

COMMISSIONERS' PUBLIC MEETING
February 1, 2011

The Armstrong County Board of Commissioners' Public Meeting was called to order on Tuesday, February 1, 2011, at 1:30 PM in the Commissioners' Conference Room with the following in attendance: Commissioners Patricia L. Kirkpatrick, Richard L. Fink, James V. Scahill, George J. Skamai – Chief Clerk, Mitch Fryer – Leader Times, Josh Walzak – Leader Vindicator, Jonathan Weaver – Kittanning Paper, Carmen Johnson – Assistant Director, Armstrong County Planning & Development, Wendy Buzard – Director, Armstrong County Elections and Chief Registrar Armstrong County Voter Registration, Roy Carney – Director, Armstrong County Public Works, Mike Renosky – Chief Assessor, Armstrong County Assessment, Janet McKinley- Financial Director, Armstrong County Health Center, Beth Costanzo – Director of Nursing, Armstrong County Health Center, Miranda Shoemaker – Director, Armstrong County Tourist Bureau, Public Attendance by: William Beranty – Disability Investigative Group.

Ms. Kirkpatrick announced that this meeting is being recorded.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

On a motion by Mr. Fink, seconded by Ms. Kirkpatrick and carried, the minutes for the January 20, 2011 Public Meeting were approved. Mr. Scahill abstained due to absence at the last meeting.

CONTRACTS / AGREEMENTS

IAS and Landisc Renewal Maintenance with Tyler Technologies

On a motion by Mr. Scahill, seconded by Mr. Fink and carried unanimously, based on the review of the solicitor, the Commissioners approved the IAS and Landisc Renewal Maintenance Agreement between Armstrong County and Tyler Technologies. Mr. Renosky explained that this is a renewal contract of the programs that are used for CLT and pictures. He stated that it is the same program that has been used since the re-appraisal in 1997. The contract is in the amount of \$35,475.00.

Armstrong County Health Center Communication Services Agreement with Windstream

On a motion by Mr. Scahill, seconded by Mr. Fink and carried unanimously, based on the review of the solicitor, the Commissioners approved the Communication Services Agreement for the Armstrong County Health Center between Armstrong County and Windstream. Ms. McKinley stated that this is a two year agreement that will reduce the county's fee from eight cents per minute to 3.2 cents per minute for the first 2,000 minutes used, and then increase to four cents per minute. There will be a savings of \$94.00 per month and also include two additional phone lines for increased calling availability.

Armstrong County Health Center Physicians Service Agreement

On a motion by Mr. Scahill, seconded by Mr. Fink and carried unanimously, based on the review of the solicitor, the Commissioners approved the Physicians Service Agreement for the Armstrong County Health Center between Armstrong County and Dr. William Oleksak and Dr. Gwen Breuer.

Ms. Costanzo stated that these two doctors are associates of Dr. Gelacek's practice; they will provide an increase in choice of doctors to the residents.

Sagamore Ninth Street Water Line Replacement Project Cooperation Agreement with Cowanshannock Township Municipal Authority

On a motion by Mr. Fink, seconded by Mr. Scahill and carried unanimously, based on the review of the solicitor, the Commissioners approved the Sagamore Ninth Street Water Line Replacement Project Cooperation Agreement between Armstrong County and Cowanshannock Township Municipal Authority. Ms. Johnson stated that the county has allocated portions of the Community Development Block Grant funds for this standard co-op agreement. She explained that the Municipal Authority is also contributing toward the project.

2010 HOME Grant Contract within the Village of Cadogan with the Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development (DCED)

On a motion by Mr. Fink, seconded by Mr. Scahill and carried unanimously, pending the review of the solicitor, the Commissioners approved the 2010 HOME Grant Agreement Contract within the Village of Cadogan between Armstrong County and the Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development (DCED). Ms. Johnson stated that the county has applied for the grant in the amount of \$500,000.00 to assist 15 low to moderate income units in Cadogan. The Board of Commissioners extended their appreciation and thanks to Ms. Johnson on attaining this competitive grant.

Grant Application for the feasibility Study of the Restoration of the Armstrong County Courthouse Cupola with the Pennsylvania Historic and Museum Commission

On a motion by Mr. Scahill, seconded by Mr. Fink and carried unanimously, based on the review of the solicitor, the Commissioners acknowledged the grant application with the Pennsylvania Historic and Museum Commission for the feasibility study of the restoration of the Armstrong County Courthouse Cupola. Ms. Johnson explained that there are funds available only for the feasibility study at this time. She stated that this will enable the county to proceed with the plans for repair once grant money is available for repair. The study will cost \$24,000.00 with the Pennsylvania Historic and Museum Commission and the county each matching half the amount. Mr. Carney stated that the cupola is in need of structural repair. Mr. Scahill described that the last work performed on the cupola was for repainting. Ms. Johnson said that the courthouse is eligible for funding since it is registered as a historical structure.

RESOLUTIONS

Resolution 2011-5 The Emergency Purchase of a Boiler for the Armsdale Building

On a motion by Mr. Scahill, seconded by Mr. Fink and carried unanimously, based on the review of the solicitor, the Commissioners approved Resolution 2011-5, for the emergency purchase of a boiler for the Armsdale Building. Mr. Carney stated that the boiler was needed in an emergency situation to preserve the building and permit the tenants to continue working. Mr. Carney confirmed that the county's insurance covered the costs.

BOARD APPOINTMENTS

Armstrong County Industrial Development Authority

On a motion by Mr. Scahill, seconded by Ms. Kirkpatrick and carried, with Mr. Fink abstaining; the Commissioners approved the appointment to the Industrial Development Authority of Mr. Rich Fink, 450 Market Street, Kittanning, PA 16201, to an unexpired term to expire December 31, 2011.

Re-appointments to the Armstrong County Tourist Bureau Board of Directors

On a motion by Mr. Scahill, seconded by Ms. Kirkpatrick and carried, with Mr. Fink abstaining; the Commissioners approved the re-appointment to the Armstrong County Tourist Bureau Board of Directors of Mr. Rich Fink, 450 Market Street, Kittanning, PA 16201, to a three year term to expire December 31, 2013.

On a motion by Mr. Scahill, seconded by Mr. Fink and carried unanimously, based on the recommendation of Ms. Shoemaker, the Commissioners approved the re-appointments to the Armstrong County Tourist Bureau Board of Directors of Mr. Ron Steffey, Allegheny Valley Land Trust and Armstrong Rails to Trails, PO Box 777, Kittanning, PA 16201, Ms. Pam Meade, Crooked Creek ELC, Crooked Creek Watershed Conservation District, 142 Kerr Road, Ford City, PA 16226 to a three year term to expire December 31, 2013.

Ms. Shoemaker stated that all three re-appointments are key members to the board and each assist in attaining the goals of the Tourist Bureau. She noted the extraordinary work done by the group, especially in the planning of festivals and expos. The Board of Commissioners expressed their appreciation to all members for volunteering their time.

Appointment to the Career T.R.A.C.K. Inc.

On a motion by Mr. Fink, seconded by Mr. Scahill and carried unanimously, the Commissioners approved the appointment of Mr. Steve Atwood, Assistant Business Agent, Iron Workers Local Union No. 3 AFL-CIO, 2201 Liberty Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA 15222 to an unexpired term to expire June 30, 2011. Mr. Fink stated that Mr. Atwood is filling a vacancy of a labor seat that was held by Mr. Royce Young who recently retired.

OTHER BUSINESS / PUBLIC COMMENT

Ms. Buzard announced that due to the office of Commissioners appearing on the ballot for the upcoming elections, the county solicitor has petitioned and Judge Valasek has appointed Sheriff Larry Crawford, Attorney George Kepple and Attorney James Favero as the Board of Elections for the May 17, 2011 Primary. Any offices that are to be on the Primary Ballot are listed on the county website. Petitions are now available, the first day to circulate petitions is February 15, and the last day is March 8, 2011. Petitions may be picked up at the office or mailed.

On a motion by Mr. Scahill, seconded by Mr. Fink and carried unanimously, the County Commissioners acknowledged the financial transactions for January 2011.

Ms. Kirkpatrick opened the meeting to comments and questions.

Mr. Fink described the excitement and anticipation that he and many others are feeling about the Steelers playing in the upcoming Superbowl.

He then presented and read a proclamation that officially proclaimed Armstrong County as a part of Steelers Nation.

On a motion by Mr. Fink, seconded by Mr. Scahill and carried unanimously, the County Commissioners approved Proclamation 2011-2 proclaiming Armstrong County as part of Steelers Nation.

Mr. Scahill agreed that there is more to Steelers Nation than downtown Pittsburgh on Grant Street. He expressed his appreciation to Mr. Fink and stated he will gladly sign the proclamation. Mr. Scahill then described his appreciation for the employees and staff at the Health Center. He was thankful for the care given to his mother, noting that she was a resident on eight occasions as she recuperated. He stated he is pleased to welcome two new doctors to the staff at the Health Center, especially noting that they are from the area and have returned to settle in the community where they were raised and have family roots. Mr. Scahill also expressed his appreciation to all for the moment of silence that was held in memory of his mother at the January 20, 2011 Public Meeting.

Ms. Kirkpatrick explained that today's Public Meeting was moved forward from February 3, 2011 to accommodate the Commissioners attendance at a Southwestern Pennsylvania Commissioners (SPC) conference later this week. She announced that Wednesday, February 23, 2011 SPC will be offering a webinar that gives commuters a chance to learn ways that they can carpool and save money. Ms. Kirkpatrick anticipates transportation costs and funding will be a highly discussed topic at the conference. She invited everyone to attend the Strongland Expo to be held at the Pittsburgh Mills Mall on February 11th through the 13th, 2011; she also noted that attendance is free. She stated that it is an opportunity to learn about improvements for your home and some of the new technologies available for home construction and remodeling.

Mr. Beranty expressed his thanks to Ms. Buzard for her efforts in assuring that the voters in Worthington were provided a polling place that met the guidelines for handicap accessibility. He also thanked the Commissioners for addressing the issue of handicapped accessible parking at the Armstrong County Courthouse.

Mr. Weaver requested some clarification on the HOME grants. Ms. Johnson affirmed that we have received competitive grants in the past. Mr. Scahill praised Ms. Johnson on her successful record of obtaining competitive grants for the county.

ADJOURN

On a motion by Mr. Scahill, seconded by Mr. Fink and carried unanimously, the Commissioners moved to adjourn the Public Meeting at 2:05 PM. The next Public Meeting will be held Thursday, February 17, 2011 at 1:30 PM.