

**ROCKLAND TOWNSHIP
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
MEETING MINUTES**

AUGUST 11, 2015

The regularly scheduled meeting of the Rockland Township Board of Supervisors was held on August 11, 2015 at 7:30PM at the Rockland Township Municipal Building. The following board members were present: Chairman Herb Meadway, Vice Chairman Duane Bennetch and Walter Hafer. Also present were Attorney Alfred Crump (Township Solicitor) and interested citizens.

The meeting was called to order at 7:31PM by Chairman, Herb Meadway. The meeting was opened with the pledge to the flag.

The meeting minutes of the July 14, 2015 Board of Supervisors meeting were approved as presented on a motion by Duane Bennetch, seconded by Walter Hafer. There was no public comment. All were in favor. Motion carried.

The balance sheets, check detail and deposit detail for July 2015 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	670.91
106.000	General Fund – Savings	1,253,750.33
108.000	General Fund – Govt Money Market	179,830.83
107.001	General Fund – Savings	1,868.99
107.002	General Fund – Savings	275,003.98
109.001	Government Money Market	118,058.35
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	200,981.90
	State Aid Account – Checking	385.31
107.003	Capital Reserve Account – Savings	286,383.00
107.005	Payroll Account – Checking	17,763.11
	Total as of July 31, 2015:	\$2,544,002.87

On a motion by Herb Meadway, seconded by Duane Bennetch, the balance sheets, check and deposit details for July 2015 were approved as presented. There was no public comment. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Mr. Todd Kuder, 36 Cider Mill Road, requested to speak to the Board regarding Tract #7 of the FREM Subdivision (Cider Mill Road). Mr. Kuder informed the Board that he purchased Tract #7 of the FREM Subdivision for the purpose of building a home on the property. In 2009, soil and perc testing was performed on the property, and a septic permit was obtained in 2015. Upon the recent submittal of the building permit application and supporting documentation to the Township, Mr. Kuder was informed by LTL Consultants, Ltd. that a building permit would be denied and the septic permit issued would be revoked, since the approved, recorded FREM subdivision plan indicates Residue Tract 7 is "NOT FOR BUILDING PURPOSES". The Township Solicitor informed Mr. Kuder that a new, revised plan would need to be submitted to the Township for review/approval (in order to have the note "NOT FOR BUILDING PURPOSES" removed).

REPORT OF SOLICITOR

Resolution #2015-11 – Resolution to dispose of records as set forth in the Municipal Records Manual by the Pennsylvania Historical & Museum Commission – The Township Solicitor reviewed the proposed resolution and recommends the Board consider adoption of Resolution #2015-11. On a motion by Duane Bennetch, seconded by Walter Hafer, Resolution #2015-11 was approved authorizing the disposal of specific public records (32 boxes) according to the Municipal Records Manual by the Pennsylvania Historical & Museum Commission. There was no public comment. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Ms. Lisa Abraham, 31 Clay Valley Road, requested to speak to the Board regarding a letter she received from the Township regarding a chicken coop on her property. Ms. Abraham informed the Board that she is not using a shed on her property as a chicken coop (but is currently keeping the chickens in a 10'x10' dog kennel); however, she will need to obtain some type of structure for the chickens for the winter and is not able to comply with the Township's requirement of a minimum setback of one hundred (100) feet for buildings/structures used for the keeping of domesticated farm animals. A brief discussion followed. As a result of this discussion, on a motion by Duane Bennetch, seconded by Walter Hafer, the Board agreed not to enforce the one hundred feet setback requirement in this case. There was no public comment. All were in favor. Motion carried.

REPORT OF ROADMASTER

2015 Road Project (Paving Portion) – Ridge Drive & Vista Court paving – Paving was originally scheduled for 8/10/14, but postponed due to weather. Paving is now rescheduled for 8/12/15 (weather permitting).

2015 Road Project (Seal Coat Portion) – On a motion by Duane Bennetch, seconded by Herb Meadway, the Board approved payment of the Asphalt Maintenance Solutions, LLC invoice totaling \$58,076.20 from the State Aid Account, pending review and approval by Charles Paris, PennDOT. There was no public comment. All were in favor. Motion carried.

2015 Traffic Paint and Marking Beads Bids were reviewed and awarded by Longswamp Township on 7/14/15. The traffic beads contract was awarded to Potters Industries, LLC, and the traffic paint contract was awarded to Sherwin-Williams Company.

Lake Road Update – The Roadmaster is still in the process of contacting PennDOT to obtain information and possible options for traffic calming and/or speed reduction devices. The Roadmaster will provide an update and more information at the 9/8/15 Board meeting.

An interested citizen inquired about a four-way stop along Dryville Road (at Deka Road). After a brief discussion, it was determined that Dryville Road is a State road and the intersection is located in Richmond Township.

OLD BUSINESS

118 Beaver Creek Road – Waiver Request – Rockland Township's Stormwater Management Ordinance – Section 309.C, Existing Conditions: Mr. William Fredericks is requesting relief to allow the existing land coverage of row crops for the purpose of the stormwater calculations for 118 Beaver Creek Road. At the Planning Commission meeting on 7/28/15, the Planning Commission reviewed the waiver request and recommended the Board approve the waiver, pending resolution of the NPDES permit with the Berks County Conservation District (BCCD). Michael Pedrick, BCCD, confirmed that the site activity

could be done as individual lots, since the original NPDES permit has expired and confirmed that no NPDES permit would be required as long as the area of disturbance is less than one acre. NOTE: This waiver applies only to allowing the existing land coverage of row crops for stormwater calculation purposes. The application will still need to provide stormwater analysis, calculations, drainage areas, etc. with the permit application, and an E&S plan will be required for the site activity. On a motion by Herb Meadway, seconded by Walter Hafer, the Board approved the stormwater waiver request from Mr. William Fredericks, 118 Beaver Creek Road, allowing the existing land coverage of row crops for the purpose of the stormwater calculations. There was no public comment. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Township's Certification of Deposit Matured 7/23/15 – The certificate of deposit was renewed with First Priority Bank for a 24-month term at a rate of 1.09%.

Revised Banking Proposal from First Priority Bank – First Priority Bank is now offering 0.35% on deposits, if the Township is willing to utilize First Priority Bank as the Township's primary bank. The Board took no action on this proposal.

Codification of Ordinances Proposal from Michael Peter, General Code – This item was tabled from 7/14/15 Board meeting. After a brief discussion, the Township Solicitor recommended this item be placed on the 2016 Budget Meeting agenda, in order to allocate appropriate funds during calendar year 2016 for this project, if the Board is interested in codification. The Township Solicitor also reminded the Board that the Township will need to review our current Zoning Ordinance for compliance with the newly adopted Eastern Berks Joint Comprehensive Plan.

BILLS

A listing of the Unpaid Bills as of August 11, 2015 was provided for the Board of Supervisors approval. The total of the unpaid bills for approval was \$17,768.39 from the General Fund. On a motion by Herb Meadway, seconded by Duane Bennetch, the list of unpaid bills totaling \$17,768.39 was approved for payment from the General Fund. There was no public comment. All were in favor. Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS

The Township received the 2016 Minimum Municipal Obligation (MMO) for the Rockland Township Non-Uniformed Pension Plan from Tom Redmond, Redmond Consulting. The total MMO obligation for the 2016 MMO is \$20,016.00, and this calculation is intended to meet the requirements of Act 189. On a motion by Herb Meadway, seconded by Duane Bennetch, the 2016 Minimum Municipal Obligation for the Rockland Township Non-Uniform Pension totaling \$20,016.00 was approved. There was no public comment. All were in favor. Motion carried.

The Township received notification of renewal rates for health and vision coverage with Highmark Blue Shield for the period 10/1/15-9/30/16. Highmark Blue Shield is proposing an approximate 5½% increase for health insurance coverage effective 10/1/15. The cost for vision coverage will remain the same. A copy of the renewal information and proposed rates have been provided to the Board for consideration. On a motion by Herb Meadway, seconded by Walter Hafer, the Board approved the renewal of health and vision coverage with Highmark Blue Shield for the period 10/1/15-9/30/16. There was no public comment. All were in favor. Motion carried.

The Township received notification of renewal rates for dental coverage with United Concordia. United Concordia is proposing a 2% increase for the period 10/1/15-9/30/16. A copy of the renewal information and proposed rates have been provided to the Board of Supervisors. On a motion by Herb Meadway, seconded by Walter Hafer, the Board approval renewal of dental coverage with United Concordia for the period 10/1/15-9/30/16. There was no public comment. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Municipal Recycling Program Performance Grant Application (under Section 904 of Act 101) – Rockland Township’s performance grant application for calendar year 2014 has been prepared and provided to the Board. Rockland Township’s estimated performance grant totals \$196.85 for 2014 (based on 43.66 tons of residential materials recycled and 8.29 tons of commercial materials recycled). On a motion by Duane Bennetch, seconded by Walter Hafer, the Board approved Rockland Township’s Municipal Recycling 904 Performance Grant Application for calendar year 2014 totaling \$196.85 for submittal to the PA Department of Environmental Protection. There was no public comment. All were in favor. Motion carried.

The Township received review comments from the Berks County Planning Commission for the Proposed Borough of Tipton Zoning Ordinance of 2015. This item was placed on the 7/28/15 Planning Commission agenda, but a copy of the proposed Tipton Borough Zoning Ordinance was not received by the Planning Commission meeting date. (The Tipton Borough Zoning Ordinance was received by Rockland Township on 7/30/15 from Marcus Dolny, Borough Secretary.) The Township Solicitor informed the Board that the Tipton Zoning Ordinance may have already been adopted by Tipton Borough, and upon a review of the proposed Zoning Ordinance did not find anything which would adversely affect Rockland Township.

The Township received correspondence on 8/10/15 via certified mail from Attorney Matthew Crème, Jr., special counsel for the Maxatawny Township Board of Supervisors, regarding a proposed new Zoning Map for Maxatawny Township. The map change (and consequent Ordinance change) is intended to revise the zoning designation for three properties located along Lyons Road from “R-2” to “P”. Two properties are owned by Saucony Creek LP, and another property is owned by SM&TD Real Estate LLC. Rockland Township has been given an opportunity to review and provide comment(s) to Maxatawny Township on this proposed map change; written comments are to be submitted to Maxatawny Township within thirty days. The Board offered no comments and confirmed that no response is required.

The Secretary/Treasurer will be on vacation during the week of September 28, 2014 (9/28/15-10/2/15). The Board confirmed that notification of the closure of the Township Office shall be posted on the door of the Township Building and on the Township’s website, and notification on the Township’s answering machine should be sufficient to notify the public of the temporary office closure.

CORRESPONDENCE

A listing of correspondence dated August 11, 2015 was presented to the Board of Supervisors for their review.

Reports regarding zoning/building, sewage and stormwater issues and activity for July 2015 were provided to the Board of Supervisors for review.

The Board provided direction on the following items/complaints:

- Conrad Road – Shed Complaint – On a motion by Duane Bennetch, seconded by Walter Hafer, the Board authorized the Township Secretary to send a letter requesting that the complainant get the joint property line surveyed, in order for the Township to ascertain if a zoning violation exists. There was no public comment. All were in favor. Motion carried.
- Shady Creek Lane – Grass Complaint – On a motion by Duane Bennetch, seconded by Walter Hafer, the Board authorized this matter be turned over to LTL Consultants, Ltd. (Code Official). There was no public comment. All were in favor. Motion carried.
- Keller Road – Grass Complaint – Property still not mowed. On a motion by Duane Bennetch, seconded by Walter Hafer, the Board authorized this matter be turned over the LTL Consultants, Ltd. (Code Official). There was no public comment. All were in favor. Motion carried.

- Lobachsville Road – Burning Complaint – The Board reviewed a recent report from LTL Consultants, Ltd. based on a site visit on 8/7/15. LTL is requesting further direction from the Board on this matter. A brief discussion was held regarding what steps could be taken to confirm that no hazardous materials are being burned. After a brief discussion, on a motion by Walter Hafer, seconded by Duane Bennetch, the Board instructed LTL Consultants, Ltd. to contact the complainant and provide contact information for the complainant to contact LTL directly when alleged burning is occurring in violation of Burning Ordinance (especially if the complainant smells something that would seem to indicate that any toxic or hazardous waste is being burned), and the Board authorized LTL Consultants, Ltd. to investigate the matter further upon being contacted by complainant about possible illegal burning. Mr. Todd Gummo questioned who would be paying for LTL's involvement in such matters and expressed concern that taxpayers would be paying for these services. Mr. David Wartzluft informed the Board that he felt the Township's Burning Ordinance was not enforceable due to the fact that it is difficult to have someone available 24 hours per day. There was no additional public comment. All were in favor. Motion carried.
- Boyer Road – Structural/Building Code Violation Complaint – Supervisor Bennetch informed the Board that everything has been completed and just needs formal approval by the proper Township Code Official. On a motion by Duane Bennetch, seconded by Herb Meadway, the Board authorized LTL Consultants, Ltd. to contact Barry Isett & Associates in order to perform the necessary inspections at 17 Boyer Road to confirm compliance with Township codes. There was no public comment. All were in favor. Motion carried.

UPCOMING MEETINGS/EVENTS:

Tuesday, August 25, 2015 @ 7:30PM – Planning Commission Meeting
 Tuesday, September 8, 2015 @ 7:30PM – Board of Supervisors Meeting

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:40PM on a motion by Walter Hafer, seconded by Duane Bennetch. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen Krall
 Secretary/Treasurer