

Wednesday, November 6, 2013

The first regular meeting of November of the Pike County Commissioners was called to order by Commissioner Caridi at 9:00 a.m. at the Pike County Administration Building, followed by the "Pledge of Allegiance" to the flag. An opening prayer was offered by Reverend Paul Mullen of St. Vincent de Paul Church.

PRESENT: Commissioners Caridi and Osterberg; Chief Clerk Orben; Solicitor Farley.

NOT PRESENT: Commissioner Wagner.

Public Comments/Questions concerning today's agenda.

MOTION: by Commissioner Osterberg and seconded by Commissioner Caridi, to approve the November 6, 2013 Agenda.

VOTE: Commissioners Caridi and Osterberg voted 'aye'. Motion carried.

MOTION: by Commissioner Osterberg and seconded by Commissioner Caridi, to approve the October 16, 2013 Commissioners' Meeting Minutes.

VOTE: Commissioners Caridi and Osterberg voted 'aye'. Motion carried.

MOTION: by Commissioner Osterberg and seconded by Commissioner Caridi, to approve the October 16, 21, 22, 23, 28, 30 and November 4 and 5, 2013 Conference Minutes.

VOTE: Commissioners Caridi and Osterberg voted 'aye'. Motion carried.

MOTION: by Commissioner Osterberg and seconded by Commissioner Caridi, to approve payment of **COUNTY BILLS**, in the amount of \$168,947.56, subject to further review.

VOTE: Commissioners Caridi and Osterberg voted 'aye'. Motion carried.

MOTION: by Commissioner Osterberg and seconded by Commissioner Caridi, to approve payment from **PC EMPLOYEES' HEALTH INS. FUND**, in the amount of \$146,912.78.

VOTE: Commissioners Caridi and Osterberg voted 'aye'. Motion carried.

PERSONNEL:

MOTION: by Commissioner Osterberg and seconded by Commissioner Caridi, to hire **MADISON PLUMB**, as a full time Dispatcher for the Communication Center, for a 40 hour work week, effective October 27, 2013, with benefits after 90 days. This is a replacement position.

VOTE: Commissioners Caridi and Osterberg voted 'aye'. Motion carried.

MOTION: by Commissioner Osterberg and seconded by Commissioner Caridi, to hire **LAURA ORBEN**, as a full time Dispatcher for the Communication Center, for a 40 hour work week, effective October 27, 2013, with benefits after 90 days. This is a replacement position.

VOTE: Commissioners Caridi and Osterberg voted 'aye'. Motion carried.

MOTION: by Commissioner Osterberg and seconded by Commissioner Caridi, to hire **KRISTIN FEHR**, as a full time Dispatcher for the Communication Center, for a 40 hour work week, effective November 4, 2013, with benefits after 90 days. This is to fill a newly created position.

VOTE: Commissioners Caridi and Osterberg voted 'aye'. Motion carried.

Motion: by Commissioner Osterberg and seconded by Commissioner Caridi, to recess the Commissioners' Meeting to hold a Salary Board Meeting.

Vote: Commissioners Caridi and Osterberg voted 'aye'. Motion carried.

A SALARY BOARD MEETING WAS HELD.

Motion: by Commissioner Osterberg and seconded by Commissioner Caridi, to reconvene the Commissioners' Meeting.

Vote: Commissioners Caridi and Osterberg voted 'aye'. Motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS:

MOTION: by Commissioner Osterberg and seconded by Commissioner Caridi, to award the bid for housing rehabilitation consulting services for the CDBG Program FFY 2013, 2014 and 2015 to Ray Evans, and to authorize the Chairman to execute the Housing Rehabilitation Consultant Contract between Ray Evans and the County of Pike.

VOTE: Commissioners Caridi and Osterberg voted 'aye'. Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS:

MOTION: by Commissioner Osterberg and seconded by Commissioner Caridi, to execute the Human Service Development Fund (HSDF) 2013-14 Plan, on behalf of the Human Development Office.

VOTE: Commissioners Caridi and Osterberg voted 'aye'. Motion carried.

MOTION: by Commissioner Osterberg and seconded by Commissioner Caridi, to authorize the Chairman to execute the Senior Rental Assistance Subsidy Voucher for Delaware Run in the amount of \$522 for November 2013, on behalf of the Human Development Office.

VOTE: Commissioners Caridi and Osterberg voted 'aye'. Motion carried.

MOTION: by Commissioner Osterberg and seconded by Commissioner Caridi, to authorize the Chairman to execute Pike County Rental Assistance Contract #9A, on behalf the Human Development Office.

VOTE: Commissioners Caridi and Osterberg voted 'aye'. Motion carried.

MOTION: by Commissioner Osterberg and seconded by Commissioner Caridi, to authorize the Chairman to execute four Housing Rehabilitation Assistance Liens, on behalf of the Human Development Office.

VOTE: Commissioners Caridi and Osterberg voted 'aye'. Motion carried.

MOTION: by Commissioner Osterberg and seconded by Commissioner Caridi, to appoint the following individuals to the Northeastern Pennsylvania Metropolitan Planning Organization (NEPA MPO) Technical Planning Committee for a term ending June 30, 2016: Commissioner Matthew M. Osterberg as County Representative; Commissioner Karl A. Wagner Jr. as County Representative Alternate; Michael Mrozinski, Planning Director, as At-Large Representative; and Christine Kerstetter, Transportation Director, as At-Large Representative Alternate.

VOTE: Commissioners Caridi and Osterberg voted 'aye'. Motion carried.

MOTION: by Commissioner Osterberg and seconded by Commissioner Caridi, to execute the Extension of the Comprehensive Health Services Agreement between PrimeCare Medical, Inc. and the County of Pike, on behalf of the Correctional Facility, as recommended by the Prison Board.

VOTE: Commissioners Caridi and Osterberg voted 'aye'. Motion carried.

MOTION: by Commissioner Osterberg and seconded by Commissioner Caridi, to execute Addendum #1 to the FY 2013/14 Purchase of Service Agreement between Tioga County Department of Human Services and the County of Pike, on behalf of Children & Youth Services.

VOTE: Commissioners Caridi and Osterberg voted 'aye'. Motion carried.

MOTION: by Commissioner Osterberg and seconded by Commissioner Caridi, to execute the Agreement between Right Track Lifetrack Corp. and the County of Pike, for the use of the Senior Center in Blooming Grove, on behalf of the Area Agency on Aging.

VOTE: Commissioners Caridi and Osterberg voted 'aye'. Motion carried.

MISCELLANEOUS:

Larry Alaimo, Volunteer Apprise Counselor and Lana Romeo, on behalf of the Area Agency on Aging, and Bernadette Jones, AAA Apprise Coordinator and Ombudsman gave a presentation to review open enrollment for Medicare D. Larry Alaimo discussed the functions of the APPRISE program, which is to educate and assist senior citizens regarding medicare and related insurances. This is a free and confidential service to discuss all options for senior citizens to choose medical insurance and drug plans.

Commissioner Osterberg announced that the Economic Development Authority, on November 13, 2013, will be having an economic update on business that are relocating or expanding in Pike County. This last year there have been two business that have come into Pike County, creating new jobs, manufacturing and repackaging; and an expansion of another business in Shohola (LP Cylinders). All municipal leaders and the public are invited to attend the update. Speakers will be Commissioner Osterberg, Dave Chant, Kathy Hummel, and representatives from the state, who will be discussing the future of Pike County in the economic development field. Jobs need to be created and all municipalities need to be involved.

On another topic, Commissioner Osterberg made the following comments about the new courthouse being built by the Pike County Commissioner. He stated that, as former President of the Milford Borough Council for many years, he is sensitive to the borough's needs and the architectural structures that are in the borough. While the judge's chamber is important to the borough, it is equally important that the County seat stay in the borough and expand, as this is the economic engine. The Commissioners did look at the two properties behind the existing courthouse, but it would cost \$1.2 million dollars to purchase the property and demolish the buildings, and this did not seem a viable solution when the County already owns property. This \$1.2 million dollars did not include relocating the water, natural gas, power or Verizon lines. This would also mean that the courthouse would be in the residential zone of the borough. The Commissioners believe that it is just as important to preserve the residential zone as it is to preserve the commercial zone. The building that the Commissioners are recommending is cost effective and will service the County for many years to come. As far as the size of the building, Commissioner Osterberg showed a photo of the administration building when it was first built in 1984, without a tree in front of it. It looked massive, but if you stand in front of it today, it is barely visible. As with the courthouse expansion, if the administration building was not built, County offices would be spread out in many, many houses, which would be far from efficient. With regard to residents not being aware of the plans for the courthouse expansion, he stated that the Commissioners attended two ARB meetings and there have been many articles in the local newspapers. It has also been discussed at the Commissioners' public meetings.

Commissioner Caridi announced that Saeilo Inc. was approved by the Blooming Grove Township Supervisors, other than some very minor issues, such as the formalization of the NPDES permit which is in the PA bulletin now for a 30 day examination. This brings a significant economic investment into the County and Blooming Grove Township. Corporate offices and some manufacturing will be opening there, and hopefully business brings business.

Questions and comments were opened to the Public and the Press.

ADJOURNMENT: THE NEXT REGULAR MEETING OF THE PIKE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS WILL BE HELD ON WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 20, 2013, AT 9:00 A.M., AT THE PIKE COUNTY ADMINISTRATION BUILDING.