

Lewistown, PA

January 30, 2020

The Board of Mifflin County Commissioners met for their Regular Meeting on Thursday, January 30, 2020 at 9:00 a.m. In attendance were Commissioners Mark Sunderland, Robert Postal and Kevin Kodish; Solicitor Stephen Snook, BMZ Law; Chief Clerk Cathy Romig and Assistant Chief Clerk Angela Shuey.

Joe Cannon of The Sentinel/County Observer was the only representative present from the news media.

Guests present: Treasurer Deb Civitts; Director of Fiscal Affairs Mike Baker; Auditor Helen Kirk; Director of Children and Youth Dana Bubb; Register and Recorder Barbara Stringer; Nick Felice, MCIDC; Haylee Shreffler and Katelyn Carolus, MCTV.

The meeting was called to order at 9:00 a.m. by Chairman Sunderland.

I. Invocation: *The Invocation was given by Commissioner Kodish.*

II. Pledge of Allegiance: *The Pledge of Allegiance was said by all present.*

III. Approval of Minutes:

Motion was made by Commissioner Postal to accept the minutes of the Regular Meeting of January 16, 2020. Commissioner Kodish seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

IV. Approval of Bills:

1. General Fund, Accounts Payable:

Cks. #127013 to 127176 and EFTs # 25992 to 26015 in the amount of \$414,540.31

2. Payroll Account:

Cks. #78803 to 78814 and Direct Deposit Advice # 29964 to 30213 in the amount of \$437,386.24

3. 911 Account:

Cks. #51892 to 51906 and EFTs #20664 to 20667 in the amount of \$105,320.90

4. CDBG Account:

Ck. #1493 in the amount of \$324.14

5. CDBG Home Account:

Ck. # 464 in the amount of \$109.68

6. Act 137 Account:

Cks. # 3062 to 3063 in the amount of \$8,349.76

7. LEPC Account:

Ck. # 1483 in the amount of \$84.93

8. *Liquid Fuels Act 89 Account:*

EFT # 8089 in the amount of \$81.39

Motion was made by Commissioner Postal to approve payment of bills as listed above. Commissioner Kodish seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

V. **Treasurer's Report:**

TREASURER'S REPORT

01/15/2020-01/28/2020

General Account Starting Balance	\$147,593.85
DEBITS	
Deposits Receipts #100393-100577	1,969,423.96
Transfer from 911	0.00
Transfer from Capital Reserve	0.00
Transfer from LEPC	0.00
Voided Checks	816.75
Interest	0.00
TOTAL DEBITS	\$1,970,240.71
CREDITS	
Bills Paid CK #'S 126713-127176, EFT'S # 25992-26015	414,540.31
Transfer to Payroll CKS 78803-78814, DD 29964-30213	437,386.24
Transfer to CDBG	950.00
TOTAL CREDITS	\$852,876.55
Ending Balance (Interest @ 01.390% as of 01/28/2020)	\$1,264,958.01
Liquid Fuels	
Invested at JV Bank @ 01.390% as of 01/28/2020	\$409,512.90
Liquid Fuels - Act 89	
Invested at JV Bank @ 01.390% as of 01/28/2020	\$325,540.26
911 Telephone Account	
Invested at JV Bank @ 01.390% as of 01/28/2020	\$760,471.17
LEPC	
Invested at JV Bank @ 01.390% as of 01/28/2020	\$27,314.04
Local Use Fund	
Invested at JV Bank @ 01.390% as of 01/28/2020	\$426,138.69
Capital Reserve Account	
Invested at JV Bank @ 01.81% as of 01/28/2020	\$6,820,589.19
Report Subject to Audit	

Motion was made by Commissioner Kodish to approve the Treasurer's Report as received, subject to audit. Commissioner Postal seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

VI. Meetings and Events:

Chairman Sunderland:

*Salary Board Meeting
Success Together Meeting
Conservation District Meeting
Tax Collection Software Meeting
Mifflin County Planning Commission Meeting
Trail Meeting – possible future projects
Enterprise Program Review
County Bridge Program Meeting
Scott Harford of PSU – energy usage
Repository Bid Openings*

Commissioner Postal:

*Salary Board Meeting
Success Together Meeting
SEDA-COG Natural Gas Coop Meeting
Tax Collection Software Meeting
SEDA-COG Board Meeting
Juniata River Valley Visitor’s Bureau Meeting
Mifflin County Planning Commission Meeting
Repository Bid Openings
Emergency Food and Shelter Program Meeting
County Bridge Program Meeting
Trail Meeting – possible future projects
PREA Grant Meeting
United Way Board Meeting
Internet Advisory Committee Meeting*

Commissioner Kodish:

*Salary Board Meeting
Success Together Meeting
LEPC Board Meeting
SEDA-COG Local Development Board Meeting
SEDA-COG Board Meeting
Juniata River Valley Tourism Board Meeting
Meeting with Rotary – Money for Veterans’ Transportation
Regional Services Corporation Board Meeting
County Bridge Program Meeting
Trail Meeting – possible future projects
Scott Harford of PSU – energy usage
Enterprise Program Review*

VII. Public Comment:

Commissioner Postal announced that the Mifflin-Juniata Human Services Department offers free income tax preparation for qualified households with an annual income of less than \$56,000.00. Anyone can call the Commissioners’ Office or the Human Services Office at 717-320-4872 to inquire about the program.

VIII. New Business:

- A. *Offer for Parcel No. 04,04-0100-020, located in Lewistown Borough that is currently in repository for unsold properties - \$50.00*

Motion was made by Commissioner Kodish to approve the offer for Parcel No. 04,04-0100-020, located in Lewistown Borough that is currently in repository for unsold

properties - \$50.00. Commissioner Postal seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

- B. Offer for Parcel No. 21,22-0206D-,000, located in Wayne Township that is currently in repository for unsold properties - \$300.00*

Motion was made by Commissioner Postal to approve the offer for Parcel No. 21,22-0206D-,000, located in Wayne Township that is currently in repository for unsold properties - \$300.00. Commissioner Kodish seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

- C. Offer for Parcel No. 21,22-0206D-,001, located in Wayne Township that is currently in repository for unsold properties - \$200.00*

Motion was made by Commissioner Kodish to approve the offer for Parcel No. 21,22-0206D-,001, located in Wayne Township that is currently in repository for unsold properties - \$200.00. Commissioner Postal seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

- D. Purchase of Service Agreement with Michael S. Gingerich, Esquire, as Court appointed counsel for custodial parents in child welfare cases for the period January 1, 2020 through December 31, 2020 at the monthly rate of \$2,125.00*

Motion was made by Commissioner Postal to approve the purchase of service agreement with Michael S. Gingerich, Esquire, as Court appointed counsel for custodial parents in child welfare cases for the period January 1, 2020 through December 31, 2020 at the monthly rate of \$2,125.00. Commissioner Kodish seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

- E. Nick Felice – Keystone Opportunity Zone Program extension for First Quality*

Mr. Felice mentioned that he is petitioning the County, the School District and the Township for an extension of the Keystone Opportunity Zone program. It is a program that's been going on for 20 years by the Commonwealth of PA. It's an incentive to bring new businesses into the area. These are the same parcels that have been in the program for the last 10 years. This would be an extension of another 10 years and would allow companies coming into the area to see the tax benefit when they locate on the property. The tax benefit goes beyond real estate taxes and can also pertain to Commonwealth income taxes and other benefits. The program would not allow for any tax forgiveness at this point. If approved by the taxing bodies, MCIDC would continue to pay the taxes as the owner of the property. It would continue in taxation until development would occur on the property. From that point forward, the balance of the 10 years is the benefit. The potential loss of taxes would be abated during that time period. After the 10 year period it would go into full taxation. From an economic standpoint, there is competition with other Counties in PA and other states. It's a well-known program across the nation. All three taxing bodies will need to approve this.

Commissioner Postal reiterated that taxes are currently being paid by MCIDC and will continue until improvements are made on those sites. If no improvements are made, there's no tax abatement.

Motion was made by Commissioner Postal to extend the Keystone Opportunity Zone Program for First Quality. Commissioner Kodish seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

- F. *Resolution No. 23 of 2020 supporting Downtown Lewistown, Inc. for a five year period at \$5,000.00 per year (2020 through 2024)*

COUNTY OF MIFFLIN

RESOLUTION 2020-23

WHEREAS, Downtown Lewistown, Inc. (hereinafter referred to as the “Organization”) is applying to the Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development to maintain its certification under the Keystone Communities Program (hereinafter referred to as the “Program”); and

WHEREAS, the Program guidelines require the acknowledgement, designation, and support from a municipality; and

WHEREAS, with support from the County of Mifflin (hereinafter referred to as the “Municipality”), all municipalities would have access to the Program’s benefits; and

WHEREAS, the Municipality has agreed to support DLI with an annual pledge/contribution of \$5,000.00 per year for each of the following five (5) years—2020, 2021, 2022, 2023, and 2024—for a total pledge over the five (5) year period of \$25,000.00.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that: (i) Municipality agrees to support the Organization’s request for a maintaining its certification for a Keystone Community Designation; Municipality will collaborate with the Organization in the Keystone Communities Program; (iii) Municipality approves the five-year strategy developed as part of the application; and (iv) Municipality authorizes the Organization to represent Municipality within the guidelines of the Keystone Communities Program.

DULY ADOPTED this 30th day of January, 2020.

Motion was made by Commissioner Kodish to approve Resolution No. 23 of 2020 supporting Downtown Lewistown, Inc. for a five year period at \$5,000.00 per year (2020 through 2024). Commissioner Postal seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

- G. *Purchase, Maintenance and License Agreement with RAK Computer Associates, Inc., Dubois, PA for tax collection software – county portion not to exceed \$1,400.00*

Motion was made by Commissioner Kodish to approve the purchase, maintenance and license agreement with RAK Computer Associates, Inc., Dubois, PA for tax collection software – county portion not to exceed \$1,400.00. Commissioner Postal seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

- H. *Infocon Corporation, Ebensburg, PA – Marriage License Books 26 through 64 scanning proposal - \$7,808.00*

Ms. Stringer stated this is a very productive step for the Orphan’s Court Office. Half of this cost will be paid for by the County Record Improvement Fund and half will be paid from the Orphan’s Court Automation Fund.

Motion was made by Commissioner Postal to approve the scanning proposal from Infocon Corporation, Ebensburg, PA – Marriage License Books 26 through 64. Commissioner Kodish seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

I. Purchase of Service Agreements for use, if needed, by Children and Youth:

- *Diakon Child, Family and Community Ministries, Tipton, PA*
- *Professional Family Care Services, Inc., Johnstown, PA*
- *Community Specialists Corporation, Pittsburgh, PA*
- *The Summit School, Inc., Herman, PA*
- *Diversified Treatment Alternative Centers, LLC, Milton, PA*

Ms. Bubb discussed each facility and the services they provide. She also mentioned these are all renewal contracts. The fees for each facility are identified through the State.

Motion was made by Commissioner Postal to approve the purchase of service agreements. Commissioner Kodish seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

J. Personnel:

- *Resignation of Ryan Smeltzer from Adult Probation Supervisor effective February 7, 2020*
- *Promotion of Colton Spade from Probation Officer to Adult Probation Supervisor effective February 10, 2020*
- *Hiring of Mark Colussy for Planning Director effective February 11, 2020*
- *Retirement of James Bell from Lieutenant Sheriff Deputy effective February 28, 2020*
- *Hiring of James Bell for part-time Security Guard and part-time Sheriff Deputy effective March 2, 2020*
- *Promotion of Jordan Yohn from part-time to full-time Sheriff Deputy effective March 2, 2020*

Motion was made by Commissioner Postal to accept the above personnel items. Commissioner Kodish seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

Commissioner Kodish acknowledged Joe Cannon of The Lewistown Sentinel for his 20 years of service reporting on the County Commissioners' Meetings. He mentioned that Joe has always provided fair and balanced reporting and thanked him for that.

IX. Adjournment:

With no other business on the agenda, Chairman Sunderland adjourned the meeting at 9:21 a.m.

Secretary

ATTEST:

Chief Clerk