

ADMINISTRATION AND LEGAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE STATED MEETING - WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 2, 2009

The stated meeting for the month of December was held in the Board Room, of the Stewart Centre, on the above date with Ms. S. Hooper, the Chairman, presiding. The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m. Committee members present were Ms. S. Hooper, Mr. Kuhlmeier, Ms. Dotson, Mr. Parker, Mr. Wire, Mr. Mikkelsen and Mr. Kuhlemeier. County Board Chairman Blum was also present.

Minutes of the stated meeting of Wednesday November 4, 2009 were approved, without reading, on a motion by Mr. Mikkelsen, seconded by Ms. Dotson.

The County Clerk said that she did not have a report, but would answer any questions.

The County Treasurer reported that she would implement the General Fund and Liability Fund Tax Warrants tomorrow. The Tax Warrants will be issued with an interest rate of 2.86%. The interest rate on the accompanying money market accounts will be 1.5%.

The Supervisor of Assessment reported that the filing deadline for County assessment complaints is December 11th. He expects a record low number of assessment complaints to be filed. The Board of Review will finish with the Freeport complaints in January. The new owner of Lincoln Tower is filing as Section 42 housing, for the first time. The County should get its tentative multiplier soon. The County's total assessed value is \$809,732,072, with new property of \$13,910,000. The wind towers account for \$7 million of the new property.

There was a discussion of the County's levy, which went up approximately 1.5%. The City of Freeport has published that their levy will increase by 11.75%.

Mr. Kane reported that there was no GIS Committee meeting. The size or volume of each County Board member's email box has been increased.

There were no raffle license applications.

Chairman Blum reported that he had received two checks from UCCI, a \$2,200 check refunding the 2009 dues and a \$600 check reimbursing the County for Mr. McLeRoy attending two UCCI board meetings.

Ms. S. Hooper said that next month, the Committee would discuss the different forms of county government. A change in the form of government requires a referendum. Other than the current form, there is the county executive form and one with the county board chairman being elected at-large.

Mr. Mikkelsen said that he was interested in how the County Board can contribute to reducing expenses. Cutting the mileage reimbursement is good, but insignificant. In the future, he would like to discuss the compensation system for County Board members. He would like the Committee to discuss a salary rather than the current per diem method or some combination with a lower per diem. Chairman Blum

explained that the 2010 budget only allows for per diems to be paid for County Board and committee meetings. All other meetings, currently earning per diems, have been eliminated. Several Committee members said that they were unaware that this change had been made. The County Board, as a whole, needs to be advised.

The scheduled Executive Session was not needed.

Claims of \$44,748.34 were approved, on a motion by Mr. Kuhlemeier, seconded by Ms. Dotson.

The Committee adjourned at 7:25 p.m., on a motion by Mr. Kuhlemeier, seconded by Mr. Kuhlmeier.

Approved: January 6, 2010

Next Stated Meeting of the Committee:
Wednesday, January 6, 2010 6:30 p.m.
Stewart Centre Board Room

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