

Wyoming County Commissioners Meeting

ZOOM Available

December 5, 2023

In Attendance: Rick Wilbur, Tom Henry, Ernie King, Commissioners, Atty. Paul Litwin, Solicitor, Amber Franko, Chief Clerk

Press: Kevin McConlogue, New Age Examiner, Warren Howeler, Rocket Courier (via Zoom)

Visitors: Theresa McCloskey, Nurse Family (via Zoom), Nancy Aiello, Linda Coolbaugh

Rick Wilbur opened the Meeting at 10:04 a.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Public Comment (Agenda Items Only):

Commissioner King made a motion to approve the agenda. Commissioner Henry second the Motion. Motion carried.

Old Business:

Tom Henry made a motion to approve the November 22, 2023 and November 30, 2023 meeting minutes. Ernie King second the motion. Motion carried.

New Business:

Chief Clerk Report-None

Solicitor Report-Requested an Executive Session regarding a real estate matter.

Commissioner Wilbur commenced opening the two TAN proposals presented for the 2024 TAN:
Peoples Security-Offered a rate of 4.74% on both a \$1m and \$2m TAN
Honesdale National-Offered 70% of the prime rate on both a \$1m and \$2m TAN
Commissioner Wilbur made a motion to approve the proposal from Peoples Security on a TAN of up to \$2m for 2024. Commissioner Henry second the motion. Motion carried.

Ernie King made a motion to approve Children & Youth contracts. Tom Henry second the motion. Motion carried.

Rick Wilbur made a motion to approve signing of final RACP paperwork for Lackawanna Trail. Tom Henry second the motion. Motion carried.

Rick Wilbur made a motion to re-appoint Walt Dana as Farmer Director of Penn State Extension. Ernie King second the motion. Motion carried.

Public Comment:

Commissioner Wilbur announced the 2024 budget is posted and has been advertised. There is time to review and changes can be made if necessary.

Commissioner Wilbur also announced the county has a fully executed Interest Arbitration Award for the Court-Appointed Bargaining Unit. The award is dated December 1, 2023 and announced on December 4, 2023 at 9:30am.

Nancy Aiello and Linda Coolbaugh spoke on behalf of Grandparents Raising Grandchildren. They have the support of the Luzerne Foundation but requested \$1,000 from the county for advertising costs and startup fees. The Commissioners requested to table the vote until the December 19, 2023 meeting pending further discussions.

Atty. Paul Litwin called for an Executive Session at 10:40 a.m. No action taken following the Executive Session.

There being no further business to come before the Commissioners at this time. Commissioner Wilbur made the Motion to adjourn. Commissioner Henry second the Motion. Motion carried.

Rick Wilbur adjourned the meeting at 10:40 a.m.

Handwritten signatures of Rick Wilbur, Tom Henry, and Ernie King.

Wyoming County Commissioners Meeting

ZOOM Available

December 7, 2023

In Attendance: Rick Wilbur (via Zoom), Ernie King, Commissioners,
Atty. Paul Litwin, Solicitor (via Zoom), Amber Franko, Chief Clerk

Press: Warren Howeler, Rocket Courier (via Zoom)

Visitors: Theresa McCloskey, Nurse Family (via Zoom)

Rick Wilbur opened the Meeting at 10:00 a.m.

Public Comment (Agenda Items Only):

Commissioner King made a motion to approve the agenda. Commissioner Wilbur second the Motion.
Motion carried.

Old Business:

None

New Business:

Chief Clerk Report-None

Solicitor Report-None

Commissioner Wilbur made a motion to authorize the county's application for the TEFAP grant. Theresa McCloskey commented that this grant is for \$50,000 for the Wyoming County Food Pantry. This will be used for a new cooler as well as much needed renovations. The County is simply the lead agency for the grant. Commissioner King second the motion. Motion carried.

Commissioner Wilbur also made a motion to authorize Commissioner King to sign the grant on behalf of all three Commissioners. Commissioner King second the motion. Motion carried.

Public Comment:

None

There being no further business to come before the Commissioners at this time. Commissioner King made the Motion to adjourn. Commissioner Wilbur second the Motion. Motion carried.

Rick Wilbur adjourned the meeting at 10:15 a.m.

Ernest A. King
Rick Wilbur
Theresa McCloskey

Wyoming County Commissioners Meeting

ZOOM Available

December 14, 2023

In Attendance: Rick Wilbur (via Zoom), Tom Henry, Ernie King, Commissioners, Atty. Paul Litwin, Solicitor (via Zoom), Amber Franko, Chief Clerk

Press: Kevin McConlogue, New Age Examiner, Warren Howeler, Rocket Courier (via Zoom)

Visitors: None

Tom Henry opened the Meeting at 10:01 a.m.

Public Comment (Agenda Items Only):

Commissioner King made a motion to approve the agenda. Commissioner Wilbur second the Motion. Motion carried.

Old Business:

None

New Business:

Chief Clerk Report-None

Solicitor Report-None

Commissioner Henry made the motion to approve the bills for payment. These were previously reviewed for accuracy. Commissioner King second the motion. Commissioner Wilbur abstained from the vote as he had not had a chance to review the invoices. Motion carried.

Tom Henry made a motion to approve a three-year contract with ESRI for a license agreement for GIS. Rick Wilbur instructed these funds will be reimbursed through Act 13. Ernie King second the motion. Motion carried.

Rick Wilbur made a motion to authorize Peoples Security Bank and/or Chief Clerk Franko to send the TAN information to DCED. Tom Henry second the motion. Motion carried.

Public Comment:

Paul Litwin made the Commissioners aware that Clinton Township has asked for additional security at their meetings. The Sheriff's department has agreed to send deputies.

Mr. Litwin also asked if a closing date has been set for the 2024 TAN. The closing will be in January but no date has been set at this time.

There being no further business to come before the Commissioners at this time. Commissioner King made the Motion to adjourn. Commissioner Wilbur second the Motion. Motion carried.

Rick Wilbur adjourned the meeting at 10:14 a.m.

Tom Henry
Ernest A. King
Rick Wilbur

Wyoming County Commissioners Meeting

ZOOM Available

December 19, 2023

In Attendance: Rick Wilbur, Tom Henry, Ernie King, Commissioners, Atty. Paul Litwin, Solicitor, Amber Franko, Chief Clerk

Press: Kevin McConlogue, New Age Examiner, Warren Howeler, Rocket Courier

Visitors: John Alunni, Human Services Director, Lynnelle Farber, Planning Director

Rick Wilbur opened the Meeting at 10:15 a.m.

Public Comment (Agenda Items Only):

Rick Wilbur made a motion to approve adding the resignation of Christine Soloman from Children & Youth, effective December 28, 2023, to the agenda. Tom Henry second the motion. Motion carried.

Commissioner Henry made a motion to approve the agenda. Commissioner Wilbur second the Motion. Motion carried.

Old Business:

Tom Henry made a motion to approve the December 5, 2023, December 7, 2023 and December 14, 2023 meeting minutes. Ernie King second the motion. Motion carried.

New Business:

Chief Clerk Report-The reorganization meeting was incorrectly advertised. It will be January 2, 2024 at 10:00 a.m. in the Commissioner's conference room.

Solicitor Report-Requested an Executive session regarding real estate matters. Informed the Commissioners that Jim Davis has opted not to continue for another term on the Planning Board. This position will need to be filled at the reorganization meeting January 2, 2024.

Tom Henry made a motion to approve the resolution authorizing the issuance of the Tax Anticipation Note for 2024. Ernie King second the motion. Motion carried.

Tom Henry made a motion to approve an addendum to a contract with Luzerne Wyoming County Mental Health and Development Services to extend the agreement for services. Ernie King second the motion. Motion carried.

Ernie King made a motion to accept the resignation of Carolyn Posten from the Wyoming County Correctional Facility, effective December 14, 2023. Tom Henry second the motion. Motion carried.

Tom Henry made a motion to accept the resignation of Ashlee Welles from the Wyoming County Correctional Facility, effective December 10, 2023. Ernie King second the motion. Motion carried.

Tom Henry made a motion to reappoint Stacy Huber and Glenn Layaou for another 5-year term on both the Housing and Redevelopment Boards. Ernie King second the motion. Motion carried. Rick Wilbur abstained from the vote due to ownership of a Section 8 apartment.

Tom Henry made a motion to approve management and non-union employee wage increases for 2024 to match the 2.75% increase of elected officials previously voted on. Ernie King second the motion. Motion carried.

Ernie King made the motion to approve the hiring of Sydney Kostick as Office Manager in the District Attorney's office. This is a non-union position which is currently vacant. Tom Henry second the motion. Motion carried.

Ernie King made a motion to approve Larson, Kellett and Associates to perform audit services for Wyoming County. Tom Henry second the motion. Motion carried.

Wyoming County Commissioners Meeting

ZOOM Available

December 19, 2023

Tom Henry made a motion to approve a Children & Youth contract. Ernie King second the motion. Motion carried.

Ernie King made a motion to hire Lindsay Butler as a Telecommunicator Trainee with 911. Tom Henry second the motion. Motion carried.

Tom Henry made a motion to accept the resignation of Josh Sudigala as a Telecommunicator Trainee with 911, effective December 14, 2023. Ernie King second the motion. Motion carried.

Tom Henry made a motion to establish a retention and sign-on incentive for Children and Youth. Total amount to be paid will be \$2,000. The payments will be allocated in 6 months and then again in 12 months. Ernie King second the motion. Motion carried.

Tom Henry made a motion to accept the resignation of Christine Solomon from Children and Youth, effective December 28, 2023. Ernie King second the motion. Motion carried.

Public Comment:

Warren Howeler inquired as to how many vacancies Children and Youth currently had. John Alunni stated there were 4 caseworker positions and 2 case aide positions open. Children and Youth does get reimbursement for interns and John has spoken to all surrounding colleges for potential applicants.

Atty. Paul Litwin called for an Executive Session at 10:30 a.m. regarding a real estate matter.

The Commissioners meeting resumed at 10:35 a.m.

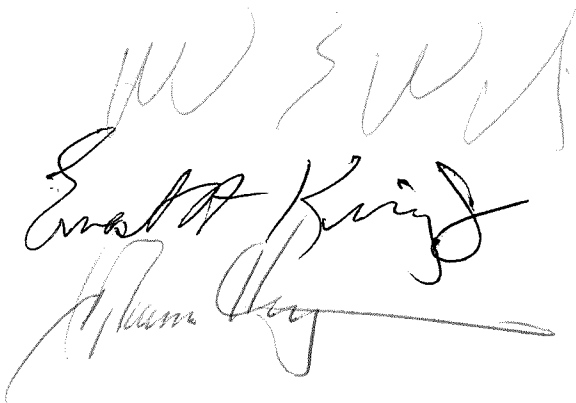
Rick Wilbur made a motion to authorize to submit an offer to purchase the Presbyterian Church property located on Slocum Ave and Putnam Street in the Borough of Tunkhannock for purposes of recreation/adult community center and county offices in the amount not greater than fair market value as determined following consultation with the County Assessor and a licensed real estate broker or licensed real estate appraiser doing business within the county, and with the agreement of sale conditioned upon:

- Zoning approval from the Borough of Tunkhannock to operate a community center and county offices at the location; and
- Closing within three months from the date zoning approval has been granted.

Tom Henry second the motion. Motion carried.

There being no further business to come before the Commissioners at this time. Ernie King made the Motion to adjourn. Tom Henry second the Motion. Motion carried.

Rick Wilbur adjourned the meeting at 10:37 a.m.



Ernie King
Tom Henry

Wyoming County Commissioners Meeting

ZOOM Available

December 28, 2023

In Attendance: Rick Wilbur, Tom Henry (via phone), Ernie King, Commissioners, Atty. Paul Litwin, Solicitor, Amber Franko, Chief Clerk

Press: Bob Baker, New Age Examiner, Warren Howeler, Rocket Courier (via Zoom)

Visitors: None

Rick Wilbur opened the Meeting at 10:00 a.m.

Public Comment (Agenda Items Only):

Rick Wilbur made a motion to approve the hiring of a broker for the possible purchase of the Presbyterian church. Ernie King second the motion. Motion carried.

Rick Wilbur made the motion to remove the following from the agenda: Discuss and vote on accepting offer for settlement of lawsuit against DA's office that does not admit wrongdoing and will not cost the county additional money. Ernie King second the motion. Motion carried.

Commissioner Henry made a motion to approve the agenda. Commissioner King second the Motion. Motion carried.

Old Business:

None

New Business:

Chief Clerk Report-None

Solicitor Report-None

Tom Henry made a motion to approve the bills for payment. All invoices were reviewed for accuracy. Ernie King second the motion. Motion carried.

Rick Wilbur made the motion to adopt the 2024 county budget which can be viewed on the Wyoming County website: www.wyomingcountypa.gov. Ernie King second the motion. Motion carried.

Rick Wilbur made a motion to encumber an additional \$15,000 from liquid fuels for Bridge #9 which is on Brides Drive in Falls Township. Tom Henry second the motion. Motion carried.

Rick Wilbur made a motion to approve the hiring of Susan DiStadio as the broker for the possible purchase of the Presbyterian church. Ernie King second the motion. Motion carried.

Public Comment:

There being no further business to come before the Commissioners at this time. Ernie King made the Motion to adjourn. Tom Henry second the Motion. Motion carried.

Rick Wilbur adjourned the meeting at 10:07 a.m.

Handwritten signatures of Amber Franko, Rick Wilbur, and Ernie King.