

Administration Committee/Budget Hearings
October 8, 2019
Minutes

Committee members present: Chairman Dave Hintz, Ted Cushing, Billy Fried, Bob Mott and Robb Jensen.

Call to order and announcements: Chairman Hintz called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m. in the County Board Room of the Oneida County Courthouse. The meeting has been properly posted and mailed in accordance with the Wisconsin Open Meeting law and the facility is handicap accessible. Hintz gave an overview of the budget hearings.

Approve agenda: Motion by Cushing/Jensen to approve today's agenda with order of items at the Chair's discretion. All aye; motion carried.

Continue 2020 Budget Hearings

Forestry – Paul Fiene, Forestry Interim Director, stated that they are looking at decreasing revenue in 2020 by approximately \$200,000. Discussion regarding the timber cutting and the effect the summer storms had on stumpage sales. Smith reported that the 2020 budget is presented the same as the 2018 budget. Stumpage was increased in 2019. Discussion regarding ATV/UTV routes and the Enterprise campground. Discussion regarding raising the rates of the campground from \$10 to \$15 which would be an increase in revenue of approximately \$2000. Discussion regarding the park ranger position and if there is a different way to handle that position to save money. Fiene stated that the position is very valuable during the summer. Motion by Fried/Jensen to amend Campground Facility revenue 55212.467120 and put in an additional \$2000 of expected revenue. Discussion regarding the increased fee. All aye; motion carried. Motion by Jensen/Mott to accept the Forestry budget as amended and forward it onto the full County Board for Review. All aye; motion carried.

Airport/Airport Construction – Matthew Leitner presented the subsidy request from the Rhinelander/Oneida County Airport which is the same request as it has been for a number of years. Leitner gave an explanation of the budget and how they are funded. Leitner reported that Delta added another flight this year and there were 58,000 passenger served in 2019. Discussion regarding added revenue and decreasing the funding ask from the County. Leitner explained that the subsidy from the County and the City is very valuable and he doesn't see a way to decrease the request. Discussion regarding UW Extension moving out of the airport and the rent that the airport receives from that rental. Chris Fredrickson, Rhinelander Mayor, spoke in support of the airport. Motion by Fried/Cushing to accept the Airport budget as presented and forward it to the County Board for consideration. All aye; motion carried.

Recess – 9:26 a.m.

Return from Recess – 9:30 a.m.

Humane Society – Sue Otis, Oneida County Humane Society Board Member, spoke about improvements made to the animal shelter during the past year and the services that are provided to County residents and assistance that is given to the Oneida County Sheriff's Office. Discussion regarding how the increased service to the county has worked during the past year. Discussion regarding the budget request of \$41,000 and the revenue that will be received from the dog license fees. Smith reported that as of right now the dog license fees collected in 2019 and paid out in 2020 will be around \$10,000. Smith reported that the Humane Society budget would be decreased by \$10,000 to \$31,000 and the remaining amount would be paid in March of 2020 from the dog licenses. Discussion regarding dog licensing fees and how it will be handled if the anticipated fees do not come in or if they come in over budget. Motion by Jensen/Fried that any excess or shortfall in payment for dog fee collection will be adjusted in the next year's budget. All aye; motion carried. Motion by Cushing/Fried to accept the

Humane Society Budget with the changes made and forward it onto the County Board for approval. All aye; motion carried.

Recess – 9:57 a.m.

Return from Recess – 10:00 a.m.

Land Information – Mike Romportl, Land Information, gave an overview of the 2020 budget. Romportl gave an explanation of the tax deed process. Romportl discussed the impervious surface mapping CIP and that he is planning to fund the CIP through his budget and a grant. Motion by Jensen/Cushing to accept the Land Information budget and forward it onto the full County Board for consideration. Discussion regarding County land sales. All aye; motion carried.

Recess – 10:18 a.m.

Return from Recess – 10:30 a.m.

Register of Deeds – Kyle Franson gave an overview of the Register of Deeds budget. Discussion regarding continuing appropriations funds, revenues and expenses. Discussion regarding transfer fees and increasing the revenue for 2020. Franson currently has budgeted \$155,000. Discussion regarding the software that Register of Deeds uses and the cost of maintenance. Motion by Fried to amend the Register of Deeds revenues by \$10,000 for real estate transfer fees. No second, motion fails. Motion by Mott/Cushing to amend the Real Estate Transfer Fees by \$5000. All aye; motion carried. Motion by Jensen/Mott to accept the amended Register of Deeds budget and forward it onto the full County Board for their review. All aye; motion carried.

Recess – 10:51 a.m.

Return from Recess – 11:00 a.m.

Clerk of Courts – Brenda Behrle gave an overview of the Clerk of Courts budget. Behrle increased revenues by \$7,000, decreased the overtime budget by \$400 and decreased the LTE hours by \$4,247 for a total levy request decrease of \$5,500. Motion by Cushing/Fried to accept the Clerk of Courts budget as presented and forward it to the County Board for their consideration. All aye; motion carried.

Recess – 11:07 a.m.

Return from Recess – 11:30 a.m.

Ted Cushing was excused for the remainder of the day.

North Central WI Regional Planning Commission – Dennis Lawrence, North Central Regional Planning Commission Director, was present and reviewed the \$43,000 request. Lawrence reported that as part of the fees NCWRPC will be assisting Oneida County with the County redistricting in 2021. Discussion regarding the value that NCWRP brings to the County. Lawrence stated that they complete a number of services for the County that are required to be completed and if NCWRP isn't providing the service then the County would need to contract with another agency or pay employees to complete the service. Discussion regarding the fee and how that fee is determined. Motion by Jensen/Mott to accept the North Central WI Regional Planning Commission budget as presented and forward it onto the full County Board for their consideration. All aye; motion carried.

Recess – 11:45 a.m.

Return from Recess – 1:00 p.m.

ADRC – Dianne Jacobson reported that she has given a notice of retirement and the budget was set with her wage. Jacobson also reported that with Family Care next year there will be a required reevaluation of any resident that is currently on the waiting list which will result in an increased work load for employee's. Discussion regarding the reevaluation. The ADRC is requesting \$264,109 from the tax levy, however, this

may change with Jacobson's retirement. Charbarneau reported that the ADRC has looked at reorganizing their department and eliminating the assistant director position and increasing all employee's to 2080 hours which would result in a savings of approximately \$50,000. Charbarneau reported that they have also looked at merging the ADRC and Social Services and creating a Health and Human Services Department which would eliminate the director position instead and possibly eliminate another position. Charbarneau reported that this second option still needs some research and funding/savings are not yet known. Discussion regarding what other departments may be included in a merger of departments. Discussion regarding merger and potential savings. Discussion regarding how to proceed with the budget and possible reorganization. Steven Schreier, Oneida County Board Member, spoke in support of passing the budget as presented and wait to make a decision on reorganization until after more research has been completed. Jensen would like to see the committee move forward with the first plan and eliminate the assistant director position. Discussion regarding the options and how to proceed. Fried asked if the Lakeland Retirement Foundation request could be handled through the ADRC Budget. Motion by Fried/Mott to amend the ADRC budget to include the \$5000.00 request from the Lakeland Retirement Foundation request. Discussion regarding the Lakeland Retirement Foundation request and whether this can be handled under the ADRC budget. Motion withdrawn from Fried and Mott. Motion by Hintz/Mott to proceed with the consolidation plan with Social Services and recognize a savings of \$130,000 in the budget. Jacobson expressed concern with the \$130,000 savings. Discussion regarding the savings and putting money in contingency. Schreier expressed concern with the motion and the savings that have been proposed. All aye; motion carried.

Public Health – Linda Conlon presented a spreadsheet with an overview of the 2020 budget including grants received and decreases in grants. Conlon reported that they will have a decrease of \$192,484 in grants in 2020. Conlon reported that there is an increase of \$39,017 in tax levy in 2020 for personnel expenses. Conlon reported that they have a total budgeted revenue of \$1,909,643. Conlon explained the expenses budgeted for 2020. Motion by Fried/Mott to accept the Public Health budget and forward it onto the County Board. All aye; motion carried.

Tourism – Krystal Westfahl, Director for the Minocqua Chamber of Commerce; Jessica Witte, Director for the Tomahawk Chamber of Commerce; Jeff Anderson, Regional Tourism Specialist with the Wisconsin Department of Tourism; and Lauren Sackett, Director for the Rhinelander Chamber of Commerce; presented the budget request of \$100,000 for tourism. Westfahl gave an overview of the Oneida County Tourism Council and the events they promote. Jeff Anderson gave an overview of the tourism industry and the benefits that Oneida County receives from tourism. Anderson reported that they have awarded a number of grants to Oneida County Tourism to be used to brand Oneida County and start a new event "Taste of Oneida County" in 2019. Fried questioned the fund request of \$100,000 and proposed reducing the budget by \$25,000. Discussion regarding the grants that have been received and that they are matching grants and if the budget is cut by \$25,000 the grants will also be decreased by \$25,000. Stacey Johnson, Economic Development Corporation Director, spoke for the need in workforce development in the county and how recreation plays a part in that. Steven Schreier, Oneida County Board Member, spoke of the value in promoting area businesses and also spoke about the number of residents that are part of Oneida County due to visiting Oneida County as a tourist and then moving to the community. Smith reported that there is a continuing appropriation of \$23,644 that could be used if they go over budget or if the Committee would cut the budget the continuing appropriation could be used to balance that budget. Jensen questioned if there is revenue that could be generated from advertising. Discussion regarding the advertising and why that isn't used by the Oneida County Tourism Council. Motion by Mott/Jensen to reduce the Tourism Budget to \$90,000 and that would leave \$13,644 in the continuing appropriation account to be used if needed. Fried expressed concern with the \$10,000 budget reduction and would like to see a reduction of \$25,000. Discussion regarding the funding options. Roll Call vote; Jensen, aye; Fried, nay; Mott, aye; Hintz, nay. Motion fails. Motion by Fried/Hintz to reduce the Tourism budget by \$25,000 to make the budget request \$75,000 and use the \$23,644 from the continuing appropriation budget. Roll call vote; Jensen, nay; Fried, aye; Mott, Nay; Hintz, Aye. Motion fails. Motion by Mott to reduce the budget by \$13,644 taking the budget request to \$86,356. No second, motion fails. Discussion regarding the funding requests and the use of the continuing appropriation fund.

Motion Jensen/Fried to reduce the tax levy \$20,000 towards the Tourism budget and utilize the savings account for the remainder of the 2020 budget request. Roll call vote; Jensen, aye; Fried, aye; Mott, Nay; Hintz, aye; Motion carried.

Labor Relations and Employee Services – Charbarneau presented the LRES 2020 budget and explained the proposed changes to the budget. Charbarneau reported an overall reduction in the budget of \$1850.00. Motion by Jensen/Hintz to accept the LRES budget and forward onto the full County Board for their consideration. Discussion regarding the legal fees that are in the LRES Budget. All nay; motion defeated.

Motion by Fried/Hintz to amend the LRES budget as presented to reduce the legal services line item by \$2000. All aye; motion carried.

Motion by Fried/Jensen to send the amended LRES budget onto the County Board for consideration. All aye; motion carried.

Recess – 3:17

Return from recess – 3:23

Buildings and Grounds – LuAnne Brunette presented the 2020 Buildings and Grounds budget with a reduction in non-personnel expenses of \$43,033.00. Brunette explained changes to the budget. Discussion regarding staffing costs and the budgeted amount. Discussion regarding the rent that is paid to the airport. Discussion regarding a request by the fair for \$20,000 for storage at River Street Building. Fried would like to see the \$20,000 request removed from the buildings and grounds budget to be discussed when the fair is present. Discussion regarding the request by the Clerk of Courts to have stand up desks. Discussion regarding funding for desks and workstations. Fried questioned if the energy savings could be increased for next year. Brunette expressed concern with decreasing the budget for the water bill due to not having received a water bill since the energy savings project has been completed. Discussion regarding the overtime budget for Buildings and Grounds. Discussion regarding using some of the jail revenue to help offset the overtime that is caused due to inmate damage or increased usage of a building. Motion by Fried/Hintz to amend the Buildings and Grounds budget and remove the \$20,000 request under capital outlay UWEX for the storage and reduce the labor and fringes budget by \$33000.00 as requested in this budget. Voice vote; 3 aye, 1 nay; motion carried.

Motion by Fried/Jensen to include in the Buildings and Grounds estimated amounts for 2019 \$23,844 for the Branch 1 and 2 office barrier project \$328,450 for the law enforcement center roof project. All aye; motion carried.

Motion by Fried/Hintz to accept the amended Buildings and Grounds budget and forward it onto the County Board for approval. All aye; motion carried.

County Clerk/Insurance/County Board/Committees and Commissions

Oneida County Clerk Hartman presented the 2020 budget for County Clerk and Elections. Hartman reported that there will be at least one additional election next year and possibly two more elections. The election budget as approved by the Administration Committee will not be enough to cover the additional elections. Motion by Mott/Jensen to amend the Clerk's budget to include \$20,000 for an additional election. All aye; motion carried.

Discussion regarding the insurance budget, the county board budget and the committees and commissions budget. Discussion regarding the dividend check from the insurance.

Motion by Jensen/Hintz to approve the County Clerk's budget as amended, the Insurance Budget, County Board Budget, and the Committees and Commission budgets as presented. All aye, motion carried.

Adjourn: Hintz adjourned the meeting at 4:19 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

David Hintz, Chair

Tracy Hartman, Recording Secretary
Oneida County Clerk

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