



COUNTY OF KENOSHA

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Department of Public Works

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Joint Committee Meeting Minutes
Building & Grounds Committee
Finance Committee
Judiciary & Law Committee
Wednesday May 30, 2007
6:30 PM
County Board Chambers

1. Call to Order
Meeting called to order by Chairman Singer at 6:30 PM.
2. Roll Call
 - Committee members present from the Building and Grounds Committee were Dave Singer, Mark Molinaro, Roger Johnson, Gabe Nudo and Mark Wisnefski
 - Committee members present from the Finance Committee were Mark Wisnefski, Anita Faraone, John O'Day, and Joseph Clark. Excused was Bob Carbone.
 - Committee members present from the Judiciary and Law Committee were William Michel, Joseph Clark, and Terry Rose, ex-officio. Excused were David Arrington, Ruth Booth, and Bob Haas.
3. Chairman or Committee Member comments
There were no comments.
4. Citizen comments
There were no citizen comments.
5. Consideration of a Resolution for Budget Modification for Kenosha County Detention Center Renovation
 - Captain Gary Preston of the Kenosha County Sheriff's Department gave a report on the jail population.
 - Director Frederick Patrie of the Department of Public Works gave a report on the project which included the cost of the project and the cost of the add alternates. He also reported on the contractors that would be working on the renovation. Supervisor Wisnefski asked what areas of the project were increased in cost since it was bid the last time. Director Patrie replied that the average increase was 27.3% and the biggest increase was in the cost of the steel. The anticipated completion date is late November 2007.
 - Supervisor Molinaro stated that the practice of funding projects with the sale of land must stop. He asked how it is determined what property to sell and then what project the sale proceeds will be applied to. Director Patrie explained that the staff makes the recommendation and the County Board has the final approval on real estate purchases and sales. Supervisor Molinaro also stated that the practice establishes a precedent for any buyer who does their homework to know what price the County has set based upon

the budget. Supervisor Molinaro stated that he would rather have the sale of the land lapse into the general fund and take the money from elsewhere to fund projects. Supervisor Clark stated that he agreed with Supervisor Molinaro.

Supervisor Clark asked what the revenue sources are. Finance Director Geertsen explained that the revenue sources in the 2007 budget are bonding and the sale of the property. There has been a fund balance that has been carried forward that was earmarked for this project only and also the interest earnings. Other sources of funding are being considered, such as revenue from housing prisoners, the sale of the property, and finance a small portion in 2008. The major financing is in the 2007 note and surplus revenue within the Sheriff's Department 2007 budget, which is being approved within resolutions. Director Geertsen explained that the project was to be funded in accordance with the fiscal note that was sent out in the meeting packets. This reflected a \$1 million funding increase for the project.

Supervisor Michel inquired on the status of the sale of property. Director Patrie explained that the party offering to purchase the property discovered that there would be many cubic yards of material required at the site and then withdrew the offer. Chairman Singer inquired if the property was listed or could be. Director Patrie stated that it was up to the County Board.

Supervisor Wisniewski stated that Supervisors Molinaro and Clark are right on target about the sale of property. He stated that he does not want to burden the taxpayer to house federal prisoners. He feels housing the federal prisoners should be a revenue generating business.

Supervisor Faraone also concurred with Supervisor Molinaro regarding the sale of property and also with Supervisor Wisniewski's idea of short-term notes for this project.

Supervisor Rose stated that in 2004 this project was bid and authorized. He asked why it was not pursued at that time. Captain Preston explained that the State of Wisconsin was pursuing to house state inmates at lower rates and pulled out of the deal. The Sheriff didn't want beds that there was no demand for. Since that time, there has been a demand from the federal government to house inmates. Supervisor Rose stated that the Sheriff and administration should have come back before the board with the changes in facts and also to withdraw and revoke the resolution. Director Patrie reported that the Board rescinded budget approval for the project in the 2005 budget and referenced the budget page. Director Patrie explained to the Committees that the contract was presented to the Building and Grounds Committee for authorization to proceed and award the bids. At this time the Sheriff's Department did report the change in status and the Building Committee didn't authorize the project to proceed. In 2005, staff did come back to the Board to support the project.

Supervisor Clark inquired about the fact that there is no contract with the federal government to house the prisoners. Chief Deputy Smith explained that being chose to house prisoners is all about location, acceptance of prisoners, and jail compliance. He

explained that Kenosha County has shown the willingness to work with the federal agents with regard to housing prisoners.

Supervisor Molinaro stated that the County should go forth with the project because it is going to be paid for by the state and federal government. The County has an opportunity even though the construction costs have increased. The County is in a better position to have someone else pay for the construction as long as the County follows proper procedures. Chairman Singer stated he believes it is the appropriate time to continue with the project even though the costs are higher.

- Motion by Supervisor Clark to approve the resolution and budget modification with the change of striking the word “bonding” and replacing it with “To be funded in accordance with the attached fiscal note”, seconded by Supervisor Wisnefski. Motion approved unanimously by the Building and Grounds Committee, the Finance Committee, and the Judiciary and Law Committee.
6. Other matters that may be appropriately brought before the Committee
 - There were no other matter brought before the Joint Committees
 7. Adjournment
 - Motion by Supervisor Wisnefski to adjourn, seconded by Supervisor Faraone. Motion approved.