

## **Minutes of the Land Use, Parks and Environment (LUPE) Committee**

**Tuesday, October 1, 2019**

Chair D. Zimmermann called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m.

**Present:** Supervisors Dave Zimmermann, Keith Hammitt, Kathleen Cummings, Bill Mitchell, Tom Schellinger and Chuck Wood. Steve Whittow arrived at 9:09 a.m. and left the meeting at 1:11 p.m.

**Also Present:** Legislative Policy Advisor Sarah Spaeth, Chief of Staff Mark Mader, Deputy Register of Deeds Beth Zimmermann, Senior Financial Analyst Robert Dunn, Parks and Land Use Director Dale Shaver, Business Manager Peter Mudek, Land Resources Manager Perry Lindquist, Parks System Managers Steve Brunner and Rebecca Mattano, Planning and Zoning Manager Jason Fruth, Workforce Development Board Director Laura Catherman, Solid Waste Supervisor Analiese Smith, Senior Financial Budget Analysts Steven Trimborn and Clara Daniels, County Board Chair Paul Decker; County Board Supervisors Joel Gaughan, Tom Michalski, Ted Wysocki, Duane Paulson, and Jim Heinrich; and Citizens Ron Buettner, Dick Grenke, Mike Jenkins, Joe Vachuska, William Kerr, Jeff Mueller, Tammy Chambers, David Strackbein, Michael Moritz, David Kwarcianny, Nancy McGuire, Joe Pink, Catherine Bush, Kim Stormo, and Louis Patscot.

### **Approve Minutes of September 17, 2019**

MOTION: Hammitt moved, second by Mitchell to approve the minute of September 17. Motion carried 6-0.

### **Correspondence**

Spaeth passed around an invitation to the Southeast Area Land and Water Conservation Tour.

### **Public Comment**

Vachuska asked the committee to delay closure of the Wanaki Golf Course and provide more time to make Wanaki successful. Kerr reiterated the quick timeline and asked the committee to think long-term about the property.

### **Executive Committee Report of September 30, 2019**

D. Zimmermann said the Executive Committee, at their last meeting, approved 2020 operating budgets for UW-Extension, the Bridges Federated Library System, and Non-Departmental; adopted the five-year Capital Projects Plan, and heard reports on the Wisconsin Counties Association Annual Conference.

### **Future Meeting Dates**

October 15, 2019 and November 19, 2019

### **Discuss and Consider the 2020 Operating Budget for the Register of Deeds**

Dunn and B. Zimmermann discussed the proposed 2020 operating budget for the Register of Deeds Office as outlined in the budget book including the financial summaries, major departmental strategic plan objectives, program highlights, and activities. Both revenues and expenditures total \$1,365,249 – an increase of \$4,940 or 0.4% from the adopted 2019 budget. The County tax levy

line item shows a credit of \$2,124,751 – an increase of \$60,000. The number of full-time equivalent (FTE) positions decreased 0.49 for a total of 16.17. No major concerns were voiced.

D. Zimmermann asked the department to study Objective 1, regarding property transaction processing, to see if the benchmark could be lower.

MOTION: Wood moved, second by Cummings to approve the 2020 operating budget for the Register of Deeds. Motion carried 6-0.

**Discuss and Consider the 2020 Operating Budget for the Department of Parks and Land Use**

Shaver and staff discussed the proposed 2020 operating budget for the Department of Parks and Land Use as outlined in the budget book including the financial summaries, major departmental strategic plan objectives, program highlights, and activities. Total all funds, revenues total \$17,299,086 – a decrease of \$3,283,695 or 16% from the adopted 2019 budget. The County tax levy totals \$7,124,010 – an increase of \$100,000 or 1.4%. Expenditures total \$25,865,633 – a decrease of \$1,444,513 or 5.3%. The total number of FTE positions decreased 13.51 for a total of 159.65.

Whittow arrived at 9:09 a.m.

In response to Cummings' question, Shaver said he would get back to the committee if the money borrowed from the Golf Course Fund to the Materials Recycling Fund was paid back with interest.

Whittow stated he would prefer to maintain the land the County owns rather than purchase additional land.

Shaver distributed a handout titled "Proposed Actions from Wanaki Supporters and Waukesha County Response" which discussed the County's efforts to market Wanaki Golf Course, establish competitive golf rates, incorporate other golf related activities including winter activities, and a history of reserve fund transfers.

Shaver stressed to the committee that if the County Board wants to save Wanaki, they need to find an additional revenue source.

Whittow left the meeting at 1:11 p.m.

D. Zimmermann said the committee needs to provide an advisory vote to Finance Committee and the full County Board on this budget. He indicated at this time he does not have a firm stance on the Golf Course Fund and said there is a lot of information to digest and he knows there are amendments coming that the committee could consider.

Wood said he would prefer to vote separately on the Golf Course Fund. Hammitt said he would support using Tarmann fund dollars as a temporary fix for Wanaki Golf Course and would like a separate vote on that budget.

Schellinger asked committee members if they would support an amendment to keep Wanaki open. The committee was advised individual Supervisors could still pursue an amendment and the committee could review amendments at their next meeting on October 15.

Cummings asked that the committee work on an amendment together and asked members what they would support. D. Zimmermann said he does not support using tax levy to prop up the course and has a problem with using tax dollars to subsidize a business that competes with the private sector. D. Zimmermann said he could possibly support using Tarmann funds to support the course, however he questioned the long term viability and profitability of the course if the trends in rounds played and demographics continue. Cummings pointed out that parks receive tax levy support. Mitchell said he didn't think there is consensus on the committee to use tax levy. Wood and D. Zimmermann said they could support using Walter J. Tarmann funds for one year as a last try to make the golf course viable.

Cummings said she thinks it's important for the committee to be unanimous in its position on Wanaki and the Tarmann fund. Mitchell said he understands her point but each Supervisor is going to come to their own conclusion.

MOTION: Hammitt moved, second by Wood to approve the 2020 operating budget for the Department of Parks and Land Use, minus the budgets for the Golf Course Fund and Walter J. Tarmann Fund. Motion carried 6-0.

D. Zimmermann said he believes the majority of the committee is on the fence on the Golf Course fund budget. He is going to vote no today, but that doesn't mean he is a firm no.

MOTION: Mitchell moved, second by Schellinger to approve the Golf Course Fund. Motion defeated 0-6.

MOTION: Wood moved, second by Mitchell to approve the Walter J. Tarmann Fund. Motion defeated 0-6.

MOTION: Hammitt moved, second by Schellinger to adjourn at 1:59 p.m. Motion carried 6-0.

Respectfully submitted,

*Steve Whittow*

Steve Whittow  
Secretary