

May 2, 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, Marcie Strachko, Treasurer Creveling, Jeannie Lapinski, and Michelle Frye. Via zoom were the following individuals MJ Mahon, Alex Karpinski, Don Coleman, Jenn Long, and Denise LaBuda.

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 Karschner; all approved; motion passes.

Commissioner Brewer then called for a report of the work session: There was a 10:00 work session held. In attendance were Commissioners Brewer, Karschner, and Kovach, Solicitor Marinos, Chief Clerk Witchey, Marcie Strachko, Treasurer Creveling, Jean Lapinski, Michelle Frye, MJ Mahon, Betsy Rubio, Beth Burke, Eric Stahley, Steve Phillips, Tom McLaughlin, Kim Wheeler, Lucyann Verling, Nancy Osborne, Geralee Ziegler, and Paul Eyerly. Via zoom were the following individuals: Tim Murphy, Denise LaBuda, Jodi Cook, Jenn Long, Alex Karpinski, and Don Coleman. Commissioner Brewer called the meeting to order and asked the Stuart Tank Museum to start the meeting, Tom McLaughlin detailed the history of the museum and everything they have done and asked the Commissioners to be a sponsor to their 2024 World War II weekend that brings people from 22 different states along with about 4,000 attendees. Their ask is for \$1,000 of Hotel Tax funds. Betsy Rubio then discussed the reallocation of their CDBG Funds over the 2020, 2021, and 2022 program year. Kim Wheeler from SEDA-COG then introduced her team to the new board and then provided an update on what services they provide to the 11 county region which they service. Eric Stahley then asked if we could add the Cleveland Township EDECI project of \$25,040.00 to the agenda for approval. Commissioner Kovach made a motion to add to the agenda with Commissioner Karschner seconding; all approved to add to the 2:00PM agenda. Jean reviewed bills and cash and then the remainder of the agenda was reviewed, Marcie reviewed Hires, Steps and Promotions, after which the meeting was adjourned.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS:

Treasurer:

Commissions – April Report:

Total remitted to the County was \$977.00

OLD BUSINESS: None

1. NEW BUSINESS:

A. Approve the following program modifications for CDBG
2020

- Blight will remove \$31,023.09
- Housing Rehab will remove \$2,593.09
- Catawissa RAB will be added and have a budget of \$33,616.18

2021

- Blight will be removed from the budget \$54,004.38
- Briar Creek Pavilion will remove \$548.04 (project is complete)
- Catawissa RAB will be added to the budget \$54,552.42

2022

- Housing Rehab will be reduced by \$11,831.23 and have a \$84,491.77 balance
- Catawissa RAB will be added to the budget for \$11,831.23

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

B. Approve Betsy Rubio as the 504 Officer of Columbia County that ensures the County is in compliance with state and federal laws prohibiting disability discrimination

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

C. Discussion regarding the use of \$1,000 of Hotel tax Funds for Stuart Tank Memorial Association to Sponsor the 2024 World War II Weekend at the Test Track Park in Berwick.

Motion by Commissioner Karschner and seconded by Commissioner Brewer; abstain by Kovach;
Motion passes

D. Approve the EDECI Grant not to exceed amount of \$25,040 to Cleveland Township for streambank stabilization project along Jefferson Road.

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

E. Approve the exoneration of tax/cost/interest for a lease hold mobile home or camper that moved or razed with no permit

- Parcel #02-02-001-00,063 \$173.90
- Parcel #22-01-007-03,163 \$156.76

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

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

- Andrea Pulizzi, Asst Part-time Public Defender, PD, Hire, 5/7/2024
- Cameryn Evans, Correctional Officer, Prison, 2 year step, 05/23/2024
- Ethan Whitmire, Sergeant, Prison, 8 year step, 05/15/2024.
- Brenndan Weaver, Correctional Officer, Prison, 4 year step, 05/10/2024
- Nikki Apple, PT Correctional Officer, Prison, 1 year step, 05/22/2024
- Logan Krick, Correctional Officer, Prison, 6m step, 05/12/2024

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

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

- Michael Beyer, Chief Deputy Sheriff, Sheriff, 2 year step, 04/04/2024

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

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

- None

CORRESPONDANCE:

- Cheetah Chassis Corporation provided the Commissioners the letter sent to their employees regarding their possible layoff.
- PPL notified the Commissioners of their Frackville Columbia Rebuild project, upgrading ther aging electric transmission lines.
- Susquehanna Greenway sent the Commissioners if they had interest in the Fishing line Collection tubes, since none of the waterways are owned by the County the County declined.

APPROVAL OF BILLS:

Approve the bills dated May 3, 2024 in the amount of \$1,590,805.08.

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

PUBLIC COMMENT:

None

AJOURN:

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

Attest: _____

David J. Withey