

Huntingdon, PA

Tuesday, February 18, 2020

7-2020

The regular meeting of the Huntingdon County Commissioners was held on the above date and time in the Commissioners Meeting Room with the following present: Commissioners Sather, Walls and Thomas; Chief Clerk, Heather Fellman; Solicitor, Peter McManamon; Community Development Administrator, Stacia-Fe Gillen; Interim Planning Director, Laurie Nearhood; 911 Director, Chris Stevens; CYS Director, Shannon Walborn; Warden, Duane Black; News Reporter, Kylie Hawn and visitor, Jim Cassatt.

The meeting was called to order at 9:30 a.m. by Commissioner Sather, followed in prayer led by Commissioner Walls and the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag led by Commissioner Thomas.

It was moved by Commissioner Walls, seconded by Commissioner Thomas and carried (Sather, yes; Walls, yes; Thomas, yes) to approve the minutes of the February 11th Public Meeting.

It was moved by Commissioner Thomas, seconded by Commissioner Walls and carried (Walls, yes; Thomas, yes; Sather, yes) to approve the payment of bills.

Three items were added to the agenda: Resolution 4-2020, consideration to hire for the position of Planning and Development Director, and a request from Fred Gutshall to attend a symposium. It was moved by Commissioner Walls, seconded by Commissioner Thomas and carried (Thomas, yes; Sather, yes; Walls, yes) to add these items to the agenda.

Commissioner Walls announced that Blair County has had a spotted lantern fly outbreak. The Extension Office has further information on what to look for. Commissioner Thomas wished the best of luck to the purchaser of the EBT Railroad. This will be a huge economic boost for the area.

Under public comment, Jim Cassatt asked when the Commissioners plan to go after Penn State and Juniata College for payment in lieu of taxes. Commissioner Walls noted that this is something the Commissioners may look into in the future.

There were no matters to be addressed by the solicitor.

Under new business, Shannon Walborn requested consideration of approval for staff to attend the Pennsylvania Children and Youth Administrators (PCYA) Conference. Shannon Walborn, would attend along with Claudia Conrad, Lori Deline, Susan Ross, and Ray Ghaner. Total registration cost is \$525. It was moved by Commissioner Thomas, seconded by Commissioner Walls and carried (Sather, yes; Walls, yes; Thomas, yes).

Duane Black, Warden, requested consideration of approval to hire Tanya Hartman for the position of full-time Mental Health Counselor at 32 hours per week effective March 2nd. Pre-employment screenings have been completed. It was moved by Commissioner Walls, seconded by Commissioner Thomas and carried (Walls, yes; Thomas, yes; Sather, yes).

Chris Stevens, 911 Director, requested consideration of approval for 911 Statewide Interconnectivity Funding. This funding comes from a PEMA grant and totals \$144,313.69 for the 911 Center. This funding will be applied to equipment maintenance and software upgrades. Jim Cassatt asked whether there were any fund matching requirements. Mr. Stevens responded that there are not. It was moved by Commissioner Thomas, seconded by Commissioner Walls and carried (Thomas, yes; Sather, yes; Walls, yes).

Laurie Nearhood, Interim Planning Director, requested consideration of approval for Resolution 3-2020 for a DCNR peer-to-peer study for recreation planning. It was moved by Commissioner Walls, seconded by Commissioner Thomas and carried (Sather, yes; Walls, yes; Thomas, yes).

Stacia-Fe Gillen, Community Development Administrator, requested consideration of approval for the Mount Union CDBG Sub-Recipient Administration Agreement. It was moved by Commissioner Thomas, seconded by Commissioner Walls and carried (Walls, yes; Thomas, yes; Sather, yes).

Heather Fellman, Chief Clerk, requested consideration of approval to hire Tracey Rhodes to the position of Deputy Chief Clerk effective March 2nd. It was moved by Commissioner Walls, seconded by Commissioner Thomas and carried (Thomas, yes; Sather, yes; Walls, yes).

Consideration of approval was given to accept the resignation of Paul Durchuck as a full-time Sheriff's Deputy. It was moved by Commissioner Thomas, seconded by Commissioner Walls and carried (Sather, yes; Walls, yes; Thomas, yes).

Consideration of approval was given to reappoint George Kyle to the Huntingdon County Housing Authority Board of Directors. It was moved by Commissioner Walls, seconded by Commissioner Thomas and carried (Walls, yes; Thomas, yes; Sather, yes).

Consideration of approval was given for Reimbursement Resolution 4-2020 pending solicitor corrections. This resolution gives the County flexibility in financing new voting machines and software updates for the Tax Assessment and Treasurer's offices. Jim Cassatt asked what the life of the loan will be. Solicitor McManamon responded that we are waiting on proposals from the banks. It was moved by Commissioner Thomas, seconded by Commissioner Walls and carried (Thomas, yes; Sather, yes; Walls, yes).

Consideration of approval was given to hire James Lettiere for the position of Planning and Development Director. It was moved by Commissioner Walls, seconded by Commissioner Sather and carried (Sather, yes; Walls, yes; Thomas, yes).

Consideration of approval was given for Fred Gutshall to attend the annual PBI Criminal Law Symposium. Registration cost will be \$499 plus \$319 for the hotel. It was moved by Commissioner Thomas, seconded by Commissioner Walls and carried (Walls, yes; Thomas, yes; Sather, yes).

There were no matters for action, information and discussion.

There was 1 Veteran's Burial Allowance.

There being no further business, it was moved by Commissioner Walls to adjourn the meeting at 10:13 a.m.

Minutes prepared by Heather N. Fellman, Chief Clerk.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jeffrey Thomas, Secretary