

**ROCKLAND TOWNSHIP
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
MEETING MINUTES**

JANUARY 13, 2015

The regularly scheduled meeting of the Rockland Township Board of Supervisors was held on January 13, 2015 at 7:30PM at the Rockland Township Municipal Building. The following board members were present: Chairman Herb Meadway and Vice Chairman Duane Bennetch. Also present were Attorney Alfred Crump (Township Solicitor), Linda Cluck (LTL Consultants, Ltd., Township Engineer) 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 December 30, 2014 Board of Supervisors Year End Meeting were approved as presented on a motion by Herb Meadway, seconded by Duane Bennetch. There was no public comment. All were in favor. Motion carried.

The meeting minutes of the January 5, 2015 Board of Supervisors Reorganization Meeting were approved as presented on a motion by Herb Meadway, seconded by Duane Bennetch. There was no public comment. All were in favor. Motion carried.

The balance sheets, check detail and deposit detail for December 2014 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	614.36
106.000	General Fund – Savings	1,186,917.15
108.000	General Fund – Govt Money Market	179,726.40
107.001	General Fund – Savings	137,524.40
107.002	General Fund – Savings	139,753.87
109.001	Government Money Market	117,989.81
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	40,327.82
	State Aid Account – Checking	385.10
107.003	Capital Reserve Account – Savings	286,349.08
107.005	Payroll Account – Checking	18,231.13
	Total as of December 30, 2014:	\$2,317,125.28

On a motion by Herb Meadway, seconded by Duane Bennetch, the balance sheets, check and deposit details for December 2014 were approved as presented. There was no public comment. All were in favor. Motion carried.

REPORT OF SOLICITOR

The Township Solicitor advised the Board that the Ordinance authorizing the participating of Rockland Township in the PSATS unemployment compensation group trust program was advertised for consideration for adoption at tonight's meeting. On a motion by Herb Meadway, seconded by Duane Bennetch, Ordinance #2015-01 authorizing Rockland Township's participation in the PSATS Unemployment Compensation Group Trust pursuant to the Pennsylvania Intergovernmental Cooperation Law was approved. There was no public comment. All were in favor. Motion carried.

The Township Solicitor informed the Board of a recent application received by the Township for the placement of a temporary structure/home at 252 Fredericksville Road, due to a recent house fire. Attorney Crump recommended that if the Board was agreeable to allowing the temporary placement of the home on the property, the Board should specify a time period for the temporary placement of this home/structure on the property. On a motion by Duane Bennetch, seconded by Herb Meadway, the Board approved the placement of a temporary structure/home at 252 Fredericksville Road (due to house fire) for a maximum period of one year. There was no public comment. All were in favor. Motion carried.

REPORT OF ROADMASTER

The Roadmaster informed the Board of the Township's receipt of a driveway permit application from M&A Excavating, 120 Lyons Road, requesting the Township's approval for a second driveway off of Foxs Road. The Roadmaster expressed safety concerns with the proposed second driveway. After a brief discussion, the Board was in agreement for the Roadmaster (Driveway Permit Administrator) to send a denial letter to the applicant based on the information provided in the driveway permit application.

The Roadmaster advised the Board that the Township received paperwork for completion in order to continue its participation in the Federal Surplus Property Program. After a brief discussion, on a motion by Herb Meadway, seconded by Duane Bennetch, the Board decided to no longer participate in the Federal Surplus Property Program. There was no public comment. All were in favor. Motion carried.

The Township received information on the 2015/2016 State Road Salt Contract, including a quantity request for bidding purposes. The Roadmaster recommended the Township consider 500 tons (same as 2014/2015 winter season). On a motion by Herb Meadway, seconded by Duane Bennetch, the Board approved Rockland Township's participation in the 2015/2016 State Road Salt Contract for a quantity of 500 tons of salt. There was no public comment. All were in favor. Motion carried.

On a motion by Herb Meadway, seconded by Duane Bennetch, the Board approved the road crew's attendance at the 2015 Berks County Public Works Association meetings and approved the Roadmaster's attendance at the 2015 Berks County Cooperative Purchasing Council meetings on behalf of Rockland Township. There was no public comment. All were in favor. Motion carried.

The Roadmaster advised the Board that he obtained prices/quotes for a welder for the shop (which is included in the 2015 budget). This information was provided to the Board for consideration. On a motion by Duane Bennetch, seconded by Herb Meadway, the Board approved the purchase of a welder via PRAXAIR for \$2,100.00. There was no public comment. All were in favor. Motion carried. In addition, the Roadmaster checked into an electric upgrade for the shop to accommodate the welder and obtained a cost estimate of \$400-\$500. Supervisor Bennetch recommended the original motion be amended to include approval of the costs associated with the electric upgrade for the welder. On a motion by Duane Bennetch, seconded by Herb Meadway, the Board approved the purchase of a welder with PRAXAIR for \$2,100.00 and approved an electricity upgrade in the shop area to accommodate the new welder at an approximate cost of \$400-\$500. There was no public comment. All were in favor. Motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS

72 Mine Road Drainage – A letter was sent from the Township to Mr. Mark Sabol (per discussion at the December 2014 Board meeting) encouraging Mr. Sabol to attend an upcoming meeting to discuss possible solutions. Mr. Sabol was present at tonight's meeting. The Board, Township Engineer, Roadmaster, and Mr. Sabol discussed possible solutions to the drainage issues. After a brief discussion, Mr. Sabol informed the Board that he would like to speak to his neighbor before proceeding. The Board suggested the Township Engineer, Roadmaster and Mr. Sabol continue to explore possible remedies, and report back to the Board with possible solutions and cost estimates for consideration at a future date. On a motion by Duane Bennetch, seconded by Herb Meadway, this item was tabled until next month's meeting. There was no public comment. All were in favor. Motion carried.

86 Orchard Road – Drainage Concerns – A letter was received from Mr. Walter Hafer dated December 22, 2014 requesting a meeting with Township. The Roadmaster informed the Board that he met with Mr. Hafer, in response to his letter. The Roadmaster and Mr. Hafer discussed some minor fixes (put divot back in road and cut shoulders a bit) in an attempt to decrease the amount of water coming across Orchard Road to Mr. Hafer's property. The Roadmaster advised that the proposed work to try to help decrease the water flow across Orchard Road would likely not be possible until Spring 2015.

Beaver Creek Road Bridge Maintenance Project – On December 12, 2014, the Township received a letter from the PA Department of Environmental Protection requesting additional information, and the additional information requested was submitted by LTL Consultants, Ltd. As of tonight's meeting, Rockland Township is awaiting PA DEP approval of GP-11 permit. (Project ideally to be completed during the inactive season of October 1 through March 31 timeframe.)

A public hearing was held on Thursday, December 11, 2014 for the Zoning Hearing Board application for a special exception for the proposed development of a wireless telecommunications facility on the property of Richard & Susan Angstadt along Keller Road. At the public hearing held on December 11, 2014, the applicant, CIG Towers, LLC, requested a continuance, and the new public hearing date is now scheduled for Wednesday, January 21, 2015 at 7:00PM at the Rockland Township Municipal Building.

Items tabled from 1/5/15 Reorganization Meeting:

On a motion by Herb Meadway, seconded by Duane Bennetch, the Board appointed LTL Consultants, Ltd. as the Township Engineer and Engineer for the Planning Commission. There was no public comment. All were in favor. Motion carried. On a motion by Herb Meadway, seconded by Duane Bennetch, the Board approved the January 2014 rate schedule for compensation to LTL Consultants, Ltd. for calendar year 2015. There was no public comment. All were in favor. Motion carried.

On a motion by Duane Bennetch, seconded by Herb Meadway, the appointment of the Township Sewage Enforcement Officer shall be LTL Consultants, Ltd., Oley, PA 19547, with the following individuals approved to serve as Sewage Enforcement Officers serving Rockland Township: Primary Sewage Enforcement Officers: John E. Yoder (03266), Bradley Pflum (02972) and Paul Labe III (03861) and Alternate Sewage Enforcement Officer: Daniel Levensgood (02134). There was no public comment. All were in favor. Motion carried.

On a motion by Duane Bennetch, seconded by Herb Meadway, the Board approved Resolution #2015-02 establishing fees for Sewage Enforcement Officer services for 2015, including an amendment of the Resolution to include an SEO Witnessing Fee of \$450.00. There was no public comment. All were in favor. Motion carried.

On a motion by Herb Meadway, seconded by Duane Bennetch, the 2015 rate for the Township Zoning Officer/Code Enforcement Officer (LTL Consultants, Ltd.) shall be as established in the January 2014 rate schedule from LTL Consultants, Ltd., and the rate for Building Code Officials/Building Inspectors (LTL Consultants, Ltd. and Schwenks Code Enforcement) shall be as established in the January 2014 rate schedule from LTL Consultants, Ltd. (\$57.00/hr). There was no public comment. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Supervisor Bennetch advised that the Township received a response from LTL Consultants, Ltd. regarding the Township proposal concerning 2015 rates, mileage reimbursements, etc. After a brief discussion of LTL's counter proposal, on a motion by Duane Bennetch, seconded by Herb Meadway, the Board agreed to not pay mileage expenses to LTL Consultants, Ltd. as part of the approved rate schedule and encouraged the Secretary to communicate this to LTL Consultants, Ltd. There was no public comment. All were in favor. Motion carried.

BILLS

The Township received its annual agreement for 2015 from the Animal Rescue League (ARL) for animal control services. The 2015 Budget includes a \$1,000.00 donation to the ARL, and the 1/13/15 Bill List includes the \$1,000.00 donation to the ARL for 2015. On a motion by Herb Meadway, seconded by Duane Bennetch, the Board approved signing the Animal Rescue League agreement for animal control services for 2015 and approved a \$1,000.00 donation to the ARL for 2015 (per the 2015 budget). There was no public comment. All were in favor. Motion carried.

A listing of the Unpaid Bills as of January 13, 2015 was provided for the Board of Supervisors approval. The total of the unpaid bills for approval was \$16,521.59 from the General Fund. On a motion by Herb Meadway, seconded by Duane Bennetch, the list of unpaid bills totaling \$16,521.59 was approved for payment from the General Fund. There was no public comment. All were in favor. Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS

The Secretary/Treasurer prepared financial information for the Board, including current interest rates for Township accounts and certificate of deposit (CD) rates. The Township has a certificate of deposit which will mature on January 25, 2015, and the Treasurer is requesting input from the Board with regarding to redeeming the CD or reinvesting, etc. On a motion by Duane Bennetch, seconded by Herb Meadway, the Secretary/Treasurer was authorized to invest the maturing certificate of deposit on 1/25/15 at the best interest rate available with PLGIT or First Priority Bank (at either a 12-month, 18-month or 24-month term), and the Board authorized the Secretary/Treasurer to invest the monies in the PLGIT General Fund Accounts of 107.001 and 107.002 into a certificate of deposit with a more-competitive interest rate with PLGIT or First Priority Bank at either a 12-month, 18-month or 24-month term (ensuring that CD maturity dates are staggered). There was no public comment. All were in favor. Motion carried.

The Township received registration materials from PSATS for the 93rd Annual Educational Conference & Trade Show to be held April 19-22, 2015 in Hershey, PA. Supervisor Bennetch advised that he plans to attend the PSATS Conference. Supervisor Meadway and the Roadmaster were not certain as to whether they would be able to attend. The standard registration fee of \$150.00 will apply for all registrations made by March 31, 2015. Registrations after March 31, 2015 will be subject to a \$175.00 registration fee.

Authorization to proceed with computers (2) for Township office – On a motion by Herb Meadway, seconded by Duane Bennetch, the Board authorized the Secretary to proceed with the purchase of two computers for the Township office via Ridge Support Technologies at a cost of \$3,563.00 (as included in the 2015 budget). There was no public comment. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Mr. Allen Forsman, 44 Cider Mill Road contacted the Township Office and requested clarification on addresses for two of his properties in Rockland Township. Mr. Forsman requested that the Township change the address for his rental property to 42 Cider Mill Road. After reviewing the Township's Address Book, it was noted that both properties owned by Mr. Forsman have been assigned mailing addresses by the Township, and the Board instructed the Secretary to send a letter verifying the Township-assigned mailing addresses for both properties to Mr. Forsman. Since the Township-assigned addresses are provided to 9-1-1 and used for emergency responders, the Board was not agreeable to changing any property addresses as it is imperative that the assigned mailing addresses be used for proper identification of properties in the Township.

CORRESPONDENCE

A listing of correspondence dated January 13, 2015 was presented to the Board of Supervisors for their review.

Reports regarding zoning/building, sewage and stormwater issues and activity for December 2014 were provided to the Board of Supervisors for review.

PUBLIC MEETINGS to learn to identify and find spotted lanternfly to be held at the District Township Building, located at 202 Weil Road, Boyertown, PA 19512 on the following dates:

Sunday, January 18, 2015 – 1:00PM-3:00PM

Saturday, February 21, 2015 – 10:00AM-Noon

Saturday, March 21, 2015 – 10:00AM-Noon

Supervisor Bennetch informed meeting attendees that the spotted lanternfly could significantly impact the vineyards, orchards, logging industries, etc. in the area and encouraged meeting attendees to tell neighbors of the potential impacts in order to encourage community support and efforts to help eradicate the pest.

UPCOMING MEETINGS/EVENTS:

Wednesday, January 21, 2015 @ 7:00PM – Public Hearing – Zoning Hearing Board (Angstadt/Keller Rd/CIG Towers LLC)

*Wednesday, January 28, 2015 @ 7:00PM - Joint Comp Plan & Rockland Twp Planning Commission Mtg @ Tipton Boro

Tuesday, February 10, 2015 @ 7:30PM – Board of Supervisors Meeting

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment. There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:57PM on a motion by Herb Meadway, seconded by Duane Bennetch. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen Krall
Secretary/Treasurer