

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 regular meeting of March 29, 2017 to order followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag led by Barbara Selletti, of the World War I Centennial Committee. Bill Lovejoy, of the Office of Veterans Affairs, gave the invocation.

Chairman Civera called on Vice Chairman Morrone to start today's Agenda Items.

Motion made by Mrs. Morrone approving Item 4, the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of March 22, 2017, seconded by Mr. McBlain and carried unanimously.

Motion made by Mrs. Morrone approving to advertise the County's Proposed FY 2017 Community Development Block Grant Action Plan, seconded by Mr. White and carried unanimously.

Motion made by Mrs. Morrone approving to purchase one (1) 2017 Dodge Caravan SE from Videon Chrysler/Dodge of Newtown Square, on COSTARS Contract No. 026-065, for a cost not to exceed \$22,463.00 (Funding: COSA). The motion is subject to the Solicitor's approval, seconded by Mr. Culp and carried unanimously.

Chairman Civera called on Solicitor Maddren to speak on Agenda Item 7.

Solicitor Maddren said on March 16 and March 23 we advertised today as the date for public comment and consideration of the Economic Development Plan which is a component of the County's Comprehensive Plan, a.k.a. Delaware County 2035. This Plan has been available electronically and in hard copy to the public. It is appropriate at this time for Chairman Civera to call for any public comment on the proposed Plan.

Chairman Civera called for public comment on the proposed Economic Development Plan as a component of Delaware County 2035. There was no public comment(s).

Solicitor Maddren said it was now appropriate for Chairman Civera to enter a motion on this item.

Motion made by Mrs. Morrone approving the Economic Development Plan as a component of Delaware County 2035. The motion is subject to the Solicitor's approval, seconded by Mr. McBlain and carried unanimously.

Motion made by Mrs. Morrone approving an Amendment to an Agreement with Tyler Technologies, Inc. for the period January 1, 2017 through December 31, 2017 IAS World

CAMA/AA Maintenance and Support in the amount of \$96,375.00. The motion is subject to the Solicitor's approval, seconded by Mr. White and carried unanimously.

Chairman Civera called on Joe Dougherty, Director of Human Services, to speak on Agenda Item 9.

Mr. Dougherty asked for Council's approval of four (4) Subsidized Day Care Providers with Child Care Information Services. There are no County dollars associated with the approval of this item.

Motion made by Mrs. Morrone approving Agreements, Contracts and Amendments with the Human Services Provider of Services. The motion is subject to the Solicitor's approval, seconded by Mr. Culp and carried unanimously.

Chairman Civera spoke on Agenda Item 10, a Resolution commemorating the Centennial of World War I.

Chairman Civera said it has been said that World War I is America's forgotten war, even though more Americans gave their lives during that war than during Korea and Vietnam combined, and even though it profoundly shaped the rest of the 20th Century.

This year, April 6th, will mark the Centennial of the Great War, known as the war to end all wars. One-hundred years ago, in response to threats to our most precious liberty and in defense of our national security, millions of men and women responded to the call, including 280 from Delaware County who made the ultimate sacrifice with their lives. Those brave individuals' names are memorialized on Delaware County's World War I monument at the entrance to Smedley Park, which straddles the Crum Creek in Springfield and Nether Providence Townships.

Although there are no more World War I veterans alive to tell us about it themselves, a group of dedicated individuals in Delaware County is making sure these heroes are not forgotten. Spearheaded by historian Anthony Selletti, local historical societies, veterans and other organizations came together last October with the shared goal to commemorate the men and women in the Delaware County community who served or provided aid during the Great War.

The Committee is using this year's Centennial as an opportunity to raise awareness about the war, to honor the heroism and sacrifice of those Americans who served through public programs and initiatives. The Centennial Committee has planned various events, including tours, lectures, poppy plantings and documentary series to create public awareness of the great deeds and sacrifices of a patriotic generation of Americans. On Saturday, April 8th, County Council will join the Centennial Committee for a ceremony planned to take place in the Honorable John V. Diggins Ceremonial Courtroom #1.

In conjunction with this event, packets of red poppy seeds are being provided by Destination Delco, our Tourism Bureau, and distributed to homes, historic properties and gardens throughout Delaware County for planting in early spring for a summer and late-summer bloom as part of the "*Paint Delaware County Red*" Program.

Inspired by the poem "Flanders Field," written in 1915 by Canadian Physician Lieutenant Colonel John McCrea who wrote the poem in memory of the death of a friend who died in the Great War. The poem and the image of the red poppies that grew over the graves of fallen soldiers became one of the most recognizable memorial symbols of soldiers who died in combat.

Red poppies have also been the inspiration of many artists, including Delaware County's own George Rothacker, who painted the beautiful poppy painting that is on display today in our meeting room. George is also the Creative Director for Destination Delco's Poppy Program.

Chairman Civera acknowledged the following individuals who attended this morning's meeting to accept a Resolution: Anthony and Barbara Selletti, Delco WWI Centennial Committee; Tore Fiore, Executive Director, Destination Delco; George Rothacker, Creative Director/Artist "Paint Delco Red"; Judy Reese and her service dog "Shakespeare"; Delco WWI Centennial Committee; Harry Seth, Commander/American Legion Post 94; and George Fritzingler, Past Commander/American Legion Post 94.

Mr. Fiore thanked County Council for inviting them to this morning's Council Meeting and for recognizing the upcoming Centennial of WWI. He said "Shakespeare," the service dog here today, is a Bouvier des Flanders, a herding dog breed which originated in Flanders and was used in the trenches with the soldiers during the war. The dog had a cart attached to him/her and would go up and down the trenches dropping off supplies and picking up wounded soldiers.

Mr. Fiore asked Anthony Selletti to come up and say a few words.

Mr. Selletti said he and his wife Barbara have been involved with the WWI Committee in Pennsylvania and the National Commission since 2014. They thought they would bring this to Delaware County because this county is deep in history, not just WWI but going back to the founding of the State of Pennsylvania.

He met with Mr. Fiore on Columbus Day, 2014 when they transferred some ideas back and forth. The poppies blooming across Delaware County was Tore's idea. It is a seed that was planted and has now bloomed. The initial purchase of poppy seeds was 10,000 packets and has since turned into 20,000 seed packets.

Mr. Fiore called on George Rothacker to say a few words.

Mr. Rothacker said the poppy seed packets are being distributed through 10-12 Delaware County libraries and garden centers such as Linvilla Orchards and Wolff's Apple House. You can check out the poppy distributions and activities planned for the Centennial on their website at www.wwonedelco.com.

As another point of history, Mr. Rothacker said Delaware County produced 33% of all the guns and rifles that were used in WWI, producing more than any other area of the country. Also, the 1917 Eddystone Ammunition Corporation Disaster will also be commemorized on April 8 at the Chester Rural Cemetery as part of this WWI Centennial recognition. These are things that people do not know about. Anthony and Barbara Selletti have (kind of) encouraged and sometimes forced us all to look at which creates quite a ceremony.

Lastly, Mr. Fiore thanked County Council for getting behind this and they appreciate all their help, efforts and their involvement.

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

SOLICITOR: Mr. Maddren asked for Council's authorization to file one (1) Petition for the Voluntary/Involuntary Termination of Parental Rights, one (1) Petition for the Voluntary Termination of Parental Rights and two (2) Consents for Adoption with the Orphans Court.

Motion made by Mrs. Morrone approving to file one (1) Petition for the Voluntary/Involuntary Termination of Parental Rights, one (1) Petition for the Voluntary Termination of Parental Rights and two (2) Consents for Adoption with the Orphans Court, seconded by Mr. White and carried unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENT: No public comment(s).

COUNCIL: Mr. Culp thanked Tore and the Centennial Committee for the great job they are doing preparing for this Centennial recognition.

Mr. White extended good wishes to the Centennial Committee over the next 6-8 months. Council appreciates all the hard work Tore and the Committee have put into this event so far.

Mr. McBlain echoed the comments made by the other Council members. Many thanks to the Centennial Committee for the work they have done thus far and will continue to do over the rest of the year. It is fascinating to hear stories, like the production of the firearms, and so many historical events in our country's history. You don't have to look too far to find a Delaware County connection to something important. Thanks for keeping that alive.

Mr. McBlain said we have two significant matters on our Agenda this morning, the advertisement of the 2017 Community Development Block Grant Action Plan and the Economic Development Plan as component of our overall Comprehensive Plan.

Many thanks to our Planning Department for helping Council to get the Community Development Block Grant Action Plan together. There is a lot of work that goes on behind the scenes that will aid some of our neediest municipalities and agencies and residents.

He believes that Delaware County is the best planned and laid out county of all our neighbors. We have continued to work on upgrading our Comprehensive Plan and not only in the areas of our Parks, Open Space and Recreation Plan and our Economic Development Plan.

Lastly, Mr. McBlain announced the Dog License and Microchip Clinic that will take place on Saturday, April 8 from 9 A.M. to Noon at Rose Tree Park, rain or shine, in the Maintenance Building adjacent to the Hunt Club at the park.

Delaware County Council is partnering with the Delaware County Kennel Club to provide free microchips to any Delaware County dog. A small electronic chip, approximately the size of a grain of rice, will be implanted in the dog and scanned on site to ensure it is functioning properly.

Delaware County dog owners have a unique opportunity to enjoy a walk in the park, while enhancing their dog's safety by getting a 2017 license and microchip all at the same time.

Mrs. Morrone extended her congratulations to the WWI group that has been working diligently and putting these events together to recognize the Centennial. She wished them all the best in the planting of the poppy seeds. Also, she extended her thanks to the Planning Department for their work on the 2035 Plan.

Chairman Civera thanked everyone for attending today's meeting. Many thanks to Anthony and Barbara Selletti for all the work they have done so far and to everyone on the WWI Centennial Committee. The County Planning Department continues to do an excellent job.

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

ANNE M. COOGAN, County Clerk

RECORDED BY: N. J. Scallan