

PRESENT: Mario J. Civera, Jr., Chairman; Colleen P. Morrone, Vice Chairman; John P. McBlain, Council Member; David J. White, Council Member; Michael F. Culp, Council Member; Edward O'Lone, Controller; Marianne Grace, Executive Director; Michael L. Maddren, Solicitor; Anne M. Coogan, County Clerk; and other department heads.

Chairman Civera called the regular meeting of February 18, 2015 to order followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag led by Moises Benson, a Media Elementary School student. Denise Stewart, Director of COSA, gave the invocation.

Before beginning the agenda, Chairman Civera gave a brief summary of what County Council does in order that the students who attended this morning's meeting would better understand the order of business.

Chairman Civera called on Mrs. Morrone to start the agenda.

Motion made by Mrs. Morrone approving Agenda Item 4, the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of February 11, 2015, seconded by Mr. McBlain and carried unanimously.

Motion made by Mrs. Morrone approving Central Tax Collection Department's request for refunds for the year 2014 County Real Estate Taxes for 2 property owners due to the overpayment of the amount of taxes due, seconded by Mr. White and carried unanimously.

Motion made by Mrs. Morrone approving an Amendment to an Agreement with Tyler Technologies, Inc./CLT Division to provide IAS World Maintenance Support, Oracle Annual Technical Support and Landisc Support for the period of 1/1/2015 through 12/31/2015 for the total amount of \$96,375.00. The motion is subject to the Solicitor's approval, seconded by Mr. Culp and carried unanimously.

Chairman Civera called on David Belanger, Director of Library Services, to speak on Agenda Items 7 and 8.

Mr. Belanger said Items 7 and 8 are part of the Delaware County Library System's online digital library services.

Item 7 is the renewal of the annual subscription to Reference USA, which is a business resource that fits in well with the library's role in economic development by supporting businesses and giving them the resources they need.

Item 8 is the annual subscription to Newsbank, which provides access to the Delaware County Daily Times (1984-present), the Philadelphia Inquirer (current and historic going back to 1829), plus other PA and world newspapers.

Mr. Belanger gave a brief overview of the services that are available through the Delaware County Library System.

Motion made by Mrs. Morrone approving Item 7 to renew the annual subscription to Reference USA Business Database from Info USA for the year 2015 at the annual cost of \$38,000.00. The motion is subject to the Solicitor's approval, seconded by Mr. McBlain and carried unanimously.

Motion made by Mrs. Morrone approving Item 8 to renew electronic access to the Newsbank Database Collection at the annual cost of \$38,875.00. The motion is subject to the Solicitor's approval, seconded by Mr. White and carried unanimously.

Motion made by Mrs. Morrone approving to renew VMWARE Licensing from CDWG on the COSTARS Contract which covers the virtual environment at the Courthouse and Recovery site for the total cost of \$39,997.44. The motion is subject to the Solicitor's approval, seconded by Mr. Culp and carried unanimously.

Chairman Civera called on Maureen Hennessey, Director of the Office of Intercommunity Health Coordination, to speak on Agenda Item 10.

Ms. Hennessey asked for County Council's approval of a contract between the County of Delaware and the PA Department of Health that will provide funding for the operation of the Delaware County Regional Emergency Medical Services Office. This two year contract, in the total amount of \$415,878.00 (\$207,939.00 per State fiscal year) covers State fiscal years 2015 to 2017 and will allow for the continued regulatory and oversight activities of the Regional EMS Office through the Office of Intercommunity Health Coordination.

Motion made by Mrs. Morrone approving an Agreement between the PA Department of Health and the County of Delaware which supports the Regional Emergency Medical Services Office for the State fiscal years 2015 through 2017 in the amount of \$207,939.00 per State fiscal year. The motion is subject to the Solicitor's approval, seconded by Mr. McBlain and carried unanimously.

Motion made by Mrs. Morrone approving a Professional Services Agreement between Price Stevenson Acoustic and the County of Delaware to provide Audio Engineering, Technical and Production Services for the period 2/1/2015 to 1/31/2018 at a cost not to exceed \$34,500.00 per year. The motion is subject to the Solicitor's approval, seconded by Mr. White and carried unanimously.

Solicitor Maddren requested an addition to today's agenda. As Council is aware, we partner with Natural Lands Trust to obtain grants for the acquisition of open space. Natural Lands Trust has obtained a grant on our behalf from the Commonwealth Financing Authority through its Greenways, Trails and Recreation Program in the amount of \$224,000.00. The Commonwealth Financing Authority, unlike DCNR, is requiring that we accept assignment of that grant before the money is distributed to the County.

At this point, Solicitor Maddren requested Council to entertain a motion to approve the authorization to accept that assignment. This item is "time sensitive" because in order to get on the CFA's March agenda, we need to have a letter accepting the assignment up there today.

Solicitor Maddren said if Council is willing to entertain this motion today because it was not part of the Agenda Meeting yesterday, it would be appropriate for Chairman Civera to accept public comment on this motion.

Based on Solicitor Maddren's recommendation and according to the Home Rule Charter of Delaware County, Chairman Civera asked if there was any public comment on this item. There was no public comment.

Mr. McBlain wished to comment on this motion prior to the vote being taken.

Mr. McBlain said he speaks in favor of the proposed motion as recommended by the solicitor. Back in December 2014, County Council began a process whereby we were taking some steps in order to try to acquire a track of land in Darby Borough and Upper Darby Township, between 35 and 40 acres, known as the Little Flower Manor track. This would be one of the largest open space parcels in the southeast portion of the county.

Mr. McBlain said we still need to work with Darby Borough and Upper Darby Township officials to talk with them and come to an agreement as to what this will look like. This parcel of land is located at the end of the Darby Creek Trail Path that is being constructed from Kent Park down to this area. County Council believes this to be a fantastic opportunity to preserve a very large track of open space in Delaware County. There are many more steps to go, but this step will assist us in gaining the grant monies necessary to acquire that property.

Mrs. Morrone moved for the motion to approve the authorization to accept assignment of Commonwealth Financing Authority Greenways, Trails and Recreation Program Grant in the amount of \$224,000.00 from the Natural Lands Trust, seconded by Mr. Culp and carried unanimously.

Chairman Civera called on Mr. McBlain to speak on Agenda Item 12, a resolution in recognition of Black History Month.

Mr. McBlain said every February County Council recognizes the accomplishments of African Americans throughout this nation's history and to celebrate the continuing journey for dignity and freedom for all individuals.

Black History Month was started in 1926 by Carter G. Woodson, the descendent of slaves who became a noted author, educator and a dean at Howard University in Washington, D.C. He started a week called "Negro History Week" and chose a week in February that included the birthday of one of his own heroes, Frederick Douglass, a former slave and famous abolitionist.

Today, 100 years later, we celebrate the many opportunities in education, employment, the arts and quality of life that everyone is afforded thanks to the courage, suffering and perseverance of black Americans who opened many doors for future generations.

In Delaware County, we are privileged to have many brave and outstanding African Americans, and we have a rich history of African American accomplishments that include Cheyney University, the first institution of higher learning for African Americans founded in 1837; Crozer Seminary attended by Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. in 1948; and the amazing life of singer Ethel Waters who was born in Chester to a teenage mother.

One of Delaware County's contemporary outstanding citizens is Common Pleas Judge Nathaniel Nichols. Like the students here today, Judge Nichols is from Media and his two sons attended Media Elementary School. Judge Nichols graduated from Howard University and earned his law degree from Columbia University. He has maintained an outstanding career as an attorney, but is also a well-known scholar, educator and volunteer in the community.

Judge Nicholas taught at Widener University School of Law, volunteered on the board of Domestic Abuse Project, the Chester Education Foundation, the Delaware County Historical Society, Media Elementary School's Blue Ribbon Committee, and he has mentored many law students for many years. (Mr. McBlain said he is proud to say that he is one of the law students that Judge Nichols mentored.)

Judge Nichols has addressed County Council during Black History Month since he was elected to the Court of Common Pleas in 2011. This year, he has invited students from Media Elementary School to join us in our celebration of Black History Month.

Before Judge Nichols addresses the meeting, Mr. McBlain asked him to come forward along with the following county government employees, who are also outstanding members of our community: George Dawson, Deputy District Attorney; Erica Parham, Assistant District Attorney; and Denise Stewart, Director of the County Office of Services for the Aging.

Mr. McBlain read (in part) the following resolution:

Whereas, the Black History Month theme, "A Century of Black Life, History and Culture," recognizes 100 years of struggle, resolve and perseverance that have resulted in civil and voting rights, and equal opportunities in education and employment; and

Whereas, we celebrate the leaders of the civil rights movement and countless other men and women, across the nation and here in Delaware County, who struggled and sacrificed to guarantee freedom and rights for the children and grandchildren of the future; and

Whereas, it's important to study the past and hear the stories of the courageous individuals who endured suffering for equality, freedom and opportunity, and to continue to invest in all of those around us to ensure that every American can reach their full potential.

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved, that We, the County Council of Delaware County, hereby declare February 2015 to be Black History Month in Delaware County as we explore, learn and celebrate a century of civil rights progress that continues to advance freedom and dignity among all people.

Judge Nichols gave a brief history on how African Americans, from what was to become Delaware County, fought in the Civil War.

Chairman Civera called on Mrs. Morrone to speak on Agenda Item 13, a resolution in recognition of National Career and Technical Education Month.

Mrs. Morrone said there is no doubt that 21st century jobs require a growing knowledge of technology, problem-solving and skills that are ever-changing.

In Delaware County, we are privileged to have excellent technical education programs. Our Delaware County Intermediate Unit is at the forefront of providing a quality education in the emerging technical fields that will benefit students and the workforce in general.

Each February, we recognize Career and Technical Education Month to shine a spotlight on our technical education schools, teachers and students. Delaware County Technical High Schools have two main locations, in Aston and Folcroft, and they also hold programs at the Delaware County Emergency Training Center, Marple Education Center and four partnering hospitals.

Guided by industry professionals, Delaware County Technical Schools prepare students for tomorrow's jobs by providing innovative technical training, a foundation for life-long learning and marketable credentials for meaningful jobs.

Some of the fields are building trades, carpentry, electrical technology, heating, ventilation and air conditioning (HVAC), culinary arts, cosmetology, dental technology, automotive technology, health occupations and commercial arts.

We know that one of Delaware County's major assets is our skilled, dedicated workforce setting us apart when it comes to sustaining and growing industry here. We are pleased to have such great school programs to teach and nurture our future workforce.

County Council is pleased to welcome the staff, instructors and students from these programs to accept the resolution. Today, we not only have the Intermediate Unit administrators, but we have two teachers and several students who were recognized by their peers as Classroom Innovators.

Attending this morning's meeting on behalf of National Career and Technical Education Month and to accept this resolution were the following people: Dr. Lawrence O'Shea, Executive Director of the Intermediate Unit; Dr. Ray McFall, Assistant Executive Director of DCIU; Dr. Philip Lachimia, Director of Career and Technical Education (CTE); Luis Diaz, Assistant Director, Delaware County Technical Schools (DCTS); Latiayna Tabb, Community Resource Developer, DCTS; and Adriene M. Irving, the Intermediate Unit's Director of Legislative and Community Services.

The following teachers were named Innovators: Jennifer Travaglini, an instructor in cosmetology at the Folcroft location and Dave Tatum, an instructor in computer networking and digital forensics in Aston. They were recognized by their colleagues based on innovations in their classroom, staying current on industry trends and guiding students toward careers.

The following students were named Classroom Innovators by their peers: Zacyarah Bowen (Chichester, Dental Technology), Matt Hatton (Penncrest, Computer Networking), Justin Lassik (Garnet Valley, Building Trades), Jacob Trinh (Chichester, Culinary Arts & Hospitality – Aston), Anthony Kennedy (Chichester, Culinary Arts & Food Service Management), Jeremy Bonifazio (Building Trades – Ridley), John Toriello (Logistics and Inventory Management – Ridley), Michael Hand (Emergency & Protective Services – Haverford), Skylar Steinhart (Emergency & Protective Services – Chichester), Jessica Haywood (Culinary Arts – Strath Haven), Rob Dunlap (Automotive Technology – Chichester) and Olivia Margliano (Early Childhood Education – Interboro).

Dr. Lachimia thanked County Council for recognizing their staff, students and the importance of the programs they offer at Career and Technical Education. They are growing and changing with the times. They like to say they are not your parents' "old votech" anymore; instead, they are another path to more education. They serve people going into the workplace and those that are going onto a two-year community college and four-year colleges. They strive to be one more option to help students achieve their goals whatever they may be.

Chairman Civera asked Mrs. Morrone to continue with the today's Agenda.

Motion made by Mrs. Morrone approving Agenda Item 14, the request by the Controller's Office for payment of current bills, seconded by Mr. McBlain and carried unanimously.

SOLICITOR: Mr. Maddren asked for Council's authorization to file eleven (11) Petitions for the Involuntary Termination of Parental Rights and one (1) Consent for Adoption with the Orphans Court.

Motion made by Mrs. Morrone approving to file eleven (11) Petitions for the Involuntary Termination of Parental Rights and one (1) Consent for Adoption with the Orphans Court, seconded by Mr. White and carried unanimously.

COUNCIL: Mr. Culp welcomed everyone to this morning's meeting. It is so nice to see the young children in the audience.

Mr. White echoed Mr. Culp's comments. Attending today's meeting is part of the students' education and he and all members of Council know how important education is. To make a comment on vocational education, Mr. White said it has changed in 30 plus years since he went through that program but it has improved greatly. When he went through the votech program, it led him into his life career of plumbing, heating and pipe fitting and that is exactly what he has been doing for past 35 years. He has no doubt, without going through the vocational education program, he would not have been able to start a business, hire 60 plus employees and be very successful in Delaware County.

Mr. McBlain said he wanted to welcome Denise Stewart, who heads the County Office of Services for the Aging. Last Friday, he had the privilege to go down to the COSA Office, in Eddystone, and toured their offices while meeting many of the men and women who work for us at COSA and who help take care of our seniors. It is especially important this time of year when you think about the care of a lot of our seniors because of the cold and snowy weather.

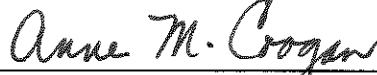
Mrs. Morrone congratulated the students that attended today's Council Meeting. They are the future of Delaware County and whatever Council can do to encourage and support them, they are here for them.

Chairman Civera said Mr. White touched on vocational training. Prior to coming to County Council, Tom McGarrigle went through the votech program and owns and operates his own successful service station, in Springfield Township. He later became a Springfield Commissioner, County Councilman and is now serving in the Pennsylvania House Senate.

When Chairman Civera started out as a barber, served in the PA House of Representatives, came back to Delaware County and is now Chairman of County Council. The point is the tools are there; it's what you want to do; how you want to do it. No matter what you take as far as an education career, you can wind up anywhere you want to be.

DISCUSSION: No public comment(s).

There being no further County business, nor public discussion, motion made by Chairman Civera to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Mrs. Morrone and carried unanimously.


ANNE M. COOGAN, County Clerk

RECORDED BY: N. J. Scallan