

**ROCKLAND TOWNSHIP
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
MEETING MINUTES**

SEPTEMBER 8, 2015

The regularly scheduled meeting of the Rockland Township Board of Supervisors was held on September 8, 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 7:30PM by Chairman, Herb Meadway. The meeting was opened with the pledge to the flag.

The meeting minutes of the August 11, 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 August 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	1,262,530.06
108.000	General Fund – Govt Money Market	179,846.10
107.001	General Fund – Savings	1,869.03
107.002	General Fund – Savings	275,003.98
109.001	Government Money Market	118,068.38
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	200,998.97
	State Aid Account – Checking	385.31
107.003	Capital Reserve Account – Savings	286,389.34
107.005	Payroll Account – Checking	17,901.31
	Total as of August 31, 2015:	\$2,552,969.55

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

Mr. Tom Hollenbach, 18 Lobachsville Road, requested to speak to the Board regarding an on-going burning issue in his area. After a brief discussion, the Board advised Mr. Hollenbach that this matter has been turned over the Township Code Official. Mr. Hollenbach was informed to contact LTL Consultants, Ltd. directly if/when burning occurs which does not comply with the Township's Burning Ordinance.

REPORT OF SOLICITOR

The Township Solicitor had nothing to report.

REPORT OF ROADMASTER

Lake Road Update – The Roadmaster obtained information on traffic calming measures. This information was provided to the Board. The Roadmaster informed the Board that, at a minimum, an engineering study would need to be conducted prior to the installation of any traffic calming measures. Also as a minimum requirement, the average daily traffic should exceed 1,000 vehicles per day or the peak hour volume should exceed 100 vehicles for the roadway to be considered for traffic calming. The Roadmaster encouraged the Board to review the information provided. It was decided that the Township would look into engineering study costs associated with traffic calming measures for Lake Road for possible inclusion in the 2106 budget.

Revised Winter Municipal Agreement with PennDOT (2015-2016, 2016-2017, 2017-2018, 2018-2019, 2019-2020) – Resolution #2015-12 – On a motion by Duane Bennetch, seconded by Walter Hafer, Resolution #2015-12 was approved authorizing signature of the Revised Winter Municipal Agreement from PennDOT for the 2015-2016, 2016-2017, 2017-2018, 2018-2019 and 2019-2020 winter seasons. There was no public comment. All were in favor. Motion carried.

98 International Truck Repairs – The Roadmaster informed the Board that the 98 International truck will likely be in need of repairs for inspection and needs four tires replaced. Due to the age of the truck and the amount of rust, the Roadmaster anticipates repair and maintenance costs on this truck will likely continue to increase significantly. The Roadmaster and Board agreed to take this into account when preparing figures for future budgets.

Oley Township Road Work – The Roadmaster informed the Board that he plans to work with Oley Township for approximately one or two weeks in September and October performing mill and fill work. The Townships will simply swap equal time in each Township to perform the road work.

Supervisor Hafer inquired about plans for the road crew to repair the lower end of Orchard Road (toward Forgedale Road), since it appears the road surface is deteriorating. The Roadmaster informed the Board that Orchard Road is on his list for repair prior to the winter season (along with a number of other Township roads).

OLD BUSINESS

The Reading 120 Bike Race – This event is to be held on Saturday, September 12, 2015. The Township received final maps and a time table for The Reading 120 from Event Coordinator, John Eustice, Sparta Cycling. The race is anticipated to be traveling through Rockland Township between 11:00AM-11:30AM. Roads in Rockland Township to be involved in The Reading 120 are: Forgedale Road (from Water Street, Oley Township, crossing over Pricetown Road) to Lyons Road (crossing over Fredericksville Road) to Bowers Road. A brief discussion on The Reading 120 bike race followed, including discussion about the event coordinator's planned traffic control measures particularly in light of the 2015 Chile Pepper Festival to be held that same day in Bowers.

BILLS

The Township received the final invoice totaling \$58,076.20 for the seal coat portion of the 2015 Road Project from Asphalt Maintenance Solutions, LLC, and Charlie Paris, PennDOT reviewed the invoice and paperwork on 9/8/15. On a motion by Walter Hafer, seconded by Duane Bennetch, the Board approved payment of \$58,076.20 to Asphalt Maintenance Solutions, LLC for the seal coat portion of the 2015 Road Project from the State Aid Fund. There was no public comment. All were in favor. Motion carried.

The Township received the final invoice totaling \$114,695.90 for the paving portion of the 2015 Road Project from EJB Paving & Materials Co., and Charlie Paris, PennDOT reviewed the invoice and paperwork on 9/8/15. On a motion by Walter Hafer, seconded by Duane Bennetch, the Board approved payment of \$114,695.90 to EJB Paving & Materials Co. for the paving portion of the 2015 Road Project from the State Aid Fund. There was no public comment. All were in favor. Motion carried.

A listing of the Unpaid Bills as of September 8, 2015 was provided for the Board of Supervisors approval. The total of the unpaid bills for approval was \$26,694.89 from the General Fund. On a motion by Duane Bennetch, seconded by Walter Hafer, the list of unpaid bills totaling \$26,694.89 was approved for payment from the General Fund. There was no public comment. All were in favor. Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS

The Township received renewal paperwork from Benecon for HRA (Health Reimbursement Account) Administration for the period 10/1/15-9/30/16. On a motion by Herb Meadway, seconded by Duane Bennetch, the Board approval the renewal of HRA administration services with Benecon for the period 10/1/15-9/30/16 and provided authorization to complete and sign any necessary paperwork with Benecon for the new policy period. There was no public comment. All were in favor. Motion carried.

The Township received an invitation for Township officials to attend the 2015 Berks County Convention to be held on Thursday, October 15, 2015 at the Oley Fair Centre. All Township Supervisors, elected auditors and the tax collector should advise the Township Secretary if they plan to attend, so the Secretary can submit the required paperwork by the October 1, 2015 deadline.

The Township received correspondence from the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (dated August 26, 2015) advising that all or a portion of Rockland Township lies within an urbanized area (UA), according to the 2010 Census conducted by the U.S. Census Bureau. The Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) is writing to advise that stormwater discharges from Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) within this UA may be regulated as a small MS4 under the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) regulations. Unless Rockland Township qualifies for a waiver, the Township's MS4 will need coverage under a National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit. (MS4s are conveyances or systems of conveyances including roads with drainage systems, municipal streets, catch basins, curbs, gutters, ditches, man-made channels or storm drains that are owned or operated by a public entity, are designed or used for collecting and conveying stormwater, and are not a combined sewer or part of a publicly owned treatment works.) All newly designated small MS4s, as a result of the 2010 Census, must apply for permit coverage by September 17, 2017. This letter is being sent in advance of a formal notification that Rockland Township must apply for permit coverage. DEP anticipates that the formal notification will occur on or about March 21, 2017, in which municipalities will be given 180 days to apply for permit coverage. (DEP will be conducting outreach and training on MS4 responsibilities in 2016 and 2017.)

The Township received a letter dated 8/31/15 from Michelle Herman, President, Board of Trustees, Brandywine Community Library, informing the Township that Doug Sherry, a resident of Rockland Township, has resigned from the Board of Trustees for the Brandywine Community Library as of August 1, 2015. The Library has to have Board members who fall within their service area, and he can no longer be a voting member of the Board due to his residence change. The letter stated "please document our request as needed". The Board acknowledged receipt of this letter and Doug Sherry's resignation from the Board of Trustees for the Brandywine Community Library. The Board also inquired if any meeting attendees (who resided in Rockland Township) might be interested in becoming a Board member. No one expressed an interest. The Board instructed the Township Secretary to contact the Brandywine Community Library to see what else, if anything, the Township needed to do.

The Township received via certified mail a copy of Longswamp Township's Proposed Zoning Ordinance of 2015, Proposed Official Map and Corresponding Ordinance (Ordinance adopting an official map for public facilities as set forth in the Township's Act 537 Plan) and Proposed Comprehensive Plan for review and comment. Only one copy of each document has been received. Longswamp Township is requesting comments be received within 45 days. Longswamp Township intends to hold a hearing on the proposed Ordinance and Map on October 20, 2015 at 7:00PM. The Longswamp Board of Supervisors intends to hold a public hearing on October 27, 2015 at 7:00PM to consider comments on the Longswamp Township Proposed Comprehensive Plan. Attorney Crump advised the Board that he would check with the Solicitor for the Borough of Topton on this matter.

CORRESPONDENCE

A listing of correspondence dated September 8, 2015 was presented to the Board of Supervisors for their review.

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

The Board provided direction on the following items/complaints:

- Conrad Road – Shed Complaint – The Board briefly discussed communications from the complainant after last month's meeting. After a brief discussion, the Board and Township Solicitor were in agreement to requiring that the complainant get the joint property line surveyed, in order for the Township to ascertain if a zoning violation exists (as discussed and agreed upon at 8/11/15 Board meeting). No further action taken or authorized by Board.
- Shady Creek Lane – Grass Complaint – Deadline for compliance of Township Brush/Grass/Weeds Ordinance was August 28, 2015. Property still not mowed. On a motion by Duane Bennetch, seconded by Walter Hafer, the Board authorized the Township Code Official to take action against the owner of 19 Shady Creek Lane for noncompliance. There was no public comment. All were in favor. Motion carried.
- Keller Road – Grass Complaint – Deadline for compliance of Township Brush/Grass/Weeds Ordinance was August 28, 2015. Property still not mowed. As a result of the Code Official's communication with the mortgage company's property maintenance servicing company representative, the Board agreed to hold off on taking further action against the property owner for noncompliance at this time. The Board will re-evaluate this situation at next month's meeting.
- Lake Road – Vines/Stickers/Trees Growing Through Fence – After a brief discussion, the Board determined there to be no clear violation of the Township's Brush/Grass/Weeds Ordinance and considers this to be a private matter. No action taken or authorized by the Board.
- Lake Road – Burning Complaint – On a motion by Duane Bennetch, seconded by Herb Meadway, the Board authorized the Township Secretary to send letters to both parties, so both parties are clear on what the Township Burning Ordinance states and what constitutes a violation of such ordinance. There was no public comment. All were in favor. Motion carried.

UPCOMING MEETINGS/EVENTS:

Tuesday, September 29, 2015 @ 7:30PM – Planning Commission Meeting

Tuesday, October 13, 2015 @ 7:30PM – Board of Supervisors Meeting

PUBLIC COMMENT

Mr. Floyd Falcone provided an update to the Board regarding the sharp curve along Forgedale Road. He is working with Senator Schwank's office to have PennDOT install signage at this location, then hopefully a State Trooper will sit at this location with radar gun to enforce the posted speed limit.

Mr. Eric Fox, Ruscombmanor Fire Company, informed the Board that Ruscombmanor Fire Company and Lyons Fire Company have recently been awarded Assistance to Firefighter's Grant program funding.

Supervisor Bennetch inquired to Jerry Keller (Lyons Fire Company) about the dry hydrant situation. Jerry Keller informed the Board that the fire company is without an officer right now, so Nathan Keller has been attending to other pressing matters. However, dry hydrants are still something the fire company would like to pursue.

There was no additional public comment.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:44PM on a motion by Duane Bennetch, seconded by Walter Hafer. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen Krall
Secretary/Treasurer