

MINUTES
Eau Claire County
Committee on Finance & Budget
Monday, July 13, 2020
4:30 p.m.
Webex Conference Call

Members present: Supervisors Steve Chilson, Jim Dunning, Robin Leary, Stella Pagonis, Gerald Wilkie, Board Chair Nick Smiar
Staff present: Jon Johnson, Highway Commissioner; Norb Kirk, Finance Director; Janet Loomis, County Clerk; Sue McDonald, Chief Deputy County Clerk; Jason Szymanski, Highway Fiscal Manager; Amy Weiss, Senior Accounting Manager
Others present: Supervisor Connie Russell, Brock Geyen, Managing Principal with CliftonLarsonAllen; Sean Lents, Senior Municipal Advisor with Ehlers

Chair Stella Pagonis called the meeting to order at 4:30 pm and confirmed compliance with open meetings law.

All committee members were present.

During public comment, Supervisor Pagonis informed the committee that the Butterfly House at Beaver Creek Reserve is open.

Proposed Resolution 20-21/033 “Requesting Permission to Take Kitelinger Property...”

Motion: Dunning moves to accept resolution as presented

Vote: 5-0, no negative votes via voice vote

Brock Geyen from CliftonLarsonAllen reviewed the draft audit summary for year ended 12.31.19.

Board Chair Nick Smiar left the meeting at 5:20pm.

Sean Lentz presented options for possible refunding of 2011B bonds. Advanced refundings were eliminated under tax law changes, but alternative methods are available that still align with federal law. These include a Cinderella bond issue, a taxable bond issue, or a Forward Purchase issue.

Jason Szymanski and Jon Johnson presented five phased scenarios for the new highway facility. The committee feels that it is not palatable to fall behind on Pacer rating. The committee favors scenarios one or two.

The committee reviewed ECC’s current debt structure. ECC should be borrowing for facility related improvements and is working toward putting operational equipment on the operational levy, beginning with the 2021 budget.

Proposed Resolution 20-21/045 “2019 Additional Revenue”

Motion: Leary moved approval as presented

Vote: 5-0, no negative vote via voice vote

Village of Fairchild & Town of Fairchild Exemption Requests

Motion: Chilson moved approval to accept request for exemption

Vote: 3-2, motion passes via voice vote

The committee reviewed the June sales tax report, which reported earnings through April 2020.

Review of June 16, 2020 Meeting Minutes

Motion: Wilkie moved approval as amended to include wording “via roll call vote” on resolution

Vote: 5-0, no negative votes via voice vote

Supervisor Dunning left the meeting at 6:45pm.

Next Meeting: August 10 at 4:30 pm

The meeting was adjourned at 6:52 pm.

Amy Weiss
Committee Clerk

