

MINUTES
Eau Claire County
Committee on Finance & Budget
Monday, September 13, 2021
4:30 p.m.
Webex Conference Call

Committee on Finance & Budget Members present: Supervisors Steve Chilson, Jim Dunning, Robin Leary, Stella Pagonis, Gerald Wilkie (4:34 pm)

Staff present: Norb Kirk, Finance Director; Kathryn Schauf, County Administrator; Sue McDonald, County Clerk; Tim Sullivan, Corporation Counsel; Amy Weiss, Senior Accounting Manager

Others present: Dane Goldbeck, RCU; Ryan Patterson, Leader Telegram

Chair Pagonis called the Committee on Finance & Budget to order at 4:30 pm and confirmed compliance with open meetings law.

The committee clerk took roll call. Members present are indicated above.

No members of the public wished to speak.

Proposed Resolution 21-22/047 “Authorizing the Sale of Tax Deed Property to Former Owners...”

Motion: Leary moved approval as presented

Vote: 4-0 via voice vote

Supervisor Wilkie joined at 4:34 pm.

Request by RCU to Waive Penalties on Delinquent Tax Payment

Clerical error by RCU resulted in property tax payment paid on incorrect parcel. RCU paid full amount of taxes and interest on correct parcel when owner received delinquent tax notice. Supervisors feel that mistakes happen and there are consequences for errors. Tim Sullivan does not believe there is authority in the statutes to forgive interest and penalties, and requested that the committee wait to take action on this item to allow him time to research. The committee postponed the vote.

Long Term Investments – postponed to future meeting

Sale Book/Delinquent Tax Write-offs – postponed to future meeting

Proposed Resolution 21-22/035 “Approving a Budget Transfer of \$787,439 to Provide Funding for New Capital Projects in 2021”

Supervisor Leary inquired about projects that were not selected to be funded with excess bond funds. Land Conservation would have brought projects forward had they known there were capital funds available. Kathryn Schauf noted that multiple year capital planning is helpful for when these types of opportunities arise, and projects can be accelerated from future years.

Motion: Dunning moved approval with some additional explanations of the projects in the fact sheet

Vote: 5-0 via voice vote

Amy Weiss presented information on the budgeting tool “Fund Balance Applied.”

Amy Weiss presented information on the County’s internal service funds.

Review Revised Budget Priorities – postponed to future meeting

The committee reviewed the preliminary 2022 capital project summary. The budget is conservative, and decisions on ARPA funds has yet to be made.

Kathryn Schauf gave an update on the American Rescue Plan Act funds.

2022 Budget Status Update – nothing to discuss

Review and Approval of Meeting Minutes

Regular F&B Meetings

07.12.21: add suggested language “None of the questions submitted by email or asked at the meeting by Supervisor Wilkie were answered. Pursuant to questions by Supervisor Chilson, meeting minutes from the joint meeting were reviewed. These minutes indicated that there was no cost to the county for Alia services questions asked by the committee members were not answered by the DHS team.”

Motion: Leary moved approval of 07.12 minutes as revised

Vote: 5-0 via voice vote

08.04.21: no revisions needed

Motion: Wilkie moved approval of 08.04 as presented

Vote: 5-0 via voice vote

08.09.21: add detail that it was the joint Parks meeting that was not going to be held at 5:00 pm to public comments

Motion: Leary moved approval of 08.09 as revised

Vote: 5-0 via voice vote

08.11.21: no revisions needed

Motion: Leary moved approval of 08.11 as presented

Vote: 5-0 via voice vote

08.12.21: add language reflecting that the Alliance is to be discontinued to Child Advocacy Center notes

Motion: Leary moved approval of 08.12 as revised

Vote: 5-0 via voice vote

Joint Meetings – be sure to indicate that Finance & Budget was other committee present

Committee to submit edits to F&B clerk to pass along to other committee clerks.

Readdress joint meeting minutes.

2022 Budget Wrap-Up Session: October 7, 11:00 pm

Future Meetings and Agenda Items: October 4, 4:30 pm

Postponed agenda items: long term investments, sale book, write off delinquent taxes, revised budget priorities, joint meeting minutes

The committee adjourned at 6:30 pm.



Amy Weiss
Committee Clerk