

June 4, 2020

The Columbia County Commissioners met on the above date at 2:00 PM in the Commissioners' Conference Room at 700 Sawmill Small Conference Room for a Commissioners meeting handling the transaction of routine business. In attendance were Commissioners Young, Ridgway, Kovach, Solicitor McDonald, Chief Clerk Witchey, Marcie Strachko and Michelle Frey. All other attendees were online via zoom they are as follows Jean Lapinski, Jeremy Brown, and April Miller.

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

There was a work session at 10:00 AM in the Commissioners Conference Room at 700 Sawmill Small Conference Room for the transaction of routine business. In attendance were Commissioners Young, Ridgway, Kovach, Solicitor McDonald, Chief Clerk Witchey, Sheriff Chamberlain, Register & Recorder Lupini, Marcie Strachko, Michelle Frey, Eileen Chapman, and Karen Heaps. . All other attendees were online via zoom they are as follows Eric Boughner, Tim Murphy, Wade Mays, Jen Long, Jeremy Brown, Don Coleman, Jeannie Lapinski, and Mike Lester. Agape had their public meeting to fulfill the obligation for HSDF for the upcoming year, Karen detailed the some of the issues that Covid-19 has brought to their programs and how needs will change for the upcoming budget. Marcie reviewed the all of the personnel moves. Register & Recorder Lupini reviewed her May report and indicated that they are still behind the prior year YTD and that they are still only accepting appointments. Sheriff Chamberlain also discussed how well appointments are going, however he does accept walk-ins if no one has an appointment. Matt Repasky reviewed the results of the election, 6,004 requests were processed for ballots and had 4,963 individuals returning those ballots. Commissioner Young and thanked everyone involved in the election process and said that it was a team effort to accomplish counting all votes including all mailed ballots the night of the election. Wade Mays provided the Commissioners an update of the progress at the landfill. As to date DEP has not visited the site and Tony Eith the engineer was going to provide them a narrative of the progress. Lori Gordner updated the Commissioners of her item on the age which was approval of the Citizen Participation Plan for the CDBG program.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS:

Treasurer – May Report:

\$968.00 was collected in Commissions

Register & Recorder – May Report:

\$24,393.20 was collected in commissions and fees

\$1,458.00 was collected in Recorder Improvement Fund

\$972.00 was collected in County Improvement Fund

\$6,868.23 was collected in Affordable Housing Fund

\$1,567.15 was collected in Remote Access Fee

OLD BUSINESS:

NEW BUSINESS:

- A. Update on Covid-19
- B. Update on the Primary Election
- C. Update on the Landfill Project
- D. Proclamation for Child Welfare Professionals Appreciation Week
- E. Agape's public meeting for the upcoming 2020/2021 budget year for HSDF
- F. Approve the Citizen Participation Plan for the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program.

Motion by Kovach and seconded by Ridgway; all approved

- G. Approve the Benton Rodeo keeping the \$25,000 of Hotel Tax Funds that were to be used for the 2020 Benton Rodeo, to be rolled over for the 2021 Rodeo.

Motion by Kovach and seconded by Ridgway; all approved

- H. Approve Larson Design to proceed forward with a proposal for Columbia County’s capital projects as listed below:
- i. Briar Creek Lake Park – Replace Driveway & Parking Areas with a bituminous surface treatment and repair Fish Commission driveway
 - ii. Prison – Roof replacement on stone masonry portion and asphalt shingle roof
 - iii. Prison- remove old house and convert to parking lot
 - iv. Prison- repoint stone masonry including front steps, repaint masonry above band

Motion made by Ridgway and seconded by Kovach; all approved

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

- Alexis Sciascia, PT CO, Jail, 6 month step inc, 6/16/2020
- Savanna New, PT CO, Jail, 1 year step inc, 6/24/2020
- Jared Miller, PT CO, Jail, 1 year step inc, 6/24/2020
- Zakary Lewis, PT CO, Jail, 1 year step inc, 6/24/2020
- Emily Mowery, FT CO, Jail, 6 month step inc, 6/8/2020
- Casey Flynn, FT CO, Jail, 6 month step inc, 6/8/2020
- Justin Meaders, FT CO, Jail 2 year step inc, 6/24/2020
- Brandon Richendrfer, FT CO, Jail, 4 year step inc, 6/26/2020
- Vivian Bloom, FT CO, 1 year step, inc, 7/21/2020
- Brandy Walton, FT CO, 4 year step inc, 7/17/2020
- Michael Levan, Sgt., Jail, 20 year step inc, 7/12/2020
- Sara Novotney, Nurse, Jail, 4 year step inc, 7/9/2020
- David Heim, Chief Assessor, Assessment, Promotion, 7/6/2020
- Jason Kaufman, PT Telecommunicator, ECEN, Hire, 6/8/2020
- Steven Krasucki, Tax Poster, Assessment Rehire – Seasonal, 6/16/2020
- Bill Perkins, Tax Poster, Assessment, Seasonal Hire, 6/16/2020

Motion by Kovach and seconded by Ridgway; all approved

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

- Klæe Hunter, Victim Witness Coordinator, DA, 6 month step, inc, 7/6/2020
- Janelle Neidig, VW Director, DA, 6 month step inc, 7/1/2020

Motion by Kovach and seconded by Young; all approved

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

- David Good, Chief Assessor, Assessment, Retirement. 7/3/2020

Motion by Kovach and seconded by Ridgway; all approved

CORRESPONDENCE:

- Joyce Walker Deputy Director of America 250PA sent a letter that in in July 2026 America will commemorate the 250th anniversary of the United States.
- Wise Foods sent notification that they are applying to DEP for their Air Quality State Only Permit.
- Northcentral Pennsylvania Conservancy sent a letter to the Commissioners notifying them that Tamara Wagner is now the Land Stewardship Specialist for NPC.

APPROVAL OF BILLS:

Request to pay bills for period of May 29th totaling \$395,540.02

Motion by Ridgway and seconded by Kovach; all approved

Request to pay American Paper for the period of May 29th totaling \$482.20

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

PUBLIC COMMENT:

- None

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