

Sullivan County NH

Type of Meeting: Sullivan County Full Delegation
Date / Time: 06 August 2008 / 7:00 pm
Place: Valley Regional Hospital Buckley Room

Participants:

Representatives: Peter Franklin (Chair), Ellen Nielsen (Clerk), John Cloutier, Larry Converse, Tom Donovan, Sue Gottling, Matthew Houde, Arthur Jillette, Beverly Rodeschin and Carla Skinder

Commissioners: Ethel Jarvis

Other Elected Officials: Sheriff Michael Prozzo observed

County Employees: Greg Chanis, County Administrator. Ted Purdy, Nursing Home Administrator, and Ross Cunningham, Superintendent of Corrections, observed.

Public Participants: Rose Vinci and Chris Vinci observed.

Press: Heather Murdock, *Valley News* and Ben Bulkeley, *Eagle-Times*

The meeting was called to order by Rep. Franklin at 7:10 pm. This meeting was a continuation of the recessed county convention of 30 June, 2008, and the purpose of the meeting was to finish the work on the county budget for fiscal 2009.

Approval of Minutes:

Draft minutes of the June 17 Budget hearing, the June 30 County Convention, and continuations of the recessed County Convention on July 8, July 14, July 16, and July 30, had been made available as paper copies and/or by email to all representatives. These draft minutes were reviewed, and amendments were made to the minutes of June 30, July 14 and July 30. The clerk explained that the County Convention minutes already had been revised once early in July, to include a motion that had been left out.

In separate voice votes, with no one voting NO, each set of draft minutes was approved or approved as amended. Having been absent for part of the June 30 meeting and all of the meetings in July, Rep. Rodeschin abstained from the voting on those minutes. Having been absent for the first hour of the June 30 meeting and the meeting on July 8, Rep. Nielsen abstained from voting on those minutes.

FY 09 Budget Adjustments:

Non-union health care plan: Mr. Chanis provided spreadsheets showing what adjustments had been made so far, and how each affected the final budget amount, and the amount to be raised by taxes. The final figure on the spreadsheet represented the amount which could be cut from the expense side of the budget if the health care plan for non-union employees went into effect by January 1, 2009. Rep. Franklin asked if we could use a larger figure which would be equivalent to what could be cut if the change happened earlier than January. There was discussion about whether or not this would be practical. Eventually, a consensus was reached that the delegation should err on the side of caution and use the January 1 figure.

Air conditioning in nursing home: Rep. Phinizy and Rep. Rodeschin expressed their concern about the delegation's earlier vote to cut the proposed air conditioners in the PT/OT department and Stearns 3 in the nursing home. Both had missed the vote on the motion to reconsider this budget cut on 30 July. Rep. Donovan and Rep. Skinder also expressed regret that these items had been cut. Rep. Cloutier said that the vote had been hard for him, and he regretted having to choose between the air conditioners and the equally important security upgrades at the jail. The chair explained that, under the parliamentary rules used by the delegation, since the motion to reconsider had failed by a tie vote, the issue can not be re-visited during this budget cycle.

Deficit reduction: At the previous meeting, the chair had explained that, because we had been able to identify almost \$850,000 in reductions which could be made to the expense side of the fiscal 08-09 budget, we could choose to put all of the savings toward tax increase reduction, or we could choose to use some or all of the savings to further reduce the deficit by adding to the contra line in the budget. (The contra line is the amount allocated for deficit reduction.) The chair asked the delegation to consider this question for a week before voting on it.

Rep. Converse moved that the amount in the contra line 4009706060 be increased by \$165,000 to a total of \$1,000,000. Rep. Gottling seconded this motion. The motion passed 7-4, with representatives voting as follows: YES Cloutier, Converse, Franklin, Gottling, Jillette, Nielsen and Skinder NO Donovan, Houde, Phinizy and Rodeschin.

Pay raise for non-union employees: At the meeting of 30 July, the issue of the amount of the pay raise for non-union county employees was considered. The original commissioner's budget had recommended a 3% raise, the EFC had recommended a 2% raise and the commissioners had restored the 3% raise as an amendment to the vote to change the non-union health care plan. At the meeting of 30 July, after a long discussion, the delegation had approved the changes to the non-union health care plan, but did not approve the amendment changing the pay raise from 2% to 3%.

Rep. Rodeschin, who had not attended the meeting of 30 July, said that she wanted to restore the 3% raise, because she wanted to treat all county employees equally. Because the vote of 30 July on the pay raise for non-union employees had not been reconsidered, it was still possible to make changes in the budget which would restore the 3% raise. The chair ruled that the best way to handle the proposal to change the pay raise would be to offer a motion to pass the budget and then to amend that motion. The clerk suggested that the delegation should take a short break while the chair and the clerk met with Mr. Chanis to make sure that the motion on the budget would be worded correctly.

Rep. Nielsen moved to adopt a fiscal year 2009 budget with \$26,130,180 in revenue and 26,130,180 in appropriations, with the amount of \$12,956,211 to be raised by taxes. The motion was seconded by Rep Gottling.

Rep. Rodeschin moved to amend the budget in order that our Sullivan County union and non-union employees receive a 3% salary increase. The motion was seconded by representative Skinder.

In the discussion that followed the motion to amend the budget, two points of view emerged:

- In order to treat all county employees equally, all should be given the same 3% raise.
- Because union employees worked for one years without a contract, and did not receive the 3% raise given to non-union employees last year, and because the bonus for union employees agreed upon in the contract is not compounded, and because union employees pay more for health insurance, the best way to treat all county employees equitably is to give non-union employees a 2% raise.

After more discussion, Rep. Skinder called the question. The chair ruled this motion out of order, saying that the vote on the budget was so important that everyone should be given a chance to speak before the vote. When it was clear that there were no more comments, the chair asked for a roll call vote on the amendment.

The motion by Rep. Rodeschin to amend the motion to adopt the budget in order to give a 3% raise to all county employees failed 10-1, with representatives voting as follows: YES Rodeschin NO Cloutier, Converse, Donovan, Franklin, Gottling, Houde, Jillette, Nielsen, Phinizy and Skinder.

The amendment having failed, the delegation was ready to vote on the budget.

The motion to adopt a fiscal year 2009 budget with \$26,130,180 in revenue and 26,130,180 in appropriations, with the amount of \$12,956,211 to be raised by taxes, passed by a roll call vote of 9-2, with representatives voting as follows: YES Cloutier, Converse, Donovan, Franklin, Gottling, Houde, Jillette, Nielsen and Skinder NO Phinizy and Rodeschin.

Rep. Franklin asked if there were any further business. Rep. Cloutier and Rep. Phinizy reminded the delegation about the Sullivan County Farm Bureau Dinner which will be held on Wednesday, 27 August at 6:00 pm at the home of Farm Bureau President Jeff Holme's farm located at 55 Ball Hill Road in Langdon.

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 10:00 pm.

Next Steps: Full delegation meeting at 4:00 pm on Thursday, 14 August at the Newport county complex to vote on financing for the proposed community correctional center.

Respectfully submitted,



Rep. Ellen Nielsen, Delegation Clerk

**NH Municipal Bond Bank
25 Triangle Park Drive
Concord, NH 03301**

LEVEL PRINCIPAL

**10 YEAR ESTIMATED DEBT SCHEDULE FOR
SULLIVAN COUNTY**

2007 ASSESSED VALUATION: \$0
 ESTIMATED YEARLY INCREASE: 0%
 DATE PREPARED: 08/13/08
 BONDS DATED: Fall 2009 01/15/10
 INTEREST START DATE: 208 Days 12/17/09
 FIRST INTEREST PAYMENT: 07/15/10
 NET INTEREST COST: 3.9990%

DEBT YEAR	PERIOD ENDING	PRINCIPAL OUTSTANDING	PRINCIPAL	RATE	INTEREST	TOTAL PAYMENT	FISCAL YEAR TOTAL PAYMENT
	07/15/10				\$164,088.89	\$164,088.89	
1	01/15/11	\$7,100,000.00	\$710,000.00	4.000%	142,000.00	852,000.00	1,016,088.89
	07/15/11				127,800.00	127,800.00	
2	01/15/12	6,390,000.00	710,000.00	4.000%	127,800.00	837,800.00	965,600.00
	07/15/12				113,600.00	113,600.00	
3	01/15/13	5,680,000.00	710,000.00	4.000%	113,600.00	823,600.00	937,200.00
	07/15/13				99,400.00	99,400.00	
4	01/15/14	4,970,000.00	710,000.00	4.000%	99,400.00	809,400.00	908,800.00
	07/15/14				85,200.00	85,200.00	
5	01/15/15	4,260,000.00	710,000.00	4.000%	85,200.00	795,200.00	880,400.00
	07/15/15				71,000.00	71,000.00	
6	01/15/16	3,550,000.00	710,000.00	4.000%	71,000.00	781,000.00	852,000.00
	07/15/16				56,800.00	56,800.00	
7	01/15/17	2,840,000.00	710,000.00	4.000%	56,800.00	766,800.00	823,600.00
	07/15/17				42,600.00	42,600.00	
8	01/15/18	2,130,000.00	710,000.00	4.000%	42,600.00	752,600.00	795,200.00
	07/15/18				28,400.00	28,400.00	
9	01/15/19	1,420,000.00	710,000.00	4.000%	28,400.00	738,400.00	766,800.00
	07/15/19				14,200.00	14,200.00	
10	01/15/20	710,000.00	710,000.00	4.000%	14,200.00	724,200.00	738,400.00
		=====			=====	=====	=====
TOTALS			\$7,100,000.00		\$1,584,088.89	\$8,684,088.89	\$8,684,088.89

Proposed Community Corrections Timeline. 8/11/08

	June 08	July 08	Aug 08	Sept 08	Oct 08	Nov 08	Dec 08	Jan 09	Feb 09	Mar 09	Apr 09	May 09	June 09	July 09	Aug 09	Sep 09	Oct 09	Nov 09	Dec 09	Jan 10	Feb 10	March	April 10	May 09	June 10	Jul-10	
Project Approval by delegation																											
FY 09 Operating Budget Approved																											
Financing arranged for project																											
Security/Rec. Yard upgrade																											
HVAC/Roof Upgrade to existing jail																											
RFP's for Construction Related Services																											
Design work on project																											
Site work/Construction Process																											
First Bond/Loan Payment due (FY10)																											
Phase 2 (FY10) Staffing increase																											
Community Corrections Center Opens																											

SULLIVAN COUNTY NH—STATE/COUNTY DELEGATION

MOTION AND VOTING SHEET #1

DATE: 6 August 2008

TIME: 8:30 pm

MOTION: that the amount in the contra line 4009706060 be increased by \$165,000 to a total of \$1,000,000.

MOTION MADE BY: Rep. Converse

MOTION SECONDED BY: Rep. Gottling

MOTION: CARRIED 7-4 DEFEATED TIED

WAS THERE DISCUSSION? Yes

VOICE VOTE:

ROLL CALL:

REPRESENTATIVE'S NAME	YES	NO
Rep. John Cloutier	X	
Rep. Larry Converse	X	
Rep. Tom Donovan		X
Rep. Brenda Ferland		
Rep. Peter Franklin	X	
Rep. Ray Gagnon		
Rep. Suzanne Gottling	X	
Rep. Matthew Houde		X
Rep. Arthur G. Jillette Jr.	X	
Rep. Ellen Nielsen	X	
Rep. Jay Phinizy		X
Rep. Beverly Rodeschin		X
Rep Carla Skinder	X	

SULLIVAN COUNTY NH—STATE/COUNTY DELEGATION

MOTION AND VOTING SHEET #2

DATE: 6 August 2008

TIME: 9:30 pm

MOTION: to amend the budget in order that our Sullivan County union and non-union employees receive a 3% salary increase

MOTION MADE BY: Rep. Rodeschin

MOTION SECONDED BY: Rep. Skinder

MOTION: CARRIED DEFEATED 1-10 TIED

WAS THERE DISCUSSION? Yes

VOICE VOTE:

ROLL CALL:

REPRESENTATIVE'S NAME	YES	NO
Rep. John Cloutier		X
Rep. Larry Converse		X
Rep. Tom Donovan		X
Rep. Brenda Ferland		
Rep. Peter Franklin		X
Rep. Ray Gagnon		
Rep. Suzanne Gottling		X
Rep. Matthew Houde		X
Rep. Arthur G. Jillette Jr.		X
Rep. Ellen Nielsen		X
Rep. Jay Phinizy		X
Rep. Beverly Rodeschin	X	
Rep. Carla Skinder		X

SULLIVAN COUNTY NH—STATE/COUNTY DELEGATION

MOTION AND VOTING SHEET #3

DATE: 6 August 08

TIME: 9:40 pm

MOTION: to adopt a fiscal year 2009 budget with \$26,130,180 in revenue and 26,130,180 in appropriations, with the amount of \$12,956,211 to be raised by taxes.

MOTION MADE BY: Rep. Nielsen

MOTION SECONDED BY: Rep. Gottling

MOTION: CARRIED 9-2 DEFEATED TIED

WAS THERE DISCUSSION? Yes

VOICE VOTE:

ROLL CALL:

REPRESENTATIVE'S NAME	YES	NO
Rep. John Cloutier	X	
Rep. Larry Converse	X	
Rep. Tom Donovan	X	
Rep. Brenda Ferland		
Rep. Peter Franklin	X	
Rep. Ray Gagnon		
Rep. Suzanne Gottling	X	
Rep. Matthew Houde	X	
Rep. Arthur G. Jillette Jr.	X	
Rep. Ellen Nielsen	X	
Rep. Jay Phinizy		X
Rep. Beverly Rodeschin		X
Rep Carla Skinder		