

STATE OF MAINE

ANDROSCOGGIN, SS.

May 20, 2015
Regular Meeting 5:20 P.M.

Commissioner Bell called the meeting to order at 5:25 p.m.

Present at the meeting were:

Beth Bell, Chair
Ronald Chicoine, Commissioner
Sally Christner, Commissioner
Alfreda Fournier, Commissioner
Elaine Makas, Commissioner
Patricia Fournier, County Clerk
Eric Samson, Sheriff
William Gagne, Chief
Jeff Chute, Jail Administrator
Ray Lafrance, Director of Public Safety
Andrew Robinson, District Attorney
Tina Chouinard, Register of Deeds
Ed Barrett, Lewiston City Administrator
Mike Stephanak, WGLT-TV7
Steve Sherlock, Sun Journal
Randall Greenwood, Commissioner

Absent: Matthew Roy, Commissioner

Motion: to accept and approve with a waiver of the reading of the minutes of May 6, 2015.
Fournier-Makas 5-0

Friendly amendment: to accept and approve with a waiver of the reading of the Commissioners Meeting Minutes and the Public Hearing Meeting Minutes of May 6, 2015.

Motion: to review and approve all bills, part-time deputies' payroll. Warrants #1515, 1516, 1517, 1517A. Corrections Division Warrants #1568, 1568A. Requisitions #1258, 1272.
Makas-Fournier 5-0

Reports

Update from Commissioner Christner on activities at the Maine County Commissioners Association.

The big issue at the meeting was the jail and the new amendments and what position MCCA would take. Christner also noted that the Governor's newly appointed designee for the disbursement is

going to rework the numbers (regarding what was requested) with the emergency supplemental funding.

Sheriff Eric Samson's update on supplemental funding – Sheriff Samson was told that the jail would receive 1/3 of what was originally approved through appropriations (approximately \$49,000), and the rest would be distributed after the process of justifying the need was completed.

Commissioner Christner – MCCA is also considering expanding their services to counties. A questionnaire regarding this topic is available for the commissioners to review at the next workshop.

Update from Commissioner Makas on activities at the Central/Western Maine Workforce Investment Board.

No report.

Update from Commissioner Makas on the Safety Committee.

No report.

Update from Commissioner Christner regarding the jail.

See above.

Randall Greenwood arrived at 5:35p.m.

Public Comments: No comments.

Motion: to accept correspondence from Sheriff Eric Samson dated May 12, 2015, requesting Compliance Officer Sergeant Delbert Mason Jr. be transferred to the position of Transportation Supervisor/Sergeant at his current rate of pay of \$21.85 per hour, per the personnel officer, effective Sunday, May 24, 2015.

Makas-Chicoine 6-0

Motion: to accept correspondence from Sheriff Eric Samson dated May 12, 2015, regarding Reserve Dispatcher Michael Allen's resignation, effective May 6, 2015.

Makas-Greenwood 6-0

Motion: to accept correspondence from Sheriff Eric Samson dated May 11, 2015, requesting Reserve Corrections Officer Artulean Thomas be hired as a full-time Corrections Officer at \$14.35 per hour (includes night shift differential), per the county's personnel officer, effective Sunday, May 24, 2015.

Makas-Fournier 6-0

Motion: to accept correspondence from District Attorney Andrew Robinson dated May 12, 2015, requesting to hire Bernard McAllister as a full-time Trial Assistant at \$14.90 per hour, Pay Grade 5 - Step A, effective Monday, June 1, 2015.

Makas-Greenwood 6-0

Motion: to accept correspondence from County Clerk Patricia Fournier dated May 15, 2015, requesting David Cote be given a wage adjustment from Pay Grade 7 Step C to Step D at \$19.58 per hour, effective March 8, 2015.

Makas-Greenwood 6-0

Motion: to amend Section 3.7 of the Androscoggin County Charter and to put it out to the voters as follows:

3.7 COMPENSATION - Salaries and benefits of all County elected officials shall be recommended by the Board and approved by a majority plus one vote of the full Budget Committee. Said salary shall constitute full compensation for all services.

Notwithstanding the final authority of the Board of Commissioners over the adoption of the County budget under Section 5.5.4, no increase in the salaries of elected officials is effective without the approval of a majority plus one vote of the full Budget Committee. Reimbursement for reasonable expenses incurred in performance of the officials' duties may be allowed upon formal review and approval by the Board."

(Additional language in bold)

Greenwood-Fournier

Discussion regarding amendment.

Amendment to the original motion - to amend Section 3.7 of the Androscoggin County Charter as follows:

3.7 COMPENSATION - Salaries and benefits of all County elected officials shall be recommended by the Board and approved by a majority plus one vote of the full Budget Committee. Said salary shall constitute full compensation for all services.

Notwithstanding the final authority of the Board of Commissioners over the adoption of the County budget under Section 5.5.4, no increase in the salaries (or expansion of benefits) of elected officials is effective without the approval of a majority plus one vote of the full Budget Committee. Reimbursement for reasonable expenses incurred in performance of the officials' duties may be allowed upon formal review and approval by the Board."

(Additional language in bold)

Makas-Fournier 6-0

Main Motion: to amend Section 3.7 of the Androscoggin County Charter and to put it out to the voters as follows:

3.7 COMPENSATION - Salaries and benefits of all County elected officials shall be recommended by the Board and approved by a majority plus one vote of the full Budget Committee. Said salary shall constitute full compensation for all services.

Notwithstanding the final authority of the Board of Commissioners over the adoption of the County budget under Section 5.5.4, no increase in the salaries or expansion of benefits of elected officials is effective without the approval of a majority plus one vote of the full Budget Committee. Reimbursement for reasonable expenses incurred in performance of the officials' duties may be allowed upon formal review and approval by the Board."

(Additional language in bold)

Makas-Fournier 6-0

District Attorney Andrew Robinson – The first topic discussed was the update regarding the search for a new space for the District Attorney's Office. Although they are looking at various locations, District Attorney Andrew Robinson is currently in the process of writing a letter of interest

regarding a specific rental space to obtain potential rental costs. The second matter discussed was the need for the expansion of an employee's hours for training in the District Attorney's Office.

Motion: to authorize the expansion of the District Attorney's part-time employee's hours by an additional 9 hours for training purposes, totaling to a maximum of 29 hours per week for three months.

Fournier-Makas 6-0

Consent Agenda: to approve the consent agenda as presented:

To approve the Sheriff Department's April Civil Division Report.

To approve the Sheriff Department's request for professional leave for Robert Morin, Craig MacMillan, and Victor Barr II to attend the OUI Refresher course, and for Adam Campbell, Jon Guay and Kevin Nichols to attend the Camp Postcard program.

To approve the District Attorney's annual evaluation for Victim-Witness Advocate Kathy Monroe.

To approve the EMA's FY-15 Annual Work Plan - Second Quarter Activity Report
Makas-Greenwood 6-0

Commissioner Chicoine – Asked to clarify his understanding regarding the budget process, “For the most part... we as commissioners agreed with what the budget committee recommended. The only thing that needs to be addressed is the salaries and benefits?”

Chair Bell – Reiterated that she and Commissioner Greenwood are both on a four-year election cycle that ends in 2016. Chair Bell felt that they should be paid under the 2012 elected compensation, however, she was still willing to cut her own compensation. She stated the salary was never increased.

Motion: to enter into executive session with Sheriff Eric Samson pursuant to Title 1 M.R.S.A. Section 405(6), Subsection(A).
Greenwood Fournier 6-0

Motion: to enter into a second executive session with the Register of Deeds pursuant to Title 1 M.R.S.A. Section 405(6), Subsection(A).
Greenwood-Fournier 6-0

Entered into public session at 7:48 p.m.

Motion: to adjourn at 7:48p.m.
Makas-Fournier 6-0

Patricia Fournier, County Clerk