



BELKNAP COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
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Edward D. Philpot, Jr.
Chairman
Laconia

John H. Thomas
Vice-Chairman
Belmont

Stephen H. Nedeau
Clerk
Meredith

Commissioners Meeting Minutes February 9, 2011

Commissioner Philpot called the Belknap County Commissioners meeting to order at 5:30 PM on the above date at 34 County Drive, Laconia, NH and started with the pledge of allegiance.

In Attendance: Commissioners Edward D. Philpot Jr., John H. Thomas, Stephen H. Nedeau and County Administrator, Debra Shackett.

Grant Request: Daniel Ward, Superintendent of the Department of Corrections (DOC) is requesting the support of the Commissioners for a grant application that specifically addresses the needs of the female population at the jail. DOC is collaborating with New Beginnings in order to provide programming tailored to meet the needs of their female inmate population. New Beginnings would be the fiscal agent of the grant. Superintendent explained what classes, etc. they would offer with this grant. Commissioner Philpot thinks the grant was a great idea but questioned why this was not brought to the Commissioners prior to the application being submitted. Superintendent apologized for that. Commissioners indicated that this needs to be an open process so that the public can review. The Commissioners have a policy in place for the county. Commissioner Thomas asked if after year 1 of this grant, it will require reapplication every year. Superintendent Ward indicated that the DOC is not obligated to go back. It is a one time application for now. At the end of the year, a decision can be made about the needs of the female inmate population and we can re-apply if desired. Commissioner Nedeau encouraged the Superintendent to have an outside agency apply for any future grants that the County would not be managing financially in the future. Commissioner Philpot asked for a motion to support the grant application as presented by Superintendent Ward. M/Thomas, S/Nedeau who will support but reiterated that the process needs to be handled different in the future. All unanimously agreed with that statement. Unanimous. **Motion carries.**

Lighting contract with PSNH: Most of the County has been converted with the lightening retro fit except for the nursing home and Maintenance Director Harold Powell would like to do this now. All three Commissioners think that this is a wonderful program that PSNH offers and has been an excellent savings for the county. This particular contract for the nursing home is estimated to save \$13,000. M/Thomas, S/Nedeau to enter approve the lighting contract and authorize the chairman to sign. Unanimous. **Motion carries.** Commissioner Philpot will sign.

Ad ministrators Report

- Ms. Shackett informed the Commissioners that the tours of both the courthouse and the county complex on Monday 2/7/11 with the delegation went very well. Commissioner Thomas also attended and said it was a great day.
- Ms. Shackett reminded the Commissioners of their goal setting work session on 2/16/11 at 10:00 AM.
- Ms. Shackett informed the Commissioners that the audit went exceptionally well!! The auditors will make some recommendations but all in all it was a great process and Administrator Shackett was very pleased. Ms. Shackett wanted to give kudos to Assistant Finance Office Marie Mora for all her work with the auditors. They kept her very busy.
- Ms. Shackett told the Commissioners that the plow truck needs to be replaced this year. The Maintenance Department is in dire need of this. Ms. Shackett told Maintenance Director, Harold Powell to go ahead and move forward with the RFP process.
- Ms. Shackett had conversation with Attorney Fitzgerald to ask him to come to a Commissioners meeting to review the Right to Know Law and any pending legal issues to bring the new Commissioners up to date. It was determined that the Commissioners will meet with their legal counsel, Atty. Fitzgerald at 5:00 PM (non meeting) prior to their Commissioners meeting at 5:30 PM on 2/23/11.

Commissioners Committee Reports

Commissioner Nedeau will attend the Laconia Airport Authority meeting next week. The topic for discussion will focus on parachuting. Commissioner Thomas will be attending the BCEDC meeting on Friday. Commissioner Thomas also said that when he was on the tour of the Courthouse with the delegation on Monday that he was approached by Rep. Kingsbury about if the inmates take care of the sidewalk at the courthouse or if the City takes care of it. Ms. Shackett has an answer from Harold Powell regarding that issue. A letter will be prepared for Commissioner Thomas to reply on behalf of the Board.

Public input: Commissioner Philpot asked for public comment. There was none.

Non-public session: M/Nedeau, S/Thomas to enter into non public session pursuant to RSA 91-A; 3, II, (b). Commissioner Philpot took a poll of the board. Philpot-Y, Thomas-Y, Nedeau -Y. Unanimous. **Motion carries.** Commissioners were in nonpublic session at 6:03 PM.

Non public session concluded at 6:23 PM and the Board was back in a public meeting

Hiring of the Finance Director: Commissioner Philpot announced that the Commissioners have accepted the recommendation of the County Administrator to hire Mr. Glen A. Waring as

Belknap County's Finance Director. Mr. Waring will start on Monday, February 14, 2011. Ms. Shackett provided a press release for the reporters present.

Public comment: Reporter Gail Ober, (Laconia Daily Sun) asked if the Finance Director was hired to oversee all of the county's finance operations. Administrator Shackett responded affirmatively.

Adjourn: With no further business to discuss, M/Thomas, S/ Nedeau to adjourn at 6:33 PM. Unanimous. **Motion carries.**

Respectfully submitted,

Angela A. Bovill, Administrative Assistant