

Huntingdon, PA  
Tuesday, October 2, 2018  
36-2018

The regular weekly meeting of the Huntingdon County Commissioners was held on the above date and time in the Commissioners meeting room with the following being present: Commissioners Sather, Walls and Thomas; Chief Clerk, Michelle Barnett; Solicitor, Peter McManamon; Director of Probation, Len Hahn; Wendy Melius, Center for Community Action; visitor Jim Cassatt and Mifflin County resident, Stan Westbrook.

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 September 25, 2018 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.

There were no additions to the agenda.

Commissioner Walls thanked Heather Leach of the Penn State Extension, for a great Spotted Lanternfly presentation that was held on October 1, 2018. The event was well attended. Commissioner Sather announced a proposed rewrite that has been introduced by Senator John Eichelberger, bringing the County Code up to date is nearing the finish line. The code has not been updated since the 1950's.

During the public comment period, Stan Westbrook stood to address the board. Commissioner Sather said "Stan, before you speak, we have always cordially greeted you and professionally handled all of your comments. The last time you addressed this board, was not appreciated by the board. Since then, it has come to our attention that you are not a resident of Huntingdon County, you are a resident of Mifflin County and our residents don't deserve that. To give you public comment at this point would not be in the best interest of our Huntingdon County residents. You represent other interest in the County. I would like you to approach the board to be on the agenda, representing those communities with their approval as their spokesperson, and then I will give you public comment. I am denying public comment". Stan replied, "Are you serious?, I don't believe this. I wanted to apologize to you because I don't like personally being on the other side of this argument with the Library, and I don't feel it is necessary". Commissioner Sather stated "Your comments to the board were of a personal nature and if those firms or communities libraries that you represent, you did not serve them well and that is why you do not have public comment at this time." Stan commented, "I understand your position that I know you gentleman take things personal". Commissioner Sather replied, "The last comment you made was personal and we have to move on. You can address this board by request to be on the agenda, I would ask of you to get a letter stating that you are representing these entities, but as a Mifflin County resident, you do not have a voice in Huntingdon County for public comment. That will be it! No more public comment, I could have you removed."

There were no matters addressed by the Solicitor.

First on the agenda was Probation Director, Len Hahn, with a request to accept the notice of retirement for Deputy Probation Director, Carol Braceland effective October 12, 2018. It was moved by Commissioner Walls, seconded by Commissioner Thomas, with regret and carried (Thomas, yes; Sather, yes; Walls, yes) to accept Carol's retirement. Additionally, Len requested consideration to hire Amber Snedeker as the new Deputy Probation Director per Judge Zanic's recommendation. It was moved by Commissioner Thomas, seconded by Commissioner Walls and carried (Sather, yes; Walls, yes; Thomas, yes) to approve hiring Amber Snedeker effective October 15, 2018.

Wendy Melius of Center for Community Action requested consideration of a resolution authorizing Center for Community Action to act on behalf of Huntingdon County to submit an application for the PHARE program. The PHARE program assists in the creation, rehabilitation and support of low income housing within Huntingdon County. It was moved by Commissioner Walls, seconded by Commissioner Thomas and carried (Walls, yes; Thomas, yes; Sather, yes) to approve Resolution 2018-4 adopted October 2, 2018.

There was a request to accept the resignation of Lindsey Spayd as Deputy Sheriff effective September 27, 2018. It was moved by Commissioner Thomas, seconded by Commissioner Walls and carried (Thomas, yes; Sather, yes; Walls, yes) to accept the resignation.

There were 0 Veteran Burial allowances.

There being no further business, it was moved by Commissioner Walls to adjourn the meeting at 10:03a.m.

Minutes prepared by Michelle Barnett, Chief Clerk.

Respectfully Submitted,

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Jeffrey Thomas, Secretary