

**ROCKLAND TOWNSHIP
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
MEETING MINUTES**

OCTOBER 10, 2017

The monthly meeting of the Rockland Township Board of Supervisors was held on October 10, 2017 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 minutes of the Board of Supervisors meeting held on September 12, 2017 were presented to the Board for approval. On a motion by Duane Bennetch, seconded by Nathan Ohlinger, the September 12, 2017 meeting minutes were approved as presented. There was no public comment. All were in favor. Motion carried.

The balance sheets, check detail and deposit detail for September 2017 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	2,903.61
106.000	General Fund – Savings	2,163,077.05
107.001	General Fund – Savings	6,145.48
107.002	General Fund – Certificates of Deposit	375,004.01
109.002	Certificate of Deposit	109,106.16
110.000	Petty Cash	200.00
	State Aid Account – Savings	26,370.94
	State Aid Account – Checking	403.01
107.003	Capital Reserve Account – Savings	63,725.17
107.005	Payroll Account – Checking	17,719.87
	Total as of September 30, 2017:	\$2,764,655.30

On a motion by Herb Meadway, seconded by Nathan Ohlinger, the balance sheets, check and deposit details for September 2017 were approved as presented. There was no public comment. All were in favor. Motion carried.

REPORT OF SOLICITOR

State Game Lands Along Forgedale Road – The Township Solicitor informed the Board that he wrote to the PA Game Commission as a follow-up from last month's meeting and has not received a response back as of tonight's meeting.

Repository Tax Sale - 27 Rocky Lane – A bid has been submitted to the Berks County Tax Claim Bureau for 27 Rocky Lane via Repository Sale. This property was exposed to both Upset Tax Sale and Judicial (Free and Clear) Sale and received no bids. According to Section 626 and Section 627 of the Pennsylvania Real Estate Tax Sale Law Act 542, the Tax Claim Bureau must notify all taxing districts of bids received and must receive written consent to accept such bids. On a motion by Herb Meadway, seconded by Nathan Ohlinger, the Board agreed to accept the Repository Sale bid for 27 Rocky Lane and instructed the Township Secretary to send the necessary paperwork to the Berks County Tax Claim Bureau acknowledging acceptance of the bid. There was no public comment. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Resolution – Transfer of Liquor License to New Jerusalem Inn & Event Center, 11 Deysher Road – The Township Solicitor informed the Board that the Township is required to hold at least one public hearing to allow for citizen input prior to consideration of passing a resolution in favor of the transfer of the liquor license. After discussion, on a motion by Duane Bennetch, seconded by Nathan Ohlinger, the Board agreed to advertise a public hearing to allow for citizen input on the intermunicipal transfer of a retail liquor license on Tuesday, November 14, 2017 at 7:00PM at the Rockland Township Municipal Building and instructed the Township Solicitor to duly advertise the public hearing. There was no public comment. All were in favor. Motion carried.

A letter was received from Michael Morris, PA DEP on October 6, 2017 recommending an update to the Township's Holding Tank Ordinance. The Township Solicitor advised the Board that this letter (including the Sample Holding Tank Ordinance provided from PA DEP) was passed along to Dr. Hugh Archer. The Township Solicitor and Dr. Archer will review and make a recommendation to the Board with regard to updating the Township's existing Holding Tank Agreement going forward.

REPORT OF ROADMASTER

Sale of 1998 International Dump Truck with Plow & Spreader via Municibid – A winning bid of \$15,200.00 was received. On a motion by Duane Bennetch, seconded by Herb Meadway, the winning bid of \$15,200.00 was approved, and the Board authorized moving forward with the sale of the 1998 International to the winner bidder. There was no public comment. All were in favor. Motion carried.

14 Beaver Creek Road – The Roadmaster informed the Board that the dead trees located in the right-of-way at 14 Beaver Creek Road were removed today. The Roadmaster left a message with Ms. Donna Moyer to inform her that the Township completed removal of the dead trees in the right-of-way area and recommended Ms. Moyer take care of the dead trees located outside of the right-of-way area (located on private property).

Chairman Herb Meadway informed the Roadmaster of a tree leaning on wires in the vicinity of 70-75 Orchard Road (on the north side of the road).

OLD BUSINESS

Birdsboro Pipeline Project Land Development Plan – Rockland & Oley Townships – Mr. Paul Wilson, Dawood Engineering submitted a time extension request until December 13, 2017. On September 26, 2017, the Planning Commission approved the time extension request for the Birdsboro Pipeline Project Land Development Plan and recommends the Board do the same. On a motion by Herb Meadway, seconded by Nathan Ohlinger, the time extension request until December 13, 2017 for the Birdsboro Pipeline Project Land Development Plan was approved. There was no public comment. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Birdsboro Pipeline Project – Special Exception Application to the Zoning Hearing Board – The Report and Decision of the Rockland Township Zoning Hearing Board was received. The request for a special exception was granted by the Zoning Hearing Board with conditions. A copy of the report/decision was provided to the Board for informational purposes.

Zoning Ordinance Amendment/Update – The Zoning Ordinance Amendment/Update is in progress. Township officials plan to review and discuss Article 7 (Environmental Protection Overlay District Regulations) at the November 28, 2017 Planning Commission meeting.

Logo Design Contest – Township Supervisor Nathan Ohlinger provided an update. The logo(s) were provided to Township resident, Kurt Lebo, who is working on reproduction of the logo(s).

Sewage Advisory Committee Update – The next meeting of the Sewage Advisory Committee has not yet been scheduled. The next meeting will be scheduled when the Township receives information and materials from Dr. Archer. This information from Dr. Archer is to be reviewed by the Committee, then the Committee's comments will be passed along to the Rockland Township Board of Supervisors.

BILLS

The Township received payment on 9/25/2017 in the amount of \$25,202.93 from the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania serving as the 2017 Commonwealth allocation supporting the Volunteer Fire Relief Association(s) of the volunteer fire companies. As required by Act 205, proceeds from this check must be paid within 60 days to the fire relief associations that serve our community. After a lengthy discussion with fire company representatives in attendance at tonight's meeting regarding the breakdown of percentages of the foreign fire monies distributed to the fire companies, the Board confirmed that Rockland Township would not

make any changes to the way the monies have been distributed (60% to the Lyons Volunteer Firefighter's Relief Association and 40% to the Ruscombmanor Fireman's Relief Association). On a motion by Duane Bennetch, seconded by Nathan Ohlinger, the Board approved payment of \$15,121.76 to the Lyons Volunteer Firefighter's Relief Association and \$10,081.17 to the Ruscombmanor Fireman's Relief Association, serving as 2017 distribution of the funds received from taxes paid by foreign fire insurance companies as provided by Act 205 of 1984. Mr. David Wartzluft expressed concern that Township officials have mentioned the need to re-evaluate the breakdown of funding to the fire companies for the past five years, yet no changes have been made. There was no additional public comment. All were in favor. Motion carried. The Board informed the fire company representatives that the Township would review donation amounts, breakdown of percentages, etc. at the upcoming 2018 budget meeting to be held on October 26, 2017, and Township officials encouraged the fire company representatives to attend the upcoming budget meeting.

The Township received payment on 9/27/2017 in the amount of \$18,180.03 from the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania serving as the 2017 Commonwealth allocation of General Municipal Pension System State Aid. The Township's 2017 payment to the pension plan totals \$18,180.04 (contribution is based on 10 percent of eligible members' prior year's wages). This amount is included in the unpaid bills list for payment from the General Fund. On a motion by Herb Meadway, seconded by Duane Bennetch, the Board approved payment of \$18,180.04 to the Rockland Township Non-Uniformed Pension Plan serving as 2017 contributions for eligible employees. There was no public comment. All were in favor. Motion carried.

A listing of the unpaid bills as of October 10, 2017 was provided for the Board of Supervisors approval. The total of the unpaid bills for approval was \$67,563.18 from the General Fund. On a motion by Herb Meadway, seconded by Nathan Ohlinger, the Board approved payment of the unpaid bills totaling \$67,563.18 from the General Fund. There was no public comment. All were in favor. Motion carried.

The 2017 budget includes a donation of \$3,500.00 to the Fleetwood Fire Co. EMS. At the March 2017 monthly Board meeting, the Board approved Resolution #2017-06 authorizing the Hershey Medical Center Life Lion Emergency Medical Services to assume responsibility of functions/operations from Fleetwood Fire Co. EMS and to perform EMS functions and operations within Rockland Township. The Board of Supervisors briefly discussed whether to reallocate the Fleetwood Fire Co. EMS' 2017 donation to any other entities providing emergency services to the Township (as briefly talked about at the March 2017 monthly meeting). After a brief discussion, the Board decided not to reallocate these funds for the 2017 budget. The Board will take this into consideration during 2018 budget discussions.

NEW BUSINESS

Al Zentner, the Township's Emergency Management Coordinator, called the Township Office to request approval from the Board to proceed with obtaining a fire extinguisher for his truck (estimate \$62.00) and a new supply of Emergency Preparedness Guides (estimate \$125.00). Jerry Keller, Lyons Fire Company, also mentioned that Al Zentner's pager is in need of repair and Jerry offered to assist him with its repair. Jerry anticipated the repair of the pager to cost between \$50.00-\$100.00. On a motion by Duane Bennetch, seconded by Nathan Ohlinger, the Board approved the pager repairs (\$50.00-\$100.00) and the purchase of a fire extinguisher (approximately \$62.00) and Emergency Preparedness Guides (approximately \$125.00) by Al Zentner, Emergency Management Coordinator. There was no public comment. All were in favor. Motion carried.

CORRESPONDENCE

A list of correspondence dated October 10, 2017 was presented to the Board of Supervisors for review.

Reports and updates regarding zoning/building, sewage and stormwater issues and activities for September 2017 were provided to the Board of Supervisors for review. Direction was needed from the Board on a few code-related matters.

Vice Chairman Duane Bennetch expressed concerns with the Township's current burning regulations and encouraged Township officials to consider amending the burning ordinance. Supervisor Bennetch specifically mentioned considering including a requirement that anyone who burns must be a resident of the Township and significantly increasing the setbacks from property lines required to burn.

42 Mine Road – Burning Complaint – This matter was previously turned over to the Code Official.

57A Kutz Road – Complaint (Shed) – The Township Secretary was instructed by the Board to forward this complaint on to the Code Official.

125 Beaver Creek Road – Complaint (Grass/Weeds) – The Township Secretary was instructed by the Board to forward this complaint on to the Code Official.

23 Shady Creek Lane – Complaint (Grass/Weeds) – The Board decided to table this matter.

54 Orchard Road – Complaint (Unlicensed Cars) – The Board instructed the Code Official to follow through with this complaint.

UPCOMING MEETINGS/EVENTS:

Thursday, October 26, 2017 @ 1:00PM – Budget Meeting

Tuesday, October 31, 2017 @ 7:30PM - Planning Commission Meeting

Tuesday, November 14, 2017 @ 7:30PM – Board of Supervisors Meeting

PUBLIC COMMENT

Mr. David Wartzenuft inquired about the letters received from Governor Tom Wolf, Lieutenant Governor Mike Stack and Berks County Commissioner Christian Leinbach (as indicated on the 10/10/2017 Correspondence Listing). Township officials informed Mr. Wartzenuft that these letters were received in response to the Township forwarding a copy of the Township Resolution in support of fair redistricting. Mr. Wartzenuft was encouraged to review the letters after tonight's meeting.

There was no additional public comment. There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:21PM on a motion by Duane Bennetch, seconded by Nathan Ohlinger. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen Krall
Secretary/Treasurer