

Huntingdon, PA

Tuesday, October 8, 2019

37-2019

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 present: Commissioners Sather, Walls and Thomas; Chief Clerk, Heather Fellman; Solicitor, Peter McManamon; Shannon Walborn, CYS Director; Stan Willis, Planning Intern; Joe Thompson, EMA Director; News Reporter, Kylie Hawn and visitors, Justin Lotito and 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 October 1, 2019 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.

There were no announcements.

There were no Public Comments.

Under matters to be addressed by the Solicitor, consideration of approval was given for the solicitor to contact banks regarding the Tax Anticipation Notice for \$1,750,000 in 2020. It was moved by Commissioner Walls, seconded by Commissioner Thomas and carried (Thomas, yes; Sather, yes; Walls, yes).

Joe Thompson requested consideration of approval for the U. S. Department of Homeland Security 2019 Emergency Management Performance Grant (EMPG) Agreement. These funds are allocated through PEMA and they are used specifically to enhance and sustain emergency management capabilities through reimbursement to Huntingdon County for expenditures totaling \$47, 607.58 between October 1, 2018 and September 30, 2019. This constitutes approximately 50% of the personnel salary and benefits for the EMA office staff. It was moved by Commissioner Thomas, seconded by Commissioner Walls and carried (Walls, yes; Thomas, yes; Sather, yes).

Shannon Walborn, CYS Director, requested consideration of approval to hire Keri Ondrejik for a Caseworker I position with a start date of October 17, 2019. This new hire will bring the agency back to regular status. It was moved by Commissioner Walls, seconded by Commissioner Thomas and carried (Walls, yes; Thomas, yes; Sather, yes).

Commissioner Sather announced that the Commissioners have just received a letter from the Department of Human Services in recognition of the status obtained by the Department of Human

Services for Children and Youth work. The Commissioners wish to acknowledge a job well done on the part of the Children and Youth Services.

Shannon Walborn thanked the Commissioners for the CYS staff retreat two weeks ago which has helped improve the morale and sense of teamwork within the office.

Consideration of approval was given to for the fuel oil bid from Bumgardner and Flasher Oil that was opened at last week's public meeting. There were two options available, a variable rate and a fixed rate. Commissioners Thomas suggested that the Commissioners accept the fixed price bid due to volatility in the Middle East which could lead to unpredictable shifts in the price of oil over the next year. Commissioner Walls agreed that it would be wise to accept the fixed rate. Jim Cassatt commented that the fixed rate is a very good price. It is much lower than what the general public is paying. It was moved by Commissioner Thomas, seconded by Commissioner Walls and carried (Thomas, yes; Sather, yes; Walls, yes).

Under Matters for Action, Commissioner Sather announced that they are considering action to be taken at Shirley Home on a maintenance issue. Commissioner Thomas further explained that it was reported to the Commissioners that the sand mound was possibly malfunctioning. It was investigated and it was found that there is no malfunction of the sand mound, however there is water coming down the mountain right around the sand mound which could affect the sand mound in the future. This week they will be digging a trench on the upper side of it which will be filled with stone and pipe to divert the water away from the mound. The cost of the work is approximately \$9,600. Jim Cassatt asked if there was going to be a pipe around the trench. He noted that when a similar project was done in Huntingdon Borough, most of that water runoff ended up in people's basements. Commissioner Thomas assured him that the plan for Shirley home was designed and is being implemented by professionals. It will not affect anyone's homes. It was moved by Commissioner Walls, seconded by Commissioner Thomas and carried (Sather, yes; Walls, yes; Thomas, yes).

Brian Bassett discussed the annual training and reaccreditation for Pennsylvania County Directors of Veterans Affairs that he attended recently. There were three days of intensive training. He noted that the training was very informative and that he was able to benefit from the opportunity to network with his colleagues from other counties.

There were no Veteran's Burial Allowances.

There being no further business, it was moved by Commissioner Thomas to adjourn the meeting at 10:00 a.m.

Minutes prepared by Heather N. Fellman, Chief Clerk.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jeffrey Thomas, Secretary