

Commissioners' Workshop Meeting Tuesday, February 17, 2009

I. CALL TO ORDER:

The Berks County Board of Commissioners met in regular session on Tuesday, February 17, 2009, at 10:30 A.M. in the thirteenth floor Board Room of the Berks County Services Center, pursuant to due notice to Board members and the public.

Commissioner Chair Mark C. Scott, Esq. called the meeting to order with Commissioner Christian Leinbach and Commissioner Kevin Barnhardt in attendance. Also present were County Administrator William E. Dennis, Solicitor Alan Miller Esq., and Chief Clerk Terry Styer.

Commissioner Scott opened the meeting with a moment of silence and the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag. He announced that an Executive Session was held immediately prior to this meeting for litigation and real estate purposes.

The Muhlenberg High School Camerata, 21 students strong, under the direction of Mr. Bill Snelling, performed 2 patriotic songs in recognition of Presidents' Day: *The Star Spangled Banner* and *America the Beautiful*.

II. PRESENTATION:

Mike Vind, Financial S&Lutions presented a proposed resolution to terminate an existing interest Rate Management Agreement. He noted that this is the first part of the process to enable the county to take advantage of current market conditions and arrange for lower fixed rate bond. He said the second part will involve Ordinances to approve a fixed rate bond issue and will follow this action if approved by the Board. Commissioner Barnhardt made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Leinbach, and all voted yes to approve the following resolution:

- 32.09 A. Resolution to authorize the unwind of an Interest Rate Management Agreement previously executed with respect to its General Obligation Bonds, Series 1999.

III. DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS / REQUESTS:

Budget Department

- A. Adopt Resolution authorizing 2008 Budget Transfers in the amount of \$29,500 and 2009 Budget Transfers in the amount of \$195,040 per listing dated February 13, 2009. Bob Patrizio, Budget Director, presented the report.

Community Development

- A. Motion to approve payments set forth on disbursement voucher list # DV #2339 and DV #1356 dated February 12, 2009 for the Community Development Block Grant Program, and the Property Rehabilitation Program as administered by the Berks County Community Development Office.

Election Services

- A. Adopt a resolution to amend resolution 139-08 for distribution of HAVA Interest-1 funds between the County of Berks and the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, Department of State. Debbie Olivieri, Director of Election Services, presented this request.

Solicitor

- A. Resolution of the Berks County Board of Commissioners authorizing tax forgiveness of 2008 County taxes, including all penalties and interest for the following parcels owned by Reading School District:
1. 1051 Benners Court, PIN #10531629089339 in the amount of \$31.27
 2. 1060 Benners Court, PIN #10531629089229 in the amount of \$41.95
 3. 1220 Elm Street, PIN #09531770118834 in the amount of \$76.29
 4. 214 Locust Street, PIN #09531770113540 in the amount of \$3,878.33
 5. 218A Locust Street, PIN #09531770113545 in the amount of \$45.77
 6. 220A Locust Street, PIN #09531770113517 in the amount of \$66.66
 7. 222 Locust Street, PIN #09531770113518 in the amount of \$57.21
 8. 224 Locust Street, PIN #09531770116311 in the amount of \$20.59
 9. 226 Locust Street, PIN #09531770113613 in the amount of \$20.59
 10. 230 Locust Street, PIN #09531770113636 in the amount of \$18.30
 11. 235 Locust Street, PIN #09531770114742 in the amount of \$3.05

Be it further resolved and it is hereby resolved that in regard to 200 N. 13th Street, PIN #09531770211612, the Berks County Board of Commissioners agree to waive the penalty and interest in the amount of \$1,739.14, and the Reading School District agrees to pay the 2004 County tax in the amount of \$2,851.75.

IV. REPORT OF THE COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR

County Administrator Bill Dennis presented his weekly report (attached.)

V. REPORTS OF COMMISSIONERS**Commissioner Leinbach****Commissioner Barnhardt**

- A. Commissioner Barnhardt noted that two public meetings have been scheduled to gather input from the public regarding the County policing study with PERF (Police Executive Research Forum). He said that they will be held on March 10th at 6:30 PM, in the Fleetwood High School auditorium, and on March 12th at 6:30 PM, in the County Services Center auditorium. Both of these meetings will be filmed by BCTV for those who cannot attend.

Commissioner Scott**VI. CITIZEN COMMENT/BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR**

- A. Howard Weisman of Telco Pro attended the meeting to ask permission of the Commissioners to inquire about telephone and data services with our Information Systems department. He indicated that savings may be available based on experiences in other counties he has worked with recently. Commissioner Scott noted that generally permission of this type is granted over the phone. County Administrator Dennis offered to speak with Mr. Weisman in more detail following the meeting.

There being no further business the meeting adjourned at 11:10 AM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Terry L Styer, Chief Clerk