

MINUTES
Cheshire County Commissioners Meeting
Wednesday October 18, 2017 09:30AM
County Hall Building
Commissioners Conference Room
12 Court Street
Keene, NH 03431

Present: Commissioners Peter Graves, Joseph Cartwright, and Charles Weed

Staff: Administrator Coates, Finance Director Trombly, Grants Manager Bansley, and Assistant County Administrator (ACA) Bouchard.

Guests:

At 9:31AM the Chair opened the meeting and recognized Grants Manager Bansley. She discussed Master Agenda Item #539: NH Highway Safety STEP FFY18 Grant Agreement Execution grant. She said that the grant requires that twelve (12) Safe Commute patrols and two (2) seatbelt enforcement patrols be conducted on specified dates and times, other patrol times/dates may vary. Funds will be used to pay officers' overtime to conduct STEP, Operation Safe Commute (OSC), and Join the NH Clique Seatbelt Enforcement Campaign patrols. She said that the Sheriff's department anticipates that three (3) deputies will be involved in the program.

She asked the Commissioners to execute a grant agreement with the New Hampshire Office of Highway Safety for \$5,655.00. The grant requires a match of \$1,413.75 to be met with in-kind time from dispatchers to run motor vehicle checks. A discussion began concerning the use of the grant.

Commissioner Cartwright moved to accept the grant for the amount of \$5,655.00 and to meet the match of \$1,413.75 with in-kind grant labor hours and was seconded by Commissioner Weed. Upon vote the motion passed unanimously.

The Chair recognized Cindy Rodenhauer Stewart to discuss the upcoming fundraising event for the Old Courthouse next Friday October 27th.

At 9:47am Administrator Coates joined the meeting.

She reviewed the status of the work being completed by the staff and said that good overall progress was being made in bringing the event together. Stewart said that there has been very positive response from towns and groups across the County for the long-term fundraising projects to complete the window, copula, and other building restorations.

Coates discussed that the use of grants and fundraising is time extremely well spent as it greatly reduces the burden on the taxpayers for the maintenance of County facilities. He pointed to the recent completed build-out of the new dispatch center that only required a small contribution of taxpayer funds to complete the much-needed rebuilding of the communication center.

Stewart described the many outreach efforts that have been started and will hopefully prove to be fruitful for the completion of the project. A discussion of the current monies raised and the future projects planned was covered.

Stewart shared copies of the two brochures that have been created for the event.

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The Commissioners thanked Stewart for her update and Trombly discussed the bond rate setting event that will take place later today.

At 10:39AM Pursuant to RSA 91-A:3, II (a) Commissioner Cartwright moved to enter into non-public session to discuss 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. Commissioner Weed seconded the motion and upon vote the motion passed unanimously.

As a result of the deliberations in non-public session it was voted unanimously to grant a one-time recognition payment to M. B. for filling-in for a recently departed full-time staff member while continuing to do their own full-time job and for excellent results over the past few months while doing so. Upon vote the motion passed unanimously.

At 10:51am the Commissioners voted unanimously to return to public session.

Administrator Coates then provided the Weekly Operations Report.

Coates asked that Commissioner Graves as a member of the Board of Commissioners, attend a meeting at the Nursing Home next Wednesday as a representative of executive management for a required review of the Center for Medicare and Medicaid (CMS) rules and regulations.

Coates said that the asbestos testing has been completed at the old jail and it was found that asbestos is present in a greater quantity than hoped for and that the initial costs for remediation was estimated at \$115,000. Bouchard has posted an RFP for opening bidding on the remediation project and bids will be received and reviewed after the Friday November 3rd deadline. He said that the budgeted amount will cover the costs but he and Bouchard believe that the remediation can be completed for significantly less cost.

Coates then discussed that the Delegation Farm committee will meet next Monday and tour the farm as part of reconstitution of the Farm Sub-Committee that has been dormant for a number of months.

The Edge Theater group has asked to use the Delegation Hall for three (3) productions next year. Coates said that he will agree to hosting one event which runs approximately fifteen performances, and will determine the impact on the building, facilities, and staff before agreeing to the second and third events.

Coates then discussed the recently completed Library Book Sale event and said that event was a success and the Library Staff was very pleased with the outcome. The library said that the County staff was tremendously helpful to them in making the event a win-win for the Library, the public, and the County employees.

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Coates then said that last Sunday he provided tours for about thirty (30) members of the Putnam Foundation of the building and it went very well.

Coates discussed his participation in the Active Shooter drill at the Nursing Home that occurred on Tuesday of this week and that included local law enforcement and staff. The drill went very well with a handful of areas that need to be looked at to possibly improve response times and / or improve communications. An after-action report will be issued later in the week.

At 11:16am Trombly re-joined the meeting to discuss the bidding from the banking community to be able to offer the sale of the Maplewood Nursing Home Bonds to the public. Trombly said that the winning bid for the sale of nursing home bond is from Wells Fargo Bank and presented the following document to the Commissioners for review, consent, and signatures:

CHESHIRE COUNTY, NEW HAMPSHIRE
Authorization of \$31,040,000 General Obligation Bonds by County Commissioners

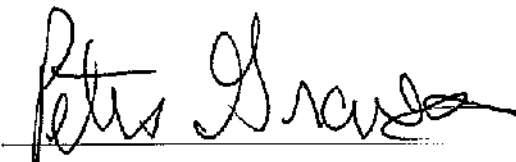
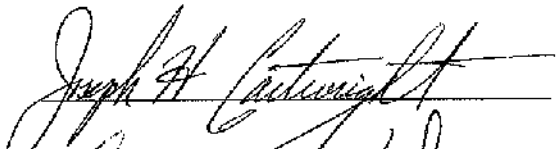
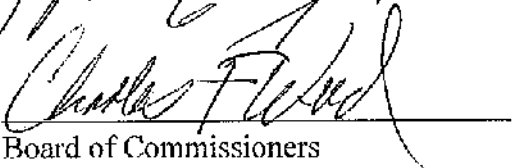
RESOLVED: That the Commissioners hereby approve the issuance of \$31,040,000 general obligation bonds for the purpose of financing the costs associated with the reconstruction of the Maplewood Nursing Home, under and in compliance with the provisions of New Hampshire RSA Chapters 28 and 33, as amended, and hereby accept the bid of Wells Fargo Bank, National Association to purchase such general obligation bonds at a price of \$34,681,366.35 with an average coupon of 3.866027%, resulting in a net interest cost rate of 2.744680% and a true interest cost rate of 2.581345%; and

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

Certificate of Award

We, the Board of Commissioners of Cheshire County, New Hampshire, hereby award the \$31,040,000 General Obligation Bonds dated October 26, 2017 (the "Bonds") to the bidder or bidders submitting the bid or bids attached hereto in accordance with the terms set forth in the attached bid or bids and in the Notice of Sale dated October 6, 2017, relating to the Bonds.

Date: October 18, 2017




Board of Commissioners

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Coates said that the County's insurance company, Primex, has said that the local County Bar Association who wants to hold an event in Delegation Hall would be covered by both the County insurance and by the bartender's insurance coverage. A discussion of the history of alcohol use at the facility was reviewed.

Coates reviewed last week's discussion concerning pay equity for staff across the County and Trombly reviewed the work that has been completed to ensure that there are not any other inequities that need to be addressed.

Coates then said that a nursing home reconstruction meeting conference call took place last week concerning the potential bio-mass boiler. He said that a number of items still need to be addressed but that the general consensus of the committee is leaning toward a green chip boiler.

Commissioner Weed said that he wanted to go record as saying that he wished to recognize Commissioner Cartwright for the advocacy and work he put in to make the green chip bio-mass boiler a possibility for the reconstruction project.

Old Business

Commissioner Weed discussed the new Truancy program that SAU 29 has asked the Sheriff to operate and said that he has learned of situations through media reports where in similar programs students are treated as truants who actually have social adjustment and sometimes emotional and mental health issues. A discussion of how this issues like this should be addressed was had.

New Business

Trombly handed out materials for the upcoming 2018 Departmental Budget Review in preparation for next week's public meetings and discussed the outside agency's that will present next week.

The weekly census was then reviewed.

The minutes of October 11, 2017 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.

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

Trombly then presented the documentation for the authorization of a \$31,040,000 bond for the construction of the nursing home. Following review and discussions, the Commissioner's then sign the acceptance document.

At 12:51PM Commissioner Graves left the meeting for a previous appointment.

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At 12:54PM there being no further business to discuss, Commissioner Cartwright moved to adjourn the meeting. The motion to adjourn was then seconded by Commissioner Weed and upon vote the motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,
C. Weed