

Dukes County Commission (DCC)
Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, January 28, 2021
4:00 PM
REMOTE PARTICIPATION ONLY

Dukes County Commissioners Present: Christine Todd – Chair, John Cahill – Vice Chair, Keith Chatinover, Donald Leopold, Leon Brathwaite, R. Peter Wharton, and Tristan Israel.

Other County Officials Present: Martina Thornton – County Manager, Ann Metcalf – County Treasurer and Paulo DeOliveira – Register of Deeds.

Others Present:, Aaron Wilson – Vineyard Gazette.

Christine Todd called the meeting to order at 4:00 PM.

FY2021 Mid-year Budget Report and Budget Amendments

Ms. Thornton presented the FY2021 mid-year budget amendments (see document on file) She explained that the biggest budget amendments are due to increases in revenue from deed excise by \$75K and decreases in retirement contribution (initially it was budgeted as 25% of current salaries but we don't need that much as the actual contribution was lower). There are increases in pay due to compensation study implementation in each department. In the County Administration Building budget, the additional \$7K in expenses is for a new copier and \$2400 is for a new fire wall and repairs to the server. There is a decrease in retiree life & health insurance (\$35K) due to lower premiums on both income and expense sides, but we needed to add \$4K in expenses for additional new retiree from the Treasurer's Office. The Finance Committee is proposing to increase OPEB contribution by additional \$40K for a total of \$54K. There are changes in Treasurer's Office due to personnel changes. The Treasurer also requested \$6K for fireproof filing cabinet. Overall, there is decrease in this department mainly due to retirement contribution savings and health insurance savings. There will be no longer a need to collect from the towns the budgeted \$30K shortfall. \$20K was recommended by Finance Committee to be contributed to the County Stabilization Fund. All the presented changes would leave \$8,684 in surplus. All these amendments require approved by the County Advisory Board that meets the next day at 3:30pm. The amendments in the Registry of Deeds budget net savings of \$17K which is recommended to be contributed to OPEB for an overall contribution to OPEB between the two funds to be \$57K.

Tristan/Leon made a motion to approve the amended FY2021 budget as presented by the County Manager. Discussion followed regarding the need of having money in County Stabilization Fund and in relation to the pandemic expenses. The OPEB policy as approved by the County Commissioners was also discussed and the need to determine what would be the recommended contributions for each department based on that policy. **So voted. Leon Brathwaite aye, Tristan Israel aye, Keith Chatinover aye, Donald Leopold aye, John Cahill aye, Christine Todd aye, and R. Peter Wharton aye. Motion carries.**

FY2021 & FY2022 Budget Amendments for VHCAP and DC Social Services (see documents on file)

The amendments include the implementation of the increases due to the compensation study. Some positions have been re-graded which drives the higher impact on the budget. There are however savings due lower retirement contributions and health insurance needs so in general there are overall savings in both departments.

VHCAP FY2021 net savings are \$10,261. The DCC recommended to contribute these savings to OPEB. In FY2022 the amendments also result in savings of \$2,184.

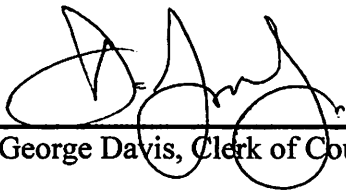
DCSS FY2021 net savings are \$15,832. FY2022 savings are \$11,593 – recommended to decrease the request from the towns by this number on town warrants.

At the second meeting in February Martina will be presenting FY2022 Budget Amendments for the general county department that would reflect the compensation study implementation pay increases and any additional changes that we have learned since presenting the budget previously.

Public/Press Comments - There were questions from press.

Leon/Tristan made a motion adjourn the meeting. So voted. John Cahill yes, Tristan Israel yes, R. Peter Wharton aye, and Christine Todd aye. Motion carries. The Dukes County Commission meeting was adjourned at 4:30 PM.

Certified by:



T. George Davis, Clerk of Courts

Documents presented at the meeting and part of the official record:

- Meeting Agenda for January 28, 2021
- DCC FY2021 Proposed Budget Amendments
- VHCAP and DCSS FY2021 and FY2022 Budget Amendments