

Lewistown, PA

September 21, 2017

The Board of Mifflin County Commissioners met for their Regular Meeting on Thursday, September 21, 2017 at 9:00 a.m. In attendance were Commissioners Kevin Kodish, Stephen Dunkle and Robert Postal, Jr.; Solicitor Stephen Snook; Chief Clerk Cathy Romig and Fiscal Affairs Assistant Angela Shuey.

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

Guests present: Auditor Helen Kirk; Director of Elections and Voter Registration Zane Swanger; Auditor Teresa Hobbs; Housing Rehabilitation Specialist Doug Marks; Public Safety Director Phil Lucas; Planning Director William Gomes; Treasurer Deb Civitts; Solicitor Stephen Snook; Director of Tax Services Harry Clever; Bob Henry, JVBDS; Stephanie Porch, CSG/Walk Chair; Belinda Black, UCBH – Crisis; Stephen Stepanski and Tom Bender and Cody Yetter from MCTV.

The meeting was called to order at 9:03 a.m. by Chairman Kodish.

I. Invocation: *The Invocation given by Chairman 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 September 7, 2017. Commissioner Dunkle seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

IV. Approval of Bills:

1. General Fund, Accounts Payable:

Cks. #115883 to 116038 and EFTs # 23349-23362 in the amount of \$330,780.40

2. Payroll Account

Cks. #77888 to 77909 and Direct Deposit Advices #15134 to 15357 in the amount of \$326,546.14

3. 911 Account

Cks. #51391 to 51400 and EFTs #20374 to 20381 in the amount of \$27,434.69

4. LEPC Account

Cks. #1387 to 1389 in the amount of \$1,305.42

5. Liquid Fuels Account

Cks. #1644 to 1645 in the amount of \$113,574.08

6. CDBG Account

Cks. #1356 to 1357 in the amount of \$17,003.25

7. Micro Enterprise Revolving Loan Fund Account

Ck. #114 in the amount of \$317.13

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

V. *Treasurer's Report:*

TREASURER'S REPORT
09/06/2017-09/19/2017

General Account Starting Balance	\$1,105,517.79
DEBITS	
Deposits Receipts #88240-88460	1,162,984.73
Transfer from Capital Reserve	0.00
Transfer from 911	2,846.61
Adjustment	0.00
Interest	0.00
Voided Check	134.94
TOTAL DEBITS	\$1,165,966.28
CREDITS	
Bills Paid CK #S 115883-116038, EFT'S # 23349-23354	330,780.40
Transfer to Payroll	326,546.14
NSF CKS	45.00
TOTAL CREDITS	\$657,371.54
<u>Ending Balance (Interest @ 01.39000% as of 09/19/2017)</u>	<u>\$1,614,112.53</u>

Liquid Fuels

Invested at JV Bank @ 01.39000% as of 09/19/2017 \$396,645.19

Liquid Fuels - Act 89

Invested at JV Bank @ 01.39000% as of 09/19/2017 \$245,937.39

911 Telephone Account

Invested at JV Bank @ 01.39000% as of 09/19/2017 \$2,116,802.72

LEPC

Invested at JV Bank @ 01.39000% as of 09/19/2017 \$10,056.02

Capital Reserve Account

Invested at JV Bank @ 01.31000% as of 09/19/2017 9,700,119.24

Report Subject to Audit

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

VI. *Meetings and Events:*

Chairman Kodish:

- Budget Meetings*
- Salary Board*
- Department Head*
- Success Together – Economic and Community Development*
- AAA Board*
- Regional Services Corporation Negotiations*
- Operation Fairness*
- Link Meeting – Education and Career Services*
- Economic Development Review*

*MCIDA Board
JVBDS Joinder Board
Regional Services Corporation Board
Library Board
Airport Authority Picnic
Local Courthouse Security*

*Commissioner Dunkle: Budget Meetings
Salary Board
Department Head
Success Together – Economic and Community
Development
Central County Youth Detention Center
Airport Authority
WDB and LEO
Link Meeting – Education and Career Services
Economic Development Review
JVBDS Joinder Board
Operation Fairness
Repository Bid Opening
Mifflin County Conservation District
Local Courthouse Security
Airport Authority Picnic
County Extension held in Juniata County*

*Commissioner Postal: Budget Meetings
Salary Board
Department Head
Success Together - Economic and Community Development
JVBDS Joinder Board
Operation Fairness
Link Meeting – Education and Career Services
Economic Development Review
Local Courthouse Security
Youth Park Board Meeting
SEDA-COG Joint Rail Authority
Juniata Valley Behavioral Health
Airport Authority Picnic
Mifflin County Solid Waste Authority
Mill Road Electric Avenue Intersection Public Meeting*

VII. Public Comment:

Stephen Stepanski, Mifflin County Taxpayer: I'm just wondering what's going on because I heard some new stuff at the prison. In February, March and April I brought concerns to the Commissioners. I was fired after Easter for bringing up the Commissioners by the Warden. I heard that there was a Corrections Officer fired for refusing to pass medication to inmates without the proper training. I also saw that several weeks ago, the warden was escorted out of the building by the Sheriff's Department. I also heard that there was an active investigation by the state Attorney General's office. Can you give us an update on any potential liability for the taxpayers of Mifflin County?

Solicitor Snook: There is no potential liability for taxpayers, and there are no problems going on at the jail. Personnel matters are not discussed at public meetings. There are no active investigations going on at the jail by any outside agency.

Mr. Stepanski: In the resignation letter of former Commissioner Lisa Nancollas she mentioned that due to safety concerns, she could no longer function in this capacity.

Solicitor Snook: I can't comment on her, but you can talk to her.

Mr. Stepanski: I've heard things are going on at the jail.

Solicitor Snook: There is nothing going on at the jail. Everything has been resolved.

Mr. Stepanski: People are getting fired and no one is saying anything about it because it's a personnel matter. I was wondering if there would be any liability for the taxpayers down the road.

Solicitor Snook: There won't be any liability.

VIII. New Business:

- A. *The Commissioners acknowledged and thanked VFW Post 7011 for their donation of a large American flag for Monument Square.*
- B. *Proclamation designating the First Sunday in October as Suicide Awareness and Prevention Day:*

PROCLAMATION

First Sunday of October as Suicide Awareness and Prevention Day

Whereas, according to the Center for Disease Control in 2014, suicide was the 2nd leading cause of death in ages 10-34, the 4th leading cause of death in ages 35-54 and the 10th leading cause of death over all; and

Whereas, suicide rates in Pennsylvania are above the national average and in the Juniata Valley, rates are comparable to those of the commonwealth; and

Whereas, the vast majority of suicides are precipitated by a treatable mental illness or mental health crisis; and

Whereas, rates of suicide can be reduced through awareness, education, intervention and proper treatment; and

Whereas, Juniata Valley Healing Connections, as part of the PA Central Region of American Foundation for Suicide Prevention, works within the Juniata Valley to provide awareness, training and educational opportunities to the public regarding suicide prevention and intervention; and

Whereas, Juniata Valley Healing Connections, as part of the PA Central Region of American Foundation for Suicide Prevention, will conduct an OUT OF THE DARKNESS COMMUNITY WALK on the first Sunday of October; and

Therefore, be it resolved that the County of Mifflin acting as Juniata Valley Behavioral and Developmental Services proclaim the first Sunday of October to be Suicide Awareness and Prevention Day and encourage citizens to become aware of the signs and symptoms that can lead to suicide and learn how intervention can save someone's life.

Proclaimed this 21st day of September, 2017

Motion was made by Commissioner Dunkle to approve the Proclamation request. Seconded by Commissioner Postal. The motion was unanimously approved.

Mr. Henry, JVBDS: Introduced Stephanie Porch as Walk Chair for this year and Belinda Black, Juniata Valley Crisis Director. As part of the Juniata Valley Healing Connections Group, he wanted to thank the Commissioners of Mifflin County for recognizing this public health situation. Mr. Henry extended an invitation to the Walk, which is being held on October 1, 2017 at 2:00 P.M.

C. Award bid for the McVeytown Sanitary Sewer System Improvements – State Pipe Services, Inc. \$846,375.00

Mr. Marks: The project has been ongoing for a while now. It is a sanitary sewer repair and replacement and general rehabilitation of the system in McVeytown Borough. That consists of relining the existing system and some spot repair where needed. There will also be replacement of public laterals where needed. The whole system was completed and gone through with a camera prior to our project starting. This project was funded in 2014 CDGB for engineering and project and 2015 was engineering only. We went after a competitive in 2015 and were awarded that through a state DCD and we are ready to award the project now. We were over budget a little and McVeytown Borough has secured a line of credit (\$120,000.00) to cover the difference and any overages that occur during this project. This is a very worthwhile project and now I'm asking for you to approve and authorize the transfer to sign any documentation needed as far as the contracts.

Commissioner Dunkle: When was the original McVeytown Sanitary Sewage System installed?

Mr. Marks: Probably in the 20's or 30's and maybe even before that. Some of it is extremely old and some of the areas are newer such as the Rothrock School apartments.

Commissioner Postal: What was the winning bid?

Mr. Marks: Out of four bids received ranging from \$846,375.00 to \$1,838,650.00, State Pipe Services, Inc. of Cranberry Township, PA was the low bidder.

Commissioner Dunkle: When do you anticipate the work will begin?

Mr. Marks: Once contracts are signed there will be a pre-construction meeting and then we will proceed sometime in late October to early November. The second part of the project will be working on individual sewer laterals that need to be replaced. They are being handled as a housing rehabilitation issue through the competitive grant.

Motion was made by Commissioner Dunkle to approve the awarding of the bid for the McVeytown Sanitary Sewer Project. Commissioner Postal seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

D. Resolution No. 29 of 2017 authorizing the execution of an agreement with the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation for acceptance of the funds for Monument Square Streetscape Project – Phase 5

Mr. Gomes: In order for us to receive the money from the state we have to have this resolution passed by the Commissioners. We will not see construction take place until next year but the engineering is underway and in order to receive PennDot money we have to have the resolution passed.

Chairman Kodish: For the benefit of the public, can you give a brief synopsis of what Phase 5 is.

Mr. Gomes: Phase 5 is South Main Street from the alley below the Embassy Theater to Water Street then it turns onto Water Street and connects with the Mann Edge Terrace

property. It's sidewalks, trees and lights and everything like the other parts of the project. The only thing we're a little unsure about has to do with the property at the corner of Water Street and South Main Street as far as what's going to happen with that property because of the bridge project. That has some bearing on us too.

Chairman Kodish: I can imagine those sidewalks are pretty narrow there regardless.

Mr. Gomes: Yes. They can make them work, it's just there's going to be strictly sidewalk in that one section, there won't be anything else besides sidewalk.

Motion was made by Commissioner Postal to approve Resolution No. 29 of 2017. Seconded by Commissioner Dunkle. The motion was unanimously approved.

E. Request for exoneration of 2017 county portion per capita taxes:

- Armagh Township Tax Collector Linda Marks – 3
- Union Township Tax Collector Jay Yoder – 2

Motion was made by Commissioner Postal to approve the request for exoneration of 2017 county portion per capita taxes as listed above. Seconded by Commissioner Dunkle. The motion was unanimously approved.

F. Offer for Parcel No. 04-0283--,001 located in Lewistown Borough that is currently in repository for unsold properties - \$300.00

Motion was made by Commissioner Dunkle to approve the offer for Parcel No. 04-0283--,001. Seconded by Commissioner Postal. The motion was unanimously approved.

G. Application for County Aid – 2017 Liquid Fuels Allocation:

- Brown Township - \$5,029.07

Motion was made by Commissioner Postal to approve the Application for County Aid. Seconded by Commissioner Dunkle. The motion was unanimously approved.

H. 2017-2018 Emergency Management Performance Grant - \$105,003.00:

Mr. Lucas: This is a federal pass through grant that's reimbursement for salary for staff in the public safety office that do emergency management work. It represents roughly 50% of salary and benefits for three positions.

Chairman Kodish: Ok, any questions for Phil?

Commissioner Postal: I'm looking for a beginning and ending date.

Mr. Lucas: It's a fiscal year, October 1, 2017 through September 30, 2018. They typically make the reimbursement in the October or November period of that following year.

Motion was made by Commissioner Postal to approve the 2017-2018 Emergency Management Performance Grant. Seconded by Commissioner Dunkle. The motion was unanimously approved.

I. Personnel:

- Resignation from part-time corrections officer Justin Gantz effective September 12, 2017
- Hiring of James D. Aumiller, Jr. for Sheriff Deputy effective September 25, 2017
- Hiring of Part-time Sheriff Deputies Brian Haubrick and Doug Cramer effective September 18, 2017
- Hiring of Dennis Wertz for the Maintenance Department September 18, 2017

*Motion was made by Commissioner Dunkle to accept the above personnel items.
Seconded by Commissioner Postal. The motion was unanimously approved.*

IX. Adjournment:

*With no other business on the agenda, Chairman Kodish adjourned the meeting at 9:27
a.m.*

Secretary

ATTEST:

Chief Clerk