

COUNTY OF OSWEGO
COMMUNITY AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS COMMITTEE
November 25, 2009

PRESENT:

Kevin Gardner, Chair
Jack Beckwith, Vice Chair
Clayton Brewer
Mary Flett
Robert Hayes
Louella LeClair
Phillip Vasho

STAFF/GUESTS

Barbara Brown, Legislator
Philip Church, County Administrator
Shawn Doyle, Legislator
David Hastings, Director of Real Property Tax
Richard Hogan, Director of Central Services
Kelly Jordal, Public Information Officer
Margaret Kastler, Legislator
Barry Leemann, Chairman of the Legislature
Fred Maxon, Purchasing Director
Linda Nagel, Telephone Coordinator
Milferd Potter, Legislator
Paul Santore, Legislator
William Scriber, Elections Commissioner
Donald Wart, Elections Commissioner
Sue Pringle
Terry Wilbur, Hannibal
Jeanette Woodland, Administrative Secretary

MEDIA:

Aaron Curtis, Palladium Times
Carol Thompson, Valley News
Steve Yablonski, Oswego County Today.com
Channel 9 News

Attendance:

Committee Chair Gardner called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m.

Old Business:

Committee Chair Gardner asked for a motion to approve the October 28, 2009 minutes.

Motion: Legislator Brewer

Second: Legislator Flett

Minutes were approved with all in favor.

Committee Business:

1. Purchasing - Bid/RFP Report

A. RFP #13-09 County Video Security System

Fred Maxon, Purchasing Director, advised that the department received 10 proposals, and 3 were brought in for interviews. After consultation with Central Services a recommendation to award bid is to Cedar Path Solutions of Baldwinsville, NY for not more than \$208,304.

Richard Hogan, Director of Central Services, advised that with this system we could probably do all county buildings and as technology grows we can add to it. The other vendors did not have this capability.

Legislator Hayes arrived at 2:05 p.m.

Motion: Legislator LeClair made a motion to award bid to Cedar Path Solutions, Baldwinsville, NY, as presented.

Second: Legislator Flett

Vote: All in favor.

Motion Carried.

2. Board of Elections

A. Renewal of Board of Elections Lease

County Administrator Church advised that the lease agreement between Operation Oswego County and Oswego County for premises occupied by the Board of Elections office expires this month. The lease expands the space from 5800 square feet to 7436 square feet which gives them one extra room at no additional charge. In exchange for the extra space the County will be responsible for maintenance on the parking lot with snow removal and new paving in 2010. Operation Oswego County would also like to change the lease to a term of two years instead of three and end in November of 2011.

Motion: Legislator Flett made a motion to accept the lease agreement, as presented. Baldwinsville, NY, as presented.

Second: Legislator Vasho

Vote: All in favor.

Motion Carried.

B. Discussion Regarding Recent Elections

William Scriber, Elections Commissioner, stated that he thought that the election went great. He explained that we were one of 18 pilot (second largest) counties in New York State that used the new optical scanning machines. Commissioner Scriber and Wart both agreed that the scanning machines ran perfectly. The problems that occurred were personnel training and some paper jams, not machine failure. Commissioner Wart stated that they felt that it would be best to use the new machines this year to have some experience with the new machines rather than to start next year with the larger state and federal elections. Legislator LeClair stated that she and many other legislators are not happy about how the election went. Training was a major problem and she said that she received many phone calls of complaints from poll workers who had to stay at the site until the machines were picked up. Legislator Flett said that some of the workers said that when they tried to call in their reports that the phone lines were backed up and they couldn't get through. Regarding some workers who had to stay until 12:00 a.m. and were only getting paid until 9:00 p.m. Leg. Chair Leemann said that he had concerns. Commissioner Wart said that the money was not in the budget and Chair Leemann said to put the numbers together and let admin know what the workers should be paid. In other discussion regarding the election Legislator Santore said that the McCrobie building is not handicapped accessible and a suggestion is to use the Salvation Army building. Commissioner Scriber said that they could do a site visit to see the conditions. Legislator Gardner said that he wondered if some partitions could be put up for privacy as it could be possible that someone behind you in line could see your ballot if the machine kicks back. Commissioner Scriber said that it is a concern and is being addressed at the state level. Leg. Chair Leemann said that he heard from someone who voted at the Scriba poll place and was told that the election was run very well. Legislator LeClair said that she wants to see written guidelines as to what

inspectors were, and were not supposed to do. Chair Gardner said that if anyone hears any other concerns to get together with the Election Commissioners and give them to them.

3. Real Property Tax Services

A. Resolution Authorizing the Implementation of the Provisions of Section 556 of the Real Property Tax Law, Subdivisions 8 & 9 Relative to the Refunds of Funds Due to Tax Corrections

David Hastings, Director of Real Property Tax Services, brought forth a resolution delegating authority to pay refunds of real property taxes due to tax corrections not to exceed \$2500 to the County Treasurer effective January 1, 2010.

Motion: Legislator Brewer made a motion to accept the resolution giving authority to the County Treasurer to pay refunds, as presented.

Second: Legislator Beckwith

Vote: All in favor.

Motion Carried.

B. Buy Back Deed Correction

Director Hastings brought forth a request to correct the data for a correction to a deed. This is for the Adsit property located in West Monroe. Director Hastings advised that this property was approved for buy back by the first mortgagee, but has since been bought by HSBC. HSBC has requested that the deed be made out to Household Finance Realty Corp. of NY so that this will eliminate a flaw in the title.

Motion: Legislator Vasho made a motion to approve the Deed Correction, as presented.

Second: Legislator Flett

Vote: All in favor.

Motion Carried.

4. Budget Reviews

A. Board of Elections

Elections Commissioner Wart presented the 2010 Board of Elections department budget. There were no changes beyond what was earlier submitted.

Motion: Legislator Hayes made a motion to approve the 2010 Board of Elections department budget but to provide money for additional training for Elections Inspectors.

Second: Legislator Beckwith

Legislator Flett stated that the Elections Inspector's who stayed over this year need to get paid. County Administrator Church stated that this is under this year's expense and would have to come out of this year's fund balance and if needed a resolution will have to be done to transfer money. Commissioner Wart advised that they would come up with dollar amount that will cover the amount due to Election Inspector's, but may require a budget transfer.

Commissioner Wart said that they can look at how much money may be needed next year for additional training of Election Inspector's.

Legislator's Hayes and Beckwith withdrew their motion.

Motion: Legislator Vasho made a motion to approve the 2010 Board of Elections department budget as presented.

Second: Legislator Brewer

Vote: Yes: Beckwith, Brewer, Flett, Hayes, Vasho, Gardner
No: LeClair
Motion Passed.

B. Central Services

Motion: Legislator Vasho made a motion to approve the 2010 Central Services department budget as presented.

Second: Legislator LeClair

Vote: All in favor
Motion Carried.

C. Real Property Tax Services

Motion: Legislator Vasho made a motion to approve the 2010 Real Property Tax Services department budget as presented.

Second: Legislator Flett

Vote: All in favor
Motion Carried.

D. Weights and Measures

Motion: Legislator Brewer made a motion to approve the 2010 Weights and Measures budget as presented.

Second: Legislator Flett

Vote: All in favor
Motion Carried.

5. Resolution Appointing Department Head

Resolution appointing Richard Hogan, Director of Central Services for a term to coincide with the term of the Legislature

Motion: Legislator Hayes made a motion to appoint Richard Hogan, Director of Central Services for a term to coincide with the term of the Legislature

Second: Legislator LeClair

Vote: All in favor.
Motion Carried.

6. Executive Session

Motion: Legislator Beckwith made a motion to go into Executive Session for Personnel matters.

Second: Legislator Hayes

Vote: All in favor.
Motion Carried.

The Committee went into Executive Session at 3:13 p.m.

The Committee returned from Executive Session at 3:25 p.m.

Motion: Legislator Flett made a motion to approve the budget submitted by the County Clerk's office, as presented.
Second: Legislator Beckwith
Vote: All in favor.
Motion Carried.

Legislator Hayes suggested that survey the Election Inspector's and get their feedback and their response to the new voting process. Leg. Chair Leemann said that a letter could be sent asking for suggestions for future elections. Legislator Beckwith stated that the problems were after the polls were closed. Legislator Vasho added that there were problems with the phone lines when it came to reporting results.

Adjournment

Motion: Legislator Brewer motioned to adjourn the meeting at 3:30 p.m.
Second: Legislator Beckwith
Vote: All in favor.
Motion Carried.