

Finance & Insurance Committee Meeting Minutes
October 13, 2010

MEMBERS PRESENT Ted Cushing, John Young, David Hintz, John Hoffman and Peter Wolk.

OTHERS PRESENT Margie Sorenson (Finance); John Potters, Lisa Charbarneau (LRES); Judge Manger son (Branch II); Kathy Belliveau (Branch I); Mary Bartelt (County Clerk); Gary Baier (Supervisor); John Bilogan (Forestry); Guy Hansen (resident); Tammy Walters (Veteran Service); Jim Kumbera (Economic Development); Nick Scholtes, Patti Wrycha (Highway); Carrie Zambon, Dianne Hapfa (Oneida County Tourism Counsel);

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Cushing called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m. in the 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.

APPROVE AGENDA

Motion by Hoffman, second by Hintz to approve the October 13, 2010 agenda. Motion carried; all ayes.

CONTINUE WITH 2011 BUDGET HEARINGS

Circuit Court Branch I&II

The committee reviewed the proposed budgets for the Circuit Court Branches with Judge Mangerson and Judicial Assistant, Kathy Belliveau.

Judge Mangerson suggested that the line items for revenue in both budgets could be increased by \$1000 for 2011.

Motion by Cushing, second by Wolk to increase line item 461403 GAL for Branch I to \$2000 and increase line item 461403 GAL for Branch II by \$1000 to \$2000. Motion carried; all ayes.

Probate and Family Court Commissioner

Motion by Cushing second by Hoffman to increase Register in Probate revenue line item 461500 by \$3000 for 2011. Motion carried; all ayes.

Motion by Hoffman, second by Hintz to approve the Circuit Court Branch I & II, Register in Probate and Family Court Commissioner budgets as amended and forward on to the County board for further consideration. Motion carried.

County Clerk

Sorenson explained that the County would be using a continuing appropriations fund in the future for the elections budget. She continued that the County would budget \$50,000

each year and use the continuing appropriations fund for costs in excess of the budgeted amount.

Sorenson said she worked with Mary Bartelt on the department budget and cut the 5% as requested by the committee.

Motion by Hintz, second by Cushing to remove \$3000 from auto liability, and \$1000 from insurance on vehicles and equipment. Motion carried; all ayes.

Potters asked the committee to look at line item 531762. He explained that the reduction there goes hand and hand with the experience modification factor for Worker's Compensation. Potters explained that last year the rate was at 1.06, now it is down to .97. The more the County does to insure less worker's comp claims the lower that rate will be. He told the committee that the county is working on that.

Motion by Hoffman, second by Wolk to approve the County Clerk budget as amended and forward on to the County Board for further consideration. Motion carried; all ayes.

Forestry

Bilogan had a handout for the committee. Bilogan explained that the department came in above and beyond the requested 5% cut. Bilogan explained that the department places 5% of the stumpage revenue into the non-lapsing Land Purchase account. He told the committee that the 2010 projection is \$543,000 in land purchase account, however will probably be closer to \$600,000 at the end of 2010. Bilogan told the committee that prior to 2009, the county budgeted 10% of stumpage revenue into this account.

Bilogan addressed the Parks portion of the budget. He explained that a lot of state grants go to into this account. Major items in this account are personnel costs and capital improvements and maintenance for our facilities. He told the committee that this portion of the budget reflects a 10% reduction.

There was discussion regarding money in the budget for grooming ski trails on weekends and holidays. Bilogan told the committee that there are interest groups bringing forth new activities all the time.

Cushing suggested bumping up the trail passes line item by \$1,200 to offset the increase in wages to groom trails.

Motion by Cushing, second by Hintz to increase 467100 Public Charges by \$1,200. Motion carried; all ayes.

Campground Account

Bilogan explained that this account is maintained by revenues from camping fees. He continued that the 2011 projections are to make \$500.

Sorenson noted that the Campground account is not paying for the LTE costs.

Bilogan clarified that there are various types of fee revenue in our department. Three of four of the department LTEs are being covered by fees. He told the committee that the campsites were around 60% occupancy overall. This has increased each year by 10 to 12%. Bilogan stated that the County is charging \$10/night as there are very few amenities; no electric or water.

Snowmobile Trails

Bilogan explained that this is all State money. The County contracts out to ten snowmobile clubs within the County. He continued that the County makes sure the clubs are following state rules and regulations, and performs inspections.

ATV Account

Bilogan told the committee that this account is similar to the snowmobile account but much smaller. He continued this is State money in and out.

Sorenson told the committee that the Forestry Department has \$500,000 worth of projects; however the grant money does not cover the administration cost of projects. She continued that the committee needs to keep in mind this keeps people from marking trees and bringing in stumpage.

Bilogan stated that projects that come to the department are reviewed on a case by case basis. He finished by stating that the department does not mark trees all year long.

County Forest

Sorenson gave an overview of line item 468100 sale of stumpage. There was \$800,000 budgeted for 2010, and it looks like that amount will be met.

Bilogan handed out information on stumpage revenue since 2006. He told the committee that 2010 will come in way over what was budgeted. He told the committee that he is anticipating \$200,000 over what was budgeted for 2010.

Bilogan told the committee that the County is required to stay within the allowable cut to maintain a sustainable forest. He continued that the average allowable cut has been 1500 acres, however will increase to 2000 acres for the next ten years. He continued that this is a potential of \$257,000 each year as revenue from more allowable cut each year.

Bilogan told the committee that he presented the situation to LRES with a request to add another half time employee to get this work done. The position would cost approximately \$35,000. He told the committee that history has shown that a lot of parttime employees do not take the benefits as they are too expensive. Bilogan told the committee that the LRES Committee denied the request to add a part-time employee. He continued that without the additional staff, the stumpage will stay in the forest.

There was additional discussion on how the county could accomplish cutting more timber without hiring more staff.

Forestry Chair, Gary Baier told the committee that he appreciated their comments. He told the committee that the department needs to concentrate more time on marking trees, having sales and generating more revenue for the county.

Motion by Young, second by Wolk to increase line item 461800 to one million fifty thousand dollars. Motion carried; all ayes.

Motion by Wolk, second by Hoffman to approve the forestry budgets as amended and forward it on to the County Board for further consideration. Motion carried; all ayes.

Mining

Bilogan told the committee that there are two separate committees for forestry and mining. He told the committee that he worked with Sorenson on creating a new non-lapsing account for mining impact issues like money for contracts for legal fees.

Mining Committee Chari, David Hintz gave the committee an overview of issues being faced by the Mining Committee. He told the committee that the bottom line is that there is still money needed in 2011 for legal services and business services to structure a lease agreement. Hintz said he was comfortable reducing the amount to \$15,000 for 2011.

Motion by Hoffman, second by Young to reduce line item 521901 other professional services by \$5000. Motion carried; all ayes.

Sorenson suggested changing the mining account to a non lapsing account for 2010, keeping the levy amount at \$4000 for 2010 and 2011. She explained that the original levy was \$4000 for 2010 then \$13,000 was added from contingency.

Motion by Cushing, second by Wolk to changing the mining account to a Non-lapsing account in 2010 and roll forward \$12,750 as a carry forward to 2011. Motion carried; all ayes.

Motion by Cushing, second by Hoffman to approve the Mining budget as amended and forward on to the county board for further consideration. Motion carried; all ayes.

Information Technology Services

Grube told the committee that ITS could raise their prices to customers for data, which could increase their revenues by \$1000 for 2011.

Motion by Young, second by Cushing to increase revenue line item 461700 to \$10,000 for 2011. Motion carried; all ayes.

Grube explained that she would like \$ 90,000 from the general fund for a special project to implement Windows 2010.

Motion by Cushing, second by Young to create a Special Project II line item to implement Windows 2010 software upgrade and transfer \$90,000 from the general fund. Motion carried; all ayes.

Motion by Cushing, second by Hintz to approve the ITS budget as amended and forward on to the County Board for further consideration. Motion carried; all ayes.

LRES

Potters told the committee he could remove another \$900 from the legal fees line item. He continued that if the county exceeds the amount due to unforeseen circumstances, a request would be made to go to the contingency fund.

Motion by Cushing, second by Hintz to reduce 531201 legal services by \$900 for 2011. Motion carried; all ayes.

Motion by Hoffman, second by Wolk to approve the LRES budgeted as amended and forward it on to the County Board for further consideration. Motion carried; all ayes.

Caucus from 12:15pm to 1:30pm for lunch.

Advertising

Dianne Hapfa and Carrie Zambon from the Oneida County Tourism Counsel presented the advertizing budget for 2011 which reflects the 5% decrease as requested.

Motion by Hoffman, second by Hintz to approve the Advertising budget as amended increasing revenues by \$6,150 and expenses by \$6,150 and forward on to the County Board for further consideration. Motion carried; all ayes.

Veteran Service

Tammy Walters presented the Veteran Service budget for 2011 which reflects a 5.25% reduction overall.

Motion by Cushing, second by Wolk to approve the Veteran Service budget and forward it on to the County Board for further consideration. Motion carried; all ayes.

Economic Development

Jim Kumbera presented the Economic Development budget for 2011 He told the committee that the budget request is to continue at \$85,000 for 2011.

Motion by Hintz, second by Cushing to approve the Economic Development budget as presented and forward on to the County Board for further consideration. Motion carried; all ayes.

Building & Grounds

Sorenson told the committee that during the lunch hour she reviewed the Building and Grounds budget and made some suggested changes, based on history not on intimate knowledge of every line item and sent this to Curt to review.

Krouze told the committee that line item Profession Services 521901 was budgeted at \$1000, however have spent \$16,000 this year alone. He continued that these costs are approved by the committee. Krouze noted that overtime will have to be changed to \$16,000 vs \$10,000 as originally requested. He noted this is due to a staff member at the Sheriff's Department.

Sorenson said the Sheriff Department is only paying 50% of an old wage, not actual costs.

Krouze stated that if the Sheriff's Department paid the actual costs of the overtime, he could drop his over time request to \$5000.

The following line items were reviewed for changes:

Extermination line item decrease \$150

521901 increase \$9000

522001 no change

522003 decrease \$11,000

523102 no change

523202 no change

699009 no change
521601 no change
522002 no change
523102 no change
523310 no change
531901 no change
523208 decrease \$500
522001 decrease \$2000
522003 decrease \$6000
523202 decrease \$3000
699009 decrease \$2500

Total decrease of \$16,150

Motion by Cushing, second by Wolk to approve the changes as reviewed, amended and presented. Motion carried; all ayes.

Motion by Hintz, second by Cushing to approve the amended Building and Grounds budget and forward it on to the County Board for further consideration. Motion carried; all ayes.

Highway

Nick Scholtes presented the 2011 Highway budget which reflects a reduction of over \$100,000.

Motion by Young, second by Wolk to accept the highway department budget increasing the Ground Transportation Aid line item as presented. Motion carried; all ayes

Motion by Hoffman, second by Wolk to approve the Highway Department budget and forward on to the county Board for further consideration. Motion carried; all ayes.

Motion by Cushing, second by Wolk to apply \$100,000 from the general fund to reduce the tax levy increase to 2.73% for the proposed 2011 budget and forward it to the County Board for further consideration. Motion carried; all ayes.

Motion by Hoffman, second by Cushing to adjourn. Motion carried; all ayes.

Meeting adjourned at 3:55 p.m.

Ted Cushing, Chair

Lisa Charbarneau, Comm. Secretary