

Huntingdon, Pa.
Tuesday December 10, 2013
2:00 p.m.

The Huntingdon County Commissioner held a budget meeting on the above date and time in the Commissioners meeting room with the following being present: Commissioners O’Korn, Fluke and Thomas; Chief Clerk, Michelle Cerett; Solicitor, Peter McManamon; Treasurer, Rich Irvin; Fiscal Clerk, Ruth Edmiston; Daily News reporter, Garrison Crow; and visitors Ginny Cooper, Julie Peoples, David Hsuing; Paul Post and Jim Cassatt,

The meeting was called to order at 2:00 p.m. by Commissioner O’Korn followed by Prayer led by Commissioner Fluke and the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag led by Commissioner Thomas.

Commissioner O’Korn opened the meeting with introductions and a review of rules of the meeting.

Jim Cassatt asked why the assessed value of the property has decreased. Treasurer Irvin stated that in October, we receive an estimate of assessed values and those numbers are used when compiling the budget. He feels the decrease is related to tax appeals and additional properties being added to the Clean and Green program. Jim also questioned the decrease in population numbers for 2013. Jim asked why an overview of the 2013 actual to budget is not provided. Commissioner O’Korn stated that the year is not over yet, therefore no final numbers are available yet. Lastly, Jim questioned why the FICA budget was not increased along with the employee raises. Treasurer Irvin stated that in looking at the history of the FICA cost, there has been no increase in FICA cost. This could be related to higher paid employees retiring and a decrease in the total number of employees.

Julie Peoples read a statement regarding the Huntingdon County library funding, which is attached to the minutes.

Commissioner Thomas stated he would like to have a special mil designated to the Bailey building mortgage. He stated if that it is done, the special mil would go away when the mortgage is paid off.

Commissioner Fluke offered comment on the Library appropriation issue. He feels the library is not a critical need to the County due to the increased use of internet services in homes. David Hsuing disagreed with Commissioner Fluke, stating the library provides a very valuable service to the County residents. He stated that electronic books are not near as plentiful as printed books.

There being no further business, it was moved by Commissioner Thomas to adjourn the meeting at 2:28 p.m. Minutes prepared by Michelle Cerett, Chief Clerk.

Respectfully submitted,

Jeffrey Thomas, Secretary