

Budget Meeting of the
Hillsborough County Board of Commissioners
April 10, 2014
Bouchard Building, Goffstown, NH
Minutes of the Public Session
(Not Official until Approved by the Board and signed by the Clerk.)

Present: Comm. Pappas, Comm. Holden, Comm. Ziehm, P. Coughlin, J. Hardy, C. Beaulac, C. Connelly, M. Esty, B. Moorehead, E. Robinson, G. Wenger, M. Castonguay, and L. Stonner

Reconvene the meeting.

Motion: To reconvene the meeting. Motion by Comm. Holden, second by Comm. Ziehm. Motion carried

The meeting reconvened at 9:05 a.m.

Mr. Wenger reviewed the Revenue lines, adding that there are no new sources of Revenue for FY2015.

Register Coughlin informed the Board that she does not anticipate meeting the FY2014 Revenue and is not comfortable increasing Registry of Deeds' Revenue for FY2015; in fact, she reduced the budget based on the current year's expectations. She noted that Recording Fees are down 28% over the last 5 years and the document count is down 22%.

Following discussion relative to an average of the last several years' Registry Revenue, the Board offered the following motion.

Motion: To increase the Registry of Deeds Revenue line 3402 by \$275,000 and to fund the line at \$3,550,000. Motion by Comm. Ziehm, second by Comm. Holden. Motion carried.

The Board offered the following motions based on prior discussions:

Motion: To increase the Department of Corrections Revenue line 3403 by \$20,000, and to fund the line at \$1,281,200. Motion by Comm. Ziehm, second by Comm. Holden. Motion carried.

Mr. Wenger reviewed other Revenue lines.

Motion: To move into Recess. Motion by Comm. Holden, second by Comm. Ziehm. Motion carried.

The Board moved into Recess at 9:55 a.m.

The meeting reconvened at 9:59 a.m.

Motion: To reconvene the meeting. Motion by Comm. Holden, second by Comm. Ziehm. Motion carried.

Comm. Pappas entertained a motion relative to Non-Public Sessions.

Motion: To move into Non-Public Session with Mr. Wenger and Mr. Moorehead consistent with RSA 91-A:3 II (a) relative to compensation of employees. Motion by Comm. Ziehm, second by Comm. Holden. Ziehm-yes, Pappas-yes, Holden-yes. Motion carried.

The Board moved into Non-Public session at 10:00 a.m.

The Board met with Mr. Moorehead and Mr. Wenger.

The Board moved out of Non-Public Session at 10:21 a.m.

Motion: To move out of Non-Public Session. Motion by Comm. Pappas, second by Comm. Ziehm. Motion carried

Mr. Moorehead reviewed Nursing Home Revenue and explained the reasoning for the projections. He explained that it is very difficult to project the Medicaid reimbursement and Bed Tax because the information has not been made available. He added that bed assessment or Bed Tax drives Revenue. Mr. Moorehead reviewed his Expense lines and explained any proposed changes to the budget. Mr. Moorehead explained that the budget contains a new Part Time position for a Clerk who would handle collections.

Motion: To move into Recess. Motion by Comm. Holden, second by Comm. Ziehm. Motion carried.

The Board took a brief Recess at 10:59 a.m.

The meeting reconvened at 11:07 a.m.

Motion: To reconvene the meeting. Motion by Comm. Holden, second by Comm. Ziehm. Motion carried.

Mr. Moorehead highlighted proposed restoration to Unit C-3, adding that the goal is to renovate a Unit each year. He explained that the facility needs a new dish washing machine and a new transport vehicle, adding that the vehicle they have needs to be replaced. Mr. Moorehead added that the facility is old and needs more work every year to maintain it. He explained that consideration is being given to adding air conditioning to address temperature issues that occur in the dish room and laundry, particularly in hot weather; he added that this has been a Union discussion issue. Mr. Wenger inquired that in light of the age of the Nursing Home, consideration might be given to a major renovation of the facility that the County would bond; he asked if it might be the time to consider borrowing to address major issues at the facility. Mr. Moorehead added that when a previous architectural review of the building was done, the major recommended change would be to eliminate two semi-private rooms sharing a bathroom; the only way to do that would be to pull out the brick walls; which would be a huge expense and it might make more sense to replace the building. Mr. Moorehead added that the trend is to move toward private rooms that could be converted to a semi-private room when there is a spouse. Mr. Wenger added that consideration might be given to a 3-5 year plan that is funded by a bond for the major repairs. The Discussion ensued and the Board discussed possible options for the facility.

Mr. Moorehead explained that the budget includes a Case Manager for Medicaid, noting that many more hours are being spent in the pre-approval of Phase I; he added that the ACA (Affordable Care Act) requires many more hours related to requirements that must be met and there are many unintended consequences that will affect cost. Mr. Moorehead added that residents are required to choose an MCO (Managed Care Organization), but the MCO of their choice may not be to the Nursing Home's advantage; he added that with ACA, a great deal more work has been created.

Following discussion, the Board offered the following motion:

Motion: To reduce the Nursing Home Social Services Salaries & Wages, line 4418-7010 by \$30,159 plus related roll-ups and to fund the new Case Manager position, #201041001, at \$1.00. Motion by Comm. Holden, second by Comm. Ziehm. Motion carried.

There was a discussion about the purchase of 3 computers and the importance of going through the CIS Department so that the computers meet the County's specifications; it was recommended that going forward, computers should be purchased through CIS to ensure compatibility.

Comm. Pappas recognized Sheriff Hardy and staff. The Sheriff reviewed his budget with the Board; he noted that the only increase in the Salaries & Wages lines is related to roll-ups. Sheriff Hardy reported that his budget includes 1 replacement van and 3 cruisers; he noted that he is trying to get the fleet back into a regular replacement of vehicles as they exceed the recommended replacement mileage of 120,000 miles for the cars and up to 175,000 miles for diesel vans; he added that due to past budget constraints, the department has been holding vehicles longer and it has increased repair expense. In response to a question from Comm. Ziehm, Sheriff Hardy reported that 23 vehicles are assigned to Deputies related to the operations needs of the agency. In response to a request from Comm. Ziehm, Sheriff Hardy indicated that he will provide a report on the vehicle repair costs for the last 12 months.

Sheriff Hardy reviewed other budget lines.

The Board agreed to consider its priorities over the weekend and work toward developing a budget goal or a vision. The Board will meet again the following Tuesday.

The meeting recessed at 1:06 p.m.

Motion: To recess the budget hearing. Motion by Comm. Holden, second by Comm. Ziehm. Motion carried.

Signed June 11, 2014

Comm. Sandra Ziehm, Clerk
Hillsborough County Board of Commissioners

Date