

PLYMOUTH COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
MEETING

May 13, 2021

A regular meeting of the Plymouth County Commissioners was called to order at 5:30 p.m. at the County of Plymouth Administration Building, 44 Obery Street, Plymouth, MA. Present were Chairman Gregory M. Hanley, Commissioner Sandra M. Wright, and Commissioner Jared L. Valanzola.

Also, in attendance were Treasurer Thomas O'Brien, Deputy Treasurer Jeff Welch, Assistant Register of Deeds Tim White, County Attorney Shannon Resnick and County Administrator Frank Basler,

Vote Meeting Minutes– April 29, 2021

Commissioner Valanzola made a motion to approve the meeting minutes of April 29, 2021. Commissioner Wright seconded.

Vote: The motion passed unanimously.

Vote to accept and approve CPS Form

Ronald Butterworth–Typo correction of former CPS to anniversary date of March 1st (not April 1st).

Commissioner Valanzola made a motion to accept and approve the personnel status form listed. Commissioner Wright seconded.

Vote: The motion passed unanimously.

Vote to accept and approve vendor vouchers

Commissioner Valanzola made a motion to approve vendor vouchers as recommended by the Treasurer. Commissioner Wright seconded.

Vote: The motion passed unanimously.

Vote to accept and approve payroll vouchers

Commissioner Valanzola made a motion to approve the payroll voucher as recommended by the Treasurer. Commissioner Wright seconded.

Vote: The motion passed unanimously.

CARES Act: update and possible distribution votes

Commissioner Valanzola made a motion to approve reimbursements in the amount of \$481,483.72 to the Town of Abington. Commissioner Wright seconded.

Vote: The motion passed unanimously.

Commissioner Valanzola made a motion to approve reimbursements in the amount of \$43,355.08 to the Town of Bridgewater. Commissioner Wright seconded.

Vote: The motion passed unanimously.

Commissioner Valanzola made a motion to approve reimbursements in the amount of \$20,685.68 to the Town of Bridgewater. Commissioner Wright seconded.

Vote: The motion passed unanimously.

Commissioner Valanzola made a motion to approve reimbursements in the amount of \$198,465.78 to the City of Brockton. Commissioner Wright seconded.

Vote: The motion passed unanimously.

Commissioner Valanzola made a motion to approve reimbursements in the amount of \$396,850.59 to the Town of Duxbury. Commissioner Wright seconded.

Vote: The motion passed unanimously.

Commissioner Valanzola made a motion to approve reimbursements in the amount of \$75,000.00 to the Town of Duxbury. Commissioner Wright seconded.

Vote: The motion passed unanimously.

Commissioner Valanzola made a motion to approve reimbursements in the amount of \$197,704.91 to the Town of East Bridgewater. Commissioner Wright seconded.

Vote: The motion passed unanimously.

Commissioner Valanzola made a motion to approve reimbursements in the amount of \$38,823.87 to the Town of Halifax. Commissioner Wright seconded.

Vote: The motion passed unanimously.

Commissioner Valanzola made a motion to approve reimbursements in the amount of \$63,109.35 to the Town of Halifax. Commissioner Wright seconded.

Vote: The motion passed unanimously.

Commissioner Valanzola made a motion to approve reimbursements in the amount of \$10,880.79 to the Town of Hull. Commissioner Wright seconded.

Vote: The motion passed unanimously.

Commissioner Valanzola made a motion to approve reimbursements in the amount of \$16,334.61 to the Town of Hull. Commissioner Wright seconded.

Vote: The motion passed unanimously.

Commissioner Valanzola made a motion to approve reimbursements in the amount of \$15,363.78 to the Town of Hull. Commissioner Wright seconded.

Vote: The motion passed unanimously.

Commissioner Valanzola made a motion to approve reimbursements in the amount of \$18,827.60 to the Town of Hull. Commissioner Wright seconded.

Vote: The motion passed unanimously.

Commissioner Valanzola made a motion to approve reimbursements in the amount of \$14,980.81 to the Town of Hull. Commissioner Wright seconded.

Vote: The motion passed unanimously.

Commissioner Valanzola made a motion to approve reimbursements in the amount of \$66,621.31 to the Town of Lakeville. Commissioner Wright seconded.

Vote: The motion passed unanimously.

Commissioner Valanzola made a motion to approve reimbursements in the amount of \$206,786.70 to the Town of Mattapoisett. Commissioner Wright seconded.

Vote: The motion passed unanimously.

Commissioner Valanzola made a motion to approve reimbursements in the amount of \$158,267.31 to the Town of Norwell. Commissioner Wright seconded.

Vote: The motion passed unanimously.

Commissioner Valanzola made a motion to approve reimbursements in the amount of \$157,110.83 to the Town of Pembroke. Commissioner Wright seconded.

Vote: The motion passed unanimously.

Commissioner Valanzola made a motion to approve reimbursements in the amount of \$52,625.10 to the Town of Plympton. Commissioner Wright seconded.

Vote: The motion passed unanimously.

Commissioner Valanzola made a motion to approve reimbursements in the amount of \$58,497.82 to the Town of Scituate. Commissioner Wright seconded.

Vote: The motion passed unanimously.

Commissioner Valanzola made a motion to approve reimbursements in the amount of \$119,924.47 to the Town of Scituate. Commissioner Wright seconded.

Vote: The motion passed unanimously.

Commissioner Valanzola made a motion to approve reimbursements in the amount of \$33,763.69 to the Town of Whitman. Commissioner Wright seconded.

Vote: The motion passed unanimously.

Commissioner Valanzola made a motion to approve a voucher in the amount of \$1,160.00 to Murphy, Hesse, Toomey & Lehane, LLP for Administrative Support. Commissioner Wright seconded.

Vote: The motion passed unanimously.

Commissioner Valanzola made a motion to approve a voucher in the amount of \$17,721.25 to Eric A. Kinsherf, CPA for Administrative Support. Commissioner Wright seconded.

Vote: The motion passed unanimously.

American Recovery Plan Act (ARPA)–discussion and possible votes

Treasurer O'Brien briefed the Board that guidance was sent on May 10, 2021 in the form of an interim final rule of 151 pages highlighting the ARPA program. \$101,000,000 to four categories but cannot be used for taxes or pension obligations. The Treasurer has several questions that were raised by the information. Treasurer O'Brien has discussed the program with the state. The recommendation is to hold on decisions until information is more clearly understood. This program is different than CARES act as that was a reimbursement program. The Chair stated that administration costs are not clearly defined or whether they are allowed or not. A meeting is scheduled with NaCo leadership on Monday, May 17, 2021. Barnstable County is leaning toward taking ARPA money and investing it in infrastructure improvements.

Commissioner Wright stated that if the towns receive the money directly, they will have hardships as they do not have the staff to manage the program. Commissioner Valanzola stated that his inclination is to defer, but this is a tough decision as the management of the CARES Act has brought the County together. Attorney Resnick stated that the County has offered services to local towns in other areas of services and has a good track record on getting things done successfully. The Chair stated that fairly portioning the funds without alienating certain groups within towns will be challenging. It is anticipated that there will be a great deal of disagreement within every one of the towns.

Administrator Basler will send out rules and FAQ to the Commissioners.

Commissioner's New Business

Chairman Hanley stated Senator Keenan and Senator Moran have co-sponsored the Pension Obligation Bond Bill. Treasurer O'Brien updated the group on how the program will work and that this bond could save the County about five million dollars if the legislature can pass this bond bill. A draft of information created by Stifel was distributed by the Treasurer.

Administrator Basler will forward Sternum contact information.

Treasurer O'Brien handed an article out about State spending over \$20MM on consultants during the CARES Act process.

Finally, the Treasurer is working on a draft for Phase 7 of the CARES Act which will be discussed at next week's meeting.

Commissioner Valanzola stated that he was working on a response to the Boston Globe Editorial that had concerns with the County administering Federal Funds. The Chair stated that responding could open further discussion about County relevancy.

The next meeting will be Thursday, 5/20 at 9:00 AM

Executive Session

In Accordance with MGL, Chapter 30A, Section 21, Paragraph 3; to discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining for union negotiations with OPEIU Registry union, and SEIU Maintenance union. The Board voted to enter Executive Session and to not return to open public session at 6:35 p.m.

Chairman Hanley called the roll: Commissioner Wright-Yes. Commissioner Valanzola-Yes. Chairman Hanley-Yes.

At 7:30 p.m. the meeting was adjourned.

Documents and/or exhibits

- Meeting Minutes-April 29, 2021
- Stifel Handout-Pension Obligation Bond

Respectfully submitted,
Nancy O'Rourke
Executive Assistant