

**PRESENT:** Colleen P. Morrone, Vice Chairman; 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.

Vice Chairman Morrone called the regular meeting of February 17, 2016 to order followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag led by C. J. Griffin and A. J. Miller, students at Springfield High School. Denise Stewart, Director of County Services for the Aging, gave the invocation.

Vice Chairman Morrone called on Mr. White to present today's Agenda Items.

Motion made by Mr. White approving the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of February 10, 2016, seconded by Mr. Culp and carried unanimously.

Motion made by Mr. White approving Agenda Item 5, Central Tax Collection Department requests 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. Culp and carried unanimously.

Motion made by Mr. White approving a contract between the County of Delaware and S. J. Thomas, Inc., 140 Bartram Avenue, Lansdowne, PA for replacement of the Internal Boiler Tubing at Fair Acres Geriatric Center, Building No. 9, in an amount not to exceed \$63,871.51 pursuant to the Keystone Purchasing Network (KPN) Contract No. 201401-JOCC-23. The motion is subject to the Solicitor's approval, seconded by Mr. Culp and carried unanimously.

Motion made by Mr. White approving a contract between the County of Delaware and S. J. Thomas, Inc., 140 Bartram Avenue, Lansdowne, PA for the removal of and reconstruction of a new parapet including roofing and capping on the Fronfield Building in an amount not to exceed \$297,908.79 pursuant to the Keystone Purchasing Network (KPN) Contract No. 201401-JOCC-25. The motion is subject to the Solicitor's approval, seconded by Mr. Culp and carried unanimously.

Motion made by Mr. White approving a Time Extension only for the Internet Crimes Against Children (ICAC) Grant from the U. S. Department of Justice extending the grant ending date from 3/31/2016 to 6/30/2016. The motion is subject to the Solicitor's approval, seconded by Mr. Culp and carried unanimously.

Vice Chairman Morrone called on Lori Devlin, Director of Intercommunity Health, to speak on Agenda Item 9.

Mrs. Devlin asked for Council's approval to submit a Grant Application to the PA Department of Environmental Protection in the amount of \$113,340.00. This grant will enable the County to provide a West Nile Virus Surveillance and Control Program from January 1, 2016 to December 31, 2016. The funds obtained through this grant will be utilized for surveillance, treatment and public education. No County dollars are involved with the provision of this program.

Motion made by Mr. White approving to submit a Grant Application to the PA Department of Environmental Protection for the 2016 West Nile Virus Program in the amount of \$113,340.00. The motion is subject to the Solicitor's approval, seconded by Mr. Culp and carried unanimously.

Vice Chairman Morrone called on Joe Dougherty, Director of Human Services, to speak on Agenda Item 10.

Mr. Dougherty asked for Council's approval of an amendment to a contract with the Office of Behavioral Health. This is for Crisis and Outpatient Services.

Motion made by Mr. White 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.

Vice Chairman Morrone called on Mr. Culp to speak on Agenda Item 11, a Resolution recognizing February as Black History Month.

Every February, Mr. Culp said County Council recognizes the accomplishments of African Americans throughout our history, and we 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 continue to celebrate the lives and accomplishments of great African American leaders. It's by learning about the struggles our ancestors faced as they broke down barriers for us that future generations can continue to work for equality and fairness for all people. Black History Month is a great opportunity for young people to learn about the hard fought victories of the past.

In Delaware County, we are privileged to have many outstanding African Americans. One of Delaware County's contemporary outstanding citizens is Common Pleas Judge Nathaniel Nichols who helped plan today's recognition, but unfortunately his duties as a Common Pleas Judge called him away this morning. Lucky for us, his wife Cheryl, a retired teacher in the Wallingford/Swarthmore School District, is with us today.

Judge Nichols has addressed Council during Black History Month since he was elected to the Court of Common Pleas in 2011. This year, he invited three students from Springfield High School who will share some of the research they did into leaders in the Civil Rights movement.

Mr. Culp said we are pleased to welcome Fonda Akins, a learning support teacher who has taught in the Springfield School District for 21 years. In addition to teaching, Ms. Akins is the co-sponsor of a multi-cultural group called REACH, which stands for Respecting Ethnic and Cultural Heritage. She was accompanied by Demetrius Spiropoulos, a school counselor.

After the Resolution presentation, Fonda Akins introduced the three students who presented some excerpts from the research they did into notable African Americans who changed how people are treated.

Christopher Griffin, Jr., a senior at Springfield High School, researched the life of W. E. DuBois, an African American writer, historian and leader who was one of the founders of the NAACP. He was also the first African American to earn a Ph.D. from Harvard University.

Symphonie Blalock, a Springfield High School sophomore honor student and an athlete and a talented musician, read a brief report on the life of Constance Baker Motley, an African American civil rights activist, lawyer, judge and a New York State Senator. She was the first African American woman to sit as a federal judge. In 1978, sports fans might recall that Judge Motley handed down the breakthrough decision that female reporters have to be allowed into the Major League Baseball locker room.

Audean Miller, a senior at Springfield High School and has participated in many community service projects and is active in theater, did his research into the Selma, Alabama marches that were part of the Voting Rights Movement in 1965. .

Mr. Culp said County Council is very proud of the accomplishments of our students throughout the county. We are really pleased to recognize these Springfield students today.

Mr. Culp asked Cheryl Nichols to come forward to say a few words.

Mrs. Nichols said they really appreciate the opportunity to showcase the talent that exists in this county. She thanked County Council for allowing the students to represent, not just Springfield High School, but all of the many districts in this county. They are truly blessed to have such talented young people. She thanked the students' advisors, teachers and parents for allowing them to be here today, but also for continuing to provide the excellence in this county that many of us move here for. So, on behalf of her husband (Judge Nichols who is on an assignment), she thanked County Council for the time and opportunity.

Mr. Culp also introduced two special guests who attended today's meeting – Deputy District Attorney George Dawson and Assistant District Attorney Erica Parham.

Vice Chairman Morrone called on Mr. White to continue with today's Agenda Items.

Motion made by Mr. White approving Agenda Item 12, the request by the Controller's Office for payment of current bills, seconded by Mr. Culp and carried unanimously.

**SOLICITOR:** No County business.

**COUNCIL:** Mr. Culp thanked Mr. Spiropoulos and Ms. Akins for bringing the three students here today to recognize Black History Month and to Mrs. Nichols for filling in for her husband. He thanked Denise Stewart for the nice job she did with the invocation today and for everything she does for Delaware County in the Office of Services for the Aging (COSA). It is a tough job and we are very lucky to have her.

Mr. White said, what we witnessed today, these three young students will be leaders in our community very shortly. They have done an incredible job; their speeches were inspiring; and he believes they helped to fulfill Dr. Martin Luther King's dream. You should be very proud of yourself and your teachers; you have showed us what excellence is all about. Congratulations!

Vice Chairman Morrone believes this is one of our best Black History Month presentations that she has experienced since becoming a member on County Council. To Symphonie, A. J. and C. J. - you did a tremendous job. We could see the passion and the preparedness and everything you put into today's event.

Vice Chairman Morrone called on Dr. Avetian, County Senior Medical Advisor, to say a few words about the flu. We seem to be having a few illnesses going around, so Council decided this was a good opportunity to take a moment to go over preparedness for the flu and make sure that we are doing everything we can to stay healthy.

Dr. Avetian said we are in the midst of the season. Flu activity statewide is currently widespread. It is usually categorized in five categories - no activity or all the way to widespread. On an annual basis in the state of Pennsylvania, we have anywhere from 600,000 to 2.4 million cases of influenza per year. The best method of intervention is prevention and the best way to prevent the flu is by getting a flu vaccine. It is never too late! So, anyone in the room today or out in the community who has not received the flu vaccine are encouraged to get one.

To date, there have been 6 deaths statewide, 2 of them were in their 50's and 4 of them over the age of 65. Annually, in the state of Pennsylvania, there are anywhere from 120 to 2,000 people succumb to the flu or to illnesses that are exacerbated by the flu.

In the cases of individuals who had the flu vaccine and still get the flu or those who have not had the flu vaccine, there are very good medications to mitigate and to minimize the symptoms. It is imperative to get those medications within the first 48 hours.

Get the flu vaccine. If you do develop symptoms, get to the physician immediately, and as we always stress - good hygiene is always another method of prevention.

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

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

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ANNE M. COOGAN, County Clerk

RECORDED BY: N. J. Scallan