

Minutes of the Schuylkill Tax Collection Committee Meeting September 23, 2014

The Schuylkill Tax Collection Committee (STCC) held a meeting on Tuesday, September 23, 2014, in Courtroom 1 of the Schuylkill County Courthouse, 401 North Second Street, Pottsville, PA 17901.

Larry Padora, Chairman, called the meeting to order at 6:02 p.m., followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag. It was verified that a quorum was present.

Officers Present: Larry Padora (Chairman), Leo Schwartz (Co-Chairman), Gail Stehr (Secretary), Kim Umphrey (Treasurer)

Others Present: Paul Datte (Solicitor)

Members Present:

Auburn Boro	Cressona Boro	East Brunswick Twp.	New Ringgold Boro
North Manheim Twp.	Orwigsburg Boro	Wayne Twp.	West Brunswick Twp.
Minersville Area SD	Branch Twp.	Cass Twp.	Conyngham Twp.
Ringtown Boro	Washington Twp.	Mechanicsville Boro	Mt. Carbon Boro
Norwegian Twp.	Port Carbon Boro	Pottsville City	Blythe Twp.
East Norwegian Twp.	New Castle Twp.	St. Clair Boro	Schuylkill Haven Area SD
Landingville Boro	South Manheim Twp.	Shenandoah Boro	Schuylkill Twp.
Tamaqua Boro	Upper Mahantongo Twp.		

Members Absent:

Blue Mountain SD	Deer Lake Boro	Mahanoy Area SD	Delano Twp.
Gilberton Boro	Mahanoy City Boro	Mahanoy Twp.	Rush Twp.
Ryan Twp.	Foster Twp.	Minersville Boro	Reilly Twp.
North Schuylkill SD	Ashland Boro	Butler Twp.	Frackville Boro
Girardville Boro	Gordon Boro	Union Twp.	Pine Grove Area SD
Frailey Twp.	Pine Grove Boro	Pine Grove Twp.	Tremont Boro
Tremont Twp.	Pottsville Area SD	Palo Alto Boro	Saint Clair Area SD
Middleport Boro	New Philadelphia Boro	Port Clinton Boro	Schuylkill Haven Boro
Shenandoah Valley SD	West Mahanoy Twp.	Tamaqua Area SD	Rush Twp.
Walker Twp.	West Penn Twp.	Tri-Valley SD	Barry Twp.
Eldred Twp.	Hegins Twp.	Hublely Twp.	

I. Delegate/Public Comment on Agenda Items – None

II. Approval of Minutes (9/24/13, 3/25/14, 6/24/14)

Linda Tarlecki (Conyngham Twp.) made the motion to approve the minutes from September 24, 2013, March 25, 2014, and June 24, 2014. The motion was seconded by Julian Milewski (Ringtown Boro) and passed by a unanimous vote. (Copy of minutes on file.)

III. Treasurer's Report

Kim Umphrey (Schuylkill Haven Area SD) reviewed the Treasurer's Report dated September 23, 2014, showing an ending balance of \$145,045.60.

Linda Tarlecki made the motion, which was seconded by Jen Laudeman (Minersville Area SD), to approve the Treasurer's Report dated September 23, 2014. Motion passed unanimously. (Copy of report on file.)

IV. Old Business

A. Bond Settlement Check

Larry Padora (New Ringgold Boro) suggested leaving the money from the bond settlement sit in the Schuylkill TCC savings account. This way a reassessment will not need to be prepared on the municipalities and school districts. It was the consensus of the delegates to leave the money where it is currently.

V. New Business

A. Exploratory Committee – In-House Collection

Larry Padora stated he would like to have two delegates from the school districts and two delegates from the municipalities to form an exploratory committee regarding in-house collection. Judy Bubeck (Cressona Boro) responded she thinks we should wait till there are more people present at the meeting to discuss this. Things have just gotten settled with Berkheimer. Larry noted this is something that would take years to get started and it would just be exploratory for right now. Berks County has been collecting in-house for years. It was questioned if a building would be needed, to which the response was yes.

Solicitor Datte noted he is not aware of any complaints regarding Berkheimer, but their contract is up in 2015, and he doesn't want the TCC to get hit with high rates. He feels it is important for Berkheimer to know the TCC is exploring. Harry Ebling (Branch Twp.) stated there are quite a few counties that collect their own taxes and he would volunteer to be on the committee.

Larry Padora was under the impression that Berkheimer would be at tonight's meeting and he does not know why they are not. Leo Schwartz (Pottsville City) noted they should be here for December's meeting.

VI. Delegate Public Comment – None

VII. Next Meeting – December 16, 2014, at 6:00 p.m.

VII. Adjournment

On a motion by Julian Milewski and seconded by Roland Price (St. Clair Boro), the meeting adjourned at 6:15 p.m.

Gail A. Stehr, TCC Secretary