

June 3, 2021

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, Ridgeway, Kovach, Solicitor McDonald, Chief Clerk Withey, Treasurer Creveling, Jean Lapinski, Marcie Strachko, and Michele Frye. Via Zoom: Dean Girton, Don Coleman, Eric Boughner, Eric Stahley, Jen long, Dan Knorr, Suann Leighow, and Gina Feigles-Faar.

A motion was made by Ridgway and seconded by Kovach to approve the minutes of the prior meeting. The motion unanimously passed.

There was a 10:00 work session held in attendance were Commissioners Young, Ridgeway, Kovach, Solicitor McDonald, Chief Clerk Withey, Treasurer Creveling, Jean Lapinski, Marcie Strachko, and Michele Frye, Jim Edwards, Eileen Chapman, and Mike Lester. Via Zoom: Don Coleman, Eric Stahley, Jen long, Eric Boughner, and Diane Cizewski. Young called the meeting to order and asked Eileen Chapman start the meeting. She informed the Commissioners that Agape is bursting at the seams and that they have no please for inventory. Agape applied for and received a grant from Clarks Foundation for \$1.5 Million that will allow them to purchase a larger facility and go from 16,000 sq. ft. to 100,000 sq. ft. With that said the facility that they are purchasing will require at least 500k in additional renovations to be up to code and the grant requires a \$1.1 Million dollar match. On or about July 31st Agape will kick off their Capital Campaign, the challenge during this time will be cash flow and they asked the Commissioners to waive their share of the transfer tax which they estimate to be at 8k to 9k and for a 25k investment to Agape. One of the items that the Commissioners suggested is that they utilize CDBG funds to assist in the renovations. Jen Long then provided an updated on COVID-19 and stated that the number of cases of COIVD within the County continue to drop rapidly and that we are currently at 90 cases for the last 14 day period. She also stated that the County is not receiving a lot of vaccines and that is due to demand declining. 48% of all county residents have received one does and 41% of the total county population have been fully vaccinated. In regards to the Rescue Funds Chief Clerk Withey met with Harry Mathias regarding the County's loss of revenue, Harry was provided the last 5 years and the last 4 years of revenue reports so that he can establish a trend to assist in the determining the County's lost revenue. The Commissioners then discussed the ongoing issue with the DRIVE Broadband project. The first issue was missing the original 12-30-2020 deadline and then stating that they only needed a few weeks to complete, which was missed and the latest Memorial Day deadline. Some of the other issues were that Millville was moved out of the scope of the project with no input from the Commissioners. Since the 800K for the project came from the Commissioner's office and they are the customer they should have final say into the project decisions. With all the issues Commissioner Young will be resigning from the Board so that there is no conflict and that he can represent the Columbia County Commissioners for this project. Other areas that are complete there have been no reporting of how many people are on the Broadband system. The Commissioners have directed Solicitor McDonald to write a letter to Drive's Solicitor indicating that Millville be placed back into the project and that the Commissioners have established a deadline of the beginning of the school year 2021 for the system to be up and running. Otherwise the Commissioners are going to sue Drive for breach of contract and apply liquidated damages each day plus the Commissioner's want their additional 25k that was given to Drive returned.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS:

Sheriff Revenue – May Report:

Interest:	\$48.35
Civil	\$3,586.00
Lic To Carry	\$2,508.00
Lic to Sell Firearms	\$114.00
Lic to Sell Precious Metals	\$0.00
Personal Prop	\$240.00
Real Estate	\$345.50
Transports	\$0.00
Warrant	\$527.00
Total	\$7,368.85

Sheriff Screeners – May Report

Courthouse:	
Visitors	5,312

Alarms		2,744
Weapons:	Guns	4
	Knives	38
	Misc	17
Annex:		
Visitors		4,871
Alarms		3,180
Weapons:	Guns	3
	Knives	58
	Misc	14

Register & Recorder – May Report:

\$31,671.84 was collected and remitted to the County
 \$2,259.00 was collected in Recorder Improvement Fund
 \$1,506.00 was collected in County Improvement Fund
 \$9,783.43 was collected in Affordable Housing Fund
 \$2,037.18 was collected in Remote Access Fee

Treasurer - February Report:

Commissions \$1,350.00

OLD BUSINESS: None

NEW BUSINESS:

- A. Covid-19 update
- B. Update on the American Rescue Funds
- C. Discussion regarding Agape’s new building project
- D. Approve an addition of window glazing with a cost of \$3,970 to change order #1 for the prison project
 Motion by Kovach seconded by Young; opposed by Ridgway motions passes
- E. Approve Commissioner Young’s resignation from the DRIVE Board
 Motion by Kovach seconded by Ridgway; all approved
- F. Approve the use of \$25,000 of Hotel Tax to be utilized by the Benton Rodeo pending a written request
 Motion by Ridgway seconded by Kovach; all approved
- G. Approve the purchase of the Wagner Covered Bridge from the Barton House in the amount of \$4
 Motion by Kovach seconded by Ridgway; all approved
- H. Approve the exoneration of tax/cost/interest due to the parcel being double assessed

- Parcel# 20-06-004-01,161 \$191.68

Motion by Young seconded by Kovach; all approved

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

- Felicia Karns, Caseworker 2, CYS, 2 yr step, 5/20/21
- Lezette Aponte, CO, PT> 30, Prison, Promotion, 6/1/21
- Allen Stroup, Maint Specialist 2, Maintenance, 4 yr Step Increase, 6/16/21
- Tyler Patterson, FT Level 1 Telecommunicator- Certified, ECEN, Promotion, 5/30/21
- Joseph Grenuk, FT Level III Telecommunicator – Certified, ECEN, Promotion, 6/13/21
- Sean Richendrfer, FT Level 1 Telecommunicator – Certified, ECEN, Promotion, 6/13/21
- Carrie Lockard, Legal Secretary, PD, Transfer from Prothonotary, 6/7/21
- Amanda Leavens, Office Manager, PD, Promotion, 6/7/21

Motion by Ridgway seconded by Kovach; all approved

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

- Kyle Cosoleto-Miller, Law Clerk, Courts, Hire (PT, no benefits), 6/7/21
- Brooke Sudol, Conference Officer, DRO, Hire, 6/7/21
- Rick Riera-Gomez, Clerk, Treasurer, Hire, 6/7/21
- Alexis Williams, Clerk, MDJ Catawissa, 2 yr Step Increase, 6/16/21

Motion by Ridgway seconded by Kovach; all approved

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

- Samantha Fiester, Caseworker Aide, CYS, Resignation, 5/20/21
- Denise Gensel, Clerk, Reg & Recorder, Resignation, 5/25/21
- Garrett Schlagel, PT CO, Prison, Resignation, 6/4/21
- Katy Anderson, Secretary, DRO, Resignation, 6/18/21

Motion by Kovach seconded by Ridgway; all approved

CORRESPONDENCE:

- The South Centre Township Supervisors sent a letter to the Commissioners asking if a draft agreement is needed to be provided to the Commissioners in order for the Commissioners provide the South Centre Township Sewer Project \$1,000,000 of American Rescue Funds paid in two payments.
- Quad3 Architecture Engineering sent the Commissioners notification that a Culvert Project will be replaced in the Borough of Berwick on Heights Road.
- The Downtown Bloomsburg, Inc. notified the Commissioners that they will be having a Downtown Pretty Planter Project, with the planter being outside of the business by June 15th.
- Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection notified the Commissioners that Mallard Contracting Co., Inc. updated their mining permit that includes their 2020 Bond Review
- Multiple citizens sent the Commissioners letters stating that they count on the Commissioners to continue to oppose any SASO ordinance or Resolution.
- Governor Wolf sent a letter to the Commissioners thanking for sharing their thoughts and concerns regarding important matters.
- Phoenix Water & Wastewater Operations notified the Commissioners of their written notice for their NPDES permit renewal for 2021

APPROVAL OF BILLS:

- Approve bills from 5-28-21 totaling \$1,508,202.75

Motion by Ridgway and seconded by Kovach; all approved

- Approve American Paper bills from 5-28-21 totaling \$806.66

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

PUBLIC COMMENT:

None

AJOURN:

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

Attest: _____
David J. Withey, Chief Clerk