

**State of Maine
Androscoggin County**

**Minutes of Budget Committee
Meeting of
October 28, 2015**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Chair Emily Darby, Norman Beuparlant, Steve Bolduc, Shane Bouchard, Ralph Caldwell, Guy Desjardins, Belinda Gerry, Joseph Grube, Michael Lachance, Mark Lunt, Michael Marcotte, Anthony Reny, Andrew Titus, Jeffrey Wakeman.

MEMBERS ABSENT: N/A

OTHERS PRESENT: County Administrator Larry Post, Treasurer Robert Poulin, Administrative Assistant Sandy Berube, EMA Director Joanne Potvin, Steve Sherlock-Sun Journal, Dick Clark-WGLT, citizen.

Meeting was called to order at 6:01 p.m. by Chair Emily Darby.

On motion of Norman Beuparlant, seconded by Jeffrey Wakeman, it was

VOTED:

(052-2015) To accept the Minutes of October 21, 2015.

**VOTE: 12-0-1
Abstained Grube**

1021 HUMAN RESOURCES (Presented by Administrator Larry Post and Treasurer Robert Poulin)

On motion of Norman Beuparlant, seconded by Michael Lachance, it was

VOTED:

(053-2015) To accept Department 1021 Human Resources bottom line at \$2,100.00.

VOTE: 13-0

1090 AUDITING (Presented by Administrator Larry Post and Treasurer Robert Poulin)

On motion of Norman Beuparlant, seconded by Jeffrey Wakeman, it was

VOTED:

(054-2015) To accept 10-1090-4005 Accounting/Auditing at \$12,000.00.

**VOTE: 10-3
Opposed – Gerry, Marcotte, Lachance**

2000 INTEREST (Presented by Administrator Larry Post and Treasurer Robert Poulin)

On motion of Norman Beuparlant, seconded by Anthony Reny, it was

VOTED:

(055-2015) To reduce Department 2000 Interest by -\$8,000 to \$30,000.00.

VOTE: 13-0

Ralph Caldwell arrived.

2050 INSURANCE (Presented by Administrator Larry Post and Treasurer Robert Poulin)

On motion of Shane Bouchard, seconded by Anthony Reny, it was

VOTED:

(056-2015) To table Department 2050 Insurance due to lack of information.

VOTE: 14-0

2080 CONTINGENCY (Presented by Administrator Larry Post and Treasurer Robert Poulin)

***Motion** of Michael Marcotte, seconded by Anthony Reny:

To accept 10-2080-4715 Contingent Account at \$100,000.00.

NO VOTE

Belinda Gerry – Expressed concern about the Commissioners using the Contingency Account if the Commissioners' Attorney's line (10-1020-4015) is cut.

Discussion regarding the Contingency Account.

On motion of Ralph Caldwell, seconded by Norman Beuparlant, it was

VOTED:

(057-2015) To move the question.

VOTE: 14-0

(Question Moved) On motion of Michael Marcotte, seconded by Anthony Reny, it was

VOTED:

(058-2015) To accept 10-2080-4715 Contingent Account at \$100,000.00.

VOTE: 14-0

County Administrator Larry Post – Read (and handed out) a letter from Commissioner-Chair Beth Bell regarding the Commissioners’ lawsuit expenses. This reduces the 1020 Commissioners’ line 10-1020-4015 Architect/Engineer/Attorney to Commissioners Proposed \$75,000.00.

County Administrator Larry Post – Notified the Budget Committee that Department 1020 County Commissioners was also reduced to Commissioners’ Proposed \$185,160.00.

1020 COUNTY COMMISSIONERS (Presented by Administrator Larry Post and Treasurer Robert Poulin)

***Motion** of Norman Beauparlant, seconded by Jeffrey Wakeman:

To reduce line 10-1020-3120 Salaries and Wages by -\$16,100.00 to \$169,060.00, this deduction includes a stipend for all Commissioners at \$2,700.00 with an additional \$500.00 for the chair.

NO VOTE

Ralph Caldwell – Stated his opinion that one person from each town should sit down and have a discussion with the seven Commissioners without attorneys.

Discussion regarding the Charter and the Commissioners’ salaries.

Michael Lachance – Stated for the record that the Commissioners have been repeatedly offered the opportunity to sit at the table with the Budget Committee, and also the City of Lewiston, for discussion but they have refused. Lachance stated that the offer continues to be made.

On motion of Michael Marcotte, seconded by Anthony Reny, it was

VOTED:

(059-2015) To move the question.

VOTE: 14-0

(Question Moved) On motion of Norman Beauparlant, seconded by Jeffrey Wakeman, it was

VOTED:

(060-2015) To reduce line 10-1020-3120 Salaries and Wages by -\$16,100.00 to \$169,060.00, this includes a stipend for all Commissioners at \$2,700.00 with an additional \$500.00 for the chair.

Friendly amendment – To reduce line 10-1020-3120 Salaries and Wages to \$171,160.00.

VOTE: 12-2

Opposed – Bouchard, Caldwell

On motion of Jeffrey Wakeman, seconded by Andrew Titus, it was

VOTED:

(061-2015) The Budget Committee sets the stipends for the Commissioners' stipends set at \$3,000.00 for each Commissioner with an additional \$500.00 stipend for the Chair.

VOTE: 14-0

On motion of Andrew Titus, seconded by Jeffrey Wakeman, it was

VOTED:

(062-2015) To reduce line 10-1020-4015 Architect/Engineer/Attorney to \$50,000.00.

Friendly amendment – To reduce line 10-1020-4015 Architect/Engineer/Attorney from \$50,000.00 to \$40,000.00.

VOTE: 12-2

Opposed – Darby, Bolduc

Andrew Titus – Would like the Commissioners to know that the reduction of the 10-1020-4015 Architect/Engineer/Attorney from \$75,000.00 to \$40,000.00 is meant to send the message that there is a better way to do this, and that there is a much less expensive way to communicate.

On motion of Michael Marcotte, seconded by Michael Lachance, it was

VOTED:

(063-2015) To set Department 1020 County Commissioners' bottom line at \$230,538.00 (Includes changes to lines 1020-3120 and 1020-4015).

VOTE: 14-0

1025 TREASURER (Presented by Administrator Larry Post and Treasurer Robert Poulin)

On motion of Michael Lachance, seconded by Anthony Reny, it was

VOTED:

(064-2015) To approve Department 1025 Treasurer's bottom line at \$171,489.00.

VOTE: 12-2

Opposed – Marcotte, Titus

2025 EMPLOYEE BENEFITS (Presented by Administrator Larry Post and Treasurer Robert Poulin)

On motion of Anthony Reny, seconded by Michael Lachance, it was

VOTED:

(065-2015) To reduce 10-2025-4724 Health and Dental Insurance by -\$41,474.00 to \$1,209,521.00.

VOTE: 14-0

Chair Emily Darby– Stated that there are still several questions outstanding that were made in writing to the Commissioners that have not been answered.

On motion of Jeffrey Wakeman, seconded by Michael Lachance, it was

VOTED:

(066-2015) To specify that line 10-2025-4724 Health and Dental Insurance does not offer any benefits to elected Commissioners, and does not offer health insurance buy-outs.

VOTE: 14-0

On motion of Norman Beuparlant, seconded by Steve Bolduc, it was

VOTED:

(067-2015) To set Department 2025 Employee Benefit's bottom line at \$1,710,398.00.

VOTE: 14-0

On motion of Anthony Reny, seconded by Steve Bouchard, it was

VOTED:

(068-2015) To adjourn at 8:44 p.m.

VOTE: 14-0

Larry Post, County Administrator