

PLYMOUTH COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
MEETING

January 15, 2015

A regular meeting of the Plymouth County Commissioners was called to order at 5:35 p.m. at the County of Plymouth Administration Building, 44 Obery Street, Plymouth, MA. Present were Chairman Daniel A. Pallotta, Commissioner Sandra M. Wright and Commissioner Gregory M. Hanley. Chairman Pallotta called for the Pledge of Allegiance.

Also, in attendance were Treasurer Thomas O'Brien, Deputy Treasurer Jeff Welch, Register of Deeds John Buckley, County Attorney Mark Gildea, County Administrator Brian McDonald, Superintendent of Buildings Doug Wedge, and Executive Assistant Nancy O'Rourke.

ACCEPT PAYROLL AND/OR VENDOR VOUCHERS

Commissioner Wright made a motion to accept payroll and vendor vouchers as presented by the Treasurer. Chairman Pallotta seconded.

Vote: The motion passed unanimously.

PERSONNEL: Acknowledge receipt of the following Personnel actions:

Registry of Deeds

Fill Existing Vacancy/Promotion:

Jaclyn O'Leary, Recorder/Brockton JG 9-9 \$18.49/hr. to Office Mgr.

Rockland Satellite JG 17-1 \$21.33/hr.

Leave of Absence

Lynn Reynolds, Dept. Head/Index Comparer

Anna Messner, Index Comparer

Step Increases:

Charles DiPirro, Info. Sys. Admin., JG 15-3 \$20.63/hr. to JG 15-4 \$21.21/hr.

Christine Richards, Info. Sys. Admin., JG 19-6 \$27.05/hr. to JG 19-7 \$27.83/hr.

Frances Abraham, Land Court Recorder, JG 14-5 \$20.75/hr. to JG 14-6 \$21.28/hr.

Chairman Pallotta requested the approval of Personnel actions be tabled to consult legal counsel. The Chairman expressed his discomfort with approving any salary increases given the current financial situation of the county. After much discussion and upon advice of legal counsel with respect to collective bargaining agreements, the Commissioners acknowledged receipt of the aforementioned personnel actions.

Commissioner Hanley made a motion to accept the CPS form for the Filling of an Existing Vacancy/Promotion of Jaclyn O'Leary. Commissioner Wright seconded. Vote: Chairman Pallotta-No, Commissioner Hanley-Yes, Commissioner Wright-Yes.

Commissioner Hanley made a motion to accept the CPS form for a Leave of Absence for Lynn Reynolds and Anna Mesner. Commissioner Wright seconded. Vote: The motion passed unanimously.

Commissioner Hanley made a motion to accept the CPS form for the Step Increase for Charles DiPirro. Commissioner Wright seconded. Vote: Chairman Pallotta-No, Commissioner Hanley-Yes, Commissioner Wright-Yes.

Commissioner Hanley made a motion to accept the CPS form for the Step Increase for Christine Richards. Commissioner Wright seconded. Vote: Chairman Pallotta-Yes, Commissioner Hanley-Yes, Commissioner Wright-No.

Commissioner Hanley made a motion to accept the CPS form for the Step Increase for Frances Abraham. Commissioner Wright seconded. Vote: Chairman Pallotta-Yes, Commissioner Hanley-Yes, Commissioner Wright-No

#### OLD BUSINESS

Meeting Minutes -December 3, 2014, December 18, 2014

Executive Session Minutes-December 3, 2014, December 18, 2014

Commissioner Hanley made a motion to approve the meeting minutes and executive session minutes of December 3, 2014, and December 18, 2014. Commissioner Wright seconded.

Vote: The motion passed unanimously.

#### Discussion-County Farm Project

Attorney Gildea has prepared the RFP for the County Farm and it has been submitted to the Central Register to be advertised.

#### Discussion-RFQ Solar Project

The sub-committee tasked with reviewing the RFQ's submitted for the Solar project has recommended rejection of all proposals based on the lack of minimum requirements met on all proposals. The sub-committee requested the Commissioners review the minimum requirements and suggest they may be too stringent. Commissioner Hanley made a motion to reject the proposals and re-submit the RFQ with less stringent requirements. Commissioner Wright seconded.

Vote: The motion passed unanimously.

## NEW BUSINESS

### Vote-Appointment to Board of Trustees Cooperative Extension Service

Commissioner Hanley made a motion to re-appoint Commissioner Sandra Wright as Trustee and Liaison to the Board of Trustees on the Plymouth County Cooperative Extension Service.

### Vote-IRS Mileage Rate

Commissioner Hanley made a motion to increase the mileage allowance to \$.57.5 cents per mile effective January 1, 2015 per the Internal Revenue Service. Commissioner Wright seconded.

Vote: Chairman Pallotta-No, Commissioner Hanley-Yes, Commissioner Wright-Yes.

### Discussion-RFP Plymouth County Fire Mutual Aid Communications Study

Rockland Fire Chief Scott Duffey and Norwell Fire Chief Andy Reardon presented a draft RFP to request the Commissioners submit a proposal on their behalf. The proposal is to conduct a study to determine the need and feasibility to relocate the existing operations that manage and oversee the current Mutual Aid Fire Communications for Massachusetts Fire District 2 and Medical Communications (C-MED) in Plymouth County/Region 4 & 5.

Chairman Pallotta requested Attorney Gildea consult with the Fire Chiefs Association legal counsel to review the proposal. The Commissioners would be happy to assist in any way.

## EXECUTIVE SESSION

In Accordance with MGL, Chapter 30A, Section 21, held for the purpose of discussing the consideration of purchase, exchange or lease of real property and to discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining and pending litigation, the Board voted to enter into Executive Session and to return to open public session at 6:05 p.m. Chairman Pallotta called the roll: Commissioner Wright-Yes, Commissioner Hanley-Yes, Chairman Pallotta-Yes.

At 7:07 p.m. Chairman Pallotta called the roll to enter back into open public session: Chairman Pallotta-Yes, Commissioner Hanley-Yes, Commissioner Wright-Yes.

## NEW BUSINESS

### Plymouth County OPEB Trust Program

Treasurer O'Brien presented a program the Commissioners tasked him with to help Plymouth County, local municipalities and neighboring counties reduce their OPEB liability. The Commissioners are very pleased with the program and would like to plan visits to all the member communities to introduce the program as soon as possible. Commissioner Hanley made a motion:

*WHEREAS Plymouth County (the "County") desires to create and sponsor the Plymouth County OPEB Trust Program ("PCOT"), a program designed for the pre-funding of OPEB obligations through a tax-exempt trust and plan performing an essential government function within the meaning of Section 115 of the Interval Revenue Code, as amended, and the relevant statutory provisions of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts; and*

*WHEREAS membership in the PCOT shall be extended to eligible member units and public entities in the County and in specific surrounding counties; and*

*WHEREAS it is determined to be in the best interest of the PCOT to approve the Public Agencies Post-Retirement Health Care Plan Trust as the OPEB trust fund for the PCOT; and*

*WHEREAS it is determined to be in the best interest of the PCOT to appoint the County Treasurer as the administrator of the PCOT with the authority to establish an Investment Committee for the development and oversight of the PCOT's investment pool.*

*NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT:*

- 1. The County Commissioners hereby authorize the County Treasurer to establish the Plymouth County OPEB Trust Program ("PCOT"), and further authorize the County Treasurer to extend membership in the PCOT to all member units in the County, as well as member units and public entities in the neighboring counties of Norfolk, Bristol, and Barnstable; and*
- 2. The County Commissioners hereby approve the Public Agencies Post-Retirement Health Care Plan Trust as the OPEB trust fund for the PCOT; and*
- 3. The County Commissioners hereby appoint the County Treasurer as the administrator of the PCOT and further authorize the County Treasurer to establish an Investment Committee for the development and oversight of the PCOT's investment pool.*

Commissioner Wright seconded.

Vote: The motion passed unanimously.

Commissioner Wright made a motion:

*WHEREAS Plymouth County (the "County") desires to establish an OPEB trust fund pursuant to the provisions of Chapter 32B, Section 20 of the Massachusetts General Laws, as amended by Chapter 68, Section 57 of the Acts of 2011; and*

*WHEREAS the County sponsors the Plymouth County OPEB Trust Program (PCOT); and*

*WHEREAS the County is eligible to participate in the PCOT, a program designed for the pre-funding of OPEB obligations through the Public Agencies Post-Retirement Health Care Trust, a tax-exempt trust performing an essential governmental function within the meaning of Section 115 of the Internal Revenue Code, as amended, and the relevant statutory provisions of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts; and*

*WHEREAS it is determined to be in the best interest of the County to participate in the PCOT to fund post-employment benefits for its employees as specified in the County's policies and/or applicable collective bargaining agreements.*

*NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT:*

- 1. The County Commissioners hereby approve joining the Plymouth County OPEB Trust Program (PCOT); and*
- 2. The County Commissioners hereby adopt the Public Agencies Post-Retirement Health Care Plan Trust, including the Public Agencies Post-Retirement Health Care Plan, effective January 15, 2015 (the "Trust"); and*
- 3. The County Commissioners hereby appoint the County Treasurer or his/her designee as the County's Plan Administrator for the Trust. The Plan Administrator shall act on behalf of the County in all matters relating to the County's participation in the PCOT, including, but not limited to, authorizing the investment of assets in the PCOT's investment pool, providing directions to the Trustee and/or the Trust Administrator, and authorizing disbursements from the County's trust assets; and*
- 4. The County Commissioners hereby authorize the County Treasurer to delegate custodial services to U.S. Bank as Trustee/Custodian in accordance with the relevant provisions of M.G.L. c. 32B Section 20; and*
- 5. The County Commissioners hereby authorize the Plan Administrator to implement the program and to take whatever additional actions are necessary to maintain the County's participation in the Trust and to maintain compliance of any relevant regulations issued or as may be issued.*
- 6. This resolution shall take effect upon its adoption by the County Commissioners.*

Commissioner Hanley seconded.

Vote: The motion passed unanimously.

Chairman Pallotta requested the Treasurer send out a press release and put all information on the county website.

### Vote-IFB Long Reach Hydraulic Excavator

Deputy Treasurer Jeff Welch presented the bid results for the Long Reach Hydraulic Excavator for the Plymouth County Dredge. Four bids were received and the recommendation is to award the bid to the most responsive and responsible bidder Schmidt Equipment, Inc. North Oxford, MA with the price of \$212,000.00

Commissioner Wright made a motion to award the bid to Schmidt Equipment, Inc. Commissioner Hanley seconded.

Vote: The motion passed unanimously.

Commissioner Hanley made a motion to authorize Chairman Pallotta to sign the contract with Schmidt Equipment, Inc. Commissioner Wright seconded.

Vote: The motion passed unanimously.

### DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS

#### Superintendent of Buildings Doug Wedge

Mr. Wedge briefed the Commissioners on a request received from Plymouth Police Chief Michael Botieri to use the Sheriff's house located on the corner of Obery Street as a training facility. The Commissioners would like a lease and certificates of liability to be submitted by the Town of Plymouth.

At 7:40 p.m. the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,  
Nancy O'Rourke  
Executive Assistant

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**Discussion-Collective Bargaining**

The Commissioners discussed collective bargaining with Attorney Gildea regarding SEIU and OPEIU.

**Discussion-Transfer Station**

The Commissioners discussed a meeting to be held Tuesday, January 20, 2015 with the Plymouth Board of Selectmen to discuss recent meeting held on the Plymouth Transfer Station.

At 7:07 p.m. Chairman Pallotta called the roll to enter back in to open public session: Chairman Pallotta-Yes, Commissioner Hanley-Yes, Commissioner Wright-Yes.

Respectfully submitted,  
Nancy O'Rourke  
Executive Assistant