

COUNCIL COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

The Council Committee of the Whole met on March 10, 2020 at 6:01 p.m., with Council President Hare presiding. Members of Council present were Mr. Anderson, Mr. Sudler, Mr. Neil, Mr. Cole, Mr. Polce (arrived at 6:22 p.m.), Mr. Taylor, and Mr. Lindell. Mr. Slavin was absent. Mayor Christiansen was also present. Civilian members present for and their Committee meetings were Mr. Caldwell and Col. Dix, Retired, (*Parks, Recreation, and Community Enhancement*), and Mr. Contant and Mr. Shevock (*Legislative, Finance, and Administration*). Mrs. Doyle (*Utility*) was absent.

UTILITY COMMITTEE

The Utility Committee met with Chairman Cole presiding.

Adoption of Agenda

Mr. Sudler moved for adoption of the agenda, seconded by Mr. Neil and unanimously carried.

Evaluation of Bids - Puncheon Run Pump Station Improvements

Mr. Jason Lyon, Assistant Public Works Director, reviewed the background and analysis regarding the evaluation of bids for the Puncheon Run Pump Station Improvements.

Staff recommended awarding the contract to Kuhn Construction Company for the City of Dover Puncheon Run Pump Station Improvement Project, Bid #20-0017PW, for \$732,200.

Mr. Neil moved to recommend approval of Staff's recommendation. The motion was seconded by Mr. Anderson and unanimously carried.

Mr. Hare moved for adjournment of the Utility Committee meeting, seconded by Mr. Neil and unanimously carried.

Meeting adjourned at 6:08 p.m.

PARKS, RECREATION, AND COMMUNITY ENHANCEMENT COMMITTEE

The Parks, Recreation, and Community Enhancement Committee met with Chairman Anderson presiding.

Adoption of Agenda

Mr. Anderson requested the agenda be amended to switch item #2 - Presentation from the Hope Commission and item #3 Review of Active Recreation Area Plans (Request for Cash-in-Lieu) - 1504 and 1506 College Road (Planning Reference #SB-20-01).

Mr. Hare moved for adoption of the agenda, as amended, seconded by Mr. Neil and unanimously carried.

Report from Silver Lake Commission

Ms. Tricia Arndt, Chair, Silver Lake Commission, gave a brief history of her time with the Silver Lake Commission and a report of the Commission.

Ms. Arndt stated the Commission acts as an advisory body to formulate recommendations to Council and Staff through the Parks, Recreation, and Community Enhancement Committee. She noted they provide a forum for public involvement, coordination with other government bodies and institutions. They typically meet quarterly to discuss the issues and, as needed, to discuss and review project plans that may have an impact on water quality, or if they are adjacent to the park or near the park. Mrs. Arndt advised another activity that they partake in is funding letters in support of grants that the City seeks for different projects. She stated most recently she provided a support letter for the Outdoor Recreation Parks and Trails grant application. Every year they also organize a park clean up in conjunction with the lake draw down. She noted it is an opportunity for property owners to have a predictability in doing repairs to docks and also to clean up the shoreline. They also assist with community events such as the canoe and kayak activity.

Ms. Arndt noted that Commission members are all frequent park users. She stated one woman is in the park every day with her dog and always knows when City of Dover Police do not shut the gate and she will let the Commission know when the gate should be shut in the evening because that is a safety issue. Ms. Arndt noted they consider their role to be that of outreach, as a community liaison, and they are looking forward to assisting the City with the park master plan when they move towards that.

Mr. Neil asked how frustrated the people were who Ms. Arndt came into contact with regarding the closure of the park down because of the backup from the County sewer system. Ms. Arndt stated the response by the County, the City and Delaware Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Control (DNREC) was on point. She noted that they have an aging infrastructure and it is an opportunity to call that to light and that they need to focus on it because when they have pipes that are that old, things like that would happen. Ms. Arndt stated another opportunity would be that if Kent County needs to replace sewer line in that area, this would be a chance to either reroute or improve some sidewalk, or add riparian buffer, or get some plantings in. She stated if they are going to dig up the area anyway, then there is an opportunity to put it back better than it was before.

Col. Dix noted that there is a problem with feeding the ducks. He stated they are not suppose to feed the ducks bread, but people go to the park with bags of bread. Responding to Col. Dix, Ms. Arndt stated she is personally not doing anything to change people's habits regarding feeding the ducks bread. She noted an opportunity might be to put up educational signage. Col. Dix stated there are signs by the Countrie Eatery stating not to feed the ducks. He suggested dispensing corn or whatever is good for ducks. Responding to Col. Dix, Ms. Arndt stated she would not feed the ducks at all, because they should be foraging for their own food sources and should not be fed artificially from humans.

Col. Dix noted that there are lots of elderly people who enjoy that park, but they just do not seem to want to put park benches in. Responding, Ms. Arndt stated that there may be an opportunity in the future when the Parks, Recreation, and Community Enhancement Committee looks at the master plan for the park. She noted Col. Dix's request and stated she would anticipate public outreach and input to that process.

Responding to Mr. Caldwell, Ms. Arndt stated the safety issues regarding the park are often perception issues. She noted that she has never felt unsafe in the park and frequently goes with her children. She noted that all of the members of the Silver Lake Commission are in the park often at different times of the day, but she does not go at dusk. She stated she also does not enter the park at night because no one should. Ms. Arndt stated it is a matter of taking her own personal responsibility.

Mr. Caldwell thanked Ms. Arndt and the Silver Lake Commission for their efforts and the job they are doing with a number of activities that have been initiated including activities in the spring and in the fall for cleanup, keeping track of the water quality, making sure that they are in compliance with State standards as much as possible and giving public input. He noted they are going to be doing a review of commissions and the like for the effectiveness and it is important that the Silver Lake Commission's work be noted.

Review of Active Recreation Area Plans (Request for Cash-in-Lieu) - 1504 and 1506 College Road (Planning Reference #SB-20-01)

Mrs. Dawn Melson-Williams reviewed the background information of Active Recreation Area Plans (Request for Cash-in-Lieu) - 1504 and 1506 College Road (Planning Reference #SB-20-01).

Staff recommended acceptance of the \$4,250 Cash-in-Lieu of Recreation Area Construction donation, as the amount complies with the requirements of the Zoning Ordinance.

Responding to Mr. Neil, Mrs. Melson-Williams stated that the applicant had to submit the appraisal. She noted that the zoning ordinance outlines standards for the appraisal, so the cost of the appraisal is burdened on the applicant. She stated the full appraisal document is in the Planning Office, but they identified a couple of key pages out of it for the packet.

Mr. Neil stated it is odd when someone is trying to save money, and they have an appraisal. If they are trying to sell it, that appraisal will be high and if they are trying to buy it, it is going to probably be lower or at least neutral. He noted that it all depends upon who is driving that cost and in this case that is low. If they were going to put a lease land community on there, each one of those tiny slivers is going to be very high and they will ask for lot rent at a very high level because of it.

Col. Dix asked how did the City end up in the situation of having little parcels of parks. Responding, Mrs. Melson-Williams stated that the zoning ordinance includes requirements for active recreation associated with the development of residential developments. She noted in the past there may have been approaches with subdivisions to identify a small park area within that subdivision to meet those active recreation requirements. There have been some changes over the years to the provisions for active recreation, one of which is this exemption, which either reduces the amount of land that is required, or it sets up and establishes this cash-in-lieu of construction. Mrs. Melson-Williams stated in Staff's opinion, this make the most sense for small types of developments. She noted in their comprehensive plan they did identify that the recreation area concepts Citywide and the provisions of the code are something that needs additional research and perhaps changes as to how they function.

Col. Dix asked if this is not the time to make the changes. He noted it sounds like these little parcel park ideas are out of vogue, and if they are out of vogue, they should change the ordinances and get on with the normal way of doing business. Responding, Mrs. Melson-Williams stated it has certainly been identified as one of the provisions of the zoning ordinance that needs additional research and perhaps updating. She stated given how development activity happens now, it is one of many code provisions that need a lot of research and work to bring forth changes to allow them to work better with development activities.

Mayor Christiansen gave a quick overview of how these items came about. He stated with the building boom of the 1960s in the City, it was the comprehensive plan's intention to provide neighborhood parks for individual communities and developments that came about within the City. The developers put land aside

for small pocket parks. He noted early in the 1980s it was determined that due to the maintenance that was required by the City to provide these parks because they became the City's possession, it made better sense during that building era of the City's continued growth that cash be taken in lieu of providing these pocket parks in the individual areas because the new comprehensive plan featured several large and major parks in the City. Mayor Christiansen stated the dollars that were saved on maintenance went toward the larger issue of the inception of the Dover Park, Williams Park, and eventually Schutte Park as it came into being.

Responding to Col. Dix, Mr. Anderson stated they have taken care and currently have a mechanism, but it has been determined by Staff that they can do it better. He noted that will probably be a review in the next year.

Responding to Col. Dix, Mayor Christiansen stated it is the best formula and best matrix for recouping money for long-term maintenance of the small parks that still exist, as well as putting money into projects like the revitalization of Dover Park, and the continued development of Schutte Park, and Silver Lake.

Mr. Neil moved to recommend acceptance of \$4,250 Cash-in-Lieu of Recreation Area Construction donation, as the amount complies with the requirements of the Zoning Ordinance, as recommended by Staff. The motion was seconded by Mr. Hare and unanimously carried.

Presentation from the Hope Commission

Ms. Tamera Fair, Executive Director, Hope Commission, reviewed a presentation titled, "Dover March City Council Meeting - Wilmington HOPE Commission Overview," (**Attachment #1**) and provided a handout titled, "Delaware's Premiere Re-entry Program," (**Attachment #2**).

Mr. Sudler thanked Ms. Fair for allowing him to visit their site in Wilmington and noted that he will provide pictures to City Council and the Parks, Recreation, and Community Enhancement Committee of how clean and professional the atmosphere is.

Mr. Sudler asked how does the Hope Commission aid the City of Wilmington with mental health, gang prevention methods, loitering, and pan handling. Responding, Ms. Fair stated that they have a behavioral health specialist onsite and each of the individuals that they work with has a one-on-one. She noted one of the courses in the Texas Christian University is the cognitive behavioral intervention, so those are methods that address that aspect. She advised that the other elements are folded into what the Commission does, in the cognitive behavioral intervention, they teach how to make appropriate choices because a lot of times, the individuals that they work with have not had the opportunity to know what is right from wrong. Their methodology of what choices are acceptable in society or not come from those criminogenic risk factors.

Regarding panhandling, Ms. Fair stated their workforce development program is skillfully designed to help in that area. Teaching, first of all, the skills of how to obtain a job. They also have pipelines of programs where they have worked with employers who are willing to, once they go through, for example, their enhanced workforce development program, that are willing to give individuals with justice involved backgrounds and opportunity to an interview, and if they do well to actually be employed. Ms. Fair noted say one of her goals is not to provide the individuals in their program with 1099 jobs, but with careers because that is the way that they come back, the high risk behavior that the individuals that they work with.

Responding to Mr. Sudler, Ms. Fair stated that the most challenging obstacle that the offenders have to hurdle over during the program and after the program can change for the individuals. She noted one of the hardest things is being ready to make the change. One of the things that they do is they have a program called, "Inreach," where individuals that are in their program are addressed before they leave the prison. They do something called, "getting motivated to change," which is another cognitive behavioral evidence-based practice in order to prepare the individual of what is going to be expected. Ms. Fair stated first they need to see if the person is in the mindset to begin to change. Regarding the hardest barrier, Ms. Fair stated that getting motivated to change, to kind of plant the seed to start the process happens at the Hope Commission, but soon as they come home, they leave that kind of confined environment and now those risk factors, such as the peers that they were hanging out with before. She noted that a lot of them have not actually ever worked a legal job. Ms. Fair stated making sure they are on time for the program can be a barrier. She noted they have two tracks, a day and evening track. Ms. Fair advised that a lot of the individuals that they have in the evening are usually working, so they have a 10-minute grace period to make it to their first evening track class because they can get held up at work. For those in the morning, even though they have individuals that work overnight and may come in, typically because the first class starts at 10:00 a.m., they have to be there on time, otherwise they do not get credit for that class. Therefore, that appears in their report at the reentry court, which is the accountability portion of it. She stated she took a long way around to respond to Mr. Sudler's question, but wanted to show the things that they are doing, the obstacles that they face because there naturally is that pull of family and peers and the amount of money those individuals were making prior to incarceration, so trying to show different choices and to lower PTSD, which a lot suffer from as a result of that risky behavior, are some of the things that they put in place.

Mr. Sudler asked how can the City of Dover implement a Hope program and what would they have to do if that was deemed necessary amongst City Council and what are some of the dynamics. Responding, Ms. Fair advised one of the things would be data collection, which is looking at the individuals that are looking to assist, collecting, and others listed in the presentation. She that one of the next steps that she would look at is actually having a discussion from representatives of Dover with the Board of the Hope Commission because that is an important aspect to see all the work that goes on behind the scenes to get the program together. The other aspect is the type of individual that they would need. She stated peers and case managers are some key elements and having a clinical director to maintain the fidelity of the program. She noted she was looking at it from the point of the individual's high crime rate, lack of employment.

Ms. Fair advised that another aspect would be partners that would be willing to hire individuals that come out of the program, that pipeline of individuals that would be coming to the program. She stated they also have a community aspect where they take walk-ins as well that are not in the evidence based, but they assess with Medicaid, Medicare, and partner with Division of Social Services (DSS) and other partners to help provide the services, as well as refer individuals to where the appropriate places for them to get the services that they need. All that infrastructure would probably need to be in place in order to do something like that in Dover. She noted two other barriers are housing and transportation.

Responding to Mr. Anderson, Ms. Fair stated, regarding their funding, there is fundraising that they get from private sources and they do get State and City funding. She advised that they do a lot of funding from the private sector, from banks, from some organizations. Ms. Fair noted that Christiana Care has been a wonderful partner to them, as well as some of the banks like Bank of America and Comenity.

Responding to Mr. Neil, Ms. Fair stated right now they take in people just from Wilmington who had been incarcerated. She stated they take in people from the zip codes 19801, 19802, and 19805, and has expanded to New Castle.

Responding to Mr. Caldwell, Ms. Fair stated they are not 100% perfect and that some individuals have trouble adjusting to society as a whole. She noted that is an area that they deal with, but that is a reason for the evidence-based program that they adhere to. She noted for example, anything that cannot be handled by their behavioral health specialists, they refer, whether it is intensive outpatient, things of that sort.

Mr. Taylor asked if the adult education program is accredited. He noted some of the jobs that they are sending people to have to have a GED or the equivalent and when some of them are coming out of the institution, they do not have this. Responding, Ms. Fair stated the jobs that they work with are sometimes just skill based. They refer individuals to the West End to get their GEDs. She noted, for example, one of the partnerships that they have is with the Delaware Center for Horticulture (DCH), they have individuals that go through their skill program and the DCH then helps to place those individuals. Ms. Fair stated some of the jobs that they look at and the partners they work with, that is not necessarily a requirement. She advised that some individuals going to them have their GED, some have high school diplomas, and some even have some college, so it is a variety that they work with.

Responding to Mr. Taylor, Ms. Fair stated there are a couple of ways they handle those who have issues with addiction. She advised that depending upon the level of addiction, they start with their behavioral health specialist. She noted when they initially have their intake they do a couple of other assessments in place to get a better sense of where the individual is. She noted if the behavioral health specialist sees that the individual is truly struggling with addiction, they have an onsite substance abuse group. She stated they do everything in stages because individuals are different and they respond to different methods. If an individual continues to struggle, then they do refer them to any of the other places that are better apt to deal with them. She advised that this is where their case management also stays in place because their behavioral health specialists in this instance, when it is substance abuse related, is sort of like the point person and makes sure after meetings, Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) guidelines getting signed off from the individual, make sure that they are on the same page with who they have referred them to.

Responding to Mr. Lindell, Ms. Fair advised that if she combined the State and city, the funds average about \$350,000 and that the Department of Corrections (DOC) numbers are not based on the zip codes. She stated that the DOC's total is everybody in their system in those years that had left in those years, that includes low risk individuals as well as medium to high risk. She noted that was important because the low risk individuals are individuals who in their assessment are usually not likely to continue to commit crimes or recidivate. Ms. Fair stated that when they look at the DOC's numbers compared to their number, their numbers are actual individuals that they had in those years, graduation, and where they are now that they have checked on. She stated their numbers are medium to high risk, so percentages actually could be somewhat prorated to show actually a higher non-recidivism rate for those coming out of Wilmington Hope Commission, in comparison because they do not have any of the low risk individuals to mitigate the recidivism rate.

Responding to Mr. Lindell, Ms. Fair stated they have a rolling admissions, so it is hard to take in a space of time, but in the presentation, it shows they graduate probably 28 individuals per year. She noted if that is multiplied by the number of years, if rounded to 33 times three, it is 90.

Mr. Polce asked if there is a desire for the commission to expand into housing options for clientele. He noted if they have a justice involved individuals, does not particularly mean they are transient, they could be living with someone. He asked if Ms. Fair could speak on where the justice involved individual ins coming from, not specifically the zip code, but if the majority of them are housed, and if that is a requirement of the program, if it is not, is it something that the commission has a desire to get into or have thoughts of. Responding to Ms. Fair, she stated in order to graduate from their program, there are four pillars and one of those is stable housing, they need also be drug free, employed and have 85% or more attendance. She advised that individuals are coming from the DOC and are on a box. Ms. Fair stated most of them return home, a lot of their families are in Section 8 housing so they are not suppose to be staying there with a box, so that is where some of the consternation relative to housing comes from. She advised to be released when someone has house arrest of G.P.S., they must have a host, otherwise they remain at level five or within the facility. For the commission, the individuals they are working with will have housing when they go to the commission. She noted keeping that housing, some stay with a significant other or others and what happens is sometimes they are thrown out of the house which creates a whole other set of issues. Ms. Fair stated that relative to the Hope Commission, they have come across in some instance places where individuals have housing that they are willing to rent to justice involved individuals. They have some housing referrals, but that is a major aspect.

Ms. Fair stated they would love to have more housing opportunities to actually have their individuals that are coming home go directly into a place, where it is not trying to find a residence, and that they can begin their probation outside of incarceration.

Mr. Polce noted when they think of justice involved individuals and the re-entry pipeline, it is a continuum. He stated he was curious to what the Hope Commission was doing because there are justice involved individuals who come out level five, give an address, they will have their first meeting with their PO, and then they are a ghost in the wind from that address. He asked ultimately do they work with those individuals with the goal at the end being graduation and housing or do they have to demonstrate that they are actually housed prior to becoming a participant with the program. Responding, Ms. Fair stated before they go to the Hope Commission they have to have housing. She stated there are a couple incidents where if an individual did not, they are willing to work, but they cannot be on the box or anything like that. They have those referral places and one of the things they actually are working on is they have been talking to a couple of individuals who, for example, one individual rehabilitates houses, so they are talking to try to be able to have that aspect up front because they have had individuals that have been assigned to their program and they cannot come until that residence part is taken care of.

Responding to Col. Dix, Ms. Fair clarified that box means a G.P.S. ankle monitor.

Mr. Hare moved to recommend acceptance of the report. The motion was seconded by Mr. Taylor and was unanimously carried.

Mr. Anderson encouraged members to be in contact with Ms. Fair's staff and get some good referrals.

Mr. Hare moved for adjournment of the Parks, Recreation, and Community Enhancement Committee meeting. The motion was seconded by Mr. Neil and unanimously carried.

Meeting adjourned at 7:16 p.m.

LEGISLATIVE, FINANCE, AND ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE

The Legislative, Finance, and Administration Committee met with Chairman Lindell presiding.

Adoption of Agenda

Mr. Neil moved for adoption of the agenda, seconded by Mr. Shevock and unanimously carried.

Purchase of Replacement IBM Power System S914 Server (Sole Source Vendor)

Mr. Matt Harline, Assistant City Manager, reviewed the background and analysis regarding the purchase of replacement IBM Power System S914 Server (Sole Source Vendor).

Staff recommended authorizing the City Manager or her designee to accept the proposals and purchase the equipment and operating system.

Responding to Mr. Neil, Mr. Harline stated that the current machine is about nine years old, almost starting its 10th year soon, the reason they are asking to replace it is because they are no longer supporting the operating system software for the machine. He noted the HTE system is still supported. Mr. Harline stated it was only a couple of months and they are going to be using it to hold data. He advised they could probably skate along, but it is guaranteed for five years and then at that point they hope they will not need it. They have continued software maintenance on this particular machine for now nine years and the original cost of that machine was \$10,000 greater than this one. Responding to Mr. Neil, Mr. Harline stated that in the packet it included a package for the maintenance program.

Mr. Contant asked if they were looking at upgrading the server because the software is not available, if they were hoping not to do this previously, and if there was anything else housed on the server other than HTE. Responding Mr. Harline stated that the server only runs the operating system HTE. Mr. Contant noted that he did not see the specs listed, but stated for this type of system \$15,000 is about double what the minimum price is for the systems. Mr. Contant asked where does the system that they are requesting lie in performance aspect to the lowest cost for this system, which he thinks is about \$6,000 or \$7,000. He noted if they are only running one piece of software off of this and they are only anticipating doing that for the next three, hopefully not five years, do they need to buy one that is better than going with the lowest option of that class.

Responding to Mr. Contant, Mr. Harline stated right now the full implementation of Munis runs into the year 2023, so having it for five years for leeway and backup is probably not a bad idea. He noted he did not think they need to get a better machine. Mr. Contant stated the server that they currently have, unless they have made upgrade to it is 9 ½ years old and the processor technology and the amount of RAM that servers can hold now is significantly greater, so even if they went with the cheapest option it would be about at least five times faster than what they were using. He noted he was looking at cost savings. He asked if they needed something that fast if it is serving a single purpose to bring the gap to their next piece of software, knowing that anything out there right now would be able to handle the HTE system or if there another planned use after HTE is discontinued and they move over the Munis.

Responding, Mr. Harline stated they do not have any planned use as far as he knew. Mr. Harline stated that would be a question for Mr. Andy Siegel, Director of Information Technologies (IT). He noted he was not sure how much, but could get the answer. Mr. Harline noted if they authorized that much of an expenditure,

they can find a less expensive option and certainly would take that, but the support ends at the end of March so they did want to move fairly quickly. He noted he did not know if there would be ability to repurpose the machine. If they can, they would, and they have done a lot of virtualization of servers.

Responding to Mr. Contant, Mr. Harline stated Munis is running on their server and that they have already purchased the server to run that, he noted parts of it are up and running. Mr. Hare noted what they are getting now might be a little more than what they are going to need for the next three years, but if they went back to something less, in three or four years from now they are going to have to make another change and with this they will be able to do what IT needs to keep the systems going and it might go for 10 years.

Mr. Contant stated he understood and if it was something that they are going to use, especially for other software going forward, then he would recommend going with the most they can afford at one time because it will carry you further, but at 10 years ago when that system was purchased, he does not think anybody was thinking about replacing HTE at the time and now they are. He stated he was trying figure out if it is cost effective to go with the middle of the road server for something that only serves one purpose, that they are hoping to discontinue far sooner than 10 years. Mr. Harline stated they are hoping to be completely out of there in five years, by that time they should have enough history in Munis that they do not need to save very many files. He noted they can import a couple of years worth or as many as they want from HTE for a fee. Mr. Harline stated with this machine, as they get completely up and running with Munis, they can save a certain amount of history if they need it. He noted for the variety depending upon what the particular functionality in Munis, there are different amounts of history that they want to save, plus they also have budgeting stuff they have in Excel many years back.

Mr. Taylor asked if they had to vote on the item tonight, he liked Mr. Contant's approach and asked if they could table this until questions were answered.

Responding to Mr. Lindell, Mr. Harline stated the software supports ends at the end of March.

Mr. Harline noted if they approve that amount of money and if there is a less expensive machine, they can do that. Mrs. Donna Mitchell, City Manager, recommended moving it onto Council and they can bring the answers back to the next Council meeting to make sure everybody is comfortable. She noted they can communicate with Mr. Contant in the meantime to get his questions.

Mr. Contant asked if Staff can look to see if there is a possibility of saving a few dollars. He noted to keep in mind that they do not plan to keep this system the full ten years and then just bring it back to Council at the next meeting so Council has the information to vote on it. Mr. Sudler agreed with Mr. Contant.

Mr. Shevock stated he was always for saving money and asked if they save a dollar now if they were going to spend more in three or four years. He noted that model presented before the AS400 has come back and paid.

Mr. Neil questioned if the computer dies when the support system is not there. He stated it continues and hopefully continue to work until they have the new server they decide to buy to bring in. He noted that if they are going to approve it and then find out that they can get a lesser system then they should do that, it would be his understanding in making the second on the motion that is what they will do.

Mr. Contant noted that his biggest concern with letting the software lapse is that when it is not in development anymore, it is more susceptible to being hacked because no one is keeping up with the security protocols. Mr. Harline agreed and noted that slightly more than half of the cost is the operating system and doubted they could find a different option for that.

Mr. Lindell stated the best course of action is to go with advancing it to Council and then getting the answers for the next Council meeting to the concerns and questions that Mr. Conant brought up and then they will have that information as a Council to vote.

Mr. Cole moved to recommend acceptance of Staff's recommendation of authorizing the City Manager or her designee to accept the proposals and purchase the equipment and operating system while also directing Staff to provide answers to the specific issues that were addressed during the meeting. The motion was seconded by Mr. Neil and unanimously carried.

Mr. Hare moved for adjournment of the Legislative, Finance, and Administration Committee meeting, seconded by Mr. Shevock and unanimously carried.

Meeting adjourned at 7:33 p.m.

Mr. Anderson moved for adjournment of the Council Committee of the Whole meeting. The motion was seconded by Mr. Neil and unanimously carried.

Meeting adjourned at 7:33 p.m.

William F. Hare
Council President

WFH/TM/jt

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Attachments

- Attachment #1 - Presentation titled "Dover March City Council Meeting - Wilmington HOPE Commission Overview"
- Attachment #2 - Handout titled "Delaware's Premiere Re-entry Program"

Dover March City Council Meeting Wilmington HOPE Commission Overview

1

March 10, 2020

T. Fair, WHC Executive Director

History - Wilmington HOPE Commission (WHC)

- Established by executive order of former Mayor James Baker to review and act on social and community issues related to violent crime in several areas of the city of Wilmington. (2005)
- 27 community and civic leaders served on a steering committee that resulted in a nine (9) strategy recommendation report to the Mayor in 2006.



Wilmington HOPE Commission Narrows Focus

- Decided in 2009 to focus on one root issue to be able to have more sustainable impact:
 - **Ex-offender reentry to the community**
- Undertook an extensive data gathering process:
 - Data on ex-offender population
 - Evidence-based practices
 - Mapping of existing efforts and results
 - Analysis of policies that were impacting reentry
 - Feedback from decision-makers, stakeholders, and the community

Wilmington HOPE Commission reentry evolution:

4

- Created a one-stop center for medium to high risk ex-offenders where they could get the services and supports they need to successfully reengage with their families and community.
- Renovated a building (i.e. Achievement Center).
- Built the program protocol.
- Hired clinical leadership and peer counselors.
- Developed agreements with selected providers to offer services on-site or nearby (e.g. case management, behavioral health services).
- Established referral pipeline with the Department of Corrections (DOC).

Wilmington HOPE Commission is:

- Delaware's premier correctional re-entry program, providing:
 - comprehensive re-entry support services that target crime-causing factors, shown to be predictors of recidivism, for formerly incarcerated medium to high-risk men leaving prison and returning to Wilmington's most distressed communities.
 - Founded on research-informed solutions, WHC provides **rehabilitative treatment services and programs** designed to promote successful re-entry by using:
 - risk and needs assessments,
 - cognitive behavioral intervention,
 - vocational readiness training/workforce development
 - case management
 - peer support, and
 - behavioral health services
- to reduce recidivism and improve safety in the Wilmington community. Participants (i.e. Members) are provided convenient access to the services – **all under one roof.**

Mission/Vision/Values

► Mission Statement

- *The Wilmington HOPE Commission, with its partners, will target reduction of the impact of violence and promote well-being in our communities by advocating for, supporting, empowering, and assisting ex-offenders to positively integrate back into our communities.*

► Vision Statement

- *Be the premier organization for reducing adult recidivism, insuring that ex-offenders transition successfully from incarceration to being law-abiding, productive members of the community.*

► Values

- *Honesty, Integrity, Empathy, Consistency, Respectful, Accountability, Transparency, Collaboration*

Wilmington HOPE Commission - Culture

People:

- Interaction of quality professionals, peers and participants
- Shared values of dignity and respect
- Belief in human potential

Program:

- Case Management framework
- Risk/Need Assessment Driven
- Evidence Based Practices
- Interdisciplinary collaborations

Place: Achievement Center

- Welcoming
- Safe, orderly & clean
- Conducive to pro-social interactions

COMPARISON DATA:

*DOC vs WHC Rearrest Recidivism

Rearrest	DOC year 1	WHC year 1	DOC year 2	WHC year 2	DOC year 3	WHC year 3
2013	53.1%		68.8%		74.4%	
2014	49.5%		66.6%		72.8%	
2015	52.9%	25%	63.9%	37.5%	70.3%	50%

*Criminal Justice Council (CJC) Report "Recidivism in Delaware", December 2019

COMPARISON DATA:

*DOC vs WHC Recommitment Recidivism

Recommitment	DOC year 1	WHC year 1	DOC year 2	WHC year 2	DOC year 3	WHC year 3
2013	45.9%		60.4%		65.8%	
2014	43%		57.6%		63.5%	
2015	52.9 %	25%	63.9%	25%	70.3%	50%

*Criminal Justice Council (CJC) Report "Recidivism in Delaware", December 2019

WHC three (3) year recidivism results

- FY2017:
 - 24 graduates
 - 3 yrs post graduation: 83% not incarcerated (CJC: 36%)
- FY2018:
 - 24 graduates
 - 2 yrs post graduation: 87.5% not incarcerated (CJC: 42%)
- FY2019:
 - 28 graduates
 - 1 yr post graduation: 100% not incarcerated (CJC: 57%)

*Fiscal Year (FY) is from July1- June 30. Results as of June 30, 2019

**Criminal Justice Council (CJC) Report "Recidivism in Delaware", December 2019



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Delaware's Premiere Re-entry Program



A beacon of what is possible...

How can you help?

Be our workforce development partner – as an employer/trainer

We are a 501(C)(3) Charitable Organization

Support Our Cause! Please Donate at: www.wilmhope.org

-or-

Send your check to the Wilmington HOPE Commission

38 Vandever Ave, Wilmington, DE 19802

302-407-3397

HOPE

COMMISSION

Inspiration ❖ Collaboration ❖ Transformation

Case Management Services

Case Managers

- Evidence based program
- CBI Groups: Day and Evening sessions
- Risk assessments, achievement planning, file maintenance, communications, referrals, report writing



Substance Abuse & Mental Health Services



Clinical Director & Behavioral Health Specialist

- Individual assessment oversite
- Individual Counseling Sessions: 2-3 days per week
- Behavioral Health Groups: 1-2 per week
- Report Monitoring/Data Collection

Workforce Development & Peer Mentoring Services

Peer Mentors

- Community Engagement and Home Visitation Services
- Work force Development Training & Job Coaching Services
 - o Computer access
 - o Job Placement & referrals
- Transportation Assistance Services
- Financial Management training & Resources
- Workforce Development Curriculum (Phase 1: 4-5 weeks)



Re-entry Court Team

- Problem Solving Court
- Partnership between DE Superior Court, DE Department of Corrections and the Wilmington Hope Commission
- Bi-weekly status hearings