

**ROCKLAND TOWNSHIP
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
MEETING MINUTES**

DECEMBER 13, 2016

The monthly meeting of the Rockland Township Board of Supervisors was held on December 13, 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 7:31PM by Chairman Herb Meadway. The meeting was opened with the pledge to the flag.

The meeting minutes of the November 15, 2016 Board of Supervisors meeting were presented to the Board for approval. On a motion by Duane Bennetch, seconded by Nathan Ohlinger, the minutes from the November 15, 2016 meeting were approved as presented. There was no public comment. All were in favor. Motion carried.

The balance sheets, check detail and deposit detail for November 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	2,787.26
106.000	General Fund – Savings	1,566,366.44
108.000	General Fund – Govt Money Market	180,430.45
107.001	General Fund – Savings	3,803.50
107.002	General Fund – Savings	275,003.98
109.001	Government Money Market	118,451.97
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	53,570.28
	State Aid Account – Checking	374.60
107.003	Capital Reserve Account – Savings	237,244.22
107.005	Payroll Account – Checking	17,929.48
	Total as of November 30, 2016:	\$2,665,268.34

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

REPORT OF SOLICITOR

Dry Fire Hydrant Installation (Fredericksville/Smoketown Road) – The Township Solicitor informed the Board that the dry hydrant easement agreement for 171 Fredericksville Road has been signed and recorded. The Township also received notification from PennDOT that their review of the Highway Occupancy Permit Application for 171 Fredericksville Road has identified issues which must be addressed in order for PennDOT's review to continue. A copy of the December 7, 2016 correspondence from PennDOT was provided to the Board. The Board briefly discussed the PennDOT correspondence and consulted with the Township Solicitor regarding their options with regard to installation of the dry fire hydrant and access from Fredericksville Road. During the discussion, it was noted that the dry hydrant access from Fredericksville Road would only be used by the Lyons Fire Company during an emergency situation (to gain access to water to fight fires in the community), and the Lyons Fire Company confirmed that no fire apparatus would utilize the dry

hydrant access driveway without proper traffic control. After a brief discussion, on a motion by Duane Bennetch, seconded by Nathan Ohlinger, the Board authorized proceeding with the installation of the dry fire hydrant and access road to the dry fire hydrant from Fredericksville without the highway occupancy permit, and Jerome Lendacki is to proceed with installation of the dry fire hydrant and driveway improvement for dry hydrant access when he is able to do so (per signed proposal). Mr. Jerry Keller with the Lyons Fire Company requested clarification on the matter. There was no additional public comment. All were in favor. Motion carried.

REPORT OF ROADMASTER

Hertzog School Road – Drainage Issues – The Roadmaster informed the Board that he contacted LTL Consultants, Ltd. (Township Engineer) to investigate whether the situation has improved along Hertzog School Road (with regard to the drainage issues). The Township Engineer did not have an opportunity to perform a site visit during or shortly after a significant rain event before tonight's meeting. The Roadmaster hopes to receive a report or update from the Township Engineer for next month's meeting.

OLD BUSINESS

Richard J. & Carol A. Blair Subdivision – Five Points Road – The time extension for review of the Richard J. & Carol A. Blair Subdivision is in effect until December 20, 2016. At the 11/29/16 Planning Commission meeting, the Planning Commission approved the Planning Module and a time extension request until March 20, 2017 for the Richard J. and Carol A. Blair Subdivision. On a motion by Nathan Ohlinger, seconded by Duane Bennetch, the Board approved the Planning Module for the Richard J. & Carol A. Blair Subdivision (via Resolution #2016-11). There was no public comment. All were in favor. Motion carried. On a motion by Nathan Ohlinger, seconded by Duane Bennetch, the Board approved the time extension until March 20, 2017 for the Richard J. & Carol A. Blair Subdivision. There was no public comment. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Zoning Ordinance Amendment/Update – The Zoning Ordinance Amendment/Update is in progress. At the 11/29/16 Planning Commission meeting, Township officials agreed to continue to review and discuss Article II (Definitions) at the January 31, 2017 Planning Commission meeting.

MS4 Advance Waiver Approval – LTL Consultants, Ltd. is working on the MS4 advance waiver approval submission to PA DEP on behalf of Rockland Township, which is due by December 31, 2016. LTL Consultants, Ltd. has completed the mapping and is working on final details (which will require a field check and preparation of written narrative). Linda Cluck, LTL Consultants, Ltd. expects to complete the information by the end of this week (or next week at the latest). When complete, LTL Consultants, Ltd. confirmed that the MS4 waiver information will be submitted to PA DEP on the Township's behalf before the 12/31/16 deadline, unless the Board would like to review the information prior to submittal. The Board confirmed no need to review the information in advance of submittal, but requested a copy of the MS4 Waiver submission for Township records.

Letter Received 10/7/2016 from PA DEP Requesting Update on Progress with Resubmission of Rockland Township's Act 537 Official Plan – Dr. Hugh Archer's office confirmed that a task/activity report is being prepared on Rockland Township's behalf and will be sent to PA DEP. A copy will be sent to the Board of Supervisors.

Stonefield Heights Subdivision – Steep Lane – Supervisor Nathan Ohlinger informed the Board that he contacted Jerome Lendacki regarding the required improvements to Steep Lane for dedication of the road to the Township. Mr. Lendacki informed Supervisor Ohlinger that he would provide a letter/update to the Township. As of tonight's meeting, no letter or update was received.

BILLS

A listing of the unpaid bills as of December 13, 2016 was provided for the Board of Supervisors approval. The total of the unpaid bills for approval was \$25,450.16 from the General Fund. On a motion by Duane Bennetch, seconded by Nathan Ohlinger, the Board approved payment of the unpaid bills totaling \$25,450.16 from the General Fund. There was no public comment. All were in favor. Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS

The proposed 2017 budget was advertised for consideration for adoption at tonight's meeting (and made available for public inspection). The 2017 budget includes taxes remaining at the same levels as 2016 with budgeted expenses (all funds) totaling \$1,504,435.00. On a motion by Herb Meadway, seconded by Nathan Ohlinger, Resolution #2016-12 (2017 Tax Levy Resolution) was approved fixing the tax rate for 2017 at 1.0 mills (same as 2016). There was no public comment. All were in favor. Motion carried. On a motion by Duane Bennetch, seconded by Herb Meadway, Resolution #2016-13 was approved officially adopted the 2017 budget totaling \$1,504,435.00. There was no public comment. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Logo Design Contest Entries – Entry Deadline: December 13, 2016

The Board acknowledged receipt of three logo design contest entries. After a brief discussion, on a motion by Nathan Ohlinger, seconded by Duane Bennetch, the Board agreed to have Supervisor Nathan Ohlinger contact a professional photographer to judge the logo design contest entries. There was no public comment. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Rockland Township received the required documents and forms necessary to set-up and maintain administrative services with PrimePay for the Township's Health Reimbursement Arrangement (HRA) plan, including an Adoption Agreement and Summary Plan Description. On a motion by Herb Meadway, seconded by Duane Bennetch, the Board approved signing the Adoption Agreement and required paperwork to confirm administrative services with PrimePay effective October 1, 2016. There was no public comment. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Jesse Zerbe, EMS Supervisor with Fleetwood Volunteer Fire Co. Ambulance has notified Rockland Township officials that the Fleetwood Volunteer Fire Co. Ambulance is considering consolidation with a hospital-based service (specifically Penn State Hershey Life Lion). The leadership of the Fleetwood EMS views this consolidation as the best option for the future of emergency medical services in order to meet the needs of the community and provide the best available service. The consolidation will likely not happen until March 2017. Fleetwood EMS plans to hold a series of town-hall type meetings to inform the public of this consolidation in advance and to address any concerns from the community. Jesse also mentioned that he would be willing to attend a monthly Rockland Township Board meeting, to provide additional information and make himself available to answer any questions or address any concerns. The Board encouraged representatives from the Ruscombmanor Fire Company and Lyons Fire Company to find out more information on this consolidation's effect on services and our community (and attend upcoming town-hall meetings, if necessary) and keep the Board informed of any concerns.

Township officials received an invitation from DTE Energy to attend a stakeholder informational meeting for the proposed Birdsboro Pipeline Project to be located in Berks County, PA. The meeting will be held on Wednesday, December 14, 2016 from 6:00PM-8:00PM at the Oley Faire Centre, Oley, PA. DTE Energy plans to construct a natural gas pipeline up to 16-inches in diameter and approximately 14-miles in length. The pipeline will serve as a fuel line for the proposed Birdsboro electric generating facility in the Borough of Birdsboro. The proposed pipeline will begin at the Texas Eastern Transmission interstate pipeline located in Rockland Township and traverse generally

south, through Oley, Amity and Union Townships and provide transportation for approximately 79,000 dekatherms per day of natural gas to the Birdsboro facility. During this informal open house meeting, DTE Energy representatives from the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission will be available to answer questions about the project. Anyone interested in the project is encouraged to attend, view the displays, collect information about the company and the project, and informally ask questions.

SPOTTED LANTERNFLY UPDATE: Expansion of the Spotted Lanternfly Quarantine (11/26/16)

The newly quarantined municipalities, by county, are as follows:

Berks County: Centre, Maiden creek, Richmond, Robeson, Ruscombmanor & Union Townships, and the Boroughs of Birdsboro, Centreport and Fleetwood

Bucks County: Richland Township and Richlandtown and Quakertown Borough

Chester County: East Vincent, East Coventry and North Coventry Township and Spring City Borough

Lehigh County: Bethlehem City

Montgomery County: Upper Providence, Upper Pottsgrove, Upper Salford, Limerick and Lower Frederick Townships, and the Boroughs of Pottstown and Royersford

Northampton County: Bethlehem City

CORRESPONDENCE

A listing of correspondence dated December 13, 2016 was presented to the Board of Supervisors for their review.

Reports regarding zoning/building, sewage and stormwater issues and activity for November 2016 were provided to the Board of Supervisors for review. Direction was requested from the Board on a few code related matters.

26 Forgedale Road – Complaint – On a motion by Duane Bennetch, seconded by Herb Meadway, the Board authorized forwarding this complaint on the Code Enforcement Officer for investigation. There was no public comment. All were in favor. Motion carried.

21 Ridge Drive – Complaint – The Board reviewed the update on this matter included the Code Enforcement Report provided by Michael Schwenk. The Board briefly reviewed and discussed the regulations in effect in December 2009 regarding the number of animals permitted. On a motion by Duane Bennetch, seconded by Nathan Ohlinger, the Board agreed to allow the existing animals to remain on the property provided the total number of animals does not increase, and as the animals “die off”, steps must be taken by the property owner to bring the property into compliance with Township ordinances with regard to the number of animals permitted. There was no public comment. All were in favor. Motion carried.

14 Day Road – Complaint – The Board reviewed the update on this matter included in the Code Enforcement Report provided by Michael Schwenk. The Board was confused by the update provided by the Code Official, since the Board had made it clear that a time extension would not be granted in this case and Lyons Fire Company has confirmed with Township officials that a controlled burn on the property would not be considered. The Board instructed the Township Secretary to contact Michael Schwenk and make it clear that this matter must proceed and that the Board is not in favor of a time extension.

The Board noted that no update was provided by the Code Official on the following matters: 46 High View Lane, 21 Hill Road, 138 Main Street and 9 Highland Drive. The Board instructed the Township Secretary to contact Michael Schwenk (Zoning Officer/Code Official) to request an update on these matters by the upcoming December 27, 2016 Year-End Meeting.

UPCOMING MEETINGS/EVENTS:

Tuesday, December 27, 2016 @ 7:00PM – Year-End Meeting (Board of Supervisors)
Tuesday, December 27, 2016 @ 7:30PM – Planning Commission Meeting
Tuesday, January 3, 2017 @ 7:30PM – Reorganization Meeting (Board of Supervisors)
Wednesday, January 4, 2017 @ 6:00PM – Board of Auditors Meeting
Tuesday, January 10, 2017 @ 7:30PM – Board of Supervisors Meeting

PUBLIC COMMENT

Mr. Jerry Keller, Lyons Fire Company, informed the Board about a recent dispatch on 11/25/16 to a fire in the vicinity of the Hogan Learning Center along Lyons Road. The fire company arrived to 81 Lyons Road to find a large fire burning after sunset. The fire company extinguished the fire and advised the property owner that burning after sunset and the burning of certain types of items (including hazardous items) does not comply with the Township Burning Ordinance. The property owner was informed that, in the event the fire company would be called out again for illegal burning, the matter would be turned over the Township and/or proper Code Official.

Mr. Eric Fox, Ruscombmanor Fire Company, spoke to Jesse Zerbe, EMS Supervisor with the Fleetwood Volunteer Fire Co. Ambulance, and provided the Board with additional information on the possible consolidation of the Fleetwood Volunteer Fire Co. Ambulance and Penn State Hershey Life Lion.

There was no additional public comment.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:22PM on a motion by Duane Bennetch, seconded by Nathan Ohlinger. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen Krall
Secretary/Treasurer