

October 17, 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, Jean Lapinski, Dave Witchey, and Rosalie Antonello. Via zoom were the following individuals MJ Mahon and Jennifer Long.

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: The report is as follows, at 10:00 there was a work session held. In attendance were Commissioners Brewer, Karschner and Kovach, Solicitor McDonald, Jeannie Lapinski, Michelle Frye, Treasurer Creveling, MJ Mahon, Betsy Rubio, Beth Burke, Marcie Strachko, Bobby Christiansen, Eric Swab, David Heim Renae Newhart, Judge Norton, and Denise Labuda. Via zoom, Don Coleman, Jennifer Long, and Tim Murphy. Commissioner Brewer called the meeting to order and asked the Redevelopment Authority to start the meeting by discussing their agenda item for the approval to submit the CDBG 2024 application. Betsy reviewed the five areas using CDBG funds, after which MJ Mahon asked what the Homeless Specialist will be doing, they indicated that the position will provide points of contacts for individuals seeking services within the County and assist in the reduction of the duplication within the agencies that provide these services. Judge Norton then read aloud a three page letter citing his concerns regarding the Commissioners moving Kristi Kritzer back into the ECEN (911) full time due to not backfilling Alex Karpinski’ s position. (The Judge’s letter will be located in the file for the October 17th Commissioner Meeting). Bob Christianson then provided a brief update on the water project indicating that it is almost completed, and that the sewer is continued to be worked on. The rest of the agenda was reviewed and Marcie reviewed the hires/step increase and promotions for both the Commissioners and elected officials and courts. Jeannie then reviewed bills and available cash. After which the work session was adjourned.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS:

Sheriff Screener – September Report

Courthouse:		
Visitors		6,660
Alarms		3,061
Weapons:	Guns	3
	Knives	39
	Misc	20

Annex:		
Visitors		4,479
Alarms		1,893
Weapons:	Guns	1
	Knives	24
	Misc	4

Prothonotary:

Clerk of Orphans Courts – September Report:	
Total remitted to the County was	\$17,205.82
Total business all sources was	\$23,178.22

Clerk of Courts – September Report:	
Total remitted to the County was	\$37,204.06
Total business all sources was	\$70,420.68

Magistrates’ Reports – September

	Cases	Collected
Berwick	236	\$5,954.05
Bloomsburg	407	\$9,531.57
Catawissa	258	\$6,806.90
Millville	255	\$6,885.85

OLD BUSINESS: None

NEW BUSINESS:

A. Approve the CDBG 2024 application, breakdown is as follows:

- Administration \$45,500
- Blight \$36,400
- N4Cs \$55,100
- Homeless Specialist \$31,100
- Orangeville Manor \$85,153

Commissioner Kovach made a motion, Commissioner Karschner seconded; all approved

B. Approve the Fishing Creek Watershed Association nominee Brian Sokol for the position of the Conservation District Director

Commissioner Karschner made a motion, Commissioner Kovach seconded; all approved

C. Discussion regarding the three remaining open tax appeals from 10-15-24 appeals meetings

- Approve the Caldwell Consistory request to become tax exempt

Commissioner Karschner made a motion, Commissioner Kovach seconded; all approved

- Approve parcel 31-02E-003-00000 to be assessed in Orange Township vs Scott Township

Commissioner Brewer made a motion to **deny the request**, Commissioner Kovach seconded; all approved

- Approve Montour Township property Parcel 25-05C-067-00000 to become tax exempt

Commissioner Kovach made a motion to table the request, Commissioner Brewer seconded; all approved

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

- Levi Yoder, CW II , CYS, 6 month step, 8/27/24

Commissioner Kovach made a motion, Commissioner Brewer seconded; all approved

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

- Leonard Branz, Drug & Alcohol Case Manager, Adult Probation, 11/25

Commissioner Karschner made a motion, Commissioner Kovach seconded; all approved

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

- Dylan Willis, Jail, FT CO, Resignation, 10/17/2024
- Tony McDonald, Assistant DA, DA, Retirement, 9/27/2024

Commissioner Kovach made a motion, Commissioner Brewer seconded; all approved

CORRESPONDANCE:

- Scattered Acres Farm sent notification to the Commissioners that they are submitting a NPDES Permit Application to DEP in Cleveland Township. The permit is for CAFO permit for the operation per DEP requirements.
- Roaring Creek Farms sent notification to the Commissioners that they are submitting a NPDES Permit Application to DEP in Cleveland and locust Townships. The permit is for CAFO permit for the operation per DEP requirements.
- Wise Foods, Inc. is applying to DEP for their operation of a direct fired natural gas heat exchanger, used to heat vegetable oil to fry potato chips.

- Roaring Creek Township supervisors are applying to DEP for their NPDES permit for their Renewal of Water Quality Management for the discharge of water in both Locust and Roaring Creek Townships
- The Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection sent notification to the Commissioners that D Molesevich & Sons of Mt Carmel sent the renewed mining permit which includes their Bond Review for 2021.
- Larson Design sent notification to the Commissioners regarding their Bridge 57 Replacement Project along with the 4four Right-of –Way notifications to the homeowners that have property that will utilized for the bridge project.

APPROVAL OF BILLS:

Approve the bills dated 10/11/2024 in the amount of \$289,422.44

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 Karschner seconded by Commissioner Kovach; motion passes.

Attest: _____
Marcie Strachko