

MINUTES
LANCASTER COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
BUDGET MEETING
COUNTY-CITY BUILDING, ROOM 112
TUESDAY, JUNE 16, 2020
10:00 A.M.

Commissioners present: Sean Flowerday, Chair; Rick Vest, Vice Chair; Roma Amundson; Deb Schorr; and Christa Yoakum

Others present: Kerry Eagan, Chief Administrative Officer; David Derbin, Chief Administrative Officer; Ann Ames, Deputy Chief Administrative Officer; Dennis Meyer, Budget and Fiscal Director; and Monét McCullen, County Clerk's Office

The meeting was called to order at 10:07 a.m., and the location of the Nebraska Open Meetings Act was announced.

AGENDA ITEM

1) DEPARTMENT BUDGET HEARINGS:

A. Property Management (66, 51)

Dennis Meyer, Budget and Fiscal Director, said Fund 66 is used for all County owned buildings (Exhibit 1) and there is a \$63 difference between revenues and expenditures. The amount of rent collected for the County owned buildings is being placed back into salaries, benefits and some operating expenditures.

Kerin Peterson, Property Management, discussed Fund 66 and noted the larger expense items are HVAC and boiler issues. Her budget will be around 22% less which ties into some Fund 51 capital improvements. Utilities are up about 2.13% from last year. Peterson also discussed salaries and benefits (Exhibit 2).

Meyer said over the past few years, rent is covering expenditures and there has not been a need to transfer any general funds.

Schorr asked about the impacts to the Property Management budget from the Youth Services Center (YSC). Meyer explained the rent is the same amount but the portion paid by the YSC has been reduced due to the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) covering a portion.

Meyer provided information on the Building Fund – 51 (Exhibit 3). Peterson discussed maintenance services performed at the YSC, Motor Vehicles and two miscellaneous buildings. Meyer noted about \$450,000 are allocated and he gave a brief overview of the revenues (see Exhibit 3).

Peterson said she will be distributing the facilities study. The two most critical projects have started. Going into next year, the Election Commissioner has the most critical space needs. She added if the County Attorney brings on three additional attorneys that might trigger the first buildout of the 605 Building.

Meyer asked how the budget would be impacted with a \$1,200,000 to \$2,000,000 buildout. Peterson stated there currently are funds in the 912 account. She noted every year her budget needs to start at \$4,000,000. She said currently there is \$6,000,000 in the account and she is finalizing the capital improvements.

B. Public Defender (625)

Meyer said there will need to be a few more adjustments to the current budget before the end of the fiscal year. Next year's budget request is a little under \$5,300,000, which is a 6.5% increase (Exhibit 4). City revenues increased about 5%.

Joe Nigro, Public Defender, said the current budget is anticipated to have approximately \$1,600 remaining which will not be enough to cover the June Purchasing Card (P-Card) bill. He noted the biggest driver in next year's budget is the request for two new felony attorneys and salary increases. Nigro discussed various line item changes in the budget. He noted if one attorney is hired at mid-year, that would save the County money. The technology request includes a laptop and docking station which will better accommodate teleworking.

C. Clerk of the District Court (621, 627, 751)

Troy Hawk, Clerk of the District Court, said the Clerk's budget (Fund 621) includes increases of \$51,000 for cost-of-living adjustments and \$14,000 for data processing services (Exhibit 5). A request for three additional laptops was also included. He noted that in the coming years there will be a 9th District Court Judge which will require his office to move to the 605 Building.

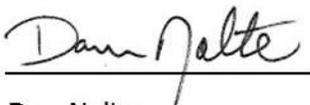
Meyer discussed the Jury Commissioner budget (Fund 627)(Exhibit 6). Hawk said he does not anticipate a lot of changes. He noted this budget includes one full-time and one part-time position.

Hawk discussed the Mental Health Board (Fund 751) which increased about \$3,000 mostly due to cost-of-living adjustments (Exhibit 7). This budget includes one full-time position with half of the salary paid from this budget and the other half paid out of Fund 621. Additionally, Mental Health Board members are paid an hourly rate based on hearing attendance.

Meyer said the final budget hearings are on Thursday, June 18th, but he intends to invite some City of Lincoln staff to a future meeting to discuss changes to their budgets which might impact the County.

2) ADJORNMENT

MOTION: Schorr moved and Vest seconded to adjourn the Lancaster County Board of Commissioners budget meeting at 10:53 a.m. Yoakum, Amundson, Vest, Schorr and Flowerday voted yes. Motion carried 5-0.



Dan Nolte
Lancaster County Clerk

