



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 Meetings Minutes April 6, 2011

Commissioner Philpot called the Belknap County Commissioners meeting to order at 5:35 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., Stephen H. Nedeau; County Administrator, Debra Shackett; Belknap County Delegation Executive Committee members Alida Millham, David Russell, Jeffrey St. Cyr, Elaine Swinford and Dennis Fields.

Also present: Belknap County Treasurer Michael Muzzey, Finance Director Glen Waring, other Belknap County Delegation members Harry Accornero, Robert Kingsbury and Colette Worsman, Department Heads, member of the press and general public.

Approval of the meeting minutes: M/Nedeau, S/Philpot to approve the 3/23/2011 non-public minutes and 3/23/2011 regular meeting minutes. Unanimous. **Motion carries.**

Juvenile Court Diversion Accreditation: Brian Loanes, Director of Belknap County Youth Services brought forward an application for Accreditation for the Commissioners to sign. Mr. Loanes explained that the first year of the process, is to determine a baseline for program compliance with the standards. Commissioner Philpot explained that he has not had time to review and doesn't have any of the attachments. Commissioner Philpot said he would like to have time to review and then he would sign with the Boards agreement. There was discussion. M/Nedeau, S/Philpot, Commissioner Philpot would review and sign for the Commissioners. Unanimous. **Motion carries.**

Treasurer's request to borrow: Michael Muzzey, Treasurer for Belknap County, gave a general background of the County's finances, and stated that there was \$14 million to be generated by taxes and the tax monies are not received until the end of the year. In order to run the County a cash flow sheet provided showed that in May the County would be in the negative. He also stated that in the past the Treasurer has been authorized to borrow up to \$10 million in Tax Anticipation Notes. The Treasurer is requesting to borrow in Tax Anticipation Notes up to \$10 million. M/Nedeau S/Philpot to authorize the County Treasurer to borrow in Tax Anticipation Notes up to \$10 million. Unanimous. **Motion carries.**

Commissioners turned the meeting over to the Executive Committee @ 5:45 PM:

Chairperson, Alida Millham opened up the meeting first to the Executive Committee members and then the other representatives. Rep Swinford wanted to know what the interest rate would be. Ms. Shackett said we wouldn't know until we went out to bid, but last year the County paid 1.2% and 1.15%. Rep Kingsbury wanted to know, that if all taxes have been paid, why the County is already broke. Both the County Treasurer and Ms. Shackett explained that when the tax monies come in in December, the County must pay back the tax anticipation notes that were borrowed earlier in the year. County Treasurer also went on to say that the towns and cities collect taxes twice a year and the County cannot collect taxes twice a year. Rep Millham said the towns and cities wouldn't want to pay taxes twice a year to the County. Commissioner Philpot said if the towns and cities paid twice a year they would also be borrowing money, he said it made more sense for the County to borrow. Rep Millham recognized a member of the public Glen Worsman, who wanted to know, in a \$32 million budget that was approved, shouldn't the public know about the borrowing? Commissioner Philpot indicated that it is in the budget, there is a line item in the budget for interest for tax anticipation notes. Mr. Worsman also questions the cash flow statement. Ms. Shackett explained why the statement is prepared that way, it is an average of revenues and expenditures, and it does not show the TAN monies coming in but must show the payment of the TAN, projection sheet is prepared this way for when the County does go out to bid for the TAN monies. Rep Kingsbury wanted to know where other receipts come from. Ms. Shackett said other revenues come from fees from Registry of Deeds and Sheriff's Dept.

M/Rep Fields, S/Rep Russell to authorize the Commissioners to authorize the Treasurer to borrow up to \$10 million in Tax Anticipation Notes. All in favor. Unanimous. **Motion carries.**

Executive Committee convened @ 6:00 PM and meeting turned back to the County Commissioners.

Tractor Purchase: Harold Powell brought forward a recommendation for a new tractor. Information was provided on the three bids that were received. Mr. Powell's recommendation was the "New Massey Ferguson, Model 2615" from Northwood Power Equipment in the amount of \$25,610. Discussion followed. M/Nedeau, S/Philpot to except the low bid from Northwood Power Equipment. Unanimous. **Motion carries.**

Truck Purchase: Harold Powell brought forward a recommendation for a new truck. Information was provided on the two bids received. Mr. Powell's recommendation was that the County purchases the Ford 350 Dump Truck from Irwin Motors of Laconia. There was discussion that followed. Commissioners wanted to know if this truck would handle the weight of a sander plus plowing. Commissioner Philpot indicated that sanding and plowing was the hardest thing on a truck. He wants Mr. Powell to do more research on the F350 and come back to the Commissioners at their next meeting on Wednesday, April 13th @ 5:30 PM. M/Nedeau, S/Philpot to put on hold the purchase of the truck until Mr. Powell reports back to them with more information on the F350.

Commissioners Committee Reports: Commissioners Nedeau and Philpot both indicated they had no reports.

Calendar Items: The Commissioners will meet next week, Wednesday April 13th @ 5:30 PM to discuss the truck, the capital improvement priority list, go over the Facility Study for projects, the Juvenile process, the Community Correction program and their charge and also to discuss when we would have to build a new jail.

Non-public session: M/Nedeau, S/Philpot to enter into non public session pursuant to RSA 91-A; 3, II, (a). Commissioner Philpot took a poll of the board. Philpot-Y, Nedeau-Y. Unanimous. **Motion carries.** Commissioners were in non public session at 6:25 PM.

While in Non public session the following actions were taken. M/Nedeau, S/Philpot to except Position Reclassification Request – NH Unit Clerk from Grade 5 to Grade 6. Unanimous. **Motion carries.** The Board was back in a public meeting at 6:30 PM.

M/Philpot, S/Nedeau to unseal minutes of non public meeting minutes of 02/23/2011. Commissioner Philpot took a poll of the board. Philpot-Y, Nedeau-Y. Unanimous. **Motion carries.**

Adjourn: M/Nedeau, S/Philpot to adjourn at 6:33 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Marie Mora, Asst Finance Officer