

**MINUTES
LANCASTER COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
BUDGET MEETING
COUNTY-CITY BUILDING, ROOM 112
TUESDAY, AUGUST 24, 2021
9:00 AM**

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

Advance public notice of the Board of Commissioners meeting was posted on the County-City Building bulletin board, the Lancaster County, Nebraska, web site, emailed to the media to the media on August 20, 2021, and published in the Lincoln Journal Star print edition and website on August 15, 2021.

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

Others present: David Derbin, Chief Administrative Officer; Candace Berens, Deputy County Attorney; Dennis Meyer, Budget and Fiscal Director; Dan Nolte, County Clerk; and Leslie Brestel, County Clerk's Office

The meeting was called to order at 9:02 a.m., the Pledge of Allegiance was recited and the location of the Nebraska Open Meetings Act was announced.

1) PUBLIC HEARING:

- A.** Lancaster County's Proposed Budget for Fiscal Year 2021-22. (To access budget reports, click on Lancaster County Budget Reports.)

Dennis Meyer, Budget and Fiscal Director, was administered the oath and gave an overview of the proposed budget (see agenda packet). He noted the proposed budget uses a property tax rate of 26.4076 cents, which is a 1.75 cent decrease from the prior fiscal year. The budget expenditures are 22.05% higher than the previous fiscal year's amended budget. The inclusion of \$62,000,000 in American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds has never happened before. There are federal rules and regulations that outline the use of ARPA funds.

Meyer highlighted revenue sources, full time equivalent (FTE) positions, and fund balances, including the cash reserve.

Meyer demonstrated the OpenGov portal which can be accessed through the Lancaster County website.

Meyer reported property valuations brought in an additional \$833,605 in revenue which will be deposited into the Countywide sinking fund for future project designation.

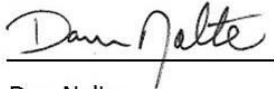
Vest thanked Meyer for his faithful leadership and guidance throughout the budget process.

Pam Dingman, County Engineer, was administered the oath. She stated this budget does not meet the needs of the Engineering department. There are 28 miles of roads in need of pavement, South 68th Street, South 148th Street and Saltillo Road need continued improvements to handle the current traffic load and 26 bridges and 1/3 of pipe culverts need to be replaced. Dingman requested the County Board put the funds for South 68th Street into the Engineering budget as opposed to the cash reserve. Additionally, if the federal transportation bill passes, the buyback funds would double in the next few years with an estimated amount between \$600,000-\$700,000 total. She also asked the Board to allow the County Engineer to use the cash reserve fund for emergency situations.

The Chair closed the public hearing.

2) ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: Amundson moved and Flowerday seconded to adjourn at 9:26 a.m. Schorr, Amundson, Yoakum, Flowerday and Vest voted yes. Motion carried 5-0.



Dan Nolte
Lancaster County Clerk

