

Roll Call -

Commissioner Baldacci opened the meeting at 9:00 AM from the Commissioners Chambers with Commissioner Marshall, Treasurer Mower, Administrator Adkins and Deputy Administrator LaBree present.

Commission Chair Cushing participating via ZOOM

Pledge of Allegiance – Commissioner Baldacci

Public Comment –

Pamela Proulx-Curry – Board of Directors President / Maine MultiCultural Center

Participant reported what the Maine MultiCultural Center does in order to help immigrants new to the area. They're eager and anxious to work and looking for a better life here. When refugees are being resettled, they come with the clothes on their back and perhaps one bag with them; they have no rental or credit history, making it difficult to find safe, affordable housing. The Multicultural Center provides support and assistance to connect them to services in the community. The ARPA funds requested will go into a housing fund; which is seen not as a cost, but as an investment in our economic future of the area.

Larry Dansinger – Resident of Bangor

Participant requested that the reported minutes should reflect more description on public comments from the speaker as stated. Participant then referred to information that was sent last week concerning a survey from UMaine drug policies. The basic idea was Maine voter's attitudes towards drug policy and alternative to criminalization or incarceration. A clear result was people are seeing disorder issues as public health issues rather than criminal issues; preferring rehabilitation and treatment to incarceration. Thinking there needs to be more community-based services to address substance abuse and mental health disorders.

Marwa Hassaniien – Northern Light Health - Director of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion

Participant spoke to the need of the health care system with our state and a lot of rural areas medically are underserved. Northern Light is currently working on diversifying workforce to fill critical shortages and actively seeking to recruit immigrants and new Mainers to fill these positions. Housing continues to be a challenge in terms of availability and cost. The support that the Commissioners are providing to MMCC will go a long way in helping allocate necessary resources for new Mainers.

Angela Okafor – Resident of Bangor and Business Owner

Participant gave her perspective as being an immigrant to Bangor. When immigrants come here, because of the struggle in their homelands, there is a zeal to succeed in our communities. Participant spoke of a recent childcare center opened with earlier and later hours, which is a very critical service needed in our region. Participant thanked the Commissioners for their support in MMCC and is excited to see what will happen to Bangor in the next few years with all this drive.

Approval of Meeting Minutes

Commissioner Marshall made a motion to approve March 21, 2023 meeting minutes. Commissioner Cushing seconded the motion- voted to approve 3-0.

DA's Office –

ADA Mark Rucci and Office Manager Kristine Higgins presented the following:

- State vs White in the forfeiture amount of 15% of \$819.49 to the DA's Office and 85% going to the Sheriff's Office. Commissioner Cushing moved to approve this request as presented. Commissioner Marshall seconded the request. Vote to approve passed 3-0.
- State vs Mason in the forfeiture amount of 15% of \$1,598.00 to the DA's Office and 85% going to the Sheriff's Office. Commissioner Cushing moved to approve this request as presented. Commissioner Marshall seconded the request. Vote to approve passed 3-0.
- State vs Jazowski in the forfeiture amount of 100% of \$998.00, plus a handgun going to the Sheriff's Office. Commissioner Cushing moved to approve this request as presented. Commissioner Marshall seconded the request. Vote to approve passed 3-0.
- State vs Mason in the forfeiture amount of 15% of \$996.00 to the DA's Office. Commissioner Cushing moved to approve this request as presented. Commissioner Marshall seconded the request. Vote to approve passed 3-0.
- State vs Lyons in the forfeiture amount of 15% of \$8,725 to the DA's Office. Commissioner Cushing moved to approve this request as presented. Commissioner Marshall seconded the request. Vote to approve passed 3-0.
- The criminal forfeiture account currently has \$8,447.99
- ADA Rucci reported on the significant court docket backlog. ADA Rucci stated that the DA's Office is working with the court developing a system on balancing attendance in court and office time. The highest priority cases for trial are for those that have been incarcerated the longest.

Commissioner Marshall moved to modify the agenda for the ARPA discussion with Grant Manager Wendy Dana. Commissioner Cushing seconded the motion. Vote to approve passed 3-0.

ARPA Discussion –

Commissioner Marshall moved to approve \$45,000 for the Maine MultiCultural Center for the Commissioners ARPA Fund Award for District 1. Commissioner Cushing seconded the motion. Vote to approve passed 3-0.

The Town of Garland ARPA request for \$50,000 will stay tabled until further discussion.

Discussion of Probate Judge Chambers –

Commissioner Baldacci toured the building in order to find a more adequate space for the Probate Judge. After reviewing the Deeds office space with Registrar Bulay, Commissioner Baldacci recommends keeping the Finance Department in the basement and Judge Brandmeir would go in a section in the far corner of the Registry of Deeds to allow for privacy. It was suggested that the Commissioners visit the current location of the Probate Judge and the proposed location.

Finance Update –

Director Bragdon discussed on how to fund \$5.25M to the County.

- Go out to bid for a TAN and pay on monies used. This year interest rates are going to be much higher than the previous years or self-fund through ARPA monies and save on interest
- Commissioner Cushing moved to approve to self-fund from internal versus going out to bank lending. Commissioner Marshall seconded the motion. Vote to approve passed 2-1. Commissioner Baldacci opposed
- Director Bragdon noted \$760K from ARPA and \$550K from RCC Bond are owed back to the General Fund

Sheriff's Update -

Sheriff Morton presented the following:

- Inmate count is 162 in house, an additional 73 boarded out & there are 100+ in Maine Pretrial
- The jail body scanner is in place; all training completed with a policy discussion taking place tomorrow
- There are 69 people enrolled in the MAT (Medication Assisted Treatment) program
- Discussion on the Sheriff's bi-monthly pre-trial report that gets sent to the Court and DA's Office.
- Update on the jail transport van bid that was opened March 21st. Sheriff's recommendation is no action on the bids at this time and to put a new transmission in the old van. Commissioner Marshall moved to table the bids until one is found on the lot. Commissioner Cushing seconded the motion. Vote to approve passed 3-0.
- Discussion on patrol vehicle purchase option for budget year 2024. Our vendor in Massachusetts has offered 10 vehicles at 2023 prices. Commissioner Marshall moved to approve going out to bid for 2024 patrol vehicles. Commissioner Cushing seconded the motion. Vote to approve passed 3-0.
- Discussion on patrol staffing for pending contract towns; single vs multiple deputy towns.
- Discussion on patrol staffing for supplemental contract town contracts and the need for zone coverage staffing. This will be discussed further during a workshop meeting
- Towns of Orrington and Hermon have their School Resource Officers in place

Administration Update –

Administrator Adkins and Deputy Administrator LaBree presented the following:

- A memo to Sam's Club to renewal was submitted for signature. Signed.
- An Earned Paid Leave Policy for part time employees was provided to Commissioners for review.

Approval of Warrants:

Commissioner Marshall made a motion to approve the warrants as stated. Commissioner Cushing seconded the motion. Vote to approve 3-0.

- Payroll Warrant / **(03.24.23)** - \$ 301,504.92/ **(03.24.23)**- \$10,456.76/ **(03.31.23)**-\$293,981.68
- Accounts Payable / **(03.28.23)** - \$ 840,878.64 / **(03.31.23)** - \$614.41/ **(04.04.23)** \$280,914.80
- Accounts Payable / **(PRCC Bond 03.28.23)** - \$ 12,640.80
- UT Accounts Payable/ **(03.28.23)** - \$122,585.22

Payroll status changes signed for: Scott Adkins, Catherine Bazinet, Chris Boulier, Gary Bragdon, Susan Bulay, George Buswell, Douglas Butler, Casey Cotton, Stephen Crocker, Wendy Dana, Anthony Dougherty, Dillon Eales, James Ellis, Kelly Fennelly, Bradley Fitzgerald, Chris Fox, Kristine Higgins, Vanessa Holmes, Keith Hotaling, Abigail Ireland, Velma Jordan, DJ Kirby, John Knappe, Jordan Knappe, Michelle LaBree, Chris Lavoie, Brian MacDonald, Samuel McCarty, Tina Morrison, Troy Morton, Samantha Norman, Bradley Nuding, Mary Anne O'Kelly, Jason Raymond, Alexis Smith, Amy Smith, Jennifer Snow, Renee Stupak, Jennifer Sullivan, Levi Thompson, Jeremiah Torres, & John Walsh

Executive Session---Commissioner Marshall made a motion to go into Executive Session at 10:25 AM under 1 M.R.S.A. § 405 (6) (D) Contract Matter. Commissioner Cushing seconded the motion. Vote to approved passed 3-0. Present were: Commissioners, Administrator Adkins, Deputy Administrator LaBree, Treasurer Mower and Grant Manager Wendy Dana. Session ended at 10:56 AM

Action Taken -

Commissioner Marshall moved to approve \$49,999 to the Town of Lincoln for the Commissioners ARPA Fund Award for District 3. Commissioner Cushing seconded the motion. Vote to approve passed 3-0.

Commissioner Marshall moved to adjourn the meeting at 10:59 AM with no further business on the agenda. Commissioner Cushing seconded the motion. Vote to approve passed 3-0.

Certified By:

Administrator, Scott A. Adkins

Andre E. Cushing, III, Chair

Peter K. Baldacci, Commissioner

David S. Marshall, Commissioner