

MINUTES OF THE FINANCE AND INSURANCE COMMITTEE
BUDGET HEARING MEETING
Wednesday, October 12, 2011

MEMBERS PRESENT: Chairman, Ted Cushing, Supervisors, John R Young, John Hoffman, Peter Wolk and David Hintz

OTHERS PRESENT: Margie Sorenson, Finance Director; Melodie Gauthier, Chief Deputy Clerk; David Bast, Lynn Prost, Human Services; Carol Pederson, County Board Supervisor; Brenda Behrle, Clerk of Courts; Linda Conlon, Public Health; Kathy Belliveau, Branch I; Deb Shawl, Branch II, Amy Franzen, Register of Probate; Thomas Leighton, Register of Deeds; Dan Kuzlik & Kerri Ison, U.W. Extension/Land Conservation; Dianne Jacobson, Department on Aging; Mike Bloom, District Attorney; and Mary Bartelt, County Clerk.

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Cushing called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m. in the Oneida County Board Room of the Oneida County Courthouse. He noted that the meeting notice had been properly posted and mailed in accordance with the Wisconsin Open Meeting Law.

Chairman Cushing stated: Notice is hereby given that a majority of the Oneida County Board of Supervisors may be present at this meeting of the Finance and Insurance Committee Budget Hearing to gather information about a subject over which they have decision-making responsibility. This constitutes a meeting of the Oneida County Board pursuant to State Ex Rel Backe v. Greendale Village Board, Wis 2nd 553, 494 N.W. 2nd 408 (1993), and must be noticed as such, although the board will not take any formal actions at this meeting.

APPROVE AMENDED AGENDA

MOTION/SECOND: (Hoffman/Hintz) to approve the October 12th, 2011 Amended Agenda. All "aye" on voice vote, motion carries.

Continuing 2012 Budget.

8:30 a.m. Human Service Center – David Bast, Lynn Prost

Bast states they are confident that they can operate at 0% increase budget even though they anticipate more clients. Bast discussed Chapter 55 which is administered by Social Services and stated that there is an ongoing battle on how to pay for these protective placements. In the past Social Services paid 50% and Human Service 50% but last year Social Services refused to budget for this because they believed that Vilas and Forest were not paying. Bast stated both Vilas and Forest do pay but the numbers of clients for these counties are significantly less than Oneida County. Bast discussed long term care, protective placements and summarized the overall budget to the Finance Committee. He stated the 2012 budget is built on the assumption that Koinonia will be subcontracted out. If this does not happen, the 2012 budget will still remain the same and Koinonia will be adsorbed within the Human Service Budget. More discussion took place regarding the sub-contracting of Koinonia their fees and services.

MOTION/SECOND: (Hoffman/Hintz) to approve the Human Service Center Budget as presented and forward to the County Board. All “aye” on voice vote, motion carries.

9:00 a.m. Clerk of Courts – Brenda Behrle

Behrle presented the Clerk of Courts Departmental Summary to the committee. Sorenson inquired on the subject of driver license suspension for traffic citations. Behrle states that the Sheriff’s Office has requested a trial license suspension as a part of a collection processes. The license suspension would be dependent on a court order and is related to traffic citations only. Behrle states the Clerk of Courts and the Sheriff’s Office will need to review this further.

Behrle has recently signed a contract with GovPayNet where the Clerk of Courts can accept major credit cards, debit cards and pre-paid debit cards for payments and fines at no cost to the county.

Supervisor Young questioned the Jail assessment fee account and Sorenson explained this account and stated it is estimated to be approximately \$98,000 at the end of 2011. This account is restricted by state law and is a “reserve account”; it can only be used for the jail. (Jail, bricks and mortar- tin can account). Behrle suggested this account be taken out of the Clerk of Court’s budget and put into the Sheriff’s budget for the jail.

Chairman Cushing questioned the (523312) Jury fees account. Behrle states this could be reduced but any big trial may put this account over. Cushing stated then the money would have to come from the contingency fund.

MOTION/SECOND: (Cushing/ Wolk) to reduce (#523312) Jury fees by \$6,000 from \$34,000 to \$28, 000. All “aye” on voice vote, motion carries.

MOTION/SECOND: (Hintz/Hoffman) to approve the Clerk of Courts amended budget and forward to County Board. All “aye” on voice vote, motion carries.

9:30 a.m. Public Health – Linda Conlon

Conlon handed out a grant summary page and explained the grant total cut for this year was \$39,470. Conlon stated there was carry forward monies of \$10,000 for 2012 but in the year 2013 she may be cutting a portion of a position due to the fact there will be no carry-forward monies for that year.

Conlon stated she decreased her flu revenue given that Walmart, Walgreens, and other places now offer the flu shots. Even though she decreased Chemistry Lab & medical Supply, she feels that this may be decreased even more because she did not take in account, syringes, alcohol, band-aids, gloves, the sharps containers, and the biomedical waste, all of this will impact this account. Colon states she feels she can decrease this account by \$5,000. In revenue, Colon feels she could increase Donations by approximately \$1000 and Prenatal Care by \$500 stating this program is being re-vamped. Cushing asked if this could be \$546 to make the levy amount even.

MOTION/SECOND: (Cushing/Wolk) to reduce (531402) Chemistry Lab & Medical Supply by \$5,000 from \$67,329 to \$62,329. All “aye” on voice vote, motion carries.

MOTION/SECOND: Cushing/Hintz to increase (485100) Donations by \$1000, making the total \$4,000 from \$3,000. All “aye” on voice vote, motion carries.
MOTION/SECOND: Cushing/Hintz to increase (465103) Public charges- Prenatal Care by \$546. All “aye” on voice vote, motion carries.
MOTION/SECOND: Hintz/Hoffman to accept public Health’s amended budget and forward to County Board. All “aye” on voice vote, motion carries.

10:00 a.m. Register of Deeds – Tom Leighton

Mr. Leighton stated recording fees are down and foreclosures are up. He stated any revenue for the Register of Deeds would depend on the economy. Leighton stated he did change the fee structure last June and it is possible to increase line (461300) Public Charges a little.

MOTION/SECOND: (Hintz/Hoffman) to raise (461300) Public Charges \$10,000 from \$200,000 to \$210,000. All “aye” on voice vote, motion carries.
MOTION/SECOND: (Hoffman/ Hintz) to approve Register of Deeds amended budget. All “aye” on voice vote, motion carries.

Break – 10:10 to 10:20

Continue with other budgets:

Sorenson gave a brief summary of these accounts:

Sundry General Government
Regional Reference Library
North Central Regional Plan
Reserve for contingency
Revolving Loan
Debt Service
Airport Construction
Health Insurance Trust

MOTION/SECOND: (Cushing/Hoffman) to approve the Sundry General Government, Regional Reference Library, North Central Regional Plan, Reserve for Contingency, Revolving Loan, Debt Service, Airport Construction and Health Insurance Trust budgets and forward to County Board for consideration. All “aye” on voice vote, motion carries.

11:00 a.m. Branch I - Branch II – Register of Probate - Kathy Belliveau, Deb Shawl and Amy Franzen

Sorenson states both Branch I and Branch II collections are doing well. Sorenson states (461404) public charges could be looked at. Chairman Cushing discussed this with Belliveau and Shawl on increasing this revenue account. Shawl stated as July 1, 2011, there are more people eligible now to use the public defender’s services due to the economy so they are not receiving as many people requesting court appointed defenders.

Shawl explained that for Chapter 51, Ministry Health does evaluations and will charge \$361.00 and this is going up by \$5.00 to \$10.00. She states that the physicians when testifying in court are now charging another \$88.00 for their 15 minutes of testifying.

Shawl states she has spoken with the director of Ministry Health and asking her to reconsider going back to one set amount which covered the evaluation and testimony. She states for now, the budget is okay at this time but may change if Ministry Health does not reconsider.

Sorenson brought up the fact that Branch I pays for an insurance policy that Branch II gave up a number of years ago. Sorenson states the insurance is for civil suits that are filed against the Judge. Belliveau stated the extra insurance policy is for any Professional liability claims, (civil suits against the Judge) and the coverage is for one million dollars.

MOTION/SECOND: (Cushing/ Hintz) to decrease \$5,000 from Branch I and Branch II (521206) Court Appointed Attorney Expenses. All “aye” on voice vote, motion carries.

MOTION/SECOND: (Cushing/Wolk) to increase (461404) Public charges – Court Appointed Attorney by \$5,000 for Branch I and increase (461404) Public Charges – Court appointed Attorney by \$3,500 for Branch II. All “aye” on voice vote, motion carries.

MOTION/SECOND: (Hintz/Hoffman) to accept Branch I and Branch II, Probate and Family Court Commissioner budget as amended. All “aye” on voice vote, motion carries.

11:29 Supervisor Tom Rudolph arrives

11:30 a.m. U.W. Extension/Land Conservation- Dan Kuzlik & Kerri Ison

Kuzlik handed out a printout on U.W. Extension/LWC Staffing. He states the whole purpose of the consolidation and efficiency team was to see how departments within the county could work together to leverage resources. Kuzlik compared U.W. Extension and Land and Water Conservation staffing for 2010, 2011 and the proposed 2012 budget. He states for 2012 he had discussed with LRES not filling the County Conservationist position. Kuzlik suggested that if he adds this position to his duties, he would be saving the county 50 percent approximately \$17,000 that the county will save by having Kuzlik work as the County Conservationist.

Kuzlik also stated the employee in the typist III position is retiring and that position will be eliminated after she retires.

Kuzlik talked about U.W. Extension’s move back to the courthouse and stated this will be a \$41,000 savings for 2012.

Kuzlik stated the Fair Budget was reduced last year by \$5,000 and this year he is proposing to reduce it another \$5,000 stating the move to Pioneer Park brought 19,000 people to the fair and higher revenue compared to 2,800 at the country fest grounds.

MOTION/SECOND: (Cushing/Wolk) to increase (467180) Public charges- Fair \$5,000 from \$20,000 to \$25,000. All “aye” on voice vote, motion carries.

Kuzlik stated he looked over the operational budget for U.W. Extension and Land and Water Conservation and stated the budgeted amount of \$1000 for repair of rental equipment could be reduced by \$500.

MOTION/SECOND: (Cushing/Hoffman) to decrease Land and Water Conservation account of Repair of Rental equipment (523323) by \$500. All “aye” on voice vote, motion carries.

Kuzlik also feels the employee auto allowance for U. W. Extension could be reduced for 2012 due to their move to the Courthouse from the Airport. Kuzlik stated he could agree to reduce this account by \$500.

MOTION/SECOND: (Cushing/Hoffman) to decrease (531302) Employee Auto allowance by \$500 from \$1750 to \$1250. All “aye” on voice vote, motion carries.

MOTION/SECOND: (Hoffman/Wolk) to accept Land and Water Conservation/U.W. Extension amended budget as presented. All “aye” on voice vote, motion carries.

12:00 -Lunch/Resume 1:30 p.m.

1:30 p.m. Department on Aging – Dianne Jacobson

Jacobson reminded the committee that only about 1/3 of the D.O.A budget comes from the county tax levy. This year the D.O.A has cut 11% for 2012. Jacobson stated a new program, Aging and Disability Resource Center of the Northwoods (ADRC) will be implemented soon and this will reduce cost. Sorenson states that this should be budgeted for 2012 even though we are uncertain when it actually starts. Jacobson states that a portion of ADRC will pay for the Assistant Director Position also; ADRC will be paying a portion of rent.

MOTION/SECOND: (Wolk/Hoffman) to increase ADRC for Assistant Department on Aging Director \$13,500 and ADRC rent for office \$8,000 and accept DOA Budget as amended. All “aye” on voice vote, motion carries.

Building and Grounds

MOTION/SECOND: (Cushing/Wolk) to decrease Building & Grounds major renovation \$5,000 (699250). And decrease Building & Grounds old Courthouse remodeling \$5,000. All “aye” on voice vote, motion carries.

Sheriff’s Office

MOTION/SECOND: (Young/Cushing) to reduce Minocqua Dispatch \$10,000. All “aye” on voice vote, motion carries.

2:00 p.m. District Attorney –Mike Bloom

Cushing asked Bloom if any part of his budget could be reduced. Bloom stated the budget is tight and it is possible that restitution may be increased a little but that duplication fees need to increase.

MOTION: (Wolk/Cushing) to increase D.A. Restitution by \$1000 from \$2,000 to \$3,000 and increase D.A. duplication fees by \$1,000 from \$4,000 to \$5,000. All “aye” on voice vote, motion carries.

MOTION/SECOND: (Cushing/Hintz) to accept the District Attorney’s budget as amended. All “aye” on voice vote, motion carries.

2:30 p.m. County Clerk- Mary Bartelt

Bartelt discussed the County Directory, Election changes and County Insurance.

MOTION/SECOND: (Cushing/Wolk) to decrease Worker’s Compensation Insurance (531762) by \$20,000. All “aye” on voice vote, motion carries.

MOTION/SECOND: (Cushing/Hoffman) to approve County Clerks Budget as amended. All “aye” on voice vote, motion carries

2:35 David Hintz Excused

MOTION/SECOND: (Cushing/Wolk) to put \$31,000 over budget levy into vacancy review and adjust budget if Lynn Grube finds any more decreases in ITS budget. All “aye” on voice vote, motion carries.

MOTION/SECOND: (Cushing/Young) to accept the Oneida County 2012 budget as amended and forward to County Board. All “aye” on voice vote, motion carries.

MOTION/SECOND: (Cushing/Hoffman) to adjourn the Finance & Insurance Budget hearing meeting at 2:55 p.m. All “aye” on voice vote, motion carries.

Ted Cushing, Chairman

Melodie Gauthier, Secretary