

October 7, 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, Kovach, via phone Ridgway, Solicitor McDonald, Chief Clerk Witchey, Marcie Strachko, Eric Boughner, Jean Lapinski, Betsy Rubio, and Julye Wemple. Via Zoom: Aaron Feinberg, Don Coleman, Eric Stahley, Taryn, Jen Long and Jeremy Brown.

Approval of the minutes of the past meeting

Motion by Kovach, seconded by Young; all approved.

There was a 10:00 work session held. In attendance were Commissioners Young, Kovach, Solicitor McDonald, Chief Clerk Witchey, Bob Christianson, Register & Recorder Lupini, Jean Lapinski, Betsy Rubio, Eric Boughner, Harry Mathias, and Julye Wemple. Via Zoom Jen Long, Joe Hyde, Geralee Zeigler, Don Coleman, and Jeremy Brown. Young called the meeting to order and asked Harry Mathias to start the meeting Harry presented the Commissioners a power point presentation regarding the American Rescue Fund Program. Harry provided the commissioners an update on the Skilled Trades Program. The program now has 268 students enrolled and the program has 29 total classes. He stated that the non-profit round started October 1<sup>st</sup> and the innovation grant of \$100,000 will begin in February. He then discussed the Small Business Grant, which had \$1,250,000 set aside and has dramatically slowed down. As of the meeting only \$608,000 had been spent and Harry recommended that the Commissioner place an end date to the program. Supervisor Bob Christianson requested that a minute change then be made to the September 16<sup>th</sup> meeting minutes to reflect that Dale Sneedman is the Secretary of South Centre and not a Supervisor. Mr. Christianson then discussed that the Municipality is not giving any funds to the expansion of water and that all of their funds will be dedicated to the upcoming sewer project. He also informed the Board that he spoke to Suez and that adding Lyons Hill to the water expansion would not be an issue. Commissioner Kovach then asked the question would the sewer plant have the capacity to handle additional properties in expansion occurred. Mr. Christianson stated that the plant could be added on to accommodate additional properties. The Commissioners then discussed the guide rail at Davis Covered Bridge and asked that it be added to the agenda to move forward to reinstall the guiderail and that Cleveland Township will be required to reimburse the County expenses for the installation. Marcie then discussed all personnel actions. Jeannie then discussed available cash and bills. The Agenda was then reviewed and the meeting was adjourned.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS:

Register & Recorder – September Report:

\$37,857.51 was collected and remitted to the County  
\$2,607.00 was collected in Recorder Improvement Fund  
\$1,738.00 was collected in County Improvement Fund  
\$11,521.44 was collected in Affordable Housing Fund  
\$2,286.77 was collected in Remote Access Fee

Sheriff Revenue – September Report:

Interest:	\$55.23
Civil	\$3,084.00
Lic To Carry	\$4,028.00
Lic to Sell Firearms	\$741.00
Lic to Sell Precious Metals	\$0.00
Personal Prop	\$352.00
Real Estate	\$660.00
Transports	\$0.00
Warrant	\$454.00
Total	\$8,747.23

Sheriff Screener - September Report:

Courthouse:	
Visitors	5,878
Alarms	2,776
Weapons:	
Guns	6
Knives	47
Misc	9

Annex:		
Visitors		4,574
Alarms		1387
Weapons:	Guns	2
	Knives	29
	Misc	21

Treasurer - August Report:  
Commissions \$5,452.00

Treasurer - September Report:  
Commissions \$1,056.00

OLD BUSINESS: None

NEW BUSINESS:

A. COVID-19 update

B. Approval to utilize American Rescue Funds for the following programs:

- Approve the purchase of microphones for use in the Courtroom \$600.00
- Approve the second round of eligible Small Business Grant recipients \$176,000
- Approve the end of the Small Business grant on Thursday October 14<sup>th</sup>

Motion by Kovach, seconded by Young; all approved

C. Approve the advertisement of the Courthouse bathroom renovation project, bids will be due on 11-4-21 by noon.

Motion by Kovach, seconded by Young; all approved

D. Approve the opening of Columbia County's copier RFP bids

Motion by Kovach, seconded by Young; all approved

E. Approve Bodnar's as the lowest responsible bidder at \$3,415.67 per month

Motion by Kovach, seconded by Young; all approved

F. Approve the Columbia County Housing & Redevelopment Authority CDBG 2021 submission:

- Briar Creek Pavilion \$12,000
- Veteran's Housing Rental Program \$150,000
- Blight Program \$54,000
- Administration \$47,000

Motion by Young, seconded by Kovach; all approved

G. Approve the contract with MCM Consulting for the North Central Region shared CPE and ESINET project

Motion by Young, seconded by Kovach; all approved

H. Approve to move forward to reinstall the guiderail at Davis Covered Bridge and Cleveland Township will be responsible to reimburse the County all costs

Motion by Young, seconded by Kovach; all approved

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

- Jody Sado, LPN, Jail, Hire, 9/28/21
- Daniel Ramirez, PT CO<30, Jail, Hire, 10/5/21
- Carlos Speedwell, PT CO<30, Jail, Hire, 10/5/21

- Ryan Rasmussen, PT CO<30, Jail, Hire, 10/5/21
- Ismael Cenexant, PT CO<30, Jail, Hire, 10/5/21
- Angel Figueroa-Vazquez, PT CO<30, Jail, Hire, 10/5/21
- Krystal Leitzel, PT CO<30, Jail, Hire, 10/5/21
- Darrell Hawk, PT CO<30, Jail, Hire, 10/5/21
- Cody Fronk, Dispatcher, ECEN, Hire, 10/11/21
- Joseph Hyde, HM Clerk, EMA/Resilency, Temp Hire, 10/13/21
- Kerri Shaylor, Casework Supervisor, CYS, 2 yr step inc, 9/16/21
- Frances Mannino, Caseworker 1, CYS, Promotion, 10/11/21

Motion by Kovach, seconded by Ridgway; Opposed Young; motion passes

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

- Hollie Stewart, Chief Deputy, Reg & Recorder, 2 yr Step Increase, 11/4/21

Motion by Kovach, seconded by Young; all approved

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

- Britney Zumerling, FT CO, Prison, Resignation, 10/8/21
- Alexis Williams, Legal Secretary, DM Catawissa, Resignation, 10/5/21
- Sarah Perkowski, LPN, Prison, Resignation, 10/5/21
- David McCoy, Lieutenant, Prison, Resignation, 9/28/21
- Jacquelyn Lorson, FT CO, Prison, Resignation, 10/9/21
- Blake Jones, Telecommunicator, ECEN, Resignation, 9/30/21
- Jessica Surkin, CO PT <30, Jail, Resignation, 8/28/21
- Cody Hess, Caseworker 1, CYS, Resignation, 9/27/21

Motion by Kovach, seconded by Ridgway; all approved

CORRESPONDENCE:

- Commissioners received notification from the State Attorney General regarding the Participation in the National Opioid Settlement.
- Catawissa Water Authority sent a letter to the Commissioners thanking them for consideration and support of the elevation project.
- Dolittle Construction sent notification to the Commissioners informing them of the cabin raising at 53 Hartman Grove Road in Orangeville Pa.
- Rettew Associates informed the Commissioners that the Bloomsburg Wastewater Treatment Facility is renewing their NPDES Permit.
- DCED informed the Commissioners of the \$3,125,438 grant for Columbia County to support the Mills on Market New Construction of Affordable Housing Project.

APPROVAL OF BILLS:

- Approve bills from 10-8-21 totaling \$737,527.50

Motion by Ridgway and seconded by Kovach; all approved

- Approve American Paper bills from 10-8-21 totaling \$2,760.65

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 Kovach and seconded by Young. The motion passed.

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