



DAUPHIN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

WORKSHOP MEETING

NOVEMBER 23, 2022

10:00 A.M.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Mike Pries, Chairman
Chad Saylor, Vice Chairman
George P. Hartwick, III, Secretary (Virtual)

STAFF PRESENT

J. Scott Burford, Chief Clerk; Joseph A. Curcillo, III, Esq., Solicitor; Mary K. Bateman, Controller; Chris Davis, Director of Budget & Finance; Fred Lighty, Esq., Solicitor's Office; Rebecca McCullough, Esq., Solicitor's Office; Brett Hambright, Press Secretary; Gerald Feaser, Jr., Director of Voter Registration/Elections; Jennifer Simpson, Court Administration; Chris Spackman, Voter Registration/Elections; Donna Miller, Risk Manager; Katie Hornberger, Human Resources; Vince Paese, Treasurer; Jessica Spandler, Commissioners' Office; Julie Mackey, Commissioners' Office; Security Guard; and Richie-Ann Martz, Assistant Chief Clerk

GUESTS PRESENT

James Roxbury and Rev. Earl Harris

MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Pries, Chairman of the Board, called the meeting to order at 10:01 a.m.

MOMENT OF SILENCE

Everyone observed a moment of silence.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Everyone stood for the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

There are three sets of Meeting Minutes that will be considered at next week's Legislative Meeting.

EXECUTIVE SESSIONS HELD BETWEEN MEETINGS

No Executive Sessions were held between meetings.

ELECTION BOARD

A complete set of Election Board Meeting Minutes are on file in the Commissioners' Office.

DEPARTMENT DIRECTORS/GUESTS

There was none.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

There was none.

HUMAN RESOURCES

Ms. Hornberger asked if there were any questions regarding the Salary Board Packet and the Personnel Packet. There was none. She asked for a vote on Items 21, 27 and 37 of the Personnel Packet.

It was moved by Mr. Hartwick and seconded by Mr. Saylor that the Board approve Items 21, 27, and 37 of the Personnel Packet.

Question: Mr. Pries – Aye; Mr. Saylor – Aye; and Mr. Hartwick – Aye; motion carried.

The Salary Board Packet and the Personnel Packet will be considered at next week's Legislative Meeting.

DIRECTOR OF BUDGET & FINANCE – CHRIS DAVIS

Purchase Orders

Mr. Davis reported that there are no changes to the Purchase Order Packet that was distributed yesterday. Any budget adjustments will be made prior to next week.

The Purchase Order Packet will be considered at next week's Legislative Meeting.

Presentation of the 2023 Dauphin County Calendar Year Budget

Mr. Davis reported on the 2023 Calendar Year Budget. The General Fund has an increase of 2.17% - \$4,701,393. The total overall budget, including the different funds is 2.25% or \$6,381,734.

Key General Fund highlights, factors, and assumptions contained in the 2023 Proposed Budget are:

1. No tax increase for 2023.
2. Salary increases are included for all union contract employees for 2022. Salary increases for non-union employees is 2.95%.
3. There were eight new full-time positions requested by County departments for 2023. Five were approved. Two positions were abolished reducing the overall costs to the budget.
4. \$960,000 is included for County guarantees on the Harrisburg Incinerator debt per the terms of the Harrisburg Recovery Plan. \$441,737 is still owed Dauphin County from the \$8.5 million agreed upon settlement of the plan. That amount is not included as revenue in the 2023 budget.
5. \$1.9 million is included in the proposed budget to cover the ash disposal costs of the Harrisburg Incinerator for 2023. The total cost to the County for the first three years of the obligation, which started in 2021, will be approximately \$6.31 million.
6. \$1,500,000 is included to cover the County guaranty on the Harrisburg Parking Authority debt payment due on 1/1/24. The County guaranty was also drawn upon in December 2021 for the 1/1/22 payment due on this same debt. That payment was approximately \$810,000.
7. A \$1,000,000 vacancy adjustment is included to reflect the salary/benefit savings achieved by holding positions vacant through the quarterly hiring window dates.

Mr. Pries thanked Mr. Davis and staff, as well as the Row Officers, Courts, and Directors for working together.

Mr. Saylor stated that the Board just completed the budget hearings with every department. When it was first presented, the General Fund was \$222,100,000 and now it is \$221,600,000. He discussed the workforce. There are vacancies at the Prison and the Sheriff's Office. Five new positions were approved. Some of these positions will help with the overtime issues. More work needs to be done prior to the adoption of the budget.

Mr. Hartwick stated that it is becoming more difficult to run a government with rising costs and workforce retention challenges. The directors were asked to focus on the

revenue side of the budget. We need creative thinking on how we continue to run a high level of government. We need to fund operations without relying on the general fund. He thanked all the directors and row officers for their continued teamwork.

Mr. Pries stated that the Board went over the budget line item by line item. This budget will be the 18th year without a tax increase, which only happens by working together.

It was moved by Mr. Saylor and seconded by Mr. Hartwick that the Board approve the laying of the 2023 Calendar Year Budget on the table for the 20-day public review process. Adoption is scheduled for December 14, 2022.

Question: Mr. Pries – Aye; Mr. Saylor – Aye; and Mr. Hartwick – Aye; motion carried.

SOLICITOR’S REPORT – JOSEPH A. CURCILLO, III, ESQ.

Mr. Curcillo had nothing to report but noted that the items listed on the Solicitor’s Report will be ready for consideration at next week’s Legislative Meeting. No questions were asked.

CHIEF CLERK’S REPORT – J. SCOTT BURFORD

Mr. Burford had nothing to report. No questions were asked.

TRAINING PACKET

It was moved by Mr. Saylor and seconded by Mr. Pries that the Board approve Item #1 of the Training Packet.

Question: Mr. Pries – Aye; Mr. Saylor – Aye; and Mr. Hartwick – Aye; motion carried.

MATTERS REQUIRING BOARD ACTION

- A. Amendment #1 to PCCD Subgrant 2018/2019/2020-JG-LS-32924-2 - Behavioral Health Unit-Assistant District Attorney - Modified Project Period 1/1/2022 to 6/30/2023.

It was moved by Mr. Saylor and seconded by Mr. Hartwick that the Board approve Item A listed above under Matters Requiring Board Action.

Discussion: Mr. Saylor asked for a listing of all position that have been created through PCCD grants and the status of the grant funds.

Question: Mr. Pries – Aye; Mr. Saylor – Aye; and Mr. Hartwick – Aye; motion carried.

COMMISSIONERS' COMMENTS

The Commissioners wished the employees a Happy Thanksgiving!

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

There was none.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, it was moved by Mr. Saylor and seconded by Mr. Hartwick that the Board adjourn; motion carried.

Transcribed by: Richie-Ann Martz