

MINUTES
Cheshire County Commissioners Meeting
Wednesday, September 30, 2015 12:00PM
County Hall Building
Commissioners Conference Room
12 Court Street, Keene, NH 03431

PRESENT: Commissioners Stillman Rogers, Charles Weed, and Peter Graves

STAFF: Finance Director Trombly, Maplewood Administrator Kindopp, Grants Manager Bansley, County Administrator Designate Coates, County Attorney McLaughlin, and Assistant County Administrator (ACA) Bouchard

GUESTS: Members of the Public

Chairman Rogers opened the meeting at 12:00PM and recognized Assistant County Administrator Bouchard for the purpose of presenting the Weekly County Operations report. Bouchard reported the following items:

Bouchard reported that the NHAC conference is scheduled for November 1-4 and handed out a draft agenda for the Commissioners to review.

Bouchard then reported that the repairs to the front portico of the County Hall building have been completed and the roof and gutter repair / replacement will begin in about one to two weeks depending on weather.

Bouchard then discussed roof leaks in the 1979 addition and said that the roofing contractor was on-site and addressing the problems. Bouchard expressed his frustration with the incident as the roof was replaced just last fall. A follow-up meeting with the vendor will take place shortly.

Bouchard then said that in conversation with the site contractor it was determined that removing all of the existing asphalt in the current parking area instead of milling the existing surface and paving over the old asphalt was a better approach to completing the project. It was discussed that the lot could be properly re-graded to ensure that water runoff control could be enhanced and eliminate the pooling and ponding that now occurs in areas of the parking lot during heavy rain storms. After analyzing the cost considerations a change order was given to the site contractor to remove all of the existing asphalt and re-pave the lot in its entirety. He went on to say that based on savings realized from having County personnel involved in managing and working on the project he fully anticipates that even with the added expense of the full paving change order the project will come in at budget.

The Commissioners the took-up Master agenda Item #297: CDBG Westmill Environmental Review Completed and Request for Release of Funds. S. Bansley presented the documentation attesting to the completion of the Environmental Review process and asked the Commissioners to sign the document to allow the release of funds for the project. Following a short review and questions Commissioner Rogers signed the forms.

The minutes of September 23, 2015 were then reviewed and Commissioner Weed moved to accept the minutes as presented. Commissioner Graves seconded the motion and upon vote the motion passed unanimously.

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The Weekly Manifest was reviewed and Commissioner Weed moved to accept the Manifest as presented and was seconded by Commissioner Graves. Upon vote the motion passed unanimously.

The Weekly Census and the Commissioners calendar was then reviewed.

The Commissioners then discussed the pipeline meeting that was held on Tuesday of this week with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) engineer who presented a detailed overview of the FERC review process and discussed the scoping meeting that was held that evening and attended by Commissioner Weed.

At 12:30PM Master Agenda Item #296: The Commissioners will accept the results of the bidding process for the 2007 Jail Refunding Bonds. A conference call was convened between the County Commissioners and staff and representatives from PFM the County financial advisor, Bond Counsel, and the Underwriters for the bond, Piper Jaffray. The results of the call were that the bond sale went very well and resulted in saving the taxpayers \$1,469,000.00 in interest costs over the life of the bonds.

County Attorney McLaughlin was recognized and presented a request for a personnel change of title for one of the County Attorney's employee's. Following discussion it was agreed that the change needed to be reflected in the employee's job description

At 12:58PM the Commissioners meeting was recessed for the purpose of formally accepting the results of the bond sale and **Commissioner Rogers moved to accept the results of the bond sale and read the following resolution into the minutes;**

CHESHIRE COUNTY, NEW HAMPSHIRE

Authorization of Refunding Bonds by County Commissioners

WHEREAS, Cheshire County, New Hampshire (the "County") has issued certain \$37,000,000 General Obligation Bonds dated as of September 15, 2007 (the "2007 Bonds"), which 2007 Bonds that mature on October 1 of the years 2018 through 2027, inclusive, are eligible to be refunded at par on any interest payment date on or after October 1, 2017 (the "Refunded Bonds"); and

WHEREAS, it appears likely that bonds issued today would have a net interest cost less than the net interest cost on the Refunded Bonds; and

WHEREAS, the County may be able to realize debt service savings by issuing certain refunding bonds (the "Refunding Bonds"), the proceeds of which would be utilized to currently or advance refund the Refunded Bonds and to pay certain other costs relating thereto, including any necessary redemption premium and the costs of issuing the Refunding Bonds; and

WHEREAS, under the plan of refunding, it also may make economic sense for the County to

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issue bonds to pay the principal and interest, when due, on the maturities of the 2007 Bonds that are not eligible to be refunded (for these purposes the term “Refunded Bonds” shall also be deemed to include these maturities); and

WHEREAS, pursuant to the provisions of RSA 28:24, the County Convention authorized the issuance of the Refunding Bonds on August 24, 2015 and authorized the County’s Board of Commissioners (the “Commissioners”) to approve the interest rates, maturities and other terms and conditions of the Refunding Bonds at a publicly noticed meeting after hearing the results of a bidding and pricing process for the purchase of the Refunding Bonds managed for the County by Piper Jaffray & Co. (the senior managing underwriter which has been selected by the County to manage this process, hereafter the “Underwriter”, with Raymond James having been selected by the County as co-managing underwriter); and

WHEREAS, in the aforesaid process the interests of the County were represented by its independent financial advisor, Public Financial Management Inc. (the “Financial Advisor”)

WHEREAS, at a duly noticed meeting of the Commissioners on September 30, 2015, the results of the aforesaid bidding and pricing process were communicated to the Commissioners by the Underwriter and the Financial Advisor;

NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of the foregoing, it is hereby:

RESOLVED: that, as a result of the aforesaid process, the bid of the Underwriter to purchase the County’s \$17,415,000 Refunding Bonds at a price of \$19,918,858.90, resulting in a net interest cost rate of 2.308799% and a true interest cost rate of 2.122385%, and as more specifically set forth in Exhibit A, attached hereto and made a part hereof, is accepted by the Commissioners;

RESOLVED: that the Commissioners hereby delegate to the County Treasurer the power and authority to sign a Bond Purchase Agreement (the “Bond Purchase Agreement”) with the Underwriter evidencing the aforesaid terms and conditions;

RESOLVED: that the County is hereby authorized to enter into, execute and deliver an Escrow Contract and such documents and other materials which shall be signed on behalf of the County by the County Treasurer, the Commissioners or such other individuals as may be required by state law or as may be specified by bond counsel and to take such other actions as may be required for the closing and delivery of the Refunding Bonds;

RESOLVED that the County is authorized to engage such other professionals (including an Escrow Agent, Verification Agent and Paying Agent), and to do such other things as are necessary to consummate the aforesaid refunding; and

RESOLVED: that all actions heretofore taken in a manner consistent with the foregoing are hereby ratified and confirmed.

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Commissioner Graves seconded the motion and upon vote the motion passed unanimously.

Commissioner Rogers then said; "I want to thank the hard working staff of the County for their assistance and hard work that made this transaction possible. In particular, the efforts of Sheryl Trombly (County Finance Director), Misty Hall (Assistant Finance Director) and Rod Bouchard (Assistant County Administrator) were instrumental in achieving this outstanding refinancing and savings for the people of the County".

At 1:10PM the meeting resumed with scheduled business being taken-up for review.

Administrator Kindopp was then recognized and discussed a plumbing problem that occurred in a resident's room over the weekend that resulted in a water overflow into the kitchen area below the resident's room. Kindopp said that the staff reacted superbly and that the facilities department and fire department worked together and had the problem cleaned-up and repaired in short order.

At 1:38PM Pursuant to RSA 91-A (II) (a), (b) and (c), Commissioner Graves moved to go into non-public session to discuss the hiring of any person as a public employee. Commissioner Weed seconded the motion and upon vote the motion passed with three (3) Yea's.

As a result of the deliberations in nonpublic session, a decision to offer employment to C. N. as the Administrator of Assisted Living at \$28.92 per hour based on experience, training, and education was made by Commissioner Weed and seconded by Commissioner Graves. Upon vote the motion passed unanimously.

At 1:43PM the Commissioners unanimously voted to return to public session.

Chris Coates brought forth discussions that he recently had with Keene Vocational Technical personnel concerning a possible LNA clinical training opportunity with students who are enrolled in the schools LNA training program. Kindopp also said that on average the high school has about 14 students in each class and clinical trainings take place on Wednesdays, Friday's, and Saturday's. She will be working with the school Principal to determine the feasibility of having the students working at Maplewood and will provide an update to Commissioners concerning the program at a future meeting.

Kindopp then discussed a new resident admittance that was accepted under the County's "safety net" provider status. She said that she will be working with finance to qualify the resident for Medicaid but as of the date of admittance there is not an identified payor source.

At 2:04PM there being no further business to discuss, Commissioner Weed moved to adjourn the meeting. The motion seconded by Commissioner Graves and upon vote the motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,
P. Graves, Clerk