

Grafton County Delegation
Funding approval of biomass plant
Grafton County ~ UNH Conference Room
North Haverhill, NH
Monday May 14, 2012

PRESENT: Representatives Sorg, Brosseau, Mirski, Simard, Reilly, Smith, Cooney, Sova, Taylor, Harding, Almy, Townsend, Gionet, Bradley, Gould, Ladd, Nordgren, White, Benn and Bulis. Commissioners Cryans, Burton and Ahern, Executive Director Julie Clough and Sec. Martino

EXCUSED: Representatives, Eaton, Aguiar, Pastor-Bodmer, Pierce, Shackett and Ingbretson

OTHERS: See attached list

11:15 AM ~ Rep. Bulis called the meeting to order and Rep. Sova (Clerk) called the roll. 20 members were present when the roll was called and a quorum was declared.

Rep. Bulis noted that on Thursday the 17th at 6:00 PM the Commissioners will hold their public hearing on the budget.

DECISION TO FUND THE BIOMASS PROJECT

Director Clough was asked to give a review of the projected costs for the biomass project so that the Delegation can vote on whether or not to fund the project.

Director Clough said that the total project would run approximately \$3.3M.
\$378,500 was obtained by way of a grant from DOE.

The Jail project came in under budget and because of that, the Delegation will be asked to repurpose up to \$2.5M from the Jail project for the biomass project. Director Clough estimated the remaining cost would be about \$1M which would be needed to bond.

Rep. Simard asked how long it would take to pay that off and Director Clough said they will only take out a 10 year bond and because of the savings from the biomass project, there will be no impact on next year's budget.

Rep. Harding asked about a timeline and Director Clough said construction would be expected to begin in August and take about a year to complete.

Rep. Cooney RESOLVED: That Grafton County, New Hampshire (the "County"), acting by and through its Convention, hereby appropriates the sum of up to \$3,500,000 for the design and construction of a District Biomass Heating Plant for the Grafton County Complex. Pursuant to the provisions of RSA 33:3-a,

up to \$2,500,000 of such sum shall come from the unexpended proceeds of the County's Bonds which were previously authorized and issued to finance the construction of a new County correctional facility. The balance of this appropriation is to be funded by the County's issuance of its general obligation bonds pursuant to the provisions of RSA 28 and 33, with the County Commissioners being hereby authorized to issue, negotiate, sell and deliver such bonds and to determine the rate of interest thereon and the maturity and other terms thereof, which was seconded by Rep. White.

A roll call vote was taken. Representatives Sorg, Brosseau, Mirski, Simard, Reilly, Smith, Cooney, Sova, Taylor, Harding, Almy, Townsend, Gionet, Bradley, Gould, Ladd, Nordgren, White, Benn and Bulis were all in favor. Motion passes unanimously.

Rep. Bulis called a brief recess

Rep. Bulis called the meeting back to order.

Rep. Bulis commended Superintendent Oakes and Director Clough for their work did on this project.

Commissioner Cryans thanked the Delegation for approving the project and said that a unanimous vote sends a strong message.

ELECTED OFFICIAL'S SALARIES

Rep Bulis said that it is the responsibility of the Delegation to set the salaries for elected officials so that anyone running for office will know what the salary of that position is. He said that the Executive Committee had discussed this issue and had come to the decision (in a 6 to 3 vote) that the Sheriff, County Attorney and Register of Deeds should receive a 2% increase and the part time officials would remain the same.

Rep. Bulis stated that the Commissioners were factoring in a 1.875% Cost of Living Adjustment for employees. He asked that the group have a discussion before making a motion. A sheet from NHACo showing the salaries of elected officials for all ten counties was reviewed.

Rep. Almy noted that they were not supposed to set the salaries based on an individual, but rather on the position.

Rep. Reilly thought that County salaries are low compared to the state and the County officials have a lot of responsibilities and do a good job.

Rep. Gionet said he is looking at his constituents and what their increases are.

Rep. Sorg said that the County should offer the lowest salary possible in order to get qualified people.

Rep. Smith asked if the elected officials receive any other benefits and Director Clough said that the full time people receive health insurance at 80% and they can opt in or out

of the retirement system. She said that there is no vacation time because they can come and go as they please.

Rep. Brosseau said he can't vote for any increases in salary.

Rep. Simard Motioned to increase the Sheriff, the County Attorney and the Register of Deeds salary, for the period of January 2, 2013 to January 6, 2015, by two (2) percent. The Sheriff, the County Attorney and the Register of Deeds are entitled to the same Health Insurance and Retirement benefits as full-time Grafton County employees. Eligibility begins on the first day of their term. The salary of the Commissioners and the Treasurer will remain at their current levels, which was seconded by Rep. Reilly.

A roll call vote was taken: Representatives, Simard, Reilly, Smith, Cooney, Taylor, Harding, Almy, Townsend, Gionet, Bradley, Gould, Ladd, Nordgren, White, Benn and Bulis were all in favor and Representatives Sorg, Mirski, Sova and Brosseau were opposed. Motion passes. 16/4

Rep. Bulis noted that the full Delegation will meet again on the 25th of June to approve the FY13 budget.

Rep. Harding asked if the Farm Committee had been established and Rep. Bulis said it had not.

12:00 PM ~ With no other business the meeting was adjourned

Respectfully submitted

Charles Sova, Clerk

PUBLIC HEARING/DELEGATION MEETING

MAY 14, 2012



Sign In Sheet ~ PLEASE PRINT

- 1 Julie Clough
- 2 Teri Martello
- 3 Michael Coyens
- 4 Charles Sova
- 5 PAUL MIRSKI
- 6 Charles Townsend
- 7 BERNIE BENN
- 8 Rick Ladd
- 9 Mary Cooney
- 10 Suzanne Smith
- 11 Chris C. Churn
- 12 Kelley Marchal
- 13 Harold Brown
- 14 GREG SORG
- 15 Andrew White
- 16 Franklin Gould
- 17 Alex NUTT-DE BRASS
- 18 Khula Mulyam
- 19 Susan Almy
- 20 Kathleen Taylor
- 21 Sharon Jordan
- 22 Lester Bradley
- 23 Louise Harding
- 24 Charles BROSSEAU
- 25 James T. Reilly Jr
- 26 PAUL H SIMARD
- 27 EDMOND BLOMET
- 28 LYLE BULLIS
- 29 Bill Root
- 30 Jules Chatot

- 31 Jim Outka
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