

PRESENT: Mario J. Civera, Jr., Chairman; Colleen P. Morrone, Vice Chairman; John P. McBlain, Council Member; David J. White, Council Member; Michael F. Culp, Council Member; Edward O'Lone, Controller; Marianne Grace, Executive Director; Michael L. Maddren, Solicitor; Anne M. Coogan, County Clerk; and other department heads.

Chairman Civera called the evening meeting of April 29, 2015 (held at the Aldan Borough Rec. Center, 204 Shisler Avenue, Aldan) to order.

Chairman Civera asked Councilman McBlain, a resident of Aldan and who had served on Aldan Borough Council for seventeen years, to act as "Honorary Chairman" for tonight's County Council meeting.

Mr. McBlain asked everyone to rise for the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag led by Ron Baker and Charley Duffy, former members of the Aldan Borough Council. Rev. Paul W. Thompson, of Aldan Union Church, gave the invocation.

Mr. McBlain called on Vice Chairman Morrone to start the Agenda Items.

Motion made by Mrs. Morrone approving the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of April 22, 2015, seconded by Mr. Civera and carried unanimously.

Motion made by Mrs. Morrone approving Agenda Item 5 to Advertise for Bids to repave the Main Entrance of Fair Acres Geriatric Center, seconded by Mr. White and carried unanimously.

Motion made by Mrs. Morrone approving to Award Contract No. 47986 between the County of Delaware and J. D. Eckman, Inc. for the construction of the Chester Creek Trail at their bid price not to exceed \$6,573,713.85. The motion is subject to the Solicitor's approval, seconded by Mr. Culp and carried unanimously.

Motion made by Mrs. Morrone approving Central Tax Collection Department's request for refunds for the years 2014 and 2015 County Real Estate Taxes for 15 property owners due to the overpayment of the amount of taxes due, seconded by Mr. Civera and carried unanimously.

Motion made by Mrs. Morrone approving a Grant to the Center for Resolutions in the amount of \$25,000.00 for 2015, seconded by Mr. White and carried unanimously.

Motion made by Mrs. Morrone approving Agenda Item 9, a Professional Services Agreement between Health Access Network and the County of Delaware to provide psychiatric services at the cost of \$200.00 an hour for the period of 5/4/2015 to 12/31/2015. The motion is subject to the Solicitor's approval, seconded by Mr. Culp and carried unanimously.

Motion made by Mrs. Morrone approving to reappoint George Avetian, of Radnor Township, to the Delaware County Mental Health Intellectual Disabilities Advisory Board to a term ending May 2017, seconded by Mr. Civera and carried unanimously.

Motion made by Mrs. Morrone approving to appoint the following individuals to the Delaware County Mental Health Intellectual Disabilities Advisory Board to a term ending May 2017:

Sean Kenny
Theresa Agostinelli

Upper Darby Township
Concord Township

The motion was seconded by Mr. White and carried unanimously.

Mr. McBlain called on Mrs. Morrone to speak on the Resolution recognizing Aldan Union Church Centennial.

Mrs. Morrone said County Council is pleased to be here tonight and to recognize Aldan Union Church on their centennial celebration.

Aldan Union Church was founded in 1914 when a group of women formed a local Sunday School for neighborhood children, which met in the basement of Neighbor's Hall, on Clifton and Woodlawn Avenues, in Aldan. The Sunday School quickly grew and within a few months they began weekly preaching service on Sunday evenings. Encouraged by the growth of the Sunday School and evening service, a group of men was appointed to adopt a constitution and apply for a charter.

On July 14, 1915, Aldan Union Church was officially recognized as a non-denominational church. As the new church grew, space became a serious problem. Their prayers were answered and they were able to move into a small chapel on South Woodlawn Avenue.

In 1922, work began on the church building, which is now referred to as "the chapel." When it was completed, in 1923, church membership was 107 individuals. Today they have over 800 members.

This year, Aldan Union Church will proudly celebrate its centennial. For one-hundred years, the church has served residents of Aldan and surrounding neighborhoods, nourishing their faith and providing help for those in need.

Some of their most gratifying work has been the response of the call to Missions. Since the church was founded over 150 of its members have engaged in full-time Christian service with many others being active in the work at rescue missions, crisis pregnancy centers, prisons, children's programs and retirement homes. Currently, they have more than 40 missionaries serving locally and abroad.

Attending this evening's meeting to accept the Resolution were the following: William Ressler, Chairman of the Centennial Committee; Herb Hayes, Co-Chairman of the Centennial Committee; and Pastor Paul Thompson.

Mr. McBlain called on Mr. Culp to speak on Agenda Item 13, recognizing the work of the Aldan Boosters Civic Association.

Mr. Culp said the Aldan Boosters Civic Association is a non-profit men's organization dedicated to bringing civic activities to Aldan.

Since 1924, these volunteers have dedicated their time and talent to holding activities for families in this community. Throughout the year, they hold activities such as an Easter Egg Hunt and Christmas Tree Lighting Ceremony. This group also organizes a senior's luncheon, a Veterans Appreciation Night, Volunteer Appreciation Night and sponsors Aldan sports groups.

Santa has some very special helpers at the Aldan Boosters Civic Association. On Christmas morning the big guy himself visits children at their homes in Aldan. That is something pretty unique to Delaware County and the children look forward to it every year. It is remarkable that these men take time out of their Christmas morning to help Santa spread some personal Christmas cheer.

Thanks to the dedication of these members, the community enjoys events and activities all year long. Organizations like this are the heart and soul of our county and enhance the lives of so many families and help create priceless memories.

As you can imagine hosting so many events can be expensive and this group is also hard at work raising money to fund all their activities. This Saturday, May 2, they are holding their annual plant and flower sale from 8 A.M. to 4 P.M. in the Aldan Municipal Parking lot. Stop by if you can and help support this group and all their activities they provide for our community.

Attending this evening's meeting and to accept this Resolution were the following: Sandy Durso, President of the Aldan Boosters Civic Association; Larry Nicol, 21 year member and former President and board member; Ron Baker, 23 year member and former board member and treasurer; Mike Zavier, 24 year member and who received a lifetime achievement award; Joe Cosgrove, a 33 year member and 8-term president; Charley Duffy, a 35 year member; and George Dunton, a 26 year member.

On behalf of County Council, Mr. Culp presented a Resolution to the Aldan Booster Civic Association in recognition of their dedication to the Aldan community, especially the youth. Mr. Culp also recognized and thanked Jim Hopely, Aldan Mayor and a former board member and treasurer. He is currently recovering from an illness and was not able to attend tonight's meeting.

Mr. McBlain said when County Council holds their County Council meeting in the local municipalities they typically like to honor some local group or organization that has been important to the formation of the town. When it was brought up in terms of a visit to Aldan, there were certainly two natural choices to honor and that was the Aldan Union Church and the Aldan Boosters Civic Association. As you heard, both of these groups go back to the inception of Aldan Borough and probably the same individuals who began Aldan were the ones that were involved in the formation of the Aldan Union Church and the Aldan Boosters Civic Association.

Basically from these two great organizations sprung up every other civic organization in the borough including the Boys Club, the Girls Club, the Women's Club, the Aldan Swim Club and the Aldan Town Watch. Aldan takes pride and has an active representation in their civic associations.

Mr. McBlain said we will move on to Agenda Item 14, a Resolution declaring May 15, 2015 as Bike to Work Day in Delaware County. He called on Chairman Civera to speak on that item.

Throughout the year, Chairman Civera said the Delaware County Transportation Management Association (DCTMA) encourages residents to commute via bicycle. It's an environmentally friendly form of travel and a great way to fit in some exercise.

Each year DCTMA participates in National Bike to Work Week, held at the Delaware County Courthouse, in Media. Bike to Work Day is a chance for cycling enthusiasts to meet up, network and talk about different equipment, trails and everything bike-related. It's also a time to recognize the benefits of bike riding instead of driving to work.

This year's Bike to Work Day is being held on Friday, May 15 on the grounds of the Delaware County Government Center and Courthouse Complex at Front and Olive Streets beginning at 8:30 A.M. From points throughout Delaware County, commuters will leave their cars at home for the day and join other cyclists riding to work. County workers, as well as employees of other Media businesses, are encouraged to bike to work that day. The DCTMA is planning a big celebration for commuters who participate in Bike to Work Day, with breakfast and raffle prizes donated by local businesses. A SEPTA bus will also be on location and a driver will demonstrate how to properly load a bike onto the front of the bus.

This year the DCTMA has also launched "The Social Media Cycle Challenge." Throughout the month of May, residents are encouraged to pick a day, or several days to bike to work and take photos of themselves and their bike odometer. They can send their photos to the DCTMA via Facebook, Twitter or email for a chance to win prizes including bike gear, restaurant gift cards, salon treatments and other great prizes.

Chairman Civera introduced the following people who attended tonight's meeting to accept the Resolution: Cecile Charlton, Executive Director of DCTMA and Lauren Avellino Turton, Marketing Coordinator for DCTMA.

Chairman Civera read (in part) the following Resolution:

Whereas, the bicycle is a viable and environmentally friendly form of transportation and an excellent form of recreation and exercise, with Americans in record numbers turning to bicycling; and

Whereas, the decrease traffic congestion and to reduce the carbon footprint, the Delaware County Transportation Management Association and the Delaware County Planning Department participate in and promote Bike to Work Day, held on May 15, 2015, to encourage the use of bicycles to travel to work and other destinations; and

Whereas, in 2015 the Delaware County Transportation Management Association launched "The Social Media Cycle Challenge" to encourage residents to choose a day, or several days, in May to document their bike-riding on social media.

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved, that We, the County Council of Delaware County, hereby declare May 15, 2015 to be Bike to Work Day.

Mr. McBlain said Council was kind enough, since we are hosting this meeting in Aldan and he had the honor of serving on Aldan Council for many years, to allow him to present two Resolutions that are Aldan related.

The first special Resolution he presented was to a local Aldan resident who was born and raised in Aldan and continues to serve the Borough.

On September 5, 2014 Aldan Police Officer Kenneth Coppola, Jr. was with a small group of police officers attending a country concert in Camden, NJ. He was riding on the rear tailgate of a pickup truck to a parking spot when he fell from the truck, striking his head. He was rushed to Cooper Trauma Center, in Camden, NJ, suffering from traumatic brain injury. From there his extensive medical journey would begin and from this point on the outpouring of prayers and well-wishes would begin for this 10-year police veteran.

Ken had surgery a few days later and was in trauma intensive care for five weeks. He was then transported to Bryn Mawr Rehab where he stayed for another five weeks. After his release from Bryn Mawr Rehab, he continued to attend out-patient rehab through both Bryn Mawr and the Springfield Healthplex.

On December 10, 2014 he had a second surgery. He was cleared by his surgeon for light duty in February and for return to full duty on March 6, 2015, which was almost 6 months to the day of his accident. Some people take years to recover from this type of traumatic brain injury and sadly some never fully recover.

Experiences like this make us stop and reflect how precious life and good health is. They also show us how compassionate and supportive our county is. Fellow officers, friends and family from around the county prayed for Ken and were rooting for his recovery and his return to his career in law enforcement, which he could not wait to get back to!

Mr. McBlain said he has been friends with the Coppola family for years and prayed and rallied for him along with so many others in the county. He remembers holding his breath waiting for news after each surgery. Thankfully, he can say Ken is back doing what he loves – serving and protecting Aldan Borough.

Mr. McBlain said, when he came on Aldan Council, the very *first* vote that he cast as a council member was to hire a police chief. He cast his vote for Ken Coppola, Sr. as Aldan Police Chief. An item on the agenda at his very *last* meeting was to hire another full-time police officer. He got to cast his vote for Ken Coppola, Jr. as that police officer. Two of the best votes he ever cast, as a member of the Aldan Borough Council, was to vote for Ken Coppola, Sr. and Ken Coppola, Jr.

Police Officer Ken Coppola, Jr. said he knows God saved his life the day of the accident. He thanked Rev. Thompson, the Aldan Union Church congregation, Aldan Borough Council, Aldan Mayor Hopely, friends and family for all their prayers and good wishes.

Mr. McBlain called on Mr. White to speak on Agenda Item 15, the Resolution recognizing May as Older Americans Month.

Mr. White said Delaware County Council is pleased to recognize the many contributions of Delaware County's senior citizens during Older Americans Month. Every year since 1963, May has been designated as Older Americans Month to celebrate the vitality and achievements of our elder residents. This year's theme is "*Get into the Act*," which focuses on how seniors are engaged in their communities, making a positive impact on the lives of others.

Nearly one in every five County residents is a member of the senior generation, which comes to about 106,000 residents who are classified as "seniors." County Council recognizes the contributions of seniors to our businesses, our volunteer organizations, our veterans groups, our churches and many other valuable activities.

During the month of May, we encourage our seniors to attend the *Senior Living Expo* on May 8 at Harrah's. People 50 and older can come learn about the many County services available to them. One of our favorite annual events is the *Centenarian Luncheon*, when we recognize all

Delaware County residents who are 100 years or older and have amazing stories to tell. That wonderful celebration is May 13 at the Drexelbrook and don't forget the *Senior Games* which takes place on June 8 through 19. Every year, seniors go for the gold in bowling, swimming, basketball, table tennis, golf and track and field. Be sure to check out the Senior Games website at www.delcoseniorgames.org. This year they have added the sport of bocce.

Through the County Office of Services for the Aging (COSA), Council is dedicated to helping seniors who need assistance in maintaining their independence, dignity and quality of life. COSA offers many helpful programs including health insurance counseling, legal services, in-home support and community-based services, nursing home eligibility, senior centers and much more.

On behalf of Older Americans Month and to accept the Resolution were the following individuals: Denise Stewart, Director of COSA and Barbara Nicolardi, Planner of COSA.

Mr. White read (in part) the following Resolution:

Whereas, in recognition of the unique needs of our diverse older population and to advance and expand assistance and services to our valued seniors, the County of Delaware will continue to provide program administration, oversight and advocacy for the changing needs of our seniors to assist them to lead healthy, active and fulfilling lives.

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved, that We, the County Council of Delaware County, hereby declare May 2015 to be Older Americans Month.

Ms. Stewart said this is the 13th year for COSA and County Council to work together to recognize our older Americans, specifically during Older Americans Month. She said on May 6, the Delaware County Daily Times will run an insert about all the upcoming events. Also, on Friday, May 8 they will hold the Senior Living Expo at Harrah's starting at 9 A.M. until 1 P.M. There will be raffles, music, fitness, a pharmacist on hand, blood pressure screening, Social Security representatives and representatives from the District Attorney's Office (just to name a few) that will be at the Expo. They have over seventy vendors scheduled to participate at this year's event.

Ms. Stewart said the big event of the year is the Centenarian Luncheon, which will be held on Wednesday, May 13. They have a centenarian who is 105 years old that plans to attend the luncheon. In the past, they have even had centenarians drive themselves to the luncheon!

Ms. Stewart recognized the following Centenarian Luncheon "Gold" Level Sponsors: Bayada Home Health Care, Crozer Keystone Senior Health System, Gateway Health Plan, Home

Helpers of Drexel Hill and Media, Independence Blue Cross, Maris Grove and Victoria's Home Care.

Mr. McBlain recognized the following public officials who attended this evening's meeting: State Representative Jamie Santora, of the 163rd District; Aldan Council President Harry Short; Vice President Peggy Brooks; Borough Council members - Mike Xavier, Steve Coppola, Sal Oropolla and Carmen Maniaci. Also attending tonight was Aldan Borough Manager John White; Secretary Jen Perks; Police Chief Ken Coppola; Joe Blackburn, former Sheriff of Delaware County; and Sandy Urban.

Mr. McBlain presented his second special Resolution to Magisterial District Judge John J. Perfetti. He read the following Resolution that will be presented to him tonight.

Whereas, Magisterial District Judge John J. Perfetti began to serve the residents of Aldan, Clifton Heights and Lansdowne in 1982 as the District Justice in Magisterial District No. 32-1-26, the court of the people; and

Whereas, Judge Perfetti was elected and re-elected by the citizens of those municipalities for numerous terms of office; as a testament to his abilities and skills as a jurist, such elections were sustained by large electoral margins and often without opposition; and

Whereas, Judge Perfetti has come to be known for his even judicial temperament; his fairness to all citizens who come before him for judgment; his compassion to those deserving of same; his imposition of justice upon those unwilling to adhere to the rule of law; and the wisdom which has guided the judgments he has made; and

Whereas, in addition to his judicial duties, Judge Perfetti has distinguished himself as a valuable member of the local community, at the ready and participating in the events of our civic associations, police, firefighting and emergency responders, as well as our youth leagues, always exhibiting the ideals of justice in our community; and

Whereas, as much as Judge Perfetti has performed valued work for the citizens of his district, he has first and foremost distinguished himself with his family as a husband and father to his daughters and son; and

Whereas, Judge Perfetti, with well over three decades of distinguished judicial service, has now announced that he will relinquish those duties in May, 2015, with the full confidence of our citizenry that although he may no longer serve as a commissioned Magisterial District Judge, his dedication to his community will endure and he will embark on a new path of service to our residents.

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved, that We, the County Council of Delaware County hereby extend our appreciation and the gratitude of the citizens of Delaware County to Magisterial District Judge John J. Perfetti upon his retirement; that we honor him for the long term dedication he has exhibited to his community; that we praise him for the distinguished manner in which he has performed his judicial duties; and that we thank him for a job well done.

Judge Perfetti said it was an honor and a privilege to serve the Borough of Aldan for over 33 years. The citizens of Aldan have always treated him well and he thanked them for their confidence in him.

Mr. McBlain asked Mrs. Morrone to continue with the Agenda Items.

Motion made by Mrs. Morrone approving the request by the Controller's Office for payment of current bills, seconded by Chairman Civera and carried unanimously.

SOLICITOR: Mr. Maddren asked for Council's authorization to file two (2) Petitions for the Involuntary Termination of Parental Rights with the Orphans Court.

Motion made by Mrs. Morrone approving to file two (2) Petitions for the Involuntary Termination of Parental Rights with the Orphans Court, seconded by Mr. White and carried unanimously.

DISCUSSION: Barry Pinkowicz, 3155 Richard Road, Aston, PA, said a few words about the Chester Creek Trail Project.

There being no further County business, nor public discussion, motion made by Mr. McBlain to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Mrs. Morrone and carried unanimously.


ANNE M. COOGAN, County Clerk

TRANSCRIBED BY: Nancy Scallan