

**ROCKLAND TOWNSHIP
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
MEETING MINUTES**

FEBRUARY 16, 2016

The monthly meeting of the Rockland Township Board of Supervisors was held on February 16, 2016 at 7:30PM at the Rockland Township Municipal Building (due to cancellation of the originally scheduled monthly meeting to be held February 9, 2016). 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 January 12, 2016 Board of Supervisors meeting were approved as presented on a motion by Duane Bennetch, seconded by Nathan Ohlinger. There was no public comment. All were in favor. Motion carried.

The balance sheets, check detail and deposit detail for January 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	1,524.35
106.000	General Fund – Savings	1,274,989.82
108.000	General Fund – Govt Money Market	179,930.06
107.001	General Fund – Savings	1,869.68
107.002	General Fund – Savings	275,003.98
109.001	Government Money Market	118,123.50
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	28,251.49
	State Aid Account – Checking	388.35
107.003	Capital Reserve Account – Savings	297,869.35
107.005	Payroll Account – Checking	17,920.66
	Total as of January 31, 2016:	\$2,405,177.40

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

Mr. Nathan Keller, Lyons Fire Company, requested to speak to the Board regarding dry hydrants. Dry hydrants are often utilized and beneficial in rural areas that lack conventional fire hydrants. Mr. Keller identified three locations (ponds/water sources) in the Township which would likely be good locations for the installation of dry hydrants. These locations were as follows: Stimmel Road and Forgedale Road, Clay Valley Road and Kutz Road, and Smoketown Road and Fredericksville Road. Mr. Keller and the Board of Supervisors briefly discussed the next steps to pursuing installation of dry hydrants (permits required, grant money available, permission from property owners, etc.). On a motion by Nathan Ohlinger, seconded by Duane Bennetch, the Board authorized the Township Engineer to investigate what types of permits are required to install dry hydrants in the Township and to investigate related costs (funding options and/or grants available). The Board also suggested the Township and Lyons Fire Company consult with Eric Fox, Ruscombmanor Fire Company, to obtain additional information on the process of installing dry hydrants. There was no public comment. All were in favor. Motion carried. Mr. Nathan Keller also provided the Board with an update on the Lyons Fire Company's use of technology to help track resources, water sources, knox boxes, etc.

REPORT OF SOLICITOR

At the February 8, 2016 meeting of the Rockland Township Zoning Hearing Board, the Zoning Hearing Board appointed Attorney James Smith, Smith Law Group LLC, to replace Attorney William Roberts as Zoning Hearing Board Solicitor. On a motion by Duane Bennetch, seconded by Nathan Ohlinger, the Board approved compensation of the newly appointed Zoning Hearing Board Solicitor, Jim Smith at a rate of \$185.00/hr. There was no public comment. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Update on Service Electric Franchise Agreement – The Township Solicitor was finally able to obtain information from Service Electric. This matter was the result of a solicited offer for a free legal assessment of the Township cable franchise agreement; however, this offer was only in effect until October 30, 2015. After a brief discussion, it was decided that no additional action was required at this time.

REPORT OF ROADMASTER

Update on Above-Ground Fuel Tank Upgrades Quote(s) – The Roadmaster decided to have Leffler Energy proceed with replacing the floats on the above-ground fuel tanks. In addition, the assembly switch for the alarm system was also replaced (in-house). As a result, the actual costs for the fuel-tank upgrades will be considerably less than the original quote of \$4,500.00+ from Hafer Equipment.

Hertzog School Road – Drainage Issues – On a motion by Duane Bennetch, seconded by Nathan Ohlinger, this item was tabled until next month's meeting. There was no public comment. All were in favor. Motion carried.

30 Beaver Creek Road – Request for Signs – The Roadmaster investigated the installation of "Watch Children" signs along Beaver Creek Road. The Roadmaster informed the Board that the posted speed limit along Beaver Creek Road is 35 mph, and "Watch Children" signs are typically used in conjunction with playgrounds, etc. After a brief discussion, the Board decided to take no action on this matter.

Quote obtained from Plasterer Equipment Company John Deere for a Skid Steer 326E and CP18D Standard Cold Planer – On a motion by Duane Bennetch, seconded by Herb Meadway, the Board approved the purchase of a John Deere skid steer and cold planer at a cost not to exceed the remaining 2016 capital expenditures budget of \$49,887.09 (which may require financing a small percentage of the overall costs in order to defer or extend final payment to calendar year 2017). There was no public comment. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Quote obtained for 2017 Mack Truck (to replace 98 International) – On a motion by Duane Bennetch, seconded by Nathan Ohlinger, the Board instructed the Roadmaster to gather information on financing options for the 2017 Mack truck by August 2016 in order for the Board to consider authorization to proceed with purchase at a later date (since any payment(s) toward the truck would need to be appropriately budgeted and would likely be considered for inclusion with the FY2017 budget). There was no public comment. All were in favor. Motion carried.

State Salt Contract (2016-2017) – On a motion by Duane Bennetch, seconded by Nathan Ohlinger, the Board authorized a slight increase in tonnage via the State salt contract to 600 tons for 2016/2017. There was no public comment. All were in favor. Motion carried.

21 Hill Road – Pipe Near Township Road Right-of-Way – On a motion by Duane Bennetch, seconded by Nathan Ohlinger, the Board tabled any action regarding the pipe located in or near the right-of-way (in order to monitor the situation and better assess the output from the pipe and possible negative impacts). There was no public comment. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Bridge Guiderail Updates – The Roadmaster advised that the most recent bridge inspection reports conducted in 2012 recommended bridge guiderail updates to meet current standards. These updates have not yet been performed, and re-inspection of the bridges is likely to occur soon. The bridge guiderail upgrades were included with the proposed scope of work with the Township's ARLE grant application; the Township is awaiting a final decision with regard to our ARLE grant application for 2016. The Roadmaster requested authorization from the Board to proceed with obtaining quotes for the bridge guiderail upgrades, while awaiting final word on the Township's ARLE grant application. On a motion by Duane Bennetch, seconded by Herb Meadway, the Board authorized the Roadmaster to obtain quotes for the recommended bridge guiderail updates. There was no public comment. All were in favor. Motion carried.

The Roadmaster submitted Rockland Township's Winter Storm Jonas Preliminary Damage Assessment Paperwork (for 1/23/16 & 1/24/16) to the Berks County Department of Emergency Services. The Roadmaster is still awaiting word from the County as to whether municipalities may anticipate any reimbursement.

On a motion by Duane Bennetch, seconded by Herb Meadway, the Board authorized the road crew to attend the 2016 Annual Meeting of the Upper Montgomery-Bucks Community Affairs Association on Wednesday, March 9, 2016 at the Horsham Township Public Works Building (no cost to attend). There was no public comment. All were in favor. Motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS

Items tabled from 1/4/16 Reorganization Meeting and January 12, 2016 Board Meeting:

Appointment the Township's Engineer and Engineer for the Planning Commission – On a motion by Duane Bennetch, seconded by Nathan Ohlinger, the Board approved the appointment of LTL Consultants, Ltd. as the Township Engineer and Engineer for the Planning Commission and approved the amended January 2016 Rate Schedule for engineering services for 2016 (@ \$75.25/hour). There was no public comment. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Appointment of the Township's Sewage Enforcement Officer – On a motion by Duane Bennetch, seconded by Nathan Ohlinger, 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 Yoder (03266), Bradley Pflum (02972), Paul Labe III (03861), Kyle Dierolf (03918) and Alternate Sewage Enforcement Officer: Daniel Levengood (02134). There was no public comment. All were in favor. Motion carried. On a motion by Duane Bennetch, seconded by Nathan Ohlinger, the Board approved the amended January 2016 Rate Schedule for sewage enforcement services for 2016 (@ \$60.00/hr for Sewage Enforcement Officer and \$51.25/hour for Technician). There was no public comment. All were in favor. Motion carried.

On a motion by Herb Meadway, seconded by Duane Bennetch, the Board approved Resolution #2016-02 establishing fees for Sewage Enforcement Officer services for 2016. There was no public comment. All were in favor. Motion carried.

On a motion by Duane Bennetch, seconded by Nathan Ohlinger, the Board approved the dual appointment of LTL Consultants, Ltd. and Michael Schwenk, Schwenks Code Enforcement LLC as Building Code Official(s) and Building Inspector(s) for Rockland Township for 2016 at a rate of \$57.00/hr (and \$71.25/hour for Commercial Building Inspector), per the amended January 2016 Rate Schedule. There was no public comment. All were in favor. Motion carried.

On a motion by Duane Bennetch, seconded by Herb Meadway, the Board approved the 2016 Building Permit and Zoning Permit Fee Schedule for 2016 (Resolution #2016-03). There was no public comment. All were in favor. Motion carried. Mr. Todd Gummo inquired as to whether there were any permit fee increases including with the new 2016 fee schedule.

BILLS

The Township received the Gledhill 11MR & LPR2 snow plow as discussed at the 1/12/16 Board meeting. An invoice from E.M. Kutz was received for the plow in the amount of \$11,483.00. (The 2016 budget included \$12,000.00 toward the purchase of the new plow – from the Capital Reserve account.) On a motion by Duane Bennetch, seconded by Nathan Ohlinger, the Board approved payment of \$11,483.00 to E.M. Kutz for the Gledhill snow plow from the Capital Reserve account. There was no public comment. All were in favor. Motion carried.

A listing of the Unpaid Bills as of February 16, 2016 was provided for the Board of Supervisors approval. The total of the unpaid bills for approval was **\$61,914.36** from the General Fund. (The amount includes \$11,483.00 for the Gledhill snow plow discussed earlier; the General Fund account will be reimbursed from the Capital Reserve account for the plow.) Supervisor Meadway made a motion to pay the bills totaling \$61,914.36. Supervisor Ohlinger expressed a few concerns with the monthly invoices from LTL Consultants, Ltd. and recommended the Board consider not paying the total amount of the invoices. The Board briefly discussed the invoices, and ultimately agreed to pay the invoices since many, if not all, of the invoiced charges preceded the Board's meeting with LTL Consultants, Ltd. on January 19, 2016 when specific billing concerns were discussed. The original motion by Herb Meadway was seconded by Nathan Ohlinger, and the list of unpaid bills totaling \$61,914.36 was approved for payment from the General Fund. There was no public comment. All were in favor. Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS

On February 3, 2016, the Township received a letter from Michael Morris, Sewage Planning Specialist, PA Department of Environmental Protection. Mr. Morris is requesting a response within 45 days of the date of his letter (January 29, 2016) to notify PA DEP of the progress being made in the resubmission of the Township's currently incomplete Act 537 Official Plan. On a motion by Herb Meadway, seconded by Duane Bennetch, the Board referred this matter (letter from PA DEP dated 1/29/2016) to Dr. Hugh Archer and/or Terr-Aqua Consultants. There was no public comment. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Updated Signatory Cards for Township Accounts – The Township received updated signatory cards for the certificates of deposit with First Priority Bank. On a motion by Herb Meadway, seconded by Duane Bennetch, the Board approved signing the updated signatory cards, for the purpose of removing Walter Hafer and adding Nathan Ohlinger (via Resolution #2016-03). There was no public comment. (Herb Meadway – Yes, Duane Bennetch – Yes, Nathan Ohlinger – abstained). Motion carried.

The Township received a renewal quote from the Chester Perfetto Agency for the Township's insurance coverage for auto/liability/umbrella coverage effective 2/22/2016. The renewal quote reflects a 1% increase, and a copy was provided to the Board. Invoices for the Township's insurance premiums effective 2/22/2016 will be included with the March 2016 bill list for payment. However, the Township will need to sign forms to renew the policies prior to February 22, 2016. On a motion by Herb Meadway, seconded by Duane Bennetch, the Board approved renewal of the Township's insurance coverage (auto/liability/umbrella) with the Chester Perfetto Agency effective 2/22/2016 and authorized signing the necessary forms with the Chester Perfetto Agency to renew the policies. There was no public comment. All were in favor. Motion carried.

CORRESPONDENCE

A listing of correspondence dated February 16, 2016 was presented to the Board of Supervisors for their review.

Reports regarding zoning/building, sewage and stormwater issues and activity for January 2016 were provided to the Board of Supervisors for review.

The Board provided direction on the following items/complaints:

- 14 Day Road – An update from LTL Consultants, Ltd. dated 2/1/2016 was provided to the Board. On a motion by Duane Bennetch, seconded by Nathan Ohlinger, the Board instructed LTL Consultants, Ltd. to establish a reasonable deadline for compliance with Township ordinances (regarding clean-up of the trash/debris on the property) and to communicate this deadline to the property owner. There was no public comment. All were in favor. Motion carried.
- Conrad Road – Signs Complaint – This item was tabled at the 1/12/16 Board meeting. On a motion by Duane Bennetch, seconded by Nathan Ohlinger, the Township Secretary was instructed to send a letter to the complainant requesting the property line be surveyed in order to proceed with enforcement of 11.08.5 of the Zoning Ordinance, and the Township Secretary was instructed to send a letter to the property owner at 56 Conrad Road to inform the property owner of the current regulations concerning signs and to kindly request that any signs not in compliance with 11.07.14 of the Zoning Ordinance be removed or brought into compliance. There was no public comment. All were in favor. Motion carried.

UPCOMING MEETINGS/EVENTS:

Tuesday, February 23, 2016 @ 7:30PM – Planning Commission Meeting

Tuesday, March 8, 2016 @ 7:30PM – Board of Supervisors Meeting

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment. There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:59PM on a motion by Duane Bennetch, seconded by Nathan Ohlinger. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen Krall
Secretary/Treasurer