

**ROCKLAND TOWNSHIP
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
MEETING MINUTES**

DECEMBER 10, 2019

The monthly meeting of the Rockland Township Board of Supervisors was held on December 10, 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 Jim Smith, 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. Vice Chairman Nathan Ohlinger thanked Duane Bennetch for his service to the Township during his six-year term as Township Supervisor. Chairman Duane Bennetch expressed his gratitude for the opportunity to serve and offered his praise to the Township's officials, professionals and employees with whom he has had the pleasure to work with for the past six years.

The minutes of the Board of Supervisors' meeting held on November 12, 2019 were presented to the Board for approval. On a motion by Nathan Ohlinger, seconded by David Wartzenuft, the November 12, 2019 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 November 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	3,277.73
106.000	General Fund – Savings	1,468,655.16
107.001	General Fund – Savings	3,804.99
107.002	General Fund – Certificate of Deposit	109,120.81
107.006	General Fund – Savings (PRIME)	1,528,173.94
110.000	Petty Cash	200.00
	State Aid Account – Savings	7,648.65
	State Aid Account – Checking	408.54
107.003	Capital Reserve Account – Savings	13,567.98
107.004	Fire Co. Equipment Fund	18,978.00
107.005	Payroll Account – Checking	18,757.23
	Total as of November 30, 2019:	\$3,172,593.03

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

REPORT OF SOLICITOR

The Township Solicitor had nothing to report.

REPORT OF ROADMASTER

Berks County Cooperative Purchasing Council FUEL BID – Rockland Township received notification that the County fuel bid was awarded to PAPCO, Inc., Aston, PA (Contract term: 12/14/2019 thru 12/13/2022).

Henry Road Bridge Curbing/Berm Update for Board – In response to the discussion at last month's meeting regarding the installation of curbing, the Roadmaster and the Board have agreed to the installation of a berm which should help to prevent further damage to the bridge wall.

Part-Time CDL Drivers – The Roadmaster informed the Board that David Wartzenuft expressed interest in assisting with snow plowing if/when necessary. The Roadmaster also requested the Board's approval to place an advertisement in the local paper to seek other qualified persons (with CDL) to assist with snow plowing operations on a part-time, as-needed basis. On a motion by Nathan Ohlinger, seconded by Duane Bennetch, the Board approved placing an advertisement in the Merchandiser to seek part-time temporary CDL drivers to assist with plowing on an as-needed basis. There was no public comment. All were in favor. Motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS

Zoning Ordinance Amendment/Update – The Zoning Ordinance Amendment/Update Project is in progress. Township officials plan to continue to review and discuss the draft of the updated Zoning Ordinance at the December 17, 2019 Planning Commission meeting.

Sewage Advisory Committee Update – The next meeting of the Sewage Advisory Committee is scheduled for Thursday, December 12, 2019 at 7:00PM at the Rockland Township Municipal Building.

Joint Committee to Address Speeding and Traffic Issues (Ruscombmanor Township and Alsace Township) – Per Mr. Don Miller, Ruscombmanor Township is considering an agreement with Fleetwood Police to expand patrol coverage to Ruscombmanor Township. Mr. Miller informed Rockland Township that we can expect to hear back from Ruscombmanor Township regarding their interest in participation with discussions to address speeding/traffic issues once a decision is made with regard to Fleetwood Police coverage. (Alsace Township is still interested in participating in these discussions.)

BILLS

Computer Upgrades (Township Office) – As previously discussed at the 2019 and 2020 budget meetings, a quote from Ridge Support Technologies was received totaling \$3,963.00 to upgrade the two computers in the Township Office. The quote includes all hardware and software, delivery, installation and migration of files. Funds were properly allocated for these computer upgrades in both the 2019 and 2020 budgets. On a motion by David Wartzenuft, seconded by Duane Bennetch, the Board approved the quote from Ridge Support Technologies totaling \$3,963.00 for the computer upgrades and authorized payment of the required deposit to Ridge Support Technologies of \$1,981.50 (50%). (The \$1,981.50 deposit amount is included in the 12/10/2019 bill list for approval at tonight's meeting.) Michele Albright inquired about Ridge Support Technologies and any warranty for the computers and service to be provided. There was no additional public comment. All were in favor. Motion carried.

A listing of the unpaid bills as of December 10, 2019 was provided to the Board of Supervisors for approval. The total of the unpaid bills for approval was \$42,005.86 from the General Fund. On a motion by Nathan Ohlinger, seconded by David Wartzenuft, the Board approved payment of the unpaid bills totaling \$42,005.86 from the General Fund. There was no public comment. All were in favor. Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS

2020 Budget – The proposed 2020 budget was advertised for consideration for adoption at tonight's meeting (and made available for public inspection). The 2020 budget includes taxes remaining at the same levels as 2019 with budgeted expenses (all funds) totaling \$1,288,160.51. On a motion by Nathan Ohlinger, seconded by David Wartzenuft, Resolution #2019-07 (Tax Levy Resolution) was approved fixing the tax rate of 1.0 mil for 2020 (same as 2019). There was no public comment. All were in favor. Motion carried. On a motion by David Wartzenuft, seconded by Nathan Ohlinger, Resolution #2019-08 was approved officially adopting the 2020 budget totaling \$1,288,160.51. There was no public comment. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Oley Hills Region – Draft Berks County Bicycle and Pedestrian Transportation Plan – The Berks County Planning Commission staff has been undertaking a revision to the 2010 Bicycle and Pedestrian Transportation Plan. This Plan serves as the non-motorized component of the Long Range Transportation Plan. Rockland Township received correspondence on November 8, 2019 from Michael Golembiewski, Berks County Planning Commission including a spreadsheet with projects listed in separate sections for Bicycle and Pedestrian suggestions, and Planned projects that are either studied, under way or specifically requested by local officials. County officials are requesting that municipal officials review these sheets and provide any comments on the process or anything the County may have missed by December 16, 2019. The Rockland Township Planning Commission reviewed this correspondence at their meeting on November 26, 2019 and offered no comments. The Board also offered no comments.

Emergency Management Coordinator Compensation – At last month’s meeting, the Township received a NIMS training course certificate dated 11/6/2019 for IS-00240.b LEADERSHIP AND INFLUENCE from Derick Wartzluft (Township EMC). On a motion by Nathan Ohlinger, seconded by Duane Bennetch, the Board authorized compensation to Derick Wartzluft, Township EMC in the amount of \$75.00 for completion of this required NIMS training course. There was no public comment. David Wartzluft abstained. Duane Bennetch and Nathan Ohlinger voted in favor. Motion carried.

CORRESPONDENCE

A listing of correspondence dated December 10, 2019 was presented to the Board of Supervisors for review.

Reports and updates regarding zoning, building, sewage and stormwater issues and activities for November 2019 were provided to the Board of Supervisors for review. One complaint was received by the Township on November 27, 2019.

Complaint Received 11/27/2019 - 69 Five Points Road (Unregistered cars and junk) – The Township Zoning Officer received a telephone call from the property owner at 69 Five Points Road. The property owner is aware of the complaint and is in the process of bringing the property into compliance. Therefore, the Township Zoning Officer is recommending the Board hold off on authorizing any type of enforcement actions at this time. At the Zoning Officer’s request, the Board agreed to table any action on this complaint and will await an update on progress at next month’s meeting.

102 Beaver Creek Road – The Township Zoning Officer is still attempting to contact the attorney. The Board agreed to allow one month for Zoning Officer follow-up with the attorney and to allow for the filing of any necessary applications with the Township for the required zoning relief associated with having two dwelling units in the main house on the property.

UPCOMING MEETINGS/EVENTS:

Thursday, December 12, 2019 @ 7:00PM – Sewage Advisory Committee Meeting
Tuesday, December 17, 2019 @ 7:30PM – Planning Commission Meeting (Zoning Ordinance Update Meeting)
Thursday, December 26, 2019 @ 7:00PM – Board of Supervisors YEAR-END MEETING
Monday, January 6, 2020 @ 7:00PM – Board of Supervisors ORGANIZATION MEETING
Tuesday, January 7, 2020 @ 4:00PM – Board of Auditors ORGANIZATION MEETING

PUBLIC COMMENT

Michele Albright informed the Board that she found a website which should allow the Township to remove Henry Road as an option for travel by large trucks when utilizing GPS. The website provides links to all GPS/mapping companies for notification that large trucks and tractor trailers, etc. are not permitted on Henry Road due to the narrow one-lane bridge.

There was no additional public comment. There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:23PM on a motion by Nathan Ohlinger, seconded by Duane Bennetch. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen Krall
Secretary/Treasurer