

**ROCKLAND TOWNSHIP
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
MEETING MINUTES**

JULY 9, 2019

The monthly meeting of the Rockland Township Board of Supervisors was held on July 9, 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.

The minutes of the Board of Supervisors' meeting held on June 11, 2019 were presented to the Board for approval. On a motion by David Wartzenuft, seconded by Nathan Ohlinger, the June 11, 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 June 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	3,883.82
106.000	General Fund – Savings	1,212,116.96
107.001	General Fund – Savings	1,826.87
107.002	General Fund – Certificates of Deposits	209,120.81
107.006	General Fund – Savings (PRIME)	1,414,649.58
110.000	Petty Cash	200.00
	State Aid Account – Savings	245,797.01
	State Aid Account – Checking	406.62
107.003	Capital Reserve Account – Savings	149,008.51
107.004	Fire Co. Equipment Fund	18,978.00
107.005	Payroll Account – Checking	18,326.37
	Total as of June 30, 2019:	\$3,274,314.55

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

Ms. Lisa Poper, Safety Net Sanctuary attended tonight's meeting and provided Township officials with an updated Animal Control Services Agreement for 2019. Ms. Poper informed the Board that an inspection was conducted today at their facility located along Houck Road in Ruscombmanor Township in conjunction with Safety Net Sanctuary's holding kennel license obtained from the State. The Board was informed that Safety Net Sanctuary would not handle feral cats, but would refer such calls to other resources available and/or assist with trapping if necessary. All hostile and rabid dog calls would be referred to the PA Game Commission, per the dog warden. It is Lisa Poper's understanding that the Animal Rescue League would continue to investigate animal abuse/cruelty claims even for those municipalities who have not contracted with the ARL for animal control services. After a brief discussion with Ms. Poper, on a motion by Nathan Ohlinger, seconded by David Wartzenuft, the Board approved the 2019 Animal Control Service Agreement with Safety Net Sanctuary for signature and authorized payment of the \$1,000.00 donation to Safety Net Sanctuary for animal control services as outlined in the agreement. There was no public comment. All were in favor. Motion carried.

REPORT OF SOLICITOR

Sign Ordinance for Posting Truck Restrictions on Henry Road (Henry Road Bridge) – A cost estimate from LTL Consultants, Ltd. totaling \$1,500.00 was received to provide the engineering study as recommended by the Township Solicitor. On a motion by Duane Bennetch, seconded by David Watzenluft, the Board authorized LTL Consultants, Ltd. to conduct the complete engineering and traffic study associated with the restrictions of truck traffic on the Henry Road bridge at a cost not to exceed \$1,500.00. There was no public comment. All were in favor. Motion carried.

REPORT OF ROADMASTER

Henry Road Bridge – Trail/hunting/security camera options – After a brief discussion regarding possible camera options and costs, the Board agreed to hold off on pursuing the installation of cameras at the Henry Road bridge at this time. The Board instructed the Roadmaster to install two additional posts to prevent large trucks from going up on the bank.

Henry Road Bridge – Repairs to stone wall – The Roadmaster informed the Board that he will be reaching out to Tim Miller, T. Miller Masonry Restorations to get a quote to repair the recently restored stone wall.

Sale of 1991 Case Loader – The Roadmaster informed the Board that he was contacted by a local person interested in purchasing the 1991 Case loader. After a brief discussion, on a motion by David Wartzluft, seconded by Duane Bennetch, the Board authorized the Township Secretary to advertise the sale of the 1991 Case loader in the Reading Eagle and to advertise a special meeting of the Board of Supervisors for Tuesday, July 23, 2019 at 8:00AM for the purpose of opening and reviewing the bids. There was no public comment. All were in favor. Motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS

FORGEDALE ROAD BRIDGE REPLACEMENT PROJECT (PENNDOT):

- Speed Study – The Township Secretary obtained a crash/incident report from the PA State Police for Forgedale Road and obtained additional information from PennDOT regarding specific information to take into consideration when submitting a request for an engineering and traffic study (speed study) to PennDOT. This information was provided to the Board. After a brief discussion, on a motion by David Wartzluft, seconded by Nathan Ohlinger, the Board agreed to proceed with requesting an engineering and traffic study for Forgedale Road from PennDOT (since it was the Board's understanding that there would be no cost incurred by the Township). There was no public comment. All were in favor. Motion carried.
- Proposed Detour Route – The Township is still awaiting confirmation of the planned detour route for this project from Mike Mogan and PennDOT.

Digital Speed Signs – Attorney Smith provided the Board with information on digital speed devices. The estimated cost for such a sign would be approximately \$4,000.00. The Township Solicitor also provided a list of PennDOT-approved vendors who sell approved devices for use on both Township and State roads throughout the Commonwealth. The Board and Roadmaster acknowledged that the cost would exceed the budgeted amount for traffic signs in the approved 2019 budget. After a brief discussion, on a motion by David Wartzluft, seconded by Duane Bennetch, the Board tabled this discussion and agreed to consider the inclusion of funding for such devices in the 2020 budget. There was no public comment. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Zoning Ordinance Amendment/Update – The Zoning Ordinance Amendment/Update is in progress. Township officials plan to review and discuss the draft of the newly updated Zoning Ordinance from Ludgate Engineering at the July 30, 2019 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.

BILLS

A listing of the unpaid bills as of July 9, 2019 was provided to the Board of Supervisors for approval. The total of the unpaid bills for approval was \$23,646.57 from the General Fund. On a motion by Nathan Ohlinger, seconded by David Wartzenuft, the Board approved payment of the unpaid bills totaling \$23,646.57 from the General Fund. There was no public comment. All were in favor. Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS

Christ Mertz Lutheran Church Addition Project – Final Escrow Release – A request was received on June 18, 2019 from William Koch, Christ Mertz Lutheran Church requesting the release of all remaining monies held in the escrow account for this project. The Township Engineer has reviewed Mr. Koch's request. The current escrow balance (not including interest) totals \$13,091.95. The Township Engineer recommends the release of \$7,397.86 plus interest back to Christ Mertz Lutheran Church, and the remaining \$5,694.09 will be transferred to the Rockland Township General Fund to cover all construction engineering and inspections charges for this project. On a motion by David Wartzenuft, seconded by Duane Bennetch, the Board approved the release of all Land Development Improvements Escrow funds on deposit for the Christ Mertz Lutheran Church Addition Project as follows: \$5,694.09 to be transferring to the Rockland Township General Fund to cover all construction engineering and inspections charges for this project and \$7,397.86 (plus any interest earned in this account) shall be returned to Christ Mertz Lutheran Church. There was no public comment. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Birdsboro Pipeline Project – Meter Station Monuments Waiver Request – A request was received from Robert Hilliard, DTE Energy on July 3, 2019 requesting Rockland Township consider a waiver of the requirement to place concrete survey monuments along the easement within the field belonging to the Levan family. DTE still intends to install the monuments adjacent to Water Street and Forgedale Road. After a brief discussion, on a motion by Duane Bennetch, seconded by Nathan Ohlinger, the Board agreed to grant the request for a waiver pending and subject to the Township's receipt of proof (in writing) that the Levan family is aware of this request and that the Levan family does not object to the Township waiving the required monuments within the field on their property. There was no public comment. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Municipal Recycling Program Performance Grant Application for CY2018 – Rockland Township's performance grant application for calendar year 2018 has been prepared and provided to the Board. Rockland Township's estimated performance grant totals approximately \$75.00 for 2018 (based on 14.84 total tonnage). On a motion by Nathan Ohlinger, seconded by Duane Bennetch, the Board approved the Municipal Recycling 904 Performance Grant Application for calendar year 2018 for submittal to the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection. There was no public comment. All were in favor. Motion carried.

CORRESPONDENCE

A listing of correspondence dated July 9, 2019 was presented to the Board of Supervisors for review.

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

Beaver Creek Road – Complaint regarding house possibly made into two units and new plumbing and electrical work performed without required permit – Updates were received from Jackie Hollenbach, Zoning Officer. After a brief discussion, on a motion by Duane Bennetch, seconded by David Wartzenuft, the Township Secretary and Township Solicitor were instructed to send a letter to the property owner requesting additional information within 15 business days. There was no public comment. All were in favor. Motion carried.

31 Clay Valley Road Complaint Update – An update from the Zoning Officer was received by the Board. On a motion by Duane Bennetch, seconded by David Wartzenuft, the Board authorized the Zoning Officer to proceed with filing citations (legal proceedings) for this property. There was no public comment. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Henry Road – Complaint regarding eight non-working vehicles stored on property – The Board briefly discussed this anonymous complaint. The Board was in agreement that no action would be authorized for anonymous complaints.

UPCOMING MEETINGS/EVENTS:

Wednesday, July 17, 2019 @ 7:00PM – Zoning Hearing Board Public Hearing (55 Deysher Road)
Tuesday, July 30, 2019 @ 7:30PM – Planning Commission Meeting (Zoning Ordinance Update Meeting)
Tuesday, August 13, 2019 @ 7:00PM – Board of Supervisors Meeting

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:03PM on a motion by Nathan Ohlinger, seconded by Duane Bennetch. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen Krall
Secretary/Treasurer