

Wednesday, November 20, 2019

The second regular meeting of November 2019 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.

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

Public Comments/Questions concerning today’s agenda.

MOTION: by Commissioner Guccini and seconded by Commissioner Schmalzle, to recess the Commissioners’ Meeting to hold a Retirement Board Meeting.

VOTE: Commissioners Osterberg, Schmalzle and Guccini voted ‘aye’. Motion carried.

A RETIREMENT BOARD MEETING WAS HELD.

MOTION: by Commissioner Guccini and seconded by Commissioner Schmalzle, to reconvene the Commissioners’ Meeting.

VOTE: Commissioners Osterberg, Schmalzle and Guccini voted ‘aye’. Motion carried.

MOTION: by Commissioner Guccini and seconded by Commissioner Schmalzle, to approve the November 20, 2019 Agenda.

VOTE: Commissioners Osterberg, Schmalzle and Guccini voted ‘aye’. Motion carried.

MOTION: by Commissioner Guccini and seconded by Commissioner Schmalzle, to approve the November 6, 2019 Commissioners’ Meeting Minutes.

VOTE: Commissioners Osterberg, Schmalzle and Guccini voted ‘aye’. Motion carried.

MOTION: by Commissioner Guccini and seconded by Commissioner Schmalzle, to approve the November 6 and 13, 2019 Commissioners’ Conference Minutes.

VOTE: Commissioners Osterberg, Schmalzle and Guccini voted ‘aye’. Motion carried.

MOTION: by Commissioner Guccini and seconded by Commissioner Schmalzle, to approve payment from **GENERAL FUND (County Bills)**, in the amount of **\$999,643.17**, subject to further review.

VOTE: Commissioners Osterberg, Schmalzle and Guccini voted ‘aye’. Motion carried.

MOTION: by Commissioner Guccini and seconded by Commissioner Schmalzle, to approve payment from **HAZARD MITIGATION ACCOUNT (Gen. Fund Transfer)**, in the amount of **\$2,498.56**.

VOTE: Commissioners Osterberg, Schmalzle and Guccini voted ‘aye’. Motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS:

MOTION: by Commissioner Guccini and seconded by Commissioner Schmalzle, to table the bids received for the Pike County Courthouse Sally Port Project until December 18, 2019.

VOTE: Commissioners Osterberg, Schmalzle and Guccini voted ‘aye’. Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS:

MOTION: by Commissioner Guccini and seconded by Commissioner Schmalzle, to reappoint John Milliken as Public Director on the Pike County Conservation District Board for a four-year term ending December 31, 2023.

VOTE: Commissioners Osterberg, Schmalzle and Guccini voted ‘aye’. Motion carried.

MOTION: by Commissioner Guccini and seconded by Commissioner Schmalzle, to reappoint Commissioner Ronald R. Schmalzle as Commissioner Director on the Pike County Conservation District Board for a one-year term ending December 31, 2020.

VOTE: Commissioners Osterberg, Schmalzle and Guccini voted ‘aye’. Motion carried.

MOTION: by Commissioner Guccini and seconded by Commissioner Schmalzle, to authorize the Chairman to execute the License and Services Agreement between Tyler Technologies and the County of Pike, for computer upgrades in the Finance Department.

VOTE: Commissioners Osterberg, Schmalzle and Guccini voted ‘aye’. Motion carried.

Commissioner Schmalzle added that this is the first change in our software package since 1989. It is something everyone here has been working on for a long time. Tyler Technologies is one of the premier providers to many Counties throughout the State and throughout the Country and we are excited to get this all in place by the end of the 3rd quarter of the coming year. It is something we believe will create efficiencies in our financial operation in how we pay people in payroll and bring us into the current century how we operate from a technology standpoint. We are excited to get it going! A good portion of this is funded by a State grant that we received for this project.

MOTION: by Commissioner Guccini and seconded by Commissioner Schmalzle, to authorize the Chairman to execute the Agreement between Eaton and the County of Pike, on behalf of the Communication Center for the UPS unit at the Training Center.

VOTE: Commissioners Osterberg, Schmalzle and Guccini voted ‘aye’. Motion carried.

MOTION: by Commissioner Guccini and seconded by Commissioner Schmalzle, to execute the Agreement between Diana T. Myers and Assoc. and the County of Pike, on behalf of the Area Agency on Aging for a Strategic Housing Plan.

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

Commissioner Guccini stated that Diana T. Myers and Assoc. now coordinates the Shared Housing Plan which looks for owners of private residences to share their home with another person. She does that for Pike and Wayne County. One of the individuals in that arrangement has to be 60 years of age or older and the other person doesn't have to be. That has been successful. We have entered into an agreement to have her do a General Housing Study for the County using the Act 137 (the fees received when recording deeds and mortgages) - not general taxpayer funds. She will do that project. She anticipates it will be a six month project and she will contact various stakeholders, both private and public within the County and give a review of what we're doing, where we can do better and where we can get money to do better. That will start soon, we will get started shortly on that.

MOTION: by Commissioner Guccini and seconded by Commissioner Schmalzle, to authorize the Chairman to execute the Ancillary Provider Agreement between Amerihealth Caritas Health Plan and the County of Pike, on behalf of the Area Agency on Aging.

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

MOTION: by Commissioner Guccini and seconded by Commissioner Schmalzle, to execute the 2019-20 Purchase of Service Agreements between the following Providers and the County of Pike, on behalf of Children & Youth Services: Bethany Children's Home, Northampton County and Valley Youth House.

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

Commissioner Osterberg announced that last week the County was awarded, through the efforts of State Representative Peifer, State Representative Brown and Senator Baker, multi-modal money. Multi-modal money is transportation improvement dollars that we applied for through our Planning Department and with the help of the EDA. One of the projects is the Delaware Plaza, Weis Market, in the amount of \$513K. The other project being built is in Dingman Township at the corner by Wells Fargo Bank, at Log Tavern Road, in the amount of \$232K. Both of these projects were supported by the Township Supervisors and we had told them we would do our efforts to get these funds for highway improvement. I think it is important to recognize that, by doing these, we have the plans of what the developer is planning do there and sent it to our Chief Assessor to get an idea of what kind of tax dollars this is going to generate. To give you an idea, on Dingman Plaza, we are looking at County taxes of an additional \$74K Real Estate Taxes for the County and an additional \$27K in Township Taxes and the School District will realize \$426K in Real Estate taxes. The note from the Assessor, Gene Porterfield, is that this is extremely conservative. There is, along with this development, some housing, but we have not been able to figure that in yet. The Weis complex is – County Taxes would generate \$14K, Township Taxes \$9K and School Taxes would be \$85K. I bring this up because we have an investment from the State of \$745K and if we add these numbers up, you have somewhere around \$600K in Real Estate Taxes. It benefits all of the taxpayers in the County and because it is a Commercial project, it has very little impact on our services, particularly the schools. The housing that I spoke about is senior housing or some sort of assisted living. The efforts of everybody, the Commissioners' Office, the EDA and Mike Mrozinski from Planning is benefiting the economic vitality and will change the Route 739 Corridor when these developments are fully rolled out. We are working on bringing in other providers for a Honesdale property having to do with medical providers.

MISCELLANEOUS

- Penn State Extension Calendar of Events – December 1-15, 2019.

PRESS/PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Reporter Chris Jones asked about the first set of numbers (\$74K, \$27K and \$426K). Commissioner Osterberg responded that is Dingman Plaza – the project being constructed opposite Log Tavern Road. The County will generate \$74K in Real Estate Taxes, \$27K Township Taxes and School Taxes will generate \$426K. This project is not under construction yet. They are building residential/senior housing and a medical building there too. The one thing not in those numbers is the housing numbers-the number of housing be built there was not in the plan. The Weis Project is in Delaware Township. In this case the County Taxes will be \$14K, the Township Taxes \$9K and the School District will realize \$85K. Again, these are conservative numbers.

Reporter Chris Jones asked about Item #3 (Tyler Technologies and the County of Pike) – is that primarily payroll? Commissioner Schmalzle answered no, that is the whole financial operation of the County. It's everything that we do with Accounts Payable, Accounts Receivable, Budgeting, Reporting and Payroll.

ADJOURNMENT: THE NEXT REGULAR MEETING OF THE PIKE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS WILL BE HELD ON WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 4, 2019, AT 9:00 A.M., AT THE PIKE COUNTY ADMINISTRATION BUILDING.