

**ROCKLAND TOWNSHIP
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
MEETING MINUTES**

JANUARY 10, 2017

The monthly meeting of the Rockland Township Board of Supervisors was held on January 10, 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 Year-End Meeting held on December 27, 2016 were presented to the Board for approval. On a motion by Duane Bennetch, seconded by Nathan Ohlinger, the December 27, 2016 Year-End Meeting minutes were approved as presented. There was no public comment. All were in favor. Motion carried.

The meeting minutes of the Board of Supervisors Reorganization Meeting held on January 3, 2017 were presented to the Board for approval. On a motion by Duane Bennetch, seconded by Nathan Ohlinger, the minutes from the January 3, 2017 Reorganization Meeting were approved as presented. There was no public comment. All were in favor. Motion carried.

The balance sheets, check detail and deposit detail for December 2016 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	2,784.94
106.000	General Fund – Savings	1,547,649.08
108.000	General Fund – Govt Money Market	180,478.60
107.001	General Fund – Savings	11,282.15
107.002	General Fund – Savings	275,003.98
109.001	Government Money Market	118,483.58
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	53,583.19
	State Aid Account – Checking	370.67
107.003	Capital Reserve Account – Savings	287,310.74
107.005	Payroll Account – Checking	10,771.50
	Total as of December 31, 2016:	\$2,697,024.59

On a motion by Nathan Ohlinger, seconded by Duane Bennetch, the balance sheets, check and deposit details for December 2016 were approved as presented. There was no public comment. All were in favor. Motion carried.

REPORT OF SOLICITOR

Zoning Ordinance Amendment/Update – The Zoning Ordinance Amendment/Update is in progress. Township officials agreed to continue to review and discuss Article II (Definitions) at the January 31, 2017 Planning Commission meeting. Attorney Crump also informed the Board that since both Rockland Township and District Township are in the process of updating their zoning ordinances, the Township Solicitors representing Rockland Township, District Township and the Borough of Topton (those entities included in the Eastern Berks Joint Comprehensive Plan) have scheduled a conference call to ensure that all necessary uses are covered and provided for appropriately.

REPORT OF ROADMASTER

Hertzog School Road – Drainage Issues – Linda Cluck, LTL Consultants, Ltd. provided a memo/report dated January 10, 2017 to the Board. The Roadmaster advised the Board that he has not noticed an increase in erosion. The Roadmaster will continue to monitor the drainage along Hertzog School Road and will advise the Board of any future concerns and/or problems which must be addressed. After a brief discussion, on a motion by Duane Bennetch, seconded by Nathan Ohlinger, the Board tabled this matter indefinitely. There was no public comment. All were in favor. Motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS

Dry Fire Hydrant Installation (Fredericksville/Smoketown Road) – Jerome Lendacki was informed to proceed with installation of the dry fire hydrant at 171 Fredericksville Road without the highway occupancy permit from PennDOT (when/as weather permits). The Township received correspondence from PennDOT on January 6, 2017, including a 30-Day Notice of Inactivity regarding the Highway Occupancy Permit application for 171 Fredericksville Road. The correspondence states that, if Rockland Township no longer wishes to pursue this permit at this time, the application should be withdrawn. On a motion by Duane Bennetch, seconded by Nathan Ohlinger, the Board confirmed their intent to longer pursue this permit at this time and agreed to withdraw the application with PennDOT. There was no public comment. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Richard J. & Carol A. Blair Subdivision – Five Points Road – The time extension for review of the Richard J. & Carol A. Blair Subdivision is in effect until March 20, 2017. There are no items for Board consideration and/or action this month.

MS4 Advance Waiver Approval – LTL Consultants, Ltd. submitted the MS4 advance waiver application to PA DEP on December 14, 2016 (on Rockland Township's behalf), and LTL Consultants, Ltd. provided the Township with a copy of the MS4 advance waiver application for Township records.

Letter Received 10/7/2016 from PA DEP Requesting Update on Progress with Resubmission of Rockland Township's Act 537 Official Plan – A Task/Activity Report was received from Dr. Hugh Archer, Mavickar Environmental on December 27, 2016. This report was briefly discussed at the Board's Year-End Meeting on December 27, 2016 and tabled until tonight's meeting. The Township received email correspondence from Dr. Archer's office dated January 9, 2017 advising that Dr. Archer will be providing additional information and clarification with regard to the Task/Activity Report. In addition, Dr. Archer will be providing a list of dates when he would be available to meet with the Board of Supervisors to review and discuss the Task/Activity Report.

Stonefield Heights Subdivision – Steep Lane – An update dated January 9, 2017 was received from Jerome Lendacki regarding the necessary road improvements and the decision of Steep Lane to the Township.

Berks County MS4 Steering Committee and Cooperative Education Program Participation for 2017 – Additional information was obtained by the Secretary/Treasurer (as discussed at the January 3, 2017 Reorganization Meeting) and provided to the Board. On a motion by Duane Bennetch, seconded by Nathan Ohlinger, the Board agreed not to participate with the Berks County MS4 Steering Committee and Cooperative Education Program for calendar year 2017. There was no public comment. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Updated Sewage Enforcement Officer (SEO) List from LTL Consultants, Ltd. – As discussed at the January 3, 2017 Reorganization meeting, an updated 2017 SEO list was received from LTL Consultants, Ltd. This updated list contains the names of three individuals/SEOs identified to perform sewage enforcement services in Rockland Township for 2017. On a motion by Nathan Ohlinger, seconded by Duane Bennetch, the updated 2017 SEO list provided by LTL Consultants, Ltd. was approved for forwarding to PA DEP. There was no public comment. All were in favor. Motion carried.

BILLS

The Township received an invoice from Pennsylvania Truck Centers, Inc. for the 2017 Mack truck cab/chassis in the amount of \$104,803.02. On a motion by Herb Meadway, seconded by Nathan Ohlinger, the Board approved payment of \$104,803.02 to Pennsylvania Truck Centers, Inc. for the 2017 Mack truck cab/chassis from the Capital Reserve Account (per the 2017 budget). There was no public comment. All were in favor. Motion carried.

A listing of the unpaid bills as of January 10, 2017 was provided for the Board of Supervisors approval. The total of the unpaid bills for approval was \$16,870.01 from the General Fund. On a motion by Herb Meadway, seconded by Duane Bennetch, the Board approved payment of the unpaid bills totaling \$16,870.01 from the General Fund. There was no public comment. All were in favor. Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS

BCERT Donation for 2016 (\$100.00) – Mr. Brian Ross, Spring Township (BCERT Representative) contacted the Township Office to inquire whether BCERT should proceed with cashing our donation check for 2016. Prior to doing so, Mr. Ross wanted to make sure the Board was aware that Rockland Township would likely never benefit from BCERT services, since Rockland Township is served by the PA State Police who have their own swat team. After a brief discussion, on a motion by Duane Bennetch, seconded by Nathan Ohlinger, the Board requested the \$100.00 donation check to BCERT for 2016 be returned to Rockland Township, since it is unlikely that Rockland Township residents would ever benefit from their services. There was no public comment. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Logo Design Contest Entries – Supervisor Nathan Ohlinger provided an update for the Board. The professional photographer is in the process of reviewing the three logo design entries and making a final decision. A final decision is anticipated to be received by the Township next week, and the Board will plan to take any necessary action with regard to this matter at the February 14, 2017 meeting. The Board also suggested including the logo design entry winner in the next Township newsletter.

PSATS Conference Attendance - The Township received registration materials from PSATS for the 95th Annual Educational Conference & Trade Show to be held on April 23-26, 2017 in Hershey, PA. Township officials shall advise the Secretary who plans to attend, so the Secretary can submit the necessary registration paperwork to PSATS. (Registration starts January 17, 2017, and any registrations received after March 31, 2017 will be assessed a \$200 late fee.) Supervisor Herb Meadway confirmed that he does not plan to attend. Both Township Supervisors Duane Bennetch and Nathan Ohlinger do plan to attend.

2017 Berks County Public Works Association (BCPWA) Meetings – On a motion by Herb Meadway, seconded by Duane Bennetch, the Board approved attendance of the road crew employees at the Berks County Public Works Association Meetings scheduled for January 11, 2017, April 13, 2017, July 13, 2017 and October 5, 2017. There was no public comment. All were in favor. Motion carried.

2017 Finance Officers Association Meetings and Secretaries Association Meetings offered through Albright College's Center for Excellence in Local Government – On a motion by Nathan Ohlinger, seconded by Duane Bennetch, the Board authorized the Secretary/Treasurer's to attend the Finance Officers Association Meetings and Secretaries Association Meetings during calendar year 2017 (cost not exceed \$10 per meeting, and meetings are typically held quarterly). There was no public comment. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Revised Memorandum of Understanding – Berks County Conservation District – The Township received correspondence from the Berks County Conservation District on January 5, 2017. The Berks County Conservation District, in cooperation with the PA DEP, has revised the Erosion & Sediment Control Memorandum of Understanding. Municipalities in Berks County are asked to review the revised Memorandum. The Berks County Conservation District is requesting a signed Memorandum of

Understanding be returned to the District by the end of February 2017. On a motion by Duane Bennetch, seconded by Nathan Ohlinger, this matter was tabled until next month's meeting, to allow the Board ample time to review the revised Memorandum of Understanding. There was no public comment. All were in favor. Motion carried.

CORRESPONDENCE

A listing of correspondence dated January 10, 2017 was presented to the Board of Supervisors for their review.

Reports regarding zoning/building, sewage and stormwater issues and activity for December 2016 were provided to the Board of Supervisors for review. The Board noted that a monthly zoning report (including updates on pending zoning matters) was not received from Michael Schwenk, Zoning Officer. The Board also acknowledged receipt of correspondence from Michael Schwenk dated January 10, 2017 regarding subpar code enforcement services provided by Schwenks Code Enforcement, LLC. After a brief discussion, on a motion by Duane Bennetch, seconded by Nathan Ohlinger, the Board decided to refrain from making any final decision with regard to the appointment of a new Township Zoning Officer or Code Enforcement Official to perform code enforcement services until the Board was able to speak and/or meet with Michael Schwenk personally, and this matter was tabled until next month's meeting. Mr. Steve Haring inquired as to who currently performs code enforcement services in Rockland Township and whether the Zoning Officer was affiliated with LTL Consultants, Ltd. The Board informed Mr. Haring that zoning and code enforcement services are currently performed by Michael Schwenk, Schwenks Code Enforcement, LLC, and Schwenks Code Enforcement, LLC has no affiliation at all with LTL Consultants, Ltd. Mr. Christopher King expressed concern regarding an issue which has been forwarded to the Code Official (Michael Schwenk) which has yet to be resolved. There was no additional public comment. All were in favor. Motion carried.

UPCOMING MEETINGS/EVENTS:

Tuesday, January 31, 2017 @ 7:30PM – Planning Commission Meeting (Zoning Ordinance Amendment/Update)
Tuesday, February 14, 2017 @ 7:30PM – Board of Supervisors Meeting

PUBLIC COMMENT

Mr. Christopher King advised the Board that the problem is growing and again expressed concern with the lack of progress toward resolution.

There was no additional public comment.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:02PM on a motion by Duane Bennetch, seconded by Nathan Ohlinger. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen Krall
Secretary/Treasurer