



Delegation Meeting Minutes **January 26, 2015 at 6:00 pm**

Chair Frank Tilton called the Belknap County Delegation meeting to order at 6:00 pm on the above date at 34 County Drive, Laconia, NH and recited the pledge of allegiance. The Chair asked the Clerk to call the roll.

In Attendance: Representatives Aldrich, Comtois, Fields, Fraser, Gallagher, Howard, Hurt, Lebreche, Luther, Russell, Spanos, Sylvia, Tilton, Vadney and Varney.

Absent: Representatives Dumais, Fisher and Flanders.

Minutes: M/Comtois, S/Aldrich to approve the 01/12/15 minutes. Unanimous. **Motion passes.** M/Vadney, S/Fields to approve the 11/17/14 by the delegation who were present and members on 11/17/14. Unanimous. **Motion passes.**

Vacant Commissioner Position: Chair Tilton said the vacant position for County Commissioner was advertised and one candidate submitted a resume, Mr. Hunter Taylor of Alton, NH. He then asked Mr. Taylor to come forward to give the Delegation an overview of his background and his interest in the position of Commissioner. Mr. Taylor has an extensive legal background along with professional/civic activities that he has participated in over the years. He moved here in 2010 after retiring and in 2012 started following county business. He felt compelled when the vacancy opened and along with some encouragement from others he decided to submit his application for County Commissioner. He would like to work closely with the Delegation, would like to make progress at the Jail, research various healthcare options for employees to name a few. He would be pleased to serve with Commissioners Burchell and DeVoy and asks for the Delegations support. Representatives then asked various questions of Mr. Taylor and the interview process concluded at 6:40 pm. Chair Tilton then asked for discussion/comments from members followed by a call for the vote. M/Fields, S/Spanos to approve Hunter Taylor for the Commissioners position. Unanimous. **Motion passes.** Mr. Taylor is the new Commissioner for District 3 and needs to be sworn in. Mr. Taylor thanked the Delegation and looks forward to working with them.

Budget discussion: Chair Tilton opened the meeting for comments from the Delegation on the budget. Rep. Comtois asked about the downshifting of the Nursing Home costs from the State to the county's. Rep. Sylvia asked about the Health and Human Services regarding medical services and if that will have an effect on that sum of money in the budget. Chair Tilton asked Commissioner Burchell to clarify. He was not prepared to discuss this item, but will look into it more. Administrator Shackett touched on the issue by explaining the costs of supporting Nursing Home eligible residents who are not in our Nursing Home. Commissioner Burchell said

a representative from Sanbornton was doing research in the area of debt service. Commissioner Burchell had preliminary discussions with the unions and will be looking into Health Insurance premiums. He also reported that he had a meeting with the Superintendent and consultant regarding the Community Corrections programming estimate. This is forthcoming. Rep. Fields asked Comm Burchell about Federal standards and if the costs of the estimate will be added to the budget so it is up to date. Answer: Yes.

Subcommittee updates: Rep. Hurt said that he split his committee up between courthouse and maintenance. Rep. Comtois reported that he is waiting on a breakdown of numbers from Mr. Logue in larger areas like administration etc. Law enforcement has not met yet. Rep. Vadney has been added to that subcommittee and a meeting will be scheduled soon. Chair Tilton recommended that the sub committees finish up soon and for members to reserve (for meeting purposes) Monday evenings for county business through the next several weeks. The next meeting of the Delegation is Monday, February 9, 2015 at 6:00 pm. Discussion occurred regarding potential budget review meetings on February 16, February 23, and March 16, 2015.

Nursing Home recognition: Rep. Vadney commended the Nursing Home for the CMS recognition of a 5 Star rating. Congratulations to all Nursing Home staff on this achievement.

Annual report/contingency fund: Rep. Sylvia referred to the statue regarding the contingency fund. He stated that there needs to a detailed report submitted into the annual report per RSA 24:13, with a breakdown of transfers made out of the contingency fund. This will be irrelevant in 2014 as there was no contingency fund. Rep. Sylvia said they need a contingency fund added back in the 2015 budget.

Public input: Ms. Paula Trombly said at the last meeting she heard Rep. Sylvia say “missing funds” when discussing the county’s appropriations. After listening to the tape, she was incorrect. Rep. Sylvia said “misappropriated” and she apologized.

Adjourn: M/Comtois, S/Aldrich to adjourn at 7:20 PM. Unanimous. **Motion passes.**

Respectfully submitted,



Brian Gallagher,
Clerk, County Delegation