

**ROCKLAND TOWNSHIP  
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
MEETING MINUTES**

**AUGUST 9, 2016**

The monthly meeting of the Rockland Township Board of Supervisors was held on August 9, 2016 at 7:30PM at the Rockland Township Municipal Building. The following board members were present: Chairman Herb Meadway and Nathan Ohlinger. Also present were Attorney Alfred Crump (Township Solicitor) and interested citizens. (Vice Chairman Duane Bennetch arrived at approximately 7:39PM.)

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 July 12, 2016 Board of Supervisors meeting were presented to the Board for approval. On a motion by Herb Meadway, seconded by Nathan Ohlinger, the minutes from the July 12, 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 July 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	2,942.77
106.000	General Fund – Savings	1,420,643.13
108.000	General Fund – Govt Money Market	180,219.37
107.001	General Fund – Savings	3,799.77
107.002	General Fund – Savings	275,003.98
109.001	Government Money Market	118,313.41
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	214,638.09
	State Aid Account – Checking	389.03
107.003	Capital Reserve Account – Savings	298,285.44
107.005	Payroll Account – Checking	17,765.70
	<b>Total as of July 31, 2016:</b>	<b>\$2,741,306.85</b>

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

**REPORT OF SOLICITOR**

Appointment of Alternate Zoning Hearing Board Members – On a motion by Nathan Ohlinger, seconded by Herb Meadway, Resolution #2016-10 was approved appointing Jenifer Geisinger, 159 Deysher Road and Robert Ralston, 68 Keller Road to serve as alternate zoning hearing board members (per MPC Section 903(b)). There was no public comment. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Vice Chairman Duane Bennetch arrived to tonight's meeting at approximately 7:39PM.

**REPORT OF ROADMASTER**

Hertzog School Road – Drainage Issues – The Township sent a letter to the property owner of 69 Hertzog School Road. The property owner contacted the Township Office and requested a meeting on-site with the property owner, Board of Supervisors, Township Engineer, and two neighbors (the property owner's brother and father) to discuss the existing drainage issues. On a motion by Herb Meadway, seconded by Nathan Ohlinger, the Board instructed the Township Secretary to coordinate the meeting as requested by the property owner and recommended the meeting include the Roadmaster. There was no public comment. All were in favor. Motion carried.

The Roadmaster requested approval from the Board to look into possible financing options to proceed with the purchase of a new truck to replace the 1998 International (for inclusion in the 2017 budget). On a motion by Herb Meadway, seconded by Duane Bennetch, the Board approved the purchase of a new truck to replace the 1998 International; the Board also noted that this matter would be discussed at the upcoming 2017 budget meeting and funding for the truck would be included in the 2017 budget). There was no public comment. All were in favor. Motion carried.

2016 Road Project – The paving of Clay Valley Road, Foxs Road and Day Road is now complete.

### OLD BUSINESS

Dry Hydrants Update –The Township is in the process of coordinating arrangements to have both excavation contractors (Lendacki Enterprises LLC and M&A Excavating) visit the Frederickville/Smoketown Road site in order for the contractors to provide the Township with a cost estimate for dry fire hydrant installation. At this time, the Township is still awaiting additional information and cost estimates from the excavation contractors. The Roadmaster informed the Board that he anticipates meeting with both contractors within the next week or so.

Zoning Ordinance Review/Amendment – Quotes from three other local engineering firms were received, in order to compare costs to LTL Consultants' proposal. This information was provided to the Board, and this item was tabled at last month's meeting. On a motion by Duane Bennetch, seconded by Nathan Ohlinger, the proposals received for the Zoning Ordinance review/amendment project were tabled. There was no public comment. All were in favor. Motion carried.

The Reading 120 Cycling Event – Saturday, September 10, 2016 – Rockland Township received a revised race course and time table, which has now incorporated race course changes recommended by Oley Township. Mr. Jerry Keller, Lyons Fire Company, requested a copy of the race course information. Ms. Piper Sherbourne suggested the Board may want to contact the Reading 120 race coordinators to remind bike race participants and spectators about the Spotted Lanternfly quarantine. On a motion by Nathan Ohlinger, seconded by Duane Bennetch, the Board instructed the Township Secretary to write a letter to Mr. John Eustice, Sparta Cycling regarding the Spotted Lanternfly quarantine in effect for Rockland Township – with a reminder that all persons entering the quarantine area can help to limit the spread of Spotted Lanternfly by making sure items are pest free before moving them out of the quarantine area (including vehicles). It is recommended that persons checks vehicles for “hitch-hiking” lanternflies, when planning to leave the quarantine area. Also, taking steps to not park vehicles or leave items under tree lines will also reduce the risk of Spotted Lanternfly becoming an unwelcome hitch hiker. There was no public comment. All were in favor. Motion carried.

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 September 20, 2016. There are no new items for this month's agenda. On a motion by Herb Meadway, seconded by Duane Bennetch, the plan for the Richard J. & Carol A. Blair Subdivision was tabled until next month. There was no public comment. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Christ Mertz Lutheran Church Land Development & Lot Consolidation Plan (2016 Addition) – 16 Fleetwood Road – Plan was conditionally approved at the Board's July 12, 2016 meeting. Signed plans will be released pending completion of all pending items.

MS4 Program Advance Waiver Approval – Rockland Township may apply for an Advance Waiver Approval by December 31, 2016 from DEP. Advance waiver approval is a tentative approval from DEP for waiver status. To submit an advance waiver approval request, Rockland Township must

send a detailed map of the MS4 including all outfalls, storm sewers, surface waters, land uses, and any points of connection to another entity's MS4; the drainage area (in acres) of each outfall that discharges to impaired waters; and a written justification for the waiver to DEP no later than December 31, 2016. On a motion by Duane Bennetch, seconded by Nathan Ohlinger, the Board authorized the Township Engineer to proceed with preparation of required paperwork necessary for submittal to DEP prior to the advance waiver approval deadline of December 31, 2016 on the Township's behalf. There was no public comment. All were in favor. Motion carried.

### **BILLS**

The Township received the final invoice totaling \$161,155.36 for the 2016 Road Project from Landis C. Deck & Sons (H&K Group). The 2016 Road Project invoice and paperwork were reviewed and approved by PennDOT representative, Charlie Paris on August 5, 2016. On a motion by Herb Meadway, seconded by Nathan Ohlinger, the Board approved payment of \$161,155.36 from the State Aid Fund to H&K Group for the 2016 Road Project. There was no public comment. All were in favor. Motion carried.

A listing of the unpaid bills as of August 9, 2016 was provided for the Board of Supervisors approval. The total of the unpaid bills for approval was \$19,276.37 from the General Fund. Vice Chairman Duane Bennetch made a motion to pay the unpaid bills list totaling \$19,276.37. There was no second. Supervisor Nathan Ohlinger objected to paying the full amount of the unpaid bills/invoices to LTL Consultants, Ltd. As a result of the August 3, 2016 meeting between the Board and LTL Consultants, Ltd., it was agreed that Rockland Township would pay all previously withheld charges to LTL Consultants except postage charges totaling \$24.65. Therefore, on a motion by Nathan Ohlinger, seconded by Duane Bennetch, the unpaid bill list amount of \$19,251.72 (\$19,276.37 less \$24.65 postage charges agreed to be withheld from LTL Consultants) was approved for payment from the General Fund. There was no public comment. All were in favor. Motion carried.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

Supervisor Nathan Ohlinger requested the Board consider mailing out another newsletter to Township residents. After a brief discussion, on a motion by Duane Bennetch, seconded by Nathan Ohlinger, the Township Secretary was instructed to prepare a newsletter for the Board's consideration for approval for mailing at next month's meeting. There was no public comment. All were in favor. Motion carried.

The Township received the 2017 Minimum Municipal Obligation (MMO) for the Rockland Township Non-Uniformed Pension Plan from Tom Redmond, Redmond Consulting. The total MMO obligation for the 2017 MMO is \$19,696.00, and this calculation is intended to meet the requirements of Act 189. On a motion by Duane Bennetch, seconded by Herb Meadway, the 2017 MMO for the Rockland Township Non-Uniformed Pension Plan totaling \$19,696.00 was approved. There was no public comment. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Longswamp Township Amended Official Map and Corresponding Ordinance – Rockland Township received a draft amended Official Map and Corresponding Ordinance from Longswamp Township Solicitor, Jill Nagy, which defined certain sewer areas (per Longswamp Township's Act 537 Plan). Longswamp Township intends to hold a hearing on September 13, 2016 at 7:00PM for the proposed amended Official Map and Ordinance. Longswamp Township is requesting comments within forty-five days from July 12, 2016 (the date of the correspondence). The Board offered no comments.

Zoning Hearing Board Variance Application – 75 Orchard Road – The Township received a variance application from Owen McPeake, requesting a variance from Section 9.17 of the Rockland Township Zoning Ordinance for a home occupation to receive acupuncture patients, while utilizing an existing detached summer kitchen located on the property. The public hearing is scheduled for Wednesday, September 21, 2016 at 7:00PM at the Rockland Township Municipal Building. The Board of Supervisors may provide comments on this application to the Zoning Hearing Board. The Board offered no comments.

Rockland Township received notification that the Berks County Conservation District (BCCD) will be participating in the 2017 Gypsy Moth Suppression Program. The BCCD is now accepting applications from residents and community organizations who would like to be considered for gypsy moth spraying. This is a state program, run by the PA Department of Conservation and Natural Resources (DCNR) with cooperation from Berks County. Any person who would like to be evaluated for possible inclusion in this program must submit an application to BCCD, Berks County Gypsy Moth Program. Application deadline is September 1, 2016.

The Township received renewal rates for dental coverage with United Concordia. There was no proposed increase in renewal rates for the period 10/1/2016 through 9/30/2017 with United Concordia. On a motion by Herb Meadway, seconded by Duane Bennetch, the Board approved renewal of dental coverage with United Concordia for the period 10/1/2016 through 9/30/2017. There was no public comment. All were in favor. Motion carried.

The Township received renewal rates for health and vision coverage with Highmark Blue Shield. Highmark Blue Shield is proposing an approximate 9% increase for health coverage effective 10/1/2016 through 9/30/2017, although vision coverage has decreased approximately 1.7%. The Township Secretary is in contact with our agent to obtain additional information on other plan options. Additional information will be made available to the Board for consideration at next month's meeting.

Friday, October 28, 2016 Budget Meeting – Supervisor Ohlinger informed the Township that he will be unavailable to attend the previously scheduled and advertised Friday, October 28, 2016 Budget Meeting at 1:00PM. On a motion by Duane Bennetch, seconded by Herb Meadway, the Board agreed to cancel the Friday, October 28, 2016 budget meeting and reschedule the meeting for Thursday, October 27, 2016 at 1:00PM at the Rockland Township Municipal Building, and requested that the Township Secretary properly advertise the cancellation of the 10/28/2016 meeting and rescheduled budget meeting to 10/27/2016. There was no public comment. All were in favor. Motion carried.

## CORRESPONDENCE

A listing of correspondence dated August 9, 2016 was presented to the Board of Supervisors for their review.

Reports regarding zoning/building, sewage and stormwater issues and activity for July 2016 were provided to the Board of Supervisors for review. Direction was requested from the Board regarding the following complaints and/or code-related matters.

- Complaint Form – Highland Drive – Grass still not cut. The Township Solicitor was able to confirm the same property owner address information as the address to where the initial letter was sent and confirmed that there is no record of an estate. On a motion by Duane Bennetch, seconded by Nathan Ohlinger, the Board authorized this matter be turned over to Code Enforcement Official, Michael Schwenk, to take further enforcement action. There was no public comment. All were in favor. Motion carried.

- Complaint Form – High View Lane – Alleged violation of Rockland Township Brush/Grass/Weeds Ordinance and property maintenance issues. On a motion by Duane Bennetch, seconded by Nathan Ohlinger, the Board instructed the Township Secretary to send a letter to the property owner requesting compliance within thirty (30) days (and the Township Secretary was instructed to include a copy of the Township Ordinance and pictures). There was no public comment. All were in favor. Motion carried.
- Complaint Form – Day Road – According to the August 5, 2016 update from LTL Consultants, Ltd., some progress has been made at the property, however there still appears to be violations. On a motion by Duane Bennetch, seconded by Nathan Ohlinger, the Board authorized this matter be turned over to Code Enforcement Official, Michael Schwenk, since LTL Consultants is no longer the designated code official/zoning officer for Rockland Township, and Michael Schwenk shall proceed with bringing this property into compliance (together with LTL Consultants, as deemed necessary). There was no public comment. All were in favor. Motion carried.

**UPCOMING MEETINGS/EVENTS:**

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

Tuesday, September 13, 2016 @ 7:30PM – Board of Supervisors Meeting

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

Mr. Christopher King, 82 Foxs Road, commended the Township on the nice road work (paving of Foxs Road).

There was no additional public comment.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:25PM on a motion by Duane Bennetch, seconded by Nathan Ohlinger. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen Krall  
Secretary/Treasurer