

-The County of Cumberland is committed to providing quality services to all citizens equitably, in a responsive and caring manner.

COMMISSIONERS' MEETING

MINUTES

October 27, 2008

The Board of Cumberland County Commissioners, Esther B. Clenott, Richard J. Feeney and Malory O. Shaughnessy convened a meeting at the Cumberland County Courthouse in the Peter J. Feeney Conference Room.

Chairperson Clenott called the meeting to order at 5:30 PM and the following business was conducted.

Minutes of the Cumberland County Commissioners Regular Meeting of September 22, 2008 and the special Commissioners meeting held on September 29, 2008 were read and were approved 2 to 1. Commissioner Shaughnessy was not in attendance for these meetings and therefore could not vote.

Comments from the County Manager:

The County Manager reported on several items: 1) The Budget Advisory Committee has been reviewing the department and organization requests. The remaining departments will present their requests at the next BAC meeting this week. On November 6th, the BAC will vote on their recommendations. The public budget hearings are as follows:

Thursday, November 13th at 6:00 PM
District 1
Cumberland County Courthouse
142 Federal Street
Portland, Maine
(Please use the Newbury Street Entrance)

Monday, November 17th at 6:00 PM
District 3
Freeport Town Hall
30 Main Street
Freeport, Maine

Wednesday, November 19th at 6:00 PM
District 3
Naples Town Hall
15 Village Green Lane
Naples, Maine

Tuesday, November 25th at 6:00 PM
District 2
Scarborough Town Hall
259 US Route 1
Scarborough, Maine

This is a difficult budget. The department and organization requests added up to almost an 11% tax increase. The draft budget represents a 3.5% tax increase to the municipalities. It is a priority base budget by putting more investment into law enforcement, as well as IT and the Emergency Communications Center while trying to sustain current funding for the human services agency and organizations. The BAC will make their recommendations and the Commissioners will have the final decision when they vote on the budget in December. The financial pressures and fiscal constraints are making it very difficult. The County and County Partners had a good meeting with municipalities recently where we sat down and talked about how we can work together with a unified approach on the issues that our communities and region care about, some of which can be taken to the legislature if necessary. This consensus can be very helpful to the future of the communities and the region.

Comments from the Commissioners:

Commissioner Shaughnessy

Commissioner Shaughnessy reported: 1) She just returned from a meeting with the Cumberland District Public Health Council and indicated Cumberland County is leading the State out of the 8 public health districts and for the first time we are creating a solid public health infrastructure in our region. The parties are working together to assure our public health and our emergency response provides the best public health safety net for our community. 2) The update on the Board of Corrections' process is moving forward. As a member of the working group they are reviewing all the county budgets for the jails and it is a tough process. 3) By the next time we meet, the November 4th election will have passed and we will have new leadership. She encourages citizens to get out and vote.

Commissioner Feeney:

Commissioner Feeney asked the County Manager to report on the assessing meeting that the Assistant County Manager attended last week. The County Manager reported the Assistant County Manager informed him of the meeting. He had spoken to him as well as Mitch Berkowitz, Town Manager of Bridgton, who chaired the Ad Hoc Assessing Committee. The managers in general like the concept of trying to do this regionally. They can see the benefits not

only in terms of reduced cost, but also the increased effectiveness of trying to have one standard of assessing and doing it across the County in a standardized way. There is interest in doing assessing regionally and perhaps having the County do this. The discussion is open at this time about how to do it. It will take more time to reach the point when we will actually know what the change will be

Commissioner Feeney reported there is success with the Community Development Block Grant program. Two and half million dollars has been brought into the County through this program.

Chairperson Clenott:

Chairperson Clenott reported she is very fortunate to have been a County Commissioner for 16 years and feels county government is the best level of government. She indicated she will be very sad when her term is over as of January 1, 2009.

Comments from the Public:

Chairperson Clenott asked if there were any comments from the public. Hearing none, we moved onto the Action Items.

Chairperson Clenott asked that the Action Items be presented.

Action Items:

**08 – 113 Approval, Cumberland County Facilities Roof Replacement
State Addition**

Chairperson Clenott asked Bruce Tarbox, Facilities Manager, to present the item.

The County Manager reported over the last several years we have had a good working relationship with the court system and have shared in the costs of projects. This project is another example where the County and State are coming together to share the costs on a capital need that must be addressed. The funds are available now and there is no certainty they will be in the future. This is an issue that we cannot delay taking action on by following normal procedures and he strongly concurs with the recommendation.

Mr. Tarbox reported the State addition of the courthouse was completed in 1990. The roof consists of a membrane with stone ballast. The roof has now failed beyond the ability of patches and reliability. The State and County have now pooled their resources to provide financing for this project. The Facilities department has made multiple calls to roofing contractors to secure cost proposals. The team that reviewed the proposals consisted of Allied Engineering, Bill Whitten, Jeff Henthorn, David O'Brien and the facilities manager.

The total cost to be set aside for this project is \$123,120. This includes \$5,700 for a contingency fund. The contingency fund is 5% of the contract cost. Three proposals were received: Glidden Roofing Corp for \$114,000; Delta Roofing for \$119,990; and Maine Roofing

Inc. for \$120,000. The contractor is required to carry a Performance Bond for the project at a cost of \$3,420.

The committee is recommending the low bidder of Glidden Roofing Corp for \$114,000 plus \$5,700 contingency and \$3,420 for the Performance Bond making a total of \$123,120. The State is committed to half and the County would pay half if approved by the Commissioners. The County's portion is \$61,560 to be reallocated from two accounts: Spillman 71-706-7639 for \$20,000 and Hazard Mitigation Program 71-701-7106 for \$41,995. All bidders met the same specifications. A discussion followed.

Commissioner Shaughnessy made a Motion that the Commissioners accept the bid by Glidden Roofing Corp for \$114,000 adding a \$5,700 contingency 5% fee, \$3,420 for the Performance Bond making a total of \$123,120 with the County paying half the portion allocated from the Spillman account of Spillman 71-706-7639 for \$20,000 and Hazard Mitigation Program 71-701-7106 for \$41,995. Commissioner Feeney seconded the Motion. All voted unanimously.

08 -114 Approval, Cumberland County Sheriff's Office – Maine Bureau of Highway Safety – Operating After Suspension Grant

Chairperson Clenott asked Genie Beaulieu, Fiscal Officer, to present the staff report. The County Manager concurs with the recommendation.

Ms. Beaulieu reported the Cumberland County Sheriff's Office has been advised by the Maine Bureau of Highway Safety that "Operating After Suspension" grants will be available for the time period October 2008 through September 2009.

There continues to be an extremely high incidence of operators driving throughout Cumberland County and throughout the State of Maine with suspended licenses. In fact, most of the violators are frequent offenders of driving with a suspended license or operating a motor vehicle while classified as a habitual offender. The Sheriff's Office is committed to making safe travel on the roads within Cumberland County through enforcement of motor vehicle laws and has been pro-active in removing those individuals who by virtue of habitual offender/operating after suspension status create a risk to law abiding motorists.

The Sheriff's Office is requesting approval for a \$19,627 grant application, which would provide funding to 7 conduct stationary license checks at various high traffic locations within Cumberland County, conduct 13 high intensity traffic enforcement patrols and 6 court details. The grant funds would be used to pay for deputy overtime costs. A discussion followed.

Commissioner Feeney made a Motion that the Commissioners approve the request for a \$19,627 grant application which would provide funding for the indicated Operating After Suspension roadblocks. Commissioner Shaughnessy seconded the Motion. All voted unanimously.

08 – 115 Approval, Cumberland County Probate Court – A Heart Gallery of Professional Photographs Display of Adoptive Children

Chairperson Clenott asked the County Manager, who concurs with the recommendation, to present the staff report.

The County Manager reported the Register of Probate asked him to present the staff report. He indicated November is National Adoption Month and the Probate Court participates each year by holding an adoption day at the Children’s Museum in Portland. They typically do about 20-25 adoptions that day for children of all ages.

In conjunction with Nation Adoption Month, an organization called A Family For ME, sets up what they call “Heart Galleries” throughout the State. The Heart Gallery is a professional photograph display of children waiting for adoption in Maine. The goal is to increase the visibility of children to potential adoptive families. The Probate Court is requesting the County Courthouse to display a photo Heart Gallery. The displays would be on easels in the hallway by the rotunda and in the hallway outside the Probate Court. Commissioner Feeney expressed special recognition to the Pizza Hut Restaurants of Maine and their staff who have been very instrumental in putting this program together. A discussion followed.

Commissioner Shaughnessy made a Motion that the Commissioners grant permission to house the Heart Gallery in the hallway by the rotunda and in the hallway outside the Probate Court. Commissioner Feeney seconded the Motion. All voted unanimously.

08 – 116 Cumberland County Radio Interoperability Referendum-Bond Award

Chairperson Clenott asked the County Manager for comments.

The County Manager indicated this is a very significant matter. Last November, there was a vote passed by the citizens of Cumberland County to procure a bond for \$1.7 million dollars to enhance our public safety needs in the area of radio interoperability. Our financial advisor, Dick Ranaghan and the County Treasurer Vic Labrecque have solicited bids for the project and are here tonight to get the Commissioners approval to award the bond. He further indicated that in light of the financial situation in the nation, it will be interesting to learn the bid results. We are pleased by the upgrade in our bond rating to “AA+”. He asked Dick Ranaghan for comments. Mr. Ranaghan indicated today he and County Treasurer Diane Gurney opened the 3 bids received. He indicated the County has a high rating and therefore they will receive a lower rate. The bids received were: Roosevelt & Cross of New York at 4.7623%; Morgan Stanley at 4.9972; and Commerce Capital Markets (received late therefore rejected) at a rate of 5.0280. The winning low bidder is Roosevelt & Cross at 4.7623%. A discussion followed.

Commissioner Feeney made a Motion that the Commissioners approve the Resolution as described in Exhibit C awarding the Bond to Roosevelt & Cross with the interest rate established at 4.76%. Commissioner Shaughnessy seconded the Motion. All voted unanimously.

08 – 117 Approval, Cumberland County Sheriff’s Office Commissions – New and Renewal

Chairperson Clenott asked Commissioner Shaughnessy for a Motion.

Commissioner Shaughnessy made a Motion that the Commissioners approve the following Commissions: Joseph S. Corcadden, Robert S. Morissette, Rhonda Jean Pratt and the renewal of Michael Pomerleau. Commissioner Feeney seconded the Motion. All voted unanimously.

There being no further business Commissioner Feeney made a MOTION to adjourn the meeting at 6:20 PM. Chairperson Shaughnessy seconded the MOTION. All voted unanimously.

ATTEST:

Barbara M. Buckley
Deputy Clerk

The next regular Commissioners meeting will be held at 5:30 PM on Monday, November 10, 2008 in the Peter J. Feeney Conference Room, Cumberland County Courthouse Annex 1.