

**ROCKLAND TOWNSHIP
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
MEETING MINUTES**

APRIL 12, 2016

The monthly meeting of the Rockland Township Board of Supervisors was held on April 12, 2016 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 March 8, 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 March 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	2,023.32
106.000	General Fund – Savings	1,304,531.12
108.000	General Fund – Govt Money Market	180,033.33
107.001	General Fund – Savings	3,796.09
107.002	General Fund – Savings	275,003.98
109.001	Government Money Market	118,191.29
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	214,387.83
	State Aid Account – Checking	388.58
107.003	Capital Reserve Account – Savings	297,997.36
107.005	Payroll Account – Checking	27,226.63
	Total as of March 31, 2016:	\$2,632,885.69

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

REPORT OF SOLICITOR

Resolution #2016-05 - On a motion by Duane Bennetch, seconded by Nathan Ohlinger, Resolution #2016-05 was approved to allow an escalator clause for bituminous material to be included with the 2016 Road Project. There was no public comment. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Resolution #2016-06 – On a motion by Duane Bennetch, seconded by Nathan Ohlinger, Resolution #2016-06 was approved authorizing the destruction of Zoning Hearing Board case files from 1990-2008 (as set forth in the Municipal Records Manual by the Pennsylvania Historical & Museum Commission). There was no public comment. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Mr. Allen Spatz, 89 Foxs Road, requested to speak to the Board regarding drainage issues from a neighboring property which has been a problem for over twenty years. Mr. Spatz informed the Board that he has tried unsuccessfully to get the neighboring property owner to address this problem and inquired as to what could be done to remedy the problem. According to Mr. Spatz, the problem could be resolved by re-diverting the runoff from the neighboring property's roofs away from his property and his septic system. On a motion by Duane Bennetch, seconded by Nathan Ohlinger, the Board agreed to refer this matter to the proper code official to see if this on-going drainage issue can be resolved. There was no public comment. All were in favor. Motion carried.

2016 ROAD PROJECT – Bid Opening at 7:45PM

The 2016 Road Project Bid Opening was advertised for 7:45PM. The 2016 Road Project includes paving of Clay Valley Road (from Forgedale Road to Kutz Road), Day Road (from Schweitz Road to End) and Foxs Road (from Carls Hill Road to Lyons Road). The Township Solicitor opened the bids and read the results aloud.

NEW ENTERPRISE STONE & LIME CO. – Ephrata, PA	<u>Unit Price</u>	<u>Total</u>
892 Tons Superpave Asphalt Mixture Design 1.5" 9.5 PG 64-22, 0.0 to 0.3 million SRL "M"	\$72.00	\$ 64,224.00
562 Tons Superpave Asphalt Mixture Design 1.5" 9.5 PG 64-22, 0.0 to 0.3 million SRL "M"	\$72.00	\$ 40,464.00
892 Tons Superpave Asphalt Mixture Design 1.5" 9.5 PG 64-22, 0.0 to 0.3 million SRL "M"	\$72.00	\$ 64,224.00
TOTAL AMOUNT OF BID:		\$168,912.00

EJB PAVING & MATERIALS CO. – West Lawn, PA	<u>Unit Price</u>	<u>Total</u>
892 Tons Superpave Asphalt Mixture Design 1.5" 9.5 PG 64-22, 0.0 to 0.3 million SRL "M"	\$63.94	\$ 57,034.48
562 Tons Superpave Asphalt Mixture Design 1.5" 9.5 PG 64-22, 0.0 to 0.3 million SRL "M"	\$63.94	\$ 35,934.28
892 Tons Superpave Asphalt Mixture Design 1.5" 9.5 PG 64-22, 0.0 to 0.3 million SRL "M"	\$63.94	\$ 57,034.48
TOTAL AMOUNT OF BID:		\$150,003.24

H&K GROUP, INC./Landis C Deck & Sons Site Contractors – Skippack, PA	<u>Unit Price</u>	<u>Total</u>
892 Tons Superpave Asphalt Mixture Design 1.5" 9.5 PG 64-22, 0.0 to 0.3 million SRL "M"	\$61.90	\$ 55,214.80
562 Tons Superpave Asphalt Mixture Design 1.5" 9.5 PG 64-22, 0.0 to 0.3 million SRL "M"	\$66.30	\$ 37,260.60
892 Tons Superpave Asphalt Mixture Design 1.5" 9.5 PG 64-22, 0.0 to 0.3 million SRL "M"	\$62.40	\$ 55,660.80
TOTAL AMOUNT OF BID:		\$148,136.20

BRACALENTE CONSTRUCTION, INC. – Northampton, PA	<u>Unit Price</u>	<u>Total</u>
892 Tons Superpave Asphalt Mixture Design 1.5" 9.5 PG 64-22, 0.0 to 0.3 million SRL "M"	\$76.30	\$ 68,059.60
562 Tons Superpave Asphalt Mixture Design 1.5" 9.5 PG 64-22, 0.0 to 0.3 million SRL "M"	\$78.30	\$ 44,004.60
892 Tons Superpave Asphalt Mixture Design 1.5" 9.5 PG 64-22, 0.0 to 0.3 million SRL "M"	\$76.30	\$ 68,059.60
TOTAL AMOUNT OF BID:		\$180,123.80

RONNIE C. FOLK PAVING, INC. – Shoemakersville, PA	<u>Unit Price</u>	<u>Total</u>
892 Tons Superpave Asphalt Mixture Design 1.5" 9.5 PG 64-22, 0.0 to 0.3 million SRL "M"	\$69.33	\$ 61,842.36
562 Tons Superpave Asphalt Mixture Design 1.5" 9.5 PG 64-22, 0.0 to 0.3 million SRL "M"	\$70.42	\$ 39,576.04
892 Tons Superpave Asphalt Mixture Design 1.5" 9.5 PG 64-22, 0.0 to 0.3 million SRL "M"	\$69.10	\$ 61,637.20
TOTAL AMOUNT OF BID:		\$163,055.60

The Board of Supervisors reviewed the bids. On a motion by Duane Bennetch, seconded by Nathan Ohlinger, the 2016 Road Project was awarded to the lowest bidder, H&K Group, Inc. with a total bid of \$148,136.20. There was no public comment. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Mr. William Carpenter, 11 Angstadt Road, requested to speak to the Board. Mr. Angstadt was not present.

Mr. Tom Hollenbach, 18 Lobachsville Road, requested to speak to the Board. Mr. Hollenbach expressed concerns to the Board about open burning still occurring at 16 Lobachsville Road, which Mr. Hollenbach believes does not comply with the Township's burning ordinance. Mr. Hollenbach inquired about what the Township can do to prevent future noncompliant burning. After a brief discussion, on a motion by Duane Bennetch, seconded by Nathan Ohlinger the Board authorized the Township Secretary to send a letter to the property owner(s) of 16 Lobachsville Road to request that no burning be conducted at 16 Lobachsville Road at times when smoke resulting from such burning enters neighboring properties including 18 Lobachsville Road and to remind the property owner(s) that the Rockland Township Burning Ordinance prohibits the burning of plastic and other hazardous waste and materials. There was no public comment. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Mr. John Eustice from the Reading 120 Bike Race planning team requested to be added to tonight's agenda. The 2nd Annual Reading 120 Pro Bike Race is scheduled for September 10, 2016 and will impact Rockland Township. Mr. Eustice informed the Board that the bike race course will be altered slightly through Rockland Township this year, and he will provide the Township with an updated race course shortly. Mr. Eustice provided a brief overview of the event and was present to answer any questions and to see whether Rockland Township officials had any objections to the event taking place in the Township. After a brief discussion, the Board offered no objections to the planned race in September 2016 (more specific information on the event to follow).

Ms. Karen Fineran, 54 Conrad Road, was present and requested to speak to the Board. Per the Board's discussion with Ms. Fineran last month, Ms. Fineran informed the Board that her property was recently surveyed, and Ms. Fineran also informed the Board that her neighbor relocated the signs.

REPORT OF ROADMASTER

Hertzog School Road – Drainage Issues – A report from Linda Cluck, LTL Consultants, Ltd. was provided to the Board. On a motion by Duane Bennetch, seconded by Nathan Ohlinger, the Board requested LTL Consultants, Ltd. (Township Engineer) provide recommended solutions/options to resolve the water drainage problems (shoulder erosion, etc.) along Hertzog School Road. Mr. Norman Burkholder informed the Board that he was not aware of any erosion problems along Hertzog School Road. There was no additional public comment. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Winter Storm Jonas Update – Federal funding has been approved. The Roadmaster attended a Briefing/Kick-Off Meeting at the Berks County Fire Training Center on April 7, 2016. On a motion by Herb Meadway, seconded by Duane Bennetch, the Board approved Resolution #2016-07 (DAP-02 Form) which authorizes Michael Pott, Roadmaster, to sign all required forms and documents on behalf of Rockland Township for the purpose of obtaining financial assistance under the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act. There was no public comment. All were in favor. Motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS

Dry Hydrants Update – Per discussion at the March 8, 2016 Board meeting, letters were sent to the three property owners where dry fire hydrants are being considered. Two of the three property owners were present at tonight's meeting (Norman Burkholder and Edward & Pauline Goodhart). Mr. Edward Goodhart had a few questions for the Board (including who would be installing the dry hydrants and who would be paying for the installation) and expressed liability concerns associated with the location of a dry fire hydrant on his property. Mr. Norman Burkholder informed the Board that he would not be opposed to allowing a dry hydrant on his property. The Board informed the property owners that the Township would attempt to obtain additional information including specifications for dry fire hydrants prior to the Board's next meeting. This matter was tabled until next month.

First Priority Bank Proposal – Per discussion at the March 8, 2016 Board meeting, Ray Maillet provided the Township with a list of references. The Township Secretary contacted a couple references (municipalities) and provided an update to the Board. After a brief discussion, the Board ultimately decided to take no official action on First Priority Bank’s proposal and agreed to not switching any Township accounts at this time.

Act 537 Plan Postcard Seeking Volunteers – As requested by the Board at the March 8, 2016 meeting, the Township Secretary prepared a sample postcard mailing for Board consideration for approval. Options for printing, mailing, etc. were provided to the Board for final approval to proceed with mailing. The Township Solicitor recommended the Board hold off on the postcard mailing at this time.

Richard J. & Carol A. Blair Subdivision – Five Points Road – Plan is still in the process of being reviewed by the Planning Commission. No new items for action by Board at this time. Time extension previously granted by the Township until June 20, 2016.

BILLS

A letter dated March 14, 2016 from LTL Consultants, Ltd. was received by the Township addressing the Board’s questions/concerns regarding three invoices (#120083, #120088 and #120090). These three unpaid invoices totaling \$683.61 are included in the Unpaid Bills List for approval for payment. A listing of the Unpaid Bills as of April 12, 2016 was provided for the Board of Supervisors approval. The total of the unpaid bills for approval was **\$21,513.66** from the General Fund. On a motion by Herb Meadway, seconded by Nathan Ohlinger, the Board approved payment of all bills on the Unpaid Bills List totaling \$21,513.66 from the General Fund. Mr. Jeffrey Cronrath requested clarification on the three previously unpaid invoices from LTL Consultants, Ltd. There was no additional public comment. All were in favor. Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS

The 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 April 1, 2016 through October 1, 2016. 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, 2016 through October 1, 2016.

Dana Rhodes, PA Department of Agriculture, provided the Township with a fact sheet entitled “The Spotted Lanternfly: Tips for Handling Yard Waste in Quarantined Areas”, which she encouraged sharing with constituents. The fact sheet has been posted on the Township website and is also available on the PA Department of Agriculture website and the Penn State Extension website.

Zoning Hearing Board Variance Application Update – Christ Mertz Lutheran Church, 16 Fleetwood Road – A variance from Section 10.02.8 of the Rockland Township Zoning Ordinance was granted by the Zoning Hearing Board on April 6, 2016. The written decision of the Zoning Hearing Board will follow shortly.

The Township received a letter dated April 8, 2016 from Mr. William Koch, Building Committee Chairman, Christ Mertz Lutheran Church, 16 Fleetwood Road. The church is in the process of a major building project to improve the church and daycare center and to upgrade existing facilities for code compliance. Mr. Koch, on behalf of the church (non-profit organization), is requesting relief from Township-related fees associated with the project. The Board noted that the purpose of the land

development plan application fee, zoning/building permit fees, stormwater escrow fee, etc. is not to generate revenue for the Township, but rather to ensure the applicant pays the costs associated with their proposed project, so these costs are not, in turn, passed along to the taxpayers of Rockland Township. In fact, most of the referenced fees are set up as escrow accounts, whereby only the actual charges are deducted from the fees placed on deposit with the Township for a specific purpose. After a brief discussion, ultimately the Board decided to take no official action with regard to this request. The Board was not willing to consider a reduction or waiver of Township-related fees in this case.

CORRESPONDENCE

A listing of correspondence dated April 12, 2016 was presented to the Board of Supervisors for their review.

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

- Recent Permit Fee Calculation for Patio Roof Over Existing Concrete Patio – Michael Schwenk, Township Zoning Officer and BCO informed the Board that he felt a recent permit fee was too high. The Board acknowledged Michael Schwenk's concern and requested suggestions from him as to how the Township can appropriately address this issue (to ensure that permit fees are priced appropriately going forward).
- Zoning Ordinance Review/Amendment – The Township Solicitor suggested the Board consider updating the Township Zoning Ordinance and recommended the Board consider hiring a professional consultant to assist the Township with this process. On a motion by Duane Bennetch, seconded by Nathan Ohlinger, the Board authorized the Township Secretary to contact LTL Consultants, Ltd. to obtain a quote to assist Rockland Township with updating our Zoning Ordinance. There was no public comment. All were in favor. Motion carried.

UPCOMING MEETINGS/EVENTS:

MONDAY, April 25, 2016 @ 7:30PM – Planning Commission Meeting

Tuesday, April 26, 2016 – GENERAL PRIMARY

Tuesday, May 10, 2016 @ 7:30PM – Board of Supervisors Meeting

PUBLIC COMMENT

Mr. Steve Haring requested clarification about the status of the Township's Act 537 Plan and suggested the Township consider implementing a mandatory three-year septic pumping program.

Mr. Noman Burkholder suggested the Township consider including on-lot septic system maintenance tips and information in a Township newsletter in order to educate the public on the importance of properly maintaining on-lot systems.

There was no additional public comment. There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:38PM on a motion by Duane Bennetch, seconded by Nathan Ohlinger. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen Krall
Secretary/Treasure