



MINUTES
Committee on Finance & Budget

Wednesday, October 18, 2023

1:00 – 5:00 p.m.

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

Supervisors Present: Zook, Dunning, Folstad, Sisk, Leary (at 1:19 pm)

Other Supervisors: Wilkie (online), Pagonis (at 1:20 pm)

Staff Present in Person: Weiss, Schauf, Szymanski, Schmidt, Riewestahl, Gardner, Eslinger

Staff Present Online: Holbrook, O'Mara, Warner, Kraegenbrink, Ranallo, Mayer, Pederson, Stabenow, Gullerud, Porzondek, Harris, Weideman, Zich, Pommier, McIlquham, Struck, Huse, Fedie

The chair called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m. and confirmed compliance with open meetings law.

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

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

Administrator Schauf reviewed the budget amendment process, specifically noting that amendments must be balanced (revenue increase/decrease equals expenditure increase/decrease). Chair Zook confirmed that proposed amendments that fail in committee will not move forward to board, unless an individual supervisor chooses to present to board.

The committee completed their review of the Administrator's Recommendation for the 2024 budget.

Committee's Recommended Amendments on the 2024 Administrator's Recommended Budget to Advance to the County Board:

Folstad planned to introduce reductions to number of supervisors in DHS, due to estimated deficit at 06.30.23, but after discussion with Angela Weideman, these will not be introduced at this time.

1. Allowable Levy Increase: \$15,819 allowable levy increase to fund balance
Motion: Folstad moved approval
Vote: Folstad yes, Sisk yes, Zook yes, Leary yes, Dunning yes – motion passes
2. Contingency Increase from \$300k to \$500k, all funded by general fund balance
Motion: Zook moved approval
Vote: Folstad yes, Sisk no, Zook yes, Leary yes, Dunning no – motion passes
3. Eliminate \$3M jail booking remodel
Motion: Folstad moved approval
Discussion:
Dunning believes that the proposal should be taken back to oversight committees and related departments
Pagonis noted that maintaining the jail is a statutory obligation and the Sheriff is statutorily obligated to maintain operations
Leary is against amendment because it opens the county up for additional risk if the Sheriff's recommendation isn't followed
Zook is in favor, even though it is ahead of when the other jail borrowings fall off debt load
Vote: Folstad yes, Sisk no, Zook no, Leary no, Dunning no – motion fails
4. Fund P&D and Parks replacement trucks (\$44,000 and \$40,000) with short-term borrowing instead of general fund balance, total \$84,000 added to short-term borrowing
Motion: Zook moved approval
Discussion:
Folstad believes this does not make sense because there is adequate general fund balance to cover the net cost
Zook believes this keeps all vehicles treated the same and sets a trend
Vote: Folstad no, Sisk no, Zook yes, Leary no, Dunning yes – motion fails



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5. Lake Rehab \$389,467 and Sheriff fleet from short-term to general fund balance
Motion: Folstad
Vote: Folstad yes, Sisk yes, Zook no, Leary yes, Dunning no – motion passes

6. Fulfill the request of the Boys and Girls Club of \$10,000 by reducing funding to the EDC of \$10,000
Motion: Leary
Discussion:
Folstad is opposed to adding more agencies
Pagonis: community agencies are prevention programs that reduce the pressures on the county
Vote: Folstad no, Sisk yes, Zook yes, Leary yes, Dunning yes – motion passes

7. Cth F \$119,134 bonding to general fund balance
Motion: Folstad
Vote: Folstad yes, Sisk yes, Zook yes, Leary no, Dunning yes – motion passes

8. Cth SS \$862,000 bonding to ARPA
Motion: Folstad
Discussion:
Folstad selected this road for ARPA because public comment indicated that Cth SS needs attention
Leary and Dunning would like to see remaining ARPA go to something other than roads
Zook: leave in bonding and address when board decides to issue debt later in year
Vote: Folstad yes, Sisk yes, Zook no, Leary no, Dunning no – motion fails

9. Funding for Project Lifesaver in the amount of \$2,000 from fund balance
Motion: Sisk
Vote: Folstad no, Sisk no, Zook yes, Leary yes, Dunning yes – motion passes

Future Meetings: no regular November meeting, but will schedule if needed; December 14
Agenda Items: contract review, code section review

The committee adjourned at 3:03 p.m.

Amy Weiss
Committee Clerk