



CapCOG Board of Delegates
Monday, August 21, 2023 - 7:00 PM

DELEGATES IN ATTENDANCE: 16

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| Camp Hill Borough - Michelle Forbes East Pennsboro Township, Terry Watts Hampden Township - Al Bienstock Highspire Borough, Mark Stonbraker Lower Allen Township, Jennifer Caron Lower Paxton Township, Robin Lindsey, Norm Zoumas Marysville Borough, Brian Webster | Middle Paxton Township, Jim Fisher Monaghan Township, Tracey Pawleski New Cumberland Borough, Gennifer Richie North Middleton Township, Jim Hare Royalton Borough, Terry Watts Silver Spring Township, Harry Kotzmoyer | Swatara Township, Mike Tuckey Upper Allen Township, Ken Martin Wormleysburg Borough, Margie Stuski |
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MUNICIPALITIES NOT IN ATTENDANCE: 27

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| Annville Township Carlisle Borough Carroll Township Conewago Township Dauphin Borough Derry Township Dillsburg Borough East Hanover Township Fairview Township | Goldsboro Borough Harrisburg City Hummelstown Borough Lemoyne Borough Londonderry Township Lower Swatara Mechanicsburg Borough Middletown Borough Monroe Township | Newberry Township Paxtang Borough Penbrook Borough Shiremanstown Borough South Hanover Township South Middleton Township Steelton Borough Susquehanna Township West Hanover Township |
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NON-VOTING IN ATTENDANCE:

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| Speakers <ul style="list-style-type: none">Patrick Kirk, Lewis Strategic and SplashwireMark Dixon, Merlin CommunicationsVince DiFilippo, Cumberland CountyAndrew Forbes, Camp Hill | <u>CapCOG STAFF</u> Gary Myers, Executive Director Rhonda Campbell, Program Director |
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The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM by President Robin Lindsey.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mark Stonbraker.

Roundtable introductions were made.

Presentations

Patrick Kirk, Lewis Strategic and Splashwire

- Specializes in cost savings for government and school organizations.
- Worked for accounting firm and retired 5 years ago.
- Partnered with Kelly Lewis to help municipalities save money on IT services, health care, and utilities
- IT services - copies, reproduction costs. Usually around 50% savings. More than 50 people working with you is requirement. Broadband - combine municipalities to save on broadband services; look at gigabyte pricing and then we provide a proposal.
- Healthcare - two areas: RX and vision. Most cases BC/BS Highmark are part of plan. If you cut them out, could be a good savings through rebates/refunds that you may be missing. BCBS might come back and reduce costs.
- Utilities - one of our companies looks at electric, water, sewage, waste, trash. Analyze your bills and come back with report. In 80% of cases there is an overpayment.
- No risk to municipalities. We take the risk. If you don't save, we don't get paid.
- Worker's comp audits - look at payroll, analyze and then share recommendations.
- We work with companies to get refunds etc. from the providers.
- www.costsavingsconsultants.com will explain the services.
- Most of the work is done off site.
- Ken Martin - 50 employees minimum for all? No. Just for healthcare and copiers.

Mark Dixon

Merlin Communications

- We purchased in 2018; started in 2004.
- Merlin Communications provides telephone systems.
- 2020 migrated to global contractor - structured cabling, surveillance, access control, AV.
- We also have journeyman electrician on staff. It allows you to work with fewer contractors. (e.g., electrician, surveillance).
- We facilitate all that. Electricians that do power; do cabling, do camera system.
- Three Costars contracts
- Also audit telephone bills; 80% of all telephone bills have an error. We become an agent on your behalf; get customer service records from telephone company and your bills. How many lines in a building, etc. We match and find that you are, often, paying for services you no longer use. We can go back to carriers to get a credit - if there is documentation. Can also do RFP to competitively bid telephone services. We were able to save a recent client 50%.
- Telecom expense management - we review your telephone bills on a monthly basis before you pay your bill.
- Lindsey - Do you do cameras in township parks? Dixon: Yes
- Norm Zoumas - We just approved a company to do some installation of cameras; out of LA. Only one who bid on it. Do you bid on those local contracts? Dixon: When we can find them, yes. We've been doing this business model for about 2-3 years. We don't do a lot of bid spec work but if it is local, we'd like to work with them. Zoumas: I'll bring it up. This is just the beginning of our efforts to do at 16 parks. As we get more money we'll put out more projects.
- Also have a help desk. We speak English to you; tech-ese to the companies. Many times we have direct access to an inside source. Access to 200 suppliers. We are a single point of contact. We can provide the number of quotes you need. We are free to you; we get commissions from carriers. Most carriers are getting rid of local sales forces.
- Lindsey - Where are you located? Dixon: Etters.

Consent Agenda

- June 2023 minutes Margie Stuski motioned. Jim Fisher, Seconded. Unanimously approved.
- June 2023 Treasurer's Report - Terry Watts motioned. Tracey Pawleski seconded. Unanimously approved.

Executive Director's Report

Trainings

PSATS Flagger Training - June 27, 2023 - South Middleton Township

- 28 attendees
- 9 Municipalities
- Next training will be on September 13, 2023 @ Camp Hill Borough

Roberts Rules of Order Training - July 26, 2023 - Upper Allen Township

- 28 attendees
- 17 Municipalities
- Nicholas Schwartz - Naumann, Smith, Shissler, and Hall
- Very well received

Confined Spaces Training - September 6 and 7 (pick one) - RETTEW Mechanicsburg

- 49 Registered as of 8/21/23
- Registration closes when classes reach 30 students

Auction

- 10 Participants (15 in 2022)
- Sale Total \$128,022
- 15% decrease from 2022
- CapCOG Profit: \$17,409.98 (Pending Port a John Charges)
- Profit is a 14% decrease from 2022.

Picnic/Golf Tournament - September 18, 2023 - Armitage

- Flyers and Registration forms were emailed August 4
- Sent to Delegates, Alternates, Managers, and Associate Members
- Current Sponsors: 16
- Sponsorship Amount: \$12,525.00

Salt Bids

- Forms will be sent to members by 8/31/23

PACOG - No report

SAFER Grant - Nate Silcox

- We are in the middle of year two and we appreciate all who are participating.
- \$2.2 M total for four years
- Physicals to date: 82
- Turn Out Gear: 20
- Basic training: 4
- Advanced training: 0
- Life insurance \$25,000; 172 fire fighters will receive.
- Tuition Reimbursement Only 2 so far; inching to 5.
- Nominal stipend of \$300 - 118 fire fighters will receive.
- Couple fire companies who signed up are not participating: Camp Hill Borough, Enola #3, Lisburn, and South Hanover Township.
- We'd like to get a subsequent grant. Let us know what we can do in the next two years to help.
- Jim Fisher: 118 members requesting stipend; must be FF2 and % of calls. \$300 per fire fighter.
- Tracey P: Some fire companies have housing. I don't know a whole lot about that. Does that make a difference? Does any grant money go to that. Silcox: Grant doesn't speak to live ins. A number of companies do have live ins. Nothing in grant to incentivize new ones.
- Lindsey - We have 3 Fire Companies and all three of ours have live-ins. About half of our attendees have live-in programs.
- SAFER Legislative Outreach - Feds are going through budgeting and US House has funded SAFER and Assistance to Fire Fighters Grant. The overall appropriation funded \$360M; Senate 338M proposed. Reach out to legislators and encourage them to fully fund SAFER and AFFG.

Cumberland County Report - Vince DiFilippo

- Comprehensive Plan - We are starting to revise (2017); survey on the website. Last comprehensive plan we did a similar survey and had a great response.
- Reminder: County property tax credit available for volunteer EMS and fire fighters.
- Last hazardous waste collection for the year will be October 26.

Dauphin - No report

York County Report - Tracey Pawleski

Closing the Digital Divide

- York County continues to advance efforts to bring accessible and affordable internet to our community.
- In 2021, the York County Commissioners allocated \$25 million in ARPA funds to closing the digital divide in York County. This allocation committed \$20 million to construct the first 144-miles of the 333-mile middle mile network described in the York County Broadband Plan and \$5 million to build an urban wireless network to expand access to the internet in the York and Hanover Metro areas.
- York County conducted a feasibility study to assess the needs of the urban project and outline the engineering needed to bring internet to these urban areas.
- The Board of Commissioners approved Statement of Work for these urban areas including Phase 1 which will cover York City in areas near the Judicial Center and YMCA and Terrace Avenue in Hanover. Once Phase 1 is completed, we will review the project work and make any process improvements needed, before the move to Phase 2, addressing the remaining areas. The purpose of the phased approach will ensure that we make necessary adjustments to the process.

York County Youth Detention Center Passes

- Over a decade ago, counties were encouraged to eliminate their detention facilities leading to a crisis across the Commonwealth in securing detention beds for youth individuals.
- What that means for youth in our community, is possibility that they will be placed in a detention facility that takes them geographically away from their support network and family in York County.
- Through the collaboration of county agencies and community stakeholders, a feasibility study was conducted that would utilize excess capacity at York County Prison. The Prison Board and Board of Commissioners approved moving forward with building a 12-bed center. Once completed, this facility will provide a space for our youth to stay here and receive the treatment they need. Funding for this facility will come from the county's capital reserve account.
- York County is also in the process of finalizing the first round of Opioid Settlement funding.

Legislative Update: Nate Silcox

- Budget itself is done; couple ancillary code bills need to be finished to spend money.
- Loggerhead between Governor, House and Senate. Senate coming back later in August.
- Only seven bills signed into law to date. Hopefully, moving forward a lot more will get done.
- There is a lot more we are looking for SB 459; RADAR, public notices SB 231 to reform that process. RTK SB 210 reforms. SB 749, 765, 774 that would amend 2nd class and borough and 3rd class cities code - limited partnership, assoc. as municipal manager.

Public Safety Committee - Nate Silcox

- Met tonight on EMS front. Sent a survey and looked at results. 15 municipalities completed the survey.
- We are going to send the survey a second time to try to get them to complete it.
- In the future will send a deeper dive survey to EMS Chiefs. No specific date set for that.

UCC Board of Appeals - Terry Watts

- Second hearing with Ever Grain Brewery.
- They originally didn't want to do sprinklers. When they came back very positive.
- Compensatory offerings so if you don't want to do this, what will you offer that will be equal to what you don't want to do?
- They offered to put sprinklers in even though no water yet, drop the total occupancy load to less than 300 which is what requires sprinklers for a period of time.
- Pre-charge the sprinkler systems with a fire department hookup on outside. Fire alarm system still monitored 24/7; roaming fire watch throughout buildings when occupied.
- This is all hinged on when water comes through (other development in works) once water is in; within six months they will connect and will have sprinklers and go to full occupancy load.
- If don't have within two years, they will find secondary way to supply water for sprinklers.
- Zoumas - Ever Grain - agreed to reduce occupancy to level not to require sprinklers? Whose responsibility is it to monitor? Watts: They said they would remove chairs to equal under 300. Now all you did was create standing room. We made the point in the hearing that the municipality understood that 3rd party code officials need to monitor until they get sprinklers hooked up.
- Just want to acknowledge that we have a great board of very smart code officials.
- Gary Myers: Your Board is a remarkable board. five professionals serve our members free-of charge. Only get 4-5 cases a year; always safety first with this board.

- Watts: We have a hearing tomorrow for a school strictly focused on autistic children.
- Their problem is because it is an educational facility, the fire alarms are tied in like in any other school.
- When alarms go off, certain loud noises can negatively impact children - result is children want to flee.
- School wants delayed egress locks so that they don't have a student run out of a door that will auto unlock when the alarm goes off.
- Unfortunately, the whole object of alarm system is to unlock the doors immediately when alarm goes off.
- They are asking for a waiver.
- This is an educational facility; but different use if you looked at it as a facility that detains with structured supervision that only allows movement when permitted, that is what the code recognizes as institution.
- This isn't an institution, but it would allow for the waiver. In one of those categories and conditions, it addresses closely what they are doing and allows delayed egress locks.
- Just because we call it an institution, some might be offended. In order for us to give them what they want, we have to consider that.
- Pawleski - the word institution has a stigma attached; but there are institution of higher learning as well. So the word doesn't have to be negative.
- Stuski - what do we do with assisted living facilities? Watts - different classification.

Good of the Order

- Lindsey - Just a reminder that on September 18 we have our Picnic/Golf Tournament. If not participating in golf please attend the picnic.
- Pawleski - Monaghan Township Community Day is August 26 from 11-4; welcome to join us at volunteer fire company.
- We're also looking at Comprehensive plan and update it.
- We are getting ready to build a new building for Township.
- Disaster planning presentation.
- Small town community relationship building event.

There is no meeting in September; it is replaced by the Picnic/Golf Tournament. The next Board of Delegates meeting will be Monday, October 16, 2023.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:03 PM. Watts motioned. Pawleski seconded. Unanimously approved.

