

March 2, 2023

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 Ridgway, Young, and Kovach, also in attendance were Solicitor McDonald, Chief Clerk Witchey, Michele Frye, Ethan Howard, Jean Lapinski, Marcie Strachko, Treasurer Creveling, Linda Hendricks, Bethany Martin and Brayden Kline. Via zoom were the following individuals MJ Mahon, Jen Long, and Sheriff Chamberlain.

Commissioner Ridgway 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 Young, seconded by Kovach; all approved.

Commissioner Ridgway then called for a report of the work session: There was a 10:00 work session held. In attendance were Commissioners Ridgway, Young, and Kovach, Solicitor McDonald, Chief Clerk Witchey, Michele Frye, Jean Lapinski, Treasurer Creveling, Chris Anderson, Jen Long Eric Stahley Marcie Strachko, and Bob Christianson. Via zoom were the following individuals April Miller, Eric Boughner, MJ Mahon, Jodi Cook Alex Karpinski, Jeremy Brown, Don Coleman, and Tim Murphy. Commissioner Ridgway asked Bob Christianson to start the meeting and give an update on both the Sewer and Water projects in South Centre Township. Bob stated that the water project has broken ground in Lyons Hill development, and that there were some questions from EPA regarding where the sewer lines were projected to go at the old Radium Plant. They decided to run the lines on the other side of the street as to not impact anything at the site. He also stated that the archeological dig will happen around the Central School District. Jean then reviewed bills and available cash. The Commissioners Agenda was reviewed, Marcie then discussed the hires/step/promotions and then the Salary Board agenda was reviewed. After which the meeting was adjourned.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS:

Treasurer – February Report  
\$2,526.00 County Commission

Register & Recorder – February Report:  
\$23,561.24 was collected and remitted to the County  
\$1,365.00 was collected in Recorder Improvement Fund  
\$910.00 was collected in County Improvement Fund  
\$5,125.72 was collected in Affordable Housing Fund  
\$1,770.81 was collected in Remote Access Fee

Sheriff Screeners – February Report

Courthouse:		
Visitors		5,972
Alarms		3,313
Weapons:	Guns	10
	Knives	47
	Misc	16
Annex:		
Visitors		4,688
Alarms		2,174
Weapons:	Guns	4
	Knives	45
	Misc	15

OLD BUSINESS: None

NEW BUSINESS:

- A. Proclamation for 4H-Week for the week of March 12<sup>th</sup> -18<sup>th</sup>
- B. Approve Larson Design Group to provide technical support for the concrete deck bundling project and preservation of seven (7) county bridges for the amount of \$31,200

Motion by Ridgway and seconded by Kovach; all approved

- C. Approve the exoneration of tax /cost/interest for a lease hold trailer which was sold or razed pursuant to ACT 156 – Abandoned Mobil home
- Parcel # 31-02-028-00,044 \$1,465.02
  - Parcel # 31-02-028-00,033 \$2,015.37
  - Parcel # 31-02-028-00,072 \$214.64

Motion by Kovach and seconded by Young; all approved

- D. Acknowledge Chris Anderson’s EMA Basic Certification from PEMA
- E. Approve the resolution for Columbia County to be part of the PA250<sup>th</sup> for the 2026 celebration and elect Commissioner Kovach to the PA250 Advisory Committee

Motion by Young and seconded by Kovach; all approved

- F. Approve Paul Eyerly to the SEDA-COG Foundation Board

Motion by Ridgway and seconded by Young; all approved

- G. APPROVE THE FOLLOWING HIRES, STEP INCREASES, PROMOTIONS:
- Lauren Breiner, Telecommunicator, ECEN, Step Increase, 3/5/2023
  - Bailey Soule, Aide, CYS, Hire, 3/20/2023
  - Christopher Johnson, Caseworker 1, CYS, Step Increase, 2/22/2023

Motion by Young and seconded by Kovach; all approved

- H. APPROVE THE DATES OF THE FOLLOWING ELECTED OFFICIALS/COURT EMPLOYEES: HIRES, STEP INCREASES, PROMOTIONS:
- Jonathan Broadt, FT Deputy, Sheriff, Transfer, 4/24/2023
  - Dale Coombe, PT Deputy, Sheriff, Promotion to FT, 3/20/2023
  - Holly Johnston, Promotion, Deputy Chief, JPO, 3/13/2023
  - Donald Coleman, Chief APO, Promotion to Chief Officer – 26<sup>th</sup> Judicial District Probation/Parole, 02/27/2023

Motion by Kovach and seconded by Young; all approved

- I. APPROVE THE DATES OF THE FOLLOWING RESIGNATIONS, TERMINATIONS, RETIREMENTS:
- Jamie Hartz, LPN, Jail, Resignation, 02/20/2023
  - Taylor Shultz, Secretary, DRO, Resignation, 2/23/2023
  - Brittany Swilley, Caseworker 2, CYS, Resignation, 3/24/2023
  - Candy Duda, Clerk, Register & Recorder, Resignation, 03/03/2023
  - Denise LaBuda, Chief JPO, Resignation, 2/24/2023
  - Nathaniel Montiel, Officer, JP, Resignation, 02/28/2023

Motion by Ridgway and seconded by Young; all approved

CORRESPONDANCE:

- Larson Design Group notified the Commissioners of a detour associated with Bridge T-396 over East Branch Chillisquaque Creek in Montour County Bridge No. 12. The project should take 9 months and is scheduled for construction in 2025.
- Coleman Environmental Engineering sent notification to the Commissioners regarding a culvert project on Mellick Hollow Road in Mount Pleasant Township
- The PA Department of Transportation notified the Commissioners of the various state projects scheduled that are going to occur in Columbia County, they are as follows:
  - Bridge Painting and cable replacement for the Bridge that spans the Susquehanna River on Route 93 between Berwick and Nescopeck.

- Route 11 mill and resurface of 1.7 miles between Briar Creek and the Berwick Borough line in Briar Creek Borough

APPROVAL OF BILLS:

- Approve bills thru dated thru 3/3/23 for \$466,474.42

Motion by Ridgway and seconded by Young; all approved

- Approve American Paper bill for \$3,346.81

Motion by Young and seconded by Kovach; abstain by Ridgway; motion passes

- Approve to hold a bill to Tyler Technologies in the amount of \$24,022.21

Motion by Kovach and seconded by Young; all approved

PUBLIC COMMENT:

None

AJOURN:

With no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned on a motion by Young and seconded by Kovach. The motion passed.

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_  
David J. Witchey, Chief Clerk