

**COMMISSIONERS' PUBLIC MEETING**  
**July 15, 2010**

The Armstrong County Board of Commissioners' Public Meeting was called to order on Thursday, July 1, 2010, at 1:30 PM in the Commissioners' Conference Room with the following in attendance: Commissioners Patricia L. Kirkpatrick and Richard L. Fink, Beth Marangoni – Armstrong County Commissioners Office, Mitch Fryer – Leader Times, Josh Walzak – Leader Vindicator, Dave Croyle – Kittanning Paper, Justin Nolder – Armstrong County Economic Development, Rich Palilla – Director, Armstrong County Planning and Development, Darin Alviano – Armstrong County Planning and Development, Carmen Johnson – Armstrong County Planning and Development, Myra Miller – Armstrong County Controller, Janet Talerico – Armstrong County Area Agency on Aging, David Hartman – Director, Armstrong County Probation, Maryanne Koleny – Director, Armstrong County Human Resources

Ms. Kirkpatrick announced that this meeting is being recorded.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

On a motion by Mr. Fink, seconded by Ms. Kirkpatrick and carried unanimously, the minutes for the July 1, 2010 Public Meeting were approved.

**BID OPENING**

**Opening of Armsdale Road Paving Project**

The following bids were received:

Bidders	Envelope Titled & Sealed	Bid Bond or Check	Total Bid Amount
Force, Inc.	Indiana, PA	Bid Bond	Option 1 - \$57,345
A. Folino Construction, Inc.	Oakmont, PA	Bid Bond	Option 1 - \$66,996
Force, Inc.	Indiana, PA	Bid Bond	Option 2 - \$30,498
A. Folino Construction, Inc.	Oakmont, PA	Bid Bond	Option 2 - \$37,359

Option one includes paving and widening of the drive in front of the Armsdale Administration building and paving around the recycling center. Option two consists of paving and widening the drive in front of the Armsdale Administration building only. On a motion by Mr. Fink, seconded by Ms. Kirkpatrick and approved unanimously, based on the recommendation of Mr. Palilla and Mr. Alviano, the County Commissioners tabled the bids for further review and tabulation.

**CONTRACTS / AGREEMENTS**

**McAuley Bridge Engineering Agreement**

On a motion by Mr. Fink, seconded by Ms. Kirkpatrick and carried unanimously, based on the recommendation of Mr. Palilla and Mr. Alviano, the County Commissioners approved the

agreement between Armstrong County and Senate Engineering. This agreement will be able to be reimbursed through the state and federal governments.

Letter Agreement for Pennsylvania Business Retention & Expansion Program

On a motion by Mr. Fink, seconded by Ms. Kirkpatrick and carried unanimously, based on the recommendation of Mr. Nolder, the County Commissioners approved the Letter Agreement between the Armstrong County Economic Development and Southwestern Pennsylvania Corporation.

Memorandum of Understanding

On a motion by Mr. Fink, seconded by Ms. Kirkpatrick and carried unanimously, based on the recommendation of Mr. Hartman, the County Commissioners approved the Memorandum of Understanding between the Armstrong County and the County Commissioners Association of Pennsylvania. This memorandum will help the District Attorney's office, the Jail and the Probation office share information with each other.

Group Accident, Death and Dismemberment Insurance Policy

On a motion by Mr. Fink, seconded by Ms. Kirkpatrick and carried unanimously, based on the recommendation of Ms. Koleny, the County Commissioners approved the Group Accident, Death and Dismemberment Insurance Policy between Armstrong County and Cigna. Ms. Koleny stated that the county will be saving a few thousand dollars over a two-year period with Cigna.

Contract Agreement for Construction

On a motion by Mr. Fink, seconded by Ms. Kirkpatrick and carried unanimously, the County Commissioners approved, pending solicitor's review, the agreement between Armstrong County Area Agency on Aging and CNC Construction. This agreement is for renovations for the Leechburg VFW Building kitchen, which houses the Leechburg Senior Center.

Contract for Physician Consultant Services

On a motion by Mr. Fink, seconded by Ms. Kirkpatrick and carried unanimously, the County Commissioners approved the contract between Armstrong County Area Agency on Aging and Dr. Frederick Doefler. This contract is on an as needed basis and is \$75.00 per review.

Contract for Legal Services

On a motion by Mr. Fink, seconded by Ms. Kirkpatrick and carried unanimously, the County Commissioners approved the contract between Armstrong County Area Agency on Aging and Joseph Caruso. This contract is for Legal Services (Emergency Intervention) on an as needed basis for \$80.00 per hour.

Contract for Legal Services

On a motion by Mr. Fink, seconded by Ms. Kirkpatrick and carried unanimously, the County Commissioners approved the contract between Armstrong County Area Agency on Aging and

James Favero. This contract is for Legal Services (Conflicts) on an as needed basis for \$55.00 per hour.

Contract for Nursing Home Placement

On a motion by Mr. Fink, seconded by Ms. Kirkpatrick and carried unanimously, the County Commissioners approved the contract between Armstrong County Area Agency on Aging and Armstrong County Health Center. This contract is for Nursing Home Placement (Emergency) on an as needed basis at what the in rate is at the Health Center.

Contract for Boarding Home Placement

On a motion by Mr. Fink, seconded by Ms. Kirkpatrick and carried unanimously, the County Commissioners approved the contract between the Armstrong County Area Agency on Aging and Melody Manor. This contract is for Boarding Home Emergency Placement with a rate of \$35.00 per day.

Change Order #1 Kittanning Borough Multiple Paving Projects

On a motion by Mr. Fink, seconded by Ms. Kirkpatrick and carried unanimously, the County Commissioners approved, pending solicitor's review, the change order between Armstrong County, Kittanning Borough and Senate Engineering. This change order will increase the contracted amount by \$2,300, taking the total to \$21,800, which will still be within the budgeted amount.

Change Order #2 Kittanning Borough Multiple Paving Projects

On a motion by Mr. Fink, seconded by Ms. Kirkpatrick and carried unanimously, the County Commissioners approved, pending solicitor's review, the change order with Armstrong County, Kittanning Borough and Shields Asphalt Paving, Inc. This change order decreases the amount by \$32,872.27.

Agreement for Electric Supply

On a motion by Mr. Fink, seconded by Ms. Kirkpatrick and carried unanimously, the County Commissioners approved, pending solicitor's and financial manager's review, the agreement between Armstrong County and FirstEnergy Solutions Corporation

**RESOLUTIONS**

Resolution 2010-14 Releasing the Armstrong County Non-Profit Housing Corporation

On a motion by Mr. Fink seconded by Ms. Kirkpatrick and carried unanimously, the County Commissioners acknowledged Resolution 2010-11 releasing the Armstrong County Non-Profit Housing Corporation from further liability of a loan from 1983 with approximately \$20,000 as a balance. This resolution will allow the closing of a few government grants.

## **PRESENTATION**

### **Power of 32**

Ms. Kirkpatrick spoke about the upcoming community conversations organized by Power of 32 to take place throughout the tri-state region. These conversations aim to involve the community in what the Power of 32 is striving toward. The conversations in Armstrong County kick off on July 27, 2010, with a Community Conversation and Lunch event planned at the IUP Northpointe Campus. Additional events of a similar nature will follow, including one that is scheduled at the Belmont Complex on August 25, 2010.

## **OTHER BUSINESS / PUBLIC COMMENT**

Ms. Kirkpatrick opened the meeting to comments and questions.

Mr. Fink discussed a one and a half year study recently completed by County Commissioner Association of Pennsylvania. The study recommends improve communication between the Courts, District Attorney, Public Defender, Probation and the Jail. This will help ensure, for example, that inmates are not held longer than necessary at a cost to the county.

Ms. Kirkpatrick informed the public of a forum that is being hosted by the University Of Pittsburgh Institute of Politics and the Pittsburgh Foundation. The forum, "The Impact of Potential Future Revenue Losses on Local Governments and Possible Responses," will include speakers from national, state and local levels to discuss both short and long term future financial forecasts.

As a presenter at the event, 'Perspective of Boroughs, Townships, Counties and Councils of Government.', Ms. Kirkpatrick will be speaking on the county perspective. Her presentation will include a report on the creative cost-saving measures of county departments and agencies. Ms. Kirkpatrick praised the Criminal Justice Advisory Board and the Jail staff for working to keep costs down even with the high volume of inmates.

The high volume of inmates stem from the reductions in the state budget of the past few years. The Human Services Development Fund has been reduced by at least 30% in the past two years. Because cuts in funding lead to cuts in services, many people are not getting the treatment that they need, which leads them to county court and jail systems.

Mr. Fink remarked that the Township Association is also currently addressing the ramifications that the cuts at the national and state level have on the local level of government.

Mr. Fryer asked for clarification on the Memo of Understanding for the Data Quality Project. Mr. Fink and Ms. Kirkpatrick stated that the recommendation was give to allow the necessary departments to be able to communicate with each other. Currently there is no physical way to merge documents from other departments. This system will allow that to happen. The project will start in the next few weeks.

Mr. Croyle asked for more information on the resolution to release the Non-Profit Housing Authority from further liability of \$20,000 left on the loan from 1983. Mr. Palilla explained that with every lot that is sold in the Elderton Heights Plan, part of the profit goes to the county and another part to the federal government. Mr. Palilla believes that even though the loan was not paid in full,

the housing plan is still an investment, with close to \$14,000 per year coming into the county for property taxes.

Mr. Nolder addressed Mr. Croyle's question about the Pennsylvania Business Retention & Expansion Program. This program allows the Economic Development Department to visit a certain number of businesses in the county based on guidelines from the Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development.

These visits not only help the department to learn about the businesses it also helps to determine the needs of the businesses and how the Economic Development Department can help them. This program has been in existence for years, not only helping new businesses, but also helping the businesses expand beyond what they started with.

Once the site visit is complete, the businesses are entered into a statewide database for future reference. This program, like many others, has had its funding cut in the state budget over the past few years.

### **ADJOURN**

On a motion by Mr. Fink, seconded by Ms. Kirkpatrick and carried unanimously, the Commissioners moved to adjourn the Public Meeting at 2:14 PM. The next Public Meeting will be held Thursday, August 5, 2010 at 1:30 PM.