



MINUTES
Committee on Finance & Budget

Thursday, July 25, 2024

1:00 p.m.

Courthouse – Room #3312

721 Oxford Ave, Eau Claire, WI

Members Present: Supervisors Jim Dunning, Stella Pagonis, Jim Schumacher, Bob Swanson, Dane Zook, Nancy Coffey (ex-officio)

Staff Present In-Person: Jason Szymanski, Finance Director; Amy Weiss, Assistant Director of Finance; Sharon McIlquham, Corporation Counsel; Richard Eaton, Assistant Corporation Counsel; Sarah Brown-Jager, Assistant Corporation Counsel; Glenda Lyons, Treasurer

Staff Present Online: Linda O’Mara, Accountant; Erika Gullerud, Financial Analyst; Jake Harris, Internal Controls Specialist; Stacy Stabenow, Payroll Specialist; Vickie Gardner, DHS Fiscal Services Administrator; Kyle Welbes, Highway Fiscal Supervisor

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

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

Review of Meeting Minutes

Motion: Dunning

Vote: 5-0 via voice vote

Proposed Resolution 24-25/053 “Awarding Bid for the Spring 2024 In Rem Sale of Tax Delinquent Property; Directing Corporation Counsel to Prepare a Quit Claim Deed on the Described Property; Directing the County Treasurer to Execute Said Quit Claim Deed on Behalf of Eau Claire County”

Motion: Schumacher moved approval as presented

Vote: 5-0 via voice vote

Proposed Resolution 24-25/055 “Authorizing the Eau Claire County Treasurer’s Office to Commence In Rem Tax Lien Foreclosure Action Pursuant to Wis. Stat. 75.521 to Acquire the Real Property Set Forth in Exhibit A” /

Discussion – Action

Motion: Schumacher moved approval as presented

Zook: confirmed that owners and kin were properly notified of delinquencies

Vote: 5-0 via voice vote

Proposed Resolution 24-25/050 “A Resolution in Support of State Investment for Mental Health Funding”

Motion: Dunning moved approval as presented

Vote: 5-0 via voice vote

Town and Village of Fairchild Library Exemption Requests

Motion: Zook moved approval

Vote: 5-0 via voice vote

County Debt, Financial Update, and Potential 2024 Debt Issuance

Jason Szymanski presented an overview of debt and possible strategies.

Financial Policy Review: Fund Balance and Debt

The committee reviewed the current fund balance policy and discussed the changes in the current environment compared to 10 years ago when the current fund balance policy was originally adopted. Szymanski and Pagonis to rework the fund balance policy based on discussion and bring an updated policy to the committee to act on.



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Szymanski proposed editing debt policy by updating the percentage of debt payment to levy (to 35%) so that the county is in compliance with policy. The county made the decision to build the new highway facility all at once, knowing that the county was already out of compliance with the policy. Chair recommended to defer action to a future meeting.

Referred Ordinance 24-25/021 “Amendment 2.04.485 B2 Clarifies Budget Overages and Provides for Year-to-Date Receivables and Payables, Which Would Facilitate the Committee on Finance & Budget Mitigation Recommendations to the Oversight Committee and Administrator, With Notice to the County Board”

Zook: Without definitions requested, specifically the word “reconciliation,” the committee is not able to adequately vote on this proposed amendment.

Motion: Zook moved to postpone to September 12, 2024 after receipt of definitions

Vote: 5-0 via voice vote

2025 Budget Update

The committee discussed scheduling F&B public input sessions and budget wrap-up meetings.

Public Input sessions: Augusta Senior Center and somewhere in EC with flat, easy parking

Future Meetings: regular meetings August 8, 1:00pm and September 12, 1:00pm

Agenda Items: schedule budget wrap-up

Announcements: none.

The committee adjourned at 3:45¹ pm.

Amy Weiss
Committee Clerk