

GRAFTON COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' MEETING

Office of the Commissioners  
3855 Dartmouth College Hwy.  
N. Haverhill, NH 03774  
Monday December 5, 2005

PRESENT: Commissioners Michael Cryans, William Gabler and Ray Burton, Executive Director Julie Clough and Secretary Jeri Martino.

The Meeting was called to order 9:10 AM

Commissioner Gabler motioned to accept the minutes from the November 28th meeting, which was seconded by Commissioner Burton. All were in favor.

The Commissioners opened the sealed bids for four vehicles being sold by the Sheriff's Department. Bids were as follows:

There were two bids on the 1992 Chevy Caprice. F. Coley bid \$1256. and Wm. Doucette Auto bid \$345

There were six bids for a 2001 Crown Victoria with 109725 miles.

William Doucette Auto bid \$3032

Police Cars Unlimited bid \$3006

Grace Quality Cars bid \$2312

F. Coley bid \$1656.

D. DeMarino bid \$1081.96

P. Osborne bid \$158.86

There were six bids for a 2001 Crown Victoria with 130255 miles.

William Doucette Auto bid \$2828

Police Cars Unlimited bid \$2610

F. Coley bid \$1656

Grace Quality Cars bid \$1511

D. DeMarino bid \$1075.81

P. Osborne bid \$86.75

There were six bids for a 2003 Crown Victoria with 123425 miles

Police Cars Unlimited bid \$3852

William Doucette Auto bid \$2929

Grace Quality Cars bid \$3613

F. Coley bid \$1756

D. DeMarino bid \$1579.57

P. Osborne bid \$285

Commissioner Gabler moved to accept the highest bid on each of the individual vehicles, which was seconded by Commissioner Burton. All were in favor.

The Executive Director reviewed a notice about attending an informal gathering that was planned by S. Bass, author of "Because You Cared". Unfortunately the Executive Director and Commissioner Gabler had prior commitments and would not be able to attend. Commissioner Cryans and Commissioner Burton were going to try their best to be there.

The Commissioners chose their secret Santa residents from a list that was given to them.

Executive Director Clough informed the Commissioners that District/Family Court would like to take over a 100sq.ft area of empty storage space. They are currently paying \$12.75sq.ft for their office space. They have offered to pay \$7.00sq.ft, since it is for storage and that is what the state normally pays for storage space. Commissioner Gabler moved to authorize the Executive Director to revise the District/Family Court lease to include the storage area at an additional \$7.00sq.ft, which was seconded by Commissioner Burton. All were in favor.

The Commissioners signed the check registers.

Commissioner Cryans and Commissioner Gabler will try to attend a Good Scout Award Breakfast on December 13<sup>th</sup>.

Executive Director Clough received a request from staff at the nursing home, asking that the Commissioners approve a monetary award for the door decorating contest that is held yearly, saying that the nursing home had extended the invitation to the Admin. Building as well. It was the opinion of the Executive Director, that the contest be extend to the entire complex for anyone employee who wanted to participate, explaining that there were four categories available to participate in. The Commissioners agreed that it would be a good idea. Commissioner Burton moved to approve the monetary awards, which was seconded by Commissioner Gabler. All were in favor.

The Commissioners will judge this contest and the winners will be announced at a Holiday Open House, date and time to be determined.

The Commissioners reviewed the Superior Court Report.

In revisiting the proposal to change the name of the nursing home, Executive Director Clough gave a list to the Commissioners which stated all the official names of the county nursing homes. Only a few actually had names other than their county name. In light of this, Commissioner Gabler motioned to leave the nursing home name as it is, and not to add "and Rehabilitation Center" to the title, which was seconded by Commissioner Burton. All were in favor.

The Commissioners signed a Group II Certification form for a Correctional Officer.

The Executive Director and the Maintenance Superintendent had met with a representative from Morrill Construction the past week, regarding the drainage problem. There were three issues that were reviewed but not much could be done prior to the Spring. There was still money from the Capital Project Fund to make these repairs, which Morrill estimated would cost somewhere around \$50K.

Executive Director Clough informed the Commissioners that a drug rebate check had been received in the amount of \$18K.

In reference to Forester Nory Parr's Report to the Farm Advisory Committee, the Executive Director brought up one of the concerns of Forester Parr, which was the shooting range and his uneasiness about the safety there. The Executive Director felt that it was a very valid concern that should be addressed. Commissioner Gabler was in agreement saying that options could be to post it, close it or even perhaps move it. Executive Director Clough also stated that it would be a good idea to get opinions from both the Sheriff and Farm Manager Kimball as they are most often in that area.

Executive Director Clough brought forth an idea from an employee for a giving tree. The Commissioners all agreed that it was a wonderful idea but that it was too close to Christmas right now to try to get everything organized. It was suggested that the giving tree could be implemented next year.

The Commissioners signed a draw down request for a CDBG grant for AHEAD.

Executive Director Clough informed the Commissioners that the county would not have to borrow money this year and that all bills are currently up to date and paid.

The Executive Director informed the Commissioners that she was contacted by Woodsville Guaranty Savings Bank, who had read the minutes online regarding an ATM machine. They told the Executive Director that they would not put a machine on the property as there were already a sufficient number of machines in the area.

Executive Director Clough brought up Commissioner Gabler's suggestion of having the complex be a non-smoking campus at a recent Administrative Team Meeting where it was met with some trepidation, particularly from NHA Bolander who said many of her staff smoke. As difficult as it is to get nursing staff, having that rule might make it even more difficult. Sheriff Dutile attended the Administration Meeting and voiced a concern about smoking in front of the Courthouse. Commissioner Gabler said that the law states that you must be at least 50 feet away from a building to smoke. Aside from that, the thought was that maybe a smoke shack may have to be positioned somewhere outside the building so that people did not smoke directly in front of the front doors. This will be looked into further.

#### COMMISSIONER ISSUES:

Commissioner Burton attended the UNH Extension Advisory Council Meeting and said that UNH President Anne Hart will be having a "County Conversation" with the subject being dairy, on May 8, 2006. Commissioner Burton said that Grafton County staff would provide whatever was needed for that day. The Council also mentioned to Commissioner Burton that they would like a State Legislator on their council and suggested it be Martha Stroup McLeod. Executive Director Clough will follow up with Delegation Chair Susan Almy.

Commissioner Burton informed the board of Commissioners that the Woodsville Armory is slated to close and that he was looking into other uses for the building. He will meet with the Haverhill Board of Selectmen in January.

Commissioner Burton asked how the county report was coming. Executive Director Clough said that it was being worked on and that the Commissioner's Office was going to try to do it themselves this year in an effort to save money.

Commissioner Cryans said that there would be an election held for the seat that John Alger held on the Delegation. He also suggested that once someone was chosen, the county reach out and welcome that person.

Commissioner Cryans attended a Commissioners Council Meeting regarding HB638 on Long Term Care Funding. After all was said and done, the council decided to leave everything at status quo. Commissioner Cryans noted that given the growing aging population, it may not be a good time to look into changing rates.

The Commissioners discussed the public Long Range Planning Meetings that would be held in their districts.

Commissioner Gabler will hold a meeting January 10<sup>th</sup> at the Plymouth Senior Center.

Commissioner Cryans will hold a meeting January 11<sup>th</sup> at the Center for Elder Services next to the Lebanon Senior Center.

Commissioner Burton will hold a meeting January 12<sup>th</sup>, in the Conference Room at the Grafton County Commissioners' Office.

All meetings will be at 7:00 PM

The Commissioners left to tour the Courthouse visiting Probate Court, Superior Court, the Attorney's Office, Probation and the Sheriff's Department.

Being no further business the meeting adjourned at 12:00 PM

---

Raymond S. Burton, Clerk