



MINUTES
Committee on Finance & Budget

Thursday, April 13, 2023

4:00 – 6:00 p.m.

Courthouse – Room #3312

721 Oxford Ave, Eau Claire, WI

Members Present: Supervisors Jim Dunning, John Folstad, Robin Leary, Dane Zook, Nick Smiar (ex-officio)

Supervisors Absent: Supervisor Cory Sisk

Other Supervisors Present: Connie Russell

Staff Present: Jake Brunette, Assistant Corporation Counsel; Richard Eaton, Assistant Corporation Counsel; Glenda Lyons, County Treasurer; Norb Kirk, Finance Director; Sue McDonald, County Clerk; Kathryn Schauf, County Administrator; Amy Weiss, Senior Accounting Manager; Melissa Wilson, Treasury; Charity Zich, Airport Director

Chair Zook called the Committee on Finance & Budget to order at 4:00 pm and confirmed compliance with open meetings law.

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

No members of the public were present or wished to speak.

Review and Approval of Meeting Minutes

Motion: Folstad moved approval as presented

Vote: 4-0 via voice vote

Proposed Resolution 23-24/004 “Authorizing the Use of the Statewide Debt Collection Program through Wisconsin Department of Revenue”

Jake Brunette presented information on the state debt collection process and explained the benefits of using this process at Eau Claire County.

Motion: Folstad moved approval as presented

Vote: 4-0 via voice vote

Proposed Resolution 23-24/005 “Ratifying a 5-Year Agreement Between Eau Claire and Chippewa Counties; Authorizing the County Board Chair and the County Clerk to Execute the Agreement on Behalf of Eau Claire County”

Charity Zich reviewed the Airport Operating agreement.

Motion: Leary moved approval as presented

Vote: 4-0 via voice vote

Glenda Lyons, Melissa Wilson, and Richard Eaton lead a discussion on the new in rem process in Eau Claire County. Glenda and Melissa presented information on the first batch of 21 delinquent tax properties.

Sue McDonald, Glenda Lyons, and Norb Kirk presented preliminary quarter 4 financial reports for 2022. Sue would like to use the extra dollars from tax deed sales for the County Clerk to move to the Register of Deeds office. Due to the mark to market requirement, actual interest income earned was reduced on the Q4 financials for the Treasurer by the unrealized losses on long term investments. The county will not realize these losses.

The committee discussed the 2024 budget process. Norb presented some information on what worked during the 2023 budget process and some areas for improvement for the 2024 budget. County staff are looking for clearer guidance from the committee and the board so that a realistic budget can be presented to the board.



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The committee began discussions on the debt and capital strategy to prepare for the 2024 budget.

The committee reviewed the following financial policies:

1. Carryforward/Nonlapsing Accounts
2. Revenue Availability
3. Budget Deviation

Motion: Leary moved to postpone code section discussion to next month

Vote: 4-0 via voice vote

Future Meetings: May 11 regular meeting, May 25 special capital meeting at 8am

Agenda Items: in rem properties, County Clerk furniture purchase

The committee adjourned at 5:50 pm.

Amy Weiss
Committee Clerk