**Minutes**

**PRESENT:** Commissioner Brann, Commissioner Harvell, Commissioner Barker

Meeting held by Zoom

**Franklin County Commissioners Meeting**

**February 1, 2022 Minutes**

Meeting was called to order by Commissioner Brann at 3:15 PM

Pledge of Allegiance

**Audience:**  Jim Desjardins, Pamela Prodan, Scott Nichols, Susan Pratt, Susan Black, MBTV, David Rackliffe, Tiffany Baker, Donna Perry, Charlie Woodworth, Annie Twitchell, Fen Fowler, Ralph Parker, Nick Palmer, Mount Blue Garden Club, Mike Pond

**APPOINTMENTS:**

**NEW BUSINESS:**

1. **Clerk’s Report:** January 18, 2022 minutes for approval. **Motion to approve: (Clyde/Lance) (3/0)**
2. **Treasurer Report:** Warrants presented by Pamela Prodan for approval. **Motion to approve and sign the warrants: (Clyde/Lance) (3/0)** Reconcile completed for Bangor Savings TIF and Skowhegan Savings UT for the month of December 2021. Draft audit done by Pam and Vickie.
3. **Sheriff’s Department: Opening of bids for hybrid vehicles for patrol:** Quirk Motors submitted a bid for $155,769 for five hybrid vehicles. **Motion to accept the bid from Quirk Motors in the amount of $155,769: (Lance/Clyde) (3/0)**
4. **DA’s lease:** Craig proposed drawing up a contract on a month to month lease with one year’s notice for vacating. Would like to increase the rent under this contract to $2,000 per month. Craig offered to take the previous contract and update the language to reflect a new contract.
5. **Mike Pond: Jail Septic System:** At the Jail there is a problem with “grease balls” that get trapped in the system. Mike suggested the County hold off on spending more with the ARPA funds until we learn more. Need to have two grease traps and a pump to new tank. Mike also shared the elbow to the piping is deteriorating. Mike suggests adding two new tanks, cut the floor, and reroute the plumbing, but this will mean closing the kitchen while under construction, and potential redesign of the fields to provide more life.
6. **ARPA Projects: Laptops, Jail Medical Space, Memorial Arch, Save Voices, Protective wear for Patrol, Security for Fueling System, Broadband Proposals and planning:**

* **Laptop** proposal for employees in the Superior Court building: Quote for 8 laptops is $5,860. No decision was made. Susan Black stated that her department did not need laptops. The Commissioners asked that HR reach out to each employee in the building to identify whether or not there was a need.
* **Jail Medical Space, Nichols** presented a quote for a building design of approximately $38,000.
* **Mount Blue Garden Club** presented a $40,000 project for renovations to the memorial in Farmington. No decision was made. Commissioner Brann stated the County has $2,000 in funds that are allocated to the memorial and can be used to clean the granite structure.
* **Safe Voices**, Elise Johansen presented a project for an expansion to the resource center to provide housing. The proposal included a request of $75,000 from the County ARPA funds. The Commissioners asked that Safe Voices reach out to the local municipalities to help with funding and come back with a proposal of what they still need for funding.
* **Body armor plates for Patrol, Sheriff Nichols** presented the need for new lightweight plates for the Patrol Deputies. The cost per unit was estimated at $355 excluding shipping. The total cost to purchase 16 units is $5,902. **Motion to approve the purchase of 16 body plates for the Patrol Deputies out of the ARPA funds in the amount of $5,902: (Lance/Clyde) (3/0)**
* **Fuel Card system for Fuel tanks at the Sheriff’s Department,** proposal to replace the old system with a key card system as the County doesn’t know who has keys at this point, and has experienced occasions where gas is unaccounted for. The project was quoted at $13,628.80.
* **Charlie Woodworth, GFDC presented broadband project and planning.** Charlie requested $40,000 for broadband planning. Connect Maine awarded $40,000 to the project which in total estimates at $100,000. The Commissioners were not ready to make a decision on this item. Charlie then proposed the UT portion of a four town fiber to the home broadband network which was estimated at $6.6 million and was requesting $240,292 from the ARPA funds on behalf of Washington and Perkins Twp. The Commissioners would like to revisit this project at a later date.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

1. **MSRS: Follow up to Lt. Rackliffe’s request to do a study on three Admins.:** HR reached out to MPERS to request a study on the changes to the plan that occurred back in 2014 which excluded three Admins. Including Lt. Rackliffe, Chief Steven Lowell, and Lt. David St. Laurent. It was discovered back in 2016 that these three individuals should have been included in the change in plan and the County and employees were billed to catch up contributions. This change reflects back to the date of change on 1.1/2014. There is no lost time for this change.

**MISCELLANEOUS:**

1. **Vickie to change her status from Full-Time to Part-Time at the same hourly wage beginning in February. Motion to approve the status change of Vickie Braley from full-time to part-time interim Clerk at the same rate of pay of $30 per hour: (Lance/Clyde) (3/0)**
2. **Air Compressor** given to New Sharon cannot be used due to not having 3-phase power. **Motion to allow New Sharon to keep the compressor: (Lance/Clyde) (3/0)** HR to contact Travis Pond to let him know.

**Warrants: 1 County, 1 UT, 1 TIF, 2 Payroll, and 3 EFT’s**

**ADJOURNMENT:**

**A motion and second to adjourn. (Lance/Clyde) (3/0)**

**Meeting adjourned at 5:32 PM**

**Next regular meeting will be February 15, 2022**

**A recording is available for this meeting.**

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FRANKLIN COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, CLERK