

**ROCKLAND TOWNSHIP
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
MEETING MINUTES**

JUNE 13, 2017

The monthly meeting of the Rockland Township Board of Supervisors was held on June 13, 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 May 9, 2017 were presented to the Board for approval. On a motion by Duane Bennetch, seconded by Nathan Ohlinger, the May 9, 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 May 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	3,320.29
106.000	General Fund – Savings	2,036,936.37
107.001	General Fund – Savings	6,430.97
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	245,769.12
	State Aid Account – Checking	381.70
107.003	Capital Reserve Account – Savings	63,569.72
107.005	Payroll Account – Checking	18,185.71
	Total as of May 31, 2017:	\$2,858,904.03

On a motion by Duane Bennetch, seconded by Nathan Ohlinger, the balance sheets, check and deposit details for May 2017 were approved as presented. There was no public comment. All were in favor. Motion carried.

REPORT OF SOLICITOR

The Township Solicitor informed the Board that Rockland Township received payment for the municipal lien for mowing of grass/weeds at 115 Beaver Creek Road twice. Therefore, the 6/13/2017 bill list includes a refund of one municipal lien payment in the amount of \$304.00 (\$350.00 municipal lien amount less \$46.00 filing fee costs). Since this check is included with the 6/13/17 bill list, the Board will approve this refund later during tonight's meeting when approving the total amount of unpaid bills for payment.

REPORT OF ROADMASTER

46 Keller Road – Tree Limb: The Roadmaster was contacted by Lee Pridie, Lee Tree Care (the lowest bidder for the removal of tree limb(s) at 46 Keller Road) advising that he may not be able to remove the tree limb(s) as planned, and the Roadmaster wants the tree limb(s) removed prior to Keller Road being paved in early July 2017. Therefore, the Roadmaster is requesting that the Board approve using the second lowest bidder, if Lee Pridie is unable to perform the work. On a motion by Duane Bennetch, seconded by Nathan Ohlinger, the Board authorized Michael Pott, Roadmaster to contact R&R Tree Service (second lowest bidder at \$900.00) to perform removal of the tree limb(s) at 46 Keller Road if Lee Pridie is unable to perform the work in the timeframe required. There was no public comment. All were in favor. Motion carried.

2017 ARLE Grant Applications are now being accepted (June 1, 2017 through June 30, 2017). On a motion by Nathan Ohlinger, seconded by Duane Bennetch, Resolution #2017-08 was approved authorizing the submission of an Automated Red Light Enforcement (ARLE) transportation enhancement grant application with PennDOT during June 2017 which will include guiderail improvements at several locations throughout Rockland Township. There was no public comment. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Ms. Arlene Smith, 94 Hertzog School Road was present at tonight's meeting and inquired as to what can be done to upgrade Hertzog School Road where the Township road ends. The Township Solicitor informed Ms. Smith that the Township is not able to expend funds toward maintenance or repair of a private road. Maintenance and repair of the private road would be the responsibility of those residents who utilize and live along the private road.

T.P. Open House Event (August 9, 2017) – On a motion by Duane Bennetch, seconded by Nathan Ohlinger, the Board approved the road crew employees attendance at the T.P. Open House Event on August 9, 2017. 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 June 27, 2017 Planning Commission meeting.

Logo Design Contest Entries – Supervisor Nathan Ohlinger provided an update to the Board and reported that the artist who designed the winning logo is looking into the necessary software to reproduce the logo.

Rory Gehman Minor Subdivision II Plan – Sally Ann Furnace Road – Rockland Township received a set of revised subdivision plans, including correspondence from John Hoffert Surveying providing responses to the Township Engineer's 1st Final Plan review letter and addressing all plan corrections and revisions. The Township Engineer provided the 2nd Final Plan review letter dated May 23, 2017. This plan is still under review by the Planning Commission and no action is required by the Board at this time.

Dry Fire Hydrant Installation (Fredericksville/Smoketown Roads) – On May 12, 2017, Mr. Jerome Lendacki informed the Township that additional expenses would be incurred due to the need to relocate an existing sewer line and basement floor drain. He estimated the extra expenses would total \$1,650.00. The Township received two invoices from Lendacki Enterprises, LLC totaling \$9,150.00 for the dry fire hydrant installation (\$7,500.00 for dry fire hydrant installation and driveway/access improvement and \$1,650.00 for relocation of sewer line and floor drain). The invoices are included with the 6/13/17 bill list. On a motion by Herb Meadway, seconded by Nathan Ohlinger, the Board approved payment of the invoices totaling \$9,150.00 to Lendacki Enterprises, LLC for expenses associated with the dry fire hydrant installation at the Fredericksville/Smoketown Roads location. Mr. Jerome Lendacki was present and showed the Board the dry hydrant adaptor and informed the Board that he and the fire company would be meeting at the site to test the dry fire hydrant tomorrow. There was no additional public comment. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Mavickar Environmental Consultants – Letter of Agreement (Act 537 Plan) – Rockland Township received a Letter of Agreement from Dr. Archer, Mavickar Environmental Consultants to provide professional services associated with updating and re-submitting the Township's Official Act 537 Sewage Facilities Plan to the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection at an estimated cost of \$27,000.00 plus an estimated \$3,500.00-\$4,000.00 to address governmental review comments (exclusions apply). A copy of the letter of agreement was provided to the Board. Supervisor Duane Bennetch questioned why the "Schedule of Reimbursable Expenses" included with the letter of agreement lists a mileage rate of \$0.60/mile in lieu of opting for a tax deduction and inquired as to why the 2017 IRS-approved mileage rate of \$0.535/mile would not be used. On a motion by Duane Bennetch, seconded by Nathan Ohlinger, the Board accepted and approved the letter of agreement and cost estimate for professional services associated with preparation of an updated Act 537 Plan for re-submission to PA DEP provided by Mavickar Environmental Consultants, pending clarification regarding reimbursable mileage expenses. Mr. Todd Gummo requested additional information from the Board as to what the costs to Mavickar Environmental Consultants included. Mr. Steve Haring suggested the Board not be too concerned about the \$0.06/mile mileage difference. There was no additional public comment. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Chairman Herb Meadway advised meeting attendees that the Sewage Advisory Committee is scheduled to meet with Dr. Hugh Archer, Mavickar Environmental Consultants on Tuesday, June 20, 2017 at 4:00PM at the Rockland Township Municipal Building. This meeting is open to the public, and Township residents and property owners are encouraged to attend.

BILLS

The seal coat portion of the 2017 Road Project is complete which included seal coating of Beaver Creek Road (from Forgedale Road to Kutz Road) and Stimmel Road (from Forgedale Road to Fleetwood Road). An invoice dated 5/24/2017 was received from Asphalt Maintenance Solutions, LLC totaling \$40,281.67. On a motion by Herb Meadway, seconded by Nathan Ohlinger, the Board approved payment of the invoice from Asphalt Maintenance Solutions, LLC totaling \$40,281.67 from the State Aid Fund, pending review and approval by PennDOT representative Charlie Paris. There was no public comment. All were in favor. Motion carried.

The 6/13/17 bill list includes the following 2017 donations (per the 2017 approved budget): \$13,000.00 to Lyons Fire Company, \$7,000.00 to Ruscombmanor Fire Company, \$4,500.00 to Brandywine Community Library, \$3,500.00 to Topton Community Ambulance Service, Inc., \$200.00 to Berks Visiting Nurse Association, \$50.00 to Kutztown Area Historical Society, and \$100.00 to Crime Alert Berks County. A listing of the unpaid bills as of June 13, 2017 was provided for the Board of Supervisors approval. The total of the unpaid bills for approval was \$85,055.10 from the General Fund. On a motion by Herb Meadway, seconded by Duane Bennetch, the Board approved payment of the unpaid bills totaling \$85,055.10 from the General Fund. There was no public comment. All were in favor. Motion carried. Eric Fox from the Ruscombmanor Fire Company, and Jerry Keller and David Wartzluft from the Lyons Fire Company, thanked the Board for the Township's support.

NEW BUSINESS

Additional Appointment to the Township's Sewage Advisory Committee – Rockland Township was contacted by Jerry Haimowitz, 16 Steep Lane. He is interested in serving on the Township's Sewage Advisory Committee. On a motion by Herb Meadway, seconded by Nathan Ohlinger, the Board approved the appointment of Jerry Haimowitz to the Rockland Township Sewage Advisory Committee. There was no public comment. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Zoning Hearing Board Variance Application – Sally Ann Furnace Road – Rockland Township received a variance application from Jason Miller on May 9, 2017, requesting a variance from Section 4.07.2 of the Rockland Township Zoning Ordinance. (Section 4.07.2 contains maximum lot area regulations. A maximum of 2 acres is allowed and up to a maximum net lot area of 10 acres with Zoning Officer approval and with certain conditions met. The proposed lot (Lot 1) of the Rory Gehman Minor Subdivision II plan currently being reviewed by Rockland Township violates this requirement with a net area of 12.354 acres. A variance would be required.) A public hearing is scheduled for Wednesday, June 21, 2017 at 7:00PM at the Rockland Township Municipal Building, and the Board of Supervisors may provide comments on this variance application to the Zoning Hearing Board. The Township Solicitor encouraged the Board of Supervisors to recommend approval of the variance, since the proposed lot is already separated from the parent tract by Sally Ann Furnace Road. On a motion by Duane Bennetch, seconded by Herb Meadway, the Board authorized the Township Secretary to inform the Zoning Hearing Board that the Board of Supervisors would be in favor of the granting of a variance from Section 4.07.2.A of the Rockland Township Zoning Ordinance for this application. There was no public comment. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Mandy Kercher, Brandywine Heights Area School District contacted the Township Office. She is attempting to coordinate some type of community service activity for the teachers/staff (for approximately 2 ½ hours) on Tuesday, August 15, 2017 with the sole purpose of providing a real benefit to the school district community. She is contacting municipalities within the school district to see whether the municipalities may be able to utilize their teachers/staff in some capacity on August 15th (perhaps to assist with an upcoming event, community service type project(s), etc.) After discussion, the Board instructed the Township Secretary to contact Mandy Kercher to advise that the Board was not able to identify any tasks for their teachers/staff on August 15, 2017 and to request additional information and possible ideas from Mandy Kercher.

Rockland Township received correspondence from the Redevelopment Authority of the County of Berks on May 15, 2017. The purpose of the correspondence is to inform Rockland Township of its right to elect to be excluded from the County's Community Development Block Grant Program beginning with Federal Fiscal Year 2018 through 2020. If Rockland Township elects to be excluded from the County's CDBG Program, the Township is instructed to provide notice of exclusion in writing and it must be signed by the chief elected

official. If Rockland Township chooses to remain in the County's CDBG Program, no action is required by the Township. If Rockland Township wishes to remain with the County, it will be ineligible to apply for CDBG Program funds from the Pennsylvania CDBG Program administered by the Department of Community and Economic Development (DCED). On a motion by Duane Bennetch, seconded by Herb Meadway, the Board instructed the Township Secretary to prepare a letter to be signed by the Chairman of the Board of Supervisors confirming the Board's decision to be excluded from the County's Community Development Block Grant Program beginning with Federal Fiscal Year 2018 through 2020. There was no public comment. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Municipal Recycling Program Performance Grant Application for CY2016 (under Section 904 of Act 101) – Rockland Township's performance grant application for calendar year 2016 has been prepared and provided to the Board. Rockland Township's estimated performance grant totals approximately \$75.00 for 2016 (based on 21.04 total tonnage). On a motion by Herb Meadway, seconded by Duane Bennetch, the Board approved Rockland Township's Municipal Recycling 904 Performance Grant Application for calendar year 2016 for submittal to the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection. There was no public comment. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Birdsboro Pipeline Project – The Township Engineer, Township Roadmaster and Township Secretary met with Garrett Mehl and Ian Connelly with DTE Energy on Thursday, May 18, 2017 (meeting was requested by DTE Energy). During this meeting, the Township Engineer informed DTE Energy representatives that a Land Development Plan would be required for this project. The DTE Energy representatives questioned whether a Land Development Plan should be required for this project. Therefore, it was suggested that DTE Energy representatives attend the upcoming Planning Commission meeting to be held on Tuesday, May 30, 2017. At this meeting, the Planning Commission would review the project/information and make a recommendation to the Board of Supervisors as to whether or not Land Development procedures per the Township's Subdivision and Land Development Ordinance should be followed (per Section 3:80). DTE Energy attended the May 30, 2017 Planning Commission meeting and provided information on the project. Based on the information provided, the Planning Commission ultimately decided to recommend to the Board of Supervisors that the Land Development procedures of the SALDO be followed for the Birdsboro Pipeline Project. (The Board of Supervisors shall make the final decision as to whether or not a Land Development Plan would be required.) On a motion by Nathan Ohlinger, seconded by Herb Meadway, the Board recommended a Land Development Plan be submitted and the Land Development procedures as outlined in SALDO be followed. There was no public comment. All were in favor. Motion carried.

CORRESPONDENCE

A list of correspondence dated June 13, 2017 was presented to the Board of Supervisors for review.

Reports and updates regarding zoning/building, sewage and stormwater issues and activities for May 2017 were provided to the Board of Supervisors for review. Direction was needed from the Board on a couple code-related matters.

23 Shady Creek Lane – Complaint Form: On a motion by Duane Bennetch, seconded by Nathan Ohlinger, the Board authorized this complaint (grass/weeds) be forwarded on to the Code Official. There was no public comment. All were in favor. Motion carried.

21 Apple Lane – Complaint Form: On a motion by Duane Bennetch, seconded by Nathan Ohlinger, the Board authorized this complaint (spot lights shining onto neighboring properties and onto street) be forwarded on to the Code Official. There was no public comment. All were in favor. Motion carried.

UPCOMING MEETINGS/EVENTS:

Tuesday, June 20, 2017 @ 4:00PM – Sewage Advisory Committee Meeting

Wednesday, June 21, 2017 @ 7:00PM – Zoning Hearing Board Public Hearing

Tuesday, June 27, 2017 @ 7:30PM - Planning Commission Meeting (Zoning Ordinance Amendment/Update)

Tuesday, July 11, 2017 @ 7:30PM – Board of Supervisors Meeting

PUBLIC COMMENT

Supervisor Duane Bennetch mentioned a tract of land owned by the Pennsylvania Game Commission (approximately 20 +/- acres) off of Forgedale Road which is landlocked. He questioned whether there is anything that could be done to encourage the State to obtain a right-of-way or access to this tract so that the land may be utilized by the general public. The Township Solicitor informed Supervisor Bennetch that he would look in the matter.

There was no additional public comment. There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:28PM on a motion by Nathan Ohlinger, seconded by Duane Bennetch. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen Krall
Secretary/Treasurer