

**DECEMBER 6, 2016 MINUTES**  
**Formally approved December 27, 2016 meeting**

FULL BOARD PRESENT; Also present: Susan Kauwell, Prothonotary; Jesse Kline, Treasurer; Linda Weaver, Register & Recorder; Bob Garrett, Chris Berleth, Greater Susquehanna Valley Chamber of Commerce; Chris Johns, Jacob Foster, Danville High School; Jeff Foster, Lisa Foster, Public; Jennifer Wakeman, WKOK; Karen Blackledge, The Danville News.

Mr. Holdren asked those so inclined to rise for a prayer led by Solicitor Robert L. Marks. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited in unison. The meeting was then opened.

Mr. Hartman moved to approve the minutes of the previous meeting. Mr. Finn seconded. On called vote, all voted in favor.

Mr. Finn moved to accept the Treasurer's report as presented. Mr. Hartman seconded. On called vote, all voted in favor.

General Account Disbursements	\$261,763.01
General Account Receipts	\$70,031.38
General Account Checking .40%	\$785,018.28
Capital Reserve Fund .32%	\$29,707.61
Operating Reserve .32%	\$206,416.87
General MMA	\$0.00
Total Checking, MMAs	\$1,021,142.76
Act 13 Highway-Bridge .32%	\$167,746.99
Act 44 .40%	\$34,590.66
Children and Youth Checking .40%	\$591,823.78
Flood Mitigation .40%	\$1,847.62
Hazardous Material Account Checking .40%	\$18,781.16
Human & Community Services Checking .40%	\$48,593.20
Improvement Fund Checking .40%	\$15,785.10
Liquid Fuels Checking .40%	\$288,573.21
Medical Assistance Transportation .40%	\$103,890.17
Offender Supervision Account Checking .40%	\$34,090.78
Storm Water Ordinance Escrow	\$35,611.05
Transit Fund Account Checking .40%	\$51,993.39
Uniform 911 Surcharge .01%	\$215,652.33

Mr. Holdren called for public comment. Mr. Garrett presented the Board with copies of the Chamber's 2017 directory.

Mr. Holdren said the 911 Center consolidation is on track. The addressing process continues, with Mr. Holdren reminding residents living on private lanes with two or more addresses that a name will need to be assigned to the lane for pinpointing GIS accuracy.

Under old business, the following quotes were received on an \$800,000.00 Tax Anticipation Note for 2017: 1<sup>st</sup> Keystone National Bank, .89%; Mifflinburg Bank & Trust Co., .89%; FNB Bank, .95%; West Milton State Bank, 1.19%; First National Bank, 1.68%; M&T Bank, 1.80%. Noting that two banks submitted identical low bids of .89%, Mr. Holdren moved to award the quote from 1<sup>st</sup> Keystone as it has a physical presence in Montour County. Mr. Finn seconded. On called vote, Mr. Holdren and Mr. Finn voted in favor. Mr. Hartman abstained as he sits on the bank's advisory board.

Under new business, Mr. Finn moved to eliminate the \$5.00 per capita tax. Mr. Hartman seconded. Widely considered a nuisance tax, Mr. Finn explained that eliminating the levy had been under consideration for some time. The approximately \$50,000.00 realized from the tax is a small portion of the budget, and the cost of collecting the levy is about half of those revenues. On called vote, all voted in favor.

Mr. Hartman moved to approve the tentative 2017 General Fund budget of \$7,894,876.10 in expenditures with \$7,961,662.83 in revenues. Mr. Finn seconded. Mr. Holdren said the spending plan includes an estimated carryover of \$350,000.00 and is slightly lower than the current year budget. A smaller Tax Anticipation Note, restructuring debt, installing insulation and cost-efficient lighting as well as renegotiating electric rates factored into the lower budget, he said. He also credited elected officials and department heads in keeping spending down. On called vote, all voted in favor.

Mr. Hartman moved to set the millage rate at 3.349 mills, reflecting no change from the current rate. Mr. Finn seconded. On called vote, all voted in favor.

Mr. Hartman moved to approve the tentative 2017 Liquid Fuels budget of \$733,969.00 in expenditures and \$967,052.15 in revenues. Mr. Finn seconded. On called vote, all voted in favor.

Mr. Finn moved to increase the Hotel Tax administration from 2 to 4 percent. Mr. Hartman seconded. Mr. Finn explained the tax itself is not being raised, only the administration fees payable to Montour County. The additional fees will be used by Montour to directly fund more tourism-related projects. On called vote, all voted in favor.

Mr. Hartman moved to enter into a Memorandum of Understanding with Robert L. Marks, Marks, McLaughlin & Dennehy, to provide legal services to the County as solicitor effective January 1, 2017, at an annual fee of \$31,200.00. Mr. Finn seconded. Mr. Holdren said Mr. Marks and the County agreed to change the solicitor employment

status to an arm's-length contract, which will decrease solicitor costs to the County by 27 percent, or \$12,000.00, next year. Mr. Holdren said the Board was appreciative of Mr. Marks and the firm's willingness to help the community they serve. On called vote, all voted in favor.

Mr. Finn moved to enter into a contract with Boss Insulation & Roofing Inc. to install a new membrane roof over the Courthouse front entry at a cost of \$2,000.00. Mr. Hartman seconded. Mr. Holdren said the County was dissatisfied with work done by the contractor originally hired to restore and repair the facade, so activity on the project was stopped.

Boss will fix the roof and the Board will address the rest of the work in the spring. On called vote, all voted in favor.

Mr. Finn moved to adopt Resolution R-12-6-2016 designating EMA Coordinator Ed Burkland as Montour County's agent on the Luzerne County Flood Protection Authority. Mr. Hartman seconded. On called vote, all voted in favor.

Mr. Hartman moved to approve the 2017 meeting schedule as follows: the second and fourth Tuesday at 11 a.m. With the following exceptions: Tuesday, December 5, and Tuesday, December 19, with no meeting on August 22. Mr. Finn seconded. On called vote, all voted in favor.

Mr. Hartman moved to approve the 2017 workshop schedule as follows: Tuesday, January 17, Anthony Township; Tuesday, March 21, Cooper Township; Tuesday, July 18, Mayberry Township, all at 7 p.m. Mr. Finn seconded. On called vote, all voted in favor.

Mr. Hartman moved to approve the 2017 holiday schedule as follows: New Year's, Monday, January 2; Martin Luther King Day, Monday, January 16; Presidents Day, Monday, February 20; Good Friday, Friday, April 14; Memorial Day, Monday, May 29; Flag Day, Wednesday, June 14; Independence Day, Tuesday, July 4; Labor Day, Monday, September 4; Columbus Day, Monday, October 9; Veterans Day, Friday, November 10; Thanksgiving, Thursday and Friday, November 23 and 24; Christmas, Monday and Tuesday, December 25 and 26. Mr. Finn seconded. On called vote, all voted in favor.

Mr. Hartman moved to affirm the hiring of Maryellen Rockwell as Magisterial District Judge Clerk at an annual rate of \$15,600.00, effective December 1. Mr. Finn seconded. On called vote, all voted in favor.

Mr. Finn moved to hire James Shull as Correctional Officer at \$12.70 per hour effective December 5. Mr. Hartman seconded. On called vote, all voted in favor.

Mr. Hartman accepted the resignation of Elizabeth Wood as Conflict counsel effective January 1, 2017. Mr. Finn seconded. On called vote, all voted in favor.

Mr. Hartman moved to reappoint John J. Metzger to a five-year term on the Geisinger Authority to expire the first Monday of January 2022. Mr. Finn seconded. On called vote, all voted in favor.

Mr. Holdren presented Jacob Foster with a proclamation recognizing his selection to the Pennsylvania Soccer Coaches Association all-state team. A midfielder on the Danville High School soccer team, Jacob is the first junior from the school to earn the distinction.

The Board congratulated Friendship Fire Company on its 175<sup>th</sup> anniversary.

Mr. Holdren recognized the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the attack on Pearl Harbor.

Mr. Finn moved to pay the following bills: General Account, \$275,596.92; Children & Youth, \$5,137.68; Liquid Fuels, \$306,233.17; Uniform 911, \$16,211.88; Human and Community Service, \$1,337.86. Mr. Hartman seconded. On called vote, all voted in favor.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Submitted by:

Holly A. Brandon, Chief Clerk