

DELEGATION MEETING

Vote on FY17 Budget
Administration Building
3855 Dartmouth College Highway
North Haverhill, NH
June 27th 2016

PRESENT: See attached sign in sheet

Rep. Sykes called the meeting to order at 9:34am and began with the Pledge of Allegiance led by Rep. Darrow.

Rep. Sykes stated that there were several representatives that are not running for re – election. He acknowledged the following representatives for their service to Grafton County:

Reps.:
Gionet
Townsend
Cooney
C. Brown
R. Brown
M. Hennessey
Piper
Johnson

Rep. Townsend moved to appropriate \$40,944,190 for fiscal year 2017 of which \$23,985,629 is to be raised by taxes. Rep. White seconded the motion.

Discussion:

CA Libby stated that the amount today is \$198,766 less than last week due to the State giving us our final cap for our Health & Human Services payments for FY 17 on Friday. Our cap was set at \$198,766 less than what they had budgeted for. Therefore, the budget has been reduced by that figure.

Rep. Ford stated that she has been concerned about the opioid crisis. She stated that one of the things that they have done in Concord is to take care of the treatment plans. Her underlying concerns are taking care of families in New Hampshire. CASA had asked for \$5,000 in funding to make that happen. She stated that she has worked with CASA since 2006 and if they do not start working with children in this opioid crisis we will be dealing with this issue twenty (20) years from now. She stated at this point she will not be making a motion, the budget presented is an excellent budget but wanted to make people aware of what will happen.

Rep. Ladd moved to amend the motion and reduce the amount to be appropriated for FY17 by \$594,203.00. He stated that this brings the appropriation to a flat line from FY16. Rep. Bailey seconded the motion.

Rep. Ladd stated that he is concerned with several items in the budget. He stated that they are expanding the social services budget and does not feel that the county should be funding these services. They are decreasing the fund balance and not able to take from that to offset taxes. Rep. Almy stated that she is confused about Rep. Ladd stating the social services budget increased. In looking at the budget it is decreasing by \$12,000. Rep. Ladd stated that his increase he stated was since FY14.

Rep. Abel asked for clarification of the amendment and where those funds would be cut from if it were to be passed. Rep. Ladd stated that he does not want to micro manage. That it is an internal issue and management can figure it out. Rep. Bailey stated that he appreciates everything that is done at Grafton County. His towns are going to be hit with large increases and the private sector has not been seeing increases in their paychecks. It is very difficult for people in northern Grafton County to take this hit. Rep. Edmond stated that social services have nothing to do with Grafton County. His constituents pay for these increases for staff and many of them are on fixed incomes. Rep. Smith reminded everyone that last year when the county had the life safety issue at the nursing home they voted to not take out a bond and take from the surplus account. The increase is due to the lack of money in the surplus from using that for the nursing home project. The amount that our towns are getting charged, some win and some lose and that is based off the equalized valuation. Rep. Cooney noted that the percentage is not the actual rate that is going up or down; it depends on the total valuation of the town. Rep. Almy stated that it was in her second term where they have been asked to vote to tell the administration to do a blanket cut and she would oppose the amendment. Rep. White asked CA Libby about the 2014 proshare money amount. CA Libby explained that what has also happened is that in the past three (3) fiscal years is that their expenditures are outpacing their revenues so the fund balance has been decreasing. Rep. Sykes noted that a private daycare in his town is closing because they do not have the money. 100 children will no longer have day care services and they were trying to do it on their own with no funding. Rep. Sykes hopes that everyone will vote against this motion. CA Saffo was present and corrected a comment that was made about her increase. She stated that they have received grants to help offset those new expenses.

A roll call vote on the amendment was called. Six (6) Reps., Bailey, Darrow, Gionet, Johnson, Ladd and Massimilla voted in favor. Thirteen (13) Reps., Abel, Almy, Bennett, R. Brown, Cooney, Ford, Higgins, Maes, Piper, Smith, Sykes, Townsend and White voted in opposition. With the vote being six (6) in favor and thirteen (13) in opposition, the amendment to the motion fails.

Rep. Gionet stated that he has been asking about reimbursements from old contractors from the Nursing Home project. Commissioner Cryans stated that they have received a number of \$45,000 in costs associated with the prior contractor and they decided that was not a large enough amount of money to pursue a lawsuit.

A roll call vote on the original motion was called. Fourteen (14) Reps., Abel, Almy, Bennett, R. Brown, Cooney, Ford, Higgins, Maes, Massimilla, Piper, Smith, Sykes, Townsend and White voted in favor. Five (5) Reps., Bailey, Darrow, Gionet, Johnson and Ladd voted in opposition. With the vote being fourteen (14) in favor and five (5) in opposition the motion was adopted.

Rep. Almy moved to authorize the Treasurer to borrow Tax Anticipation Loans in an amount up to \$7,000,000. Rep. White seconded the motion.

A roll call vote was called. Seventeen (17) Reps., Abel, Almy, Bailey, Bennett, Cooney, Darrow, Ford, Gionet, Higgins, Ladd, Maes, Massimilla, Piper, Smith, Sykes, Townsend and White voted in favor. One (1) Rep., Johnson, voted in opposition. With the vote being seventeen (17) in favor and one (1) in opposition the motion was adopted.

Rep. Bennett moved to contribute \$63,152 from Dispatch Fees for fiscal year 2017 to the Dispatch Capital Reserve Account. Rep. White seconded the motion.

A roll call vote was called. Eighteen (18) Reps., Abel, Almy, Bailey, Bennett, Cooney, Darrow, Ford, Gionet, Higgins, Johnson, Ladd, Maes, Massimilla, Piper, Smith, Sykes, Townsend and White voted in favor. None voted in opposition. With the vote being eighteen (18) in favor and none in opposition the motion was adopted.

Rep. Ladd moved to expend \$46,200 from the Dispatch Capital Reserve account for equipment for the Dispatch Center. Rep. Ford seconded the motion.

A roll call vote was called. Eighteen (18) Reps., Abel, Almy, Bailey, Bennett, Cooney, Darrow, Ford, Gionet, Higgins, Johnson, Ladd, Maes, Massimilla, Piper, Smith, Sykes, Townsend and White voted in favor. None voted in opposition. With the vote being eighteen (18) in favor and none in opposition the motion was adopted.

Rep. Massimilla moved to contribute \$25,000 from Medicaid ProShare funds to the Nursing Home Capital Reserve account. Rep. Maes seconded the motion.

Rep. White asked if there is going to be anymore contributions to capital reserve accounts. CA Libby stated that there will not be any more contributions today.

A roll call vote was called. Seventeen (17) Reps., Abel, Almy, Bailey, Bennett, Cooney, Darrow, Ford, Gionet, Higgins, Johnson, Ladd, Maes, Massimilla, Piper, Smith, Sykes, and Townsend voted in favor. One (1) Rep., White, voted in opposition. With the vote being seventeen (17) in favor and one (1) in opposition the motion was adopted.

Rep. Maes moved to expend \$154,338 from the Nursing Home Capital Reserve account for equipment at the nursing home. Rep. Higgins seconded the motion.

A roll call vote was called. Eighteen (18) Reps., Abel, Almy, Bailey, Bennett, Cooney, Darrow, Ford, Gionet, Higgins, Johnson, Ladd, Maes, Massimilla, Piper, Smith, Sykes, Townsend and White voted in favor. None voted in opposition. With the vote being eighteen (18) in favor and none in opposition the motion was adopted.

Rep. Higgins moved to expend \$62,309 from the Register of Deeds Surcharge account for equipment. Rep. Ford seconded the motion

A roll call vote was called. Eighteen (18) Reps., Abel, Almy, Bailey, Bennett, Cooney, Darrow, Ford, Gionet, Higgins, Johnson, Ladd, Maes, Massimilla, Piper, Smith, Sykes, Townsend and White voted in favor. None voted in opposition. With the vote being eighteen (18) in favor and none in opposition the motion was adopted.

Rep. Smith moved that the Delegation authorizes the County Commissioners to apply for, accept and expend federal and/or state grants. The Commissioners will obtain Executive Committee approval prior to accepting a grant in which the grantor requires an amount of match funding or services from the County in order to make up the full cost of the project. "Match funding" refers to the amount of non-grantor funding or services required to make up the full costs during the term of the project. The Commissioners will provide a quarterly report to the Executive Committee that details all grants applied for and/or awarded and the amount expended to date. Rep. Townsend seconded the motion.

A roll call vote was called. Eighteen (18) Reps., Abel, Almy, Bailey, Bennett, Cooney, Darrow, Ford, Gionet, Higgins, Johnson, Ladd, Maes, Massimilla, Piper, Smith, Sykes, Townsend and White voted in favor. None voted in opposition. With the vote being eighteen (18) in favor and none in opposition the motion was adopted.

Rep. Cooney moved to approve the minutes from the May 23rd Delegation meeting. Rep. Higgins seconded the motion.

A roll call vote was called. Ten (10) Reps., Bailey, Bennett, Cooney, Darrow, Higgins, Johnson, Maes, Massimilla, Piper and Sykes voted in favor of the motion. None voted in opposition. Eight (8) Reps., Abel, Almy, Ford, Gionet, Ladd, Smith, Townsend and White abstained. With the vote being ten (10) in favor and none in opposition the motion is adopted.

Rep. Almy stated that we have two (2) retiring Commissioners that have done a great job for Grafton County.

Rep. Almy moved that the Delegation commend them on their service to Grafton County. Rep. Ford seconded the motion.

Discussion:

Rep. Sykes stated that it has been a pleasure to work with the Commissioners and that they are achieving good things in this county. Rep. Ford suggested casting a unanimous vote by raising hands. A unanimous vote was casted.

Rep. Sykes stated that he believes we have the best running county in the state and thanked the all the staff for their hard work.

11:08AM with no further business the meeting adjourned.

Sincerely,

Suzanne Smith, Clerk