



Delegation Meeting Minutes **February 10, 2014 at 5:30 PM**

Chair Worsman called the Belknap County Delegation meeting to order at 5:30 PM on the above date at 34 County Drive, Laconia, NH and recited the pledge of allegiance.

In Attendance: Representatives Burchell, Luther, Cormier, DiMartino, Greemore, Gulick, Fields, Huot, Raymond, Tilton, Worsman, Fink, Vadney, Sylvia, Comtois, Flanders and Holmes.

Absent: Representative Arsenault.

Also present: Commissioners Thomas and Nedeau, County Administrator Debra Shackett and Finance Director Glen Waring.

Public hearing: Greg Goddard, General Manager of Gunstock Recreational Area (joined by Robert Durfee, Chair of the Gunstock Commission and Scott Dunn, Gilford Town Administrator) gave a detailed overview on the Layout of Area Rd. The Town of Gilford, Gunstock Commissioners and Belknap County Commissioners have all signed off on the Layout. Mr. Goddard is seeking approval from the Delegation along with the proper signature. M/Fields, S/Huot to open the public hearing for discussion at 4:05 pm. Reps asked questions. Chair asked for public comment. There was none. The public hearing was closed at 4:18 pm. Chair announced that this needs a 2/3 vote to pass. M/Fields to approve the Layout of Area Rd. as presented. Roll call vote as follows: 14 –Y (Burchell, Comtois, DiMartino, Fields, Flanders, Greemore, Gulick, Huot, Luther, Raymond, Sylvia, Tilton and Worsman. N – 0. **Motion passes.** Rep. Worsman will sign in the clerk's absence.

Deeds & Maintenance subcommittees: Rep. Tilton, Chair of Deeds and Maintenance Sub Committee explained their review of the budget. **Deeds:** Revenues = no changes. Expenditures: Rep. Gulick reported the only change made by the subcommittee was to increase line item #55500 to \$300 for printed receipts used in Deeds. **Maintenance:** Chair reported there was one line item the committee felt that it was appropriate to make a change. It is 54305, increased to \$30,000 to cover repairs in the jail, mainly the locks. The subcommittee felt this is a priority.

Public Safety subcommittee: Chair Worsman asked Rep. Burchell to fill in as acting Chair until Rep. Vadney arrives. Superintendent Ward asked for 3 additional staff (1-CCO and 2-CO), the subcommittee recommends. Rep. Worsman asked what impact this would have on overtime. It would be reduced.

Deeds: Rep. Tilton asked for a motion for Registry of Deeds. M/Tilton, S/Gulick to increase line 55500 to \$300 in Deeds budget. Unanimous. **Motion passes.**

Public Safety subcommittee continued: Additional information was requested pertaining to the cost of each new hire. Rep. Tilton explained his opinion of statutory changes that have been made relative to inmate transfers and how changes could be made at Belknap County. Rep. Burchell turned over the meeting to Rep. Vadney who opened with a statement relative to the budget. (Attached)

M/Raymond, S/Gulick to halt further legal action with Attorney Horan if we are not looking to micromanage based on Rep. Vadneys statement. Roll call vote taken: 5 – Y (DiMartino, Fields, Gulick, Huot and Raymond. 12 – N. (Burchell, Comtois, Cormier, Fink, Flanders, Greemore, Holmes, Luther, Sylvia, Tilton, Vadney, Worsman). **Motion fails.**

Rep. Burchell said that line 53700 could be reduced. Administrator Shackett reminded the committee that without the three new positions, the county will need more than \$30,000. That expense is not a part of the Corrections budget, but rather a contingency plan. Rep. Vadney then recommended the following changes: 53915 to \$240,000, 56115 to \$7,000, 56250 to \$3,000, 56400 to \$14,000 and 56500 to \$3,000.

Restorative Services: It was recommended that one PT position in this department be converted to FT. Rep. Raymond asked what is provided in line item 56100. Drug screening kits, challenge course expenses, life skills classes to name a few. Executive Director Brian Loanes stated that he could reduce a few more lines in his budget as follows: 53900 to \$3,500, 56100 to \$2,750. Rep. Tilton stated that the difference in making the PT position FT is \$31,400. Rep. Raymond gave explanation to clarify the positions in Restorative Justice and this request. M/Tilton, S/Vadney to accept the Commissioners recommended budget for Restorative Services with the 2 changes: 53900 to \$3500 and 56100 to \$2750 and in support of the full time position. Unanimous. **Motion passes.** For revenues, the committee also concurs with the commissioners recommended budget.

County Attorney: Atty. Guldbrandsen stated for the record that as an elected official, she is very offended by Rep. Vadneys statement indicating that all the budgets are padded; she took great offense to that assumption given that she is very cautious and has a bare bones budget. Rep. Vadney stated that the committee recommended 53510 be increased to \$3,000 and line 55500 be \$400. M/Worsman, S/Fields that the subcommittee accepts the Commissioners recommendation of the budget with these two changes. Unanimous. **Motion passes.** M/Tilton, S/Flanders to accept the commissioners recommended revenue at \$59,967. Unanimous. **Motion passes.**

Sheriff's department: Revenue: Committee concurs with the Commissioners recommendations. Rep. Worsman asked how many employees this department has. 9 sworn FT deputies, one permanent PT deputy and 12 PT deputies. Rep. Worsman also reviewed the list of vehicles and stated she felt there were some with low mileage. She is concerned with the request for 4 vehicles and recommends reducing to 3. The Sheriff disagrees. M/Vadney, S/ Greemore to accept the Commissioners recommendation for the Sheriff's budget for all line items but salaries and benefits. Unanimous. **Motion passes.**

Administrator Shackett spoke to the accusations made tonight regarding the county and their Professional Department Managers. They are highly offense; they are not padding their budgets. This flies in the face of good budgeting and she wanted that stated for the record.

County Convention: Rep. Worsman made the following motion for the County Conventions budget: 53000 for \$6500, 53200 for \$10,000, 56105 for \$1400 and 56200 for \$2500 for a total budget of \$20,400. S/Greemore. Unanimous. **Motion passes.** Rep. Sylvia wanted to state for the record that a supplemental appropriation for the jail is not wanted by him. Rep. Burchell restated Rep. Sylvia's statement if a supplemental request is made and added that a request should have been in the budget.

Outside agencies: Chair Worsman said the only agency with an increase for 2014 was the UNH Cooperative Extension. M/Worsman, S/Comtois to level fund the cooperative extension at \$162,818 and all other outside agencies requests be level funded as submitted. Rep. Gulick is not in favor of reducing UNH Coop, but agrees with others. Hand vote: Y-11, N-5. **Motion passes.**

Salaries: M/Vadney for 2014, the amounts to be appropriated for salaries in all departments be the same as 2013 (level fund). S/Greemore for discussion. Rep. Cormier clarified for motion that for the 2014 budget, use current rates being earned in 2013 at the level fund, no pay increases. Hand vote was taken. 12-Y, 3-N. **Motion passes.**

Additional Positions in the budget: M/Greemore to add the funding for the three positions in the jail and the one position in Restorative Services. S/Burchell. Hand vote: 14 – Y and 1 – N. **Motion passes.**

Health insurance: M/Sylvia, S/Greemore to appropriate \$2,638,164 for the specific purpose of purchasing healthcare insurance for all departments and that the Commissioners must receive written authorization of the Executive Committee prior to any transfer for any portion of this appropriation. Hand vote. 13 – Y and 2 – N. **Motion passes.**

Longevity incentive: M/Holmes, S/Sylvia to provide zero funding for longevity incentive in all departments. Administrator Shackett reminded members that that is a contractual obligation that the county needs to and will pay. Hand vote taken. 10-Y, 5-N. **Motion passes.**

Sick pay incentive: M/Cormier, S/Comtois to provide zero appropriation for sick pay bonus. Rep. Gulick stated that this incentive saves money in the end and asked Administrator Shackett to get numbers on these actions. Administrator Shackett can provide the impacts of all of these actions and will get those numbers. Hand vote taken. 10-Y, 5-N. **Motion passes.**

Chair Worsman announced that tomorrows night's meeting will be to get through all the budgets and get to the bottom line.

Adjourn: M/Comtois, S/ Luther at adjourn at 8:15 pm. Unanimous. **Motion passes.**

Respectfully submitted,

Angela A. Bovill, Administrative Assistant

A true record Attest:

Jane Cormier, Clerk of the Delegation