

**Dukes County Commission (DCC)
Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, June 1, 2022
4:30 PM**

REMOTE PARTICIPATION ONLY

Dukes County Commissioners Present: John Cahill – Vice Chair, R. Peter Wharton, Tristan Israel*, Keith Chatinover, Leon Brathwaite

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

Others Present: Aidan Pollard –MV Gazette, Bob Johnson

John Cahill called the meeting to order at 4:30 PM

Minutes – 5-18-2022

Peter/Leon moved to approve minutes of 5-18-2022. So voted. Peter – yes, Leon – yes, John – yes, Keith – yes. Motion carries.

***Tristan joint the meeting.**

Registry of Deeds re-indexing and upload services RFP

Martina recommended to award the contract to Avenue co. that was the only company that submitted proposal. It was a good proposal, and the price of \$1.97 per Land Court Record falls into the range of what we were expected with a budgeted maximum of \$130,000. Paulo answered couple additional questions from the commissioners.

Leon/Peter moved to approve the contract as recommended. So voted. Peter – yes, Leon – yes, Keith – yes. Tristan – yes, John - yes. Motion carries.

MV Commission – Joint Transportation Committee appointment

John said he would like to step down from the committee and explained what the committee does and that they meet once per month. It has 7 members, each island town and county has a vote, VTA Administrator is a non-voting member.

Tristan/Peter nominated Leon for 2 years. Discussion: The committee is mainly focusing on maintenance of existing roads. They also can advocate for funding for VTA and other transportation initiatives. They do review a Mass Transportation Plan and John advocated for more attention to the Airport and Steamship. Leon asked to postpone the vote until next meeting. **Motion was tabled.**

American Rescue Plan Act Updates

Martina sent the application documents to the two applicants – MV Airport and MV Commission. She did not have any response back yet. Commissioners asked her to follow up with a phone call.

Ann said that we will receive the rest of the money in October.

DCC approved 6-15-2022

Manager's Report

Heating Oil Bid – was advertised and the deadline is Friday June 3rd 2pm.

VHCAP – Martina said that county is looking for an architect to draw up design for upgrades.

Leon said there could be two approaches – one to have minor improvements done, another to do addition to increase space and privacy. There could be potentially some federal dollars to help with that. Peter and Tristan will visit the building soon.

Courthouse – flagpole will be secured temporarily for the summer and a long-term solution of securing the pole will be planned for after the summer.

Peter/Leon moved to keep flying to Pride flag for the month of June. Discussion: People do appreciate us flying it. So voted. **Peter – yes, Leon – yes, Keith – yes, Tristan – yes, John - yes. Motion carries.**

Admin. Building - COVID concerns related to use of the conference room were raised. Peter discussed the suggested CDC guidelines, including that we can mandate that people wear masks for the entire time they use the building and designating a person to sanitize at the end of the meeting. Leon did suggest limiting the number of people using the conference room to 5 people. Keith suggested to require wearing masks if people are not in their own office. Comment was made that commissioners themselves do not feel comfortable meeting in person it does seem that they should protect the staff as well.

Tristan/John moved to allow no more than 5 people in the conference room at any time and supply masks for any person coming in and increase the building signage to make it clear until the Commissioners decide otherwise. So voted. **Peter – yes, Leon – yes, Keith – yes, Tristan – yes, John - yes. Motion carries.**

The year-end transfers will be taken up at the next meeting, along with a vote to create a new fund to move the Cape and Island License Plate funds into to track it separately from general fund. Finance Committee will meet on Monday June 13th at 4:30pm.

Manager's Contract

Christine, John, and Tristan met to discuss the managers evaluation. Tristan reached out for feedback to the commissioners and department heads. He asked for comments back. He also asked Martina for copy of manager's job description. It will be on the next agenda to finalize the contract.

New businesses

County Commissioners received invitation from Plymouth County to attend Massachusetts County Commissioners Association meeting in Quincy. Unfortunately, none of the present commissioners can attend the meeting on June 9th but they would be interested to participate remotely if possible. The meeting was called to strategize regarding some legislation. Commissioners asked for Martina to find out exactly what legislation was of interest.

Registry of Deeds month end report is showing \$310K in deeds excise revenue which is \$35K over budget already and we still have one more month to go.

Tristan asked the commissioners to take a moment of silence to express our condolences and support to the families and friends of the school children and victims that were shot in Texas and Buffalo.

Keith/Leon made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 5:32PM. So voted. R. Peter Wharton – yes, Keith Chatinover – yes, Tristan Israel – yes, Leon Brathwaite – yes, John Cahill – yes. Motion carries. The Dukes County Commission meeting was adjourned at 5:32PM.

Certified by:



T. George Davis, Clerk of Courts

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

- Meeting Agenda
- Manager's Report
- Registry of Deeds RFP documents