

Finance & Economic Development
December 17, 2020 at 9:00 am
County Board Room

Present: Mike Berlin, Laura Nagro, Pat Kinney, Ron Sztynдор, Martin Vitek

Others: Clark Schroeder, Lori Schmidt, Jennifer Solberg, Tracey Hoglund, Sue Misun, Gary Mertig, Matt Erickson, Betsy Harries, Terry Barningham, Heather Schutte, Josh Rowley, Dorothy Tank, Bill Metzinger, Dick Pufall

Mike Berlin called the meeting to order at 9:01 am and roll call was taken. Motion to approve the agenda as presented by Pat Kinney, 2nd by Laura Nagro. Motion carried.

No public comments at this time. Motion to approve the October 15, 2020 meeting minutes as presented by Laura Nagro, 2nd by Ron Sztynдор. Motion carried.

Discussion followed regarding the request of AADC for the 1st quarter of 2021 in the amount of \$6,250.00. Motion by Martin Vitek, 2nd by Laura to approve the request of AADC. Motion carried. Betsy Harries gave an overview of things happening with AADC.

Clark Schroeder and Matt Erickson held discussion regarding a County Road H Grant Application. Clark stated that this would need a commitment of support for debt levy increase as the grant would need a match of \$250,000. This grant is for erosion control for County Road H on Madeline Island. Discussion followed. There was no support for the Highway Commissioner to go ahead with this grant application.

Clark Schroeder and Laura Nagro presented guidelines for requests from outside agencies for tax dollars. Discussion followed and the Committee would like something for these requests but not as much as was presented. Laura Nagro and Pat Kinney will work on this.

Discussion followed regarding health insurance options. Clark Schroeder stated that the County is presently self-funded and has a negative balance of \$1.3 million which has been borrowed from the General Fund and needs to be repaid. Some options are to charge employees more, charge departments more or go to another health insurance plan that would not be self-funded. Motion by Laura Nagro, 2nd by Pat Kinney to form a research committee to look into options for health insurance, consisting of 6 people plus the County Administrator. Motion carried. Laura Nagro and Pat Kinney stated that they would both like to be on this research committee.

Clark Schroeder held discussion regarding a referendum in April 2021 to exceed the levy limits. Motion by Pat Kinney, 2nd by Martin Vitek that the Finance Committee ask that the full County Board consider a referendum in April 2021. Discussion. Pat Kinney withdrew his motion and Martin Vitek withdrew his 2nd to the motion. Motion by Laura Nagro that the County Board be presented a recommendation for a referendum to exceed the levy limit by \$1 million starting in 2021 for 5 years be placed on the April 2021 ballot. Second by Mike Berlin. Motion carried with Pat Kinney being opposed.

The next meeting was scheduled for January 21, 2021 at 9:00 am in the County Board Room.

Motion to adjourn by Pat Kinney with a 2nd by Ron Sztynдор. Motion carried and the meeting adjourned at 11:26 am.

Lori Schmidt,
Administrative Assistant.