## COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING

#### DECEMBER 2, 2020

**PRESENT:** Brian P. Zidek, Chair; Dr. Monica Taylor, Vice Chair; Kevin M. Madden, Council Member; Elaine Paul Schaefer, Council Member; Christine A. Reuther, Council Member; Joanne Phillips, Controller; Howard Lazarus, Executive Director; William F. Martin, Solicitor; Anne M. Coogan, County Clerk.

The Regular Meeting of Delaware County Council was held on December 2, 2020 at 6:00 pm on Zoom and was livestreamed. Chairman Zidek called the meeting to order followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Public Comment: There was no public comment.

Motion made by Dr. Taylor to approve Minutes of the Regular Meeting of November 18, 2020 seconded by Ms. Schaefer and carried unanimously.

Solicitor Martin read and gave a summary of Ordinance 2020-10 which proposes a budget for fiscal year 2021 fixing the tax rate for 2021. This budget has been available for the review in the County Clerk's office and the Ordinance has been duly advertised. The Ordinance provided for the 2021 annual budget will provide for a total amount of \$352,668,953.00. Further adjustment may be required before final passage.

Solicitor Martin said this Ordinance proposes a budget for fiscal year 2021 for General Purposes in the amount of \$352,668,953; a Capital Spending Budget in the amount of \$160,869,000 which equates to a tax rate of 3.112 on each dollar of assessed valuation or the sum of \$.3112 on each one-hundred dollars of assessed valuation.

Mr. Martin stated the Budget while the millage rates differ from last year, the difference is a result from the Countywide reassessment and this budget provides that the total dollars raised pursuant to the county real estate tax is unchanged from 2020 to 2021.

Ms. Schaefer made a motion to amend the agenda to include a discussion of our Covid-19 response and reconsideration of the Guidance given out by the Governor's Order and secondly request the Chester County Health Department to ask the Secretary of Health of Pennsylvania that the State of Pennsylvania alters its advice regarding contact tracing in the schools, seconded by Ms. Reuther and carried unanimously. We will discuss these items after item #14 so the Public can comment.

Motion made by Dr. Taylor to approve a Professional Services Agreement between Catherine A. Surbeck, Ph.D. and the County of Delaware for the term January 1, 2021 through December 31, 2021 to complete Psycho-Sexual evaluations along with drug and alcohol evaluations as ordered by the court at the cost not to exceed \$69,000.00. Subject to the solicitor's approval. This motion was seconded by Ms. Reuther and carried unanimously.

Motion made by Dr. Taylor to approve a Professional Services Agreement between M.G. Therapeutic Services and the County of Delaware for the term January 1, 2021 through December 31, 2021 to complete written psychological, neuro-psychological, psychiatric, intelligence testing and drug and alcohol evaluations as ordered by the court at the cost not to exceed \$160,000.00. Subject to Solicitor's Approval. This motion was seconded by Ms. Reuther and carried unanimously.

Motion made by Dr. Taylor to approve a Professional Services Agreement between Justin Lazaroff, D.O. and the County of Delaware for the term January 1, 2021 through December 31, 2021 to complete written psychiatric evaluations as ordered by the court at the cost not to exceed \$110,000.00. Subject to Solicitor's Approval. This motion was seconded by Ms. Schaefer and carried unanimously.

Motion made by Dr. Taylor approving a Contract between the County of Delaware and Pitney Bowes on Costars Contract #440001596 for the postage machine leasing for the Magisterial District Courts for 23 locations in the yearly amount of \$49,610.00 for five (5) years. Subject to Solicitor's Approval. This motion was seconded by Mr. Madden and carried unanimously.

Motion made by Dr. Taylor to approve Agreements, Contracts and Amendments to the Delaware County Housing and Community Development Action Plan as it relates to the Federal ESG-CV, Recorder of Deeds Demolition Fund and spending plan for the County PA Act 137 Affordable Housing Fund as per the attached list. Subject to Solicitor's Approval. This motion was seconded by Mr. Madden and carried unanimously.

Motion made by Dr. Taylor approving of Resolution Adopting the Media-Smedley Connector Trail Feasibility Study. The County certifies that the project was completed in accordance with the DCNR Grant Agreement; that all the project expenditures have been made and were in accordance with the Grant Agreement; that the study and related materials are acceptable to the County of Delaware; and the study and related materials will be used to guide future recreation and trail decisions. Subject to Solicitor's Approval. This motion was seconded by Ms. Schaefer and carried unanimously.

Motion made Dr. Taylor approving a Professional Services Agreement for the period of January 1, 2021 through June 30, 2021 between the County of Delaware and Cable Communications Management, LLC d/b/a Effectv to air a television commercial to educate Delaware County seniors and their caregivers about the service available to them through the County Office of Services for the Aging at the cost of \$40,000.00. (Funding: PA Dept of Aging) Subject to Solicitor's Approval. This motion was seconded by Mr. Madden and carried unanimously.

Motion made by Dr. Taylor to approve an Agreement between the County of Delaware and PA Departments of Aging and the Department of Human Services to develop and administer a system of preadmission assessments for the period of July 1, 2020 through June 30, 2023 at the cost of \$410,454.00. (Funding: PA Dept of Aging) Subject to Solicitor's Approval. This motion was seconded by Ms. Schaefer and carried unanimously.

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Motion made by Dr. Taylor approving a Contract between the County of Delaware and Intergraph Corporation d/b/a Hexagon Safety and Infrastructure for the performance period of 9/1/20 through 8/31/21 for annual licensing, maintenance and support of Computer Aided Dispatch Software and Services utilized by the Department of Emergency Services in the amount of \$395,843.08. Subject to the Solicitor's Approval. This motion is seconded by Ms. Reuther and carried unanimously.

Vice Chair Taylor stated this is the time we will discuss the amended agenda items added to the agenda. The first is a discussion of our Covid-19 response and reconsideration of the Guidance given/out. Lengthy Discussion followed.

**Public Comment:** Robert Miccolis, 556 W. Wayne Avenue, Wayne, PA: made comment regarding the limitation effectively shuts down almost all indoor youth sports in the County; the previous 10% of capacity limitation was mostly workable. Perhaps consideration can be given to organized and school sports programs who have strict protocols.

Gary Wootten, 14 William Howard Drive, Glen Mills, PA: made comments regarding the maximum of 10 people at an indoor gathering stating gyms ceilings are very high which allows for better air circulation and therefore further reduces risk. He also stated, "our fall sports were successful, and in some cases it even motivated kids and their family members to be more careful out of their desire to not miss their sports season".

David Langen, 14 Annesley Drive, Glen Mills, PA: asked a question on the rational with data and science for kids 18 and under as to why you want to put a mandate in to postpone winter sports until January 2nd. Mr. Langen asked how many kids 18 and under are going to the hospital. He also stated we need to have a live socially distance meeting about this topic.

Mary Austin, 1036 First Avenue, Media, PA: asked if it is possible for the County to look at the data regarding mental health cases, suicides etc. in addition to the increase in Covid numbers when determining best practices and restrictions on youth sports. Ms. Austin also asked what percentage of the increase in cases is attributed to the prison Covid cases.

Trish McFarland, 516 Kerr Lane, Springfield, PA: thanked Council for the discussion on youth sports. She stated as the president of a soccer club that she is hoping to continue indoor training as well as a parent of an AAU basketball player who has been playing since July with protocols in place to keep our players safe and can speak to the fact that we have all been wearing masks indoor and outdoor. Many sports have been operating with out spectators, just players, coaches and referees.

Councilwoman Schaefer started a discussion with regard to the Pennsylvania Department and Health & Education mandate to have schools sign an attestation with regard to contact tracing in the schools. Discussion followed.

Motion made by Ms. Schaefer to request the County's Intercommunity Health Department to request the Chester County Health Department to put in writing to the PA Department of Health & Education to reconsider and rescind the requirement that our schools attest for taking the action required under the Department of Health case identification protocols, seconded by Mr. Madden and carried unanimously.

Motion made by Dr. Taylor to appoint Elaine Paul Schaefer to the Economic Development Oversight Board to a term ending March 2021, seconded by Ms. Reuther and carried unanimously.

Motion made by Dr. Taylor to appoint Donna Silvestri as a Farm Director to the Delaware County Soil Conservation District to a term ending December 2024, seconded by Ms. Schaefer and carried unanimously.

Motion made by Dr. Taylor to appoint Wayne Megill as a Public Director to the Delaware County Soil Conservation District to a term ending December 2024, seconded Ms. Schaefer and carried unanimously.

Motion made by Dr. Taylor to appoint Elaine Paul Schaefer as a Council Member to the Delaware County Soil Conservation District to a term ending December 2021, seconded by Mr. Madden and carried unanimously.

Motion made by Dr. Taylor to appoint Robert McPherson to the Visit Delco PA Board to a term ending December 2023, seconded by Ms. Schaefer and carried unanimously.

Motion made by Dr. Taylor to appoint Joseph Neary to the Community Transit Board of Directors to a term ending December 2023, seconded by Ms. Reuther and carried unanimously.

Motion made by Dr. Taylor to Remove all current members of the Delaware County Industrial Development Authority, seconded by Mr. Madden and carried unanimously.

Motion made by Dr. Taylor to appoint Todd Farally and Dena Glaeser to the Delaware County Industrial Development Authority with a term ending December 2025, seconded by Mr. Madden and carried unanimously.

Motion made by Dr. Taylor to appoint Mark Freeman and Rita LaRue to the Delaware County Industrial Development Authority to a term ending December 2024, seconded by Mr. Madden and carried unanimously.

Motion made by Dr. Taylor to appoint Malcolm Yates to the Delaware County Industrial Development Authority to a term ending December 2023, seconded by Ms. Reuther and carried unanimously.

Motion made by Dr. Taylor to appoint Todd Strine to the Delaware County Industrial Development Authority to a term ending December 2022, seconded by Ms. Reuther and carried unanimously.

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Motion made by Dr. Taylor to appoint Brian Eury to the Delaware County Industrial Development Authority to a term ending December 2021.

Motion made by Dr. Taylor to appoint the following individuals to the Workforce Development Board for a term beginning January 1, 2021 and ending December 31, 2023:

<u>Category</u>
Business
Labor
Business
Business
Workforce Development
Government
Business
Business
Business
Economic Development
Government

This motion was seconded by Mr. Madden and carried unanimously.

Motion made by Dr. Taylor approving Request by the Controller's Office for payment of current bills seconded by Mr. Madden and carried unanimously.

Executive Director Lazarus gave and update on the County's workforce working Hybrid until January 8, 2021. He also gave an updated statement on the computer network disruption.

Chairman Zidek stated that County Council has been in executive session two times to discuss personnel issues.

**Solicitor:** Mr. Martin asked for Council's authorization to file one (1) Consent for Adoption with the Orphans Court.

Motion made by Dr. Taylor approving to file one (1) Consent for Adoption with the Orphans Court, seconded by Mr. Madden and carried unanimously.

Mr. Martin also gave an election update including the 9<sup>th</sup> Senatorial District recanvassing hearing to be held on December 17<sup>th</sup>.

**Public Comment:** Kenneth Rose, 203 Hidden Acres Lane, Media, PA: made comments regarding the election and thanked County Council and the Board of Elections for conducting a free, fair and secure election.

Mike Smith, 8 Kenmore Road, Upper Darby thanked Councilmen Madden and Zidek for responding to my Central Booking question yesterday. He asked if there is a time table as to when Central Booking gets set up.

Samantha Cox, 509 Frazer Lane, Aston, PA: made comments regarding the county employees not being paid for our earned overtime hours. She also asked a question regarding domestic relations.

Michael Straw, 499 W. Jefferson Street, Media, PA asked questions regarding the vacant lot on Front Street and Orange Street.

Ben Balker, 121 1<sup>st</sup> Avenue, Broomall, PA: asked a question regarding locations for Central Booking.

Bob DiLossi, 1931 Oak Leaf Lane, Holmes, PA: made comments regarding voter fraud.

Joseph D'Ignazio, 801 Westdale Avenue, Swarthmore, PA made a comment regarding a synergistic approach with Communities of Faith. Mr. D'Ignazio also asked to get a brief status on the RFP for the new radio communication system.

Carl Balis, 100 E. Glenolden Avenue, Glenolden, PA: asked a question regarding ending the privatization of the prison. Mr. Balis also thanked Council for their efforts this year they are appreciated not only by me but by many.

Judy Kennedy, 888 Sussex Blvd., Broomall, PA: stated she is a female owned gymnastic academy and the recent order is forcing me to close my business again. There has not been one direct case of Covid in my facility. My landlord will not give me relief. I will have to lay my employees off and to make it worse I applied for all eligible programs like Delco strong and have not been awarded any assistance.

Jim Savage, 16 Cherry Street, Upper Chichester: made a comment to publicly thank the 18 members of the Return Board (9 Republicans and 9 Democrats) for their perseverance and integrity while performing their duties during a difficult tabulation process. Their civic-mindedness is an example to all of us.

**COUNCIL:** Ms. Schaefer spoke about the Festival of Lights stating the display runs nightly from 5:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. beginning December 4<sup>th</sup> and running through January 3<sup>rd</sup>. Admission and parking are free. We will ask residents to wear masks and follow the Covid guidelines.

Dr. Taylor stated Delaware County stated due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the County will not be holding its traditional annual food drive with various collection drop offs around the county, however the County has modified its approach to still meet the critical need to help the community. Food insecurity impacts our community, and the pandemic has worsened the situation. It's important that we help our neighbors in need, especially during the holiday season. Residents are invited to donate and support the County's Food Drives. Food collected will be distributed to food pantries across the county. There are two food drives this Saturday from 9am to 11:30am at the Haverford Township Municipal Building and 1 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. at the Radnor Police Department, Dr. Taylor also let residents know that Delaware County is offering drive-thru COVID-19 testing and free drive-thru flu vaccinations at the US Army Reserve this week in Upland. COVID-19 testing is available for individuals who live or work in Delaware County. COVID-19 testing at the Upland site began on Tuesday. More details on both COVID-19 testing and the flu shot clinic can be found on the County's website.

Chairman Zidek stated we will be having a budget hearing on December 8, 2020 by Zoom at 10:00 a.m. Residents can view the presentation on Facebook or the County's website. Information is available on our front page of the website. Public comments will be taken by email at <u>publiccomments@co.delaware.pa</u> or you may telephone comments to (610) 891-4931.

There being no further County business, nor public discussion, motion made by Mr. Madden to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Dr. Taylor and carried unanimously.

ANNE M. COOGAN, County Clerk

AHF	ROD Demolition Fund	ESG-CV	ESG-CV	ESG-CV	ESG-CV	Funding
Legal Aid of Southeastern PA	Aldan Borough	Community Action Agency	Wesley House Community Corporation	ТВА	TBA	Recipient/Subrecipient
Tenant/Landlord Mediation and Legal Services	Demolition of 33 E. Providence Road	Emergency Shelter Hotel/Motel	Emergency Shelter Hotel/Motel	Credit Repair Services	Tenant/Landlord Mediation and Legal Services	Project Name
Renewal (\$25,000 Increase)	Add	Amendment Increase Allocation to a total Project Cost of \$539,741.44	Recapture unspent funds	Amendment Cancel Project	Amendment Cancel Project	Action
\$50,000.00	\$ 81,600.00	\$ 239,741.44	\$ 64,741.44	\$ 75,000.00	\$ 100,000.00	Amount

Office of Housing and Community Development

Housing and Community Development Plan Community Development Plan Amendments

DATE: December 2, 2020

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