



**MINUTES**  
**Committee on Finance & Budget**

**Monday, July 18, 2022**

5:00 p.m.

Courthouse – Room #1301/1302  
721 Oxford Ave, Eau Claire, WI

**Members present:** Supervisors Jim Dunning, John Folstad, Robin Leary, Cory Sisk, Dane Zook

**Other Supervisors Present:** Connie Russell, Stella Pagonis

**Staff present:** Norb Kirk, Finance Director; Glenda Lyons, Treasurer; Sue McDonald, County Clerk; Jake Brunette, Assistant Corporation Counsel; Kathryn Schauf, County Administrator; Regan Watts, Recycling Coordinator; Glenda Lyons, Treasurer; Amy Weiss, Senior Accounting Manager

Chair Zook called the Committee on Finance & Budget to order at 5:30 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.

**Review of Meeting Minutes**

**Motion:** Leary moved approval of both sets of minutes, as presented

**Vote:** 5-0, motion passes

**Climate Action & Resilience Plan (CARP)**

Regan Watts gave an abbreviated presentation of the Climate Action & Resilience Plan (CARP) for County Operations. Most supervisors had already heard the presentation, and the full presentation will be at the board meeting on July 19, 2022. This document gives the county a direction to pursue and leverage funding with available grant funding.

**Motion:** Dunning moved to forward recommendation to county board to accept resiliency plan

**Discussion:** continue with strategies in workplan and to use plan to guide goals, no monetary commitment at this time

**Vote:** 4-1

Leary, Dunning, Folstad, Sisk – yes

Zook - no

**Proposed Ordinance 22-23.040 “To Repeal and Recreate Chapter 4.20 of the Eau Claire County Code: Acquisition and Sale of Tax Delinquent Lands...”**

Jake Brunette, Sue McDonald, and Glenda Lyons reviewed the proposed changes to the county tax deed process. Jake was asked to look at how to move ECC forward in better alignment with state statutes. The proposed code change will have a detailed supporting policy. The primary change is to shift the administrative burden of the tax collection from the County Clerk to the County Treasurer. Treasurer and County Clerk are in favor of shift. New process should start as of January 1, 2023. Pagonis inquired about how this change would affect the courts and suggested a courtesy conversation with the chief judge. Clarification requested by second reading at board meeting. Glenda believes that there would be a bundle of properties brought forward twice per year. Tax properties need to be delinquent at least three years under current process to begin tax deed process. Under proposed process, tax properties should be delinquent at least 2 years. County has granted an additional year to account for hardships.

**Motion:** Leary moved approval as presented

**Vote:** 5-0, motion passes



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**Village of Fairchild & Town of Fairchild Library Exemption Requests**

**Motion:** Dunning moved approval of approving request

**Vote:** 3 (Dunning, Leary, Zook)-2 (Folstad, Zook), motion passes

**Finance Department 2023 Budget Request**

Norb Kirk presented the 2023 budget request for the Finance Department.

**Motion:** Folstad moved approval of budget request as presented

**Vote:** 5-0, motion passes

**Board Budget Presentation Question & Answer**

Pagonis feels that the presentation was from the point of view of an employee instead of the point of view of a supervisor.

**Budget Update**

Community Agencies: would be good to hear from select community agencies; schedule meeting for August 15 and request agencies sign up to present

**Motion:** Leary moved approval to invite community agencies

**Vote:** 5-0, motion passes

**Vouchers over \$10K Board Report**

Leary noted that this report is a way to track, not micromanage checks that are written. The current report is more informative than previous iterations.

**Budget Deviation Policy**

Norb Kirk reviewed the current budget deviation policy. A department needs to report deficit when it believes that the annual projected activity will result in a deficit. This is not in agreement with the levy percentage noted in code. At the time this was passed, the board was not interested in including a percentage or dollar amount.

**American Rescue Plan Act Funds (ARPA) Update**

Kathryn Schauf noted that the Committee on Administration is reviewing internal applications with a more detailed report to be provided to the board on July 19, 2022.

**Future Meetings:** see joint meeting schedule; August 15; September 19

**Agenda Items:** community agencies; 2021 audit results; budget deviation policy and related code section

The committee adjourned at 7:35 pm.

Amy Weiss  
Committee Clerk