

A Special Meeting of the Fayette County Board of Commissioners was held on Thursday, December 29, 2011 at 10:00 a.m. in the Commissioner Conference Room, Fayette County Court House, Uniontown Pa.

**Present:**

Commissioner Vince Zapotosky, Chairman  
Commissioner Vincent Vicites, Vice Chairman  
Commissioner Angela Zimmerlink, Secretary  
Warren Hughes, Acting Chief Clerk & County Manager  
Sheryl Heid, County Solicitor

- Meeting called to Order
- Silent Prayer
- Pledge of Allegiance

**Public Comment:** none

**Planning & Zoning Office**

**Moved** by Commissioner Vicites and seconded by Commissioner Zapotosky to approve RZ 11-10 Fay-Penn Economic Development Council, Upper Tyrone Township, requesting a change of zone from A-1 Agricultural-Rural to M-1 Light Industrial.

Commissioners Zapotosky	yes
Commissioner Vicites	yes
Commissioner Zimmerlink	no

Motion passed 2-1

**Moved** by Commissioner Vicites though died for a lack of second to approve RZ 11-12 Veolia ES Chestnut Valley Landfill, German Township requesting a change of zone from B-1 General Business, to M-1 Light Industrial.

**(Died for lack of seconded)**

**Human Resources:**

**EMA**

**Moved** by Commissioner Zapotosky and seconded by Commissioner Zimmerlink to **Table** the temporary hires of Brittany Clevenger, Robert Thistlethwaite, Tiffany Shade-Spolan, Christine Reinhard, Susanna Smith, Karen Minor and Vicky Spells as 911 Dispatcher Trainees at \$8.50/hr effective January 9, 2012.

Commissioners Zapotosky    yes  
Commissioner Vicites        abstain  
Commissioner Zimmerlink    yes

Motion passed 2-0

**FACT**

**Moved** by Commissioner Zapotosky and seconded by Commissioner Zimmerlink to **Table** the promotion of Transportation Clerk, Lori Huey, to Transportation Information Specialist at SEIU Pay Grade 6 Step A \$10.72/hr (\$20,904.00) effective January 3, 2012.

Commissioners Zapotosky    yes  
Commissioner Vicites        abstain  
Commissioner Zimmerlink    yes

Motion passed 2-0

**PLANNING**

**Moved** by Commissioner Zapotosky and seconded by Commissioner Zimmerlink to **Table** the promotion of Department Clerk III, Raylene Ferlin, to the UCC Administrator Tech position at SEIU Pay Grade 10 Step A \$12.27/hr (\$23,926.50) effective January 3, 2012.

Commissioners Zapotosky    yes  
Commissioner Vicites        abstain  
Commissioner Zimmerlink    yes

Motion passed 2-0

**Commissioners:**

**Moved** by Commissioner Zapotosky and seconded by Commissioner Zimmerlink to ratify the following transfers.

**TRANSFERS  
2011  
12-9-11 to 12-29-11**

Department	Cost Center	Debit	Credit
Adult Probation			
FICA	014236 51610	\$2,735.13	
Drug Testing	014236 53191		\$2,735.13

Assessment			
Auction Expense	014236 52410	\$1,500.00	
Postage	014136 53250		\$1,500.00
Coroner			
Unappropriated	014999 59040	\$2,765.00	
Autopsies	014193 53180		\$1,155.00
Transport	014193 52628		\$1,610.00
Total Debits	\$7,000.13		
Total Credits	\$7,000.13		

Commissioners Zapotosky    yes  
 Commissioner Vicites        yes  
 Commissioner Zimmerlink    yes

Motion passed unanimously

**Moved** by Commissioner Zapotosky and seconded by Commissioner Zimmerlink to ratify the 2012 TRAN note to Parkvale Bank of Masontown, Pennsylvania for \$4,500,000 at a rate of 1.37%. There were six proposals with Parkvale being the lowest rate.

Commissioners Zapotosky    yes  
 Commissioner Vicites        yes  
 Commissioner Zimmerlink    yes

Motion passed unanimously

**Moved** by Commissioner Zapotosky and seconded by Commissioner Zimmerlink to approve the GASB 54 – County Fund Balance Policy

**Commissioner Zapotosky** stated it is a requirement to be approved by the State before December 31, 2011.

Commissioners Zapotosky    yes  
 Commissioner Vicites        yes  
 Commissioner Zimmerlink    yes

Motion passed unanimously

The County’s policy is to apply expenditures against any Non-spendable funds, restricted fund balance, committed fund balance, assigned fund balance, and the unassigned fund.

Committed Fund Balance of the COUNTY may be committed for a specific source by formal action of the Commissioners. Amendments or modifications of the committed fund balance must also be approved by formal action of the Commissioners.

When it is appropriate for fund balance(s) to be assigned, the Commissioners *delegates authority to the Controller to determine the allocation of the assigned funds.*

2012 General Funds Budget – Consider approving the 2012 General Fund.

**Commissioner Zapotosky** thanked County Manager Warren Hughes for all his efforts working on the budget. He added the requirement under state law is to pass a budget by December 31, 2011.

**Commissioner Zimmerlink** said the Purposed Budget revenues are \$23,298,548.00 and the expensive are \$24,521,296.00, though there is a deficit of \$2.7 million, and that’s before the transfer in and transfer out. She added that is with a \$2.7 million deficit using the entire cash surplus of \$956,000.00.

**Mr. Hughes** stated, since the purposed budget on December 5, 2011, the revenue expenses have stayed the same but the projective deficit budget is \$3, 6 million, which that is using the entire cash surplus at \$956,000. Reasoning being is because of GASB 54.

**Commissioner Vicites** stated we purposed the budget 30 days ago which was once updated, and at that time it appeared to go up and the deficit grew by \$300,000.00.

**Commissioner Zimmerlink** explained the deficit went up \$3.6 million not \$2.7 million, reason being, GASB54 going into affect for 2011.

**Commissioner Vicites** suggested a 15% reduction across the board without raising taxes.

**Commissioner Zapotosky** suggested recessing the meeting and return back at 4:00 pm today December 29, 2011.

**All Commissioners agreed to recess.**

**Moved** by Commissioner Zapotosky and seconded by Commissioner Zimmerlink to recess meeting, and to return back today at 4:00pm December 29, 2011.

Commissioners Zapotosky	yes
Commissioner Vicites	yes
Commissioner Zimmerlink	yes

Motion passed unanimously

**Announcements: none**

**Public Comments:**

**Mr. Alfred Ambrosini** stated he had the opportunity to sit in on most of the budget talks with the Department Heads, he explained the county does provide more services because of the need for the public. For example District Attorney Jack Heneks' case load has increased; the County Prison is also an important part of this issue. He added these are cost that our tax payers have to bear the burden of, which the Commissioners are also responsible concerning the budget. He stated on January 3<sup>rd</sup> I will request to reopen the budget and the New Board of Commissioners will take the time to go through all line items, though there is a 45 day to relook at the budget.

**Commissioner Zapotosky** stated by the Controller's Office, if the budget is not adopted by December 31, 2011, the County would be listed as a growing going concern, which Fayette County has never been listed as before, also there would be ramifications to that.

**Commissioner Vicites** asked what the concerns would be.

**Commissioner Zapotosky** explained the concern would be, if we did not meet our statutory obligation to pass the budget by the 31<sup>st</sup>, the county would receive a state listing that would subject us to higher interest rates.

**Dean Mori** General Manager of Veolia ES Chestnut Valley Landfield, German Township asked the Commissioners if the rezoning issue can be heard at the next Commissioners Meeting.

**Commissioner Zapotosky** said the rezoning issue has the ability to be brought back up; we always have the ability to review the file, and have been done in the past.

**Commissioner Zimmerlink** explained this issue is not for the landfield it is for the business offices.

**Mr. Mori** said it's for this development plan for the 14 acres adjacent to the landfield.

**Commissioner Zimmerlink** stated its not to enlarge the landfield, being the comment that was made, in which we wouldn't have a landfield is incorrect. If this is changed to B-1 to M-1, what type of construction will be done?

**Mr. Mori** explained we will be building an additional maintenance building and removing materials back to the landfield which is needed.

**Commissioner Zapotosky** stated currently the property is zoned B-1; he asked Mr. Mori if he had been cited by the Zoning Office for have equipment on the property?

**Mr. Mori** stated yes, they have been cited, though when we came to the Commissioners Board previously, we came to the planning committee and asked them for recommendation in which zoning that would be needed, and we were told that B-1 was adequate for the landfield

concerning the building and the parking area for the trucks. He explained they were cited by the same board, being in violation of zoning. He added we want to get into compliance.

**Moved** by Commissioner Zimmerlink and seconded by Commissioner Zapotosky to **Table** the request of RZ-11-12 Veolia Chestnut Valley Landfield requesting change zoning.

Commissioners Zapotosky	yes
Commissioner Vicites	no
Commissioner Zimmerlink	yes

Motion passed 2-1

**Commissioner Zimmerlink** explained this issue will be brought at another Commissioners Meeting and then we can make a decision.

**Commissioner Zapotosky** stated the meeting will adjourn at 4:00 pm (today) December 29, 2011.

**“Commissioner Zapotosky called the meeting to order from the prior recess”**

**Commissioner Zapotosky** stated at this point there has been work done on the budget; by no means is the budget done. It will be reopened when the new Board of Commissioners makes a request to do so.

He explained at this point the revenues are \$23,333,571.00, with expenditures at \$ 21,644,271.00 and transfer in and out which we did utilize full balance of the cash reserve totaling \$656,771.00, leaving a budget balanced for the adoption for 2012. We then we have meet the statutory obligation, and prevent the county from going into and financial carious position resulting in a loss of State and Federal Funding.

**Moved** by Commissioner Zapotosky and seconded by Commissioner Vicites to adopt 2012 budget with the revenues and expenditures as previously sited revenues at \$23,333,571.00 with expenditures at \$21,644,271.00, use of the full balance of the cash reserve balance as well as other transfers in and out which leaves a 0 balance for the 2012 budget.

Commissioners Zapotosky	yes
Commissioner Vicites	abstain
Commissioner Zimmerlink	yes

Motion passed 2-0

**Commissioner Vicites** stated I abstained because I will not be present to implement the budget for year 2012

**Commissioner Vicites** added that Mr. Warren Hughes has been the heart and soul of Fayette County for the last 16 years. He said he appreciated all his efforts along with the 5 jobs he carried for the county, which were implementing a policies that the Commissioners voted on, he was the recycling coordinator, Director of building and grounds, County Manager, Parks Director, and our Budget Czar.

**Commissioner Vicites** stated he abstained because he will not be on the board any longer to implement the budget and he thought it was the right decision to make.

**Commissioner Zimmerlink** said the Proposed Budget had a 2.6 million and there were only 5-9 working days set aside to work on the budget deficit. She disagreed on how Commissioner Vicites voted saying he wasn't going to vote, he shouldn't of delayed the working days. She said on January 3, the budget can be reopened & we can't go from a 2.6 million or a 3.4 million deficit, without making some very important budget cuts. She felt to go on an revenue side and raise the mileage and not look at the expense side would not be responsible, She stated she hopes the new Board of Commissioners will look at this issue, and if this doesn't happen in the next 2 weeks then there will be a 2-0 vote, she said she does not want that to happen. She said she want s to go into 2012 with the Commissioners having a budget agree on it, we all agree that it's going to be monitored very closely, if there a mileage increase the expenditures will need watched and maintained because if not we will have continued revenue problems, we will be in the same predicament at the end of 2012. She stated the most important job of a County Commissioner is preparing the budget, which actually is a spending plan. She said there are expenditure that are set but there are also expenditures that we can control.

**Mr. Ambrosini** stated he can assure everyone that starting on January 3, 2012 we will open the budget and we will thoroughly investigate areas, line by line and make important significant needed changes and alterations in order to provide the services we need to provide to the citizens of Fayette County also make sure to provide the county workers with respect, a work environment in compensation for their works efforts. It's a balancing act he stated.

**Commissioner Vicites** said taxes have not been raised since 2005.

**Moved** by Commissioner Zimmerlink and seconded by Commissioner Zapotosky to adjoin meeting.

Commissioners Zapotosky	yes
Commissioner Vicites	yes
Commissioner Zimmerlink	yes

Motion passed unanimously