

DECEMBER 18, 2018 MINUTES

Formally approved at January 8, 2019 meeting

FULL BOARD PRESENT; Also present: Norma Bird, Treasurer; Susan Kauwell, Prothonotary; Mike Lester, PressEnterprise; 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	\$33,637.12
General Account Receipts	\$26,599.35
General Account Checking 2.17%	\$392,976.27
Capital Reserve Fund 2.12%	\$76,259.64
Operating Reserve 2.12%	\$236,988.24
Total Checking	\$706,224.15
Act 13 Highway-Bridge 2.12%	\$215,058.41
Act 44 2.17%	\$90,808.28
Act 89 2.12%	\$97,518.41
Children and Youth Checking 2.17%	\$312,241.99
Flood Mitigation 2.17%	\$2,697.77
Hazardous Material Account Checking 2.17%	\$17,340.03
Human & Community Services Checking 2.17%	\$72,219.56
Improvement Fund Checking 2.17%	\$23,695.93
Liquid Fuels Checking 2.17%	\$268,529.64
Offender Supervision Account Checking 2.17%	\$57,709.23
Storm Water Ordinance Escrow	\$31,386.05
Uniform 911 Surcharge 2.11%	\$709,295.12

Mr. Holdren called for public comment. There was none.

Under old business, Mr. Finn moved to adopt the 2019 General Fund budget of \$8,173,267.72 in expenditures and \$8,218,193.00 in revenues. Mr. Hartman seconded. On called vote, all voted in favor. Mr. Holdren said in looking at the value of a mill over the last 14 years, the annual increase in value has typically been in the .7 to 1.1% range. But over the last several years, that increase has flattened to an increase of .25% in 2018 and .3% for 2019. One thing that impacts the millage value is not receiving timely

notification of building permits from the municipalities in Montour County. That not only affects the County, but the school districts and the municipalities themselves. Improving the lines of communication between zoning officers, who issue building permits, and the taxing bodies is one area the County will focus on next year, he said.

Mr. Finn said one of the harder tasks in formulating the budget was eliminating recycling drop-offs. While efforts to save that part of the program have been ongoing since June, it was a difficult decision. Even as late as this morning the Board met with Department of Environmental Protection officials to look for ways to continue the drop-offs, he said, but per the five-county Solid Waste Management Plan adopted by Montour and the County's municipal governments, recycling is a municipal responsibility. The Board sought suggestions from DEP on how to modify recycling. DEP indicated it would need to work through the municipalities and would likely have to be source-separated and not single-stream recycling. Mr. Finn said confusion seems to continue over recycling in Danville Borough and Mahoning Township. The programs will continue as long as Danville and Mahoning Township choose to do so, he said. Mr. Holdren made note of Berwick Borough's 18% tax hike, the large majority of which was attributable to recycling costs.

Mr. Finn moved to set the millage rate at 3.6 mills, reflecting an increase of .251 mills. Mr. Hartman seconded. On called vote, all voted in favor.

Mr. Hartman moved to adopt the Liquid Fuels budget of \$84,000.00 in expenditures and \$365,050.00 in revenues. Mr. Finn seconded. On called vote, all voted in favor.

Mr. Hartman moved to adopt Resolution R-12-18-2018 awarding an \$800,000.00 Tax Anticipation Note to The Northumberland National Bank. Mr. Finn seconded. On called vote, all voted in favor.

Mr. Holdren provided an update on the flood funding designation from FEMA, stating that FEMA determined Pennsylvania did not receive approval for individual assistance. Residents suffering damages from the summer flooding can still apply for low-interest loans through the Small Business Administration.

Mr. Finn made note of correspondence U.S. Sen. Pat Toomey received from the office of Immigration and Customs Enforcement in response to the County's query as to why it is listed on ICE's sanctuary city/county list as Montour's prison policies are appropriate. In the letter, ICE indicated it has suspended issuance of the sanctuary city/county report due to processing errors. The Board thanked Sen. Toomey for his efforts.

Under new business, Mr. Hartman moved to approve a letter of agreement with Geisinger Medical Center on behalf of the Coroner's Office to provide financial support and office space. The three-year agreement is effective July 1, 2019. Mr. Finn seconded. On called vote, all voted in favor.

Mr. Finn moved to approve the 2018-19 PEMA Hazardous Material Response Fund Grant of \$3,866.81 for radio communications purposes retroactive to the signing date of December 11, when Mr. Finn was approved by the Board as signatory on PEMA grants.

Mr. Hartman moved to reappoint Sara Prieto to a five-year term on the Housing Authority Board. Mr. Finn seconded. On called vote, all voted in favor.

Mr. Hartman moved to approve the hiring of Karen Cooper as a Clerk-Typist for Children & Youth Services at an annual salary of \$19,000.00 effective January 2, 2019. Mr. Finn seconded. On called vote, all voted in favor.

Mr. Finn moved to pay the following bills: General Account, \$27,466.67; Children & Youth, \$37,068.70; Liquid Fuels, \$10,049.77; Uniform 911, \$37,068.70; Human and Community Service, \$717.68; Other Funds, \$88,160.77. 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