

Minutes of the Schuylkill Tax Collection Committee Meeting March 24, 2015

The Schuylkill Tax Collection Committee (STCC) held a meeting on Tuesday, March 24, 2015, in the Commissioner's Board Room in the Schuylkill County Courthouse, 401 North Second Street, Pottsville, PA 17901.

Larry Padora, Chairman, called the meeting to order at 6:00 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 (Vice-Chairman), Gail Stehr (Secretary), Kim Umphrey (Treasurer)

Others Present: Paul Datte (Solicitor), Ashley Levine (Berkheimer), Susan Ruch (Berkheimer)

Members Present:

| | | | |
|-----------------------|-----------------------|---------------------|-----------------------|
| Blue Mountain SD | Auburn Boro | Cressona Boro | Deer Lake Boro |
| East Brunswick Twp. | New Ringgold Boro | North Manheim Twp. | Orwigsburg Boro |
| Wayne Twp. | West Brunswick Twp. | Mahanoy Area SD | Minersville Area SD |
| Branch Twp. | Cass Twp. | North Schuylkill SD | Conyngham Twp. |
| Gordon Boro | Ringtown Boro | Pine Grove Area SD | Washington Twp. |
| Pottsville Area SD | Mechanicsville Boro | Mt. Carbon Boro | Norwegian Twp. |
| Pottsville City | New Castle Twp. | St. Clair Boro | Schuylkill Haven Boro |
| Port Clinton Boro | Schuylkill Haven Boro | South Manheim Twp. | Schuylkill Twp. |
| Upper Mahantongo Twp. | | | |

Members Absent:

| | | | |
|------------------|-----------------------|-------------------|----------------------|
| Delano Twp. | Gilberton Boro | Mahanoy City Boro | Mahanoy Twp. |
| Rush Twp. | Ryan Twp. | Foster Twp. | Minersville Boro |
| Reilly Twp. | Ashland Boro | Butler Twp. | Frackville Boro |
| Girardville Boro | Union Twp. | Frailey Twp. | Pine Grove Boro |
| Pine Grove Twp. | Tremont Boro | Tremont Twp. | Palo Alto Boro |
| Port Carbon Boro | Saint Clair Area SD | Blythe Twp. | East Norwegian Twp. |
| Middleport Boro | New Philadelphia Boro | Landingville Boro | Shenandoah Valley SD |
| Shenandoah Boro | West Mahanoy Twp. | Tamaqua Area SD | Rush Twp. |
| Tamaqua Boro | 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. Treasurer's Report

Kim Umphrey (Schuylkill Haven Area SD) reviewed the Treasurer's Report dated March 24, 2015, showing an ending balance of \$140,747.94. The only activity was two insurance payments, meeting notice advertisement and interest.

Linda Tarlecki (Conyngham Twp.) made the motion, which was seconded by Julian Milewski (Ringtown Boro) to approve the Treasurer's Report dated March 24, 2015. Motion passed unanimously. (Copy of report on file.)

III. Minutes (September 23, 2014 & December 16, 2014)

It was noted that the delegate for Port Clinton Boro had not signed in at the December 16, 2014, meeting. With the addition of that borough being present at the meeting, it made a majority of the delegates in attendance, which would suffice for the Berkheimer Contract vote to pass. A copy of the revised changes to the minutes will be included with the next meeting attachments.

On a motion by Julian Milewski and seconded by Linda Tarlecki, the minutes from September 23, 2014, and December 16, 2014 (with changes noted) were approved by a unanimous vote. (Copy of minutes on file.)

IV. Old Business

A. Berkheimer Update

Susan Ruch (Berkheimer) noted she has reviewed the collections and they are looking good. They are up about 15%.

B. Exploratory Committee for In-House Collection

Discussion took place regarding gathering information for the Schuylkill TCC to do in-house collection. Harry Ebling (Branch Twp.) volunteered to be on the committee. Mike Sokoloski (Blue Mountain SD) stated he previously worked in an EIT office and it is a lot of work to do the collection. Leo Schwartz (Pottsville City) responded that the Exploratory Committee is to just look at the costs involved, get ideas, etc. He suggested the committee could contact Berks County, whom already does in-house collection, to gather facts and bring information back to the TCC as a whole. Solicitor Datte also commented in-house collection should be explored in order for the TCC to answer questions such as when someone would ask if the idea was explored. The TCC won't know if it is feasible if it is not explored. Julian Milewski feels it is the TCC's due diligence to get background information on in-house collection. It was a consensus to table further discussion on this matter till the next meeting.

C. Statement of Financial Interest

The delegates were reminded to complete their Statement of Financial Interest and forward it to Gail Stehr.

V. New Business - None

VI. Delegate Public Comment – None

VII. Next Meeting – June 23, 2015, at 6:00 p.m.

VIII. Adjournment

On a motion by Judy Bubeck (Cressona Boro) and seconded by Linda Tarlecki, the meeting adjourned at 6:15 p.m. Motion passed unanimously.

Gail A. Stehr, TCC Secretary