

**ROCKLAND TOWNSHIP
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
MEETING MINUTES**

MAY 9, 2017

The monthly meeting of the Rockland Township Board of Supervisors was held on May 9, 2017 at 7:30PM at the Rockland Township Municipal Building. The following board members were present: Chairman Herb Meadway, Vice Chairman Duane Bennetch, and Nathan Ohlinger. Also present were Attorney Alfred Crump (Township Solicitor) and interested citizens.

The meeting was called to order at 7:30PM by Chairman Herb Meadway. The meeting was opened with the pledge to the flag.

The meeting minutes of the Board of Supervisors meeting held on April 11, 2017 were presented to the Board for approval. On a motion by Duane Bennetch, seconded by Nathan Ohlinger, the April 11, 2017 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 April 2017 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	1,661.83
106.000	General Fund – Savings	1,989,296.28
107.001	General Fund – Savings	6,427.98
107.002	General Fund – Savings	275,003.99
109.007	Certificate of Deposit	100,000.00
109.002	Certificate of Deposit	109,106.16
110.000	Petty Cash	200.00
	State Aid Account – Savings	245,705.50
	State Aid Account – Checking	369.67
107.003	Capital Reserve Account – Savings	63,540.17
107.005	Payroll Account – Checking	17,812.07
	Total as of April 30, 2017:	\$2,809,123.65

On a motion by Duane Bennetch, seconded by Nathan Ohlinger, the balance sheets, check and deposit details for April 2017 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

46 Keller Road – Tree Limb - The Roadmaster met with the property owner during the week of April 17th. The Roadmaster also obtained three quotes for the tree limb removal at 46 Keller Road (as discussed at last month's meeting): \$900.00 R&R Tree Service, \$1,490.00 Wolf Tree Specialists, and \$875.00 Lee Tree Care. On a motion by Duane Bennetch, seconded by Nathan Ohlinger, the Board decided to go with Lee Tree Care (Lee Pridie) to remove the tree limb at 46 Keller Road at a cost of \$875.00. 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 agreed to continue to review and discuss Article 2 – Definitions at the May 30, 2017 Planning Commission meeting.

Logo Design Contest Entries – Supervisor Nathan Ohlinger reported that Mr. Kurt Lebo and the artist have been in contact regarding the paper used to create the logo design (difficult to transfer). Mr. Lebo and the artist are coordinating efforts to reproduce the design. Supervisor Ohlinger hopes to have more information at next month's meeting.

Shady Mountain Bakery & Farm Market Land Development Final Plan – Richmond Township – On April 24, 2017, Rockland Township received a plan and correspondence from OTM, LLC (the firm which is currently engaged in the design and plan review process with Richmond Township on a project located along Dryville Road for Mr. & Mrs. Kenneth Weaver). The project involves the construction of a new farm market/bakery building which is intended to replace the existing building currently being used in the same capacity. Since a small portion of the owner's property lies in Rockland Township, a copy of the plan has been received by Rockland Township for reference, review and comments. Since the project lies solely within Richmond Township (and no land development or disturbance is proposed to occur in Rockland Township), Rockland Township is being asked to defer review and approval of the Shady Mountain Bakery & Farm Market Land Development Final Plan to Richmond Township. At the 4/25/17 Planning Commission meeting, the Planning Commission reviewed the plan and recommends the Rockland Township Board of Supervisors defer comment or action on this plan to Richmond Township. On a motion by Herb Meadway, seconded by Duane Bennetch, the Board agreed to defer comment or action on the Shady Mountain Bakery & Farm Market Land Development Final Plan to Richmond Township. There was no public comment. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Rory Gehman Minor Subdivision II Plan – Sally Ann Furnace Road – At the 4/25/17 Planning Commission meeting, the Rory Gehman Minor Subdivision II Final Plan was formally accepted for Township review. A review letter dated April 11, 2017 was received from the Berks County Planning Commission. A review letter dated April 21, 2017 was received from the Township Engineer. A Wetland Presence/Absence Survey by Liberty Environmental, Inc. was received by Rockland Township on April 24, 2017. On April 24, 2017, the Planning Commission approved the following waivers on behalf of the Rory Gehman Minor Subdivision II (and recommends the Board do the same):

SUBDIVISION & LAND DEVELOPMENT ORDINANCE CONFORMANCE:

RESIDUE TRACT:

Section 4:204.I – Waiver recommended by PC 4/25/17 (contour lines)

Section 4:204.K – Waiver recommended by PC 4/25/17 (steep slopes)

Section 4:204.M – Waiver recommended by PC 4/25/17 (manmade and natural features of property and within 100' of property lines)

Section 4:204.N – Waiver recommended by PC 4/25/17 (soils and accompanying data)

Section 4:404.O – Waiver recommended by PC 4/25/17 (wetlands, hydric soils and floodplains)

Section 4:204.P – Waiver recommended by PC 4/25/17 (existing buildings and tree masses)

Section 4:204.Q – Waiver recommended by PC 4/25/17 (roads and accompanying information)

Section 6:208 - Waiver recommended by PC 4/25/17 (street monuments)

Section 6:209 – Waiver recommended by PC 4/25/17 (lot corners with monuments)

LOT 1:

Section 4:204.M – Waiver recommended by PC 4/25/17 (manmade and natural features within 100' of property lines, however features have been shown for approx. 50' from Lot 1 boundary)

Section 6:208 and Section 6:209 – Waiver recommended by PC 4/25/17 (All tract corners were found by survey, being iron pins and pipes. Request to install concrete monument along the northern right of way line of Sally Ann Furnace Road only at the outer perimeter boundary of Lot 1.)

On a motion by Nathan Ohlinger, seconded by Herb Meadway, the Board approved the above waivers (as recommended by the Planning Commission) for the Rory Gehman Minor Subdivision II Plan. There was no public comment. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Resignation Letter for Zoning and Code Enforcement Position – Michael Schwenk's resignation as Rockland Township's Zoning Officer and Code Enforcement Officer is effective May 9, 2017. As instructed at last month's meeting, the Township Secretary contacted those companies/individuals who had previously submitted a proposal to Rockland Township for code enforcement services. The Township Secretary provided the responses and proposals received to the Board for review/consideration. The Board decided to discuss/review the proposals at the end of tonight's meeting.

BILLS

A listing of the unpaid bills as of May 9, 2017 was provided for the Board of Supervisors approval. The total of the unpaid bills for approval was \$40,677.86 from the General Fund. The 5/9/17 bill list includes Fire & EMS Dispatching Services for 2017 totaling \$13,552.47 payable to the County of Berks, and the fifth and final payment of \$3,793.82 for the County radio hardware and accessories for Lyons Fire Company, Ruscombmanor Fire Company and Topton Ambulance payable to the County of Berks. Both items were included in the 2017 budget and are payable to the County by June 1, 2017. On a motion by Herb Meadway, seconded by Nathan Ohlinger, the Board approved payment of the unpaid bills totaling \$40,677.86 from the General Fund. There was no public comment. All were in favor. Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS

Maxatawny Township Proposed UPDATE Traffic Impact Fee Land Use Assumption Report – Rockland Township received correspondence dated April 12, 2017 from the Solicitor for the Maxatawny Township Board of Supervisors, including a copy of the proposed updated Land Use Assumption Report for review and comment. Written comments are to be submitted to Maxatawny Township within thirty days of this letter for consideration at the public hearing. At the 4/25/17 Planning Commission meeting, the Planning Commission reviewed the Land Use Assumption Report and offered no comments to Maxatawny Township for consideration at the public hearing. The Board also offered no comments.

Rockland Township received the Audit Report for the year ended December 31, 2016 from Herbein & Co. The 2016 audit and financial report are available for public inspection at the Township Office. On a motion by Herb Meadway, seconded by Duane Bennetch, the audit notice for year ended December 31, 2016 provided by Herbein & Co. was approved for advertising. There was no public comment. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Rockland Township received correspondence from Evan Corondi, Berks County Conservation District, notifying the Township that the Berks County Conservation District will conduct mosquito surveillance and West Nile Virus monitoring in our Township again this year. Surveillance in our area will occur once per month from May 1, 2017 through October 31, 2017. Surveillance may occur more often if mosquito populations and/or virus levels elevate and require enhanced monitoring. Dead birds will continue to be tested for West Nile Virus this year. Collection dates will run from May 1, 2017 through October 31, 2017.

Ms. Piper Sherburne from District Township provided an update on the Spotted Lanternfly for the Board and meeting attendees. She encouraged residents in the quarantined areas to be diligent to look for egg masses, to scrape and dispose properly of egg masses, and to treat their tree of heaven properly in order to help control the spread of this invasive pest. Piper Sherburne also agreed to provide a Spotted Lanternfly update and information for inclusion in the next Rockland Township Newsletter.

Additional Appointments to the Township's Sewage Advisory Committee – Rockland Township has identified two individuals who are interested in participating in the Sewage Advisory Committee (Jeffrey Cronrath and William Fredericks). On a motion by Nathan Ohlinger, seconded by Duane Bennetch, Jeffrey Cronrath and William Fredericks were appointed to the Township's Sewage Advisory Committee, and Supervisor Duane Bennetch was appointed as an alternate for the Sewage Advisory Committee (to attend meetings when Supervisor Ohlinger is unable to attend). There was no public comment. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Sewage Advisory Committee – The Township Secretary is hoping to coordinate and schedule the first meeting of the Sewage Advisory Committee with Dr. Archer, Mavickar Environmental for late May 2017. After a brief discussion, on a motion by Herb Meadway, seconded by Duane Bennetch, the Township Secretary was instructed to contact the appointees to the Sewage Advisory Committee to find a date and time (which will work for at least the majority of the appointees, perhaps a Saturday morning) to hold an informal meeting of the Sewage Advisory Committee, for the purpose of identifying at least three proposed dates and times for the first official meeting of the Sewage Advisory Committee with Dr. Hugh Archer, Mavickar Environmental. There was no public comment. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Birdsboro Pipeline Project

- 1) Request from Kevin Rucker, Dawood Engineering, Inc. for review of project for compliance with Township ordinances – zoning, floodplain and stormwater (and completion of Municipal Land Use form)
- 2) Request from Steve Rawlings, DTE Energy for meeting with Township Engineer, Roadmaster and Township Secretary to coordinate upcoming construction activities in Rockland Township

Steven Rawlings, DTE Energy has agreed in writing to reimburse the Township for any and all reasonable expenses incurred as the result of the requests made of the Township by DTE Energy or its designee. On a motion by Duane Bennetch, seconded by Nathan Ohlinger, the Board agreed to pass along the request from Kevin Rucker, Dawood Engineering, Inc. for review of proposed project for compliance with Township ordinances to the Township Engineer, with the understanding that DTE Energy agrees to reimburse Rockland Township for any and all reasonable expenses incurred as the result of their request. There was no public comment. All were in favor. Motion carried. On a motion by Herb Meadway, seconded by Duane Bennetch, the Board agreed to have the Township Secretary coordinate the requested meeting with DTE Energy and its engineering team with the Township Engineer, Township Secretary and Township Roadmaster, with the understanding that DTE Energy agrees to reimburse Rockland Township for any and all reasonable expenses incurred as the result of this request to meet with the Township Engineer to discuss their project. There was no public comment. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Rockland Township received a workers compensation quote for policy period 7/1/2017-7/1/2018 from Gerhart, Hartman & Ritner Ltd. in the amount of \$7,940.00 with Selective Insurance (compared to \$9,175.00 premium for current policy period 7/1/2016-7/1/2017). On a motion by Herb Meadway, seconded by Nathan Ohlinger, the Board approved workers compensation coverage with Selective Insurance (via Gerhart, Hartman & Ritner, Ltd.) totaling \$7,940.00 for the period 7/1/2017-7/1/2018. There was no public comment. All were in favor. Motion carried.

CORRESPONDENCE

A listing of correspondence dated May 9, 2017 was presented to the Board of Supervisors for their review.

Reports regarding zoning/building, sewage and stormwater issues and activity for April 2017 were provided to the Board of Supervisors for review.

120 Lyons Road (M&A Excavating) – Complaint Form – This matter was tabled at last month's meeting. On a motion by Duane Bennetch, seconded by Nathan Ohlinger, the Board agreed to defer forwarding the complaint along to the proper code official, since per discussion with Mr. Andrew Martin and Mr. Ken Schnader at the February 14, 2017 monthly Board meeting, M&A Excavating is working on preparation of a plan for submittal to the Township in order to address similar items identified in a previous complaint form and to comply with Township/local ordinances. There was no public comment. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Mr. Steve Chieffo, candidate for Magisterial District Judge 23-3-3, was present at tonight's meeting to introduce himself to Rockland Township officials, residents, and meeting attendees.

Ms. Kelly Kline, candidate to fill a vacant seat on the Berks County Court of Common Pleas, was present at tonight's meeting to introduce herself to Rockland Township officials, residents and meeting attendees.

Resignation Letter for Zoning and Code Enforcement Position – The Board reviewed the three proposals received for providing code enforcement services for Rockland Township. After a brief discussion, on a motion by Duane Bennetch, seconded by Nathan Ohlinger, the Board appointed Ludgate Engineering Corporation (Jackie Hollenbach) as Rockland Township's Zoning Officer and Code Enforcement Officer effective immediately at the rate of \$60.00/hour; however, the Board did not agree to reimbursing Ludgate Engineering Corporation for mileage, in addition to compensation at the \$60.00/hour rate. Mr. Jerry Keller requested additional information from the Board on all proposals received (including names and hourly rates proposed to provide code enforcement services). There was no additional public comment. All were in favor. Motion carried.

UPCOMING MEETINGS/EVENTS:

Tuesday, May 30, 2017 @ 7:30PM – Planning Commission Meeting (Zoning Ordinance Amendment/Update)

Tuesday, June 13, 2017 @ 7:30PM – Board of Supervisors Meeting

PUBLIC COMMENT

Mr. Jeffrey Cronrath inquired about the status of the 14 Day Road complaint. The Board informed Mr. Cronrath that this matter would be turned over to the newly appointed Zoning Officer.

There was no additional public comment. There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:12PM on a motion by Duane Bennetch, seconded by Nathan Ohlinger. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen Krall
Secretary/Treasurer