



COMMISSIONERS MEETING

MINUTES

Wednesday, May 24, 2023

This meeting will be conducted in person
and electronically (via Zoom) at the

Maplewood Nursing Home
201 River Rd, Westmoreland, NH

Zoom Call-in Number: +1 646 558 8656

Meeting ID: 409 748 8803

Pin #: 6031233

Start Time 08:30 AM

Present: Commissioners Jack Wozmak, Bob Englund and Terry Clark

Staff: County Administrator Coates, Finance Director Trombly, Superintendent Iosue,
Human Resources Director May, County Project Manager Bouchard, and Executive
Assistant Gouger

Guest(s): Henry Herndon – Cheshire Community Power Representation

8:33 AM, Commissioners Englund and Clark responded as present, and Commissioner Wozmak is in transit and will be late with notice.

Public Comments

Upon recognition from the Chair, a Public Comment on topics of interest may be made, at most three (3) minutes in length.

I. Elected Officials & Department Head Updates

To receive, as informational, departmental updates requiring Commissioner review, participation, approval, and impactful departmental and operational issues.

At 8:36 am, Commissioner Wozmak Entered the meeting.

EMS Chief Spain is requesting that we can sign on a one-year contract with 1041, which is pre-hospital care based. They would come out and get it set up as the organization here and do trainings for staff, as well as help with the opiate grant.

Coates says that Chief Spain is also inquiring if he could use some of the opiate monies to offset the \$19,500 required to sign the contract with 1041.

Commissioner Englund moved to allow Chief Spain to negotiate a contract with 1041.

Commissioner Clark seconded the motion, and upon roll call vote, the motion passed unanimously.

II. Scheduled Items

Master Agenda Item #1087: Cheshire Community Power Electric Aggregation Plan
Action Expected: Vote to approve the amendments to the Cheshire Community Power Electric Aggregation Plan, as outlined

Henry Herndon, who is a member of Community Power, says that he will review the amendments that are in the Aggregation Plan. He says that they have been working to get the County Program off the ground. Two attachments are outlined, one which a town may vote to join Cheshire County community power, and the resolution for that.

The second would be how the towns are created through the Cheshire Community Power and how they serve on the council. He says that the council is to ensure that the individuals that are appointed make sure that their towns are well-engaged, and designated individuals to be appointed by the commissioners. Cheshire County is the member and there are individuals that guide the county on their membership. He says that if the county wants to recommend other amendments, they can.

Herndon says that the Member Services contract has already been presented, and that there is one change to outline. Cheshire County is the member of community power coalition. Towns may vote to be part of the counties program, but they are voting to be part of the counties coalition. Additionally, if a municipality were to join Cheshire Community Power and down the line wanted to transition to a different program, there is a system to use to transfer.

In the unlikely event they want to change, this protects the town from departing without fulfilling the obligations in terms of costs of power contracts.

Commissioner Clark moved to adopt the proposed amendment to the Cheshire Community Power Aggregation Plan and to adopt and approve for execution the updated Member Services Contract for the Complete Service Bundle to be effective upon the date the CPCNH board of directors adopts the same updates to the Member Services Contract.

Commissioner Englund seconded the motion, and upon roll call vote, the motion passed unanimously.

Master Agenda Item #1088: Semi-Annual Report: Cheshire County Conservation District – A. Littleton

Action Expected: To serve as six-month informational report from Cheshire County Conservation District Manager Amanda Littleton

Littleton discusses soil health education and rental equipment projects, and notes that the field day had a great turnout. She states that the Red Barn space in Westmoreland has been nice to utilize.

Littleton says that grant programs are usually due in February. They have been unrolling very well and have three current grants for farmers, helpful for soil health and adapting to climate change. They have also been working with the Monadnock Food Co-op and farmers that are hoping to expand.

The last grant program that they are working on is the Conservation Opportunity Fund. This is for farmers that have 25 acres or less and provide them with small grants to help them.

Littleton says that there are several events upcoming this summer. Some additional education, for both public and agricultural persons. They are also hoping to be more involved with the Red Barn project as well.

National Center for Appropriate Technology is interested in their technologies for farming as well.

III. County Administrator

Weekly Operations Report - The County Administrator will update the Commissioners on activities that have taken place since the previous meeting.

Coates says that on Tuesday, May 30th at 9am, there is a meeting for the Guardian Program that Sheriff Rivera is bringing forward. There are representatives from the state that will be there to answer questions.

Coates says that the CPCNH meeting is today, May 24th at County Hall. Towns can attend to see if they are wanting to be part of the program.

Coates says that the Maplewood Staff Appreciation servings are today, beginning at 11am. There is an evening serving as well as a midnight serving.

Coates says that Senator Shaheen asked him to attend a meeting yesterday with mayors in New Hampshire and discussed the default and what that could mean. Coates asked her what that could mean for the monies for nursing homes and assisted living and the funding for federal inmates. He says that clawbacks for ARPA funds are more centered on the federal government than it is for Counties, for unspent monies.

Coates says that the Court Street construction is looking strong. They are 98% done upstairs, and 70% done downstairs. He says when everything is done for the construction portion, they will do a deep clean.

Coates says that on Thursday, May 25th he has a meeting with the City of Keene manager, Elizabeth Dragon in the hopes of finding common ground regarding EMS and backup.

The company that is doing the Monadnock Hospital interfacility transfers will no longer be doing it in a few months.

Coates says that after the meeting last night, he received several communications from towns that they were interested in discussions.

Coates says that on Monday, June 26th is the celebration for the Maplewood Expansion.

Coates says that this year's Pro-Share Amount is 5.4 million dollars.

He says that he will be working with Sheryl to identify the needs for the funding and will be reviewing that in the coming months.

IV. Old Business

V. New Business

VI. Consent Agenda Items:

Vote to accept the Weekly Manifests for May 24, 2023, and the meeting minutes of May 10, 2023.

Commissioner Clark moves to accept the weekly manifests for May 24, 2023 and the meeting minutes of May 10, 2023. Commissioner Englund seconds the motion, and upon roll call vote, the motion passed unanimously.

VII. Calendar

Action Expected: To accept the calendar as informational and to make necessary changes/additions.

No changes.

VIII. General Discussion for Commissioners

Master Agenda Item #673: Commissioners - State Cost Shifting Letter and Restorative Justice Program

IX. Nonpublic Sessions:

At 9:18 AM, Commissioner Englund moved to enter a non-public session under RSA 91:A3, II(a) The dismissal, promotion, or compensation of any public employee or the disciplining of such employee, or the investigation of any charges against him or her, unless the employee affected (1) has a right to a public meeting, and (2) requests that the meeting be open, in which case the request shall be granted.

At 10:12 AM, the Commissioners voted unanimously to return to public session.

At 10:17 AM, Commissioner Englund moved to enter a non-public session under RSA 91:A3, II(d) Consideration of the acquisition, sale, or lease of real or personal property which, if discussed in public, would likely benefit a party or parties whose interests are adverse to those of the general community.

At 11:09 AM, Commissioner Wozmak left the meeting.

At 11:11 AM, the Commissioners voted unanimously to return to public session.

X. Adjournment

At 11:43 AM, Commissioner Englund moved to adjourn the meeting, and Commissioner Clark seconded the motion. Upon roll call vote, the motion passed unanimously.

Recorded and edited by:
C. Gouger
Executive Assistant
Office of the Commissioners

Reviewed and submitted by: Terry
Clark
Clerk, Board of Commissioners