

Montgomery County Board

Finance Committee Meeting Minutes

Date: Monday, February 3rd, 2014

Time: 8:15 AM – County Board Room

Members Present: Chairman Joe Gasparich, Mike Plunkett, Mary Bathurst, Connie Beck,
Megan Beeler, Bonnie Branum and Board Chairman Roy Hertel

Others Present: Ron Jenkins, Sandy Leitheiser, Ray Durston, Mary Purcell and Hugh Satterlee

The committee met today to discuss the following:

1. **Update/Approval SOA Report:** Ray Durston submitted his report. The Board of Review received 127 complaints and have completed the inspections of 125 properties. Additional hearings are scheduled for February 25 and 26 in the County Board room and then work will begin on the final abstract that will be sent to the Department of Revenue. There has been a good response to the 3000 Exemption renewals for Senior Homestead and Disables Persons/Veterans Exemptions.
2. **Update/Approval GIS Report:** Mary Purcell shared her written monthly report for the committee to review. Gasparich asked that the 911 maps and the Fire Protection District maps be updated after the flyover and Mary Purcell stated that they would be. Leitheiser stated that as secretary of the Hazmat Committee, Gary Forsee mentioned the high cancer rates in our county. They hope to look at why these rates are so high and try to look at locations and histories using GIS technology to pin point as to why these rates are so high. Plunkett stated that the MCCA would be able to help with this research. Committee Chairman Gasparich stated that this would be a great project for a master's program student and asked Hugh Satterlee if he knew of any such interest. Mr. Satterlee stated that he will check with the Illinois Department of Public Health to see if they could give us some input to move forward with researching this issue.
3. **Update/Approval GIS Work Group Report:** Kevin Greene representative from Beacon-Schneider was introduced to the committee and he thanked the board for the business and approving their contract at last month's meeting. After the contract is signed there will be initial meeting and then the project should be starting with in one week. We should have the new maps by June. Purcell stated that the current Bruce Harris files were compressed for a temporary fix to help the computers from crashing. Beeler stated that Pictometry checked out current files and will they potentially will be able to use our old flyover to see if they can use the Change Finder software to identify building changes since the 2003 flyover. Purcell stated that they can use the Change Finder software on the current municipal flyover data and they are checking to see if they can use it on the current flyover data for rural areas. Committee Chairman Gasparich can sign the contract for Schneider however the contract for Pictometry needs to be corrected with municipal information before it can be signed.
4. **Update/Approval Monthly Coal Revenue Report and Revenue, Expense & Bank Balance Report:** The committee will review the report from Treasurer Jenkins.
5. **Update/Approval Annual Circuit Clerk Audit Report:** Holly Lemons presented the annual audit report for the Circuit Clerk's Office that was completed by Whitey Patton. The committee reviewed the exception report. There were no irregularities. Copies for the Audit report will be given to all board members at the full board meeting.
6. **Update/Approval Coal Fund Reserves:** The committee reviewed the coal fund reports submitted by Treasurer Jenkins.
7. **Update/Approval Tax Sale Certificate of Purchase request from County Tax Agent:** Betsy Wilson is reviewing the document from County Trustee Joe Meyer and will advise the committee if they can approve. Meyer has the deed and a tax buyer wants the parcel. Treasurer Jenkins stated that the original certificate and documentations have been kept together and once the board approves, he can then release it to the County Clerk Office. **Motion by Plunkett and second by Branum to approve and**

recommend the transfer of the deed for parcel 07-36-400-005 in Rountree pending approval from the States Attorney's Office. All in favor, motion carried.

8. **Update/Approval Intergovernmental Agreement City of Litchfield For Police Radio & Telephone Services:** Back in July 2011 the finance committee negotiated a contract with the City of Litchfield for doing their dispatching services in the amount of \$125,000 and it would go up a certain percentage each year. The first increase was 4% two years ago. No increase for last year and a 1% increase for this year. Nokomis did not have a written agreement, and past Chairman Plunkett had talked with Nokomis a year and a half ago about raising the price of dispatching services same as Litchfield and they agreed. No written document was ever agreed to and therefore Nokomis continues to send \$20,000 per year. Currently Nokomis should be paying \$20,800 per year and that should increase to \$21,008 this year. Chairman Hertel will contact Nokomis about this matter and ask the States Attorney's Office to prepare a contact similar to Litchfield's. Discussion was held on whether all municipalities with policeman should be paying dispatching fees. Mike Plunkett stated that the municipalities with part time police offices weren't being charged for dispatching services because if it was too expensive then they would lay off their officer and the County would have to cover anyway. The Sheriff Department thinks the smaller communities should be charged something for dispatching. Gasparich stated that we could apply the same formula for calculating dispatching services for Nokomis to the other communities. Chairman Hertel stated that Litchfield and Nokomis had dispatchers and they chose to close their centers and let the County do that for them. In doing this the cost for the County increased due to the fact that more dispatchers had to be hired, so a price was negotiated with them to help pay for the added personnel. The other communities have never had dispatchers and the County has always done the work for them. If we charge these communities then we are doing something we have never done before in asking them to pay. Hillsboro continues to dispatch their own officers. Beeler stated that Harvel is paying a fee to Christian County for dispatching and that she along with Chairman Hertel will be meeting with the Sheriff regarding dispatching services. The Sheriff's Department will be asked to provide information on all the dispatching services they provide for the municipalities. **Motion by Bathurst and second by Beck to come up with an agreement for the dispatching services with the City of Nokomis. Gasparich abstains. All in favor, motion carried.**
9. **Update/Approval Budget Hearing Dates:** Committee discussed potential dates to conduct the FY 2015 budget hearings. They are tentatively scheduled for Monday July 21, Tuesday July 22, and Wednesday July 23, 2014. The meetings will start at 8:15 AM with the Committee and the hearings with the office holders will start at 8:30 AM. Satterlee asked to be on Wednesday, July 23rd.
10. **Update/Approval Other Business:**
- Bathurst reported that there is an issue with the Sheriff's Office Local 773 Pension fund being underfunded that may be a financial problem for the County. We have always just been the pay agent. If the employees decide to get out, the County is responsible for paying for the unfunded liability for anyone who has retired or getting benefits from that pension. Assistant States Attorney Betsy Wilson has requested financial information from that Pension Fund.
 - Satterlee stated that the Health Department would like to get rid of the School Street facility due to the numerous repairs that are needed, and they want to put on another smaller building on the back of their building on Rt. 185. They would like to know if the County would loan them the money to build it and they would then pay the County back. Satterlee spoke with Betsy Wilson and they will put the new building out for bid. Satterlee referenced a concern regarding a memo from county board member about the lighting upgrades that took place at the Health Department. Satterlee stated that they accepted the lowest proposal for the lighting upgrades and that he takes full responsibility if there was any money lost in a lighting grant.

Motion by Bathurst, second by Beck to pay bills and approve payroll. All in favor, motion carried.
Motion by Beeler, second by Plunkett to adjourn the meeting. All in favor, motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 9:50 AM. The summaries of minutes were respectfully submitted by acting secretary Chris Daniels, as Deputized by Montgomery County Clerk/Recorder Sandy Leitheiser.

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