Wednesday, December 5, 2018

The first regular meeting of December 2018 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 Pastor Sung Duk Kim of the United Methodist Church in Dingmans Ferry.

PRESENT: Commissioners Osterberg, Schmalzle and Guccini (via telephone); Chief Clerk Orben; Solicitor Farley.

Public Comments/Questions concerning today's agenda.

MOTION: by Commissioner Schmalzle and seconded by Commissioner Guccini, to approve the December 5, 2018 Agenda.
VOTE: Commissioners Osterberg, Schmalzle and Guccini voted ‘aye’. Motion carried.

MOTION: by Commissioner Schmalzle and seconded by Commissioner Guccini, to approve the November 21, 2018 Commissioners’ Meeting Minutes.
VOTE: Commissioners Osterberg, Schmalzle and Guccini voted ‘aye’. Motion carried.

MOTION: by Commissioner Schmalzle and seconded by Commissioner Guccini, to approve the November 27, 2018 Row Officers’ Meeting Minutes.
VOTE: Commissioners Osterberg, Schmalzle and Guccini voted ‘aye’. Motion carried.

MOTION: by Commissioner Schmalzle and seconded by Commissioner Guccini, to approve the November 21, 26, 27 and 29, 2018 Commissioners’ Conference Minutes.
VOTE: Commissioners Osterberg, Schmalzle and Guccini voted ‘aye’. Motion carried.

MOTION: by Commissioner Schmalzle and seconded by Commissioner Guccini, to approve payment from GENERAL FUND (County Bills), in the amount of $242,302.92, subject to further review.
VOTE: Commissioners Osterberg, Schmalzle and Guccini voted ‘aye’. Motion carried.

MOTION: by Commissioner Schmalzle and seconded by Commissioner Guccini, to approve payment from LIQUID FUELS (Lattimore-plow/sand/repairs) in the amount of $13,874.00.
VOTE: Commissioners Osterberg, Schmalzle and Guccini voted ‘aye’. Motion carried.

MOTION: by Commissioner Schmalzle and seconded by Commissioner Guccini, to approve payment from ACT 8 FUND (ESRI-maint. agreement) in the amount of $13,800.00.
VOTE: Commissioners Osterberg, Schmalzle and Guccini voted ‘aye’. Motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS:

MOTION: by Commissioner Schmalzle and seconded by Commissioner Guccini, to open bids received for fresh bread and baked goods for the Correctional Facility.
VOTE: Commissioners Osterberg, Schmalzle and Guccini voted ‘aye’. Motion carried.

Solicitor Farley opened the only bid received which was from Bimbo Bakeries in the amount of $73,778.

MOTION: by Commissioner Schmalzle and seconded by Commissioner Guccini, to table the bid received for fresh bread and baked goods for the Correctional Facility until December 19, 2018.
VOTE: Commissioners Osterberg, Schmalzle and Guccini voted ‘aye’. Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS:

MOTION: by Commissioner Schmalzle and seconded by Commissioner Guccini, to appoint Michael Brust to the Pocono Counties Workforce Development Board as a Joint Labor Management Apprenticeship Program Representative to fill an unexpired term ending June 30, 2019.
VOTE: Commissioners Osterberg, Schmalzle and Guccini voted ‘aye’. Motion carried.

MOTION: by Commissioner Schmalzle and seconded by Commissioner Guccini, to advertise for groceries and frozen foods for the Correctional Facility.
VOTE: Commissioners Osterberg, Schmalzle and Guccini voted ‘aye’. Motion carried.

MOTION: by Commissioner Schmalzle and seconded by Commissioner Guccini, to authorize the Chairman to execute Change Order No. 3 between Grimm Construction and the County of Pike, for an additional $13,938 for the excavation and installation of fuel tanks for the Pike County Correctional Facility Generator & Cooler Project.
VOTE: Commissioners Osterberg, Schmalzle and Guccini voted ‘aye’. Motion carried.

MOTION: by Commissioner Schmalzle and seconded by Commissioner Guccini, to authorize the Chairman to execute the Contract Documents between Grimm Construction and the County of Pike, for the Courthouse Generator Enclosure Project.
VOTE: Commissioners Osterberg, Schmalzle and Guccini voted ‘aye’. Motion carried.

MOTION: by Commissioner Schmalzle and seconded by Commissioner Guccini, to authorize the Chairman to execute the 9-1-1 Services and Software License Agreement between Communications Venture Corporation and the County of Pike, on behalf of the Communications Center.
VOTE: Commissioners Osterberg, Schmalzle and Guccini voted ‘aye’. Motion carried.
Penn State Extension Schedule of Events December 15-31, 2018. Angela Smith announced that this years’ charity that the Extension Office is supporting is the Pike County Humane Society and Gait. Gait provides their services and allows the 4H Horse Club access to their horses. They will be the local drop off for pet items, cleaning supplies, paper goods, paper towels, etc. There will be a list up on their website and Facebook page.

Chris Jones said there is a lot of confusion about the extension of the sewer. Westfall discussed this at a meeting and it was said that this is strictly for commercial enterprises through the Borough, such as the Milford Diner and the Dimmick, etc. Commissioner Osterberg said that was the discussion that has been going forward so far that it would be a limited scope. Some of that has to do with the cost. To bring it into the Borough and think that in a couple of years that every side street will be connected is not a reality. The plan is to connect the places that need the sewer the most which is the commercial districts. The County is only the facilitator for this project to try and find grants and funding using the Planning Office and any other sources that the County can find for each of these townships to pay for not only the expansion, but also for the studies.

Each township needs to do an upgrade of the Act 537 Plan. The thought is that they are going to do this as a joint Act 537 Plan because it will save each of them some money. Instead of each township doing their own independently they can work off of the Westfall Township Act 537 Plan and each of them put in whatever their corresponding funds are. That is up to the townships to work that out. Chris Jones added that Milford Borough said they were on the hook for $37,000. Commissioner Osterberg said that is for the upgrade of the Act 537 Plan. At the last meeting the number was put out there by an engineer to do the Act 537 Plan would be somewhere in the range of $111,000, and that’s how they came up with that number. How they fund it is up to the townships, whether it be through the townships, the Water Authority in the case of Milford Borough and Milford Township. The Act 537 Plan is the legislative plan that each township has to have to determine what their sewerage needs are and what they see in the future. The last time an Act 537 Plan was done for Milford Borough was before 1987. They would determine that the initial focus would be on the commercial district. Then DEP would ask what the next phase is. Maybe the next phase would be in 10 or 15 years they would start to think about picking certain streets in the Borough or the Township. That is all dependent upon how much capacity is at the Westfall plant and then how much the DRBC would allow to be discharged into the Delaware River. It is a report that will lay all that out and will also lay out the cost of the project. Chris Jones asked how the users would pay for this. Would there have to be a sewer district? Commissioner Osterberg stated that you would just like you have a water district and economy as a scale. You can’t put mains throughout the town and decide whether you want it or not, everyone has to have it. Chris Jones said that if you’re going to do Milford Borough then do Milford Borough. Commissioner Osterberg replied that it has to be done in phases because it is not reality to think you are going to sewer the whole Borough at one time. That is why the study needs to be done so you can see what the economy is that you have to work on of how many people need to be hooked up to it. The engineers can do this because they know those numbers are EDUs and there is no engineer here to explain that but they have to balance that. The plant in Westfall only encompasses commercial business. There are very little residential routes on the Westfall plant except for maybe places like Milford Landing where they have a monthly sewer bill. Westfall was given permission to have 375,000 gallons of discharge into the Delaware River per day. They are not even near that capacity. So all they are saying is that if Milford Township and Milford Borough want sewers, Westfall has the capacity. The chances of Milford Borough or Milford Township doing another discharge into the Delaware River is not going to happen, but they have the capacity already. Part of this goes to DRBC, after a while it goes to use it or lose it, because there are other people on the Delaware River whether it is in Pike County or Trenton, New Jersey who want discharge into the river also. DRBC will only allow so much discharge into the Delaware River. The permit is for 375,000 gallons. They had a permit at one time for 875,000 gallons but because they didn’t have a plan in place for their usage, it was reduced. Chris Jones asked if there were records of problems in Milford Borough. Commissioner Osterberg directed him to the sewage enforcement officer in the Borough. There are issues along the commercial district and the best thing to do is to talk to the commercial businesses.

MOTION: by Commissioner Schmalzle and seconded by Commissioner Guccini, to authorize the Chairman to execute a Satisfaction of Mortgage, on behalf of the Human Development Office.

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

MISCELLANEOUS

Press/Public Comment

Chris Jones asked what a Satisfaction of Mortgage is. Solicitor Farley stated that it is through the CDBG Program. Recipients have work done on their homes and every year that they don’t sell the house they get a reduction in the amount owed and in the 5th year if they have not sold the house, they receive a satisfaction of mortgage. Chris Jones said there is a lot of confusion about the extension of the sewer. Westfall discussed this at a meeting and it was said that this is strictly for commercial enterprises through the Borough, such as the Milford Diner and the Dimmick, etc. Commissioner Osterberg said that was the discussion that has been going forward so far that it would be a limited scope. Some of that has to do with the cost. To bring it into the Borough and think that in a couple of years that every side street will be connected is not a reality. The plan is to connect the places that need the sewer the most which is the commercial districts. The County is only the facilitator for this project to try and find grants and funding using the Planning Office and any other sources that the County can find for each of these townships to pay for not only the expansion, but also for the studies.

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Adjournment: The next regular meeting of the Pike County Commissioners will be held on Wednesday, December 19, 2018, at 9:00 A.M., at the Pike County Administration Building.

Please note for 2019:
There will be no meeting on January 2, 2019. The first meeting in January 2019 will be the reorganization meeting on January 7, 2019 at 11:00 A.M. The next regular meeting will be held on January 16, 2019 at 9:00 A.M.