

Hillsborough County Board of Commissioners

April 18, 2011

Bouchard Building, Goffstown, NH

Minutes of the Budget Meeting

(Not Official until Approved by the Board and signed by the Clerk.)

Present: Comm. Ziehm, Comm. Holden, Comm. Pappas, Rep. C. Seidel, B. Moorehead, M. Rusch, G. Wenger and L. Stonner

Call to Order

Comm. Ziehm called the meeting to order. The meeting reconvened at 9:10 a.m.

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

Pledge to the Flag

Rep. C. Seidel led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. Moorehead presented Phase II of the suggested budget cuts for the Nursing Home; he noted that while he does not favor these cuts, they will only reduce staff not involved with direct patient care. He added that should the facility have to go to a Phase III that action would involve cutting staff that is directly involved with patient care; he would strongly recommend against taking that action. Mr. Moorehead offered to review Phase II with the Board. The Board addressed the Nursing Home budget and agreed to move into Non-Public session.

Motion: To move into Non-Public session consistent with RSA 91-A:3 II (a) to discuss a personnel issue. Motion by Comm. Pappas, second by Comm. Holden. Ziehm-yes, Pappas-yes, Holden-yes. Motion carried.

The Board moved into Non-Public session with Mr. Moorehead, Mr. Wenger, and Rep. Seidel at 9:20 a.m.

The Board met with Mr. Moorehead, Mr. Wenger, and Rep. Seidel and discussed personnel issues at the Nursing Home.

The Board moved out of Non-Public session at 10:35.

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

Mr. Wenger provided the Board with information relative to the budget as it stands currently:

- The total budget is at \$85,835,274
- The budget reduction from the beginning of the budget process is 2.7 million dollars
- The amount to be raised by taxes is 49 million dollars, which is an increase of 5 million dollars over the previous year's budget
- The Salary & Wage lines, with associated rollups is up by \$1,989,747

The Board held a discussion relative to the Surplus and the Stimulus Funds, and how they impact the budget. It was noted that the current budget includes four million dollars of Stimulus money that will not be available in coming years, thus the FY 13 budget will start with a four million dollar shortfall. Further discussion ensued relative to options the Board could take as it addressed the Department's budgets.

Motion: To direct the Business Office to reduce the Nursing Home budgeted Salary-related lines by \$500,000 consistent with the Nursing Home Administrator's input. Motion by Comm. Pappas, second by Comm. Holden. Motion carried.

The Board discussed further cuts and took the following actions:

Motion: To reduce Sheriff's Office line 7970, New Equipment by \$27,258, and to fund the line at \$30,758. Motion by Comm. Ziehm, second by Comm. Holden. Motion failed with Commissioners Pappas & Holden voting against the motion and Comm. Ziehm voting in support of the motion.

Motion: To reduce Superior Court Bailiffs line 7390, Other Supplies by \$3,999, and to fund the line at \$1. Motion by Comm. Holden, second by Comm. Pappas. Motion carried

Mr. Wenger explained that Primex has given the County notice that it will no longer be in the Health Insurance business as of June 30, 2012; he noted that the County will have to seek Health Insurance coverage elsewhere. The not-to-exceed rate for the year has come in less than anticipated.

Motion: To direct the Business Office to reduce Health & Accident line 7120 by \$50,000 across the County. Motion by Comm. Holden, second by Comm. Pappas. Motion carried.

Mr. Wenger explained that a motion is needed on the expense side of the budget to allow for the Drug Asset Forfeitures, which the Sheriff included only on the income side of the budget, an offsetting expense line is necessary.

Motion: To direct the Business Office to fund an expense line in the Contingency budget for Drug Asset Forfeitures in an amount of \$105,333, and to increase the offsetting Revenue line 3410 by \$6,611 to fund the line at \$105,333. Motion by Comm. Pappas, second by Comm. Holden. Motion carried.

A discussion ensued relative to how information will be conveyed to the Executive Committee.

The Board addressed further cuts.

Motion: To recommend a reduction in the Salary & Wage lines in the Registry of Deeds by \$70,000. Motion by Comm. Holden, second by Comm. Pappas. Motion carried.

Motion: To recommend a reduction in the Salary & Wage lines in the County Attorney's Office by \$70,000. Motion by Comm. Holden, second by Comm. Pappas. Motion carried.

Motion: To recommend a reduction in the Salary & Wage lines in the Sheriff's Department by \$70,000. Motion by Comm. Holden, second by Comm. Ziehm. Motion carried with Commissioners Ziehm and Holden in support of the motion, and Comm. Pappas voting against the motion.

Motion: To recommend a reduction in the County Convention line 7010, Salaries & Wages by \$70,000. Motion by Comm. Holden, second by Comm. Pappas. Motion carried with Commissioners Ziehm and Holden in support of the motion, and Comm. Pappas voting against the motion.

The Board discussed the feasibility of closing the Spring Street office in Nashua.

Motion: To eliminate the Community Services program in the Department of Corrections budget; the cost of the program is approximately \$130,000. Motion by Comm. Ziehm, second by Comm. Holden. Motion carried with Commissioners Holden and Ziehm voting in favor of the motion, and Comm. Pappas voting against the motion.

Motion: To move into Non-Public session consistent with RSA 91-A:3 II (a) to discuss a personnel issue.. Motion by Comm. Pappas, second by Comm. Holden. Ziehm-yes, Pappas-yes, Holden-yes. Motion carried.

The Board moved into Non-Public session with Mr. Wenger at 11:58 a.m.

The Board met with Mr. Wenger and discussed personnel.

The Board moved out of Non-Public session at 12:11.

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

Motion: To reconsider the Board's motion on April 14th to direct the Business Office to incorporate the cost of a 1% performance adjustment for Non-affiliated employees. Motion by Comm. Pappas, second by Comm. Holden. Motion carried.

Motion: To direct the Business Office to incorporate the cost of a 1% performance adjustment for Non-affiliated employees whose salary is under \$54,000. Motion by Comm. Holden, second by Comm. Pappas. Motion carried.

The Board discussed where it would like to be at the end of its budget process. A discussion was held relative to the use of Surplus and options the Board might take.

Recess

There being no further business before the Board, Comm. Ziehm entertained a motion to adjourn.

Motion: To recess the meeting. Motion by Comm. Pappas, second by Comm. Holden. Motion carried

The meeting recessed at 12:30 p.m.

Signed 11/16/11

Comm. Carol H. Holden
Vice Chairman/Clerk
Hillsborough County Board of Commissioners

Date