

RICE TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
AGENDA as Amended
December 6, 2022

The duly advertised meeting of the Rice Township Board of Supervisors is held on Tuesday, December 6th, 2022. Copies of the Agenda, draft Minutes of the November 1st, 2022 meeting, and Treasurer's Reports for November are available to the public. Chairman Robert Pipech calls the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and calls for the Pledge of Allegiance. It is announced that the meeting is being recorded for preparing the minutes. Video cameras are also recording the meeting.

ROLL CALL: Arnold -
 Pipech -
 Smith -

Also present were:

An Executive Session was held on November 16, 2022 at 4:30 PM at the Township Building to discuss personnel issues.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

ENGINEER'S REPORT:

BUSINESS MATTERS:

MOTION by _____, second by _____, to accept the Minutes of the Regular meeting held on November 1, 2022.

ROLL CALL: Arnold - _____ Pipech - _____ Smith - _____

MOTION CARRIED?

Received the Treasurer's Report for November, 2022:

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?

Received the Roadmaster's Report for November, 2022:

MOTION by _____, second by _____, to accept the Roadmaster's Report as presented.

ROLL CALL: Arnold - _____ Pipech - _____ Smith - _____

MOTION CARRIED?

Received the Police Report for November, 2022:

MOTION by _____, second by _____, to accept the Police Report as presented.

ROLL CALL: Arnold - _____ Pipech - _____ Smith - _____

MOTION CARRIED?

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BUSINESS MATTERS Cont.

Received the Zoning Report for November, 2022:

MOTION by _____, second by _____, to accept the Zoning Report as presented.
ROLL CALL: Arnold - _____ Pipech - _____ Smith - _____
MOTION CARRIED?

Received the SEO Report for November, 2022:

MOTION by _____, second by _____, to accept the SEO Report as presented.
ROLL CALL: Arnold - _____ Pipech - _____ Smith - _____
MOTION CARRIED?

MOTION by _____, second by _____, to approve/table the modification of the soccer/multipurpose field installation by eliminating _____ from the project thereby reducing the new estimated total cost of the project to \$ _____, approving the application to DCNR and/or DCED for an additional grant of \$ _____ and committing \$ _____ from the General Fund as the additional match..

ROLL CALL: Arnold - _____ Pipech - _____ Smith - _____
MOTION CARRIED?

MOTION by _____, second by _____, to appoint Grevera & Associates to conduct the 2022 Audit at the cost of \$3,665.00.

ROLL CALL: Arnold - _____ Pipech - _____ Smith - _____
MOTION CARRIED?

In compliance with the Police Contract:

MOTION by _____, second by _____, to approve Resolution 2022-9 which states that payments into the police pension fund by members of the police department are eliminated for the year 2023, and no deductions should be made from the pay of the members for the purpose of contributing to the police pension fund.

ROLL CALL: Arnold - _____ Pipech - _____ Smith - _____
MOTION CARRIED?

In compliance with the Police Contract:

MOTION by _____, second by _____, to approve the cost-of-living increase (COLA) to Robert Franks, Jr. of 3% for 2023.

ROLL CALL: Arnold - _____ Pipech - _____ Smith - _____
MOTION CARRIED?

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December 6, 2022

BUSINESS MATTERS Cont.

MOTION by _____, second by _____, to approve Resolution 2022-10 which authorizes the Secretary/Treasurer apply for a \$150,383 COVID-19 ARPA PA Small Water & Sewer grant for the 2023 Stormwater Project including the Vista/Laurel Drive and Nuangola Drive projects and to pay the \$100 application fee.

ROLL CALL: Arnold - _____ Pipech - _____ Smith - _____
MOTION CARRIED?

MOTION by _____, second by _____, to approve the calendar of meeting dates for the Board of Supervisors as the first Tuesday of every month, 2023, except July, when the Board shall meet on Wednesday, July 5, and November, when the Board shall meet on Wednesday, November 8 to avoid election day, and the calendar of meetings for the Planning Commission as the fourth Wednesday of every month, 2023, except for November and December when those meetings are held on the Wednesday one week prior to avoid holidays, and for said meeting dates to be advertised.

ROLL CALL: Arnold - _____ Pipech - _____ Smith - _____
MOTION CARRIED?

MOTION by _____, second by _____, to adopt the following budget for Rice Township for 2023.

ROLL CALL: Arnold - _____ Pipech - _____ Smith - _____
MOTION CARRIED?

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			ADOPTED
RICE TOWNSHIP			BUDGET
GENERAL FUND			
			2023
Receipts			
	Total 300.00 · TAXES		\$ 1,160,700
	Total 320 · LICENSES AND PERMITS		\$ 19,700
	Total 331.00 · FINES AND FORFEITS		\$ 5,800
	Total 340.00 · INTEREST, RENTS AND ROYALTIES		\$ 55,774
	Total 354.00 · STATE CAPITAL & OPER GRANTS		\$ 400,000
	Total 355.00 · STATE SHARED REV. & ENTITLEMENT		\$ 77,835
	Total 356.00 · STATE PMT IN LIEU OF TAXES		\$ 1,277
	Total 357.00 · LOCAL GOVT. GRANTS ,CAP. & OPER		\$ 34,000
	Total 358.00 · LOCAL GOV PMT CONTRACTED SVCS		\$ 34,000
	Total 360-370 · CHRGS FOR SERVICE(DEPT EARNING)		\$ 52,500
	Total 380 · Miscellaneous Income		\$ 61,264
Total Receipts			\$ 1,902,850
Expense			
	Total 400-409 · GENERAL GOVERNMENT		\$ 162,995
	Total 410-419 · PUBLIC SAFETY CAT		\$ 735,615
	Total 426-429 · PUBLIC WORKS-SANITATION		\$ 24,250
	Total 430-439 · PUBLIC WORKS-HWYS /STREETS		\$ 662,050
	Total 450-459 · CULTURE/RECREATION		\$ 2,750
	Total 481-484 · EMPLOYER PAID BENEFITS \$ WITHHO		\$ 156,747
	Total 486.00 · INSURANCE		\$ 59,900
	Total 487.00 · HEALTH INSURANCE BENEFIT		\$ 205,200
	Total 491.00 · REFUND PRIOR YEAR REVENUE		\$ 10
	Total 492.00 · INTERFUND TRANSFERS		\$ 70,000
	Total 493.00 · EMPLOYEE RELATED BENEFITS		\$ 500
	6560 · Payroll Expenses		\$ 1,150
Total Expense			\$ 2,081,167
			\$ (178,317)
Drawn from prior year's surplus			\$ 178,317
	2023 Budget Surplus/Deficit		\$ -

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RICE TOWNSHIP		ADOPTED BUDGET 2023
LIQUID FUELS		
Receipts		
	Total 341.00 · INTEREST ON DEPOSITS	\$ 290
	355.02 · LIQUID FUEL TAX	\$ 132,505
Total Receipts		\$ 132,795
Expense		
	Total 432.00 · SNOW REMOVAL	\$ 40,000
	Total 433.00 · ROAD SIGNS	\$ 1,000
	434.00 · Street Lighting	\$ 23,000
	Total 437.00 · REPAIRS & MAINT. TO EQUIPMENT	\$ 30,250
	Total 438.00 · MAINT. & REPAIRS TO ROADS	\$ 15,000
Total Expense		\$ 109,250
Surplus		\$ 23,545

RICE TOWNSHIP RECREATION FUND		PROPOSED BUDGET 2023
Receipts		
	Total 341.00 · INTEREST EARNINGS	\$ 8
	Total 360 · Charges for Services	\$ 3,500
	392.00 · Transfer from General Fund	\$ 70,000
Total Receipts		\$ 73,508
Expense		
	Total 450 · Recreation	\$ 67,000
	457.00 · CELEBRATIONS	\$ 6,000
Total Expense		\$ 73,000
Surplus		\$ 508

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Rice Township Tax Rates

Total.....0.26 mills (property assessed value x \$0.00026)
Real Estate Transfer Taxes.....1/2 of 1% collected
Local Services Tax.....\$5.00 Township; \$5.00 School District

There is NO tax increase for 2023.

BUSINESS MATTERS Cont.:

MOTION by _____, second by _____, to pass Resolution 2023-1 that the above millage and tax rate for Rice Township for 2023 be adopted as presented.

ROLL CALL: Arnold - _____ Pipech - _____ Smith - _____
MOTION CARRIED?

MOTION by _____, second by _____, to renew the lease with FirstLight (Lessor) whereby Lessor pays \$3,5000 per month from January 1, 2023 to December 31, 2023 to lease space at 40 Willoweby Street.

ROLL CALL: Arnold - _____ Pipech - _____ Smith - _____
MOTION CARRIED?

MOTION by _____, second by _____, to renew the lease with Prumac, Inc. t/a Ice House Pub(Lessor) from January 1, 2023 to December 31, 2023 to lease space at 40 Willoweby Street and Lessor pays \$1,250 by January 15, 2023.

ROLL CALL: Arnold - _____ Pipech - _____ Smith - _____
MOTION CARRIED?

MOTION by _____, second by _____, to hire Pinnacle Cleaning Service for monthly service at a monthly rate of \$80.00. Pinnacle Cleaning Service is bonded and insured.

ROLL CALL: Arnold - _____ Pipech - _____ Smith - _____
MOTION CARRIED?

MOTION by _____, second by _____, to approve the following dues payments for 2023:

\$275.00 to Northeastern Pennsylvania Alliance
\$30.00 to the Luzerne County Boroughs and Townships Association
\$150.00 to the Pennsylvania Chiefs of Police Association

ROLL CALL: Arnold - _____ Pipech - _____ Smith - _____
MOTION CARRIED?

MOTION by _____, second by _____, to ratify the decision by poll to purchase an HIWMM.Y1.A.H.IM.OP19.AL.SB.T IGNITION office chair for the Zoning Office from HON/Stone Office for the COSTARS price of \$414.00.

ROLL CALL: Arnold - _____ Pipech - _____ Smith - _____
MOTION CARRIED?

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MOTION by _____, second by _____, to authorize up to \$4,950 for the first annual Holiday Tree Lighting event.

ROLL CALL: Arnold - _____ Pipech - _____ Smith - _____
MOTION CARRIED?

MOTION by _____, second by _____, to give full-time employees a holiday bonus of \$50 as a thank you for their dedicated service.

ROLL CALL: Arnold - _____ Pipech - _____ Smith - _____
MOTION CARRIED?

The Supervisors want to thank residents for their cooperation and participation in the fall leaf program. Leaves brought to the recycle center by residents resulted in 2 dumpsters being filled and is estimated to have saved close to \$30,000 in taxpayer expense, allowing our Public Works Crew to patch roads and prepare the trucks for inclement weather.

The Planning Commission did not meet on November 16 for lack of agenda items.

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

The reorganization meeting of the Board of Supervisors will be held on Tuesday, January 3, 2023 at 7:00 p.m., and the first regular meeting of the Board will be held immediately following. The reorganization meeting of the Township Auditors will be held on Wednesday, January 4, 2023 at 5:30 p.m.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT:

PUBLIC COMMENT:

The Board of Supervisors, Police and Employees wish everyone a very happy, safe and healthy Holiday Season.

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