

August 15, 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, Michelle Frye, Marcie Strachko, Dave Witchey, Jean Lapinski, Denise LaBuda, and Treasurer Creveling. Via zoom were the following individuals Eric Stahley, Don Coleman, Jeremy Brown, Alex Karpinski, Jenn Long, and Susan Swartz.

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, Jeannie Lapinski, Michelle Frye, Eric Stahley, Betsy Rubio, Beth Burke, Elizabeth Hazzard, Susan Swartz, Don Coleman, Dave Witchey and Marcie Strachko. Via zoom April Miller, Jeremy Brown, and Tim Murphy. Commissioner Brewer called the meeting to order and asked the Columbia County Redevelopment Authority to start since they had two items on the agenda. The first item was for the Commissioners to approve the Authority to seek a \$4MM dollar grant for a homeless shelter that will be placed in Briar Creek Borough and is located next to the Giant Food Store. Both Betsy and Beth listed the groups that are going to assist in this process, all of which are experienced in assisting individuals and are reputable non-profits in located within Columbia County. After their discussion Elizabeth Hazzard who works for the Women’s Center asked for permission to have use of the Courthouse steps on October 9th in recognition of Domestic Violence Awareness Month. Susan Swartz then reviewed her item on the agenda which was use of the County’s parking lot on August 31st and Sept 1st for the Bloom Early Music Workshop. No one else had anything for the agenda so the remaining agenda was reviewed, Marcie then reviewed the hires steps and promotions for both the Commissioners and Elected Officials, then reviewed the resignation, retirements and terminations. Jean then reviewed available cash and bills after which the work session was adjourned.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS:

Register & Recorder – July Report:
Total remitted to the County was \$29,296.66
Total business all sources was \$752,091.91

Number of Deeds recorded for July was 143
Number of Mortgages recorded for June was 149

Sheriff Revenue – July Report

Interest:	\$1,103.14
Civil	\$1,995.00
Lic To Carry	\$2,964.00
Lic to Sell Firearms	\$57.00
Lic to Sell Precious Metals	\$0.00
Personal Prop	\$1,300.00
Real Estate	\$334.50
Transports	\$0.00
Warrant	\$1,644.01
Total	\$9,397.65

Sheriff Screener – July Report

Courthouse:	
Visitors	7,589
Alarms	3,305
Weapons:	
Guns	2
Knives	23
Misc	3
Annex:	
Visitors	5,209
Alarms	2,128

Weapons:	Guns	1
	Knives	51
	Misc	9

Treasurer – July Report:

County Commission \$2,524.00

Prothonotary:

Clerk of Orphans Courts – July Report:

Total remitted to the County was \$18,283.61

Total business all sources was \$25,585.39

Clerk of Courts – July Report:

Total remitted to the County was \$36,732.97

Total business all sources was \$75,571.25

Magistrates’ Reports – July

	Cases	Collected
Berwick	212	\$4,914.12
Bloomsburg	315	\$9,478.28
Catawissa	467	\$7,378.69
Millville	279	\$5,764.33

OLD BUSINESS: None

NEW BUSINESS:

- A. Proclamation declaring August 11th, 2024 as Catawissa Day which is 250 years old and is in Columbia County

Acknowledged by Kovach seconded by Brewer, all agreed

- B. Approve the change in scope of work with no cost increase for Berwick Borough Glenbrook Stream EDECI project

Kovach made a motion, Karschner seconded; all approved

- C. Approve Briar Creek Township EDECI project of Yost Hollow Road with a not to exceed of \$42,250.00

Karschner made a motion, Kovach seconded; all approved.

- D. Approve the use of the Courthouse steps on October 9th for Domestic Violence Awareness Month which will be an hour long vigil

Karschner made a motion to approve; Brewer seconded; all approved.

- E. Approve the agreement between the County and Historical Society for the use of four (4) parking spots

Kovach made a motion to approve; Brewer seconded; all approved.

- F. Discussion with Columbia County Redevelopment regarding potential future buyouts in Bloomsburg for CDBG-DR

- G. Approve Columbia County Redevelopment Authority to submit to HOME ARP for a Non-Congregate Shelter on the County’s behalf in the amount of \$4MM

Karschner made a motion, Kovach seconded; all approved.

- H. Approve Charles Fritz from the Bloomsburg Recycling Center to take over the being the designee as Columbia County’s Recycling Coordinator, effective January 2025

Kovach made a motion to approve; Brewer seconded; all approved.

- I. Approve the use of the County Parking Lot by the Bloom Early Music Workshop from 4PM on August 31st and Sept 1st

Brewer made a motion, Kovach seconded; all approved

- J. Approve the exoneration of tax/cost/interest, parcel is a lease hold mobile home or trailer moved or razed with no permit

- Parcel # 21-19-009-02,182 \$658.15

Kovach made a motion, Karschner seconded; all approved

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

- Caden Hagerman, FT CO, Prison, one year step, 9/17/2024
- Josef Venditti, FT CO, Prison, two year step, 8/16/2024
- Kyra Tappe, FT CO, Prison, one year step, 9/17/2024
- Matthew Elsmore, FT CO, Prison, one year step, 8/06/2024
- LaQuona Obas, FT CO, Prison, one year step, 8/06/2024
- Jaznik Hoover, FT CO, Prison, six month step, 8/18/2024
- Seth Moyer, FT CO, Prison, 6 month step, 8/18/2024
- G. Mike Vezendy, FT CO, Prison, twenty year step, 09/20/2024
- Susan Farr, PT EMT, Prison, two year step, 09/21/2024
- Hayden Weaver, Promotion to FT CO, Prison, 08/18/2024
- Kirsten Yoder, Caseworker Aide I, CYS, Hire, 8/26/2024
- Bradley Quinn, CWEB Intern, CYS, Internship, 09/26/2024

Kovach made a motion, Karschner seconded; all approved

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

- Morgan Knorr, Secretary, DRO, six month step, 9/11/2024

Karschner made a motion, Kovach seconded; all approved.

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

- Jordan Carpenter, FT CO, Prison, Resignation, 8/13/2024
- Logan Krick, FT CO, Prison, Resignation, 8/22/2024
- Stephen Gifford, FT CO, Resignation, 8/17/2024
- Jill Schoepflin, Admin Asst, Family Center, Retirement, 08/09/2024

Kovach made a motion to approve; Brewer seconded; all approved.

CORRESPONDANCE:

- White Pines notified the Commissioners that they are applying for a Landfill Permit Renewal, which they are required to do.
- Tetra Tech notified the Commissioners of Williams Solar NPDES Permit for a 17.6-megawatt solar project located in Orange Township

APPROVAL OF BILLS:

Approve the bills dated August 16, 2024 in the amount of \$655,418.15

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 Commissioner Kovach

seconded by Commissioner Brewer; motion passes.

Attest: _____
Marcie Strachko