

**ROCKLAND TOWNSHIP
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
MEETING MINUTES**

NOVEMBER 12, 2019

The monthly meeting of the Rockland Township Board of Supervisors was held on November 12, 2019 at 7:00PM at the Rockland Township Municipal Building. The following board members were present: Chairman Duane Bennetch, Vice Chairman Nathan Ohlinger and David Wartzenuft. Also present were Attorney Alfred Crump, Township Solicitor and interested citizens.

The meeting was called to order at 7:00PM by Chairman Duane Bennetch. The meeting was opened with the pledge to the flag.

The minutes of the Board of Supervisors' meeting held on October 8, 2019 were presented to the Board for approval. On a motion by Nathan Ohlinger, seconded by David Wartzenuft, the October 8, 2019 meeting minutes were approved as presented. There was no public comment. All were in favor. Motion carried.

The minutes of the Board of Supervisors' budget meeting held on October 24, 2019 were presented to the Board for approval. On a motion by Nathan Ohlinger, seconded by David Wartzenuft, the October 24, 2019 budget meeting minutes were approved as presented. There was no public comment. All were in favor. Motion carried.

The balance sheets, check detail and deposit detail for October 2019 were prepared by the Secretary/Treasurer for the Board's review with the following balances reported to the Board of Supervisors.

101.000	General Fund – Checking	3,270.19
106.000	General Fund – Savings	1,495,709.05
107.001	General Fund – Savings	3,800.03
107.002	General Fund – Certificate of Deposit	109,120.81
107.006	General Fund – Savings (PRIME)	1,525,858.59
110.000	Petty Cash	200.00
	State Aid Account – Savings	7,647.05
	State Aid Account – Checking	408.51
107.003	Capital Reserve Account – Savings	13,550.29
107.004	Fire Co. Equipment Fund	18,978.00
107.005	Payroll Account – Checking	18,569.52
	Total as of October 31, 2019:	\$3,197,112.04

On a motion by David Wartzenuft, seconded by Nathan Ohlinger, the balance sheets, check and deposit details for October 2019 were approved as presented. There was no public comment. All were in favor. Motion carried.

REPORT OF SOLICITOR

Representation Agreement from Smith Law Group LLC – On a motion by Duane Bennetch, seconded by David Wartzenuft, the representation agreement provided by Jim Smith, Smith Law Group LLC was approved for signature and return to Smith Law Group LLC. There was no public comment. All were in favor. Motion carried.

REPORT OF ROADMASTER

Bridge Inspection Reports – John Wetzel from LTL Consultants, Ltd. conducted the bridge inspections on Stimmel Road Bridge over Bieber Creek and Clay Valley Road Bridge over Bieber Creek on October 10, 2019 and provided the Township with a report for each bridge inspection.

Henry Road Bridge – The Board discussed the installation of curbing at the base of the Henry Road Bridge on the upstream (New Jerusalem) side of the bridge to deter further damage to the bridge wall. On a motion by Duane Bennetch, seconded by David Wartzenuft, the Board approved seeking an engineering design and opinion with regard to the installation of curbing at the base of the bridge on the upstream (New Jerusalem) side to protect the bridge from further damage. Mr. Jerry Haimowitz inquired about adding guiderail above the curb. There was no additional public comment. All were in favor. Motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS

Zoning Ordinance Amendment/Update – The Zoning Ordinance Amendment/Update is in progress. Township officials plan to continue to review and discuss the draft of the updated Zoning Ordinance at the November 26, 2019 Planning Commission meeting.

Sewage Advisory Committee Update – The meeting of the Sewage Advisory Committee scheduled for Thursday, November 7, 2019 at 7:00PM at the Rockland Township Municipal Building was cancelled. Per discussion with Ed McCorkle from Bursich Associates, the next meeting of the Sewage Advisory Committee is tentatively scheduled for Thursday, December 12, 2019 at 7:00PM.

Hogan Learning Academy Land Development Plan – 73 Lyons Road – At the 10/29/2019 Planning Commission meeting, the Planning Commission approved a time extension request from Brian Boyer, Boyer Engineering for the Hogan Learning Academy Land Development Plan until April 14, 2020 and recommends the Board do the same. On a motion by Nathan Ohlinger, seconded by David Wartzenuft, the Board approved a time extension request until April 14, 2020 to review and act on the Hogan Learning Academy Land Development Plan. There was no public comment. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Bowers Road (SR1013) – Traffic and Engineering Study Request – Rockland Township received a letter of response from Chade Sankari, PennDOT dated October 30, 2019 advising that PennDOT will conduct a study of Bowers Road as requested within the next 4-6 weeks. Once the study is complete, PennDOT will notify the Township of their findings.

Joint Committee to Address Speeding and Traffic Issues (Ruscombmanor Township and Alsace Township) – Rockland Township received a response from Alsace Township. Alsace Township would be interested in participating in discussions to address speeding and other traffic issues. The Board requested the Township Secretary follow-up with Ruscombmanor Township to see whether Ruscombmanor Township is interested in participating.

BILLS

A listing of the unpaid bills as of November 12, 2019 was provided to the Board of Supervisors for approval. The total of the unpaid bills for approval was \$35,392.46 from the General Fund. On a motion by Nathan Ohlinger, seconded by David Wartzenuft, the Board approved payment of the unpaid bills totaling \$35,392.46 from the General Fund. There was no public comment. All were in favor. Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS

2020 Animal Control Services Agreement – On a motion by Nathan Ohlinger, seconded by David Wartzenuft, the Board approved the 2020 animal control services agreement with Safety Net Sanctuary for signature and return to Safety Net Sanctuary. There was no public comment. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Liquor License Transfer Application – 110 Lyons Road – Rockland Township received notification dated October 4, 2019 of the Pennsylvania Liquor Control Board's receipt of a transfer application from DRYVILLE HOTEL to LIBERTY AT DRYVILLE.

Proposed 2020 Budget – On a motion by David Wartzenuft, seconded by Nathan Ohlinger, the Board approved the proposed 2020 budget (with no proposed tax increases) for consideration for adoption at the Board’s December 10, 2019 monthly meeting. There was no public comment. All were in favor. Motion carried.

CORRESPONDENCE

A listing of correspondence dated November 12, 2019 was presented to the Board of Supervisors for review.

Reports and updates regarding zoning, building, sewage and stormwater issues and activities for October 2019 were provided to the Board of Supervisors for review. Direction was needed from the Board on a few complaints and code-related matters.

Schweitz Road – Mowing Complaint (Property between 136 & 153) – After a brief discussion, on a motion by David Wartzenuft, seconded by Nathan Ohlinger, the Board instructed the Township Secretary to send a letter to the complainant to instruct the complainant to bring this matter to the Board’s attention during the next or future growing seasons if the matter persists, and the Board requests more precise information with regard to the property owner or property location on future complaint forms submitted to the Township. There was no public comment. All were in favor. Motion carried.

223 Fredericksville Road (Possible multiple dwelling units without Township approval and necessary permits) – The Board briefly discussed this complaint and noted a Zoning Hearing Board decision from 1998 which stated this property may only have one single-family dwelling. The Board also expressed possible septic system concerns with adding additional dwelling units or apartments without a septic permit or involvement of the Township Sewage Enforcement Officer. After a brief discussion, on a motion by David Wartzenuft, seconded by Duane Bennetch, the Board authorized this complaint be forwarded on the Zoning Officer/Code Enforcement Officer for further investigation and follow-up. There was no public comment. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Forgedale Road (Increase in trash along Forgedale Road) – The Board briefly discussed this complaint and instructed the Township Secretary to send a letter to the complainant advising that Forgedale Road is a State road, so any coordinated effort with regard to trash collection along a State road should be handled through PennDOT. In addition, the Township Secretary was instructed to pass along additional information on “Great American Clean-Up PA” and PennDOT’s Roadside Beautification Program.

31 Clay Valley Road Update – The Board was awaiting an update on progress at 31 Clay Valley Road from the Zoning Officer. On a motion by David Wartzenuft, seconded by Duane Bennetch, the Board authorized the Zoning Officer/Code Enforcement Official to proceed with legal action if there is no progress with regard to clean-up at the property. There was no public comment. All were in favor. Motion carried.

UPCOMING MEETINGS/EVENTS:

Tuesday, November 26, 2019 @ 7:30PM – Planning Commission Meeting (Zoning Ordinance Update Meeting)

Tuesday, December 10, 2019 @ 7:00PM – Board of Supervisors Meeting

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment. There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:29PM on a motion by Nathan Ohlinger, seconded by David Wartzenuft. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen Krall
Secretary/Treasurer