

**ROCKLAND TOWNSHIP
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
MEETING MINUTES**

NOVEMBER 13, 2018

The monthly meeting of the Rockland Township Board of Supervisors was held on November 13, 2018 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 9, 2018 were presented to the Board for approval. On a motion by Nathan Ohlinger, seconded by David Wartzenuft, the October 9, 2018 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 25, 2018 were presented to the Board for approval. On a motion by Nathan Ohlinger, seconded by David Wartzenuft, the October 25, 2018 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 2018 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	4,096.48
106.000	General Fund – Savings	1,262,705.08
107.001	General Fund – Savings	1,395,852.86
107.002	General Fund – Certificates of Deposit	100,004.07
109.002	Certificate of Deposit	109,106.16
110.000	Petty Cash	200.00
	State Aid Account – Savings	39,963.99
	State Aid Account – Checking	406.38
107.003	Capital Reserve Account – Savings	110,605.50
107.004	Fire Co. Equipment Fund	15,000.00
107.005	Payroll Account – Checking	18,150.86
	Total as of October 31, 2018:	\$3,056,091.38

On a motion by David Wartzenuft, seconded by Nathan Ohlinger, the balance sheets, check and deposit details for October 2018 were approved as presented. There was no public comment. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Mr. Mike Richards from the Tipton Community Ambulance Service requested to speak to the Board. Unfortunately, Mr. Richards was unable to attend tonight's meeting, but sent an email requesting the Board consider an increase in funding for the Tipton Community Ambulance Services for 2019. After a brief discussion, on a motion by Duane Bennetch, seconded by David Wartzenuft, the Board approved a donation to the Tipton Community Ambulance Service of \$3,778.00 for 2019 to be included in the 2019 budget. There was no public comment. All were in favor. Motion carried.

REPORT OF SOLICITOR

State Game Lands Along Forgedale Road – The Board and Township Solicitor provided an update from the meeting with Senator Bob Mensch and the PA Game Commission held on Thursday, November 8, 2018. The Game Commission was supportive and wants to see the game lands utilized, but the major question is how to gain access. Senator Mensch is looking into funding from DCNR.

Act 537 Plan - Edward McCorkle, Bursich Associates – Township officials are still awaiting an outline from Edward McCorkle, Bursich Associates.

Ordinance (Township Roadmaster Job Description, Requirements & Job Duties – The Township Solicitor advised that the proposed ordinance was duly advertised for consideration for adoption at tonight's meeting. On a motion by Nathan Ohlinger, seconded by Duane Bennetch, Ordinance #2018-12 was approved amending the job description, requirements and job duties of the Township Roadmaster by specifically stating that the Roadmaster shall hold no elective position within the Township. There was no public comment. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Requested Opinion – At last month's meeting, the Board requested the Township Solicitor look into whether a member of a volunteer fire company who is an uncompensated officer of the fire company may vote on matters concerning a portion of the funds to the fire company as a Township Supervisor. The Township Solicitor reviewed all related opinions from the PA Ethics Commission, and it is clear that in order for a violation of the ethics law to occur, the individual (or a member of his immediately family) would have to obtain a pecuniary benefit. Based on this investigation, it is the Township Solicitor's opinion that there would not be a conflict for the Township Supervisor to vote on funding to the fire company.

Request for Executive Session – The Township Solicitor requested the Board meet in executive session immediately following tonight's meeting (before adjournment) to discuss a personnel matter.

REPORT OF ROADMASTER

Henry Road Bridge Damage – T. Miller Masonry Restorations should be finishing up the bridge wall restoration today. The Township Roadmaster has a meeting scheduled with John Wetzel, LTL Consultants, Ltd. on Thursday this week to discuss weight restrictions, signage, etc. Township Supervisor Nathan Ohlinger recommended the Township consider adding a small tapered abutment at the end of the bridge in order to protect the bridge from damage in the future now that the bridge wall has been restored. After a brief discussion, on a motion by Nathan Ohlinger, seconded by David Wartzenuft, the Board authorized the Township Roadmaster to proceed with installing a barrier or abutment to both sides of the Henry Road bridge to deter further damage to the bridge (if the engineer is in agreement to doing so). There was no public comment. All were in favor. Motion carried.

9 Stone Row Lane – The Township Roadmaster provided the Board with pictures showing water ponding at the intersection of Stone Row Lane and Clay Valley Road which needs to be addressed in advance of the approaching winter season. It appears the water is over-spilling the existing pond on the property at 9 Stone Row Lane and being diverted out to the intersection. After a brief discussion, on a motion by David Wartzenuft, seconded by Nathan Ohlinger, the Board authorized the Township Roadmaster to identify the property owner(s) of 9 Stone Row Lane and meet with the property owner(s) to attempt to remedy the situation. There was no public comment. All were in favor. Motion carried.

The Roadmaster provided the Board with an estimate from Miller Municipal Supply, LLC for replacing the signs upon entrance into the Township (28 signs at \$42.00/each totaling \$1,176.00). On a motion by Duane Bennetch, seconded by David Wartzenuft, the Board approved the purchase of the new signs at a cost of \$1,176.00. There was no public comment. All were in favor. Motion carried.

The GP-11 Permit Application was prepared by the Township Engineer to add/place R-5 riprap stone extending out from the wing walls on both the upstream and downstream side of the culvert in scour area at the Conrad Road Bridge over Bieber Creek. On a motion by Duane Bennetch, seconded by Nathan Ohlinger, the Board approved the GP-11 permit application for the Conrad Road Bridge over Bieber Creek for signature for forwarding on to PA DEP (work to be performed between October 1 and March 31). There was no public comment. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Sally Ann Furnace Bridge – The Roadmaster reported that the wall failed causing erosion at abutment. On a motion by Duane Bennetch, seconded by David Wartzenuft, the Board authorized the Township Roadmaster to contact LTL Consultants, Ltd. (Township Engineer) to investigate and obtain the necessary permits for the required repair work at the Sally Ann Furnace bridge. There was no 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 review and discuss a draft of the newly updated Zoning Ordinance at the November 27, 2018 Planning Commission meeting.

Sewage Advisory Committee Update – The next meeting of the Sewage Advisory Committee will be scheduled once the outline is received from Edward McCorkle, Bursich Associates.

Township's Emergency Management Coordinator (EMC) Position – As requested at last month's meeting, an ad seeking individuals interested in serving as the Township's EMC was added to the Township's website and to the Brandywine Community Library's website and facebook page. In addition, correspondence was mailed to neighboring Townships to see whether any of the current EMCs for surrounding Township's might be interested in all serving Rockland Township. On November 12, 2018, the Township received correspondence from Derick Wartzenuft (Township Supervisor David Wartzenuft's son who serves as a volunteer firefighter with the Lyons Fire Company) expressing interest in serving as Rockland Township's EMC. On a motion by Nathan Ohlinger, seconded by Duane Bennetch, the Board appointed Derick Wartzenuft as the Township's Emergency Management Coordinator to replace Jesse Tamburino. There was no public comment. David Wartzenuft abstained. Nathan Ohlinger and Duane Bennetch voted in favor. Motion carried.

BILLS

A listing of the unpaid bills as of November 13, 2018 was provided for the Board of Supervisors approval. The total of the unpaid bills for approval was \$41,881.79 from the General Fund. On a motion by Nathan Ohlinger, seconded by David Wartzenuft, the Board approved payment of the unpaid bills totaling \$41,881.79 from the General Fund. There was no public comment. All were in favor. Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS

2019 Budget Items for Discussion

- Topton Community Ambulance Service Donation amount for 2019 was discussed previously.
- Animal Rescue League – Rockland Township is awaiting a new contract from the Animal Rescue League outlining the fee to provide animal control services for 2019. The ARL discussed a possible fee-for-service structure or an annual fee for this service of \$2.00 per capita based on the 2010 U.S. Census data to be billed on a quarterly basis. Based on the 3,778 census population for Rockland Township, the annual fee for animal control services with the ARL would be \$7,556.00. The Board was very concerned about the proposed significant increase in animal control costs for 2019, since the Township donation for the ARL in 2018 was \$1,000.00 to provide animal control services. After a brief discussion, on a motion by David Wartzenuft, seconded by Duane Bennetch, the Board decided to keep the \$1,000.00 donation in the 2019 budget (same as for 2018) and wait to see what the ARL offers and whether the ARL provides a suitable contract for 2019. There was no public comment. All were in favor. Motion carried.
- Capital Purchase – 2019 John Deere Loader – On a motion by David Wartzenuft, seconded by Duane Bennetch, the Board decided to purchase the 2019 JD loader outright in 2019 utilizing Capital Reserve funds and agreed to plan to sell the existing loader via Municibid during 2019 (and put the money from the sale of the old loader into the Capital Reserve account). There was no public comment. All were in favor. Motion carried.

2019 Budget Approval for Advertising – On a motion by David Wartzluft, seconded by Nathan Ohlinger, the Board approved the 2019 budget, incorporating the items discussed previously at tonight’s meeting (with no proposed tax increases) for advertising for consideration for adoption at the December 11, 2018 monthly Board meeting. There was no public comment. All were in favor. Motion carried.

CORRESPONDENCE

A list of correspondence dated November 13, 2018 was presented to the Board of Supervisors for review.

Reports and updates regarding zoning, building, sewage and stormwater issues and activities for October 2018 were provided to the Board of Supervisors for review. Direction was needed from the Board on one sewage related matter.

78 Keller Road – Possible Sewage Malfunction – Based on a site visit by the Township SEO, the area where the drainage existed appears to have dried up. As a result, the Township SEO is inclined to consider this matter closed at this time. On a motion by David Wartzluft, seconded by Nathan Ohlinger, the Board confirmed that they had no objection to the Township SEO’s opinion in this matter and will consider this matter closed, unless additional complaints are received. There was no public comment. All were in favor. Motion carried.

UPCOMING MEETINGS/EVENTS:

Tuesday, November 27, 2018 @ 7:30PM – Planning Commission Meeting (Zoning Ordinance Update Meeting)
Tuesday, December 11, 2018 @ 7:00PM – Board of Supervisors Meeting

PUBLIC COMMENT

Mr. Steve Haring questioned whether the Animal Rescue League provided specific information on the number and types of “strays” handled for Rockland Township.

At 8:02PM, the Board went into Executive Session to discuss a personnel matter. At the Township Solicitor’s request, the Executive Session was held with all three Township Supervisors, the Township Solicitor and the Township Secretary/Treasurer. The meeting reconvened at 8:06PM.

There was no additional public comment. There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:07PM on a motion by Duane Bennetch, seconded by Nathan Ohlinger. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen Krall
Secretary/Treasurer