

GRAFTON COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' MEETING

3855 Dartmouth College Hwy

North Haverhill, NH 03774

April 9th 2015

PRESENT: Commissioners Cryans and Linda Lauer, Executive Director Julie Libby and Assistant S. Norcross.

OTHERS PRESENT: Sheriff Dutile

Commissioner Cryans called the meeting to order at 9:13AM and began with the Pledge of Allegiance

The purpose of the meeting was to discuss the Commissioners proposed budget. ED Libby stated that she was not able to find any new sources of revenue.

She stated that she had a meeting with County Forrester Dave Falkenham and he has estimated \$30,000 in revenue for the upcoming timber sale and \$15,000 for the road repairs and she will adjust the budget to reflect that.

Sheriff Dutile stated that he has come to answer any questions the Commissioners may have regarding his budget or the Dispatch budget while they are going through and deliberating.

He stated that he wanted to discuss the copier purchase under his capital budget that the Commissioners had asked him to look into at his budget presentation. He stated that he looked into leasing and it is a great way to go but if they lease a copier for four (4) years it will cost them \$1,034 in interest and for five (5) years it would be \$1,237. Commissioner Richards asked if Sheriff Dutile shops around for prices. He stated that he has shopped around and W.B Mason has been much lower than anywhere else and they provide service on the equipment. He explained that they could lower the purchase price if they lease but they will be paying more in interest.

Commissioner Richards asked if they could reduce purchasing three (3) new cruisers down to either one (1) or two (2). Sheriff Dutile stated that if they were to do that he would need to increase his vehicle repair and maintenance line accordingly. They have tried purchasing only one (1) or two (2) cars in the past and their repair line increased significantly.

Commissioner Richards asked why the Dispatch Education & Conference line has budgeted \$4,500 but at the six (6) month mark it was \$1,400. Sheriff Dutile stated that spring is when three (3) large bills come in for education so that line item will be where it is supposed to at year's end.

The Commissioners discussed increasing the Nursing Home census in October and November to 127. ED Libby stated that would increase the revenue by about \$39,000. Commissioner Cryans stated that he was thinking about incremental changes that are not to significant but still

reasonable. ED Libby stated that she will talk to NHA Labore tomorrow also about Proshare if they can increase that at all. Commissioner Cryans asked what the bottom line would look like if they increased the Proshare by \$50,000 and the census revenue increases by \$39,000. ED Libby stated that it would reduce the amount to be raised by taxes to 3.97%.

*10:02 AM - Commissioner Richards moved to enter into non-public session for the purposes of discussing the dismissal, promotion, or compensation of any public employee or the disciplining of such employee according to RSA 91-A:3, II (a). Commissioner Lauer seconded the motion. This motion requires a roll call vote, Commissioner Cryans called the roll. Commissioner Cryans “yes”; Commissioner Richards “yes”; Commissioner Lauer “yes” Commissioner Cryans stated that a majority of the board voted yes and would now go into non-public session.

*10:12 AM Commissioner Cryans declared the meeting back in public session.

Commissioner Richards moved to permanently seal the minutes from the just completed non-public session in the event they could affect the reputation of someone other than those of the Board of Commissioners. Commissioner Cryans seconded the motion and all were in favor.

Commissioner Richards asked why there is still \$2,500 in the consultant line. ED Libby stated that they agreed to kept \$2,500 because with Cindy Swart no longer handling the social services they felt the need to keep some money in there in case something were to come up.

The Commissioners discussed the new positions that are included in the budget. There are two (2) new positions and two (2) positions changing from part-time to full-time. It was agreed that the budget could be reduced to reflect the new full time positions with a start date of September 1st instead of July 1st because realistically with the timing of the budget it would take that long to get them hired.

The Commissioners agreed to reduce the Alternative Sentencing contracted services line item from \$15,000 to \$10,000.

The Commissioners discussed the five (5) requests for double step increases. ED Libby stated that there are five (5) requests for double steps in the proposed budget. Commissioner Lauer stated that she was in agreement for the double step increases. Commissioner Cryans and Commissioner Richards stated that they feel they have done a lot for employees in this budget and feel that a double step can't be done this year on top of what has already been done. It was agreed that no double steps would be approved in the fiscal year 2016 budget.

The GCEDC had requested \$75,000 for FY16. The Commissioners reduced back down to the \$50,000 they received last year.

Social Services – The Commissioners agreed accept Cindy Swart's recommendations.

Capital Budget Farm: The Commissioners stated that during FM Kimball's budget proposal he had requested a new baler in the amount of \$31,000 but also stated that for roughly \$4,000 his current baler would make someone a good piece of equipment. The Commissioners stated that they would rather he fix the current baler rather than purchase a new one for \$31,000. The Commissioners agreed to give FM Kimball \$5000 to repair his current baler.

Commissioner Richards discussed the request for ten (10) PC's for the inmate computer lab at the Department of Corrections. She requested that Supt. Elliott and ITM Ruggles do some research and see if there are grants to fund this.

The Commissioners discussed the County Promo line item that is budgeted for \$5,000 and agreed to reduce it to \$3,500 as no major events are being planned for the upcoming year.

Nursing Home

ED Libby stated that the Nursing Home Dietary budget has increased due to the production manager that was supposed to cut FTE's yet the salary line as increased \$40,000. She stated that she will talk with NHA Labore to find out why that is not reflected.

The Commissioners discussed the Capital Outlay line for the Nursing Home and ED Libby stated that she recalled NHA Labore saying that the Home Association would purchase the benches that are listed. She will double check with him on that.

ED Libby stated that she will adjust all numbers for next week's meeting. The Commissioners agreed that they will try and finish up at next Tuesday's meeting and if they are unable to they will meet on Wednesday.

11:19 with no further business the meeting adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,

Linda D. Lauer, Clerk