

Minutes of the Schuylkill Tax Collection Committee Meeting December 13, 2010

The Schuylkill Tax Collection Committee (STCC) held a meeting on Monday, December 13, 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 6:08 p.m., followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag. It was verified that a quorum was present.

Officers Present: Jack Hurst (Chairman), Steve Pellman (Co-Chairman), Gail Stehr (Secretary), Patricia Reazor (Treasurer)

Others Present: Paul Datte (Solicitor), 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.	Gilberton Boro	Mahanoy City Boro	Rush Twp.
Branch Twp.	Cass Twp.	Foster Twp.	North Schuylkill SD
Conyngham Twp.	Frackville Boro	Pine Grove Area SD	Frailey Twp.
Pine Grove Boro	Pine Grove Twp.	Tremont Boro	Washington Twp.
Mechanicsville Boro	Mt. Carbon Boro	Norwegian Twp.	Port Carbon Boro
Pottsville City	Blythe Twp.	East Norwegian Twp.	Middleport Boro
New Castle Twp.	New Philadelphia Boro	St. Clair Boro	Schuylkill Haven Area SD
Landingville Boro	South Manheim Twp.	Shenandoah Boro	West Mahanoy Twp.
Tamaqua Area SD	Rush Twp.	Schuylkill Twp.	Tamaqua Boro
Tri-Valley SD	Barry Twp.	Hegins Twp.	Hubley Twp.
Upper Mahantongo Twp.			

Members Absent:

Auburn Boro	Orwigsburg Boro	Wayne Twp.	Mahanoy Twp.
Ryan Twp.	Minersville Area SD	Minersville Boro	Reilly Twp.
Ashland Boro	Butler Twp.	Girardville Boro	Gordon Boro
Ringtown Boro	Union Twp.	Tremont Twp.	Pottsville Area SD
Palo Alto Boro	Saint Clair Area SD	Port Clinton Boro	Schuylkill Haven Boro
Shenandoah Valley SD	Walker Twp.	West Penn Twp.	Eldred Twp.

I. Delegate/Public Comment on Agenda Items

A. Assistant Secretary

Mike Van Allen (Gilberton Boro) questioned why there is an Assistant Secretary listed under the appointments for 2011. Jack Hurst (Blue Mountain SD) responded that one is listed in the Bylaws and Solicitor Datte proceeded to read that information from the Bylaws.

B. Right-to-Know Officer

Jack Hurst noted that a Right-to-Know Officer will need to be appointed. Solicitor Datte stated that person should not be the solicitor.

II. Approval of Minutes from November 15, 2010

Linda Tarlecki (Conyngham Twp.) made the motion, which was seconded by Mike Van Allen, to approve the minutes from November 15, 2010. The motion passed by a unanimous vote.

III. Treasurer's Report from November 2010

Kim Umphrey (Schuylkill Haven Area SD) made the motion, which was seconded by Tom Oblas (Mahanoy City Boro), to approve the Treasurer's Report from November 2010. The motion passed unanimously. (Copy of Treasurer's Reports on file.)

IV. New Business

A. Temporary Chairperson

Leo Schwartz (Pottsville City) made the motion to appoint Solicitor Datte as the Temporary Chairperson. Tom Oblas seconded the motion which passed unanimously. The meeting was chaired by Solicitor Datte.

B. Appointments for 2011

1. Chairperson

Judy Bubeck (Cressona Boro) made the motion, which was seconded by Tom Oblas, to appoint Larry Padora (New Ringgold Boro) as Chairperson. The motion passed unanimously.

Larry Padora proceeded to take charge of the meeting. He thanked Jack Hurst for all he did during the first year of the meetings; a lot of work was involved.

2. Vice-Chairperson

Tom Oblas made the motion, which was seconded by Mike Van Allen, to appoint Leo Schwartz as Vice-Chairperson. Laine Mack (Tremont Boro) made the motion to close the nomination, which was seconded by Kevin Steigerwalt (Tamaqua Boro). The Secretary noted a single ballot was cast for Vice-Chairperson.

3. Secretary

Tom Oblas made the motion, which was seconded by Ken Lehman (Pine Grove Boro), to appoint Gail Stehr as Secretary. The Secretary noted a single ballot was cast for Secretary.

4. Assistant Secretary

Tom Oblas made the motion, which was seconded by Laine Mack, to appoint Ann Pascavage as Assistant Secretary. Tom Oblas made the motion, which was seconded by Linda Tarlecki, to close the nomination. The Secretary noted a single ballot was cast for Assistant Secretary.

5. Treasurer

Tom Oblas made the motion, which was seconded by Ann Pascavage (Delano Twp.), to appoint Patricia Reazor as Treasurer. Dave Crouse (Deer Lake Boro) made the motion to close the nomination, which was seconded by Tom Oblas. The Secretary noted a single ballot was cast for Treasurer.

6. Right-to-Know Officer

Tom Oblas made the motion, which was seconded by Laine Mack, to appoint the secretary as the Right-to-Know Officer. The motion passed unanimously.

7. Solicitor

Linda Decindio (Schuylkill Twp.) made the motion, which was seconded by Mike Van Allen, to appoint Paul J. Datte, Esquire, of Cerullo, Datte & Wallbillich, P.C., as the solicitor on the same terms and conditions as in the original proposal of February 19, 2010, at the same rate. The motion passed unanimously.

8. Insurance Agent

Jack Hurst made the motion, which was seconded by Mike Van Allen, to continue retaining the services of the current insurance agent (Philadelphia Insurance Companies). The motion passed unanimously.

9. Tax Appeal Board

Jack Hurst made the motion, which was seconded by Tom Oblas, to keep the same members on the Tax Appeal Board (Wendell Gainer, Laine Mack, Mike Lonergan, along with Solicitor Datte). The motion passed unanimously.

10. Bank

Currently the Schuylkill TCC uses the services of M & T Bank. Tom Oblas stated he does not feel that the TCC should be paying monthly service charge fees. Larry Padora thought the only charge the TCC should receive is for their checks. He asked Patty Reazor to contact banks and look for ones that do not have monthly service charges. Dave Crouse stated he thought the government might have a bank service that would do this for free. Larry Padora noted this item will be tabled until a later date.

C. Appointment of Auditor

Jack Hurst noted that the only bid that was received for auditing services was from Jones & Co., Pottsville, in the amount of \$750. Kim Umphrey (Schuylkill Haven Area SD)

made the motion to accept the bid from Jones & Co. for \$750 for auditing services. Tom Oblas seconded the motion, which passed unanimously. (Copy of bid on file.)

D. Budget Information

Kim Umphrey stated she had the secretary send out the general budget information for 2011. When the Budget Committee originally made the first budget, they did not know what to expect in costs. The 2011 Budget is an estimate of what was spent in 2010. Since the receipts were greater than the expenses, there will be no need for contributions from the townships/boroughs or school districts for the upcoming year.

Ann Pascavage made the motion, which was seconded by Mike Van Allen, to approve the 2011 Budget. (Copy of budget on file.)

V. Delegate/Public Comment

A. Status of Payment from Shenandoah Boro

Amanda Brozana (Pottsville Republican) questioned if Shenandoah Boro paid their invoice, to which Solicitor Datte responded yes.

B. Payment for Secretary

Larry Padora stated he feels payment to the Secretary for their services should be considered in the future. Mike Van Allen responded that he thought it was in the Bylaws that no officer was to be paid. Solicitor Datte noted that he had previously spoken with Jack Hurst regarding this and that it is something they feel the Transition Committee should discuss. He feels a new position needs to be created instead of paying an officer. Leo Schwartz also noted that once the everything gets rolling, he believes the Right-to-Know Officer will receive requests, and with other work the Secretary does, it will be a time consuming job. It was suggested that this item be targeted for 2012 and that a job description be made for this position.

C. Comments from Jack Hurst

Jack Hurst thanked Gail Stehr and Patty Reazor for the time they put into their positions. There is a lot of work involved, especially in the secretary position.

VI. Next Meeting

The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, March 22, 2011.

VII. Adjournment

Judy Bubeck made the motion, which was seconded by Tom Oblas, to adjourn the meeting at 6:35 p.m. The motion passed unanimously.