

Budget Meeting of the
Hillsborough County Board of Commissioners
April 24, 2012
Bouchard Building, Goffstown, NH
Minutes of the Public and Non-Public Session
(Not Official until Approved by the Board and signed by the Clerk.)

Present: Comm. S. Ziehm, Comm. C. Holden, Comm. T. Pappas, C. Kirby, D. Reidy, G. Wenger, and L. Stonner

1. Call to Order

Comm. Ziehm called the meeting to order. The budget meeting reconvened at 9:05 a.m.

2. Pledge to the Flag

D. Reidy led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Attorney Kirby presented information relative to acceptance of funds from a trust in which Moore General Hospital was the beneficiary. Moore General Hospital was owned and operated by the County; the County is its successor in interest. The trust is dissolving.

Motion: To authorize the Chair to sign the consent form to assent to the petition to distribute the trust. Motion by Comm. Holden, second by Comm. Pappas. Motion carried.

Mr. Wenger presented information regarding Revenue and Expenses, and where the budget stands at this point. He explained that it would be appropriate to increase Revenue because \$322,878 is anticipated from grant funds related to the Department of Energy Grant.

Motion: To increase Public Grants & Reimbursements Revenue Line 3359 by \$322,878. Motion by Comm. Holden, second by Comm. Pappas. Motion carried.

Comm. Holden offered the following motions:

Motion: To increase Revenue line 3510, Misc. Revenue by \$30,000. Motion by Comm. Holden, second by Comm. Pappas. Motion carried.

Motion: To increase Department of Corrections Revenue line 3403 by \$105,000, and to fund the line at \$957,000. Motion by Comm. Holden, second by Comm. Pappas. Motion carried.

The previous motion reflects additional revenue from the from the first half of the Mental Health Grant.

Mr. Reidy provided information regarding how the budget would be impacted if the two Assistants in the Cooperative Extension budget, who are County employees, were made employees of the University of New Hampshire. He explained that this action would result in a savings of approximately \$20,000 most of which relates to benefit lines. He explained that the Salaries (exclusive of the monies set aside for the payout of sick time) are \$79,257; he explained that there is still a cost to run the office

whether they are UNH or County employees. He added that even if the Assistants were UNH employees, there would be a lump sum cost to run the office that includes travel, supplies, and all expenses related to the educators. There was discussion about potential advantages related to making the Assistants employees of University of New Hampshire.

Mr. Reidy requested an opportunity to meet with the Board in Non-Public Session consistent with RSA 91-A:3 II (a), relative to compensation of employees. Mr. Wenger requested an opportunity to meet with the Board in Non-Public Session on another matter consistent with RSA 91-A:3 II (a) relative to compensation of employees.

Motion: To move into Non-Public Session for the following reasons:

- to meet with the D. Reidy consistent with RSA 91-A:3 II (a), relative to compensation of employees
- to meet with Mr. Wenger on another matter consistent with RSA 91-A:3 II (a) relative to compensation of employees and negotiations. Motion by Comm. Holden, second by Comm. Pappas. Ziehm-yes, Pappas-yes, Holden-yes. Motion carried.

The Board moved into Non-Public Session at 9:34 a.m.

The Board met with Mr. Reidy.

The Board met with Mr. Wenger.

The Board moved out of Non-Public Session at 10:13a.m.

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

Motion: To reduce Human Services Interim Nursing Care line 4444-7560 by \$384,650, and to fund the line at \$29,435,350. Motion by Comm. Holden, second by Comm. Pappas. Motion carried.

Motion: To increase the Registry of Deeds Revenue line 3402 by \$100,000 and to fund the line at \$3,400,000. Motion by Comm. Holden, second by Comm. Pappas. Motion carried.

The Board reviewed several budget lines across the departments in an attempt to find further budget cuts and the budget it would present at the Public Hearing.

Comm. Ziehm stepped down as Chair and offered the following motion:

Motion: To eliminate UNH Cooperative Extension from the County budget. Motion by Comm. Ziehm. Motion failed for lack of a second.

Comm. Ziehm resumed her responsibilities as Chair. Following further discussion, Comm. Holden offered the following motions.

Motion: To increase the amount to be raised by taxes no more than 2%, and to set that amount at 2%. Motion by Comm. Holden, second by Comm. Pappas. Motion carried.

The Board concluded that there are pending contract negotiations that could still affect the budget. Mr. Wenger noted that at this point, to present a balanced budget, there would have to be approximately \$4,983,273 used from Surplus; he offered that to present this budget at the Public Hearing would open discussion relative the budget as well as a potential increase in the amount to be raised by taxes and the use of Surplus to balance the budget. Discussion ensued relative to further cuts and Comm. Ziehm offered the following motion:

Motion: To eliminate the St. Joseph's Community Services Special Projects line 4145, reducing the budget by \$60,000. Motion by Comm. Holden, second by Comm. Ziehm. Motion carried with Commissioners Holden and Ziehm voting in support of the motion and Comm. Pappas voting against the motion.

The Board agreed to proceed with the budget as it stands.

Motion: To present the Board of Commissioners budget at the Public Hearing. Motion by Comm. Pappas, second by Comm. Holden. Motion carried.

The Board agreed that the budget, as presented at the Public Hearing, is not the final budget; there is still the opportunity to make changes. The Board discussed the importance of speaking with one voice as the Commissioners are approached by the media. Mr. Wenger noted that the budget is now at \$84,533,918, contingent upon the use of 4.9 million dollars from Surplus and a 2% increase in the amount to be raised by taxes; he explained that the budget is down by \$389,163 from the previous year.

The Board agreed to meet the following Friday at 12:00 p.m.

11. Recess

Lacking any further business at this time, Comm. Ziehm entertained a motion to recess.

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

The meeting adjourned at 10:48 a.m.

Approved on 6/30/2012

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

Date