

COMMITTEE REPORT

COMMITTEE: Finance, Tax & Budgets
CHAIRPERSON: John Schultz, Chairman
DATE/TIME: September 26, 2024 at 6:00 p.m.

PRESENT: ☒ John Schultz ☒ John Creighton ☐ Michael Holt
 ☒ John Lang ^{zoom} ☒ Diane Gallagher ☒ Don Zillig
 ☒ LaDon Trost

Other Board members: None.

Others: Angela Kaiser, Tessa Moore, Laura Edmonds and Melisa Hammer. Sheriff Kevin Turner attended via Zoom.

1. **Call to Order** – Chairperson John Schultz called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm.
2. **Roll Call** – A quorum was established.
3. **Approval of Minutes**
 - a) Review and approve minutes of the July 25, 2024 Finance, Tax & Budgets Committee meeting. - See 3d.
 - b) Review and approve minutes of the August 22, 2024 Joint Committee Budget Review meeting with Law Enforcement & Courts, Public Works, Development & Planning and Finance, Tax & Budgets – See 3d.
 - c) Review and approve minutes of the August 29, 2024 Finance, Tax & Budgets Committee meeting - The committee reviewed the minutes of the first 3 meetings on the agenda and decided to approve them in one motion. **D. Gallagher made a motion to approve the minutes of the Development & Planning Committee for July 25, 2024, August 22, 2024 and August 29, 2024. Seconded by Zillig and motion carried.**
 - d) Review and approve minutes of the September 5, 2024 Joint Committee Budget Review meeting with Executive, Law Enforcement & Courts, Social & Environmental, Information & Communications Technology, Development & Planning and Finance, Tax & Budgets – The September 5, 2024 minutes for the Joint Committee Budget Review meeting were not included in this month's packet.
4. **Citizens Comments** – None.
5. **Unfinished Business**
 - a) FY2023/FY2024 Strategic Goals and Plans – The committee did not review their Strategic Goals and Plans at this time.
 - b) Discussion and possible action regarding the current electrical aggregation program agreement with Nordic Energy – There was no action taken on this item, only discussion. Kaiser told the committee she contacted Mike Mudge from Rock River Energy Services and Rob from Nordic Energy. They asked Kaiser if the County would reopen the contract with them. She commented that ComEd is at a lower rate than the County's negotiated rate with Nordic and asked Rob at Nordic if we should just wait at this point, considering the lower cost with ComEd. Rob agreed it was probably the best option for the County. Kaiser

told Rob with Nordic we would revisit the contract in March. As it stands, we are not reopening the contract. There was no action taken.

6. New Business

- a) Discussion and possible action to recommend approval of a contract with 3E Partners to provide voluntary employee Accident insurance coverage, Critical Illness insurance coverage and Hospitalization insurance coverage for FY2025 (Recommendation of the Ad-Hoc Health Insurance Committee meeting held on September 19, 2024) – **Schultz made a motion to recommend approval of a contract with 3E Partners to provide voluntary employee options for Accident insurance coverage, Critical Illness insurance coverage, and Hospitalization insurance coverage for FY2025. Seconded by Gallagher and motion carried by voice vote.**
- b) Discussion and possible action to recommend approval of a renewal contract with United Healthcare to provide voluntary employee Dental insurance coverage for FY2025 (Recommendation of the Ad-Hoc Health Insurance Committee meeting held on September 19, 2024) – There is no cost to the County for the United Healthcare contract. The Dental insurance is paid out of pocket 100% by the County employees if they elect coverage. **Schultz made a motion to recommend approval of a renewal contract with United Healthcare to provide voluntary employee Dental insurance options for FY2025. Seconded by Lang and motion carried by voice vote.**
- c) Discussion and possible action to recommend the renewal of the P2023-7 Alternate Insurance Assistance Program policy for FY2025 (Recommendation of the Ad-Hoc Health Insurance Committee meeting held on September 19, 2024) – After discussion, **Schultz made a motion to recommend the renewal of the P2023-7 Alternate Insurance Assistance Program policy for FY2025 as presented. Seconded by Lang. The motion carried by voice vote.**
- d) Discussion and possible action on setting a Finance, Tax & Budgets Committee meeting date for November 2024 – The committee decided to not set a meeting date for November 2024. A meeting will be scheduled if needed. There was no action taken.

7. Staff Reports

- a) Chief County Assessment Office – Laura Edmonds, Chief County Assessment Officer, gave her monthly report. Change of Assessment notices were sent out recently. The two lawsuits that had been pending for some time, were dismissed in July. She stated her staff is doing an incredible job and included a letter from a satisfied citizen that explained in great detail, one of Edmonds' staff members and how helpful they were with the citizen.
- b) Treasurer's Office – Melisa Hammer, Treasurer, read her report to the committee. Her office has been incredibly busy with taxes. The 2nd installment was due September 3rd. There are 1,528 parcels that are still delinquent. After her tax sale publication, which will be held on October 21, 2024, the delinquencies dropped to around 750 parcels. A majority of the delinquent parcels are lake lots. Hammer has an employee retiring at the end of October and is training a new employee that started a couple of weeks ago.
- c) Grants Administrator – Tammy Cahill, Grants Administrator, was not in attendance. Her report was included in the packet.
- d) County Administrator – Angela Kaiser, Interim County Administrator, gave her report. She praised Tessa's work in the Administration office and is trying to determine future staffing needs. Kaiser told the committee that she welcomes any suggestions. She also

spoke about the Courthouse Renovation project and provided some financial information. Mentioning that she reached out to Dan Pepin regarding any grants for the renovation, she said that unfortunately, there is nothing out there since we have already started construction. Kaiser submitted the renewal application to ICRMT for the FY2025 policy.

8. Citizens' Comments – None.

9. Board Member Concerns – Trost thanked Angie and Tessa. Gallagher reminded the members of the UCCI educational training at the end of October. Creighton thanked Angie for the figures regarding the Courthouse Renovation project. He also talked about the Highway Department's budget – they are going to forego the salt building they planned on for the next fiscal year; instead, they currently have two trucks on order. Schultz commented that the Administrator's office has fine staff.

The next Finance, Tax & Budgets Committee meeting will be on Thursday, October 31, 2024 at 6:00 p.m.

Schultz made a motion to adjourn at 7:00 pm. Seconded by Zillig and motion carried.