

COMMISSIONERS' PUBLIC MEETING
November 17, 2011

The Armstrong County Board of Commissioners' Public Meeting was called to order on Thursday, November 17, 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, Chief Clerk, Mitch Fryer – Leader Times, Josh Walzak – Leader Vindicator, Jonathan Weaver – Kittanning Paper, Amanda Hiles – First Deputy, Armstrong County Controller, Randy Brozenick, Director, Armstrong County Public Safety, Jim Lockard - Mission Critical Partners, Don Pepler, Financial and Special Projects Manager, Kevin Shepard – Deputy Warden, Armstrong County Jail, Janet Talerico – Executive Director, Armstrong County Area Agency on Aging, Darin Alviano – Planning Coordinator, Armstrong County Planning and Development, Jennifer Bellas – Planning Coordinator, Armstrong County Planning and Development, Janet McKinley – Financial Director, Armstrong County Health Center, Gary Montebell – Director, Armstrong County Belmont Complex, Ron Baustert – Coordinator, Armstrong County 911, David McInay – Schrader Group.

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 November 3, 2011 Public Meeting were approved.

BID AWARD

New EOC Building

Mr. Brozenick explained the process of the bid reviews. He quoted the total of the base bids that are being awarded as \$2,600,900.00 and stated that the county does have a one million dollar grant to defer a portion of the cost. Mr. Lockard explained that the grant is from the federal government and does have to be utilized by summer of 2012. He described how the new building will enable the Emergency Operating Center to have sufficient room for their equipment and meet government mandates. Mr. McInay stated that the Schrader Group was a part of the process and that they were pleased with the thoroughness of the review process and the bids that were received.

- On a motion by Mr. Fink, seconded by Mr. Scahill and carried unanimously, the Commissioners awarded the General Contractor bid to Arcon Contracting Inc, the low bidder in the amount of \$1,383,000.00.
- On a motion by Mr. Fink, seconded by Mr. Scahill and carried unanimously, the Commissioners awarded the Electric Contractor bid to Right Electric Inc, in the amount of \$678,000.00. Mr. Brozenick stated that the low bidder was Mashan, with a \$4,100.00 difference, but noted that they did not meet the bid requirements.
- On a motion by Mr. Scahill, seconded by Mr. Fink and carried unanimously, the Commissioners awarded the Plumbing and Fire Protection Contractor bid to Ender Plumbing and Heating, the low bidder in the amount of \$186,900.00.

- On a motion by Mr. Fink, seconded by Mr. Scahill and carried unanimously, the Commissioners awarded the HVAC / Mechanical Contract bid to Lugaila Mechanical, in the amount of \$353,000.00. Mr. Brozenick stated that the low bid was received by Marc Service, but that they had removed their bid due to a mathematical error on their part. He listed the difference in price as \$26,339.00.

Photo Presentation of the Radio System

Mr. Baustert gave a presentation of photographs and narrative that detailed the technology and equipment that the Radio System Project will utilize.

AGREEMENTS / CONTRACTS

Tower Lease with Consolidated Communications of PA

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 Tower Lease Agreement between Armstrong County and consolidated Communications of PA. Mr. Brozenick stated that this is an agreement for upgrades to an existing site in Freeport. He explained that the property is situated in Allegheny County but does meet the needs of the low lying ground in Freeport Borough.

Ice Rental Agreement with Freeport Area Hockey Association

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 Mr. Montebell, the Commissioners approved the Ice Rental Agreement between Armstrong County and The Freeport Area Hockey Association. Mr. Montebell stated that the agreements are based on the USA Hockey Agreements.

Ice Rental Agreement with The Pennsylvania Interscholastic Hockey League

On a motion by Mr. Scahill, seconded by Mr. Fink and carried unanimously, pending the review of the county solicitor, the Commissioners approved the Ice Rental Agreement between Armstrong County and The Pennsylvania Interscholastic Hockey League. Mr. Montebell explained that this agreement is for high school hockey players.

Ice Rental Agreement with The Armstrong Amateur Hockey League

On a motion by Mr. Fink, seconded by Mr. Scahill and carried unanimously, pending the review of the county solicitor, the Commissioners approved the Ice Rental Agreement between Armstrong County and The Armstrong Amateur Hockey League.

Concessionaire Lease Agreement with The Armstrong Amateur Hockey League

On a motion by Mr. Scahill, seconded by Mr. Fink and carried unanimously, pending the review of the county solicitor, the Commissioners approved the Concessionaire Lease Agreement between Armstrong County and The Armstrong Amateur Hockey League. Mr. Montebell explained that the

Armstrong Amateur Hockey League would be able to use the concession stand at the Belmont Complex.

Award County Aid Funding

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 award of County Aid funding for the following projects:

- Kittanning Borough, \$120,000.00 for paving of portions of Walnut Street and South McKean Street.
- South Bend Township, \$50,000.00 for the rehabilitation of Lindsey Run Road Bridge.
- South Buffalo Township, \$60,000.00 for repairs to storm drain inlets on roads in Northpointe.

Mr. Alviano stated that the funding is from the 2011 Liquid Fuels fund.

Cooperative Grant Agreement with Department of 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 Cooperative Grant Agreement and Resolution 2012-23 between Armstrong County and the PA Department of Aging. Ms. Talerico stated that this is a funding vehicle for state and federal funding that will set annual budgets from January 1, 2012 until June 30, 2016.

Medicaid Services Grant Agreement with Commonwealth of Pennsylvania

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 Service Grant Agreement between Armstrong County and Medicaid. Ms. Talerico stated that the agreement will run from January 1, 2012 to June 30, 2016 and will assist the nursing home transition program.

Windstream Contract with Armstrong County Health Center

On a motion by Mr. Fink, seconded by Mr. Scahill and carried unanimously, pending the review of the county solicitor, the Commissioners approved the Customer Service / Maintenance Agreement between Armstrong County and Windstream. Ms. McKinley explained that the purchase of software upgrades will be necessary and that Jim Venturini did review the contract.

Amendment for Agreement between Armstrong County Jail and Family Psychological Associates

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 Extension of Services Agreement for the Armstrong County Jail between Armstrong County and Family Psychological Associates. Mr. Shepard stated that this is an extension of an existing agreement that is a Title 37 requirement.

BOARD APPOINTMENTS

IDA Board

On a motion by Mr. Scahill, seconded by Mr. Fink and carried unanimously, the Commissioners approved the re-appointment of Mr. Paul Bradigan, Bradigan's Inc., PO Box 995, Kittanning, PA 16201, for a five year term to expire December 31, 2016. Mr. Scahill recognized Mr. Bradigan as a board member and for his extra efforts as treasurer for the board.

Conservation District Directors

On a motion by Mr. Scahill, seconded by Mr. Fink and carried unanimously, the Commissioners approved the re-appointments of Mr. Dennis Hawley, 125 Montereed Street, Kittanning, Pa 16201 and Mr. Spurgeon Shilling, 151 Farm Path Road, New Bethlehem, PA 16242, to four year terms to expire December 31, 2015.

PROCLAMATIONS

Proclamation 2011-27 National Pancreatic Cancer Awareness Month

Ms. Kirkpatrick announced that Theresa Dukovich has been a strong advocate for Pancreatic Cancer Awareness and has attended the Public Meeting for this proclamation in the past few years, but was unable to attend today.

Ms. Kirkpatrick read aloud the proclamation.

On a motion by Mr. Scahill, seconded by Mr. Fink and carried unanimously, the Commissioners adopted Proclamation 2011-27 proclaiming November as National Pancreatic Cancer Awareness Month.

OTHER BUSINESS / PUBLIC COMMENT

Presentation of the Preliminary Budget for Public Inspection

Mr. Pepler gave a review of the preliminary budget and compared the changes from previous years. He noted that the tax millage will remain at 15.5% as it has for the previous five years. Mr. Pepler stated that the increase of revenue and expenses have both risen by approximately \$545,000.00, noting that expenses are a three percent increase in salaries, increased 911 and Emergency Operations Center costs and health insurance. He stated that the preliminary budget will be available for review at the receptionist's desk in the Commissioners' office. The Board announced that the final budget will be passed at the December 15, 2011 Public Meeting.

Ms. Kirkpatrick opened the meeting to comments.

Mr. Scahill discussed the issues brought on by repository property and the costs created for the county. He stated that it will be one of the issues he will discuss with fellow commissioners from across the state at the upcoming County Commissioners Association of Pennsylvania (CCAP) Conference. He then described the unfunded mandates put upon counties and discussed the radio project. Mr. Scahill closed his comments by discussing Veteran's Day and some statistics from the Data Center. He stated that Pennsylvania is ranked fourth in the United States with 981,646 veterans and 6,518 active military personnel.

Mr. Fink commented on the challenging process every county faces while adopting a budget, especially given all of the various complicating issues such as funding mandates, grant reductions and government-mandated projects. He highlighted some of the projects that benefited from the Liquid Fuels funds. He reiterated his strong belief that government works best when you work together. Especially with projects that are as complex and time sensitive as the Radio Project. Commissioner Fink pointed to that project as a prime example of how working together has accomplished much more than would ever be possible through a lone effort.

Ms. Kirkpatrick discussed the importance of the Emergency Operating Center and how critical it is for the welfare of taxpayers / citizens. She believes that the combined 911 center was an efficient use of funding and grant money. She stated that September 11th has shown that an emergency can happen anywhere at any time and we must be prepared. Ms. Kirkpatrick stated that the state of the art technology that the center will have is something the board of commissioners would not compromise on.

In closing Ms. Kirkpatrick reminded everyone that Light Up Night will be celebrated in Kittanning this evening and in Ford City tomorrow night. She invited everyone to view the decorations and trees adorning the front of the courthouse and recognized Kathy Shick and the groups who provided the decorations this year. Ms. Kirkpatrick read the following group names as participants: The Early Care & LERN team, the HeadStart programs in: Apollo, Distant, Ford City, Dayton and Shannock; ARIN, Parent Child Home Program, WIC, Happy Home Child Care, NYCE House, Pre K Counts, Kids Depot, Happy Home Child Care and It's a Great Day Care. The Board of Commissioners praised the members of the Public Works Department for their work on getting the decorations in place. Ms. Kirkpatrick stated that she hopes the memories of being a part of the decorations for the courthouse is one that will stay with the children as they grow up.

ADJOURN

On behalf of the board, Ms. Kirkpatrick wished everyone a Blessed Thanksgiving, enjoying time spent with family & friends in our great nation.

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 2:19 pm. The next Public Meeting will be held Thursday, December 1, 2011 at 1:30 pm.