

March 3, 2022

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 Young, Ridgway, Kovach, Solicitor McDonald, Chief Clerk Withey, Marcie Strachko, Michelle Frye, Ammon Young, Matt Hess, Gini Feigles-Kaar, and Julye Wemple. Via zoom: Alex Karpinski, Eric Stahley, Eric Boughner, and Jen Long.

Commissioner Young 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 Kovach, seconded by Ridgway; all approved.

Report of the work session: There was a 10:00 work session held. In attendance were Commissioners Young, Ridgway, Kovach, Solicitor McDonald, Chief Clerk Withey, Michelle Frye, Treasurer Creveling, Marcie Strachko, Bob Christianson, Eric Stahley, Jena Lapinski, Julye Wemple, Betsy Rubio, and Josh Nespoli. Via Zoom were the following individuals: Eric Boughner, Don Coleman, Eric Stahley, Tim Murphy, Jenn Long, Geralee Zeigler, Wade Mays, Gini Feigles-Kaar, and Tami Kline. Commissioner Ridgway called the work session to order and asked Josh Nespoli to start the meeting, Josh was representing Matt Hess regarding the Redevelopment Authority's seeking a \$1,000,000 grant for the old Coblenz Store that the County needed to the applicant and pass-thru. Josh informed the Commissioners that the structural engineer has determined that the building needs to be torn down. He also said that they will not do a tear down until they are ready for construction and that construction will 10-18 months depending upon the amount of funds that can be obtained for construction of the new facility. Josh said that Grimm will be assisting them with Preliminary Budget Estimates and that Funding Agency will dictate the bidding process. Bob Christianson said that South Centre Township will be meeting with Suez on Thursday march 10th and that there will be a pump station in Phase 1 of the sewer project. Geralee Ziegler then provided an update for the West End and Fishing Creek studies. She stated that the West End study's finals meeting will be held March 10th at the Bloomsburg Fire Hall at 6:30pm. The Fishing Creek study's final meeting will be held at Sawmill Road on march 31st at 6:30 PM. Tim Murphy then gave an update on GIS website that has been down due to a drive failure. He anticipated the site to be back up by Friday the 4th. Chief Clerk Withey gave a brief update regarding the WVWM Funds and it was agreed to keep on the agenda until next meeting but a letter should be sent to the Town giving them 30 days to provide an update to the County. Marcie reviewed all the personnel moves. Jean then reviewed cash and bills; the rest of the agenda was reviewed. The Salary Board agenda was reviewed and then the meeting was adjourned.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS:

Treasurer – February Report
\$771.00 County Commission

Register & Recorder – February Report:
\$36,926.00 was collected and remitted to the County
\$1,938.00 was collected in Recorder Improvement Fund
\$1,292.00 was collected in County Improvement Fund
\$7,970.78 was collected in Affordable Housing Fund
\$1,975.48 was collected in Remote Access Fee

OLD BUSINESS: None

NEW BUSINESS:

- A. Present the Proclamation for the Columbia County Traveling Library to acknowledge that April 3rd thru the 9th is National Library Week
- B. Discussion regarding the Wyoming Valley Mitigation Funds utilized for the second phase of the floodwall by the Town of Bloomsburg and the Bloomsburg School District, with a motion to provide the Town of Bloomsburg 30 days to officially respond.

Motion by Ridgway and seconded by Kovach; all approved

- C. Approve the exoneration of cost and interest, tax bill went out in an incorrect owners name

Parcel # 21-19-009-02,244 \$59.12

Approve the exoneration tax/cost/interest of a lease hold trailer which was sold or razed pursuant to Act 156 – Abandoned Mobile Home

Parcel # 31-02-028-00,073 \$15.00

Approve the exoneration tax/cost/interest of a camper that moved out of the campground with no permit

Parcel # 27-03-005-01,130 \$27.22

Motion by Young and seconded by Kovach; all approved

- D. Approve the use of \$2,500 of Hotel Tax dollars to sponsor the Trout tagging sponsored by the Fishing Creek Sportsmen’s Association

Motion by Ridgway and seconded by Kovach; all approved

- E. Approve Resolution 2022-2 for the Redevelopment Authority as the applicant for the Commonwealth Financing Authority’s Statewide Local Share Assessment Grant for a competitive \$1,000,000 grant

Motion by Ridgway and seconded by Kovach; all approved

- F. Approve the use of \$1,200 for Susquehanna Greenway Partnership for the North Branch Paddle scheduled on August 6th from Berwick Test Track to Bloomsburg (PFBC) at Columbia Park

Motion by Kovach and seconded by Ridgway; all approved

- G. Approve DRIVE Board nominee Jeff Erdley to fill vacant seat for 3 year term.

Motion by Kovach and seconded by Young; all approved

- H. APPROVE THE FOLLOWING HIRES/STEP INCREASES/PROMOTIONS:

- Tyler Coombe, Temp Sgt to FT CO, Jail, 2/2/22
- Payton Aucker, FT CO to Temp Sgt, Jail, 2/28/22
- John Raub, PT CO, Jail, Hire, 3/2/22
- Riley Balmoos, PT CO, Jail, Hire, 3/2/22
- Zachery Kaczurkin-Quiggle, PT CO, Jail, Hire, 3/2/22
- Jordan Fosse, PT CO, Jail, Hire, 3/2/22
- Christopher Moser, Sgt, Jail, Promoted, 1/16/22
- Kim O’Brien, FT CO, Jail, 6 month step, 8/22/21
- Janen Tallo, FT Asst Public Defender, PD, Hire, 3/21/22
- Michael May, Paramedic, Jail, Hire, 3/2/22
- Chase Cannon, PT Asst. PD, PD, Hire, 3/14/22

Motion by Kovach and seconded by Ridgway; all approved

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

- Michelle Feitner, Adm Asst (Judge James), Courts, Promoted, 3/7/22
- Christine Hartley, Secretary, MDJ Berwick, 4 yr step, 2/20/22

Motion by Young and seconded by Kovach; all approved

- J. APPROVE THE DATES OF THE FOLLOWING RESIGNATIONS/TERMINATIONS/RETIREMENTS:

- Claudia Gilreath, Admin Asst, Courts, Resignation, 3/4/22

Motion by Ridgway and seconded by Kovach; all approved

CORRESPONDENCE:

- PennDot will be holding a virtual public meeting for the Bloomsburg Reconstruction Project on Thursday, March 17, 2022 at 5:00 PM

- The Commonwealth of Pennsylvania PUC is notifying the Commissioners of Verizon Pennsylvania LLC alteration of the crossing by the lashing of an aerial fiber optic cable to an existing cooper wire, where Tenny Street crosses the North Shore Railroad located in Scott Township.
- Pennsylvania Department of Environmental protection notified the Commissioners that Schell Building & Landscaping Stone Inc. Has corrected their surface mining permit No. 54950301C3 with the purpose is to renew General Permit for storm water associated with mining.

APPROVAL OF BILLS:

- Approve bills from 3/4/2022 for \$1,106,176.88

Motion by Ridgway and seconded by Kovach; all approved

PUBLIC COMMENT:

None

AJOURN:

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

Attest: _____
David J. Witchey, Chief Clerk