

**Hillsborough County Executive Committee
Hillsborough County Complex, Bouchard Building
Goffstown NH**

June 18, 2008 9:00 AM

Present: Representatives D. Essex, M. Pilotte, L. Movsesian, P. Cote, M. Farley, B. Francoeur, S. Harvey, B. Shaw, A. Simon, S. Spratt, S. Stepanek, J. Ulery, S. Vaillancourt, M. Villeneuve. Also present: Comm. Holden, Comm. Pappas, County Attorney M. Wageling, M. O'Neil, B. Moorehead, M. Cusson, M. Montminy, Chief A. Durette, J. Dimick, C. Beaulac, D. Reidy, E. Therrien, M. Rusch, G. Wenger.

Chairman Essex called the meeting to order at 9:10 AM and requested Rep. Reuschel to lead the pledge to the flag.

Appropriation Control Report

Chairman Essex stated that there is a copy of the Appropriation Control report if any member of the Executive Committee would like a copy.

Transfers

Motion by Rep. Pilotte, second by Rep. Movsesian to approve Budget Transfer #2008-33 in the amount of \$350 from Registry of Deeds Equipment Repair and Maintenance to Registry of Deeds Equipment Rental. Ms. Rusch stated that Mrs. McDonald is in a meeting with the Department of Revenue Administration. On a voice vote motion adopted unanimously.

Motion by Rep. Shaw, second by Rep. Harvey to approve Budget Transfer #2008-34 in the amount of \$35,000 from Nursing Home Administration Bed Assessment to Nursing Home Administration Salaries, Maintenance Salaries, Dietary Salaries, and Activities Salaries. Mr. Moorehead stated that this transfer is needed to cover salary and wage increases associated with the AFSCME Union Contract that was approved in September 2007. On a voice vote motion adopted unanimously.

Motion by Rep. Cote, second by Rep. Reuschel to approve Budget Transfer #2008-35 in the amount of \$838,230 from Contingency Buildings to County Complex Buildings. Mr. Wenger stated that these are the funds that will be necessary to complete the construction process for the Goffstown District Court on the second floor of the Bouchard Building. On a voice vote motion was adopted unanimously.

Motion by Rep. Simon, second by Rep. Villeneuve to approve Budget Transfer #2008-36 in the amount of \$2,000 from Superior Court Bailiff Salaries and Wages to Sheriff Office Postage. Chief Deputy Art Durette states that this is due to an increase in the activity in the service of civil process. In response to a question regarding doing the service over email Chief Deputy Durette stated that the documents need to be notarized and that cannot be done online. On a voice vote motion was adopted unanimously.

Motion made by Rep. Shaw, second by Rep. Harvey to approve budget transfer # 2008-37 in the amount of \$700 from Nursing Home Administration Bed Assessment to Nursing Home Maintenance Retirement and Activities Social Security. Mr. Moorehead stated that this transfer is necessary to cover salary and wage roll-ups associated with AFSCME Union Contract.

Old/New Business

- a. Chairman Essex asked if anyone has any issues to be brought up regarding the F/Y 09 Budget, he noted that the Delegation Meeting is tomorrow night at 6:00 PM, there will be the annual cookout before the meeting at 5:00 PM. He also stated that it is important that we attain a quorum as there is really no leeway to have a meeting in Concord if a quorum is not reached. Rep. Kurk states that due to his absences at all of the budget sessions, I am going to make a few observations about the budget. Rep. Kurk stated that county taxpayers should not be providing a new car to Superintendent of the Department of Corrections. He is suggesting that this amount be zeroed out of the budget for at least another two years. Rep. Kurk also stated that Sheriff's people are getting 5 ¾ % per year over the life of their contract noting that this is significantly higher than the rate of inflation. Rep. Kurk stated that over the years the Executive Committee has established and adopted a policy of saying that there will be no retroactive provisions in labor contracts. After a lengthy discussion Rep. Kurk made a suggestion that this contract not be approved, and not be included in the budget noting that he will make a motion at the County Convention tomorrow night regarding the Contract.

Rep. Kurk stated that the surplus started this year at \$21,600,000. This year the County has used \$6.4 million. The end of this year on June 30th, we will be down to \$15.2 million dollars plus, whatever money lapses at the end of the year. He surmised that at the end of this year we will have roughly \$8.9 million in surplus. There would be a drop in surplus to \$18.9 million from \$21,600,000. The County is going to do the same thing next year to off set the taxes. If the same thing happens next year, we will wind up with a surplus in the \$15.5 million dollar range. At the very least we should have \$8.5 million dollars cash in surplus. The County is rapidly working down the surplus to the point where we will be unable to take that \$6.4 million dollars and off set the tax rate. Rep. Stepanek disagreed with Rep. Kurk noting that currently the economic times are bad and hopefully as the years go by there will be a different scenario and the County could be a little more conservative.

Rep. Vaillancourt states that he would like to know why there were three new positions added to the County Attorney department which is contrary to every other department in the county. He noted that this could create problems in the future. Discussion ensued. Rep. Vaillancourt concurs with Rep. Kurk up to a point however; I certainly think that the County Attorney's department is a much more serious problem. .

Motion by Rep. Harvey, second by Rep. Vaillancourt to take the vehicle for the Superintendent at the Department of Corrections out of Line 7970, New Equipment, for a total of \$20,000. On a voice vote motion fails 4-11.

Motion by Rep. Kurk, second by Rep. Simon to reduce surplus to \$6,000,000. On a show of hands motion fails 4-11.

Rep. Spratt stated that the County Attorney and the court mandated 4,000 more cases than any other county noting that in bad economic times crime goes up versus decreasing. He stated that Hillsborough County is the only county doing the court mandated sexual predator law. Rep. Ulery states that RSA 135:e has that unanticipated consequences. There was a lengthy discussion.

Rep. Vaillancourt stated he believes that the performance auditing committee should be dissolved. Chairman Essex responds noting that there still is some value in studying the matter. Rep. Vaillancourt stated that would like to be removed from that committee.

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Other Business

Ms. Rusch stated that the next Executive Committee meeting is on Friday July 18, 2008, and that will be the last meeting of the year to approve transfers for FY '08.

Motion by Rep. Cote, second by Rep. Spratt to adjourn the meeting.

Rep. Lori Movsesian, Clerk
Hillsborough County Executive Committee

Date _____

DRAFT