



Section 5

Stacey L. Kifolo

*Belle Isle City Manager
Candidate Report*

TABLE OF CONTENTS

	<u>PAGE</u>
COVER LETTER AND RESUME	1
CANDIDATE INTRODUCTION	7
BACKGROUND CHECKS	15
CB&A REFERENCE NOTES	21
INTERNET SEARCH	35

Cover Letter and Resume

STACEY L. KIFOLO

Winter Park, Florida 32792 | 570-768-7586 | staceykifolo@gmail.com | [linkedin.com/in/stacey-kifolo](https://www.linkedin.com/in/stacey-kifolo)

April 17, 2023

Colin Baenziger & Associates
2055 South Atlantic Avenue, Suite 504
Daytona Beach Shores, FL 32118

Dear Mr. Baenziger and Ms. Klein:

Please allow this letter and attached resume to serve as my request to be considered a candidate for City Manager for the City of Belle Isle, Florida. As you are aware I expressed interest directly to the City after the vacancy announcement in March. Following that submission, the Council decided to employ your services to aid in finding the best candidates. After reading the recruitment brochure, I believe that I possess the personal characteristics desired, and I am confident that my education and experiences, including Florida municipal government, will enable me to proactively address the community's current and future challenges and opportunities as the next long-term City Manager.

Many of the City's needs are reminiscent of those I successfully managed for a 7k+ population community in Central Pennsylvania. My first major project was the construction of a new municipal building and public works facilities. As the municipality's first manager, I had a very lean staff. Providing services, improving infrastructure, and attracting grant funds required building strong relationships and developing effective intergovernmental cooperation, which included partnering with surrounding municipal leaders, county government departments, state representatives, and community members.

My career has centered on improving communities and providing opportunities that encourage and enable staff to continually strive for personal growth, which positively impacts service delivery and organizational effectiveness. I have played key roles in influencing public policy, spearheading innovative programs, strengthening infrastructure, enhancing parks and recreation, streamlining operations, improving communications, and increasing transparency. By leveraging my financial and business acumen, I have significantly improved capital reserves and operating fund balances, limited benefits cost increases, and consistently maintained, even lowering, tax rates without compromising services or projects.

The following are a few highlights of my accomplishments:

- Successfully managed numerous federal and state grants, including a major public-private partnership that transformed 42 acres of brownfield into a job-creating commercial zone.
- Established an investment account that will meet future needs for a previously unfunded \$3.3M pension benefits liability.
- Secured grants from the Departments of Transportation, Environmental Protection, and Conservation and Natural Resources.
- Excelled as project manager and owner representative of a \$3.5M municipal building and public works facility construction project; delivering the project with <1% cost overruns.

I believe my vision and values align with the description provided by the Council and that I would be an excellent fit for the City of Belle Isle. I am available by phone or email and look forward to discussing this opportunity with you. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,
Stacey L. Kifolo

STACEY L. KIFOLO

Winter Park, Florida 32792 | 570-768-7586 | staceykifolo@gmail.com | linkedin.com/in/stacey-kifolo

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

DEPUTY CITY MANAGER, 8/2021 to 12/2022

City of Deltona, Florida

- Directed operations of 6 departments including Finance, Procurement, and Contracting; Asset Management; Human Resources and Risk Management; Information Technology; Communications & Marketing; Records Management; and an Event Center providing entertainment and food & beverage.
- Advised 5 departments including Parks & Recreation; Public Works and Utilities; Planning and Zoning; Building and Code Compliance; and Fire Department.
- Supervised staff of 375 direct and indirect reports.
- Guided development and executed a \$210M annual budget.
- Reinforced top-level decisions and strategy planning; and served as a critical advocate for change management.
- Appointed and coached department heads to expand cross-functional organizational capacity by collaborating on priorities, functions, and common goals.
- Managed employee benefits programs to maintain a strong portfolio while reducing associated costs.
- Researched issues, authored reports, and presented findings to city staff and the public.
- Executed existing Collective Bargaining Agreement (CBA) terms, and led negotiations for renewal.

TOWNSHIP MANAGER / CAO, 11/2012 to 8/2021

East Buffalo Township, Pennsylvania

- Fully remote from 2018-2021.
- Steered day-to-day operations of local government including finance, public works, planning & zoning, and human resources.
- Developed budgets, controlled costs, and optimized spending resulting in annual surpluses of up to \$500K.
- Grew operating fund balance by 150%, capital reserves by 850%, and maintained an even tax rate for four years followed by a 12% reduction.
- Achieved a 75% increase in OPEB assets while simultaneously reducing unfunded accrued liability by 35%.
- Contained benefits costs and sustained an average increase of 0.5% for 7 years through negotiations.
- Directed strategic planning, policy development, audit compliance, and vendor contracts.
- Strategized asset and master planning for capital construction, equipment, and road and bridge infrastructure.
- Organized bid processes from proposal parameters through contracting and project delivery.
- Cultivated relationships with local / state representatives, utility companies, and public safety agencies.
- Secured \$1.75M in state grants for infrastructure, natural resources restoration, and park rehabilitation.
- Created public communications strategies, including website, social media, and direct mail.
- Excelled as project manager and owner representative, delivering projects on time and under budget.
- Coordinated construction and administered \$4.4M of state and federal grants to transform a 42-acre brownfield site into a job-creating commercial zone under a public-private partnership.

FISCAL / PROJECT MANAGER, 7/2008 to 10/2012

Central Pennsylvania Workforce Development Corporation, Pennsylvania

- Partnered with employers, educators, and contractors to address workforce needs in a 9-county region.
- Managed vendor and partner contracts and completed related receivables and payables.
- Negotiated 7 facility leases and renovations as owner representative.
- Delivered financial and program performance presentations to executives, board, and project teams.
- Played a key role in the procurement and implementation of a \$3M Department of Labor Technical Skills Training grant.
- Created awareness of program opportunities by creating engaging marketing materials.
- Drove results by establishing standards for four industry-specific adult education and training programs.

E D U C A T I O N

Master of Business Administration (MBA)

Louisiana State University – Shreveport, LA

Bachelor of Science, Business Administration

Bloomsburg University of Pennsylvania – Bloomsburg, PA

C E R T I F I C A T E S

Crummer Certification in Business Management

Rollins College – Winter Park, FL

Florida Real Estate Sales Associate Pre-License Certificate

Azure Tide All Florida School of Real Estate - Bradenton, FL

A D D I T I O N A L E X P E R I E N C E

Leadership Susquehanna Valley Board Member – 2 Years

Union County, PA, Emergency Management Operations Center Team Member – 5 Years

Buffalo Valley Regional Police Commissioner – 2 Years

Union County, PA, Greenway & Open Space Plan Steering Committee Member – 1 Year

Candidate Introduction

STACEY KIFOLO

EDUCATION

Master of Business Administration, Louisiana State University, Shreveport, LA
Crummer Certification in Business Management, Rollins College, Winter Park, FL
Bachelor of Science, Bloomsburg University of Pennsylvania, Bloomsburg, PA

EXPERIENCE

Deputy City Manager, City of Deltona, FL	2021 – 2022
Township Manager / CAO, East Buffalo Township, PA	2012 – 2021
Fiscal / Project Manager, Central PA Workforce Development Corp	2008 – 2012
Business Operations Director, PA Treatment & Healing	1999 – 2008
Credit Analyst, Advanta National Bank	1998 – 1999
Sales Consultant, Saturn of Harrisburg	1993 – 1998
Guest Services, Best Western Hotel	1992 – 1993
Customer Service, Family-Owned Restaurant	1990 – 1993

BACKGROUND

The City of Deltona, Florida spans 40+ square miles in southwestern Volusia County and is part of the St. Johns River Water Management District. Originally established as a planned residential community, the Deltona fire district was dissolved when the city was incorporated on the last day of 1995. The city remains primarily residential, with a culturally diverse population of 93,600+, and serves as a commuter town for nearby cities. Interstate 4 traverses near the western boundary, near the city's zoned industrial area, which includes an Amazon distribution center. The Daytona State College is expanding its regional campus in the city to provide nursing degrees, in-demand career certificates, and adult education classes to meet local demand.

In 2022, the City of Deltona General Fund budget was \$168M; Proprietary Funds, which include city-owned water and wastewater utilities, were \$60.5M; for a total budget of \$228.5M. The city had 375 employment positions, with twelve departments, six of which reported directly to me as the Deputy City Manager. The fire department, which includes, emergency management, is a city department, whereas the Volusia Sheriff's Office is contracted for law enforcement services.

The three most significant issues facing the City of Deltona are:

- Septic Systems. Attracting businesses to Deltona would alter the tax base and create jobs, however, an impediment to commercial growth is the lack of sanitary sewer, even within applicably zoned areas. In addition, despite the city having adequately sized

STACEY KIFOLO

wastewater treatment facilities, only a quarter of residential dwellings are connected. Septic system environmental impacts and residential sprawl are significant issues.

- Parks and Facilities. The city has an inventory of 23 parks, ranging in size and with varying amenities, from a skate park to a dog park, and nature parks to a sports complex. In addition to city hall, municipal buildings within parks have suffered years of neglectful routine maintenance and a failure to gradually upgrade parks and facilities to meet ADA requirements. This will require a significant investment by the City to make necessary repairs and upgrades for health and safety purposes.
- Increasing Pension Liability. The unfunded liability in the City's fire pension had grown from under \$400k to over \$8M in approximately 12 years. The actuarial released in 2023 reports a \$13M unfunded liability. In the best interests of the firefighters and the taxpayers, the city with the local IAFF needs to improve the fund's long-term health. This will likely require a significant increase in annual contributions, which could negatively impact future tax rates and/or other city programs, services, or facilities.

GENERAL, MANAGEMENT STYLE AND EXPERIENCE

The City of Belle Isle has similar demographic characteristics to my previous municipality, which happened to be in the town where I was born and raised in Central Pennsylvania. Although Belle Isle is smaller in land area and has a higher population density, my municipality in Pennsylvania had a population of 7K+. It is a college town rich with a diversity of people, cultures, food, and activities. It has a small-town feel and charm but Philadelphia, Pittsburgh, Baltimore, and New York City are within driving range. I enjoy the diverse aspects of operating a local government, the need to be adaptable, the bringing together of people to foster creative solutions, and the service to a community. I believe that I have the mindset and transferable skills to make a positive difference with a strong focus on the future.

I am an adaptive leader, who understands that individual situations and/or people require different management styles to be effective. I believe that each of us is a teacher and each of us is a student, which has positively impacted my ability to be a strong municipal manager. With the wide-ranging challenges that I may face on any given day, I realize that I cannot be an expert on every subject, but I do have the ability to reach out to knowledgeable people and collaborate with them to find solutions. Experience has shown me that building relationships within the community and with neighboring municipalities, county, and state representatives expands a municipality's access to talent and resources. I am a strategic thinker and an active listener. Decisions are made after analysis and getting necessary inputs and evaluation, always keeping the best interests of residents and guests in focus. I do not shy away from decision-making. I explain my reasoning and thought processes as a means of improving understanding, fostering teamwork, and gaining support.

My staff would say that I have an open-door policy because communication is important for a productive and rewarding work environment. They appreciate that I am available, approachable,

STACEY KIFOLO

honest, knowledgeable, and ready to go to bat for what is right. They would tell you that I ask questions, not to find fault, but to find understanding. Sometimes the questioning is for me to find a better understanding, and sometimes it is about getting us to think about a situation from other angles. Everyone is encouraged to grow. One of the sayings I dread hearing is: “This is the way we have always done it.” If it works, keep it. If there is a better way, that’s what we will do. My staff knows that I won’t make a change just to make it different, and I won’t make a change that adds unnecessary work, but I will ask everyone to strive for continuous improvement.

The elected officials I have served would likely say that I am knowledgeable, highly competent, ethical, dedicated, transparent, strategic, and practical. I understand laws and regulations and I am capable of drafting policies and reviewing contracts. My communications are clear and concise. As one elected official once told me, I have a way of simplifying anything so that she understood, but I never made her feel inferior. I present elected officials with the information needed to make informed decisions, even if the information runs counter to what is most desired. I am an excellent negotiator with a commitment to managing costs, eliminating waste, and establishing strong internal controls. I have made significant contributions with my abilities to secure grants and manage grant-funded projects.

My greatest strength is my desire to have a positive impact on others. I am a strategic thinker, an analytical and creative problem solver, goal-oriented, proactive, and pragmatic. I realize effective communication requires strong written and verbal skills but understand that neither can be possible without empathetic listening first. I excel at cultivating relationships with key stakeholders and bringing together the right people to resolve issues and reach goals. I learn quickly, adapt to fast-paced work environments, easily grasp complex concepts, and implement sound work plans either independently or as part of a team.

In terms of weaknesses, I am a perfectionist. I must recognize when that trait is an asset and when it is a weakness. At times, I procrastinate with mundane tasks, but I never miss a deadline or hesitate in making timely decisions. Sometimes I struggle to delegate tasks, but with my previous remote work and management of a larger staff, I feel that I have improved in this area, but must remain diligent in not falling back to old ways.

Performance metrics vary depending on the project or task. Some are hard and fast, such as on-time completion, and budget management. Other metrics would include attendance, team participation, and providing friendly customer service. Progress made in reaching the strategic goals outlined by the governing body is an ongoing performance measure, keeping in mind that sometimes unanticipated matters may temporarily delay progress.

I am most proud of facing a \$3.3M unfunded post-retirement health care cost liability and putting East Buffalo Township in a solid financial position to prevent it from needing to increase taxes or diverting funds from needed projects because of this burden. I spearheaded efforts to reduce current costs, which as of the end of the 2021 fiscal year, lowered the total liability to just over \$2M. In 2013, after having our actuary perform the analysis, I established a

STACEY KIFOLO

subaccount in the capital reserve fund to lay the groundwork for investing. By 2016, I had earmarked \$400,000. Coupled with a \$500,000 low-interest 5-year loan, we invested \$900,000. The loan was repaid in 2019 and, as of the end of the fiscal year 2021, the investment account balance exceeded \$1.8M.

Just before my employment with the Township, plans and agreements had been approved for a public-private partnership to transform a 42-acre brownfield site into a job-creating commercial zone. A clause in the primary agreement between the municipality and the developer provided for full project completion before the issuance of occupancy permits. Without advance notice to me, the Planning Director issued a certificate of occupancy for one unit before the completion of off-site transportation improvements. When I questioned the issuance, I found that the Director had been working off of an unsigned agreement draft, which was not consistent with the final contract that contained the completion clause. Ultimately, the mistake was mine because I had assumed too much. Given the Director's involvement in the project from the beginning, I assumed when I should have verified, that we were working off the same agreement. I took responsibility for the error with the elected officials and the developer, retaining a strong relationship with the developer and averting potential issues in bringing the project to a close under the terms of the original agreement. It was a communication lesson and an example that reinforced that ensuring that everyone is on the same page does not signal distrust in the abilities of others, but rather builds a stronger bond in getting everyone moving toward the same goal.

I have been in situations that required employee terminations, the circumstances of each warranted different responses and personal reactions. I fired an employee for gross negligence that put others in danger. That was handled swiftly and directly, and I have no regrets because the safety of my staff members comes first. Another example was an employee who did not respond favorably to positive coaching. I wanted to give her a chance, which is why I was coaching her, but that led to progressive discipline, which ultimately resulted in the termination of her employment.

The challenges I would expect to face with the City of Belle Isle are:

- Building trust with elected officials, all staff members, and the public.
- Exploring opportunities for expanding the City's footprint.
- Planning and construction of City facilities to meet current and future needs.
- Addressing traffic concerns on the City's two primary collector roads.
- Supporting innovative policing strategies to proactively address community needs.
- Improving interlocal agreements and ensuring that the City's best interests are addressed.
- Reviewing internal processes and staffing to ensure efficiencies and effectiveness.

During the first six months, my efforts will involve:

- I will further familiarize myself with the City's codes, and the comprehensive plan, and gain an understanding of the details for ongoing and future projects and initiatives.
- Relationship building. Although the City has maintained good relationships with key

STACEY KIFOLO

stakeholders, my relationship-building would be a high priority. This will involve meeting with staff, council members, citizens, community groups, charter school personnel, officials of neighboring cities, Orange County representatives, state officials, MCO, and the Lake Conway Water and Navigation Control District. Gaining insight from these differing perspectives will aid in my assessment of the City's strengths, challenges, and opportunities.

- Understanding the Council's goals and perspectives to evaluate current and/or formulate actionable strategic planning.
- Assessing the City's financial position, reviewing past and anticipated future trends, exploring options for grant funding, and presenting the Council with recommendations.
- Understanding current performance measures and initiating revisions and clarifications as necessary to meet the current and future needs of the community and the Council.

In my role with the Township, I established and maintained strong relationships with local media. Local reporters had come to know that I am transparent, reliable, and a timely source of accurate information. My goal is to always provide the media with information that will keep citizens apprised of operations and programs. News outlets reported in October 2022 that I had been suspended with pay from the City of Deltona. The report, from a newly installed interim city manager, provided no details. Following the appointment of a second interim manager, he reported that I had not been suspended and that there was no disciplinary action of any kind against me. This report, however, did not make its way to any news outlet.

While serving the Township, I implemented a text messaging service that processed the mass distribution of information to subscribers and gave residents the ability to easily report concerns. Deltona had a dedicated staff which allowed for greater use of numerous social media platforms. With the City, I developed a media strategy guide to improve the effectiveness of the messaging and would work with staff to develop similar principles that would be effective in Belle Isle. The goal is to maintain consistency, educate the public, and provide timely news, while not oversaturating social media channels and remembering that not every resident uses social media.

I do not anticipate any community activists contacting the City with negative comments about me. I had a very positive reputation when serving as the township manager in East Buffalo, but given the political whirlwind in the City of Deltona is a political whirlwind so I cannot guarantee that someone won't make false claims. Should any negative remarks surface, I respectfully request an opportunity to present my perspective.

In my spare time, I enjoy reading, traveling, family time, physical fitness activities, and home improvement projects.

STACEY KIFOLO

SIX ADJECTIVES OR PHRASES I WOULD USE TO DESCRIBE MYSELF

- Analytical
- Approachable
- Dedicated
- Highly ethical
- Knowledgeable
- Proactive

REASON FOR DEPARTING MOST RECENT POSITION

The Deltona city manager, who hired me in August 2021, voluntarily resigned in September 2022. In mid-October, the commission installed a new city manager, who began removing staff from key positions, starting with me. I was given the option to resign or he would terminate my at-will employment. I resigned to retain personal credibility and protect the positive reputation I have carried throughout my career.

MOST RECENT SALARY

My base salary at Deltona was \$155,397. Total compensation with benefits was \$250,000.

Section 5

CB&A Background Checks

**Background Check Summary for
STACEY LYNN KIFOLO**

Criminal Records Checks:

Nationwide Criminal Records Search	No Records Found
County	
Orange County, FL	No Records Found
Volusia County, FL	No Records Found
Union County, PA	No Records Found
Wayne County, PA	No Records Found
State	
Florida	No Records Found
Pennsylvania	No Records Found

Civil Records Checks:

County	
Orange County, FL	No Records Found
Volusia County, FL	No Records Found
Union County, PA	No Records Found
Wayne County, PA	No Records Found
Federal	
Florida	No Records Found
Pennsylvania	No Records Found

Motor Vehicle

Florida	No Records Found
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Credit

Excellent

Personal Bankruptcy

No Records Found

Sex Offender Registry

Not Listed

Education

Confirmed

Employment

Confirmed, except for PA Treatment
and Healing (1999 – 2008)

Social Media

Nothing of Concern Found

**Background Check Summary for
STACEY LYNN KIFOLO**

Under the Fair Credit Reporting Act, 15 U.S.C. 1681-1681Y, credit and bankruptcy information are very sensitive and should not be used in the consideration of hiring. The information is included for each candidate because we do not want you to be surprised if third parties raise what they consider to be a concern. Also, some states have limited the reporting to seven years, so any records older than that will not be available in those states. In addition, motor vehicle reports are limited to three to seven years, depending on the state.

Background Check Summary for STACEY LYNN KIFOLO Personal Disclosure

Personal Disclosure Questionnaire

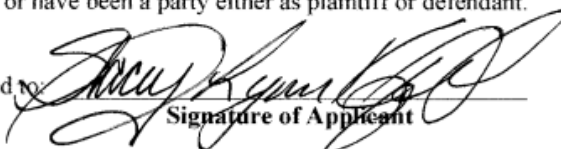
Name of Applicant: Stacey Lynn Kifolo

The following questions are designed so that we will be able to make full disclosure to our client concerning your background. Please answer them honestly. Cutting corners or misrepresenting your past will result in you being eliminated from all further searches conducted by this firm. We understand that frivolous charges are sometimes made and that charges do not mean you were guilty. We also understand that you may have been wronged and needed to seek compensation. The bottom line is that we want to be certain that our client is fully informed. If you have any questions, please contact us for clarification.

Please explain any yes answers on a separate sheet of paper.

1. Have you ever been charged or convicted of a felony?
Yes ☐ No ☒
2. Have you ever been accused of or have been involved in a domestic violence or abuse incident?
Yes ☐ No ☒
3. Have you ever declared bankruptcy or been an owner in a business that did so?
Yes ☐ No ☒
4. Have you ever been the subject of a civil rights violation complaint that was investigated or resulted in a lawsuit?
Yes ☐ No ☒
5. Have you ever been the subject of a sexual harassment complaint that was investigated or resulted in a lawsuit?
Yes ☐ No ☒
6. Have you ever been charged with driving while intoxicated?
Yes ☐ No ☒
7. Have you ever sued a current or former employer?
Yes ☐ No ☒
8. Please list links to all your social media accounts (Facebook / Instagram / LinkedIn / Twitter, etc.) and your personal web page if you have one. <https://www.linkedin.com/in/stacey-kifolo>;
<https://www.facebook.com/stacey.kifolo>; <https://www.instagram.com/kifolostacey>;
<https://www.twitter.com/skifolo>; <https://www.snapchat.com/skifolo>
9. Is there anything else in your background that, if made public, would cause you, our client or our firm embarrassment if it came to light through the press or any other mechanism?
Yes ☒ No ☐ See attached.
10. Please provide a list of any lawsuits in which you are or have been a party either as plaintiff or defendant.
See attached.

Attested to:


Signature of Applicant

Please email this form via PDF DOCUMENT to Monique@ch-asso.com or via fax to
(561) 621-5965 no later than 5:00 PM MST 05/15/2023

(Note: Please be sure to sign the form with your actual signature if you are sending Fax or PDF Document)

**Background Check Summary for
STACEY LYNN KIFOLO
Personal Disclosure Explanation**

Personal Disclosure Questionnaire – Explanation

#9

In a simple Google search, results will include news articles that the City of Deltona suspended me in October 2022. No details will be found in news articles, which only raises speculations.

I was hired by Acting City Manager, John Peters, and began with the City in August 2021. On September 19, 2022, Mr. Peters voluntarily resigned and a majority of the Commission voted to install an assistant city attorney as the interim city manager. Within weeks, there was a public report of my suspension by the city attorney/manager. News articles note that the City would not provide details. In mid-October, the Commission hired as Acting City Manager, James Chisholm. On November 7, 2022, he was questioned during a public meeting about my suspension. Chisholm stated, "There was no disciplinary action taken. The action that was taken was administrative leave." As to the reason for the administrative leave, Chisholm stated, "There's no reason stated." Chisholm further stated, "There's no documentation that indicates anything that is disciplinary in nature. In fact, there is no documentation at all. Just that fact that there was action taken to put that person on administrative leave."

As can be the case with a change in management, Mr. Chisholm informed me that he was making management changes and would give me the option to resign or my at-will employment would be terminated. I chose to resign, seeing this as my best option to retain personal credibility and protect the positive reputation I have carried throughout my entire career.

#10

As of this writing, May 10, 2023, I have not been a party to a lawsuit either as a plaintiff or defendant. However, given the actions of the city attorney/manager, the defamatory public comments, and the potential for negative ramifications for my future employment, I have retained legal counsel.

CB&A Reference Notes

**Reference Notes
Stacey Kifolo**

Loren King – Former Commissioner, City of Deltona, FL 386-532-7915

Mr. King has known Ms. Kifolo since 2021. They had intermittent contact because of their roles in Deltona. She was always very responsive to the Commission, and she worked very hard.

Ms. Kifolo was a tremendous employee. She was very smart, asked all kinds of questions to ensure she understood the facts, and did a great job. She was tasked with fire union negotiations and did very well. Her decisions were good because she based them on fact and not on a feeling or on the opinions of others. She learned the truth and then acted on it.

Active in the community, Ms. Kifolo attended all the events. Deltona has many activities like a memorial day event, Halloween Spectacular, and a Christmas parade and she was always there. She worked very well with the public and was always willing to speak to constituents, even the difficult ones. They have a resident who calls all the time and can be a nuisance. Ms. Kifolo heard the employee speaking to him and asked about the call. She then instructed the employee to transfer the call to her the next time he called in. Unfortunately, the City Attorney was walking by at the same time and told the employee “No, you will not take the call.” The Attorney prefers to ignore residents rather than trying to find a solution, but Ms. Kifolo always tried to do the right thing. She was very responsive. She interacted with the public when they called in or made an appointment. She was wonderful.

When asked questions about the budget, Ms. Kifolo could flip to the right page of the book, she seemed to know and understand the budget well. She was the one who figured out that the pension fund for fire employees was much more in debt than they thought. She was great at keeping everything straight and working with the budget.

Deltona is not an easy place to work. The Commissioners ask for workshops on items that do not need workshops. They put a moratorium on development and then left the staff to work out the changes. The new Commission extended the moratorium and still has not done anything with it, except for putting so much on the staff that they are exhausted. Even so, Ms. Kifolo completed her work and handled the stress well.

In Mr. King’s opinion, the fire union is the reason that Ms. Kifolo is no longer there. The Union has too much power in Deltona. They support certain Commissioners during the elections who then advance their cause once elected. In meetings the Commissioners who were supported by the Union while running for office treated Ms. Kifolo in a way that was totally uncalled for just because she stated that the fire pension fund was \$14 million dollars in debt. The Union said that was a lie, that the debt was only \$7 million dollars. However, since her departure a financial report has been released that substantiates her statement, the fund is \$14 million dollars in debt. If that report had been released sooner, she may still be working in Deltona.

Anyone looking at Ms. Kifolo for a position should hire her. She is very smart, and she goes by the book. She does research before she speaks, which prevents lawsuits. She needs to be in government because she does it so well. She would do well for any community.

Reference Notes Stacey Kifolo

Words or phrases used to describe Stacey Kifolo:

- Very intelligent,
- Researches before she speaks,
- Understands the role of government,
- Hard worker,
- Responsive, and
- Ethical.

Strengths: Very intelligent, does her research, ensures accuracy, handled every task given her well.

Weaknesses: Ms. Kifolo overheard a conversation between Commissioner McCool and the City Attorney where the Attorney stated she did not trust Ms. Kifolo. Ms. Kifolo came out of her office and there was a verbal altercation. Ms. Kifolo filed a complaint with HR and was told there would be an investigation, but it was never done. The Commission made the Attorney the Acting City Manager and she immediately put Ms. Kifolo on leave, which she was not authorized to do. The City then hired another Acting Manager. Under the advice of the City Attorney, and without taking the time to investigate the facts or form his own opinion, he let Ms. Kifolo go. His reasoning was that they needed new faces at City Hall. While Ms. Kifolo could have acted better when overhearing the initial conversation, she did not deserve to be placed on leave or dismissed as she was doing an excellent job.

Dana McCool – Commissioner, City of Deltona, FL 386-837-0025

Ms. McCool was a Commissioner for Deltona and worked with Ms. Kifolo from 2021 to 2022. Ms. Kifolo gave 110% all the time.

The Commission does not have direct involvement with operations. While Ms. McCool cannot speak to Ms. Kifolo's hiring ability, her relationship with the staff was very good. Ms. Kifolo makes good decisions. While she is capable of being innovative and a change agent, her greatest attribute is maintaining operations at a high level. She completed every task she was given while also giving them more than they asked for.

The public loved Ms. Kifolo, she was honest and open. She gave her word, never made empty promises, and always followed up. She was amazing. She is very proactive in her communication and keeps everyone informed.

Reference Notes Stacey Kifolo

Negotiating the fire union contract was a process Ms. Kifolo led. She was great at consensus building and helped them realize cost savings through the process. She has great financial skills. Finding ways to save money is something she excels at.

Ms. Kifolo always accomplishes her tasks and does so in a timely manner. She should take more time off, but even in the most stressful of times she never acted out of character or lost control.

Ms. Kifolo has not been involved in anything controversial. Ms. McCool believes that Ms. Kifolo was too good at her job and the political climate was not accepting of that. The majority of those in Deltona back her up, so while she left it was not her fault or due to her job performance.

Ms. McCool would hire Ms. Kifolo and wants her to return to Deltona. She is a good manager, she understands storm mitigation, parks, water, public works, and constituency issues. She is very good at what she does. Ms. McCool misses Ms. Kifolo every day and recommends that any organization that has the opportunity to hire her, do so immediately. She is very capable, and she will protect the community.

Words or phrases used to describe Stacey Kifolo:

- Tenacious,
- Well organized,
- Very succinct in her communication, and
- Always did more than what she was asked to do.

Strengths: Great communicator, great analyst, great team leader.

Weaknesses: Needs to take more vacation.

Rebecca Wilk – Human Resource Director, City of Deltona, FL 386-337-4222

Ms. Wilk has known Ms. Kifolo since 2021 and is providing a personal reference. Ms. Kifolo was very hard working and dedicated. She oversaw the Human Resource department as part of her responsibilities. She asked questions, gathered information, met with everyone to understand their role and what was working. When she found something that did not work, she made a plan to improve it. She was always very willing to help employees, particularly when they knew something needed to change but they had not yet had time to address it. She was compassionate. She moved everything forward for the best good for everyone involved and the community.

Staff hired by Ms. Kifolo are still working for Deltona. Her decisions in general are good. She maintains operations at a high level. When given a task, she is very good about sticking to the

Reference Notes

Stacey Kifolo

deadline, doing the necessary research, and asking the right questions. She enjoys looking at problems and figuring out how to solve them and is very innovative in her approach.

While Ms. Kifolo was out in the community, Ms. Wilk was not and cannot speak to the extent. Ms. Kifolo gave presentations to the public at Commission meetings. She also responded to questions. She was good at keeping others informed.

They were in the process of revising policy. Ms. Kifolo brought together the departments that would be affected by the policy adjustments. She led the discussion to determine what worked best for everyone. Though the work was not completed by the time she left, what they accomplished was very solid and will be utilized in the future.

Ms. Kifolo spent time reviewing their financials because of her success in this area with previous employers. She is very good at finding ways to save money and better ways to work.

At times Ms. Kifolo seemed a little exasperated but that is normal for the position because of the stress that comes with it. However, even when stressed, she continued to work. She overcame it and moved in the direction that she needed to.

While Ms. Kifolo has been involved in some controversy, Ms. Wilk is not able to discuss it due to her role. Nothing in Ms. Kifolo's background would concern a reasonable person. She resigned from Deltona. The only people who might have a different opinion of her could be employees who asked for things that she did not believe were necessary, so she did not approve them.

If Ms. Wilk had her own place of business, she would definitely hire someone like Ms. Kifolo. She is dedicated to public service and has been in place for a long time. Not everyone in government is in it for the right reasons, which is so important, but she is. She wants to serve the public. She is a very valuable employee and brought innovations that made the department better. They were sad to see her go.

Words or phrases used to describe Stacey Kifolo:

- Good sense of humor,
- Strong,
- Firm,
- Understanding,
- Direct, and
- Very forceful.

**Reference Notes
Stacey Kifolo**

Strengths: Very thorough, attention to detail, does research, very analytical.

Weaknesses: She has a strong personality and is a 'get it done' type of person. She is not afraid to take the bull by the horns. While some may not like that approach, Ms. Wilk believes that it is necessary.

Mari Leisen – Finance Director, City of Deltona, FL 386-717-9966

Ms. Leisen has known Ms. Kifolo since 2021. Ms. Leisen enjoyed working with Ms. Kifolo, she was very effective as a Deputy City Manager, and was an asset to the City.

Ms. Kifolo was tasked with negotiating the fire contract and she was very thorough in the process. She researched the facts as their pay is very complicated and she asked the right individuals for information. She was collaborative and her research was verifiable. She communicated extremely well with the other departments and was a problem solver.

Decisions made by Ms. Kifolo were good. She attended the bi-monthly Commission meetings and their monthly workshops, along with many other meetings. She worked very well with the public. She kept everyone informed. She accomplished tasks in a timely manner and was very good natured. 90% of the time she was smiling and upbeat, she was a positive force in the organization.

Having a good skillset in finance, Ms. Kifolo was over Human Resources (HR) and Finance, along with a few other departments. Finance and HR are very collaborative. The HR department hires employees and Finance pays them, and there is some overlap. When she arrived there were some issues between the two departments that she helped to resolve. Her greatest attribute was being a valuable intermediary between a City Manager who had a background in public works and did not speak finance, and the Finance department.

A Commissioner was upset because they felt that Ms. Kifolo was not timely in responding to an email, but the matter seemed to be mostly a political one. Her background is clear of any incident that might concern an employer.

The City Manager who hired Ms. Kifolo later resigned with a three month notice at a Commission meeting. The Commissioners asked him to leave that night. Shortly after that, Ms. Kifolo resigned. Talk around the water cooler was that she was asked to resign, but Ms. Leisen cannot say for sure.

Ms. Leisen would hire Ms. Kifolo, she would be a good manager. Her departure was a real disservice to Deltona.

Reference Notes Stacey Kifolo

Words or phrases used to describe Stacey Kifolo:

- Positive,
- Thorough,
- Collaborative,
- Good researcher,
- Empathetic,
- Human touch, and
- Sincere.

Strengths: Extremely thorough, good at research and asking the right people for information, collaborative, great at interdepartmental communication, problem solver.

Weaknesses: When first hired, she asked many questions about the staff and workflow, and it came across that she felt she needed to fix things which was a bit off-putting to some employees. As they worked together, they realized that she very accepting and supportive of the staff and just wanted to help them problem solve.

Elbert Bryan – Charter Review Board, City of Deltona, FL 386-837-9088

Mr. Bryan has known Ms. Kifolo since 2021. He frequently attends Deltona Commission workshops and meetings and served on a Charter Review Board with Ms. Kifolo.

Ms. Kifolo did a top-notch job. She gave the Charter Review Board the information they asked for and did not push any subject or try to control the outcome. Her role was to answer questions without influencing the perspective and she did very well. She was also quick to return with an answer if she did not know it on the spot.

Decisions made by Ms. Kifolo were good because she did quite a bit of research prior to making a decision. She was also adept at negotiations and was tasked with the fire union contract. The process and the negotiations went very well. She was the one to present the retirement fund and pension plan, which indicates that she has good financial skills.

When out in the community, Ms. Kifolo represented the City and herself well. She worked well with charter review board members, and with residents on permitting issues. She also worked closely with the planning and zoning board.

One stressful situation involving Ms. Kifolo was when a Commissioner drilled her fairly aggressively. She handled it well. She stood her ground without being aggressive and did not lose her temper. As the process moved on and more research was completed, the facts backed Ms. Kifolo's perspective.

Reference Notes Stacey Kifolo

Deltona did a great deal of research on Ms. Kifolo prior to hiring her, and everyone from East Buffalo gave her kudos. They did not hear a single negative comment about her. In negotiations, she was correcting matters that had been ignored for years, but this was not controversial. Nothing in her background or conduct would concern a reasonable person.

Turnover in the Commission resulted in turnover in the staff, which is why Ms. Kifolo separated from Deltona. A new manager was hired, and he wanted to go in a different direction. He replaced almost every department head, including the attorney. Some of the old Commissioners might have a different opinion of Ms. Kifolo, but that is typical in the political world.

Mr. Bryan would hire Ms. Kifolo in a heartbeat. She is honest, has integrity, is very intelligent, and she does not mince words. She would be a great manager. She is very capable, and her accomplishments speak for themselves.

Words or phrases used to describe Stacey Kifolo:

- Intelligent,
- Personable,
- Well educated,
- Very outgoing,
- Not overly aggressive, and
- Worked very well with others.

Strengths: Research ability and a very strong work ethic.

Weaknesses: On occasion she could talk above the Commissioner's heads and had to simplify it for them. She is almost too smart for her own good.

Mike Daniloﬀ – Former Township Supervisor, East Buffalo Township, PA (570) 412-9378

Mr. Daniloﬀ has known Ms. Kifolo since 2014 when he was elected as a Township Supervisor. Ms. Kifolo is an intelligent, talented manager. Her job performance is not affected in difficult and stressful situations. Mr. Daniloﬀ worked in the private business sector on an executive level for many years and has a good foundation for judging people like Ms. Kifolo. She is an exceptionally skilled person.

Ms. Kifolo deals with the supervisors and the taxpayers in a compassionate way. She has excellent people skills. She works well with the supervisors, who often have difficulty understanding things.

Reference Notes

Stacey Kifolo

Ms. Kifolo is skilled at anticipating issues. She is constantly looking ahead for potential problems. If she anticipates something, she presents the supervisors with alternatives and ways to prepare for the future. She works on an agenda to carry the township forward.

Ms. Kifolo generally makes good decisions when hiring personnel. At one time, she and the board were searching for an administrative assistant. She hired a local person who seemed like a good choice, but things did not work out. The new assistant had other aspirations and resigned from the position.

Ms. Kifolo is innovative. She consistently has creative ideas for the township supervisors. At one time, the township participated in developing a shopping area. Ms. Kifolo made well-informed recommendations to the developers and the supervisors.

Ms. Kifolo works closely with community agencies. She attends luncheon meetings with the local school superintendent. She works with agencies from the neighboring borough. She is involved in managing the regional police department that the township shares with the borough. She set up a commission to govern the police force. At one point, Ms. Kifolo was appointed as one of the Buffalo Valley Regional Police commissioners.

Ms. Kifolo is even-keeled and keeps her temper, though she is impatient at times. She gives information and the reasons behind her decisions in a calm and intelligent way. She deals with agitated citizens well.

Ms. Kifolo is a great communicator. She gives all information about board meetings to the supervisors ahead of time. The way she communicates is easy to understand. She is customer service oriented and knows that she serves the taxpaying citizens of East Buffalo Township.

Ms. Kifolo handles stress well. At one time, a former Township Supervisor was incessantly verbally harassing her. He often made attacks on her character and her gender. He saw Ms. Kifolo as a threat to his management skills. When Mr. Daniloff spoke with Ms. Kifolo privately about this situation, it was clear that it was affecting her. In public, she handled it well. The supervisor in question decided not to stand for re-election and he is no longer on the board.

Ms. Kifolo has not been involved in anything controversial. There is nothing concerning in her background or conduct. She is a determined person who always seeks to improve herself. She is an exceptionally talented manager, and any community would be lucky to hire her. Mr. Daniloff highly recommends her for the position.

Words or phrases used to describe Stacey Kifolo:

- Determined,
- Experienced,
- Great communicator,
- Intelligent,
- Compassionate, and
- Strategic.

Reference Notes
Stacey Kifolo

Strengths: Anticipating problems, and strategic planning.

Weaknesses: Impatience.

**Matt Schumacher – Former Township Supervisor, East Buffalo Township, PA
(570) 412-0223**

Mr. Schumacher has known Ms. Kifolo since 2015. He is an elected township supervisor in East Buffalo Township. Ms. Kifolo is a great town manager and a good person. She lived in Florida and worked virtually as Township Manager. This change did not affect the quality of her work.

Ms. Kifolo constantly seeks to better the organization. She will do whatever is needed to accomplish her goals. She is exceptionally focused on her job. She does not hesitate to put in extra hours on a project.

Ms. Kifolo is loyal to the board of supervisors. She follows what the board decides, even if she disagrees. She advises the board with facts and strives for what is best for the township. She makes good decisions.

Ms. Kifolo has a straightforward and direct management style. She is skilled at delegating tasks and does not micromanage. She is not afraid to tell people when they are doing something wrong.

When Ms. Kifolo was still living in East Buffalo Township, she did not often go out into the community unless it was needed. The Roadmaster had that responsibility. Ms. Kifolo had good people skills and interacted with the public well. She always listened to people when they came to her with concerns. She responded to them in a timely fashion.

Before Ms. Kifolo became the township manager, East Buffalo Township had no pension plans set up for retired township employees. When Ms. Kifolo discovered this, she started a fund to secure retirement benefits. She convinced the board to take out a loan of half a million dollars to fund the program. This money was invested and grew with the interest rates. The plan worked perfectly, and the loan was paid off within two years. This was a major success for the township. They were able to pay the pensions without taking money out of the general township funds.

Ms. Kifolo is calm under stress. She is skilled at remaining calm in tense situations. She does not lose her temper or take out strong emotions on her colleagues. She takes her notes back to her office and resolves the issue privately.

Some employees of the Township disagreed with the virtual nature of Ms. Kifolo's work and wanted a manager who was physically there. Ms. Kifolo will be an excellent city manager for any municipality. She did a wonderful job in East Buffalo Township.

Reference Notes Stacey Kifolo

Words or phrases used to describe Stacey Kifolo:

- Focused,
- Driven,
- Thoughtful,
- Proactive, and
- Analytical.

Strengths: Proactivity, efficiency, communication, research skills, and financial skills.

Weaknesses: Impatience.

Peter Matson – Attorney, Lewisburg, PA (570) 523-3285

Mr. Matson has known Ms. Kifolo's family since about 1980. He has known her individually since 2010. She was a fantastic manager for East Buffalo Township.

When Ms. Kifolo became Township Manager, she implemented many positive changes. She helped organize the township and improved its financial condition. She was detail-oriented and meticulous.

Ms. Kifolo made good recommendations to the Board of Supervisors. She made good decisions when involved in hiring personnel. She was innovative and put the township on better financial footing. There were some future expenses such as pensions for retired employees that the township was not prepared for. She set up a reserve account for this purpose that was funded on an annual basis. She also set up financial reserves for capital projects.

Ms. Kifolo attended township meetings and other meetings with contractors. She did well in a group setting but was probably better at one-on-one interactions. She participated in these meetings remotely, after she moved to Florida in 2018. She dealt with the public and answered their questions in a straightforward way. She was a good communicator.

Ms. Kifolo completed tasks in a timely manner. She generally handled stress well. She was not involved in anything personally controversial. She followed the laws and ordinances of the township. Sometimes members of the public are upset when she refused to bend the rules to please them.

East Buffalo Township is adjacent to the Borough of Lewisburg and there is some political tension between the two municipalities. This friction has existed for many years. There is likely someone in the borough who does not have a high opinion of Ms. Kifolo for one reason or another.

Reference Notes
Stacey Kifolo

Ms. Kifolo has done an excellent job as manager. Mr. Matson would hire her immediately if he could. He highly recommends her for the position.

Words or phrases used to describe Stacey Kifolo:

- Thorough,
- Dedicated,
- Intelligent,
- Conscientious, and
- Consistent.

Strengths: Interpersonal skills, patience with people who are upset, and persistent problem-solving.

Weaknesses: Tendency to want to resolve issues until they are perfect.

**Shawn McLaughlin – Planning and Economic Development Director, Union County PA
(570) 524-3840**

Mr. McLaughlin has known Ms. Kifolo since about 2012. They have worked on many professional projects together. Ms. Kifolo is cordial and professional. She conducts herself well in difficult situations. She is fiscally responsible. She brought a level of professionalism to East Buffalo Township that was not there before.

Ms. Kifolo has good judgment and makes good decisions. She is innovative, though many of her creative ideas are hindered by local codes and ordinances. She is customer service oriented toward all people she encounters. She makes sure her employees, contractors, elected officials, and taxpayers are all treated fairly.

Ms. Kifolo attended monthly meetings with the public, as well as county meetings representing her township. She interacted well with the taxpayers. She was a great communicator and provided people with exactly the amount of information they need. She did not give too much or too little information.

Ms. Kifolo handles stress relatively well. She often exercises to relieve her stress. She also has conversations with peers and colleagues to talk through difficult situations.

Ms. Kifolo handles controversial issues well. At one time, there was an issue regarding solar panels. A local university wanted to install the panels, but citizens in a nearby neighborhood were opposed to the idea. Ms. Kifolo helped broker a solution in which a solar ordinance was created. The university placed the solar panels in a place that did not offend the neighbors.

Reference Notes Stacey Kifolo

Ms. Kifolo is a highly capable professional who is an excellent Manager. She understands local government and has the necessary skills. Mr. McLaughlin recommends her for the position.

Words or phrases used to describe Stacey Kifolo:

- Professional,
- Cordial,
- Creative, and
- Conscientious.

Strengths: Preparedness, financial skills, and analysis skills.

Weaknesses: None identified.

**Cynthia Peltier – Co-Founder and Director, CommUnity Zone, Lewisburg, PA
(570) 713-7479**

Ms. Peltier is a citizen of East Buffalo Township and has known Ms. Kifolo since 2018. Ms. Kifolo is a good listener and is easy to work with. She and Ms. Peltier often conversed about social justice matters and other township issues that arose.

At one time, Ms. Peltier came to Ms. Kifolo regarding the traffic in front of her house. Passing cars knocked down her mailbox on more than one occasion. Ms. Kifolo addressed the issue and made sure there was a yellow pole placed in front of Ms. Peltier's home, and the mailbox problem was solved.

East Buffalo Township shares a police department with the Borough of Lewisburg. This situation causes some tension in the two communities, especially concerning which finances are shared. Ms. Kifolo was involved in mediating some of this contention. There are likely people from the Borough of Lewisburg who have a negative perception of Ms. Kifolo because of this issue.

Ms. Kifolo is a good problem-solver. She is strong-willed and always prepared. Even when others do not agree with her, she remains focused. She is steadfast in what she believes to be right. She is a good advocate for causes she believes in. Ms. Peltier recommends her for the position.

Words or phrases used to describe Stacey Kifolo:

- Determined,
- Intelligent,
- Prepared,
- Welcoming,
- Creative, and
- Visionary.

Reference Notes
Stacey Kifolo

Strengths: Openness, preparedness, and willingness to listen to citizens' concerns.

Weaknesses: Too strong-willed at times.

**Seth Heintzelman – Audit Firm Partner, Herring, Roll, & Solomon, Danville, PA
(570) 286-5895**

Mr. Heintzelman has known Ms. Kifolo since 2015. He performs the annual audit for East Buffalo Township. He does not know Ms. Kifolo well but had no issues with her. She was a great person to work with.

Ms. Kifolo was responsible and never lost track of details. She was attentive to the needs of the auditor. She was professional and kind. She generally made good decisions.

Ms. Kifolo was customer-service oriented. She interacted well with both colleagues and residents of East Buffalo Township. She had excellent financial skills. She was skilled at budgeting, as well as searching for grants and funding for the Township.

Ms. Kifolo has many responsibilities as Township Manager and handles her stress relatively well. She has not been involved in anything controversial. There is nothing concerning in her background or behavior. She is a great Manager.

Words or phrases used to describe Stacey Kifolo:

- Professional,
- Timely,
- Courteous, and
- Responsible.

Strengths: Promptly brings issues to the attention of the appropriate party.

Weaknesses: None identified.

Prepared by: Lynelle Klein
Colin Baenziger & Associates

CB&A Internet Research

Internet – Newspaper Archives Searches
Stacey L. Kifolo
(Articles are in reverse chronological order)

West Volusia Beacon
February 1, 2023

Deltona commissioner files ethics complaint against fellow commissioner
Al Everson

In the largest city in Volusia County, the hits just keep on coming.

Bad blood, bad words and an ethics complaint filed by one Deltona city commissioner against another commissioner have come to light. Commissioner Maritza Avila-Vazquez has asked for a state investigation of Commissioner Dana McCool's alleged use of vulgar words in a confrontation last fall, following a buildup of tensions and a verbal assault that happened shortly before the Nov. 8 general election.

Tension between Avila-Vazquez and McCool came to a boiling point after the City Commission ended its Oct. 3 meeting. As they were leaving the long meeting — which did not end until 1 o'clock the next morning — Avila-Vazquez said, she encountered McCool. "She [McCool] kept on using F-bombs towards me and was very threatening [sic] with her words," Avila-Vazquez wrote in the complaint. "I believe at one point I had the opportunity to ask her what her problem was, she responded by saying, 'You and your F-bombs words.' She walked away still cursing at me. Her final words were: 'It's OK. You have four F-bomb weeks left, and then [you] will be out of here.' Elections were just four weeks from that day."

That election would result in Avila-Vazquez being returned to office by voters. McCool had not been up for re-election, but had supported Avila-Vazquez's opponent, according to Avila-Vazquez. "I found this exchange, to be disrespectful behavior in the presence of employees and other elected officials," Avila-Vazquez continued, in the complaint. "Particularly coming from an elected official who should respect the Code of Ethics that, she agreed to respect when she took her seat in office."

Avila-Vazquez concluded her complaint with a "request to press Ethics charges against Commissioner Dana McCool for her disrespect towards me and those present at the time she used inappropriate language towards me." "I trust that whatever actions are taken towards her disrespectful behavior will deter other elected officials from doing the same," Avila-Vazquez wrote. Though Avila-Vazquez declines to talk about her ethics complaint, McCool is not reticent.

"She is entitled to her opinion about protocol and decorum, and I'm entitled to my opinion," McCool said. "People get mad. They work through it, and they move on. I got mad about it. I did some self-inventory. We need to move on." McCool said she had not yet received any letters from the Commission on Ethics regarding the complaint against her.

The Florida Commission on Ethics has the authority to censure or impose fines on elected officials found to have violated state standards of conduct for elected officials.

Internet – Newspaper Archives Searches
Stacey L. Kifolo
(Articles are in reverse chronological order)

Avila-Vazquez didn't want to talk about the complaint she filed. "I'm not going to say anything about it," she told The Beacon. Animosity began developing between the two women beginning in July 2022, according to Avila-Vazquez, who was then vice mayor of Deltona. Avila-Vazquez said she had asked then-Acting City Manager John Peters to advertise a breakfast for teachers.

Avila-Vazquez wrote that she had been asked by an outsider organization to publicize the event, which would be open to the public. She said she "finally received an answer from Ms. **[Stacey] Kifolo** [then deputy city manager] 13 days later, denying the request." Actually, Avila-Vazquez wrote, "There was no city policy on advertising."

The matter seethed until the Aug. 15 meeting of the City Commission, when Avila-Vazquez publicly questioned **Kifolo** about why her request had been rejected. Three commissioners, Avila-Vazquez alleged, then accused her of being disrespectful toward **Kifolo**. "Although my tone of voice was stern, my intentions were not of disrespect but rather to get information on the policies or policy she followed to make her decision. I was particularly vilified by Commissioner McCool," Avila-Vazquez continued, writing in the complaint.

What vilifying words were exchanged on that occasion are not mentioned. Because she directly questioned Kifolo rather than asking Peters, Avila-Vazquez noted, she also came under fire from some residents who claimed she had violated Deltona's charter, by interfering in the administrative branch of the city government.

Under the city-manager form of government in effect in Deltona, the mayor and the commission serve as a legislative and policymaking body, and the elected officials are prohibited from interfering or involving themselves in the day-to-day affairs of the administration, overseen by the city manager. Elected officials who do not adhere to the very strict separation of powers in the city's charter may risk being removed from office.

The complaint, dated Dec. 13, 2022, urges the Florida Commission on Ethics to take unspecified action against McCool "for her disrespect towards me and those present at the time she used inappropriate language towards me," Avila-Vazquez wrote. The post Deltona commissioner files ethics complaint against fellow commissioner appeared first on The West Volusia Beacon.

Internet – Newspaper Archives Searches
Stacey L. Kifolo
(Articles are in reverse chronological order)

The Daytona Beach News-Journal
October 10, 2022

Deltona deputy city manager gets suspended - Official says the interim post has attracted more than a dozen applications

Deltona's deputy city manager was suspended with pay last week, officials said. **Stacey Kifolo's** status was confirmed Friday afternoon by Rocco Anastasio, the city's spokesperson, but additional information wasn't immediately available. **Kifolo**, who was hired in August 2021 with a starting salary of \$135,000, didn't respond to requests for comment Friday afternoon.

Mayor Heidi Herzberg also confirmed the suspension Friday afternoon but said she didn't have additional information. **Kifolo's** suspension comes less than a month after the City Commission voted 4-3 to accept a modified version of the proposed resignation put forth by John Peters III. Peters, a licensed engineer, offered to stay on as acting city manager until Nov. 17.

Commissioner Anita Bradford made a motion to accept the resignation immediately during the Sept. 19 meeting, effectively putting Peters on paid leave until Nov. 17. During last Monday's commission meeting, Marsha Segal-George, from the city attorney's office, offered to stay in the role of interim manager while helping set up interviews for interim manager candidates.

Bradford said during a special meeting Sept. 26 that she'd received a call and email from Jim Chisholm, former longtime Daytona Beach city manager, regarding the role. By Friday, the city had received 15 applications for the role of interim city manager, Anastasio said. The names of the applicants were not immediately available. A special commission meeting regarding the candidates has been scheduled for Wednesday at 2 p.m.

During the Sept. 19 meeting, commissioners Loren King and Dana McCool questioned the mayor's suggestion to appoint Segal-George in the interim when Kifolo works as the deputy city manager. Herzberg said **Kifolo** is new to Florida, and Segal-George knows Florida law and Deltona's goings-on and has experience managing municipalities. Before working for Deltona, Kifolo served as the manager of East Buffalo Township, a community of about 7,500, in Pennsylvania, just over 60 miles north of Harrisburg. According to July 2021 Census Bureau estimates, Deltona has a population of 95,782.

Internet – Newspaper Archives Searches
Stacey L. Kifolo
(Articles are in reverse chronological order)

Daytona Beach News-Journal
April 5, 2022

Deltona commission moving 2 of Charter Review Committee's 5 proposed amendments forward Committee chair disappointed with nixing of 3 recommendations
Katie Kustura

The Deltona City Commission wants further discussion on proposed charter amendments that could change their compensation and set a term limit for "acting" charter officers. The commission during a recent workshop gave consensus to move forward the following two amendments recommended by the Charter Review Committee:

- Shall the City of Deltona Charter be amended to modify the salary of the mayor to be equal to 50% of the Volusia County chair and the salary of the commissioners to be equal to 50% of the Volusia County Council Members?
- Shall the City of Deltona Charter be amended to add language to provide for a maximum term of 18 months that the charter offices of city manager and city attorney may be appointed as acting, and to provide for an additional term of six months for extraordinary circumstances?

The commission chose to not move forward on the following:

- Shall the City of Deltona Charter be amended to modify composition and qualifications to allow for city commissioners to reside in a district and be elected on a city-wide basis?
- Shall the City of Deltona Charter be amended to increase the Charter Review Committee to seven members and to require any proposed charter amendments to be placed on the ballot of the next general election?
- Shall the City of Deltona Charter be amended to add a provision requiring standards, procedures, requirements and regulations to provide for environmental considerations on major decisions undertaken by the City Commission or city planners?

A special meeting to discuss the amendments is set for 6:30 p.m. Wednesday at City Hall.

The seven-member Charter Review Committee, which included two alternates, met more than a dozen times, beginning last July. After reviewing the city's charter line by line, the group recommended five amendments to be put forth on the ballot during the next general election.

Deltona resident and former longtime Volusia County Council member Pat Northey chaired the committee, which also included Vice Chair Chris Nabicht, a former city commissioner, and members Phyllis Allen, Elbert Bryan, Donald Philpitt and alternate members Jeffrey Brower (not the Volusia County Council chair) and Marisol Ortiz-Morales. The city's charter, which was adopted by a referendum in September 1995, requires that it be reviewed at least once every decade. Amendments were made in 2001, 2008 and 2014.

Internet – Newspaper Archives Searches
Stacey L. Kifolo
(Articles are in reverse chronological order)

Deputy City Manager **Stacey Kifolo** said a city's charter is comparable to the constitution and defines the structure of its government. "It establishes the terms of the elected officials and the manner of their election and also outlines powers, authorities, functions and essential procedures," **Kifolo** said. The commission also has the option, per state law, to add a charter amendment to the ballot via an ordinance. Additionally, a municipality's electors may submit a proposed charter amendment upon having 10% of registered voters sign a petition.

Commissioners shared their thoughts as **Kifolo** took them through each proposed amendment. They first discussed the proposal of being elected on a city-wide basis. Commissioners agreed that while the decisions they make generally impact the city as a whole, the districts are in place for a reason. **Kifolo** and Skip Fowler, city attorney, also expressed reservations about its legality, pointing to cases in the Voting Rights Act where at-large elections were challenged.

In discussing proposed changes to compensation — which isn't required by the charter — all of the commissioners said they weren't in it for the salary. Some commissioners expressed support for some level of increased compensation, but not to the extent of what was proposed. "I think that a good salary being paid to elected officials in the City of Deltona would attract more people to run for office," Vice Mayor Maritza Avila-Vazquez said. Commissioner Loren King said he didn't even know the position included compensation when he first made the decision to run.

The annual salary of the Volusia County Council chair is \$57,357, and council members each are paid \$47,797. The mayor and members of the commission presently are paid \$14,187 and \$10,520, respectively. According to the charter, said compensation "shall not include benefits, except medical benefits under the City's group health insurance plan, the premium costs of which shall be fully paid by the members of Commission who elect coverage."

Commissioner Dana McCool said she ran for office because she loves public service. "At the same turn of the coin, my time is worth something," McCool said. When it came to talking of charter officer terms, Mayor Heidi Herzberg said her "first question is what is an extraordinary circumstance?" "Ambiguity in a charter is a big problem," Herzberg said.

Kifolo said they could consider a full rewrite of the charter, which includes some things that are already addressed by state statutes.

"This is one of those areas where I think we have some hard decisions to make," King said. "We have someone in a temporary position that's doing a better job than anybody in the past 10, 15 years has done, and we have seen some really, I think, amazing and good changes in the City of Deltona." Commissioners and a number of residents have expressed strong support for John Peters III, who went from public works director to acting city manager at the end of 2020 through a contract. Peters, who owns a home in DeBary where he lives with his wife, has said he doesn't plan on moving. Commissioner Anita Bradford said her concern about the proposed amendment was that residents have previously voted in support of having the manager live in the city.

Internet – Newspaper Archives Searches
Stacey L. Kifolo
(Articles are in reverse chronological order)

The Daytona Beach News-Journal
September 13, 2021

Deltona's acting manager rescinds tabled resignation, introduces new deputy city manager
Author: Katie Kustura

Deltona's acting city manager's proposed resignation is no longer on the table. Commissioner Loren King during Thursday night's meeting made the motion, saying he felt the issues that prompted the proposal "pretty much have been resolved."

After some confusion among officials as to how exactly the motion should be worded to achieve the desired outcome, John Peters III said he was rescinding his resignation. "I noticed that Mr. Peters purchased some frames to put some pictures up on his wall," King said with a smile. Any search for a permanent city manager would occur "down the road," King said.

Peters' work as acting city manager has received positive reviews from commissioners and residents alike. The proposed resignation stemmed from what Peters said was interference from commissioners that was affecting his ability to do his job.

In June, when the proposed resignation came before the City Commission, those on the dais unanimously voted to table it until the first meeting of 2022. "Personally, I don't believe we've had a better city manager in 10 years or more," King said of Peters during the June 7 meeting, a comment that received applause from many of the residents in attendance.

During Thursday night's meeting, Peters formally introduced the commission to **Stacey Kifolo**, who was hired last month to serve as the deputy city manager with an annual salary of \$135,000.

Kifolo most recently served as the manager of East Buffalo Township, Pennsylvania, which has a population of about 7,500. **Kifolo** held the position from 2012 until she resigned this summer. When she moved to Florida in 2018, she did her job remotely after the township's attempt to transition to someone else didn't work out.

Peters said **Kifolo** will oversee multiple departments, including finance, IT, public information, human resources and the city clerk. "She is doing an awesome job," Peters said. "The good news is she's reporting back that we have an incredible group of people."

At **Kifolo's** suggestion, one of the commission's workshops in October will focus on the Firefighters' Pension Plan Board of Trustees.

Internet – Newspaper Archives Searches
Stacey L. Kifolo
(Articles are in reverse chronological order)

Daily Item, The (Sunbury, PA)
May 10, 2021

EBT supervisors adopt sign ordinance, hear of BVRA financial woes

Author: Eric Scicchitano

East Buffalo Township Supervisors adopted revisions to an existing ordinance governing non-permanent signs in order to conform with a U.S. Supreme Court ruling mandating political signs aren't treated any differently from other types.

The revision "eliminates the distinction" between political signs and others, Solicitor Pete Matson said. Makenzie Stover, township zoning officer, said the former version of the ordinance had different regulations for campaign signs compared to yard sale signs, real estate signs and others. "We're trying to come into compliance with what the Supreme Court is saying. We recognize that our current ordinance would not stand up in court," Township Manager **Stacey Kifolo** said. "From my reading, I think it's making things less restrictive than the previous ordinance," Supervisor Jim Knight said.

The revised ordinance defines non-permanent signs, which include promotional flags and advertising banners, as specific to an event with a specified time period such as an election and not, say, a specific cause even if it's perceived as political. In response to a question from resident Katie Evans, also a candidate for the township board, Supervisor Char Gray said that a candidate's sign with an election year on it would fall under the ordinance. A sign with that same candidate's name but without a year wouldn't be regulated since it's not event-specific, Gray said.

The signs are restricted to 6 square feet in size in residential zones and 20 square feet in commercial, agricultural, woodland and agricultural/residential zones. They're not permitted to be illuminated and are not permitted in public right-of-ways. Signs must be separated by 10 feet in the more populated residential zones and 25 feet in other areas. This is meant to prevent "sign stacking" where one candidate could obstruct the view of another's sign, Supervisor Matt Schumacher said. "If you put your sign out first, the other person can't put their signs around you 2 feet away," Schumacher said.

Township resident Margaret Marr warned that in her opinion, the revised ordinance didn't provide enough clarity and felt it could instill a chilling effect on free speech. She also suggested, which went unheeded, larger signs be allowed at homes along Routes 15 and 45 since the speed limit is higher and wouldn't allow motorists to take in the full message of something more complex than a speed limit sign.

Stover said initial enforcement of the ordinance would bring about warnings for violators and guidance on how to come into compliance. Further non-compliance could bring a citation and fines of up to \$500 for each violation. BVRA money issues Schumacher and Gray agreed the township should meet with representatives of Lewisburg Borough Council to discuss the future of the Buffalo Valley Recreation Authority.

Internet – Newspaper Archives Searches
Stacey L. Kifolo
(Articles are in reverse chronological order)

Schumacher expressed frustration about the organization's financial standing. Gray estimated the township is providing \$123,000 this year while the borough will provide \$69,000. Schumacher said township taxpayers are too often used to supplement operations of programs that go beyond the authority's scope.

Describing herself as a fiscal conservative, Gray said after thorough review of the authority's finances she believes it is in need of greater monetary contributions from the township and borough. The gymnastics program, which generates comparatively substantial revenue, isn't bringing in money as it had in the past because of limited participation due to COVID-19 regulations. She said the swimming pool this year is projected to lose \$49,000. Schumacher credited Gray and the authority's executive director, Shirley Nelson Brough, for their work. "I'm not against it but we keep throwing money at this thing. It's not going to go away. It's just going to get worse," Schumacher said.

Other business

Meghan Beck and Dr. Lenaire Ahlum gave a presentation seeking support for the proposed Susquehanna Valley Community College. Gray said the board would review the proposal before potentially deciding at its next meeting about writing a letter of support. Gray said the township board completed a round of interviews for the manager position. There was "nothing to report" as to job offers. **Kifolo** hasn't said if she's seeking to retain the position.

There's been no decision yet in the lawsuit brought by Lewisburg against East Buffalo Township and the Buffalo Valley Regional Police Commission concerning municipal contributions to the regional police budget. The township and borough met several times to create a new intergovernmental agreement for municipal oversight of the regional department. Some clarifications are needed from the borough regarding suggested language. Other than that, Gray said it would be provided for review by the borough and its solicitor. The township's own solicitor has already reviewed the draft proposal.

Supervisors voted to transfer \$166,292 to a parks and recreation reserve account to raise the total to \$650,000. Another \$200,000 in grant funding is approved for the township's pending park project next to the municipal building on Fairground Road. Construction on phase one of the project is anticipated next year.

Contracts exceeding a combined \$142,000 were awarded for the paving and seal coating of Pheasant Ridge Road, from Country Road to Stein Lane, and Supplee Mill Road, from Furnace Road to Route 15. Umbriac Trucking of Harleigh received the paving contract and Russell Standard of Fayetteville received the seal coating contract.

Internet – Newspaper Archives Searches
Stacey L. Kifolo
(Articles are in reverse chronological order)

<https://autos.yahoo.com/ebt-investment-negates-potential-tax-171800709.html>
The Daily Item, Sunbury, Pa.
April 15, 2021

EBT investment negates potential tax increase for post-retirement benefits

Author: Eric Scicchitano,

Careful planning allowed East Buffalo Township to grow an investment portfolio dedicated to cover employees' post-retirement benefits without necessitating a tax hike, according to township officials.

East Buffalo's investment with American Funds, a large-blend stock fund, reached \$1.6 million and is growing, township manager **Stacey Kifolo** said during Monday's Board of Supervisors meeting. The township's estimated total liability for post-retirement benefits is more than \$2 million, leaving a net liability of about \$500,000.

"There won't be any tax increases to residents to pay for these post-retirement benefits," Supervisor Char Gray said during the meeting.

Non-uniform employees are eligible at age 65 or older to receive supplemental medical and prescription coverage on top of Medicare benefits. They're also eligible for full vision and dental coverage. These benefits are available until they die. Police officers are eligible to receive full coverage for all four benefits as early as age 55. The post-retirement benefits transition to the same coverage as non-uniform employees once the officers reach age 65. Uniform retirees are eligible for 15 years after retirement. The township's liability was \$3.3 million in 2016 when in September of that year, supervisors moved to invest \$900,000 in the market.

The board began in 2013 to build a reserve account to support post-retirement payouts. The account reached \$400,000 in 2016. The funds were coupled with a \$500,000 loan to invest. That loan was paid off in 2019 at an added cost of \$24,500, well below the dividends made on the market play.

Also, in 2016 former supervisor Mike Danilo and current supervisor Matt Schumacher approached the Buffalo Valley Regional Police Department to shop its medical benefits plan. It was discovered the department could save about \$180,000 annually for comparable coverage, **Kifolo** said, and greatly reduced the post-retirement benefits liability for uniform employees.

The township can now draw from its reserves and offset post-retirement benefits costs rather than pulling from the general fund and raising taxes, **Kifolo** said. "I'm very confident that the township has the funding available now without raising taxes," **Kifolo** said.

Internet – Newspaper Archives Searches
Stacey L. Kifolo
(Articles are in reverse chronological order)

Daily Item, The (Sunbury, PA)
March 30, 2021

EBT, Lewisburg talk funding formulas for regional police

Author: Eric Scicchitano

The sixth negotiating session concerning a regional police agreement raised the primary topic of dispute Tuesday between Lewisburg and East Buffalo Township: municipal funding contributions. What and, more consequentially, how the municipal partners contribute directly to the operations of the Buffalo Valley Regional Police Department is at the center of the five years-long dispute between the two and, ultimately, the still-pending lawsuit Lewisburg brought against East Buffalo Township in 2019.

Monday's non-binding talks between representatives of both sides were largely dedicated to how they might agree on an established formula to make the municipal funding contributions. Representing Lewisburg were council members Jordi Comas and Mike Derman along with Mayor Judy Wagner. Supervisors Char Gray and Jim Knight as well as Manager **Stacey Kifolo** represented East Buffalo Township.

Perhaps surprisingly, East Buffalo Township proposed paying the greater part of a 52-48 percent split — the same split the township board has argued is unfair in its quest to permanently lower it to something akin to 50-50. And, the township proposed either municipality pay 1 percent more for each 10% increase in their respective population size.

Members of both sides have said the township is not only larger and has more valuable taxable properties, but is also growing faster and likely will continue to do so. "Our goal was certainly to simplify the formula to make it clear and easy to understand. To that end, we would propose a percentage allocation, get rid of PPUs," Gray said, referring to the Police Protection Unit measurement currently in place used to allocate patrol hours to either municipality.

East Buffalo Township's proposal comes as Union County President Judge Michael Hudock weighs its attempt in court to have Lewisburg's lawsuit dismissed and uphold its own interpretation of the existing contract — the one both sides would like replaced.

A ruling in the township's favor would allow either municipality to request a set amount of police coverage year to year under existing terms, something the township has done since 2017. Prior to 2017, the township had abided by the 52-48 split. The existing contract isn't likely to see an extension anyway as the township board voted last year to leave the regional police cooperative if a new deal isn't reached.

Lewisburg's representatives had proposed a broader formula incorporating population size, road miles patrolled by the department and the number of incidents in either municipality. That latter statistic would favor the township compared to the prior two. Though Lewisburg didn't discuss specific percentage splits as definitively as East Buffalo Township, Comas said calculations from

Internet – Newspaper Archives Searches
Stacey L. Kifolo
(Articles are in reverse chronological order)

the borough's perspective had the township paying anywhere from 58 percent to 61 percent. He didn't favor that. "We don't want the police department to go away and we don't want a situation where the allocation is really imbalanced, in the sense that East Buffalo is paying, let's call it too much," Comas said. "North of 58 percent, that seems to me too much."

Because of the amount of police activity in the borough compared to the township, it generates more revenue through fines and fees. That difference combined with the township's 52-48 percent proposal "feels like we're paying a lot," Comas said.

Kifolo cautioned that whatever formula may result would likely need to be revisited, and altered, should a neighboring municipality ultimately choose to join the regional police department.

Police Chief Paul Yost encouraged the two sides to reach an agreement on a defined set of criteria in whatever formula might result. That could help future elected officials and commission appointees avoid disagreements like what arose from the current contract. "If you have a good formula, no matter who's sitting at the table that's what you're using. It takes the arguments out," Yost said.

So, the two sides talked over the matter towards reaching a middle ground. They didn't reach an agreement on figures; however, they did agree to pull the same data figures on population, road miles and incidents to run through the formulas and see what the results look like.

As to potential future court battles, both sides said they'd hope to avoid that altogether in the future. They discussed adding mediation and arbitration as avenues for conflict resolution prior to the courts. Comas, Knight and Derman went back and forth about whether incorporating language about arbitration without specific rules of procedure and evidence might or might not disadvantage either side. The two sides agreed more information would be sought on this topic, too. The next meeting is set for 5:30 p.m. April 6. All the sessions have been held online and are open to the public. To register, visit www.ebtwp.org.

Internet – Newspaper Archives Searches
Stacey L. Kifolo
(Articles are in reverse chronological order)

Danville News, The (PA)
March 17, 2021

Some Valley agencies meeting in person; others remotely or both

Author: Staff reports

A year into the COVID-19 pandemic, some Valley government agencies have returned to in-person public meetings while many others continue in remote fashion only. Yet others are offering a mix, with a limited in-person attendance with live feeds online. During Sunshine Week, The Daily Item reached out to municipalities, school districts and counties to review what access is available for meetings. Some municipalities are reporting larger audiences for online meetings. In Montour County, Mahoning Township supervisors plan to keep offering teleconference and online options for public meetings, even after the public can again attend in person. "I think our attendance ended up being more online (than previous in-person attendance)," Township Secretary Carolyn Dragano said. "We've had a lot of people on. Not many on audio-video, mostly phone."

At the supervisors' first teleconference meeting, on March 23, 2020, right after COVID shut down most businesses and public buildings, 28 people, one supervisor and eight other township officials called in to the meeting. At the next regular meeting, about 100 people called in. Dragano said there was a lot of interest in the project to repair Bald Top Road at the time. In-person meetings at East Buffalo Township's municipal building resumed in June. Capacity is limited to 25 people and social distance is maintained. Supervisors switched to virtual-only for all participants as a safety measure when the virus spread spiked earlier this winter. Zoom broadcasts have continued throughout the pandemic to expand public access.

Stacey Kifolo, township manager, said the virtual access adds a layer of convenience. Attendance online consistently bests in-person attendance, she said. "There have been no issues in meeting the maximum attendance in either the in-person or virtual formats. I think that future changes will be based on changes in attendance, in terms of preferred access. Personally, I think that the convenience of the virtual format is appealing to a wide-ranging demographic and has the potential to engage more residents in the local government process," **Kifolo** said.

Mahoning supervisors also have offered attendance options through Skype, which the supervisors have replaced with Microsoft Teams. Remote attendance has leveled off to just under 20 people and, more recently, about a dozen. That's still more than the eight to 12 who previously attended in-person meetings just prior to the pandemic. "I think we do better online because people can listen in their car on the way home," Dragano said. She said they can listen to a discussion of a particular issue then hang up, if they want, and not be embarrassed leaving in the middle of a meeting. "Having this has actually been good for us," she added. "I know for sure they will continue."

Internet – Newspaper Archives Searches
Stacey L. Kifolo
(Articles are in reverse chronological order)

Daily Item, The (Sunbury, PA)
February 23, 2021

EBT solicits applications for township manager job

Author: Eric Scicchitano

East Buffalo Township Board of Supervisors seeks applications for the township manager position. Current manager **Stacey Kifolo** declined to comment on whether she'll reapply or is planning to leave the position. Her contract expires at year's end.

Kifolo served in the role since November 2012 and after a brief exit, resumed full-time duties in March 2019 when her replacement, Jamie Shrawder, resigned four months into her own tenure. **Kifolo** has worked remotely from Florida since taking back the position.

That last part is a driving factor for Supervisors Char Gray, board chair, and Jim Knight in seeking local candidates. Both supervisors said opening the position isn't about **Kifolo's** job performance. Both said she's done well. "I've heard a lot of comments from folks in the community about having someone who's physically here. I understand that concern. That would be the ideal situation: find someone with the kind of qualifications **Stacey** has who's local, lives in the community, or is willing to move here," Knight said.

"I do think it would be beneficial or ideal to have someone from the community," Gray said. "We'll float the job position out there and see what we can get. Given the amount of people we saw last time, I think we'll get a lot of resumes." When township supervisors first sought applications, 28 were returned in summer 2018 and 27 more were received when the position reopened in February 2019, according to Gray.

Supervisor Matt Schumacher encourages **Kifolo** to reapply. He said the distance from Florida to Pennsylvania in terms of **Kifolo's** job performance is hardly noticeable, something Gray agreed with. However, he said he's following the lead of Gray and Knight. "My preference is that **Stacey** would get an extended contract. It's rare that we're going to find someone with the skill set **Stacey** already has. She is the main reason during my term we haven't had to raise taxes," said Schumacher, who is in the last year of a six-year term and hasn't decided himself if he'll seek reelection.

The Board of Supervisors met for a work session Monday and decided to advertise the position at the following places: Zip Recruiter, Glass Door, Indeed, Pennsylvania State Association of Township Supervisors, Association for Pennsylvania Municipal Managers, Pennsylvania CareerLink and the township's own website and Facebook page. The deadline for applications is March 31. All three supervisors expect the salary to be set commensurate with a successful candidate's experience. Gray estimated the starting salary from \$60,000 to \$80,000. **Kifolo's** salary in 2021 is budgeted at \$89,000.

Internet – Newspaper Archives Searches
Stacey L. Kifolo
(Articles are in reverse chronological order)

[CB&A Note: Only the information relevant to **Stacey Kifolo** is listed below.]

Daily Item, The (Sunbury, PA)
February 22, 2021

Valley budgets, street crews stretched thin by winter weather

Author: Eric Scicchitano

The harsh winter is taking a toll on municipal budget and street crews who have been working overtime to keep Valley roads and streets clear during the recent crush of winter storms. **Stacey Kifolo**, manager of East Buffalo Township, estimated the township used 100 tons each of salt and aggregate road material in winter 2019-20. This year, she estimates they've used from 3 to 4 times those amounts.

Another way to look at road maintenance during winter storms is fuel use. According to **Kifolo**, the snowstorm from Dec. 16-17 that dumped an estimated 18 inches on the greater Lewisburg area saw the township road crews use nearly 550 gallons of diesel fuel to operate their trucks and plows.

Kifolo added that staff overtime in 2021 likely already surpassed all of 2020. "The overlooked toll is on the crews. The stress on the mind and body. The out-of-the-ordinary shifts that require the guys to be fully alert when they would otherwise be getting their body's needed sleep. They are out there when so many others wouldn't even dare. My guys don't get the level of appreciation they deserve for clearing roads so that people can get to work and emergency vehicles can get to people," **Kifolo** said.

Lewisburg Borough has used 321.45 tons of rock salt for its roadways this winter so far compared to 217.02 all of last winter, according to Borough Manager William Lowthert. Lowthert noted that most of the winter weather in 2019-20 was ice and sleet whereas in 2020-21 it's largely snow.

The borough spent a combined \$28,239 on winter maintenance: road salt, ice melt for sidewalks in public parks, parking lots and borough-owned property and employee labor. This year, the tally is \$81,383 and climbing. The major additional expense is third-party clearing and hauling of snow from parking lanes along borough streets: \$24,414. Last year, the borough didn't have to expend a dime since there wasn't nearly the amount of snowfall. Employee overtime is up, too. Regular time and overtime combined cost \$8,850 last winter compared to \$5,958 for regular time and \$18,887 for overtime this year so far, Lowthert said.

Daily Item reporters Marcia Moore and Justin Strawser contributed to this story.

Internet – Newspaper Archives Searches
Stacey L. Kifolo
(Articles are in reverse chronological order)

Daily Item, The (Sunbury, PA)
February 19, 2021

UPDATE Township manager: Snow plow on truck likely spared driver from serious injury
Author: Francis Scarcella

An East Buffalo Township plow truck driver escaped serious injury after an accident at the Bucknell University entrance on Route 15 Friday. According to **Stacey Kifolo**, East Buffalo Township manager, the township plow truck driver was traveling eastbound across State Route 15 from Smoketown Road to Moore Avenue around 11 a.m.

A tractor-trailer carrying vehicles was traveling northbound on State Route 15 and due to the traffic signal being in flash operation because of inclement weather it allowed the right-of-way to State Route 15 traffic, **Kifolo** said.

Kifolo did not give a condition on the truck driver. "It was the snowplow on the township truck that likely saved our driver or at least prevented serious injury," she said. "The plow was the only thing that prevented the driver side of the truck cab from slamming into the pavement when the truck rolled to its side. Ironically, it appears that the plow will be the only thing that will go back into service." **Kifolo** said the township was grateful for the calls received from concerned residents.

Lane restrictions along Route 15 stayed in place for nearly an hour but traffic was able to slowly work through the northbound lane of Route 15, but the entrance to Bucknell University remained closed while emergency responders cleared the scene.

A representative from the Buffalo Valley Regional Police said he was unsure if there would be a report on the incident on Friday night.

Internet – Newspaper Archives Searches
Stacey L. Kifolo
(Articles are in reverse chronological order)

Daily Item, The (Sunbury, PA)
December 14, 2020

EBT supervisors adopt budget, give emergency funds to BVRA

Author: Eric Scicchitano

East Buffalo Township Supervisors adopted a final 2021 operating budget, briefly updated the public on the status of a pending lawsuit initiated by Lewisburg Borough and cast a split vote to provide \$42,000 in emergency funds to Buffalo Valley Recreation Authority. The final budget projects \$4,450,636 in revenue and \$4,932,013 in expenses. The resulting deficit will be covered by the township's existing fund balance. Supervisors Matt Schumacher, board chair, Char Gray and Jim Knight authorized the budget during a public meeting Monday.

Township Manager **Stacey Kifolo** explained that projects like road construction that was delayed in 2020 due to the coronavirus has pushed into 2021. It's reflected in the expenses but the funding to pay for the projects is in the current year's budget and will roll over into next year.

The final property tax millage rates dipped slightly from what had been planned. The street light tax and fire hydrant tax were reduced by 0.02 mills to 0.05 and 0.06, respectively. Property owners subject to the fire hydrant tax — a property within 780 feet of a hydrant — will be taxed at a rate of 4.56 mills, down from 4.6 mills. Those not subject to the hydrant tax will be taxed at 4.50 mills, down from 4.52. A rate of 4.56 mills is equivalent to \$4.56 taxed on each \$1,000 of a property's assessed value.

Meeting request unanswered

East Buffalo Township's request to Lewisburg to meet to review and revise the joint contract governing the Buffalo Valley Regional Police Department went unanswered, according to **Kifolo**. The borough and township are locked in a lawsuit concerning municipal funding of the police department's operations. The borough looks to maintain a 52-48 percent funding split with the township paying the greater amount. The township moved in 2017 to reduce its contribution to about 50 percent and maintains contract language allows member municipalities to request a specific amount of coverage rather than following a formula used for the department's first budget when it was created in 2011.

In November, township supervisors proposed the meetings in a letter to Lewisburg Borough Council. Should that be declined, they suggested either municipality take sole ownership of the department and sell coverage to the other. The supervisors moved Monday night to pay \$92,339.83 monthly for its funding contribution in 2021, which is the 2020 rate. The township previously rejected the department budget since it reflects a 52-48 percent split. As a result, **Kifolo** said the department must work from its 2020 budget until the 2021 version is resolved.

Township resident Joan Moreau suggested the supervisors hold the disputed 2 percent shortfall in escrow. Another resident, Margaret Marr, criticized the supervisors for their "unilateral" decision in 2017, saying it spurred the lawsuit. She suggested the township pay the disputed

Internet – Newspaper Archives Searches
Stacey L. Kifolo
(Articles are in reverse chronological order)

funds, previously estimated at about \$40,000 annually. Schumacher maintained the township is acting in accord with the existing agreement and that it's up to the borough to drop its lawsuit and negotiate. He estimated the township spent \$85,000 in legal fees so far. "We'll definitely be over \$200,000 wasted by the time this thing goes to trial," Schumacher said. There's a pre-trial conference in the case on Dec. 29. A trial is expected to be scheduled in Union County in the first quarter of 2021.

The supervisors voted 2-1 to provide an additional \$42,000 in funding to Buffalo Valley Recreation Authority. Gray and Knight voted in favor. Schumacher dissented saying he wasn't willing to exceed the additional \$25,000 Lewisburg authorized. The authority is struggling to make ends meet as its programming has largely been shut down due to coronavirus restrictions.

BVRA operates partially on municipal contributions. East Buffalo Township provided \$120,719 in 2020 while Lewisburg provided \$67,598.46. The amounts are based on direct terms between the authority and the individual municipalities. Kelly Township is also an authority member but chooses not to contribute financially.

All three supervisors voted in September to allow **Kifolo** to cut \$8,000 checks monthly on request by BVRA. The monthly requests weren't made. The authority's executive director, Shirley Brough, made a one-time request of both the township and Lewisburg. The borough voted previously to give the authority \$25,000 in additional funds.

The authority's governing board, which includes Gray as a member along with additional township and borough representatives, dictated the request along the lines of the municipal funding split: 2/3 from the township, 1/3 from the borough, roughly. Schumacher argued that wasn't a fair split. The funds are to maintain the organization as its revenue disappears. He said the split should be equal since it's beyond normal budgeting. "Are we not equal participants in keeping BVRA afloat?" Schumacher asked. "This isn't about programming, this is about making it whole until we start programming again."

Gray said the entire funding model for BVRA should be reviewed. She pointed to the swimming pool which annually loses money. She said she'd support additional money for BVRA to keep the pool viable in the future. "The pool can't support itself. I think as a community we want a pool and I think we're gonna need two municipalities to fund more than we have to keep the pool running," Gray said.

Internet – Newspaper Archives Searches
Stacey L. Kifolo
(Articles are in reverse chronological order)

Daily Item, The (Sunbury, PA)
December 7, 2020

Some Valley municipalities see tax hikes, some balanced

Author: Eric Scicchitano

When COVID-19 struck earlier this year, Valley municipal leaders feared the longterm impact on budgets. As 2020 nears its close, it is a mixed bag as elected officials finalize 2021 spending plans. Some entities are holding the line on taxes, some are seeing slight increases and one municipality actually refunded some money.

The Brookings Institute, a nonprofit public policy organization said the financial hit could last beyond this year. Their projections estimate "state and local government revenues will decline \$155 billion in 2020, \$167 billion in 2021, and \$145 billion in 2022—about 5.5 percent, 5.7 percent, and 4.7 percent, respectively."

So far locally, most local municipalities seem to have fared OK. In Northumberland County, commissioners were able to approve a tentative budget thanks to across-the-board reductions. The group reduced each of the county's 52 department budgets by an average of 4 percent. The tentative \$82.9 million won't increase taxes on residents. "We had to meet a few times to work out the reductions with department heads," chairman Sam Schiccatano. "The department heads found ways to help us balance the budget without raising taxes."

Northumberland Borough officials approved a slight increase to help cover the costs of COVID and some stormwater issues. Their tax increase was proactive, council members said. "The borough is in pretty good shape in spite of COVID," said Councilwoman Ellie Rees. "It's something of a cushion and for stormwater issues. We thought it would be best to raise taxes a half-mill so we don't get in a predicament."

Slight reduction

East Buffalo Township Supervisors adopted a tentative budget last month with a final version expected to be approved Dec. 14. There is no tax increase. In fact, supervisors are discussing a slight reduction in the property tax millage rate. According to the preliminary plan, the township plans for \$4,451,236 in revenue and \$4,934,691 in expenses in 2021. The resulting deficit will be covered by the township's existing fund balance. That fund would drop to \$3,057,742 after clearing the deficit.

Stacey Kifolo, township manager, had repeatedly cautioned supervisors about a potential drop in revenue, especially next year, while discussing finances during the summer. At the time, the supervisors were considering a 20-percent property tax rebate on 2020 bills that ultimately was approved. As this year played out, **Kifolo** grew less anxious about financials in the upcoming year. "When this first started and everybody was shutting down," **Kifolo** said of the pandemic, "there was great concern with what was happening to people with their employment. I know I was bracing the board." However, **Kifolo** said earned income taxes and local services taxes

Internet – Newspaper Archives Searches
Stacey L. Kifolo
(Articles are in reverse chronological order)

weren't significantly impacted. While new home construction slowed, the township saw an increase in permits for small projects like sheds, decks and pools.

The rebates did return \$360,000 to taxpayers that would have been used for municipal business and projects. Some projects that couldn't be completed in 2020 due to pandemic complications were pushed into 2021, which raised the expenditures in next year's budget but are covered with existing funds to be rolled over, **Kifolo** said.

Road work implications

Kifolo anticipates less money from the state, called liquid fuels funds, for road work. She's not alone. William Lowthert, Lewisburg borough manager, said the anticipated reduction caused borough council to push street construction projects planned for 2021 into 2022. The state monies are often supplemented with local funds and Lowthert said the burden would be too large for the municipality to cover next year.

Lewisburg Borough Council adopted its 2021 final budget without a tax hike. It totals \$6,579,646.51 across 19 separate fund accounts including \$4,017,782.23 for the borough's general fund. "We're definitely concerned about the business privilege tax," Lowthert said. "We kept it level in the budget. That may not end up reaching budgeted expenses."

In Washingtonville Borough in Montour County, property owners will face a 50 percent tax increase next year to help fund road maintenance. Mayor Tyler Dombroski said the borough's state liquid fuels allocation is going to be less in 2021 because of the pandemic. "The main reason for the increase is road maintenance," Dombroski said. "We just paved one block of alley which came out to about \$6,000." Dombroski said \$6,000 "is a drop in the bucket to address our streets."

Watching expenses

In Lewisburg, A tax is collected on businesses' gross receipts at a rate of 75 cents on every \$1,000 generated, according to borough ordinance. The borough budgeted a collection of \$125,000 next year, about 5 percent of anticipated tax revenue.

The borough has been planning for a \$1.6 million project in 2021 to improve the Bull Run floodplain, create a nature play area at Hufnagle Park and expand the Buffalo Valley Rail Trail to the edge of Bucknell University's campus. That's still on and is largely funded with government grant funds, though an undetermined local match will be needed. Contractor bids are expected to be received early next year. "We're definitely watching taxes and expenses, especially with the big project we know will happen next year," Lowthert said.

Mifflinburg's tentative budget estimates \$2,451,400 in revenue compared to \$2,449,360 in expenses. Tax rates are anticipated to remain the same when the borough council votes on a final version later this month. There are, however, planned increases to the borough-owned utility services: 3 percent for sewer and 1 percent for water. Electric rates aren't planned to rise.

Internet – Newspaper Archives Searches
Stacey L. Kifolo
(Articles are in reverse chronological order)

Margaret Metzger, borough manager, said the borough works with residents who are late on utility payments. Metzger said the pandemic could cause a dip in earned income taxes and local services taxes but the potential impact is truly unknown. "I don't have a crystal ball," Metzger said. "I wish I did. It's unfortunate, but we kind of have to roll with things."

Taxes in Shamokin Dam Borough are projected to rise by 1 mill under the proposed \$891,344 2021 budget. While health coverage costs are down by 14 percent, Borough Manager Ed Hovenstine, said other areas of the spending plan are increasing, including salaries and benefits.

The police budget includes salary raises of \$4,000 for the chief and two patrolmen, which were approved in the 2018 contract. The public safety budget is proposed to increase from \$400,738 this year to \$422,996 in 2021, an increase of 5.6 percent, Hovenstine said. There is no planned increase in water or sewer costs. "We haven't had an increase since 2015," he said. The proposed budget represents a 3.6 percent increase over the 2020 budget of \$860,400 and will be up for a vote on Dec. 7.

No increases

The Monroe Township Supervisors are scheduled to adopt the municipality's proposed \$2.9 million spending plan for 2021 on Dec. 22. The budget carries no tax increase and is up from the current budget of \$2.78 million, township secretary Stephanie McKinney said.

In Danville, borough taxpayers can expect to pay the same tax rates next year — the first time in eight years — under a preliminary budget borough council passed last month.

Sunbury's city council approved its \$.5 million budget with no increase because of a \$211,000 carryover, according to Kevin Troup.

Daily Item reporters Marcia Moore, Francis Scarcella, Eric Scicchitano, Joe Sylvester and Justin Strawser contributed to this story.

Internet – Newspaper Archives Searches
Stacey L. Kifolo
(Articles are in reverse chronological order)

Daily Item, The (Sunbury, PA)
October 13, 2020

EBT chair suggests leaving regional police if Lewisburg continues lawsuit

Author: Eric Scicchitano

Note: This story has been updated to correct a comment made by Supervisor Jim Knight and also clarify the reference to a funding formula.

Citing mounting legal costs of an ongoing lawsuit brought by neighboring Lewisburg, East Buffalo Township's supervisor chair suggested the board pursue a new arrangement for ownership of the Buffalo Valley Regional Police Department or consider withdrawing altogether. Supervisor Matt Schumacher estimated the township compiled \$56,000 in legal bills as of Monday. That cost stands to rise as fees for upward of 30 hours of depositions plus charges from township Solicitor Peter Matson haven't yet been calculated.

Schumacher posited that Lewisburg, which filed suit in June 2019 against the township and the regional police commission, spent at least roughly the same amount. "For what? There will be no winner," Schumacher said, with Supervisor Char Gray later pointing out that both sides would have to negotiate contract terms regardless of how the court might rule on the funding aspect. "I agree, this is a lot of wasted money," Gray said.

As a result, Schumacher suggested the township board make a decision before the end of 2020: make a change where either municipality takes on full ownership of the department and sells coverage to the other entity, or the township pulls out of the regional department and funds its own operation. Moving before year's end would allow the two sides to negotiate before potentially terminating membership in the regional department at the close of 2021, Schumacher said. That is if the borough doesn't drop the lawsuit and negotiate new funding terms directly with the township. "East Buffalo Township on its own can offer equal if not better police services to our citizens and we should do so as that's our job as elected officials," Schumacher said.

Supervisor Jim Knight said he wants to see the regional department continue. At Gray's suggestion of exploring information on alternative funding models with Chief Paul Yost, Knight said that "sounds OK to me." "It's unfortunate we're in this position. I thought we have offered a couple of times to sit down and talk with them," Knight said.

Judy Wagner, Lewisburg mayor and a police commission member, said if the township were to exit the move would be like "throwing the baby out with the bathwater." "If the regional police force dissolves, each one of us individually would pay more to start up our own police," Wagner said Monday night in response to the township supervisors' comments. "You would never have the level of service and professionalism that we do now."

Internet – Newspaper Archives Searches
Stacey L. Kifolo
(Articles are in reverse chronological order)

At issue are municipal funding and the contract language that dictates how municipal contributions should be determined. The borough seeks to maintain a 52-48 split, with the township paying the larger portion. The township holds that it's up to either municipality to request a specific amount of coverage — which could push a contribution higher or lower — rather than a percentage split.

The township and borough have been on opposite sides of the issue since roughly 2016 and at the end of that year, the township board chose to request a set amount of police coverage rather than stick to the prior 52-48 allotment. In doing so, the township cited contract language it interprets as allowing a specific request. The borough disputes the interpretation and filed the lawsuit last year asking a judge to uphold the 52-48 split.

A funding formula was used to determine municipal obligations as the department was being created, Mayor Judy Wagner confirmed. At a December 2016 meeting of municipal representatives from both sides, it was explained that the formula utilized population density, assessed taxable property values, incidents of crime and amount of road miles to be covered. That formula isn't included in the contract between the municipalities, known as an intergovernmental agreement.

The two sides met for joint work sessions a handful of times several years ago but those sessions have stopped. The township has floated a 51-49 split as a compromise but the offer didn't go anywhere. Late last year, township Manager **Stacey Kifolo** reminded that the township offered a draft agreement to restart negotiations with Lewisburg but that the borough didn't move to discuss terms.

Despite the tumult between the two municipalities, Schumacher said the regional police department continues normal operations and has consistently remained under budget without jeopardizing coverage.

Lewisburg Borough Council meets for a work session tonight and a voting meeting next Tuesday. The police commission meets Wednesday.

Internet – Newspaper Archives Searches
Stacey L. Kifolo
(Articles are in reverse chronological order)

Daily Item, The (Sunbury, PA)
September 14, 2020

EBT agrees to help BVRA through financial woes

Author: Eric Scicchitano

East Buffalo Township supervisors pledged to provide financial assistance to the Buffalo Valley Recreation Authority as the organization struggles to generate revenue during the pandemic. The Authority, known as BVRA, faces an estimated \$80,000 shortfall by year's end as programming and participation are restricted due to government mitigation measures, BVRA Executive Director Shirley Brough said during Monday's supervisors meeting.

Supervisors Char Gray, Jim Knight and Matt Schumacher all voted to authorize township Manager **Stacey Kifolo** to cut checks of up to \$8,000 between meetings through year's end. The move allows faster action rather than waiting for a formal board vote. Additional funds could be authorized by the board at its meetings. "We're not going to let this thing fold. It's an asset to the community," Schumacher said. "We just have to get the gym back and we should be in good shape," Brough said, referring to the hugely popular gymnastics program.

The program is a major revenue driver, about \$486,000 was budgeted in revenue for 2020, but participation is restricted due to limits on social gatherings. According to Brough, when gymnastics operations halted in March the program credited \$62,000 in dues already paid by participants. Two-thirds of that amount has yet to be used. She said gym operations resumed but at 33 percent capacity.

Because BVRA is a municipal authority, it wasn't eligible for coronavirus relief funding like the Paycheck Protection Program or Union County's own grant program, Brough said. Brough said she's pursuing private grant funding opportunities and expects to hear on at least one application next week.

Kifolo said she questioned Union County Commissioners why that board couldn't help the authority. The county's grant program restricts help to specific nonprofit designations and BVRA doesn't qualify. "I asked specifically if there was anything that East Buffalo Township could do to help the authority. I have not heard from them," **Kifolo** said, referring specifically to funneling federal virus relief funding to the authority through the county and township, which she said is an allowable use of the federal money. The township and BVRA will stay in communication to fulfill financial needs. Brough estimated BVRA has enough cash currently to make it to mid-October.

Brough said social distancing mandates forced reduced access not only to the gym but also to programs like summer camp. BVRA opted against opening its pool this summer, which operates at a \$50,000 loss, though it incurred about \$25,000 in maintenance and repairs when a water line feeding the pool broke. The pool remained closed because the gym revenue wasn't at normal levels to offset the losses. BVRA continues to pay \$10,000 monthly to the operators of the

Internet – Newspaper Archives Searches
Stacey L. Kifolo
(Articles are in reverse chronological order)

GreenSpace Center in Lewisburg where its offices and gym are located. Brough said she was denied a deferral. Schumacher suggested she again raise the issue with the building owners since BVRA's barely used the space the past six months.

BVRA operates partially on municipal contributions. East Buffalo Township provided \$120,719 in 2020 while Lewisburg provided \$67,598.46. The amounts are based on direct terms between the authority and the individual municipalities. Kelly Township is also an authority member but chooses not to contribute financially.

Gray, an East Buffalo Township representative to the BVRA board, said representatives appointed by Lewisburg Borough Council anticipated a similar request for financial assistance. "In our board meetings, the borough members on the board basically said the same thing. I don't think there's going to be any questions about whether the borough will step up. They will," Gray said. Lewisburg Borough Council meets at 7 p.m. today.

Internet – Newspaper Archives Searches
Stacey L. Kifolo
(Articles are in reverse chronological order)

Daily Item, The (Sunbury, PA)
June 8, 2020

EBT approves tax rebates for property owners

Author: Eric Scicchitano

East Buffalo Township Supervisors voted to approve 20-percent tax rebates for township property owners. The average rebate is \$140 and the total cost to the township will exceed \$409,000, township Manager **Stacey Kifolo** said during Monday's board meeting. The rebates are meant to aid township residents through the economic fallout of the global coronavirus pandemic. The average is skewed, **Kifolo** explained, by high-end property values such as GIANT Foods, which could receive about \$9,000 back.

Funds for the rebates will come from the township's reserve account. Residents must make a formal request in writing no later than Dec. 15. Taxes must be paid in full prior to Dec. 31. **Kifolo** said rebate forms should be mailed by July.

Supervisors Char Gray, Jim Knight and Matt Schumacher voted unanimously. "It's not our money, it's taxpayers money," said Schumacher, who credited **Kifolo**'s management with building a large reserve account to allow such a move. "Part of the reason we have a reserve is emergency purposes," Gray said, citing the spread of COVID-19. "I think this would be a good use of some of our reserves."

Knight expressed concern about the township's own projected loss of revenue. **Kifolo** estimated in April that the township could lose at least \$1.14 million across general fund revenue sources. The rebate funds did not, however, come from the general fund. "You have to weigh those two things against one another," Knight said, speaking of the projected deficit and existing reserve funds.

On Monday, **Kifolo** cautioned again that the revenue projections are unknown. She cited comments from earlier in the meeting by Gray that the Buffalo Valley Recreation Authority, to which the township contributes tax dollars, anticipates its own shortfall and could request additional funds before the year ends. Schumacher suggested the recreation authority seek private donations before making a request for more public funds.

Solar ordinance

Supervisors authorized Solicitor Pete Matson to advertise a public hearing July 13 before the township board on a pending solar ordinance. After months of review, the board settled on an ordinance proposal that is available for public review at www.ebtwp.org and also at the township building, 589 Fairground Road. The ordinance sets rules for solar energy systems in agricultural-preservation, agricultural-residential, Bucknell University and industrial zoning districts. The systems aren't permitted in other zoning districts. The ordinance allows from 5 to 50 acres of development in the first three zones, dependent on lot size and existing structures. Industrial

Internet – Newspaper Archives Searches
Stacey L. Kifolo
(Articles are in reverse chronological order)

zones don't have a maximum land amount for solar energy development but are capped at 90 percent of a lot's size not used for structures, driveways, etc.

Lawsuit

Oral arguments are scheduled for June 22 in the lawsuit brought by Lewisburg Borough against the township and the Buffalo Valley Police Commission. The arguments are about the township's motion for summary judgment asking a judge to toss the lawsuit and mandate the existing agreement between the three entities be enforced as written. **Kifolo** said a judge's ruling isn't expected immediately after the oral arguments end.

Lewisburg Borough filed suit in February 2019 against East Buffalo Township and the Buffalo Valley Regional Police Commission, a governing body consisting of members of both municipalities. At issue is municipal funding. The borough seeks to maintain a 52-48 split, with the township paying the larger portion. The township holds that it's up to either municipality to request a specific amount of coverage — which could push a contribution higher or lower — rather than a percentage split.

Asked by Schumacher, **Kifolo** estimated the township spent \$35,000 on attorney fees on the lawsuit so far. "That money could have been used at (Buffalo Valley Recreation Authority)," Schumacher said.

Internet – Newspaper Archives Searches
Stacey L. Kifolo
(Articles are in reverse chronological order)

Daily Item, The (Sunbury, PA)
May 5, 2020

EBT, Lewisburg announce phased resumption of normal operations

Author: Eric Scicchitano

East Buffalo Township began a staggered redeployment of employees on Monday, while Lewisburg Borough aims to begin its own staged plan starting May 11. Lewisburg targets a full return to normal operations in early June depending on state restrictions, according to Borough Manager William Lowthert.

Lewisburg will lift its 10-person limit at social gatherings beginning at 12:01 a.m. Friday, Lowthert said. He said the borough will enforce the governor's gathering limits moving forward.

East Buffalo Township is working to acclimate employees to on-the-job social distancing, according to Township Manager **Stacey Kifolo**. Individual employees are asked to give input on identify potential changes that should be made before the full work crew is fully operational.

Internet – Newspaper Archives Searches
Stacey L. Kifolo
(Articles are in reverse chronological order)

Daily Item, The (Sunbury, PA)
April 27, 2020

UPDATE: EBT facing \$1.14 million revenue loss, still considering tax rebate

Author: Eric Scicchitano

Note: The combined estimated revenue shortfall in East Buffalo Township is \$1.14 million. This figure was incorrect in an earlier version of this story.

East Buffalo Township Supervisors plan to vote next month on a potential tax rebate for property owners as a way to help residents during the novel coronavirus pandemic. The forecast that the township stands to lose an estimated \$1.14 million combined across general fund revenue sources didn't derail the idea as a vote is expected May 11.

Supervisors met Monday remotely and further discussed a 20 percent rebate. Township Manager **Stacey Kifolo** recalculated the estimate at that percentage, finding the move would cost \$365,000. That's down from \$392,000 after including the 2 percent discount received by the earliest of taxpayers. The percentage, for now, serves only as a placeholder. Supervisor Chair Matt Schumacher first floated the concept earlier this month.

The board directed **Kifolo** to draft a mailer that if the rebate is approved, would be sent notifying all property owners of the rebate and an as-yet-unspecified December deadline to submit a written request for cash back. The rebate wouldn't be automatically distributed. "I guess I don't envision many people saying 'no' and I'm wondering why we'd go through that extra step. I would ask for my money back if everybody else is," Supervisor Char Gray said.

Schumacher said some property owners may be in a position to either choose not to seek a rebate, perhaps out of civic duty or financial stability. Others may welcome cash back, he said, citing small business owners who may be struggling. "If we talk about people being hurt and there being so many unknowns, don't you think the people's pockets are the best place for the money to be?" Schumacher asked.

Supervisor Jim Knight already said he wouldn't seek a rebate. Schumacher has taken a wait-and-see approach. The township board reduced property taxes by 10 percent entering 2020.

Kifolo calculated revenue losses from earned income tax (\$332,000), local services tax (\$52,000), real estate transfer tax (\$87,000), development and construction fees (\$33,000), interest (\$27,000), extension of the real estate tax discount period (\$5,000) and real estate tax (\$365,000).

Gray asked **Kifolo** if her estimates are particularly conservative. The current pandemic — and ensuing fiscal crisis — brings about too many unknowns to say, **Kifolo** replied. She added that should Bucknell not resume in-person courses this fall, potential losses would intensify. Supervisors agreed to recommend that Union County, which sought municipal input, eliminate

Internet – Newspaper Archives Searches
Stacey L. Kifolo
(Articles are in reverse chronological order)

penalties for late payment of property taxes in 2020. An emergency law adopted by the state allows municipalities to extend discount periods and eliminate penalties. The township board seemed to agree that the accounting issues with extending discounts — the discount period ended last month — could create an undue burden. The county serves as the township's tax collector. Bills were already sent out and 83 percent have been paid.

Lewisburg Borough Council voted earlier this month to adjust its tax payment periods in line with whatever decision the county commissioners ultimately make.

Supervisors voted to extend the current disaster declaration until May 8, the tentative date set by the Gov. Wolf Administration to ease stay-at-home and business closure orders in lesser-impacted parts of Pennsylvania. **Kifolo** said like the state, the township would take a staggered approach to recall employees and resuming routine business.

Internet – Newspaper Archives Searches
Stacey L. Kifolo
(Articles are in reverse chronological order)

[CB&A Note: Only the information relevant to **Stacey Kifolo** is listed below.]

Daily Item, The (Sunbury, PA)
March 19, 2020

UPDATE: Northumberland commissioners declare disaster emergency
Author: Staff Writer

East Buffalo Township declared a disaster emergency Thursday in response to the novel coronavirus COVID-19. The declaration is done in under state law and in cooperation with Union County Emergency Management.

"Although enacted in the past for snow and flood emergencies, a declaration by the township for a response to a pandemic is unprecedented. The township will maintain cooperation with Union County Emergency Management to monitor and respond as necessary throughout this situation," Township Manager **Stacey Kifolo** wrote in the announcement.

Township facilities remain closed to the general public. All meetings and gatherings are cancelled and the recycling collection is suspended until further notice.

Internet – Newspaper Archives Searches
Stacey L. Kifolo
(Articles are in reverse chronological order)

Daily Item, The (Sunbury, PA)
March 11, 2020

Township, borough officials fail to reach agreement over police funding

Author: Staff Writer

Attempts to settle the police funding lawsuit out of court failed as litigation continues between East Buffalo Township Supervisors and Lewisburg Borough Council, according to a statement from township officials. "There is no plan for negotiation of a revised intergovernmental agreement," Township Manager **Stacey Kifolo** said, quoting an official statement from the Board of Supervisors. "The borough is moving forward with litigation with the next step being a costly litigation process."

Citing the statement, **Kifolo** said the borough in February rejected an offer to negotiate using a township-created draft agreement as a starting point. The offer initially was made in November and reiterated through followup communications between the respective attorneys on the lawsuit, **Kifolo** said. The statement was to be read during Monday's township supervisors meeting. However, a lengthy discussion on a proposed solar energy ordinance prevented the reading, **Kifolo** said.

Lewisburg Borough filed suit in February 2019 against East Buffalo Township and the Buffalo Valley Regional Police Commission, a governing body consisting of members of both municipalities.

Attorneys for both municipalities indicated in court documents earlier this year that they were pursuing a settlement. As a result, a judicial order moved back the bench trial to the third quarter of 2020 and also delayed deadlines for discovery evidence and pretrial.

At issue is municipal funding. The borough seeks to maintain a 52-48 split, with the township paying the larger portion. The township holds that it's up to either municipality to request a specific amount of coverage — which could push a contribution higher or lower — rather than a percentage split.

Internet – Newspaper Archives Searches
Stacey L. Kifolo
(Articles are in reverse chronological order)

Daily Item, The (Sunbury, PA)
March 11, 2020

Supervisors award park project design, management to York firm

Author: Eric Scicchitano

East Buffalo Township Supervisors voted Monday to award contracts for the design and management of a park project on Fairground Road as well as traffic signal and speed enforcement projects along Route 15 and Route 45.

YSM Landscape Architects, York, is contracted to complete final designs, prepare construction documents and oversee project inspection. The contract value is not to exceed \$68,700. The firm previously had been contracted to develop a master site plan for the public park next to the municipal building.

The township received \$225,000 in state grants and budgeted \$250,000 to matching funds. Construction isn't expected until 2021.

Herr Signal and Lighting Inc., Grantville, was awarded separate contracts. One contract is to replace the traffic signal at Route 15 and Moore Avenue, the main entrance to Bucknell University. In partnership with Union Township, the signal on Route 15 at Winfield will be upgraded. East Buffalo Township received \$372,179 and must match \$93,044.75.

Herr also is contracted to replace reduced speed zone signals on Route 45 near Linntown Intermediate School and make some upgrades at the Fairground Road intersection. The township received \$77,549.64 from the state and must match \$2,500.

Township Manager **Stacey Kifolo**, who provided the grant funding information, said both traffic projects are under budget by approximately a combined \$116,000.

Internet – Newspaper Archives Searches
Stacey L. Kifolo
(Articles are in reverse chronological order)

Meadville Tribune, The (PA)
February 12, 2020

Support, opposition to gun sanctuary rule

Author: Eric Scicchitano

A standing room-only crowd filled the community hall at the East Buffalo Township Municipal Building on Monday as dozens of people expressed support or opposition for a suggested ordinance creating Second Amendment Sanctuary municipalities. The ordinance rejects the enforcement of certain state or federal gun control laws and would restrict the use of local government resources to abide with the higher-government statutes.

By and large, supporters argued gun control measures restricting ownership for law-abiding citizens directly violates the right to bear arms granted by the Second Amendment of the U.S. Constitution. "I support the Second Amendment," was a refrain repeated often by the 100-person crowd's majority.

"I am a firearm owner and fully support the Second Amendment as well as the reasoning behind the ordinance," said Anne Sloan, a township resident. Acknowledging members of the Moms Demand Action in attendance, Sloan said the collective energy of the community should be used to address addiction, human trafficking and infrastructure. "I am not the problem. These men and women here are not the problem. The firearms they own are not the problem," Sloan said.

Those in opposition said the local government has no place in diverting from the rule of law established in state and federal courts but should it choose to do so, it could expose taxpayers to financial liabilities if the ordinance is challenged in court.

Moms Demand Action advocates for "commonsense" gun laws and not the abolition of gun ownership. Lauren Peck, a member of the local Moms contingent, told township supervisors the municipal body had no authority to reject gun laws. "The constitutionality of future gun laws will be determined by the courts," Peck said. "People like you," she told the board, "have an obligation to carry out that law, not defy it."

The first Second Amendment Sanctuary Ordinance (SASO) anywhere in the United States was passed last week in Buffalo Township, Union County, according to Val Finnell, Pennsylvania director, Gun Owners of America. Members of the Buffalo Township board attended Monday's meeting. Hundreds more communities nationwide have adopted SASO resolutions, which amounts to a symbolic gesture compared to the binding rules ordinances bring about.

A group of Union County residents including Shawn Waltman and Scott Henninger launched a local push aiming to have SASO adopted across the county. Henninger, a resident of East Buffalo Township, said gun ownership is "constantly under attack." He said there's value in law-abiding citizens legally owning firearms for protection. A former state trooper, Henninger said he's come to reject the term "first responder" for those in law enforcement. "I was always beat (to

Internet – Newspaper Archives Searches
Stacey L. Kifolo
(Articles are in reverse chronological order)

a crime scene) by one or two people. One of those people was the victim," Henninger said, adding that he was once backed up by an armed citizen and remains thankful for it.

Leroy Fisher invited anyone curious about gun use and ownership to visit him at a local gun club for safe demonstration and information. "Gun-handling should start at home at a young age," Fisher said.

Those among the crowd who spoke out on the issue Monday were split. Supporters created a majority but those in opposition were also well-represented. It could hardly be used to measure support among township residents as attendees came from all over Union County — Lewisburg, Allenwood, Mifflinburg and beyond — and not just East Buffalo Township alone.

The supervisors devoted the first 80 minutes of the meeting for audience participation. The crowd heeded Chairman Matt Schumacher's request that they act civil, speak efficiently, avoid redundancy and steer clear of jeering or talking over others.

The governing body didn't act on the measure. They didn't discuss it or seek answers to questions. They simply allowed the audience to speak its mind. Further discussion by supervisors is expected at a public work session to be held at 5:30 p.m. Feb. 24 at the township municipal building, 589 Fairground Road.

Township Manager **Stacey Kifolo** said the matter couldn't be put to a vote by township residents as it doesn't meet specific criteria for a ballot question. "This municipal body has no authority to say whether or not a state or federal law is unconstitutional. The only way to make that happen is if the board decides to file suit against the state," **Kifolo** said.

Internet – Newspaper Archives Searches
Stacey L. Kifolo
(Articles are in reverse chronological order)

Daily Item, The (Sunbury, PA)
February 10, 2020

Township manager operates from Florida

Author: Eric Scicchitano

About 1,000 miles separate **Stacey Kifolo** from the headquarters of East Buffalo Township, the Union County municipality that she manages daily, but she said a typical workday doesn't feel any different from when she occupied an office in the township's municipal building. **Kifolo** works from her home in Florida. Telecommunications is paramount in completing her tasks and so is her familiarity with the Buffalo Valley. She grew up in the Lewisburg area. Without that experience, in a sense, she'd be working blind. "If she didn't know the township like she does, it wouldn't work," Jolene Helwig, administrative assistant, said.

Kifolo's worked as the township manager since 2012. In fact, she's the township's first manager. Save for four months when Jamie Shrawder replaced **Kifolo** before resigning early last year, she's been the township's only manager, too.

The last 18 months have seen **Kifolo** serve as manager in some capacity remotely. She stayed on as an interim manager after relocating south, served as a consultant, of sorts, when Shrawder was hired and, eventually, accepted an offer to return to the position full-time last May. "I don't think she's missed a beat. I don't think we've missed a beat in the transition. For the most part, I don't think anybody would notice a difference," Supervisor Char Gray said. According to Gray, **Kifolo** remains an effective and prompt communicator with supervisors and staff via email and telephone. Documents are shared, annotated or updated using computer programs. Helwig said there's been maybe two instances of citizens visiting the office and asking to speak with **Kifolo** directly, a request fulfilled with Skype, an online video-chat service.

When **Kifolo** began her workdays while living in the township, she often started with a drive through the municipality to take a look around. That's an impossibility now. However, she said the distance between herself and the township has improved her ability to delineate tasks. "I had to learn better how to delegate," **Kifolo** said. "Obviously, it's been effective because I have good people working in the township." "It's all about trust," **Kifolo** said.

Working with vendors or government agents, say from Harrisburg, hasn't changed much. The communication was and is largely done online or on the phone, **Kifolo** said. She spoke to grant projects she's currently working on including a traffic light project. Documents are reviewed online and discussed using telecommunication tools, she said.

Kifolo said she's in frequent contact with Helwig and Steve Mohr, the public works director. There's a lot of back and forth with supervisors, too, she said. "One of the things I miss, and this might surprise them, I do miss seeing the crew," **Kifolo** said of township employees she doesn't have daily interaction with. Jim Knight has only worked with **Kifolo** from a supervisor's standpoint since taking office in early January. He said he's concerned about the lack of a

Internet – Newspaper Archives Searches
Stacey L. Kifolo
(Articles are in reverse chronological order)

manager in the office, preferring face-to-face interaction for that position. However, he said his opinion isn't set in stone. "My opinion hasn't changed in that it's not an ideal situation," Knight said. "It's never been a reflection on **Stacey** or her capabilities. She's obviously very knowledgeable about how the township works. She's certainly very capable." "I'm open-minded about it. We'll see where we are in a year or two years," Knight said.

Schumacher said when **Kifolo** informed the board last spring that she'd be resigning as manager, he didn't want to hire someone living beyond the borders of East Buffalo Township let alone hiring someone out of state. The supervisors twice petitioned for applications. He said nearly 30 candidates were interviewed, some twice. The position was filled. Ultimately, it didn't work out.

That **Kifolo** remained working throughout that process showed Schumacher that with current technology, at least in **Kifolo's** case, the township could be managed remotely. "She's exceptional. I would never want her job. She does so much and knows so much," Schumacher said. "Her productivity, her involvement, the product she puts out, the emails, the data, the charts — it's like she's still sitting there. The only thing not occurring is that she's not sitting in the building anymore," Schumacher said.

Internet – Newspaper Archives Searches
Stacey L. Kifolo
(Articles are in reverse chronological order)

Daily Item, The (Sunbury, PA)
December 17, 2019

East Buffalo Township supervisors formalize tax decrease

Author: Eric Scicchitano

East Buffalo Township Supervisors formally adopted a property tax decrease with the 2020 operating budget. Monday's final vote makes official a decrease that was preliminarily approved in November. Property tax rates fall to 4.6 mills next year, down from 5.11 mills levied in 2019. The new rate means property owners will spend \$460 on each \$100,000 of a property's assessed value.

Board Chairwoman Char Gray and fellow supervisors Matt Schumacher and Jim Murphy voted in favor. Monday's meeting was Murphy's last. He'll be replaced next month by his 2019 election opponent, Jim Knight, who will be the lone Democrat on the board. Murphy was thanked by Gray, Schumacher and members of the public for his service since he was appointed in June to the board.

Projected expenses are budgeted at \$4,727,806 compared to \$4,406,089 in revenue. The deficit will be erased with money from the township's reserve fund, estimated at \$3.5 million after the budget gap is eliminated. Township Manager **Stacey Kifolo** explained some minor changes were made to the budget in both expenses and revenues ahead of the final vote. There were slight decreases to revenue and slight increases to expenses including the planned expenditure of an additional \$28,352 to the regional police department.

The 2020 tax levy is as follows: general fund, 4.0 mills; fire fund, 0.45; fire hydrant and street light, 0.08 and 0.07, respectively. The hydrant tax is assessed only on taxable parcels located within 780 feet of a hydrant. For properties that fall outside a hydrant zone, the total tax millage is 4.52 mills.

Internet – Newspaper Archives Searches
Stacey L. Kifolo
(Articles are in reverse chronological order)

Daily Item, The (Sunbury, PA)
May 16, 2019

Kifolo back full-time with East Buffalo Township, will work from Florida

Author: Eric Scicchitano

A familiar face returns to lead administrative duties of East Buffalo Township and this time, **Stacey Kifolo** will manage day-to-day operations from six states away. Township supervisors rehired **Kifolo** as a full-time employee after spending nearly a full year seeking her replacement. **Kifolo** announced her resignation last June.

Kifolo will work remotely from her home about 1,000 miles away in Florida, something township leaders grew accustomed to as she worked in a transitional role on contract following her official exit in August. "Our feeling is we've had the chance to test the waters with this arrangement over the past nine months. It's actually working quite well," Supervisor Chairperson Char Gray said.

The vote to rehire **Kifolo** came following a closed-door executive session Monday night. **Kifolo's** salary is \$86,000, up from \$79,165 when she resigned. Gray said **Kifolo's** hiring is effective immediately. **Kifolo** will use video conferencing, email and cellphone technology to communicate with supervisors, township employees, vendors and residents.

If someone visits the office and requests to speak directly, township secretary Jolene Helwig will connect them electronically using a webcam, **Kifolo** said. She said she'll return to the township occasionally on business when requested. "People come to the East Buffalo Township building and there they are on camera. They can see me and we can have a conversation," **Kifolo** said. "In this day and age of digital correspondence, it'll be as if **Stacey** was there in office every day," Supervisor David Rowe said. "From my role, it seems as if she never left. She's as available now as she was when she was residing a couple blocks from the township building."

Township supervisors thought they had **Kifolo's** replacement. They hired Jamie Shrawder away from her job with Danville Borough. She began working in mid-October. **Kifolo** said the hiring allowed her to reduce her hourly work at the time. However, Shrawder resigned unexpectedly, exiting for a private-sector job Feb. 8. **Kifolo** said at that point, her hours picked up again. She estimated she worked anywhere from 20 hours to 60 hours within a biweekly pay period while on contract. The terms at the time were \$45 hourly with health benefits.

Supervisors received 27 resumes and interviewed an estimated six candidates following Shrawder's exit, Gray said. That's roughly the same experience they went through before choosing Shrawder, she added. Gray works in the field of mergers and acquisitions. She said she often works remotely. She cited it as a common practice in modern business. So did Rowe as well as Supervisor Matt Schumacher. "We weren't intending to do that. We went through two rounds of interviews. Hired one person. We went through two more rounds and interviewed

Internet – Newspaper Archives Searches
Stacey L. Kifolo
(Articles are in reverse chronological order)

candidates. In the end, she's so good at her job, it's insane: What she knows, the money she saves us, the money she finds us," Schumacher said.

It's new ground for municipal government administration.

David Sanko, executive director, Pennsylvania State Association of Township Supervisors, said he's unaware of any townships in a situation similar to East Buffalo's. He said he didn't see any red flags and used it as a "great example" of local government creativity within the confines of the law. "It comes down to duties assigned and whether the elected supervisors are happy with the delivery. If you define expectations and meet expectations, everything's good," Sanko said. The office of state Rep. Dan Moul, R-91, chair of the House Local Government Committee, said nothing in the Second Class Township Code would prohibit an arrangement like East Buffalo's

Kifolo said she put off potential employment and business opportunities as she remained part-time. East Buffalo Township never had a township manager position before **Kifolo** was hired Nov. 1, 2012, to fill the newly created role. She said in this second go-around, she'll naturally have to delegate more duties, something she said she struggled with before.

Internet – Newspaper Archives Searches
Stacey L. Kifolo
(Articles are in reverse chronological order)

Daily Item, The (Sunbury, PA)
April 30, 2019

Hotel proposal sparks potential flood map changes in Lewisburg, EBT

Author: Eric Scicchitano

Proposed changes to federal flood maps remove some properties from the 100-year flood zone north of St. Mary Street but add others in the area of North 10th Street, Route 192 and Route 15, according to preliminary mapping. The proposed updates are related to the pending hotel development at Penn Commons. Federal Emergency Management Agency would ultimately have to approve the changes. It's not clear how many property owners are impacted in East Buffalo Township and Lewisburg. Engineers from Mid-Penn Engineering will discuss the mapping proposal at a special public meeting 6:30 p.m. Thursday at borough hall, 55 S. Fifth St.

"If we're going to proceed with the project it's something that has to be done," said Matt Miller. Miller's True Story LLC seeks to construct a 107-room Fairfield Inn & Suites on undeveloped land near the nonprofit wellness center that bears his family's name at Penn House Commons off Route 15 in East Buffalo Township. "What we're doing isn't affecting the flood plain. The flood plain has been affected already by how Penn House Commons was built. What we put in there is not going to change the flood plain," Miller said.

Stacey Kifolo of East Buffalo Township said her understanding is that the Penn House Commons development didn't raise the base flood elevation. Retention areas added during that project improved flood protection, she said. Mid-Penn Engineering also worked the Penn House Commons development. Bud Schenck, project manager, referred all inquiries to Miller. East Buffalo Township had its own zoning manager at the time. Those services are now provided by Central Keystone Council of Government (CKCOG). "After some digging and discussions with CKCOG, it seems that it simply wasn't necessary to change the mapping. Everything was done properly for the facilities that were constructed on the existing site. It is only because of the type of structure now being proposed that is triggering a larger scale project. A retail store on the same site would not trigger the same needs," **Kifolo** said.

William Lowthert, borough manager, said property owners potentially impacted by the proposed flood mapping changes were notified by letter of Thursday's meeting. "They need (borough council) to sign off on flood plain maps as well before FEMA would consider it for adoption," Lowthert said.

While the Lewisburg Borough Flood Impact Task Force isn't involved in the flood map proposal, task force member Sam Pearson is intimately familiar with mapping and its implications. She said flood maps are "inherently imprecise." The flood maps proposed for changes were created before advancements in mapping technology now available, she said. "The part of the flood map that is the least certain is the line. We know where the center of the flood is. It gets less and less certain towards the edges," Pearson said. "The best way for property owners near those edges (both in and out) to know where they stand with respect to the floodplain is to have a Certificate

Internet – Newspaper Archives Searches
Stacey L. Kifolo***(Articles are in reverse chronological order)***

of Elevation completed by a licensed surveyor. This could result in their being confirmed as being in the floodplain or evidence that in fact, they are not in the floodplain," Pearson said.

Property owners who may now find themselves in the flood plain may not experience a financial impact with respect to insurance if they don't have a federally backed mortgage, she said. However, it could impact the resale value for buyers needing to borrow funds.

Internet – Newspaper Archives Searches
Stacey L. Kifolo
(Articles are in reverse chronological order)

Daily Item, The (Sunbury, PA)
December 10, 2018

No tax hike in 2019, but East Buffalo Township warns of future increases

Author: Eric Scicchitano

East Buffalo Township's taxes won't rise in 2019 but Supervisor Chairman Matthew Schumacher warned that residents in the township and throughout Union County could see increases in coming years due to tax assessment appeals on high-value structures. Six commercial or residential properties won appeals in 2018 reducing the total base of taxable property by an estimated \$12 million combined, according to information shared by Schumacher. That includes the R.R. Donnelley building in Linntown lowered to \$691,600 from \$2,447,700 and The Miller Center in Penn House Commons lowered to \$3,217,800 from \$12,031,100. The Donnelley figures were provided by Schumacher while the Miller figures were taken from a pending court appeal that, if successful, could lower the assessment even further. The Miller Center also was granted tax-exempt status by the county board of assessment appeals. Municipal, county and school district property taxes all are impacted when an existing property is reassessed at a lower value, either by the appeals board or the county court. Lowered assessments reduced the total amount of taxable property and generate less tax revenue. "This includes the county and school, not just East Buffalo Township. It's not going to help the citizens," Schumacher said.

"I've never seen anything that's had this much of a change in assessed value," **Stacey Kifolo** said via online conferencing. **Kifolo** is the former township manager and current consultant as new manager Jamie Shrawder transitions into the role. **Kifolo** attends meetings remotely.

Next year's budget was approved with minor revisions by Schumacher and fellow supervisors Char Gray and David Rowe. Revenue projects at \$4,427,629 compared to \$4,407,264 in expenses. The total property tax millage rate remains 5.11 — \$511 on each \$100,000 of a property's assessed value. The Buffalo Valley Regional Police Department budget was discussed in brief. Shrawder said she and Lewisburg Borough Manager William Lowthert spoke of a potential 51-49 percent split of the shared municipal funding obligation to the department. There's a feeling that the borough would agree to that figure in compromise over a two-year dispute about how much of the financial burden each municipality shares, Shrawder said. However, according to Shrawder, there may come a request by the borough for the township to make up the estimated \$80,000 shortfall that began in 2017 when the township unilaterally decided to fund the department at 50 percent rather than the 52-48 percent split called for in an existing intergovernmental agreement between the municipalities. Township supervisors didn't respond to that suggestion. According to the department's proposed 2019 budget, the township will contribute \$1,080,116 while the borough will contribute \$1,036,911. The total budget is \$2,160,232. Projected revenues stand 2 percent shy, or \$43,205, of the 100 percent combined funding obligation. Schumacher, a member of the police commission, said the topic would be discussed when the commission meets at 5 p.m. Wednesday at the police station. The budget could be finalized at the meeting.

Internet – Newspaper Archives Searches
Stacey L. Kifolo
(Articles are in reverse chronological order)

Daily Item, The (Sunbury, PA)
September 28, 2018

EBT lost a valuable asset

Author: Michael Daniloff

East Buffalo Township residents are certainly aware by now that **Stacey Kifolo**, township manager for the past 6-plus years, resigned her position in August to pursue other challenges. As a former township supervisor, who had the good fortune of working alongside **Stacey** for a little over four years, I came to appreciate her highly impressive performance during that period.

Stacey broke new ground as EBT's chief administrative officer during her tenure. She structured much needed organizational changes which resulted in the township effectively operating in a more business-like fashion, rather than mainly as a political association.

Her financial skills were phenomenal, serving to bring expenses in line with available revenues. As a matter of fact, her budget plan for fiscal year 2018 proposed a zero increase in tax millage; yet, she was able to allocate monies to a standard capital reserve fund used to pave roadways and purchase major capital equipment such as trucks, plows, etc.

Additionally, she had the business savvy to develop a strategy to fund the underfunded liability of the township's post-retirement health benefits plan, which was set up in the past, but never adequately funded.

Under her leadership, **Stacey** organized the human resources piece of the operations, developing a salary program which includes, for the first time, performance as one of the factors determining salary increases.

My image of **Stacey Kifolo** is one of a management "superstar," someone who had the drive and desire to bring about significant change. Her overriding commitment at all times was to the tax-paying citizens residing in East Buffalo Township. And to that extent she served us well!

Internet – Newspaper Archives Searches
Stacey L. Kifolo
(Articles are in reverse chronological order)

Daily Item, The (Sunbury, PA)
August 14, 2018

East Buffalo manager staying on part-time

Author: Joe Sylvester

Tuesday may have been **Stacey Kifolo's** last official day as East Buffalo Township manager, but she won't be completely out of the picture. The supervisors announced on Monday following an executive session that they reached an agreement with **Kifolo** to continue as a part-time employee at \$45 an hour, working remotely from Florida, where she will be living.

Supervisor Chairman Matt Schumacher said that will allow for continuity as the township searches for **Kifolo's** replacement. He noted that the supervisors did not want the new manager to have to walk into budget preparations and other tasks without the benefit of **Kifolo's** expertise.

Earlier in the meeting, residents and supervisors alike praised and thanked **Kifolo** for her openness and efficiency. Schumacher said that in her nearly six years as manager, she has helped the township obtain about \$6 million in funding. "People have issues with her salary, but she got us \$6 million," Schumacher said.

Kifolo's annual salary as full-time township manager was \$79,125. She submitted her letter of resignation to the supervisors in June. The supervisors have been interviewing applicants for her position.

"I'm trying to be humble," **Kifolo** said at her final meeting on Monday. "I think I've done a great job. I think I left the township in better financial shape than when I started."

Kifolo began as township manager on Nov. 1, 2012. There was no township manager prior to her. She said after submitting her resignation that she was proud of her role in building a post-retirement benefits fund, growing a reserve account earmarked for equipment replacement, recreation investment and road and bridge repairs, and keeping cost-overrun of the new township building below 0.5 percent.

Internet – Newspaper Archives Searches
Stacey L. Kifolo
(Articles are in reverse chronological order)

Daily Item, The (Sunbury, PA)
June 28, 2018

Kifolo resigns as East Buffalo manager

Author: Eric Scicchitano

Stacey Kifolo, East Buffalo Township manager, submitted a letter of resignation to township supervisors. **Kifolo's** final day on the job is Aug. 14. She informed supervisors of her resignation Wednesday. Supervisors will advertise its search for a replacement. **Kifolo** said her duties may need to be split among existing staff and supervisors until a new manager is hired, adding she'd help the transition in some ways.

"I'm extremely grateful, this has been a great opportunity. I've met a lot of great people. I've learned and grown personally and professionally. For the most part, the residents of East Buffalo Township have been fantastic to work with and work for," **Kifolo** said.

Kifolo began as township manager on Nov. 1, 2012. There was no township manager prior to her, she said. The township operated out of a temporary location at the time as the previous building was demolished to make way for the new building constructed along Fairground Road.

Supervisor Chairman Matt Schumacher described **Kifolo** as always informed and focused, detail-oriented and caring about the township and its residents. "She was excellent," Schumacher said. "She got us on a good financial footing. We now have money for future projects that allow us not to take loans."

Supervisor David Rowe said the goal is to hire a replacement before August, allowing two weeks for **Kifolo** and her replacement to work side by side. Anyone interested in the position should inquire as soon as possible. Specific requirements were still being drafted Thursday for a vacancy advertisement, he said. "In over a year that I've been attending meetings as both a resident and a supervisor I've been consistently impressed with her knowledge. We'll be hard-pressed to find someone who's even close to comparable," Rowe said.

Kifolo's salary is \$79,165.

Kifolo said she is proud of her role in building a post-retirement benefits fund, growing a reserve account earmarked for equipment replacement, recreation investment and road and bridge repairs and keeping cost-overrun of the new township building below 0.5 percent. "In my opinion, the township is in a better financial position today than they were when I got here. There were things completely overlooked in planning for the future that we now have a much more solid foundation," **Kifolo** said.

Kifolo would not comment on her future plans.

Internet – Newspaper Archives Searches
Stacey L. Kifolo
(Articles are in reverse chronological order)

Daily Item, The (Sunbury, PA)
January 22, 2018

East Buffalo, Lewisburg look to meet over BVRA

Author: Eric Scicchitano

Editor's note: This story was updated to reflect that former Supervisor Henry Baylor did not cast a vote in December concerning a notice of withdrawal from an intergovernmental agreement with Lewisburg for the recreation authority.

The Borough of Lewisburg asked three questions of neighboring East Buffalo Township as to why its supervisors served notice of intent to withdraw from a governing agreement for the Buffalo Valley Recreation Authority. Township supervisors answered the questions sent by letter last month during a public work session Monday night as public scrutiny of the withdrawal notice remains heightened.

Supervisor Char Gray and Chairman Matthew Schumacher agreed a full review of the agreement was needed, responding to the borough's inquiry as to which portions were considered for revision. As to what changes they desired, Gray said they won't know until reviewing the agreement.

The borough asked for the rationale behind the township's decision to pull out of the agreement at the end of 2018. Gray said the agreement is five years old. Supervisors want to explore the funding formula and look into other potential updates based on demographic changes, she said. A withdrawal would terminate the governing agreement, however, township supervisors pledged to continue funding and supporting the recreation authority indefinitely.

Schumacher and fellow Supervisor Michael Daniloﬀ voted in December to serve notice of withdrawal. Former Supervisor Henry Baylor did not vote, leaving the meeting before the vote was held following a dispute with township manager **Stacey Kifolo** and a township resident. Gray was elected in November and replaced Baylor earlier this month. Baylor did not seek re-election.

Gray, Schumacher and Daniloﬀ voted Monday to send a formal letter to the borough with the answers. Gray was tasked to arrange a meeting between borough and township representatives within the next two weeks. A Feb. 15 meeting offered by the borough wasn't possible because Gray, appointed this month to the recreation authority board, would be unavailable.

Stacey Sommerfield, executive director of the recreation authority, was invited to give a full overview of authority operations and programs at the township's public meeting next month. "East Buffalo Township does not want to get out of recreation," Gray told a crowd of 15 during the meeting, saying any perception otherwise is incorrect.

Internet – Newspaper Archives Searches
Stacey L. Kifolo
(Articles are in reverse chronological order)

Schumacher said there's been no talk by township supervisors of lowering the amount of funds provided to the recreation authority, approximately \$116,000 in 2018. Lewisburg contributed about \$65,000. The combined total represents roughly 20 percent of the recreation authority's operating budget. "The pool will be funded because it needs to be there for the public," Schumacher said. Buffalo Valley Recreation Authority manages the Lewisburg-area public pool along with the Buffalo Valley Rail Trail, St. Mary Street park as well as a gymnastics program and various student and adult clubs and activities.

Jim Buck, a former township supervisor, asked for each supervisor to state whether or not they wish to have an intergovernmental agreement with Lewisburg concerning the recreation authority. Gray said she did. Schumacher and Daniloff said they weren't sure. "I'm weighing them," Daniloff said of unspecified alternatives.

Schumacher questioned the need for an intergovernmental agreement with Lewisburg. He said the township could enter its own contract direct with the recreation authority dictating the terms of funding. Sandra Cook, who chairs the recreation authority board, expressed concern that by eliminating the intergovernmental agreement, it would functionally delegitimize the authority's official status when pursuing grant funding. Registration-required programming like gymnastics all operate "in the black," she said, questioning whether the township intends to micro-manage the recreation authority's day-to-day operations.

Schumacher didn't say the township was interested in micro-management, but greater oversight is desired. "If they say 'yes,' then good for them. If we say 'no,' that's our right," Schumacher said, hypothetically, of voting to approve or deny support for a grant application, noting township supervisors and borough council members are separately elected by separate municipal voting bodies. "I want the power of the vote," Schumacher said, adding the only time he could foresee objecting to a grant would be if there were legal concerns raised by the township solicitor.

Taylor Lightman, of Active Millennials for Progress, questioned Schumacher's thinking as to why the township would continue intergovernmental agreements with Lewisburg for the fire company. If an annual stipend for the recreation authority was fit, why not the same for the other entities, Lightman asked. Schumacher said the township would then lose control over how those entities spend their respective dollars.

Internet – Newspaper Archives Searches
Stacey L. Kifolo
(Articles are in reverse chronological order)

Daily Item, The (Sunbury, PA)
February 15, 2017

EBT employees get to pick a paid holiday to lose

Author: Staff Writer

East Buffalo Township Supervisors are giving nine non-union employees the choice of which paid holiday they will lose this calendar year. The supervisors voted in January to drop the paid holiday traditionally given to employees on the first day of rifle hunting for deer. Rather than make the choice on the employees' behalf, supervisors tasked township Manager **Stacey Kifolo** to have the employees come to a consensus.

Chairman Michael Daniloff and Supervisor Matthew Schumacher favor trimming paid holidays from 11 days to 10 days. "It's not the day, it's the number of days," Schumacher said at Monday's board meeting, saying the move is a cost-saving measure. "I think 10 holidays and two personal days for a crew our size is reasonable," Daniloff said.

Supervisor Henry Baylor agreed with fellow supervisors that their purpose, in part, is to serve the taxpayers. "But also to protect our employees," Baylor said Baylor said his own poll of employees would have the supervisors drop Martin Luther King Jr. Day as a paid holiday. **Kifolo** challenged Baylor, saying she and others were never asked about preference.

Ultimately, **Kifolo** said the decision isn't up to the employees. However, she said she'd follow the supervisors' directive to poll the workers and return an answer at the March meeting.

Internet – Newspaper Archives Searches
Stacey L. Kifolo
(Articles are in reverse chronological order)

Daily Item, The (Sunbury, PA)
February 14, 2017

PennDOT, municipalities take aim at potholes

Author: Justin Strawser

Tuesday was a perfect day to start filling potholes that drivers hate on local roads, according to Sunbury City Councilman Dale Henry. "It's nice and warm, it makes it easier to go out and do this, so I sent out a crew," said Henry, who is director of streets. Street Department workers were sent out to fill "zillions" of potholes across the city, the councilman said. "We usually get a couple tons of coal patch, and we keep filling until we get rid of it," he said. Another batch of streets and alleys were addressed two weeks ago, he said. "We spent a good two days doing holes," Henry said. **Stacey Kifolo**, manager of East Buffalo Township in Union County, said pothole duty was "fairly light," at least until January. There was one outing in December but four days worth of work last month. At least two from the road crew are needed for a pothole project. East Buffalo has at least 60 man-hours spent on potholes this winter, and approximately \$500 or more spent on cold patch to fill the holes. Potholes pop up more frequently these days in the alleys near Penn House Commons, **Kifolo** said. She attributed it to an increase in traffic from construction projects. The Miller Center and the Penn Commons housing project are under construction, and work at the shopping center itself isn't far removed. "The alleyways are always a challenge because they don't have the same base structure as other roads, so heavy equipment makes it even worse," **Kifolo** said. Standing water or natural springs can exacerbate problems. That's why it's important to clear roadways of snow and ice, she said. "The crew is on the lookout for trouble spots throughout the winter. Residents are also very helpful in bringing them to our attention. Their time and effort is much appreciated," **Kifolo** said.

William Lowthert, Lewisburg borough manager, called the winter of 2016-17 a normal year for potholes. Residents haven't reported directly to the borough any problems with potholes, he said. "We have not seen a greater or fewer number of potholes than average," he said. The Borough Council is expected to vote this month on a repaving project to address worn-down streets and alleys in 2017 and 2018. Utility cuts into roadways can cause bumps and dips in streets, Lowthert said. "This is not the case with all utility cuts, but on average, they tend to have more potholes than uncut areas of the street," he said. Danville Public Works Superintendent John Hack said his department keeps up with potholes year-round and keeps a load of cold pack in the heated garage for use. He said they can fill potholes as long as there isn't snow or ice on streets. This year has been pretty good with "not near as many" potholes as in previous years. He attributed that to the weather. David Thompspon, the state Department of Transportation District 3-0 spokesman, said this timeframe is the best to address potholes. "Late winter and early spring are peak times for potholes to develop," he said. "PennDOT addresses these issues throughout the season. Pennsylvania's aggressive freeze-thaw cycle can take a major toll on our roads, and this winter, with its fluctuating temperatures, makes it especially challenging." State residents can report potholes by calling 1-800-FIX-ROAD, Thompson said.

Internet – Newspaper Archives Searches
Stacey L. Kifolo
(Articles are in reverse chronological order)

Daily Item, The (Sunbury, PA)
January 31, 2017

Municipal officials share view on BVRPD billing switch

Author: Staff Writer

Representatives of Lewisburg and East Buffalo Township found consensus Monday on a single point amidst continuing disagreement over the terms of a contract governing municipal oversight and obligation to the Buffalo Valley Regional Police Department. Members of the governing bodies of the respective municipalities agreed to the merits of a proposed change in how the department is allocated local funds. They met during a joint work session Monday at the borough council chambers.

Township Supervisors Matthew Schumacher and Michael Daniloff along with township manager **Stacey Kifolo** proposed the change. They said the department finished 2016 with an estimated \$500,000 surplus and built up \$165,000 in a savings account.

The Lewisburg and East Buffalo Township contingents agreed they'd prefer to pay a monthly bill for actual expenses rather than provide an entire budgeted amount annually. The theory is the municipalities would retain unspent funding in the coming years versus allowing the department to build up a sizable surplus. Schumacher said he'd like the department to budget the existing reserve funds itself for capital expenses and equipment purchases over the coming years. "We don't want it back," Schumacher said.

Lewisburg Mayor Judy Wagner, borough manager William Lowthert and Councilman Michael Derman said they didn't oppose the switch and would discuss it with the full borough council. The East Buffalo representatives said they'd discuss the change with their own board. Wagner felt the issue could be addressed administratively by the Buffalo Valley Regional Police Commission rather than adopting changes to the existing intergovernmental agreement that governs department operations.

The six municipal officials spent the bulk of the work session going back and forth over oft-disputed points concerning the intergovernmental agreement — largely the existing funding split of the department's budget and the issue of departmental autonomy in directing police activities.

The department's budget is estimated at \$2.1 million, split 52-48 percent with East Buffalo paying the larger amount. By definition of the existing intergovernmental agreement, East Buffalo receives the majority share of Police Protection Units (PPU) — hours department officers spend in each respective municipality. Schumacher and Danilof have lobbied for a 50/50 split, saying the funding formula is unfairly weighted in Lewisburg's favor. They also favor eliminating PPUs, saying the department should determine by crime, not by funding, where officers spend time on patrol and investigations. Citing Uniform Crime Report figures from the department, Schumacher said the bulk of serious crime — burglaries, theft, acts of violence —

Internet – Newspaper Archives Searches
Stacey L. Kifolo
(Articles are in reverse chronological order)

occurs in Lewisburg. He estimated the split at 80-20 over the past five years. More arrests and citations are generated in Lewisburg but as a result, the revenue is also greater.

Wagner said if PPUs were eliminated, Lewisburg should be permitted to keep the bulk of revenues generated from fines. East Buffalo requested 50 percent of the available PPUs in 2017 rather than 52 percent. Derman raised concern that there is no defined process to make such a change within the intergovernmental agreement.

Lowthert said the borough is also concerned about funding shares since Lewisburg is landlocked and development is limited. East Buffalo Township has the advantage in the values of taxable properties and also development opportunities, Lowthert said.

Another work session is planned for 3 p.m. Feb. 15 at the East Buffalo Township municipal building on Fairground Road. It's open to the public.

Internet – Newspaper Archives Searches
Stacey L. Kifolo
(Articles are in reverse chronological order)

Daily Item, The (Sunbury, PA)
December 17, 2016

Taxes tick up in East Buffalo Twp.

Author: Eric Scicchitano

East Buffalo Township supervisors made few changes in the township's official operating budget for 2017. Revenues are projected at \$3,928,643 and expenses at \$4,060,080. The deficit will be covered by cash rolled over year-to-year and saved in reserves. The final plan was adopted Monday.

According to **Stacey Kifolo**, township manager, revenues dipped approximately \$24,000 compared to the preliminary budget adopted in November after the township pivoted away from applying for grant funds for a traffic light project. Expenses rose \$6,200 due to an increase in long-term disability insurance, she said. The tax plan was adopted without veering from the 3 percent hike planned in the preliminary budget.

The general fund millage and millage for fire service remain at 4.5 and 0.46 mills, respectively. However, 2017 will bring see the return of a 0.07 mill tax for street lights and 0.08 mill tax for fire hydrants. The street light tax will be assessed on all properties. In the past, it applied only to properties near a light. The hydrant tax applies to all properties within 780 feet. "We have not charged a street light tax or fire hydrant tax since 2012. Those are coming back on," **Kifolo** said.

Total millage jumps to 5.11 — meaning property owners will pay \$511, up from \$496, on each \$100,000 of a property's assessed value. Michael Daniloff, supervisor chairman, said supervisors felt it was time to restore the old taxes rather than continue to pay those costs from the general fund. "It seemed appropriate to us to avoid an increase in the millage to the general fund," Daniloff said. "This is not a smoke-and-mirrors thing."

Spending in 2017 is predicted to rise 7.72 percent over 2016, due in large part to a loan payment, post-retirement benefits and engineering services.

Police services represent 27 percent of projected spending. East Buffalo Township plans to contribute \$1,116,752 to Buffalo Valley Regional Police expenses, down 1.86 percent compared to the current year.

Operational costs are split with Lewisburg, and the methodology in dispute with the borough. An audit of department finances is under way, and contract negotiations between the police union and the police commission — representatives of both the borough and township — remain in arbitration.

Internet – Newspaper Archives Searches
Stacey L. Kifolo
(Articles are in reverse chronological order)

[CB&A Note: Only the information relevant to **Stacey Kifolo** is listed below.]

Daily Item, The (Sunbury, PA)
June 13, 2016

EBT approves \$10M Bucknell student housing plan

Author: Eric Scicchitano

In other business, supervisors are working with the Buffalo Valley Recreation Authority to pay off its half of a loan the authority took out to make storm water repairs to a Lewisburg borough park. The PennVEST loan has about \$178,000 remaining to be paid over 10 years, said township manager **Stacey Kifolo**. East Buffalo Township has approximately \$90,000 set aside and is earning 1 percent on the savings; however, the loan interest is 3 percent.

Supervisors voted last month to pay East Buffalo's half. The snag, **Kifolo** said, is Lewisburg borough, which guaranteed the other half of the loan, is unable to do the same at the moment. She said the authority seeks alternatives, such as refinancing half the loan and paying off the other half. The municipalities share operational costs of the authority.

Kifolo announced the township received a state recycling grant totaling \$55,756. The funds will be used, in part, to offset some out-of-pocket expenses for an already-purchased leaf vacuum along with additional security cameras, residential recycling bins and a community paper-shredding event. The township is waiting on reimbursement for a previous grant award of \$164,000, **Kifolo** said, which was used for a new wood chipper, security cameras and other expenses.

Supervisors approved spending up to \$18,000 to remediate part of Limestone Run, from near the municipal building to a box culvert on Fairground Road. The expense will match grant money received by the Union County Conservation District, **Kifolo** said. Lewisburg borough will remediate the portion of the stream that runs from the culvert to the Lewisburg Area Recreation Park on St. Mary Street.

Internet – Newspaper Archives Searches
Stacey L. Kifolo
(Articles are in reverse chronological order)

Daily Item, The (Sunbury, PA)
May 11, 2016

East Buffalo supervisors reject pitch to expand board

Author: Eric Scicchitano

A pitch to expand the size of the East Buffalo Township Board of Supervisors was turned down Monday. Supervisors Michael Daniloﬀ, chairman, and Matthew Schumacher voted against Supervisor Henry Baylor’s proposal to expand the board from three to five members.

Daniloﬀ said the far majority of Pennsylvania’s second class townships, like East Buffalo, have three-member boards. He said the supervisors’ current workload doesn’t justify an expansion, and that a smaller board allows for more “discussion and decision making in the public eye.”

“I think we have less work. That’s because the township manager (**Stacey Kifolo**) is doing the job we’ve hired her to do,” Daniloﬀ said. Schumacher agreed with Daniloﬀ. “I’m not a fan of bigger is better. I didn’t see the point,” he said.

Baylor argued that an expansion would improve communication and production among supervisors, saying the three-person body is restricted by state law governing quorums and open meetings — meaning two members can’t discuss township business privately under the terms of the law. “Nothing is going to change the other two members’ minds,” Baylor said.

Of five second-class township’s who responded to his inquiry about size of governing bodies, he said three responded favorably about their respective changes from three to five members. The cost would be an additional combined \$5,000 to pay two new member stipends annually. It could also result in longer discussions and meetings, he said.

Internet – Newspaper Archives Searches
Stacey L. Kifolo
(Articles are in reverse chronological order)

Daily Item, The (Sunbury, PA)
March 29, 2016

East Buffalo Township to refinance \$1.8 million loan

Author: Eric Scicchitano

East Buffalo Township Supervisors intend to refinance an existing loan and take out a new one in a modest effort to fill a multi-million gap in its post-retirement health care benefit fund.

The supervisors voted 3-0 to refinance a \$1,855,655 loan, originally from Swineford National Bank, through West Milton Bank. The interest rate will drop to 2.1 percent from 2.49 percent, creating an estimated savings of \$35,000 over seven years. The rate resets over the final 10 years.

The monthly payment drops to \$10,825 to \$11,287. Savings will be used to pay the interest on a \$500,000 loan to fund retiree health care. **Stacey Kifolo**, township manager, said the township has amassed a \$3.3 million unfunded obligation to the fund.

The fund was established about 30 years ago, according to township supervisors. The deficit was discovered in an actuarial report several years ago, and the township began obligating funds three years ago — an estimated \$320,000 combined.

Supervisor Henry Baylor said past supervisors failed to pay into the fund. To not take action would result in a hefty tax hikes in years to come, added Supervisor Matthew Schumacher. “We’re obligated at this point to make that benefit available,” said board Chairman Michael Daniloff.

The benefit largely supplements retirees enrolled in Medicare. However, police officers, eligible to retire at age 55, could receive the benefit in lieu of Medicare. Thirteen retirees or spouses of retirees are currently enrolled. New township employees are ineligible to enroll post-retirement.

Internet – Newspaper Archives Searches
Stacey L. Kifolo
(Articles are in reverse chronological order)

Danville News, The (PA)
December 9, 2015

Rock salt use may hit the skids: Temps delay Valley towns from plowing into pricey piles
Author: Staff Writer

The price of rock salt used to treat Pennsylvania's roads jumped throughout the commonwealth, but municipal coffers could find an ally in Mother Nature. December has been marked by unseasonably warm weather to date, with temperatures expected to top 60 degrees Fahrenheit this weekend. Mild temperatures are forecast through month's end and aside from a few flurries, snow accumulation has been negligible. As a result, plows haven't hit the roads and neither have the tons upon tons of rock salt and anti-skid scattered and sprayed across the Valley each winter season. Rock salt prices in 2015 rose 12.3 percent to \$71.93 a ton on average through Pennsylvania's cooperative purchasing program, CoStars, which has 1,655 participants. The increase averaged 8.4 percent in the Valley, rising to \$67.71. Northumberland County has the highest price in the Valley at \$70.49 a ton. Compare that with the \$63.99 cost in 2014. Montour County came in at \$69.85, up from \$60.99; Snyder County, \$66.88 compared with \$63.99 one year ago. Union County has the lowest rate in Pennsylvania at \$63.60, up from \$60.99 in 2014. The highest rate belongs to Franklin County: \$87.62. Supply and demand, production and transportation costs all factor into the price, said Troy Thompson, a spokesman for the state Department of General Services. It could have been higher, however. A reverse auction, the first used by the department for salt bids, saved Pennsylvania \$10 million from the initial pre-auction asking prices, he said. PennDOT has 37,215 tons of salt and 78,162 tons of anti-skid stockpiled to cover District 3's 4,500 miles of state roads in nine counties: Bradford, Columbia, Lycoming, Montour, Northumberland, Snyder, Sullivan, Tioga and Union. The district's budget calls for 67,000 tons of salt this winter, based on an average of the five previous winters. "The last two winters were very harsh with much higher than typical salt usage in Pennsylvania and many other states in the Northeast," Thompson said. Last year, more than 83,000 tons of salt, 73,800 tons of anti-skid and 648,000 gallons of brine were used in District 3, which has headquarters in Montoursville. A mixture of salt and water, brine lowers the freezing temperatures on road surfaces, allowing for easier removal of snow and ice.

East Buffalo Township has 285 tons of road salt and 375 tons of anti-skid material — about half its projected need this winter, according to **Stacey Kifolo**, township manager. The township is starting the season with more on hand to treat its 55 miles of roads. "We wanted to be prepared. Last year we ended up relying on (Buffalo Township) to get us through the end of the year," **Kifolo** said of borrowing material from the neighboring Union County township. Sunbury has 450 tons on order to treat its 41 miles of roads. If the mild weather pattern holds into the new year, there's a chance it may not have to take it all. Through CoStars, participants need only use and pay for 60 percent of a total order, city manager Terry Specht said. "It could stay like this for the rest of the winter as far as I'm concerned," said Mike Bordner, the city's public works supervisor. Should the winter worsen significantly and 450 tons aren't enough, up to 140 percent of the order can be purchased at the contracted rate, Thompson said. Anything beyond that is sold at market rate, he said.

Internet – Newspaper Archives Searches
Stacey L. Kifolo
(Articles are in reverse chronological order)

Daily Item, The (Sunbury, PA)
November 10, 2015

Real estate taxes may inch up in East Buffalo

Author: Staff Writer

A proposed fractional tax increase along with the implementation of employee health care contributions were approved Monday by the East Buffalo Township supervisors.

Real estate taxes are planned to inch up 20 cents on each \$1,000 of a property's assessed value if the final budget includes the suggested millage rate of 4.5. A property assessed at \$100,000 will see its bill rise by \$20 under the proposed rate. Double that for a \$200,000 property. The current rate is 4.3, and isn't enough to cover a projected \$52,000 for 2016.

The preliminary budget estimates spending at \$4,068,581 compared to \$4,016,320 revenue. The budget proposal is available for public review at the township municipal building, and the final budget is expected to be ratified at the regular December meeting. Township employees for the first time will be required to contribute to their health care premiums.

Supervisors approved a 2 percent contribution rate across the board for health care, dental and vision coverage. That will shave an estimated \$3,700 from the township's \$182,000 cost for health care. Nine full-timers and seven retirees are covered.

Employees had not previously contributed to health care or dental coverage. A 10 percent contribution was required for vision coverage, but that amounted to less than \$7 for singles and less than \$18 for families annually.

Some in the audience scoffed at the coverage cost and contribution rate. Supervisor Henry Baylor said the township is taking steps to gradually normalize the rates compared to the private sector. There was a time, he said, when employees could receive reimbursement for deductibles. That's no longer in practice.

East Buffalo Township saved more than \$11,000 by sticking with a coverage plan under Capital Blue Cross that's compliant with the Affordable Care Act, according to township manager **Stacey Kifolo**.

Internet – Newspaper Archives Searches
Stacey L. Kifolo
(Articles are in reverse chronological order)

Daily Item, The (Sunbury, PA)
May 12, 2015

\$60G grant en route to study Lewisburg, East Buff consolidation

Author: Staff Writer

In what may be one of the fastest approvals from the state, the grant application from East Buffalo Township to fund a feasibility study to look at consolidating with Lewisburg got the official OK Tuesday afternoon.

East Buffalo filed the application in March for the Early Intervention Program grant with the Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development, said Thomas Zorn, supervisors chairman of East Buffalo Township.

A DCED official said the quick approval came about simply because the money was available, Zorn said. The grant likely will be between \$60,000 and \$70,000.

It's the latest step toward combining the township and borough into one municipality. The feasibility study will look the pros and cons to the township and borough to making such a move, including tax concerns, ordinances and form of governing. It takes three to six months to complete such a study, Zorn said.

Township Manager **Stacey Kifolo** and Borough Manager Chad Smith now will work on putting together a request for proposals for the study, Zorn said. It should go out before the end of June with an award hopefully made before the end of summer, he said.

DCED emailed the grant contract to East Buffalo Township late Tuesday afternoon. Zorn said he and fellow supervisors Henry Baylor Jr. and Michael Daniloff, as well as **Kifolo**, must sign it; the state then requires the signed document be delivered in person, to which Zorn said he'll make the trip to Harrisburg today.

Internet – Newspaper Archives Searches
Stacey L. Kifolo
(Articles are in reverse chronological order)

[CB&A Note: Only the information relevant to **Stacey Kifolo** is listed below.]

Daily Item, The (Sunbury, PA)
April 4, 2015

DeLong's \$72G pay rare for size of municipality
Author: Staff Writer

Over in Union County, Township Manager **Stacey Kifolo** of East Buffalo Township, Union County, is paid an annual salary of \$73,154, and that township's Secretary-Treasurer Barry Troxell, is paid \$69,267 a year, according to **Kifolo**.

East Buffalo has a population of 6,416 spread out over 15.6 square miles, making it nearly twice the size of Mahoning Township, whose population of about 4,300 lives within 8.2 square miles.

"I oversee the public works department and all those functions and run the day to day operations of the township," **Kifolo** said.

Internet – Newspaper Archives Searches
Stacey L. Kifolo
(Articles are in reverse chronological order)

Daily Item, The (Sunbury, PA)
October 29, 2014

East Buffalo pares employees' health care benefits

Author: Staff Writer

Noting no other employer in the Valley covers the entire cost of workers' health care, the East Buffalo Township supervisors on Wednesday voted unanimously to have employees fund their own copays and deductibles, a move that puts 10 full-timers on the hook for \$1,000 to \$2,000 per year. The move was among many benefits changes that may save the township \$100,000, supervisors Chairman Thomas Zorn said during the special public hearing. Municipal employees also will now be responsible for 10 percent of their vision coverage.

The township still will cover its workers' premiums. The supervisors delayed having employees pay a share of it this year because of the sudden financial impact it would have, Township Manager **Stacey Kifolo** said. The changes, however, "could very well be a first step, depending on how things go, where the township is financially and the overall costs for coverage," she said.

The votes didn't come easily to Supervisors Henry Baylor Jr., Michael Daniloff and Zorn. The approval to change the health care and vacation accrual came after lively debate on employee impact versus financial reality. Other changes include:

- n Short-term disability coverage has been eliminated, replaced with accumulated unused sick days. Long-term disability coverage remains.
- n Employees who are Medicare-eligible may no longer be on the group plan. This is a change mandated under the Affordable Care Act.
- n New employees will not get post-retirement health-care coverage. Zorn said the township must pay about \$340,000 per year to meet its current obligation.
- n Vacation time no longer is given as a lump sum on an employee's anniversary date but will be accrued in four- to six-hour increments per pay period.
- n There will be 11 paid holidays, including the day after Thanksgiving. Primary and general election days are no longer included.

Savings wasn't the main goal, Zorn said, although East Buffalo could see at least \$100,000 a year in its pocket with the new measures. The township's 2014 budget totals \$3.5 million. The changes were about six months in the making. Daniloff, a former chief executive officer of Evangelical Community Hospital, and **Kifolo** led the review, which looked mainly at the township's "Cadillac" health coverage, for which employees pay nothing and were reimbursed for copays and deductibles incurred.

The supervisors needed to act before Saturday as current health benefits expire Dec. 1 and employees must have 30 days' notice of changes. It made sense to look at everything and modify benefits so they compare favorably with others, being "neither too rich or too little," Zorn said.

Internet – Newspaper Archives Searches
Stacey L. Kifolo
(Articles are in reverse chronological order)

“We tried to balance and provide a solid package to employees but to consider our fiduciary responsibility to the citizens. They pay for it.”

Baylor, a township board member for about 14 years, voiced concern for the financial burden on employees who, he said, already are not paid a lot and who perform “a very unique job” in the municipality. The average East Buffalo Township salary is \$40,000, **Kifolo** said. An employee who earns \$45,000, for instance, now will be responsible for about \$1,300 toward health care. The township has 10 employees considered full time, or who work 35 or more hours per week, she said.

Previous boards may have promised employees benefits “but should have stated it’s not in perpetuity. All these things are subject to change,” Danilooff said, calling it “a very good idea” to review the benefits and commending Zorn for initiating the process. “We’ve sliced and diced this over six months,” Danilooff said. “The final benefits package is fair. ... There is not another employer in the region that absorbs the full cost of an employee health care plan.” Danilooff also challenged Baylor’s calling the township jobs unique, saying, “There is nothing unique about these jobs at all, yet we paid premium (benefits) for them.”

East Buffalo’s health care provider will remain Capital Blue Cross, whose costs dropped about 19 percent this year, **Kifolo** said, adding that she anticipates shopping for a new plan next year. With the reduction, premiums for health care and prescription coverage for a single employee will be \$7,909. Costs for an employee and one child will be \$16,608; with a spouse, \$17,478; and for an entire family, \$23,029.

Vacation time was another contention. Baylor wanted to hold off on a vote to change the allocation, concerned the juggling will short three employees. Danilooff dismissed that, saying the matter can be addressed individually with workers instead of holding up the entire vote. “What’s left to find out?” Danilooff asked. “You (Baylor) need to get with the program. It’s clear no employees are losing vacation.” Employees now will accrue paid time off by hours per pay period, between four and six hours, instead of getting it all at once on their anniversary dates.

The fully paid health care has been in place since about the 1970s, the supervisors said. Danilooff, who has lived in East Buffalo Township for 38 years, said he guesses this is the first time the board has fully disclosed the employee benefits. “To the public in particular, you need to have full disclosure,” he said. A handful of people attended the meeting, expressing astonishment upon hearing of the township’s employee benefits. “You have to consider your employees,” said one man, who asked not to be identified, “but we’re the ones paying the bills. I think it’s still too much, what you’re giving,” adding it was no surprise to hear the township has a zero employee turnover rate.

Internet – Newspaper Archives Searches
Stacey L. Kifolo
(Articles are in reverse chronological order)

Daily Item, The (Sunbury, PA)
April 8, 2014

'Smart' traffic signals coming to Route 15

Author: Evamarie Socha

Smart red lights at three intersections on Route 15 near Lewisburg are happening under a \$325,000 grant from the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation's District 3, which secured the funding with Union County's needs in mind. East Buffalo Township supervisors approved submitting applications for the adaptive traffic signals at their meeting Monday night. The township signed off on two lights, at intersections of Routes 15 and 45 and at Routes 15 and 192.

Township manager **Stacey Kifolo** told the panel the resolutions — and subsequent paperwork — tell PennDOT the township understands its role in ownership and maintenance of the “adaptive signal technology” signals, which use video cameras and computer software to “see” traffic, how it's cueing or backing up and which direction of traffic needs to move next.

Lewisburg Borough Council must take the same measures, likely at its meeting next Tuesday. The borough also must approve submitting an application for the red light at Route 15 and St. Mary Street.

The funding came through an “adjustive corridor project” in which PennDOT is distributing \$11 million statewide for such signals to alleviate traffic congestion on roads such as Route 15, **Kifolo** said.

Union County has wanted the higher technology signals to improve traffic flow at the intersections and has applied for funding through the state's Automated Red Light Enforcement Transportation Grant. However, such funding usually goes to more urban areas.

Other communities that use the system have seen 50 percent to 100 percent improvement in traffic flow efficiency. Engineers involved with the Route 15 Corridor Project determined older signals that can't keep up with the traffic conditions of the day have made for significant congestion at the three intersections. This also has made for traffic volume increases on the cross streets.

Internet – Newspaper Archives Searches
Stacey L. Kifolo
(Articles are in reverse chronological order)

<https://www.wnep.com/article/news/local/union-county/east-buffalo-township-opens-new-offices/523-c79ed0f6-cf4e-4bf8-8de9-dfd53b7f8c44>

September 12, 2013

UNION COUNTY

East Buffalo Township Opens New Offices

Author: Nikki Krize

The East Buffalo Township Municipal Building is ready to open, and on Thursday, officials moved into their new offices near Lewisburg. Officials say the old building was torn down last year because it was in bad condition. That made way for the new \$3.5 million facility, which officials said did not cost taxpayers any money.

Township officials say the place was deteriorating. "It was actually falling apart. It was to the point where the steps out front were not safe to go up and down. We taped them up so people couldn't go up and down," Secretary/Treasurer Barry Troxell said.

"Cinder blocks that were so deteriorated that squirrels were living in the cinder blocks, that kind of thing," township manager **Stacey Kifolo** said.

Township officials voted to tear down the building and build a new one, along with a new public works garage. The project cost \$3.5 million. Officials say \$2 million came from a bank loan and the rest of the money is from the township's general fund. But the new facility is not just for offices. "We're also able to bring the planning and zoning department into our facility. Our planning and zoning department serves three municipalities," **Kifolo** said.

"The old township building did not have a community center but this new one has a community room with space for more than 200 people. Township officials say the plan to let non-profit groups meet here for free. "We didn't have the space before. There's a lot of groups that are going to be using it," Troxell said.

Officials say the township's vehicles will be housed inside the 13,000 square foot public works garage. "It's a lot of space for our equipment that we didn't have before. We're going to be able to take all our trucks in there in the winter time especially. They will be warm and ready to go when they get ready for snow plowing," **Kifolo** said.

The building also has a 700 square foot area that is vacant. East Buffalo Township officials are looking to rent it out to a non-profit or a government group.

Internet – Newspaper Archives Searches
Stacey L. Kifolo
(Articles are in reverse chronological order)

Daily Item, The (Sunbury, PA)
January 10, 2013

James Buck becomes chairman in East Buffalo Township

Author: Evamarie Socha

James Buck has been elected chairman of the East Buffalo Township supervisors, and the board will go to once-monthly meetings beginning at 6 p.m. Monday. Buck — who will leave the board at the end of this year, possible for a Fulbright scholarship overseas — takes the reins from Henry Baylor Jr., who was chairman for three years. “I’m excited,” Buck said Wednesday. “It’s nice to have that trust for my final year on the board.” Buck also was named the township’s alternative representative on the Buffalo Valley Regional Police Commission, on which Baylor and Supervisor Thomas Zorn also sit.

Zorn nominated Baylor for the chairmanship again, but Baylor turned it down and, in turn, nominated Buck. “I felt strongly about Hank continuing for another year,” Zorn said, adding he feels the chairmanship is a “position of honor and prestige that (Baylor) should continue with. Hank has a different view.”

Baylor said with Buck having just one year left, it was time to let him have a go at the office. “Jim has not had a chance to get really involved with the township on committees,” Baylor said. “I would like to see him become more a part of it, so why not make him chairman and give him the opportunity?” Baylor also said people have the wrong idea about the chairmanship. “It’s a hoot to be able to run the meetings, and that’s the only distinction, really,” he said. “A lot of people have this idea about the chairman having this power. That’s not correct.”

Nevertheless, the three supervisors have made for lively meetings over the past two or so months with Buck opposing Baylor and Zorn on some issues, specifically the new municipal building complex, a \$3.5 million project expected to be done close to fall. Buck felt strongly — and still does — that the project should have stayed closer to the \$3.1 million price tag recommended by former Township Manager Peter Marshall.

Baylor commended **Stacey Kifolo**, who joined the township as full-time manager in October, and said the job she’s doing is the main reason the board is going to one meeting a month. “The objective of hiring a township manager was to off-load significant responsibility to that person, and that’s worked,” Baylor said. **Kifolo** has “really picked up ball and run with it,” so much so that completing daily business and activities lessens the need for two meetings a month.

The meetings will begin at 6 p.m. on the second Monday of each month in the township’s temporary home at 57 Reitz Blvd.

Internet – Newspaper Archives Searches
Stacey L. Kifolo
(Articles are in reverse chronological order)

Daily Item, The (Sunbury, PA)
October 18, 2012

East Buffalo Township appoints manager

Author: Evamarie Socha

Stacey Kifolo, of Lewisburg, is the new manager for East Buffalo Township. She is the first woman to hold a full-time township executive position in Union County, officials announced Wednesday. The township supervisors voted unanimously to hire **Kifolo** during a special meeting Wednesday morning. She is fiscal coordinator for the Central Pennsylvania Workforce Development Corp. **Kifolo**'s starts with the township on Nov. 1 at a yearly salary of \$67,000. She will get full benefits, including health care and pension. "I am over the moon," **Kifolo** said of her new job. "It will be challenge, but I'm excited."

Kifolo has worked in the nonprofit sector for 13 years, she said. This job, which was advertised in two national trade journals, interested her because "I found myself gravitating toward positions where I can make a difference. I saw that job and knew what was happening in the area, there is a lot going on." "Her energy and enthusiasm were hard to match," Supervisor Thomas Zorn said. While **Kifolo** doesn't have municipal government experience, "she was the most qualified and the best overall candidate we interviewed. We were very impressed with her knowledge," he said. **Kifolo** is "an excellent choice," Supervisor Henry Baylor Jr. said. "She has the ability to do all the things we really require that manager to do. ... I look at this municipality as a business, and the process behind the service is the same: it's inventory, it's people, it's money." **Kifolo** enters a township government that is decidedly male. There are several women who hold township secretary and treasurer positions, but those are all part-time, Zorn said. There are some women who are township supervisors, but those are elected positions. On the borough government side, there are some women managers. **Kifolo** is confident she can work with all these men, she said. "I certainly talked with them about the issue. But I am from a male-dominated family; if you couldn't play with the boys, you couldn't play."

There were about 60 applicants for the job from states as far away as Alaska and Maine. The supervisors and interim township manager Peter Marshall narrowed down the field to 10 candidates, whom they interviewed over the past few weeks. Of those 60 hopefuls, three were women, Zorn said. **Kifolo** was the only woman in the final round. "It's nice to see in that we're able to do something in this area for the first time," Zorn said. "Like anything, it will be a challenge for her and will be different, but we really asked specific questions about it and dealing with it, and we were all convinced she can handle that challenge." **Kifolo** also served nine years as a corporate business manager for a nonprofit organization and before that six years in sales and finance in the automotive industry. She holds a bachelor's degree from Bloomsburg University in business administration with a marketing focus. She was born and raised in Lewisburg. **Kifolo** succeeds Marshall, who has been interim part-time township manager since October 2011.

Internet – Newspaper Archives Searches
Stacey L. Kifolo
(Articles are in reverse chronological order)

Susquehanna County Independent & Weekender (Montrose, PA)
November 22, 2006

Bethesda receives Operation Good Neighbor Foundation grant

Bethesda's Corporate Business Manager, **Stacey Kifolo**, was responsible for writing the grant on behalf of the Agency. Bethesda was approved by the Foundation's Board of Advisors to receive a \$10,000 technology grant for the agency's extensive treatment and family intervention programs for troubled youth.

To directly enhance Bethesda's services, the funding will be used to purchase computers and projectors in order to deliver materials in an appealing format that will capture clients' attentions and keep them engaged in the education and counseling processes.

Bethesda Day Treatment Center in South Montrose will benefit from the Operation Good Neighbor Foundation grant. Bethesda provides Alternative Education for Disruptive Youth, Intensive Adolescent Day Treatment, Specialized Foster Care, and a Medical Assistance approved Outpatient Drug and Alcohol Program. Visit www.bdtcpa.org.

Research Compiled by: Sarah Linares
Colin Baenziger & Associates