** Commissioner Clark motioned to approve the retirement budget in the amount of \$521,053. Commissioner Sicard seconded the motion. Vote 5-0.

**Medical insurance-** County Manager Zinser explained that there \$38,310 increase. Commissioner Clark motioned to approve the medical and dental insurance for 'fy 21 in the amount of \$823,310. Commissioner Sicard seconded the motion. Vote 5-0.

**Debt Service-** County Manager Greg Zinser stated that the debt service is going down a little this year. In the next two years that number will be reduced to 0.

Commissioner Clark motioned to approve the debt service 'fy21 budget in the amount of \$1,039,000. Commissioner Sicard seconded the motion. Vote 5-0.

**Public agencies-** County Manager Zinser informed all that this budget shows an increase of \$1000 from SMRPC. Commissioner Dutremble, who serves on the Board at SMRPC stated that there is a shortage of planners throughout the county so Southern Maine Regional Planning Commissioner has offered more services.

Commissioner Clark motioned to approve the public agencies 'fy21 budget in the amount of \$128,700. Commissioner Sicard seconded the motion. Vote 5-0.

**Contingency-** Commissioner Clark motioned to approve the 'fy 21 contingency budget

in the amount of \$50,000. Commissioner Sicard seconded the motion. Vote 5-0.

County Manager Greg Zinser reviewed the summary budget page and explained that there is an increase in the Deeds revenue line. He added that the budget projects a use reserves in the amount of \$140,000. A lot of towns will see a lag of revenue sharing funds, continued the County Manager. He added that next year we will have to take a hard look at this. Debt service will go down \$400,00 next year. We will meet your directive next year, stated County Manager Zinser. The Department Heads have done a good job overall. He relayed a discussion he had with Commissioner Dutremble the other day regarding a concern with towns as to when they commit their taxes in light of everything going on. He reminded the Commissioners that they do have the ability to raise the overlay in the budget. The County Manager stated that he is already being asked about waiving late fees for next year. He added that he would have to look into it as he has never done it here. He added that he is not sure if it has to be part of the budget as part of the budget committee review as you have the right to commit the taxes. Commissioner Dutremble added that the conversation we had as I recall, was that we need to find out if we need to go through the budget committee or not. County Manager Zinser stated that this is the time to think about it.

County Manager Zinser stated that the tax increase to add 3.15% to fund (facilities and EMA training). The Facilities budget as approved by you tentatively above is 552,071. Commissioner Clark motioned to approve \$21,239,061 to increase revenues. Commissioner Sicard seconded the motion. Vote 5-0.

Commissioner Clark motioned to approve the total 2021 budget in the amount of \$21,239,061. Commissioner Sicard seconded the motion. Vote 5-0.

DISCUSSION-Commissioner Andrews asked if the percentage increase is now a 3.16% increase to the overall budget. The County Manager replied it is actually 3.15%.  
Vote 5-0.

i. Possible vote by Commissioners to approve budget to transmit to York County Budget Committee-

Commissioner Clark motioned to send the approved budget to the budget committee. Commissioner Dutremble seconded the motion. Vote 5-0.

**\*\*Item heard after Deeds budget presentation\*\*-**

j. Introduce H.R. Director Linda Corliss to request the hiring of Kevin Rooney as a temporary Special Deputy with a requested hire date of April 15, 2020.

Linda Corliss approached the Board to request the hiring of Kevin Rooney in the position of Special Deputy with a start date of April 15, 2020. Commissioner Clark motioned to approve the hiring of Kevin Rooney. Commissioner Sicard seconded the motion. Vote 5-0.

**7 OLD BUSINESS**  
None

**8 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

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

Susan Wiswell commented to the Commissioners to stay well.

Donna Ring from Sanford questioned what is the COLA number that is factored in for all non-union employees County Manager Greg Zinser replied, 2%.

Ms. Ring asked what the non-union costs are for their individual insurance factored into the budget. The County Manager replied that he does not know but will get back to her. Donna Ring asked what is the amount that the non-union employees pay for their weekly insurance. She added that there is a tremendous increase in the insurance budget. Who is paying that increase, asked Ms. Ring?

She then asked about the full-time person in the maintenance budget. County Manager Zinser replied that position is shared with the jail. Donna Ring commented that goes back to a number of years ago where there was a (full-time maintenance) person in the jail; correct?

Donna Ring commented that there are a lot of increases in non-union positions. Are these COLA or other increases? The County Manager replied that it is fair to say there are other increases. Donna Ring asked why are there larger increases. County Manager Zinser replied that we are going to be increasing some non-union individuals. Donna Ring asked why? The County Manager responded because we feel we they are appropriate. It will be a market increase.

Donna Ring stated that she only sees increases in non-union positions not in actual working positions. Why do you feel you should be increasing the managerial positions? and not the working people, asked Ms. Ring?

Commissioner Clark stated that he disagrees with Donna Ring's dichotomy. Our managers work as well.

Donna Ring asked why the Board of Commissioners can violate their own policies? The County Manager asked, how (are they violating their own policies?) Donna Ring replied, salaries to start with. She continued by asking why managerial positions are worth more than the working people in benefits and salaries.

Commissioner Cote asked Ms. Ring how many times do you see that managers don't make more money than the line people?

Donna Ring asked why are benefits different? Commissioner Cote replied it has to do with a lot of things.

Donna Ring stated to the Commissioners, "You are a policy maker, so you need to review your policies."

Commissioner Clark asked Ms. Ring what policy the Commissioners are violating to

which Ms. Ring did not respond.

**10 ADJOURN**

Commissioner Clark motioned to adjourn. Commissioner Dutremble seconded the motion. Vote 5-0. Meeting adjourned at 1:56 p.m.