

WILL COUNTY BOARD
FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING
MINUTES

October 6, 2009

Will County Office Building
County Board Committee Room
302 North Chicago Street
Joliet, IL 60432
10:30 a.m.

CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Kusta, Jr. called the meeting to order at 10:30 a.m.

ROLL CALL

Present were Members: Maher, Brooks, Jr., Dralle, Gould, Seiler, Wilhelmi, and Kusta,
Jr.

Absent were Members: None.

Also Present: Adamic and Moustis.

Present from State's Attorney's Office: Mary Tatroe.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mrs. Dralle led the committee in the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made by Mr. Maher, seconded by Mrs. Seiler, to approve the minutes
from the September 1, 2009 meeting, as amended. All in favor. MOTION CARRIES.

OLD BUSINESS

Update on 2010 Budget

Mr. Rafac gave an update regarding the 2010 budget.

Mr. Wilhelmi arrived at this juncture.

Mr. Rafac stated I will be looking at further reductions to the budget to create a more
long term view of what we can expect.

Other Old Business

NEW BUSINESS

Request for Real Estate Tax Abatement for RTC

Matt Cybulski, vice president of the CED; Susan Bergdoll, vice president of Duke Realty; William Frain, senior vice president industrial services of CB Richard Ellis; and Larry O'Neill, senior vice president global operations of RTC came before committee to discuss the request for a tax abatement.

Mr. Cybulski stated this is a 3 year, 50 percent property tax abatement request. RTC is looking at a facility in Romeoville as well as one outside of the state. They are currently located in the city of Chicago. We anticipate 120 jobs with an average annual salary of \$30,000. This is a \$30 million investment for RTC.

Mr. O'Neill stated we currently are located at 31st and Kedzie in the city of Chicago. We have looked around the state as well as Wisconsin. We are interested in the Romeoville location. We have been in our current location for over 30 years. We have expanded over those years and we have outgrown our space. We design, manufacture, assemble and distribute fixtures for the retail industry. We do light assembly as well as warehouse and distribution.

Mr. Maher questioned are these new jobs. Are you looking to expansion? What type of jobs are you talking about?

Mr. O'Neill stated we are talking about supervision, assembly and warehouse and distribution jobs. We anticipate that a portion of our employees will initially relocate but due to attrition we will be hiring locally. There will be the same staffing levels we have now. We do use temporary workers, which can be 20-300 at a time and can last from one week to three months. We do have spikes in our employment needs.

Mr. Gould questioned is your current facility leased or owned.

Mr. O'Neill stated we are currently leasing. We plan to lease the facility in Romeoville for 12 years with three 5 year extensions.

Mr. Adamic questioned what is the hourly wage.

Mr. O'Neill stated it is a union shop and the annual salary is \$33,000; \$12.50 to \$13.00 per hour.

A motion was made by Mrs. Dralle, seconded by Mr. Maher, to place a resolution on the County Board Agenda for the intent to abate real estate taxes for RTC for 3 years, 50 percent. All in favor. MOTION CARRIES.

University of IL Coop Extension

Dr. Theuri from the University of Illinois Cooperative Extension, Dr. Oliver, associate chancellor from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign and Douglas Tweeten, the University of Illinois Extension chair, came before the committee to discuss a funding requesting for the University of Illinois Cooperative Extension.

Dr. Theuri highlighted some of the programs that the Extension helps which include youth development, a natural resource program, and a family nutrition program.

Mr. Kusta, Jr. stated we are in the process of curtailing the amount we give organizations. We can pledge \$25,000 for FY2009. We will not be able to give you any money in FY2010.

Dr. Oliver stated there is a state law that states for us to operate in a county we must get some matching money from that county. We get federal and state money. The state money is a matching program. It would be the first time in history that we have lost an office in this state. We want to maintain a presence here in Will County.

Mr. Maher stated we have a lot of unfunded mandates from the state. This might be time to look at legislation for funding.

Mr. Adamic questioned what have you done to look at other agencies for funding.

Dr. Theuri stated our programs are funded by other agencies in the County. We are in partnership with the city of Joliet, United Way, and the Extension Council as an example. But I also need to go out and find additional funding.

A motion was made by Mrs. Dralle, seconded by Mr. Maher, to place a resolution on the County Board Agenda appropriating funds to the University of Illinois Cooperative Extension in the amount of \$25,000. All in favor. MOTION CARRIES.

Mr. Moustis arrived at this juncture.

Determination of the Estimate of the Annual Aggregate Levy

Mr. Rafac stated I am recommending that we do publish our black box and increase our levy by 5 percent of what is expected. This will give us flexibility to take advantage of anything that happens in the levy as well as if anything happens in the other levy accounts we can shift that money into corporate. We were not able to do either of those things last year. We will be making further adjustments to these levy numbers to try and reduce some of them and shift more money into corporate.

Mr. Moustis questioned if we do not exceed the five percent, do we need to publish. We did not publish last year.

Mr. Rafac stated we did not publish last year but because we did not increase the levy amounts we were not able to take advantage of shifting money into the corporate fund. I would publish for 5 percent on top of the 1.72 percent. That will give me the flexibility to shift funds around in the spring when we have final numbers.

Mr. Moustis stated in the levies such as for the Health Department; while we are cutting in other places their levy is staying the same. I do think there should be some discussion with the Health Department about cost savings.

Mr. Rafac stated request last year we where looking at a lower levy number. They were funded at \$9.3 million. The number we project for this year is the same. I will have conversations with the Health Department, the Highway Department, and we will look at the workers comp, tort immunity, FICA and IMRF levies.

Mr. Moustis questioned did the Health Department offer the furlough and severance incentive.

Mr. Cicero stated no.

Mr. Moustis stated going forward every department will have to reduce some personnel. The County Executive did recommend an incentive program to help with those costs. I am disappointed that large departments did not offer this to their employees. Your funds are set by a levy.

Mr. Cicero stated the reason we did not look at that is because of the type of operation we have at the Health Department, do to the uncertainty and the inability to staff direct clinic services when you have employees volunteering to take a furlough or severance. We will live within our means. If we are going to be given a bottom line figure, we will reduce where necessary. When it becomes voluntary it is too difficult to manage direct service when you do not know who will be out and for what length of time. The other big issue is that we will also have the same problem we had last spring with regard to the state funding.

A motion was made by Mr. Maher, seconded by Mr. Wilhelmi, to place a resolution on the County Board Agenda determining the estimate of the annual aggregate levy. All in favor.

MOTION CARRIES.

Request to Increase Appropriations in Workers Comp & Tort Immunity Funds

Mr. Rafac stated we do not have sufficient appropriation in workers comp and tort immunity to meet our bills. I am asking for an appropriation increase of \$750,000 for workers comp and \$500,000 for tort. There is sufficient cash in both of the funds, but we need to pay our on going costs.

Mr. Moustis stated we reserve for these cases. We fund at what we think we are going to settle for. We will be reviewing the workers comp program. We will be going out for quotes.

A motion was made by Mr. Wilhelmi, seconded by Mr. Brooks, Jr., to place a resolution on the County Board Agenda for the increase of appropriations in the workers comp and tort immunity funds at \$750,000 and \$500,000 respectively. All in favor. MOTION CARRIES.

Update of County Finances

Mrs. Hennessy gave the committee an update regarding County finances.

Request for Transfer of Funds in County Clerk's Budget

Mrs. Voots this request is to pay for our maintenance agreement for our website and the election results.

A motion was made by Mrs. Dralle, seconded by Mr. Brooks, Jr., to place a resolution on the County Board Agenda for the transfer of funds in the County Clerk's budget in the amount of \$25,000. All in favor. MOTION CARRIES.

Request for Resolution Authorizing County Executive to Execute Delinquent Tax Documents

A motion was made by Mrs. Dralle, seconded by Mr. Gould, to place a resolution on the County Board Agenda authorizing the County Executive to execute delinquent tax documents. All in favor. MOTION CARRIES.

Request for Transfer of Funds within TB Clinic's Budget

A motion was made by Mr. Wilhelmi, seconded by Mrs. Dralle, to place a resolution on the County Board Agenda for the transfer of funds within the TB Clinic's budget for a voicemail upgrade in the amount of \$1,045.81. All in favor. MOTION CARRIES.

Request for Transfer of Funds in Sunny Hill's Budget

Ms. Sorbero stated this request is for an emergency purchase of our oven.

A motion was made by Mrs. Dralle, seconded by Mrs. Seiler, to place a resolution on the County Board Agenda for the transfer of funds in Sunny Hill's Budget for the emergency purchase of an oven in the amount of \$5,800.96. All in favor. MOTION CARRIES.

Request for Transfer Agreement Between Sunny Hill and Department of Healthcare & Family Services

Ms. Sorbero stated this is an intergovernmental transfer. We participated in a federal program, the state receives the money and distributed to all the county nursing homes in Illinois. We then turn a portion of that money to the state. We are looking for permission to have the County Executive execute this contract. It generates about \$1 million in revenue a year for the nursing home.

A motion was made by Mr. Gould, seconded by Mrs. Seiler, to place a resolution on the County Board Agenda for a transfer agreement between Sunny Hill and the Department of Healthcare and Family Services. All in favor. MOTION CARRIES.

Request for Transfer of Funds within ICT Budget

Mr. Farrell stated this transfer is so that we may purchase a main router for \$9,800. We also have to pay for the Sunny Hill voicemail upgrade for an amount of \$13,600.

A motion was made by Mrs. Dralle, seconded by Mrs. Seiler, to place a resolution on the County Board Agenda for the transfer of funds within the ICT budget. All in favor.

MOTION CARRIES.

Mr. Adamic left at this juncture.

Request to Discuss Annual Audit Plan

Mr. Blackburn presented to the committee his annual audit plan.

Request for Transfer of Funds in Probation's Budget

A motion was made by Mrs. Dralle, seconded by Mr. Gould, to place a resolution on the County Board Agenda for the transfer of funds in probation's budget in the amount of \$18,667.00. All in favor. MOTION CARRIES.

Request to Create Department of Energy Grant Fund Budget

Mr. Kusta, Jr. stated the information was not in our packets. I like to have the information in the packet prior to the meeting. We can move these to the Executive Committee so that we have enough time to review the information.

A motion was made by Mrs. Dralle, seconded by Mr. Maher, to move the request to create a department of energy grant fund budget to the Executive Committee's next agenda. All in favor. MOTION CARRIES.

Request to Create HPRP Grant Fund Budget

A motion was made by Mrs. Dralle, seconded by Mr. Maher, to move the request to create HPRP grant fund budget to the Executive Committee's next agenda. All in favor. MOTION CARRIES.

Request to Increase Appropriations in Fund 298 to Cover FY09 Expenditures

A motion was made by Mrs. Dralle, seconded by Mr. Maher, to move the request to increase appropriations in fund 298 to cover FY09 expenditures to the Executive Committee's next agenda. All in favor. MOTION CARRIES.

Request for Appropriation of Grant Funds in Stormwater Budget

Mr. O'Sullivan stated this is money for the Fiddymont Creek maintenance project.

A motion was made by Mr. Gould, seconded by Mr. Maher, to place a resolution on the County Board Agenda for the appropriation of grant funds in the Stormwater budget in the amount of \$3,000. All in favor. MOTION CARRIES.

9-1-1 Emergency Communication and Command Center

Mr. Figved stated I have requested that this item be moved to a joint meeting between Finance and Capital Improvements.

Request for Transfer of Funds within 9-1-1- Budget

Mr. Figved stated this transfer is at the request of the Auditor's office. This is basically to clean up some entries.

Mr. Kusta questioned what is this \$85,000 for, is it for a new hire.

Mr. Figved stated that was for a new hire but also for the COLA adjustment. This request is a transfer to close out our budget year.

Mr. Moustis stated we do ask for additional justification from moving from capital to an operational item this point in the budget year.

Mr. Figved stated we keep the bulk of our funds in capital. Throughout the year certain projects come up that we approve. We use our operational funds until we cannot operate any longer and then we ask for a transfer from capital back in operations. We have been working with the Auditor to reclassify these items.

A motion was made by Mr. Brooks, Jr., seconded by Mr. Maher, to place a resolution to on the County Board Agenda concurring with the recommendation of the Finance Director and the Will County Auditor for the transfer of funds within 9-1-1 budget in the amount of \$989,901.42. All in favor. MOTION CARRIES.

Request for Transfer of Funds in Children's Advocacy Budget

A motion was made by Mr. Maher, seconded by Mrs. Seiler, to place a resolution on the County Board Agenda for the increase of appropriations in Children's Advocacy Budget in the amount of \$11,000. All in favor. MOTION CARRIES.

Request for Increase of Appropriations in Sheriff's Budget

Deputy Chief Romeo stated this is a transfer of funds from our revenue fund into the seizure and forfeiture fund in the amount of \$4,000. This will pay for fees related to the seizure of vehicles.

A motion was made by Mrs. Seiler, seconded by Mr. Brooks, Jr., to place a resolution on the County Board Agenda for the increase of appropriations in the Sheriff's Budget in the amount of \$4,000. All in favor. MOTION CARRIES.

Request for Increase in Appropriations in Sheriff's Weight Scale Budget

Deputy Chief Romeo stated this is to transfer \$12,780 so that we can purchase a portable weight scale.

A motion was made by Mr. Gould, seconded by Mrs. Seiler, to place a resolution on the County Board Agenda for the increase of appropriations in the Sheriff's weight scale budget in the amount of \$12,780. All in favor. MOTION CARRIES.

Mrs. Seiler left at this juncture.

Other New Business

Mr. Cicero stated we are anticipating receiving H¹N¹ funds in the next week and we will need to appropriate the funding. I am asking that you allow me to work with Mr. Rafac if we need to appropriate some funding on an emergency basis prior to the November County Board Meeting. We do not know what the funding or the need will be for this. As soon as I have the details, I will send them to staff.

Mr. Kusta, Jr. stated we will save a space for that.

Mr. Moustis stated if you do not have the information, we can just pull it.

ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE CHAIRMAN

EXECUTIVE SESSION

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Mr. Wilhelmi, seconded by Mr. Maher, to adjourn the meeting at 11:48 a.m. All in favor. MOTION CARRIES.