The duly advertised regular meeting of the Rice Township Board of Supervisors is held on Tuesday October 5, 2021, at the Rice Township Municipal Building, 3000 Church Road, Mountaintop. Copies of the Agenda, draft minutes of the previous meeting and Treasurer Reports are available to the public. Chair Robert Pipech calls the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. It is announced that the meeting will be recorded for preparing the minutes. Interior cameras are also recording the meeting.

ROLL CALL: Arnold -
 Pipech -
 Smith -

Also present are: Please see attached sign in sheet.

**MOTION by** , seconded by , to hire Christopher Tyler Dimmick as a Patrolman effective 10/6/2021 upon completing the Oath of Office, recognizing the requirement that Dimmick must move within 15 miles of the jurisdictional boundaries of the department within one (1) year of hiring.

ROLL CALL: Arnold Pipech Smith

MOTION CARRIED?

Dimmick Oath of Office administered by Judge Webby.

The Board of Supervisors held an executive session on August 24, 2021 and September 2, 2021 to discuss personnel matters.

**ENGINEER'S REPORT:**

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

 **BUSINESS MATTERS:**

**MOTION** by , second by , to accept the Minutes of the meeting on September 7, 2021.
ROLL CALL: Arnold - Pipech - Smith -
MOTION CARRIED?

Received the Treasurer's Report for September, 2021:
**MOTION** by , second by , to accept the Treasurer's Report as presented, and all bills to be paid.
ROLL CALL: Arnold - Pipech - Smith -
MOTION CARRIED?

**BUSINESS MATTERS (Cont):**

Received the Roadmaster's Report for September, 2021:
**MOTION** by , second by , to accept the Roadmaster's Report as presented.
ROLL CALL: Arnold - Pipech - Smith -
MOTION CARRIED?

Received the Police Report for September, 2021:
**MOTION** by , second by , to accept the Police Report as presented.
ROLL CALL: Arnold - Pipech - Smith -
MOTION CARRIED?

Received the Zoning Report for September, 2021:
**MOTION** by , second by , to accept the Zoning Report as presented.
ROLL CALL: Arnold - Pipech - Smith -
MOTION CARRIED?

Received the SEO Report for September, 2021:
**MOTION** by , second by , to accept the SEO Report as presented.
ROLL CALL: Arnold - Pipech - Smith -
MOTION CARRIED?

**MOTION by** , seconded by , to hire Ronald Miller, Jr. as a part-time Public Works employee not to exceed 30 hours per week at $14,00 per hour effective October 12, 2021.

ROLL CALL: Arnold Pipech Smith

MOTION CARRIED?

**MOTION by** , seconded by , to adopt the 2021 Police Manual.

ROLL CALL: Arnold Pipech Smith

MOTION CARRIED?

**MOTION by** , seconded by , to adopt the 2022-2025 Collective Bargaining Agreement with the Rice Township Police Benevolent Association.

ROLL CALL: Arnold Pipech Smith

MOTION CARRIED?

**MOTION by** , seconded by , to accept the Planning Commission’s recommendation to conditionally approve the proposed alternative piping for storm water management for Jennifer’s Way subject to addressing the Township Engineer’s two comments.

ROLL CALL: Arnold Pipech Smith

MOTION CARRIED?

**BUSINESS MATTERS (Cont):**

**MOTION by** , seconded by , to approve request #8 from Bruce Fine Construction regarding the development known as Jennifer’s Way to reduce the LC by $2,613.17 including retainage based on the Township Engineer’s recommendation, leaving a balance of $117,885.25.

ROLL CALL: Arnold Pipech Smith

MOTION CARRIED?

**MOTION by** , seconded by , to approve the request from Bruce Fine Construction regarding the development known as Jennifer’s Way to reduce the LC by $42,238.03 as excess retainage to leave an outstanding balance of $75,647.22 as recommended by the Township Engineer.

ROLL CALL: Arnold Pipech Smith

MOTION CARRIED?

**MOTION by** , seconded by , to approve the Recreation Committee’s Halloween party to be held at the Township Park from 4:00 PM to 7 PM on Saturday, October 23rd and to provide up to $2,000 from the Recreation Fund for this event.

ROLL CALL: Arnold Pipech Smith

MOTION CARRIED?

**MOTION** , second , to adopt Resolution 2021-10A, which amends Resolution 2021-10 by replacing “not to exceed $225,000” with “for $190,715.66 “ and adding “or two new Ford 550 trucks” immediately following “with two new General Motors 4500 trucks.”
ROLL CALL: Arnold - Pipech - Smith -
MOTION CARRIED?

**MOTION** , second , to approve the installation two LED with remote sensors by Diversified Electric as replacements to the existing parking lot night lamps not to exceed $800.00
ROLL CALL: Arnold - Pipech - Smith -
MOTION CARRIED?

The bathrooms at the Ice Lake Park will be closed by October 29th for the winter.

The fishing derby will be held at the Blytheburn Lake on October 10, 2021 from 10 am to 1 pm.

Luzerne County is offering free tire collection on Saturday, October 9th, 2021 at the Hanover Area Jr/Sr/High School at 1600 Sans Souci Parkway. Flyers are available at the Township Office and is posted on our website.

The Planning Commission met on September 22, 2021 and draft minutes are available.

Budget preparation begins in October. Departments were asked to submit their budgetary needs for 2021.

The Commonwealth's 2021 state aid allocation supporting the Volunteer Fire Relief Association of the Wright Township Fire Company in the amount of $19,047.90 was received September 21, 2021, approximately $2,000 less than last year. Funds will be distributed to Wright Township Volunteer Firefighters' Relief Association in October in accordance with Act 205. Form 706-B will be completed and returned to the Department of the Auditor General.

The Pension Plans' Minimum Municipal Obligation Reports for 2022 were completed and distributed to the Supervisors and filed on September 30, 2021.

The 2021 Commonwealth allocation of GENERAL MUNICIPAL PENSION SYSTEM STATE AID funds in

the amount of $76,756.52 were received on September 28, 2021, an decrease of approximately $2,000 below last year. As directed by the PA Auditor General, a check in the amount of $64,625.85 will be directed to Principal Financial Group for deposit into Rice Township Police Pension Fund #4-50708; and $17,315.44 will be distributed to PMRS for Rice Township Plan (40-168-5N). This satisfies the Minimum Municipal Obligation payment for 2021.

The Roadmaster announces that leaf drop off will begin on Saturday, October 16th and concludes on Saturday, November 20th. Leaves can be left by the dumpster by the Township Building and must be in clear plastic bags. Branches cut to a length of 3 feet and no more than 1" in diameter may also be left. Holders of the Rice Township 2021-22 Recycle Permit will be allowed to leave their leaves. Cameras record the area.

Wright Township Volunteer Fire Company Report & Fire Police Incident Recap was received.

The Recreation Committee will host a Halloween event on Saturday, October 23 from 4:00PM to 7 PM.

The Recreation Committee is announcing that they will hold a special community meeting at the Township Building Wednesday, October 20, 2021 at 6:30 PM to present their progress regarding the exciting potential uses of the property formerly occupied by the Rice Township Volunteer Fire Company. The Supervisors will be in attendance and the Committee is seeking reaction and input regarding their ideas for this property. Recreation Committee Chair John Rogers and Vice-Chair of the Board of Supervisors Rick Arnold will present the Committee’s ideas and answer questions.

**SOLICITOR'S REPORT:**

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

**MOTION** by , second by , to adjourn. Meeting adjourned at p.m.