

COMMISSIONERS' PUBLIC MEETING
January 7, 2010

The Armstrong County Board of Commissioners' Public Meeting was called to order on Thursday, January 7, 2010, at 1:30 PM in the Commissioners' Conference Room with the following in attendance: Commissioners Patricia L. Kirkpatrick, Richard L. Fink and James V. Scahill, George J. Skamai – Chief Clerk, Mitch Fryer – Leader Times, Josh Walzak – Leader Vindicator, Chad Puz- Family Life TV, Dave Croyle – Kittanning Paper, Carmen Johnson - Assistant Director, Armstrong County Planning & Development, Darin Alviano – Planning Coordinator, Armstrong County Planning & Development, Amanda Hiles – Deputy, Armstrong County Controller's Office, Jessica Coil - Director, Armstrong County Tourist Bureau, Laurie Johns – HAVIN, Outreach Coordinator.

Ms. Kirkpatrick announced that this meeting is being recorded.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

On a motion by Mr. Scahill, seconded by Mr. Fink, and carried unanimously, the minutes for the December 17, 2009 Public Meeting were approved.

CONTRACTS / AGREEMENTS

Execution of the 2009 CDBG Grant Contract with DCED

On a motion by Mr. Fink, seconded by Mr. Scahill and carried unanimously, based on the review of the county solicitor and the recommendation of Ms. Johnson, the County Commissioners acknowledged the 2009 Community Development Block Grant Contract between Armstrong County and the Department of Community and Economic Development in the amount of \$632,882. Ms. Johnson stated that this includes the 2009 CDBG allocations for the County, Kiskiminetas Township, Kittanning Borough, and Manor Township.

2009 Economic Development Initiative Grant Application for Apollo to HUD

On a motion by Mr. Scahill, seconded by Mr. Fink and carried unanimously, based on the review of the county solicitor and the recommendation of Ms. Johnson, the County Commissioners acknowledged the approval of the submission of a 2009 Economic Development Initiative Grant Application to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development in the total amount of \$615,000 for the Apollo Borough Brownfield site. Ms. Johnson explained that this is the second grant that they have received for Apollo Borough and it will be used to build an access road.

Kittanning Borough Repaving Project with Shields Asphalt Paving Inc.

On a motion by Mr. Fink, seconded by Mr. Scahill and carried unanimously, based on the review of the county solicitor and the recommendation of Ms. Johnson and Kittanning Borough, the County Commissioners approved the award of the contract for the Kittanning Borough Repaving Project to Shields Asphalt Paving Inc. of Valencia, Pa in the amount of \$220,338. Ms. Johnson explained that three bids were received and that the lowest bid received was from Shields and was under budget.

Resolution 2010 – 1 and Reimbursement Agreement with Penn DOT for Inspection / Inventory of 67 Bridges

Mr. Alviano explained that this agreement includes the inspection of county and township bridges and allows for 80 percent state funded reimbursement of 33 county and 34 township bridges. The cost will total approximately \$482,172.95 with the majority of the work to be completed in 2011, 2013 and 2015. Liquid Fuels Fund will provide the remaining 20 percent of the costs.

On a motion by Mr. Fink, seconded by Mr. Scahill and carried unanimously the County Commissioners approved Resolution 2010-1 authorizing the County Commissioner Chairperson to approve the Reimbursement Agreement for the County's Local Bridge Inspection Program.

On a motion by Mr. Scahill, seconded by Mr. Fink and carried unanimously, based on the review of the county solicitor, the County Commissioners approved the Reimbursement Agreement with Penn DOT for Inspection / Inventory of 67 bridges.

Engineering Agreement for Inspection / Inventory of 67 Bridges with Senate Engineering

On a motion by Mr. Fink, seconded by Mr. Scahill and carried unanimously, the County Commissioners approved the Engineering Agreement for Inspection / Inventory of 67 bridges between Armstrong County and Senate Engineering. Mr. Alviano reaffirmed the funding and goals of the engineering agreement as stated in the previous resolution and reimbursement agreement.

BOARD APPOINTMENTS

Southwestern Pennsylvania Commission

On a motion by Mr. Scahill, seconded by Mr. Fink and carried unanimously, the County Commissioners approved the re-appointment of Mr. Gealy Wallwork, 102 Country Club Lane, Kittanning, PA 16201, to the Southwestern Pennsylvania Commission, for a three year term to expire December 31, 2012. The Board of Commissioners extended praise and gratitude to Mr. Wallwork's tireless efforts and dedication to the Commission and the many boards he has served on.

On a motion by Mr. Fink, seconded by Mr. Scahill and carried, with Ms. Kirkpatrick abstaining, the County Commissioners approved the re-appointment of Ms. Patricia Kirkpatrick, 450 East Market Street, Kittanning, PA 16201, to the Southwestern Pennsylvania Commission, for a three year term to expire December 31, 2012.

Armstrong County Tourist Bureau Board of Directors

On a motion by Mr. Fink, seconded by Mr. Scahill and carried unanimously, the County Commissioners approved the Armstrong County Tourist Bureau Board of Directors appointment of Mr. Melvin Check, 660 Hillville Road, Karns City, PA 16041, for a three year term to expire December 31, 2012. Ms. Coil described Mr. Check's radio museum and his involvement with Pittsburgh radio programming.

On a motion by Mr. Fink, seconded by Mr. Scahill and carried unanimously, the County Commissioners approved the Armstrong County Tourist Bureau Board of Directors re-appointments of Mr. Travis H. Lindsay, Birdsfoot Golf Club, 225 Furnace Run Road, Freeport, PA 16229, and Mr. Robert Wolfe, The Inn Restaurant, 2240 Freeport Road, Kittanning, PA 16201 for three year terms to expire December 31, 2012. Ms. Coil described both gentlemen as being very involved in the board and appreciates their willingness to accept their re-appointments.

Mr. Fink expressed his appreciation for all of the volunteers that serve on the Tourist Bureau Board of Directors. He stated that he is looking forward to working with everyone and visiting Mr. Check's museum.

PROCLAMATIONS

January 2010 Stalking Awareness Month

Ms. Johns thanked the Commissioners for adopting the Stalking Awareness Proclamation. She explained some of the options that are available to victims of stalking; including legal options, a kit to assist victims in documentation to provide police and a third party mailing initiative that will protect a victim's physical location.

Ms. Kirkpatrick read aloud the proclamation.

On a motion by Mr. Scahill, seconded by Mr. Fink and carried unanimously, the County Commissioners adopted January 2010 as Stalking Awareness Month. Ms. Kirkpatrick recalled her experiences as an employee at HAVIN and the efforts that the staff had to employ to assist and protect the residents of the shelter.

OTHER BUSINESS / PUBLIC COMMENT

On a motion by Mr. Fink, seconded by Mr. Scahill and carried unanimously, the County Commissioners acknowledged the approval of financial transactions for December 2009.

Mr. Scahill expanded on some of the accomplishments Mr. Wallwork has assisted the area in achieving. He stated that Mr. Wallwork was one of only two people who voted for the A-15 Bypass Project. Mr. Scahill then proceeded to thank everyone for their outpouring of generosity for the children in the county during the Christmas season. He recognized the efforts of Community Action, The Salvation Army and all the other groups for their work.

On behalf of the Board of Commissioners, Mr. Fink expressed his gratefulness to the area residents for their generosity during the Christmas Season and the donations that they made to all the organizations but most notably to Community Action's program that provided Christmas gifts for area children. He described a situation in particular where one female resident donated ten envelopes of cash gifts totaling \$1,000.00, and noted that he knew this was not an unburdened financial act for her to perform. Mr. Fink then described his personal appreciation and experience for Mr. Wallwork, referencing his constant presence in the SPC, and most notably his assistance in regards to federal and state funding for transportation. Mr. Fink closed his statements by offering support for HAVIN and asking everyone to aid them in their efforts to as they work to prevent the tragedy of abuse and stalking.

Ms. Kirkpatrick expressed her appreciation for the work HAVIN performs and asks that everyone realize the recent and significant funding cutbacks that they have experienced. She asks that anyone able to contribute to please consider HAVIN when making financial donations. Ms. Kirkpatrick then described a dedication ceremony that was recently held at IUP to officially name a campus residence facility in Mr. Wallwork's honor. She stated that it is a fitting honor and that the new hall greatly benefits the students. Ms. Kirkpatrick then described the relationship that the Board of Commissioners and staff has with the local municipalities. She stated that it is very important that the county can assist in funding the bridge inspections and repairs through the Liquid Fuels fund, and to help alleviate a portion of the financial burden that the municipalities face.

ADJOURN

On a motion by Mr. Fink, seconded by Mr. Scahill and carried unanimously, the Commissioners moved to adjourn the Public Meeting at 2:00 PM. The next Public Meeting will be held Thursday, January 21, 2010 at 1:30 PM.