

Minutes of the Schuylkill Tax Collection Committee Meeting August 24, 2010

The Schuylkill Tax Collection Committee (STCC) held a meeting on Tuesday, August 24, 2010, in Courtroom 1 of the Schuylkill County Courthouse, 401 North Second Street, Pottsville, PA 17901.

Jack Hurst, Chairman, called the meeting to order at 6:10 p.m., followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag. It was verified that a quorum was present.

Officers Present: Jack Hurst (Chairman), Gail Stehr (Secretary), Patricia Reazor (Treasurer)

Others Present: Paul Datte (Solicitor), Jim Bush (Berkheimer), Amanda Brozana (Republican Herald)

Members Present:

Blue Mountain SD	Cressona Boro	Deer Lake Boro	East Brunswick Twp.
New Ringgold Boro	North Manheim Twp.	West Brunswick Twp.	Mahanoy Area SD
Delano Twp.	Mahanoy City Boro	Minersville Area SD	Branch Twp.
Cass Twp.	Foster Twp.	Minersville Boro	North Schuylkill SD
Conyngham Twp.	Butler Twp.	Frackville Boro	Gordon Boro
Ringtown Boro	Pine Grove Area SD	Pine Grove Boro	Pine Grove Twp.
Tremont Boro	Washington Boro	Pottsville Area SD	Mechanicsville Boro
Mt. Carbon Boro	Norwegian Twp.	Port Carbon Boro	Pottsville City
Blythe Twp.	East Norwegian Twp.	New Castle Twp.	New Philadelphia Boro
St. Clair Boro	Schuylkill Haven Area SD	Landingville Boro	Port Clinton Boro
South Manheim Twp.	Shenandoah Valley SD	Tamaqua Area SD	Tamaqua Boro
Tri-Valley SD	Barry Twp.	Hegins Twp.	Hubley Twp.
Upper Mahantongo Twp.			

Members Absent:

Auburn Boro	Orwigsburg Boro	Wayne Twp.	Gilberton Boro
Mahanoy Twp.	Rush Twp.	Ryan Twp.	Reilly Twp.
Ashland Boro	Girardville Boro	Union Twp.	Frailey Twp.
Tremont Twp.	Palo Alto Boro	Saint Clair Area SD	Middleport Boro
Schuylkill Haven Boro	Shenandoah Boro	West Mahanoy Twp.	Rush Twp.
Schuylkill Twp.	Walker Twp.	West Penn Twp.	Eldred Twp.

I. Approval of Minutes

Tom Oblas (Mahanoy City Boro) made the motion, which was seconded by Ann Pascavage (Delano Twp.), to approve the minutes from May 17, 2010. The motion passed unanimously.

II. Treasurer's Report

Patty Reazor noted that there are seven municipalities that have outstanding invoices. It was noted that the Secretary, Gail Stehr, is to send a reminder of the past due invoices to those municipalities.

On a motion by Tony Demalis (Shenandoah Valley SD) and seconded by Ann Pascavage, the Treasurer's Report passed by a unanimous vote. (Copy of Treasurer's Report on file.)

III. New Business

A. Recommendation of Tax Collector RFP Committee

Jack Hurst (Blue Mountain SD) thanked the entire RFP Committee for the numerous hours they spent on the RFP and for meeting with the people from the different tax collections.

Leo Schwartz (Pottsville City) stated that the RFP Committee recommends hiring CENTAX as the tax collector for the Schuylkill TCC at the current tax collection rate of 1.345%, 0% for delinquency, and they will absorb postage costs. Larry Padora (New Ringgold Boro) noted that he went with CENTAX as a business person because they have the highest collection rate at the lowest costs. Leo Schwartz also commented that he feels CENTAX is capable of the job or he would not recommend them. Julian Milewski (Ringtown Boro) questioned if the TCC is bound by the lowest bidder, to which Leo Schwartz stated no.

Jim Bush (Berkheimer) stated he did not think an office was necessary in the county, but they would have one if approved as the tax collector. He also noted that Berkheimer collects more EIT than any other collector in the same time period. He asked the committee to check to see if CENTAX has the technology to do the job.

Discussion took place regarding bonding, software issues, reporting of profit margins, etc. Jack Hurst questioned if it would be worth considering changing the September 20 meeting to September 13 to allow the three companies to sharpen their pencils. Wendell Gainer (Washington Twp.) asked if language could be put in regarding a 120 day performance clause. He also suggested that the proposals should remain effective until December 31, 2011.

Leo Schwartz made the motion, which was seconded by Jim Wosochlo (Auburn Boro), to go with Jack Hurst's proposal to have the three companies re-submit any amendment by September 7, 2010, including a clause that the TCC could terminate the agreement with 120 days notice, that the Tax Collector would agree to the TCC form of Collection Agreement, and that the proposal would remain effective until December 31, 2011, regardless of whether the Tax Collector was originally selected. They also made the motion to change the September 20 meeting to September 13, at 6:00 p.m. The motions passed unanimously.

B. Approval of Invoices

Linda Tarlecki (Conyngham Twp.) made the motion, which was seconded by Larry Wittig (Tamaqua Area SD) to approve the invoices for Solicitor Datte and Gail Stehr as

presented to the Committee. The motion passed unanimously. (Copy of invoices on file.)

C. Recalculation of Weighted Vote

The Committee members received a copy of the Schuylkill TCC Weighted Vote for 7/1/10 to 6/30/11. Act 32 requires this to be completed by July 1.

IV. Old Business – None

V. Delegate/Public Comment

A. Larry Wittig

Larry Wittig questioned how the TCC addresses the collection of past due invoices. Jack Hurst replied that information is in the Bylaws; it gives information what the TCC should do if the invoices are not paid.

VI. Adjournment

Kim Umphrey (Schuylkill Haven Area SD) made the motion, which was seconded by Leo Schwartz, to adjourn the meeting at 6:58 p.m. The motion passed unanimously.

Gail Stehr, TCC Secretary