

MINUTES
Cheshire County Commissioners Meeting
Wednesday June 6, 2018 09:30AM
County Hall Building
Stillman Rogers Conference Room
12 Court Street, Keene, NH 03431

Present: Commissioners Peter Graves, Joseph Cartwright and Charles Weed

Staff: County Administrator Chris Coates, Finance Director Trombly, HR Director May, and Assistant County Administrator Bouchard

Guests:

At 9:31AM the Chairman opened the meeting and recognized Commissioner Cartwright. He said that today, June 6, is D-Day that honors the deaths of military personnel during the World War 2 invasion of Normandy France on June 6, 1944. He said that it is important to recognize and honor the soldiers who gave their lives for our freedoms on this day 74 years ago.

Director May was then recognized and requested the Commissioners authorize an eight (8) week non-paid Family Medical Leave (FMLA) Leave of Absence (LOA) based on the request of the individual and the recommendation of the HR Director.

The Commissioners reviewed the request supplied by May and then agreed to authorize the LOA and signed the documentation presented by the HR Director.

Commissioner Graves then recognized Steve Horton who discussed the status of the Construction Management firm on the Maplewood Reconstruction project.

Horton then discussed the bids that are were received for the HVAC system portion of the project were significantly outside of norms and over budget. He then discussed alternative HVAC system options and said that a number of scenarios are being reviewed to bring the costs into line.

A discussion of the bio-mass systems options and a review of the cost analysis for fuel consumption was covered. He said that the current total electrical usage for the Maplewood HVAC systems is 220,847 kWh Hours and the non-HVAC is 320,444 kWh Hours for a total 541,291 kWh Hours.

A discussion of the old jail demolition project began and the receipt of the authorization for the creation of a NH Department of Environmental Services (DES) land-fill on County property to dispose of the construction debris was reviewed.

Trombly then reviewed the financial elements of the project and the current cost of the demolition project. She said that with the added trucking and disposal requirements the budget could be potentially \$35,000.00 or more, over the initially projected budget.

Commissioner Graves then recognized Administrator Coates for his weekly report.

Coates said that in a recent meeting with other County Administrators the topic of the UNH Economic Development Coordinator program was discussed. It was learned that only two (2) Counties in the state do not have a Community and Economic Development Coordinator, Cheshire County being one of the two.

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Coates is researching the program to see if it is good fit for Cheshire County and better understand the benefits and costs.

He then said that the County Document Retention and Archiving staff meeting that occurred on Monday went very well and that the scope of the project was able to be reduced and made simpler and easier than originally envisioned.

Courthouse window costs have been received from a local vendor and he discussed the configuration options and costs to complete the project. One option would be slightly under budget and the second is slightly over budget. A meeting with the vendor is being set-up to review details and options.

Coates said that the opiate lawsuit documentation has been reviewed by the County Attorney and only one amendment is being suggested that would give the County final review of the lawsuit before it is submitted.

Coates then said that he and Bouchard and the Westmoreland trail designer re-visited the trail sites yesterday and will be proposing a multi-year program that will rebuild the existing trails and possibly adding new sections in the later years of the plan. The designer will put together a detailed proposal for review.

Coates then said that a meeting with local economic development person around a program called Art Hop and will report back to the Commissioners with more information if the program looks feasible to pursue.

Old Business – A question concerning the Geo-Thermal monitoring system was asked by Commissioner Cartwright and a discussion of the DOC steam vs. electric kitchen kettle was had.

The status of the current union negotiations at Maplewood was briefly discussed and the existing open positions at the nursing home was discussed.

New Business – No New Business was brought forward.

The Weekly Census was then reviewed.

The Weekly Manifest was then reviewed with questions from Commissioner Cartwright. At the conclusion of the questions, Commissioner Cartwright moved to accept the Manifest as presented and was seconded by Commissioner Weed. Upon vote the motion passed unanimously.

The minutes of May 30, 2018 were then reviewed and Commissioner Weed. moved to accept the minutes as presented and was seconded by Commissioner Cartwright Upon vote the motion passed unanimously.

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General Discussion – No general discussion items.

At 12:09PM there being no further business to discuss, Commissioner Weed moved to adjourn the meeting. The motion to adjourn was then seconded by Commissioner Cartwright and upon vote the motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,

Charles Weed
Clerk, Board of Commissioners