

**ROCKLAND TOWNSHIP  
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
MEETING MINUTES**

**FEBRUARY 13, 2018**

The monthly meeting of the Rockland Township Board of Supervisors was held on February 13, 2018 at 7:00PM at the Rockland Township Municipal Building. The following board members were present: Chairman Duane Bennetch, Vice Chairman Nathan Ohlinger, and David Wartzenuft. Also present were Attorney Alfred Crump (Township Solicitor) and interested citizens.

The meeting was called to order at 7:00PM by Chairman Duane Bennetch. The meeting was opened with the pledge to the flag.

The minutes of the Board of Supervisors meeting held on January 9, 2018 were presented to the Board for approval. On a motion by Nathan Ohlinger, seconded by David Wartzenuft, the January 9, 2018 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 January 2018 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	2,902.41
106.000	General Fund – Savings	2,101,557.43
107.001	General Fund – Savings	6,165.29
107.002	General Fund – Certificates of Deposit	375,004.02
109.002	Certificate of Deposit	109,106.16
110.000	Petty Cash	200.00
	State Aid Account – Savings	26,410.65
	State Aid Account – Checking	403.13
107.003	Capital Reserve Account – Savings	113,984.19
107.005	Payroll Account – Checking	26,132.13
	<b>Total as of January 31, 2018:</b>	<b>\$2,761,865.41</b>

On a motion by David Wartzenuft, seconded by Nathan Ohlinger, the balance sheets, check and deposit details for January 2018 were approved as presented. There was no public comment. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Mr. Michael Richards, Chief of EMS, Topton Community Ambulance Service requested to speak to the Board. Mr. Richards presented the Board with updated EMS run cards, which he recommended the Board review and approve promptly. The run cards were reviewed by the Board, and the Board briefly discussed the proposed changes with Mr. Richards. On a motion by David Wartzenuft, seconded by Nathan Ohlinger, Resolution 2018-03 was approved authorizing changes to specific EMS run cards for Rockland Township (specifically #87-35-575-100-8710, #87-35-575-110-8711, #87-35-575-120-8712 and #87-35-575-130-8713) as recommended by Mr. Michael Richards, Chief of EMS, Topton Community Ambulance Service. There was no public comment. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Mr. Alton Zentner (the Township's appointed Emergency Management Coordinator) requested to speak to the Board. Mr. Zentner informed the Board that he attended the County's emergency management training session in January 2018 and learned that Act 35 is currently being re-written by the State and will likely bring about new requirements and mandatory training for Township Emergency Management Coordinators. As a result of these changes, Al Zentner is looking to try to identify someone who may be willing to take over his position. Mr. Zentner agreed to continue to serve until someone else is identified. The Board requested Mr. Zentner provide information on the Emergency Management Coordinator position (regarding training requirements, qualifications, etc.), so the Township could include this information in the upcoming Newsletter in an attempt to solicit interest among Township residents.

Ms. Marcy Tocker, 57A Kutz Road requested to speak to the Board. Ms. Tocker informed the Board that she was able to lease two acres of land from her neighbor, and she believes (as a result of the lease of this additional acreage from her neighbor) that she now is in compliance with the Township's regulations regarding acreage requirements associated with the keeping the animals. The Board requested paperwork from Ms. Tocker which would be passed along to the Township Zoning Officer.

Mr. Patrick Mancini, 21 Shady Creek Lane requested to speak to the Board. Mr. Mancini was not present.

### **REPORT OF SOLICITOR**

State Game Lands Along Forgedale Road – The Township Solicitor informed the Board that he has no new information to provide to the Board. He will continue to try to obtain additional information from the PA Game Commission (mapping department) related to access to the State Game Lands along Forgedale Road.

### **REPORT OF ROADMASTER**

The Roadmaster informed the Board that he contacted PennDOT's utility department and the utility pole located along Forgedale Road was removed (as discussed at last month's meeting).

The Roadmaster requested Board approval to purchase a trailer to be used to transport the skid steer and other equipment at a cost of \$4,599.00. On a motion by David Wartzluft, seconded by Duane Bennetch, the Board approved the purchase of a trailer from Appalachian Trailer at a cost of \$4,599.00 (which was included in the 2018 budget). There was no public comment. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Free Training and Testing Seminar for Required Spotted Lanternfly Municipal Permit Training and Testing – On a motion by Duane Bennetch, seconded by Nathan Ohlinger, the Board approved the Roadmaster's attendance at the upcoming training and testing seminar on Friday, February 23, 2018 from 9:00AM-12:00PM for the required Spotted Lanternfly Municipal Permit and Training and Testing. There was no public comment. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Berks County Conservation District and Berks County Planning Commission's Services Program – On a motion by Duane Bennetch, seconded by Nathan Ohlinger, the Board approved the road crew's attendance at the upcoming Berks County Conservation District and Berks County Planning Commission's Services Program to be held on Thursday, March 8, 2018. There was no public comment. All were in favor. Motion carried.

2018 Annual Meeting of the Upper Montgomery-Bucks Community Affairs Association (Limerick Township) – On a motion by Duane Bennetch, seconded by Nathan Ohlinger, the Board approved the road crew's attendance at the upcoming 2018 annual meeting of the Upper Montgomery-Bucks Community Affairs Association to be held at Limerick Township on March 14, 2018. There was no public comment. All were in favor. Motion carried.

August 2018-July 2019 Season COSTARS Salt Contract with State – On a motion by Duane Bennetch, seconded by David Wartzluft, the Board approved the Township's participation in the August 2018-July 2019 Season COSTARS salt contract with the State at 600 tons (same tonnage as for the August 2017-July 2018 season). There was no public comment. All were in favor. Motion carried.

The Roadmaster provided the Board with an update on the recent littering along Orchard Road. As a result of this matter being considered closed by the PA State Police, the Roadmaster sought Board approval to dispose of the trash/garbage. After a brief discussion, the Board agreed that the Township would simply dispose of the trash/garbage collected along Orchard Road.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

Birdsboro Pipeline Project Land Development Plan – Rockland & Oley Townships – The deadline for plan action is February 28, 2018. On January 30, 2018, the Planning Commission approved a time extension request from Dawood Engineering until March 31, 2018 for the Birdsboro Pipeline Project Land Development Plan and recommends the Board do the same. On a motion by Nathan Ohlinger, seconded by David Wartzluft, the Board approved the time extension request from Dawood Engineering for the Birdsboro Pipeline Project Land Development Plan until March 31, 2018. There was no public comment. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Zoning Ordinance Amendment/Update – The Zoning Ordinance Amendment/Update is in progress. Township officials plan to review and discuss Article 8 (General Regulations) at the February 27, 2018 Planning Commission meeting.

Township Logo– Quotes were received from Kurt Lebo, Rockland Signs for the Township logo for the wall in the meeting room and for the Township logo decals for the trucks. The Board and Roadmaster briefly discussed the quotes. On a motion by David Wartzluft, seconded by Nathan Ohlinger, the Board approved the Township logo for the wall in the meeting room with a 1” thick background at a cost of \$310.00. There was no public comment. All were in favor. Motion carried. The Board instructed the Roadmaster to contact Kurt Lebo to obtain additional information on the Township logo decals for the trucks prior to making a final decision on the decals.

Sewage Advisory Committee Update – The next meeting of the Sewage Advisory Committee has not yet been scheduled. The Township Solicitor informed the Board that he will continue to try to contact Dr. Hugh Archer to obtain an update.

Lyons Fire Co. Proposal – The Board of Supervisors met with Christina Wood, CAD Administrative Officer, Berks County Department of Emergency Services on Friday, February 9, 2018 for a general training session on run cards (as discussed at last month’s meeting). Mr. Nathan Keller, Chief, Lyons Volunteer Fire Company mentioned that Lyons Fire Company had previously requested the Board approve changes to the fire run card (for the southwestern part of the Township, specifically to add Oley Fire Company) and questioned whether the Board was willing to consider and approve the recommended changes to the run card at this time. On a motion by Duane Bennetch, seconded by Nathan Ohlinger, the Board approved Resolution 2018-04 authorizing changes to the run card for the southwestern portion of the Township (specifically #87-35-565-210-8721 for the main purpose of adding Oley Fire Company) as recommended by Nathan Keller, Chief, Lyons Fire Company. There was no public comment. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Building Code Official/Building Inspector Appointment – The Township Secretary provided information obtained from the Department of Labor & Industry to the Board. The Board reviewed the information. On a motion by Nathan Ohlinger, seconded by David Wartzluft, the Board instructed the Township Secretary to contact Mr. James Franey, Mohnton, PA to assess his interest in serving as a Building Code Official/Building Inspector for Rockland Township. There was no public comment. All were in favor. Motion carried.

## **BILLS**

A listing of the unpaid bills as of February 13, 2018 was provided for the Board of Supervisors approval. The total of the unpaid bills for approval was \$44,321.97 from the General Fund. On a motion by Nathan Ohlinger, seconded by Duane Bennetch, the Board approved payment of the unpaid bills totaling \$44,321.97 from the General Fund. There was no public comment. All were in favor. Motion carried.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

The Township received notification on January 12, 2018 from the PA Department of Environmental Protection advising that Rockland Township qualifies for a waiver from NPDES MS4 permitting requirements and our request for a waiver has been approved. This waiver has an effective date of February 1, 2018 and has a term of five years. Therefore, the waiver will expire on January 31, 2023.

Mollie Prey, Tax Collector requested a change to the “Deputy Tax Collector” for Rockland Township. Mollie requests the Board approve the appointment of Lorraine Meck as Rockland Township’s Deputy Collector effective immediately. On a motion by David Wartzluft, seconded by Nathan Ohlinger, the Board approved the appointment of Lorraine Meck as the Township’s Deputy Collector effective immediately. There was no public comment. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Zoning Hearing Board Application – An application was received from Dwayne & Susan Scheidt, 94 Lyons Road requesting a variance from Sections 8.03 and 8.04.2 of the Rockland Township Zoning Ordinance. The applicants would like to build a 24’ x 24’ two-car garage and are requesting relief from the 20’ side yard

requirements (the setbacks for the proposed garage would be approximately 15' from the front corner of the proposed building to the side property line and approximately 14' from the rear corner of the proposed building to the side property line). The Board of Supervisors may review the application and may provide comments to the Zoning Hearing Board. The hearing is scheduled for Wednesday, March 7, 2018 at 7:00PM at the Rockland Township Municipal Building. The Board briefly discussed the application. On a motion by David Wartzenuft, seconded by Duane Bennetch, the Board instructed the Township Secretary to inform the Zoning Hearing Board that the Board of Supervisors has no problem with the Zoning Hearing Board granting the requested relief. There was no public comment. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Township Newsletter – On a motion by Nathan Ohlinger, seconded by Duane Bennetch, Ms. Cynthia Betz, 11 Deysher Road was appointed to be in charge of the coordination of “Rockland Rural Days”. The upcoming Township Newsletter is to include a request for comments and ideas from the community in order to gauge interest in such an event (which may consist of yard sales, home-grown vegetable stands, craft shows, food wagons, etc.), and Cynthia Betz would be in charge of collecting ideas and coordinating such an event. There was no public comment. All were in favor. Motion carried. On a motion by David Wartzenuft, seconded by Duane Bennetch, the Board approved the printing of the Township Newsletter with Heffner Printing and mailing to property owners (pending receipt of information from Alton Zentner and the Lyons Volunteer Fire Company for inclusion in the newsletter). There was no public comment. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Insurance Renewals – Gerhart, Hartman & Ritner provided the Township with the 2018 premium summary for the Township’s property/auto/liability/umbrella insurance policies which will renew on 2/22/2018. The renewal premiums total \$15,513.00. On a motion by David Wartzenuft, seconded by Duane Bennetch, the Board approved the insurance policy renewals from Gerhart, Hartman & Ritner (effective 2/22/2018-2/21/2019) at a cost of \$15,513.00. There was no public comment. All were in favor. Motion carried.

## **CORRESPONDENCE**

A list of correspondence dated February 13, 2018 was presented to the Board of Supervisors for review.

Reports and updates regarding zoning/building, sewage and stormwater issues and activities for January 2018 were provided to the Board of Supervisors for review. Direction was needed from the Board a few code-related matters.

33 Lyons Road – Complaint – On a motion by Duane Bennetch, seconded by Nathan Ohlinger, the Board confirmed that this matter is considered closed. There was no public comment. All were in favor. Motion carried.

14 Ruppert School Road – Complaint – The Board authorized no action on this anonymous complaint.

22 Forgedale Road – Complaint from PA DEP – On a motion by Duane Bennetch, seconded by David Wartzenuft, the Board granted the Township Sewage Enforcement Officer the authority to proceed as deemed appropriate and necessary (including the use of a constable and/or administrative warrant if necessary) for the purpose of investigating the sewage complaint forwarded directly to the Township SEO from Michael Morris, PA DEP. There was no public comment. All were in favor. Motion carried.

14 Day Road – On a motion by Duane Bennetch, seconded by Nathan Ohlinger, the Zoning Officer was instructed to check on the progress made to date with regard to clean-up of the property (trash/garbage, especially at the back of the property) at 14 Day Road and provide an update to the Board. There was no public comment. All were in favor. Motion carried.

## **UPCOMING MEETINGS/EVENTS:**

Tuesday, February 27, 2018 @ 7:30PM - Planning Commission Meeting (*Zoning Ordinance Update Meeting*)

Wednesday, March 7, 2018 @ 7:00PM – Public Hearing – Zoning Hearing Board (94 Lyons Road)

Tuesday, March 13, 2018 @ 7:00PM – Board of Supervisors Meeting

## PUBLIC COMMENT

Mr. Jerry Keller, Assistant Chief provided the Board with the Year End Report for 2017 from the Lyons Volunteer Fire Company (including 2018 Elected & Appointed Officers, 2017 Emergency Calls Listing including call types, mutual aid given/received, fire damage total for 2017, and 2017 financial information). Mr. Keller also thanked the Board for their support.

The Township Solicitor informed the Board that the Township received notification of an upcoming Sheriff Sale for two properties along Beaver Creek Road. Based on the tax certification obtained from Mollie Prey, Tax Collector, it appears there may be outstanding delinquent Township taxes owed. On a motion by Duane Bennetch, seconded by Nathan Ohlinger, the Township Solicitor and Township Secretary were authorized to contact the Tax Claim Bureau and investigate the best way to proceed if any Township taxes were still owed for 99 Beaver Creek Road and 102 Beaver Creek Road. There was no public comment. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Mr. Jeffrey Cronrath inquired as to whether the Township Solicitor heard anything from the PA Game Commission regarding access to the State game lands.

There was no additional public comment. There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:18PM on a motion by Duane Bennetch, seconded by Nathan Ohlinger. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen Krall  
Secretary/Treasurer