

Wednesday, December 7, 2016

The first regular meeting of December 2016 of the Pike County Commissioners was called to order by Commissioner Osterberg 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 Rev. Van Bankston from the Church of the Good Shepherd and St. John the Evangelist, Milford.

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

Public Comments/Questions concerning today's agenda.

Presentation of \$50,000 to Habitat for Humanity. Mike Donlon, President, accepted the check on behalf of Habitat for Humanity. He stated that there have been 24 homes finished with two families moved in this year. They also built 5 ramps this year. The 25th house has been started. These funds are fees collected when deeds or documents are recorded in the County.

MOTION: by Commissioner Caridi and seconded by Commissioner Guccini, to approve the December 7, 2016 Agenda.

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

MOTION: by Commissioner Caridi and seconded by Commissioner Guccini, to approve the November 16, 2016 Commissioners' Meeting Minutes.

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

MOTION: by Commissioner Guccini and seconded by Commissioner Osterberg, to approve the December 1, 5 and 6, 2016 Commissioners' Conference Minutes.

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

MOTION: by Commissioner Caridi and seconded by Commissioner Guccini, to approve the November 23, 2016 Commissioners' Conference Minutes.

VOTE: Commissioners Osterberg and Guccini voted 'aye'. Commissioner Caridi abstained due to his absence. Motion carried.

MOTION: by Commissioner Caridi and seconded by Commissioner Guccini, to approve payment from **GENERAL FUND (County Bills)**, in the amount of \$217,727.29, subject to further review.

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

MOTION: by Commissioner Caridi and seconded by Commissioner Guccini, to approve payment from **LIQUID FUELS FUND (Lattimore-plow/MHE-paving)**, in the amount of \$1,643.71.

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

MOTION: by Commissioner Caridi and seconded by Commissioner Guccini, to approve payment from **ACT 44 FUND (MHE-Mott St. Bridge)**, in the amount of \$808.00.

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

MOTION: by Commissioner Caridi and seconded by Commissioner Guccini, to approve payment from **AFFORDABLE HOUSING FUND (Habitat for Humanity)**, in the amount of \$50,000.00.

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

MOTION: by Commissioner Caridi and seconded by Commissioner Guccini, to approve payment from **PIKE COUNTY EMPLOYEES HEALTH INSURANCE FUND** in the amount of \$340,051.83.

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

PERSONNEL:

MOTION: by Commissioner Caridi and seconded by Commissioner Guccini, to acknowledge receipt of a letter from Warden Craig Lowe advising that he has hired, with Prison Board approval, the following individuals as full time Correctional Officers at the Correctional Facility, for a 40 hour work week, effective December 12, 2016, with benefits after 90 days: **JOSEPH DEJESUS, TIMOTHY CARBONARO, KEVIN ROSTER, STARDASHA KING, GINO DETOMMASO, CALVIN KREITER AND DALE JACKSON.**

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

MOTION: by Commissioner Caridi and seconded by Commissioner Guccini to hire **FRED JACOBS** as a Dispatcher for the Communications Center, for a 40 hour work week, effective November 27, 2016, with benefits after 90 days. This is a replacement position.

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

MOTION: by Commissioner Caridi and seconded by Commissioner Guccini, to **ROXANNE LUHRS** as a part time Van Driver for the Transportation Office, for less than 1000 hours per year, effective December 8, 2016, with no benefits. This is to fill a newly created position.

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

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

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

A SALARY BOARD MEETING WAS HELD.

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

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

OLD BUSINESS:

MOTION: by Commissioner Caridi and seconded by Commissioner Guccini, to open bids received for the purchase of fresh bread and baked goods for the Correctional Facility.

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

Solicitor Farley opened the only bid which was from Bimbo Bakeries in the amount of \$73,740.

MOTION: by Commissioner Caridi and seconded by Commissioner Guccini, to table the bid from Bimbo Foods for the purchase of fresh bread and baked goods for the Correctional Facility until December 21 for review.

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

NEW BUSINESS:

MOTION: by Commissioner Caridi and seconded by Commissioner Guccini, to adopt Resolution No. 16-34, Tax Collector Compensation.

VOTE: Commissioners Caridi and Guccini voted 'aye'. Commissioner Osterberg abstained as his wife is a Tax Collector. Motion carried.

MOTION: by Commissioner Caridi and seconded by Commissioner Guccini, to present the Pike County 2017 Budget for public review.

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

MOTION: by Commissioner Caridi and seconded by Commissioner Guccini, to approve the Pike County 2017 Schedule of Holiday Closings.

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

MOTION: by Commissioner Caridi and seconded by Commissioner Guccini, to authorize the Chairman to execute the Renewal Notification and Renewal Rates between Highmark and the County of Pike, on behalf of the Pike County employees.

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

MOTION: by Commissioner Caridi and seconded by Commissioner Guccini, to authorize the Chairman to execute the Renewal Acceptance Form between United Concordia Dental and the County of Pike, on behalf of the Pike County employees.

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

MOTION: by Commissioner Caridi and seconded by Commissioner Guccini, to authorize the Chairman to execute the Medical Stop Loss Proposal between HIIG and the County of Pike, on behalf of the Pike County employees.

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

MOTION: by Commissioner Caridi and seconded by Commissioner Guccini, to authorize the Chairman to execute the Renewal for Maintenance Services for the UPS at the Training Center between the County of Pike and Eaton Corporation.

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

MOTION: by Commissioner Caridi and seconded by Commissioner Guccini, to execute the Purchase of Service Agreement between the County of Pike and Telespond Senior Services, Inc., on behalf of the Area Agency on Aging.

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

Commissioner Guccini said that the Agreement with Telespond is for a senior day care program at the Senior Center in Hawley for Wayne and Pike County senior citizens.

MOTION: by Commissioner Caridi and seconded by Commissioner Guccini, to authorize the Chairman to execute the Child Accounting and Profile System CAPS Version 13 Upgrade between Avanco International and the County of Pike, on behalf of Children & Youth Services.

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

MOTION: by Commissioner Caridi and seconded by Commissioner Guccini, to execute the Memorandum of Understanding between Penn State Extension and the County of Pike, for a financial partnership to jointly fund a Penn State Extension educator position.

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

Commissioner Osterberg explained that this position is for 4H and Strengthening Families Program. The two women who held this position were part time and have retired. This full time educator will be a Penn State employee funded in part by the County and the other half will be paid by Penn State. This educator will lead the 4H program and also the Strengthening Families Program, which goes hand in hand with trying to curtail drug addiction by training children in school and teaching them proper behaviors. Commissioners Osterberg and Guccini attended the program in the Wallenpaupack School District, who were the first ones to institute the Strengthening Families Program in Pike County. Commissioner Osterberg commented that it was very impressive. The Commissioners are hoping that through Penn State the programs can be extended into Delaware Valley and Stroudsburg. There is a meeting in December with the Superintendents from the other school districts, along with Wallenpaupack to show those school districts and to answer questions as to why they should be promoting this program.

MOTION: by Commissioner Caridi and seconded by Commissioner Guccini, to authorize the Chairman to execute the Senior Rental Assistance Subsidy Voucher for Delaware Run in the amount of \$1,749 for December, 2016.

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

MISCELLANEOUS: PA Get Help Now Initiative. Commissioner Osterberg announced that Pennsylvania, in an attempt to eliminate drug addiction, has created a hotline for the entire state. People can call this main number and then will be redirected to the proper people within their county.

Commissioner Osterberg gave an overview of the Pike County 2017 Budget. In the last 4 years there has been no increase in taxes, but unfortunately, this budget includes a 1.2 mil increase, which is an average of a \$24 per household per year. This is only an average. It depends on the home and where you live in the County. The budget went up due to medical and pension increases, an obligation to the employees of the County, and the Frein trial. The Commissioners do not know what that cost will be, but money had to be set aside for the trial. Commissioner Osterberg said that while this is a tax increase, it is a modest increase after no increase in 4 years. \$250,000 was set aside for the trial as no one knows how much it will actually cost the County. A jury will be picked from Chester County and housing them in Pike County. It may even be settled, so the Commissioners did not want to increase taxes more for something that may not even happen.

PRESS AND PUBLIC COMMENTS/QUESTIONS/ADJOURNMENT: THE NEXT REGULAR MEETING OF THE PIKE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS WILL BE HELD ON WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 21, 2016, AT 9:00 A.M., AT THE PIKE COUNTY ADMINISTRATION BUILDING.