

February 1, 2024

There was a Commissioners meeting at 2:00 PM in the Commissioners Conference Room at 700 Sawmill Road, Small Conference Room for the regular scheduled Commissioners meeting. In attendance were Commissioners Brewer, Karschner, Kovach, Solicitor McDonald, Chief Clerk Witchey, Treasurer Creveling, Jean Lapinski, Michele Frye, and Marcie Strachko. Via zoom were the following individuals Jenn Long, Don Coleman, MJ Mahon, Marina Smith, Eric Boughner, Jeremy Brown, Asondra Acor, and Ashley Ebright.

Commissioner Brewer called the meeting to order and asked that we stand and pledge the flag, he then called for the approval of the minutes of the prior meeting.

Motion by Commissioner Kovach, seconded by Commissioner Karchner; all approved.

Commissioner Brewer then called for a report of the work session: There was a 10:00 work session held. In attendance were Commissioners Brewer, Kovach, Karschner, Chief Clerk Witchey, Treasurer Creveling, Marcie Strachko, Jean Lapinski, Michelle Frye, Bob Christianson, Ethan Howard, Matt Repasky, Ginny Crake, Jim Stout, and Roy Bunger. Via zoom were the following individuals: Alex Karpinski, Jeremy Brown, April Miller, Eric Stahley, Don Coleman, Jenn Long, and Jodi Cook. Commissioner Brewer called the meeting to order and asked the Berwick Historical Society start the meeting. Ginny representing the Historical Society gave a brief update of what is going on at the Jackson mansion including the Sadock House and the other 8 building they own. Her and Jim then also provided some information regarding the distance traveled by some individuals come from to tour the mansion, and that the request of \$5,000 would be used to further market the Mansion. Ethan from Penn State provided an update of what is going on with the Penn State Extension services: 4H, Master Gardeners, Animal Systems, Agronomy & Natural Resources and Economic & Community development. Bob Christianson from South Centre gave a brief update on the Water and Sewer projects, Water is going very smoothly however there are some issues that are holding up the sewer project. Marcie then spoke about the Family Center supporting the Be Kind week and that they are having a dress down day on Tuesday to support the local SPCA. Then there was a brief discussion with the Elections Director about the upcoming election and how that is progressing. After that the rest of the agenda was reviewed, Marcie went over the Hires, Steps and Promotions and Jean reviewed cash and bills. After which the meeting was adjourned

DEPARTMENT REPORTS:

- Treasurer: January 2024
 - Monthly Commissions for January was \$3,050.00.

OLD BUSINESS: None

NEW BUSINESS:

- A. Approve providing the Berwick Historical Society their request of \$5,000 of Hotel tax Funds for their marketing plan

Motion by Karchner and seconded by Brewer; all approved

- B. Approve one of the two nominees for the Board of Directors of the Columbia County Conservation District filling the open Public Director position:

- Fishing Creek Watershed nominee Joan McCarty
- Farm Services Agency nominee Misty Chapman

Motion by Brewer and seconded by Kovach; all approved

- C. Approve the County's certification of funds in the amount of \$15,979.00 for Farmland Preservation

Motion by Kovach and seconded by Karchner; all approved

D. APPROVE THE FOLLOWING HIRES/STEP INCREASES/PROMOTIONS:

- Jennifer Mensinger, PT CO, Jail, Hire, 2/5/2024
- Alex Parks, PT CO, Jail, Hire, 2/5/2024
- Abbey Burt, PT CO, Jail, Hire, 2/5/2024

- Nolan Miller, PT CO, Jail, Hire, 2/5/2024
- Storm Brown, PT CO, Jail, Hire, 2/5/2024
- Jordan Carpenter, FT CO, Jail, 6 mo step, 1/9/2024
- Benjamin Johnson, FT CO, Jail, 6 mo step, 1/9/2024
- Terrance Shelhart, FT CO, Jail, 4 yr step, 2/23/2024
- LaQuana Obas, FT CO, Jail, 6 mo step, 2/6/2024
- Matthew Elsmore, FT CO, Jail, 6 mo step, 2/6/2024
- Gabriel Vandermark, FT CO, Jail, 1 yr step, 01/26/2024
- Hunter Weaver, FT CO, Jail, 2 yr step, 2/13/2024
- James Higgins, Acting Sgt, Jail, Transfer back to FT CO, 2/4/2024
- Steve Kirwin, FT CO, Jail, Promotion to Acting Sgt, 2/04/2024
- Michelle Frye, Network Coordinator, IT, 7 yr step, 02/01/2024
- Eric Swab, Chief Assessor, Tax, Hire, 2/5/2024
- David Good, PT Assessor, Tax, Hire, 2/5/2024
- Gina Perez, Tax Collection Clerk, Tax, Hire, 2/5/24

Motion by Kovach and seconded by Karchner; all approved

E. APPROVE THE DATES OF THE FOLLOWING ELECTED OFFICIALS/COURT EMPLOYEE HIRES/STEP INCREASES/PROMOTIONS:

- Kevin Katch, Deputy Sheriff, Sheriff, 2 yr step, 1/26/2024
- Adam Bennett, Probation Officer, AP, 4 yr step, 1/13/2024

Motion by Karchner and seconded by Kovach; all approved

F. APPROVE THE DATES OF THE FOLLOWING RESIGNATIONS/TERMINATIONS/RETIREMENTS:

- Riley Balmoos, FT CO, Jail, Resignation, 2/5/2024
- Stephanie Yutko, Tax Collector Clerk, Tax, Resignation, 01/22/2024
- Casey Flynn, FT CO, Jail, Resignation, 1/31/2024
- Hank Clarke, PT Asst PD, PD, Resignation, 1/26/2024

Motion by Karchner and seconded by Kovach; all approved

CORRESPONDANCE:

- Focus Central PA send notification to the Commissioners for a industrial Development Forum on March 13th from 8:30 to 4:00
- Coleman Environmental Engineering is submitting application to DEP for project Black Road Culvert on Deerlick Run in Mt Pleasant Township.
- Received notification of the Agricultural Awareness Day on April 6th at the Industrial Arts Building at the Bloomsburg Fairgrounds.
- The HUB at Mulberry Mills is having a open house on February 1st from 4:30-6:30

APPROVAL OF BILLS:

Approve the bills dated February 2nd, 2024 in the amount of \$340,961.53 for general Fund and \$41,334.29 for liquid fuels.

Motion by Commissioner Karchner and seconded by Commissioner Kovach; all approved

PUBLIC COMMENT:

None

AJOURN:

With no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned on a motion by Kovach.

Attest: _____
Marcie Strachko