

COMMISSIONERS' PUBLIC MEETING
July 7, 2011

The Armstrong County Board of Commissioners' Public Meeting was called to order on Thursday, July 7, 2011, at 1:30 pm in the Commissioners' Conference Room with the following in attendance: Commissioner Patricia L. Kirkpatrick, Commissioner Richard L. Fink, Commissioner James V. Scahill, George J. Skamai – County Administrator and Chief Clerk, Mitch Fryer – Leader Times, Josh Walzak – Leader Vindicator, Jonathan Weaver – Kittanning Paper, Myra Miller – Armstrong County Controller, Rich Palilla – Executive Director, Armstrong County Planning & Development, Janet Talerico – Executive Director, Armstrong County Area Agency on Aging, Gary Montebell – Director, Armstrong County Belmont Complex, David Mansour – Director, Armstrong County Health Center, Dave Hogue – Warden, Armstrong County Jail, Wendy Buzard – Director, Armstrong County Elections and Chief Registrar, Regina Himes – Assistant Director, Armstrong County Probation, Len Meneely – Executive Director, Progressive Workshop of Armstrong County, Roy Cigola, Progressive Workshop of Armstrong County, Robert Offutt – Armstrong County Resident

Ms. Kirkpatrick announced that this meeting is being recorded.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

On a motion by Mr. Fink, seconded by Mr. Scahill and carried unanimously, the minutes for the June 16, 2011 Public Meeting were approved.

BID OPENING

Bids for Overhauls on Two York Model R Compressors

Mr. Montebell explained that this is an annual bid and part of a routine procedure for the maintenance of the compressors. He stated that he has worked with Mr. Carney to establish the guidelines for the bids.

The following bids were received:

| Company | City | Amount |
|----------------------------------|-----------------|-------------|
| CH&R Inc. Liqui-Chill | Oakmont, PA | \$10,550.00 |
| Johnson Controls | Pittsburgh, PA | \$10,825.00 |
| Quality Mechanical Services Inc. | Verona, PA | \$15,046.00 |
| JB Mechanical Inc. | Bethel Park, PA | \$18,642.00 |

On a motion by Mr. Scahill, seconded by Mr. Fink and carried unanimously, the Commissioners tabled the bid results for review. Mr. Montebell stated he will be prepared to discuss the bids at next week's work session on July 12, 2011.

AGREEMENTS / CONTRACTS

Yankee Alliance Participation Agreement

On a motion by Mr. Scahill, seconded by Mr. Fink and carried unanimously, based on the review of the county solicitor, the Commissioners approved the participation agreement between

Armstrong County and Yankee Alliance. Mr. Mansour explained that the Health Center belongs to a group purchasing program. He stated that the Yankee Alliance provides an additional 61 vendors to choose from.

ARC Manor Agreement for the Armstrong County Jail

On a motion by Mr. Fink, seconded by Mr. Scahill and carried unanimously, based on the review of the county solicitor, the Commissioners acknowledged the agreement for the Armstrong County Jail with ARC Manor. Mr. Hogue stated this is an extension of a program already established that has worked well for the jail.

EMS Service and Ambulance Transportation Agreement with Kittanning Hose Company #6 with the Armstrong County Jail

On a motion by Mr. Fink, seconded by Mr. Scahill and carried unanimously, based on the review of the county solicitor, the Commissioners acknowledged the EMS Service and Ambulance Transportation Agreement for the Armstrong County Jail between Armstrong County and Kittanning Hose Company #6. Mr. Hogue stated that this is a renewal agreement that is in place in case there is a need to transport inmates from the jail to the hospital. He noted that there is not a rate increase from the last contract.

Language Line for Foreign Language Service with the Armstrong County Jail

On a motion by Mr. Scahill, seconded by Mr. Fink and carried unanimously, based on the review of the county solicitor, the Commissioners approved the Foreign Language Service for the Armstrong County Jail between Armstrong County and Language Line. Mr. Hogue explained that this is an as needed service that is charged as used. He stated that it is an excellent tool to have access to when it is needed; it was the least expensive option. Mr. Fink added that it did meet the Paddle 37 requirements.

Dominion Voting Systems Voting Machine Agreements

On a motion by Mr. Fink, seconded by Mr. Scahill and carried unanimously, based on the review of the county solicitor, the Commissioners approved the Voting Machine Agreements between Armstrong County and Dominion Voting Systems. Ms. Buzard stated that the two agreements will cover the hardware and software needs of the election equipment.

Town & Country Transit FY 2011-2012 Local Share / Act 44 Transit Funding

On a motion by Mr. Fink, seconded by Mr. Scahill and carried unanimously, based on the review of the county solicitor, the Commissioners acknowledged the FY 2011-2012 Local Share / Act 44 Transit Funding Agreement between Armstrong County and Town & Country Transit. Ms. Kirkpatrick stated the amount due for the local match is \$5,886.00.

Breski Surveying Agreement for Armsdale Survey / Land Development

On a motion by Mr. Fink, seconded by Mr. Scahill and carried unanimously, based on the review of the county solicitor, the Commissioners acknowledged the agreement for the Armsdale Survey /

Land Development between Armstrong County and Breski Surveying. Mr. Palilla stated Breski Surveying quoted a price of \$6,000.00 and was the lowest bid of the two proposals received.

Thornbury 2011 Bridge Maintenance Contract

On a motion by Mr. Scahill, seconded by Mr. Fink and carried unanimously, based on the review of the county solicitor, the Commissioners approved the 2011 Bridge Maintenance Contract between Armstrong County and Thornbury. Mr. Palilla stated that Thornbury provided the lowest bid at \$72,021.00. He clarified that the projects covered by the agreement are the removal of the Buttermilk Falls Bridge, and repairs to Buffalo Bridge (West Franklin Township), and St. Charles Bridge (Madison Township); they will begin with the Buttermilk Falls Bridge.

Progressive Workshop Lease Agreement for the Operations of the Armstrong Recycling Center

On a motion by Mr. Fink, seconded by Mr. Scahill and carried unanimously, based on the review of the county solicitor, the Commissioners approved the Progressive Workshop Lease Agreement for the Operation of the Armstrong Recycling Center between Armstrong County and Progressive Workshop. Mr. Palilla stated that this agreement provides the lease of the barn and two acres for the operation of the Recycling Center at Armsdale; it is a one year lease that also includes a contribution of \$35,000 to offset costs. He explained that the funding was provided by Landfill fees. Mr. Meneely expressed his appreciation for the working relationship the Commissioners have provided to their recycling efforts.

Memorandum of Understanding with the County Commissioners Association of Pennsylvania for the Armstrong County Probation Department and the Armstrong County Jail

On a motion by Mr. Fink, seconded by Mr. Scahill and carried unanimously, based on the review of the county solicitor, the Commissioners acknowledged the Memorandum of Understanding with the County Commissioners Association of Pennsylvania for the Armstrong County Probation Department and the Armstrong County Jail. Ms. Himes explained that this was a data quality project to have every county have a uniform process of data entry. She stated that the information will also be automatically shared by all of the departments within a county and across the state. Ms. Himes and the Board of Commissioners recognized Armstrong County's IT Department as a pivotal part of the preparation of the county. Mr. Fink stated that the work of IT and all departments involved earned Armstrong County the privilege of being the first county to use the system.

Preston T. Younkings for Legal Services for Area Agency on Aging

On a motion by Mr. Scahill, seconded by Mr. Fink and carried unanimously, based on the review of the county solicitor, the Commissioners approved the Legal Service Agreement for the Area Agency on Aging between Armstrong County and Preston T. Younkings. Ms. Talerico stated that this is a one year contract extension with Mr. Younkings. She noted that he has agreed to renew at the same rate as last year.

Community Action Agency for Outreach Services Agreement for Area Agency on Aging

On a motion by Mr. Fink, seconded by Mr. Scahill and carried unanimously, based on the review of the county solicitor, the Commissioners approved the Outreach Services Agreement for the

Area Agency on Aging between Armstrong County and Community Action Agency. Ms. Talerico stated that this is being renewed at the same rate as last year. She explained that this is a service that Community Action is already performing and that the Area Agency on Aging would need to contract out. Community Action canvasses neighborhoods door to door to inform residents of services and register them for meals and other services.

ORDINANCES

Ordinance 2011-2 LERTA in South Buffalo Township

On a motion by Mr. Fink, seconded by Mr. Scahill and carried unanimously, based on the review of the county solicitor, the Commissioners approved Ordinance 2011-2 LERTA in South Buffalo Township. Mr. Palilla described the Ordinance for Local Economic Revitalization Tax Assistance Law (LERTA) that South Buffalo Township has put in place at Northpointe Industrial Park, as a real estate tax abatement program for improvements to real property. He stated the Ordinance will be in effect for five years and include the standard ten year abatement at a rate of ten percent per year. Mr. Palilla noted that the school district has also approved the tax abatement for school taxes.

Ordinance 2011-3 Simpson Bridge Abandonment

On a motion by Mr. Scahill, seconded by Mr. Fink and carried unanimously, based on the review of the county solicitor, the Commissioners approved Ordinance 2011-3 Simpson Bridge Abandonment. Mr. Palilla stated that the bridge is located in Washington Township and was originally built in 1925. He explained that Penn DOT has determined low usage and little public interest in the bridge has lead them to abandon the bridge. The ordinance provides a bill of sale to Mr. & Mrs. Offutt. The Offutts will use the bridge to access their property.

OTHER BUSINESS / PUBLIC COMMENT

Financial Transactions

On a motion by Mr. Scahill, seconded by Mr. Fink and carried unanimously, the Commissioners acknowledged the Financial Transactions for May 2011.

Ms. Kirkpatrick opened the meeting to comments.

Mr. Scahill recapped the history of bridges throughout our county, detailing the issues faced and transitions from being county property to other ownership. He stated that he admires Mr. & Mrs. Offutt for their willingness to accept ownership of the Simpson Bridge, and appreciates the work that the Planning & Development Department has initiated to achieve a workable solution for all. Mr. Scahill described his recent experience on the Wounded Warrior Walk that he attended in June. He relayed a story that involved one soldier who participated from a Latrobe area veteran's center who needed a crutch to walk, but even with his physical limitations he was determined to finish the portion of the walk that he committed to. Mr. Scahill told how the soldier was rejoined by the team of walkers and accompanied in the last quarter mile of the day's journey where he entered the hall to be saluted by all present. He said that he shared this story as a testament of the determination that defines us as a country. Mr. Scahill closed by discussing the recent loss of

a member of the county family. He described Mr. Dennis Kotal as a man who gave so much to the community and his work, stating that he will be greatly missed.

Mr. Fink commended Mr. Scahill for the effort, time and self expense that he exerted for the Wounded Warrior Project. He stated that this was definitely not politically motivated but a project from the heart. He then described a situation involving a recycling trailer that was in the Templeton and Madison Township area. He stated that the trailer has been in place for over a year now, noting that it is well used and has decreased the amount of trash along the roadside. Mr. Cigola and Mr. Meneeley expressed their appreciation for the opportunities that the Commissioners provide to the Progressive Workshop. Mr. Fink finished by discussing the LERTA Ordinance that was signed into effect today. He has observed growth in the municipalities that have adopted LERTA and he is encouraged by the job growth that it creates.

Ms. Kirkpatrick described the success of the partnership with the Progressive Workshop in operating the Recycling Center. She stated that other counties would like to implement a program such as ours, but are unable to establish due to funding or ability. Ms. Kirkpatrick also discussed the need for LERTA to provide assistance in improving an unfair taxing system. She believes that the system needs to change in the State Government to provide other options and stated that CCAP has been working with counties for years to implement improvements. She concluded that our inability to compete as a county is due to the need for an equitable tax structure.

The Board of Commissioners clarified Mr. Weaver's question that Simpson Bridge is in Armstrong County. Mr. Scahill stated that it was built by the county in 1925 and does carry motor vehicles.

ADJOURN

There being no further business, it was moved by Mr. Scahill, seconded by Mr. Fink and carried unanimously; the Commissioners adjourned the Public Meeting at 2:22 pm. The next Public Meeting will be held Thursday, July 21, 2011 at 1:30 pm.