

**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 January 6, 2016 to order followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag led by Michael Daly, of Middletown Township and a Public Relations student at Boston University. Sue DePompeo, of the Budget Office, gave the invocation.

Motion made by Mrs. Morrone approving the Minutes of the Organization Meeting of Delaware County Council on January 4, 2016, seconded by Mr. McBlain and carried unanimously.

Motion made by Mrs. Morrone approving to Advertise for Bids to furnish and deliver American Flags for Veterans Affairs, subject to the Solicitor's approval, seconded by Mr. White and carried unanimously.

Motion made by Mrs. Morrone approving Agenda Item 6 to purchase parts for the Retherm Carts and Dishware for the Meal Delivery System directly from Aladdin Temp Rite, who is the manufacturer and sole distributor of this product, for an amount not to exceed \$55,000.00. The motion is subject to the Solicitor's approval, seconded by Mr. Culp and carried unanimously.

Motion made by Mrs. Morrone approving Central Tax Collection Department's request for refunds for the year 2015 County Real Estate Taxes for 6 property owners due to the overpayment of the amount of taxes due, seconded by Mr. McBlain and carried unanimously.

Chairman Civera called on Solicitor's Maddren to speak on Agenda Item 8.

Solicitor Maddren said this is the First Reading of Ordinance 2016-1 authorizing the incurring of non-electoral indebtedness through the issuance of General Obligation Bonds in the maximum aggregate principal amount of fifty-five million dollars (\$55,000,000.00).

Solicitor Maddren said this is being done by parameters which means that the costs of issuance are still influx and the maximum total amount is \$55,000,000.00. The maximum interest rate will be 5.25%. We anticipate that over the next five years this will save the County approximately \$6,000,000.00 (and a minimum of \$600,000.00 by putting the parameters in there).

*The purpose of this issuance is (A) refunding outstanding principal from the County's General Obligation Bonds, Series 2005, together with interest thereon (B) pay the costs and expenses of issuing the Bonds; authorizes and directs specified members of the County Council, The Executive Director, the County Controller and County Clerk of the County to prepare, certify and file with the Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development the required Debt Statement and certified copies of the proceedings relating to the authorization and sale of the Bonds; covenanting that the County shall include the amount of Annual Debt Service on the*

*Bonds in its Budget for each fiscal year, shall appropriate amounts for such payment and shall punctually pay the principal of and interest on the Bonds; providing for registered Bonds and the transfer and exchange thereof; setting forth the date of the Bonds, interest payment dates, denominations and provisions for redemption; providing for signatures and seal and authentication; setting forth and approving the form of Bond; setting forth the stated maturities and fixing the rates of interest to be borne by the Bonds; awarding the Bonds at private sale by negotiation; authorizing the establishment of a Sinking Fund; appointing a Fiscal Agent, Bond Registrar and Sinking Fund Depository ("Fiscal Agent") and authorizing proper officers of the County to contract with the Fiscal Agent for its services; covenanting that the proceeds of the Bonds shall not be used in such a manner as to cause the interest on the Bonds to be subject to federal income taxation and covenanting to take such actions to the extent necessary to effect or maintain the federal income tax exemption in respect of the interest on the Bonds; approving an official statement in respect of the Bonds; authoring and directing the taking of necessary or appropriate actions, including the execution and delivery of the requisite documents in connection with issuance by the County of the Bonds, to effectuate the Ordinance; and taking related actions.*

Solicitor Maddren said there will be a Public Hearing and a Second Reading of Ordinance 2016-1 at next Wednesday's County Council Meeting (January 13) at 10:00 A.M. At that time, Council will take action on the Ordinance.

Chairman Civera called on Adam Matlawski, of the Delaware County Authority, to speak on Agenda Item 9.

On behalf of the Delaware County Authority, Mr. Matlawski asked for County Council's approval of Resolution 2016-1, a Bond issuance by the Authority on behalf of Neumann University Revenue Bonds, Series 2016, in an aggregate principal amount not to exceed \$18,500,000.00. This involves a project which is the refunding of their Series 2008 Bonds and also various capital new projects for the university including construction of the expansion of the Student Center and new classroom areas.

Mr. Matlawski said approval is required by County Council for issuances by the Delaware County Authority although it does not pledge any tax monies or revenues of the County with this approval.

Motion made by Mrs. Morrone approving Resolution 2016-1, the issuance by the Delaware County Authority of the Authority's Neumann University Revenue Bonds, Series 2016, in an aggregate principal amount not to exceed \$18,500,000.00 estimated to be sufficient to provide for the 2016 Project, including financing expenses. The motion is subject to the Solicitor's approval, seconded by Mr. White and carried unanimously.

Motion made by Mrs. Morrone approving the ratification of the modification to the Rights and Services Act (RASA) Grant to increase funds by \$32,630.00 from the Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency to a total amount of \$219,996.00. (Funding: State/Federal) The motion is subject to the Solicitor's approval, seconded by Mr. Culp and carried unanimously.

Motion made by Mrs. Morrone approving an Agreement with Signature Systems, Inc. for Electronic Procurement Software and Maintenance, pursuant to COSTARS Contract No. 400010871, for an amount not to exceed \$110,000.00 plus maintenance costs of \$22,540.00 for a period of five (5) years. The motion is subject to the Solicitor's approval, seconded by Mr. McBlain and carried unanimously.

Motion made by Mrs. Morrone approving an annual Software License and Support Agreement with Hart InterCivic System that is utilized to design, print and scan absentee ballots for the period of December 31, 2015 through December 30, 2016 at the total cost of \$25,000.00. The motion is subject to the Solicitor's approval, seconded by Mr. White and carried unanimously.

Chairman Civera called on Joe Dougherty, Director of Human Services, to speak on Agenda Item 13.

Mr. Dougherty asked for Council's approval of amendments for three Providers of Service for the Office of Behavioral Health, three new Intellectual Disabilities Service Providers and four Subsidized Day Care Providers.

Motion made by Mrs. Morrone approving Agreements, Contracts and Amendments with the Human Services Provider of Services. The motion is subject to the Solicitor's approval, seconded by Mr. Culp and carried unanimously.

Motion made by Mrs. Morrone approving to reappoint Robert Boland, of Ridley Park Borough, and Stanley Kester, of Chester Township, to the Delaware County Regional Water Quality Control Authority to a term ending January 2021, seconded by Mr. McBlain and carried unanimously.

Motion made by Mrs. Morrone approving to reappoint Paul J. Wechsler, III, of Springfield Township, to the Delaware County Authority to a term ending January 2021, seconded by Mr. White and carried unanimously.

Motion made by Mrs. Morrone approving to reappoint Robert J. Willert, of Ridley Township, to the Pennsylvania Convention Center Board to a term ending January 2019, seconded by Mr. Culp and carried unanimously.

Motion made by Mrs. Morrone approving a memorial to be erected on the grave of Joseph Haney, of Upper Chichester Township, a deceased service person, seconded by Mr. McBlain and carried unanimously.

Chairman Civera called on Mr. White to speak on Agenda Item 18, the announcement and recognition of the Martin Luther King Jr. Day of Service event.

Mr. White said Monday, January 18, marks the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. federal holiday, first created in 1983 to mark the birthday of Dr. King. In 1994, Congress designated Martin Luther King Jr. Day as a national day of service when people are encouraged to participate in activities that help our neighbors and improve our communities.

That spirit of service is strong here in Delaware County. There are several events being held on Monday that call on people to *not* take a day off but instead to work on a service project. While we can't list all of the excellent programs going on throughout the county for MLK Day, we do want to highlight an ongoing project that involves young athletes.

This year is the 15<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the "Hoops from the Heart" basketball fundraiser and food drive that will take place at four college campuses to raise money for the Community Action Agency of Delaware County, the county's anti-poverty agency. This event involves hundreds of young athletes who attend basketball clinics at Haverford, Neumann, Widener and Cabrini Colleges. Proceeds from the clinics are used to help needy families. The participants are encouraged to bring non-perishable food items that are delivered to the Life Center in Upper Darby, which serves homeless individuals.

Every year, County Council has the opportunity to visit these clinics and are always impressed by the dedication of the coaches, the enthusiasm of the athletes and the generosity of everyone involved. It's a great moment when we make that final delivery of food to the Life Center, in Upper Darby.

These events involve young people, the college students who run the clinics and the school students who attend the clinics, and together they are learning to give back. Both events embody the spirit of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., who was committed to serving others and to ending poverty. It's great to see our young people working to make a difference in peoples' lives.

Since "Hoops from the Heart" started in 2002, the event has raised over \$90,000.00 for Community Action Agency programs, and the food collected goes to the Life Center of Eastern Delaware County, in Upper Darby

Attending this morning's meeting on behalf of Martin Luther King Jr. Day of Service, Hoops from the Heart, were the following individuals: Ed Coleman, Director of the Community Action Agency of Delaware County and Ann Schieffer, Meal Program Coordinator for Hoops from the Heart.

On behalf of the Community Action Agency, Mr. Coleman thanked County Council, Executive Director Grace and Human Services Director Joe Dougherty for their assistance in getting them

through the recent budget impasse. Their proactive response to this crisis averted extreme hardship to our county's most vulnerable residents.

Mr. Coleman said the feeding program at the Life Center has been going on since the late 1980's with over 200 meals served per night and over 75,000 meals per year served. The in-kind value last year was \$1,450,000.00 with all of that coming directly from the community (no public money involved in this effort). Since the program began, over 1.5 million meals have been served with an in-kind value of \$19,000,000.00. There are over 50 faith-based groups and over 300 volunteers to contribute to this effort.

Mr. Coleman called on Ann Schieffer to say a few words.

Ms. Schieffer said the most important part of the meal program is spreading smiles and seeing how appreciative the people are who have come for a meal. 99 out of 100 people will say thank you, bless you, give hugs and talk with you.

Before continuing with today's Agenda Items, Chairman Civera recognized the Sewell family who are here this morning representing their son, Petty Officer First Class Lamont R. Sewell of the United States Navy and whose picture will be placed on the Armed Services Tribute Board immediately following this morning's meeting.

U.S. Navy Petty Officer First Class Sewell grew up in Chester, attended Chester High School and Delaware County Technical Schools, in Aston, where he graduated in 2001. He also graduated from the Coastline Community College in 2015 with an associate's degree in science. Petty Officer Sewell is currently stationed in Pensacola, Florida, at the Naval Air Technical Training Center, where he qualified as a Master Training Specialist (MTS). He has been deployed to Afghanistan twice and was awarded the Naval Achievement Medal. He was later stationed in Japan and deployed to the historical Iwo Jima Air Base and received a Flag Letter of Commendation and his second Naval Achievement Medal.

Petty Officer Sewell's parents, Rosemarie and Roger, along with other family members are in attendance this morning and will be placing his photo on the Tribute Board after the meeting. Chairman Civera invited everyone downstairs immediately following the meeting to attend the ceremony in the lobby of the Government Center.

Motion made by Mrs. Morrone approving Agenda Item 19, 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 eight (8) Petitions for the Involuntary Termination of Parental Rights and one (1) Consent for Adoption with the Orphans Courts.

Motion made by Mrs. Morrone approving to file eight (8) 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. McBlain echoed the comments made regarding “Hoops from the Heart” event. It is a great program that Council looks forward to which is a wonderful way to honor Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Day of Service.

Mr. McBlain congratulated his fellow Council members, Colleen Morrone and Michael Culp, who took the Oath of Office on Monday along with himself to start their terms of office. He is very appreciative of those who sit on County Council; he might be a little bias, but he believes they do a great job. He looks forward to the next four years working to tackle many of the problems, such as the State Budget impasse.

The immediate crisis is over. The men and women who work for the different agencies that provide services to the most vulnerable in our community will get their money and be able to meet their payrolls for the next month or so, but the budget crisis is still not over. Governor Wolf needs to end the budget problem he had this year and move into the New Year and better articulate his sources of revenue that he would fund these big increases with.

Mrs. Morrone introduced two new County staff members, namely Lori Devlin as Director of the Office of Intercommunity Health and Pat O’Connell as Director of the Regional Office of EMS.

Chairman Civera said Delaware County is starting the New Year off in a great way, especially as it pertains to our finances. In December, Moody’s Investors Service and Standard & Poor’s Ratings Service met with County Council, Executive Director Grace and Budget Director Hayes to tour various parts of Delaware County to see the economic engine we have in Delaware County and to listen to what we have to say explicitly to sell what we have and to impress the kind of job we are doing as far as a government agency in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

Moody’s came back with a Aa1 rating, which is unbelievable with a Commonwealth that didn’t have a budget adopted at that point, but Delaware County continued to provide the services that were needed with no funding coming in through the state. Standard and Poor’s also came back with a AA Rating.

Approximately five years ago, Delaware County almost took a setback when the refineries started to shut down. That was a challenge for County Council then and it’s a challenge of today’s County Council to continue to deal with that.

All members of Council were interviewed and asked questions about the County. We did a great job and one that we are very proud of.

**DISCUSSION:** No public comment(s).

There being no further County business, nor public discussion, a motion was made by Mr. Culp to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Mr. White and carried unanimously.

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ANNE M. COOGAN, County Clerk

RECORDED BY: N. J. Scallan