

Thursday, December 29, 2005 10:00 am

A meeting of the Fayette County Board of Commissioners was held on Thursday, December 29, 2005 at 10:05 a.m. in the Conference Room, at the Public Service Building, Uniontown, PA.

Present: Commissioner Angela M. Zimmerlink, Chairwoman
Commissioner Joseph A. Hardy, III, Vice-Chairman
Commissioner Vincent A. Vicites, Secretary
Judy M. Bodkin, Chief Clerk
Warren Hughes, County Manager
Sheryl Heid, County Solicitor

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

- Public Comment on Agenda Items

Mark Roberts, County Controller read a statement noting his disappointment with the Commissioners for not providing in the General Fund Budget an increase in compensation for his solicitor who he stated has not received an increase since 1981. Mark Roberts also stated that his actions throughout the years have saved money and that his office is in need of an accounting and auditing manager position.

Commissioner Zimmerlink asked Mark Roberts to confirm that he provided written materials two days earlier to both Commissioner Hardy and Commissioner Vicites on this same subject and she asked why he had not provided her with the same. Mark Roberts stated that he was informed that Commissioner Zimmerlink was not in favor of his request and therefore provided the information to the two Commissioners who might support his requests.

Commissioner Vicites stated that he relayed Mark Roberts' request for additional staff during the budget meetings.

The next item on the Agenda was to consider adopting the text portion of the new Zoning Ordinance. Commissioner Zimmerlink asked Tammy Stenson, Director of the Office of Planning & Zoning to provide the status of the text ordinance. Tammy Stenson confirmed that it was near completion with some open issues with the Farm Board.

Commissioner Zimmerlink stated she met with members of the Farm Board on December 19th and suggested that the other two Commissioners do what they need to do to meet with the Farm Board, as well since they indicated that they wanted to meet with them.

Commissioner Vicites suggested that a public meeting be held to address the farm issues for the Farm Board as well as farmers owning smaller farms.

Commissioner Zimmerlink agreed and reminded all that she suggested public meetings several months ago but since that time none have been scheduled and she suggested this be accomplished soon.

It was decided that a public meeting would be held and that this item be placed on the Agenda for the January 2006 meeting.

- Controller

Moved by Commissioner Hardy and seconded by Commissioner Vicites to ratify the Munis software contract between the County and Tyler Technologies, Inc. for a one (1) year period in the amount of \$7242.38.

Motion Passed Unanimously

- Commissioners

Moved by Commissioner Hardy and seconded by Commissioner Vicites to award Bid No. 05-36: Gasoline and Diesel Fuel to Center Independent Oil Company of Smock.

Motion Passed Unanimously

Moved by Commissioner Hardy and seconded by Commissioner Vicites to approve/ratify General Fund budget transfers dated December 2, 2005 through December 30, 2005, as noted:

Transfer #2 General Fund	\$173,254.69
Transfer #3 General Fund	\$156,809.83
Transfer – 014187 53193 Domestic Relations Pat Test Debit	\$2,000.00
53150 Domestic Relations Constables Credit	\$2000.00
Transfer – 354422 53727 Group Homes Debit	\$35,484.00
52722 Foster Homes Credit	\$35,484.00
Transfer – General Fund 014186 53200 Postage DJ Debit	\$3,000.00
General Fund 014111 53010 Contract C. Service Commissioners Credit	\$3,000.00
Total Transfers -	\$370,548.52
Temporary Transfers 813700 Tax Claim Bureau Fund	\$400,000.00
533700 Bond Fund	\$300,000.00
Total Temporary Transfers – to be paid back January 2006	\$700,000.00

Motion Passed Unanimously

Moved by Commissioner Hardy and seconded by Commissioner Vicites to award RFP05-19: Tax Anticipation Loan to Scottdale Bank & Trust Company in the amount of \$5,000,000 at 4% fixed.

Motion Passed Unanimously

Moved by Commissioner Hardy and seconded by Commissioner Vicites to adopt the 2006 General Fund Budget in the amount of \$21,718,631.14 and a decrease in the millage rate of .25062 making the total millage rate for 2006 of 3.76448.

Motion Passed Unanimously

- Public Announcement - None
- Public Comment

Mrs. Mazza thanked Commissioner Zimmerlink for herself and on behalf of residents of Fayette County for pushing for the millage decrease. Mrs. Mazza also expressed her dissatisfaction with the earlier comments of Mark Roberts, County Controller which were directed to the Commissioners adding that Mark Roberts should apologize to Commissioner Zimmerlink for not providing Commissioner Zimmerlink with the same documents he provided to the other two Commissioners.

Commissioner Zimmerlink stated that this Budget returns approximately \$1million to the taxpayers and the economy of Fayette County saying that it was only 28 days ago when the Budget was proposed by two Commissioners without a tax decrease and look what was accomplished. She added that she was glad that her fellow Commissioners joined in seeing this to this end.

Commissioner Vicites reported a list of items that were unfunded mandates that had to be budgeted as well as a list of increases/decreases of certain line items. He added that he was happy to see that the expenditures were decreased in a fiscally responsible way and that the millage could be lowered with keeping in the timeframe in which to pay off the deficit adding that he always believed the deficit to be lowered and it was confirmed when the Commissioners learned of the deficit amount from the auditors and that is part of the reason that the millage could be lowered.

Commissioner Zimmerlink added that the Commissioners were well aware of the deficit being \$2 million for year ending 12/31/03 and the interoffice practice of borrowing without funding it added an ongoing \$1million to the 2004 year and that the Commissioners were aware of this when they increased taxes for the year 2005.

Commissioner Vicites stated that with ongoing budget watching the general fund deficit could be paid off by 2007 and that the practice of interoffice borrowing stopped in 2007 or 2008.

Meeting adjourned.

Approved:

Attest:

Judith M. Bodkin, Chief Clerk