

May 24, 2011

McKean County Commissioners in regular session assembled on Tuesday, May 24, 2011 at 10:00 AM in the Treasurer's meeting room. Present were Commissioners Joseph DeMott, Al Pingie, and Judy Church, Chief Clerk, Audrey Irons, and County Solicitor, Dan Hartle. Also present were Ted Lutz, Ken Bush, Brad Mangel, Martha Knight, and Sandy Thompson.

The meeting was called to order by Mr. DeMott, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance and a moment of silence.

Moved by Mr. Pingie, seconded by Mrs. Church, to approve the minutes of the May 10, 2011 meeting.

Vote on the above resolution, DeMott – yes. Pingie – yes. Church – yes. Three – yeas. No – nays. Carried.

Mr. DeMott – Opened the meeting for public comment.

Brad Mangel – Mentioned that over the past couple of years he has sent letters to the Commissioners expressing his desire for the City Treasurer of Bradford City to be allowed to collect the county property taxes as they used to do prior to the previous board of commissioners and to be able to pay the taxes in installment payments. Congratulated the Commissioners for winning the nominations to be placed on the ballot in the fall – feels they are pointing the county in the right direction.

Mr. Pingie – We appreciate that.

Mr. DeMott – We have discussed your request - the issue was with returning it back to the Bradford City Tax Collector and since the volume of receipts affects the pay for that position and then we are supposed to make any changes before election starts so that the people that are interested in running would know what they might expect to be reimbursed for that job and I don't know if we got a final determination on that, but I know at the time I first looked at it – it seemed that we were past the point where we could do it for this next term, but we will continue to research the issue. I don't want you to think that we disregarded your request because we did have a discussion concerning the issue. It would also affect our Treasurer's Office who currently collects the taxes. It would more importantly affect the office in Bradford because it would increase their fees and it would increase the compensation of the tax collector so there may have been other people that would have decided to run if the position would pay them more.

Mrs. Church – They are also working to put it on line so people can pay their taxes that way.

Mr. Pingie – I am not sure if there is a provision in our law that allows for installment payments – I think the City was doing that strictly on their own.

Mr. DeMott – I believe I read where there is a bill in the legislature that will allow the county to do that, but it hasn't been passed yet. If the legislation does pass, that is something we can consider to do ourselves.

Mr. Mangel – It is my understanding then that you are not opposed to doing it?

Mr. DeMott – Yes, I can only speak for myself.

Mrs. Church – It was the timing more than anything that we couldn't consider it.

Martha Knight – Is this a situation where the county collects the city taxes?

Mr. Pingie – No, only the county tax.

Mr. DeMott – Originally, I have been told, that there was an agreement between the county and the city where the county paid a portion of the salary of the city tax collector in order to have them collect the county tax and that the previous board of commissioners decided they did not want to share that cost with the city and so they changed it so that the county would collect it's own taxes at their own expense and the city collects their own taxes – I believe that the background for that decision was that the county paid a portion of the salary for the Bradford City Tax Collector – I don't know the exact figures that were involved in the salaries of the Bradford City Tax Collector.

Moved by Mr. Pingie, seconded by Mrs. Church, to approve payment of the following invoices:

1. Mt. Jewett Borough - \$2,260.00 – representing payment for their completed Liquid Fuel Project for the year 2011 – Liquid Fuel Fund.
2. Alcohol & Drug Abuse Services, Inc. - \$9,827.00 – representing a portion of their budget allotment for the period ending March 31, 2011.
3. Northwest Engineering, Inc. - \$2,200.00 – representing professional services rendered for the Galico Bridge Replacement Project – Galico Bridge Project Fund.

Vote on the above resolution, DeMott – yes. Pingie – yes. Church – yes. Three – yeas. No – nays. Carried.

Moved by Mr. Pingie, seconded by Mrs. Church, to issue real estate tax refunds to the following for the year 2011:

1. Thomas & Victoria Marsh - \$151.03 – assessment was adjusted due to a formal appeal.
2. Lakeshore Community Services, Inc. - \$933.82 – granted exempt status effective for the 2011 tax year.

Mr. Pingie – Commented that he feels the Commissioners should change their policy that when they have an assessment change by formal appeal that they would provide us with a little information as to why it was changed.

Vote on the above resolution, DeMott – yes. Pingie – yes. Church – yes. Three – yeas. No – nays. Carried.

Moved by Mr. Pingie, seconded by Mrs. Church, to enter into service provider agreements with the following individuals or agencies for the Department of Human Services.

Delegate Agreements

Tania Geist
Gary Leet
Johnna McCullough
Stoney Greenberg
Melissa Kirk

Letter of Agreements/Understanding/Business Addendum

Deerfield Behavioral Health of Warren
JS Transport Services

Lease Agreement

Family Services of North Western Pennsylvania

Early Intervention Agreement/Waiver Agreement

Erin Smith-Bockmier

Resource Family Contract (Foster Care Parents)

Jim & Peg Bailey
Shery Barker
Debra Barmer
Jason & Tracy Blake
William & Barbara Blankenship
Marsha Blessing
Vinnie & Mary Colella
Charles & Kerri Dach
Judith Eddy
Ricky & Victoria Eshbaugh
Bernard & Tania Geist
Brad & Jennifer Greenman

Cory & Cassey Hartzell
Darlene Herzog
Robert & Connie Hubbard
Moira King
Harry and Carrie Rounsville
Thomas & Margaret Safford
John & Karen Simons
Dalton & Lisa Weber
DeWayne and Elva Werts
Tom & Renee Williams
Stephen & Angela Wolfe

Vote on the above resolution, DeMott – yes. Pingie – yes. Church – yes. Three – yeas. No – nays. Carried.

Moved by Mr. Pingie, seconded by Mrs. Church, to enter into a renewal maintenance agreement with Karpinski's Office Systems (KOS) for a copy machine for the Jail – cost if \$390.00 per year and includes parts, toner, and labor.

Vote on the above resolution, DeMott – yes. Pingie – yes. Church – yes. Three – yeas. No – nays. Carried.

Moved by Mr. Pingie, seconded by Mrs. Church, to accept an offer from Martin Montgomery in the amount of \$277.00 to purchase property from the McKean County Repository for a house and lot on 210 South Avenue, Bradford, Pa.

Vote on the above resolution, DeMott – yes. Pingie – yes. Church – yes. Three – yeas. No – nays. Carried.

Moved by Mr. Pingie, seconded by Mrs. Church, to renew the county's liability package insurance policy with PCoRP (Pennsylvania Counties Risk Pool) at an annual cost of \$119,573.00.

Vote on the above resolution, DeMott – yes. Pingie – yes. Church – yes. Three – yeas. No – nays. Carried.

Moved by Mr. Pingie, seconded by Mrs. Church, to advertise for bids for Venetian blinds for the courthouse.

Mr. Pingie – Asked if this was just for the blinds and not for the installation?

Mr. DeMott – Yes.

Vote on the above resolution, DeMott – yes. Pingie – yes. Church – yes. Three – yeas. No – nays. Carried.

Mr. DeMott – Opened the meeting for public comment.

Ms. Knight – Are the service provider agreements listed for the Foster Parents – is this a list of all the foster parents?

Mr. DeMott – No, there are a few others. These are for the ones that their contracts were up for renewal.

Ms. Knight – How long are their contracts for?

Mr. DeMott – One year.

Ms. Knight – Asked if the county has a current service provider agreement with The Meadows? Commented that she knows the facility has been used before by McKean County and wanted to make the commissioners aware that their license has become provisional again and pointed out that the county should have a policy not to use a facility where their licenses are provisional.

Mr. DeMott - I don't recall seeing that name listed – I was looking through the list of contracts the other day, but I will check on it.

Ms. Knight – Didn't you previously advertise for bids for the blinds?

Mr. DeMott – Yes, we did, but it included the installation of the blinds.

Sandy Thompson – Wanted the Commissioners and the public to know that the McKean County Conservation District is implementing a new program for oil and gas technical support. The program will provide technical support for project planning, permitting guidance, and on-site consultation to the oil and gas industry as it relates to earth disturbance activities and water obstructions and encroachments associated with the exploration, extraction or production of the resource in McKean County. The level of technical support given will vary depending upon needs and District resources. In March of 2009, DEP decided to take those activities under their umbrella instead of letting it be implemented at the local level so this is our way of kind of bringing ourselves back into the oil and gas industry by offering technical support.

Ms. Knight – So DEP has been doing the permitting?

Ms. Thompson – We were doing the permitting, but in March of 2009 DEP decided to take that back so this is a way for us to offer our assistance to the industries for a fee. Basically, we will be acting as a consultant for DEP and act as a liaison between them and with the industries.

Ms. Knight - Are you going to add to your staff to provide this program?

Ms. Thompson – At the present time we have a staff of 3 – we are planning on hiring one more person.

Mr. DeMott – Mentioned that the industries want to do this correctly, but they want somebody they can go to today to get an answer on how this is best done or what needs to be done to comply with the regulations.

Mr. Mangel – And if you find something wrong, will you tell them?

Ms. Thompson – Yes, and we would tell them what type of actions we have instructed the company to take.

Ms. Knight – And you would have no enforcement?

Ms. Thompson – No, we would have no regulatory part – it is all technical support.

Moved by Mr. Pingie, seconded by Mrs. Church, to adjourn the meeting.

Vote on the above resolution, DeMott – yes. Pingie – yes. Church – yes. Three – yeas. No – nays. Carried.

Chief Clerk