

RICE TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS - MINUTES
JANUARY 2, 2018

The duly advertised regular meeting of the Rice Township Board of Supervisors was held on Tuesday, January 2, 2018, at the Rice Township Municipal Building, 3000 Church Road, Mountaintop. Copies of the Agenda and Treasurer Reports were available to the public. Chair Robert Pipech called the meeting to order at 7:10 p.m. It was announced that the meeting will be recorded for preparing the minutes. Interior cameras were also recording the video.

ROLL CALL: Arnold - here
 Pipech - here
 Smith, Jr. - here

Also present were: Please see attached sign in sheet.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

There was no public comment.

REPORTS:

MOTION by Pipech, second by Richard Arnold, to accept the Minutes of the regular meeting on December 5, 2017.

ROLL CALL: Arnold - yes Pipech - yes Smith - yes

MOTION CARRIED.

Received the Treasurer's Report for December, 2017: Treasurer Beck reported on receipts and expenses for the three funds. He pointed out the reduced revenue typical of December and pointed out the \$102,175.49 in G/L number 438.45 associated with Henry Drive, and offset by previous LSA grants. He also pointed out the Interfund Transfers of \$34,001.49 to the General Fund from the Liquid Fuels fund to reimburse for expenses which qualify for Liquid Fuels. He also reported that December 31, 2017 bank balances for the General Fund totaled \$246,610.20, for Liquid Fuels totaled \$73,034.85, and for the Recreation Fund totaled \$4,784.56. The report was read and filed. Pipech asked for a breakdown of the Liquid Fuels reimbursement, and Beck explained that those payments covered street lighting, repairs to Public Works vehicle, engineering expenses related to Liquid Fuels supported projects, and advertising for the same projects.

MOTION by Carl Smith, second by Arnold, to accept the Treasurer's Report as presented, and all bills to be paid.

ROLL CALL: Arnold - yes Pipech - yes Smith - yes

MOTION CARRIED.

Received the Roadmaster's Report for December 2017: Roadmaster Pipech reported that salt and cinder was applied at least 5 times this year along with the necessary plowing. He also pointed out that the crew had started the demolition of the out buildings at the old Rice Township Volunteer Fire location. A dumpster is being filled with the debris. The buildings are in bad shape.

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

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ROLL CALL: Arnold - yes

Pipech - yes

Smith - yes

MOTION CARRIED.

Received the Police Report for December 2017: Chief Franks read the police report and it was filed.

MOTION by Pipech, second by Arnold, to accept the Police Report as presented. In answer to Solicitor Dean's question, an Act 64 violation is a drug violation.

ROLL CALL: Arnold - yes

Pipech - yes

Smith - yes

MOTION CARRIED.

There is no Zoning Officer report for December, 2017.

ENGINEER'S REPORT:

Township engineer Andrew Pasonick reported that AR Poppo submitted the required papers regarding the dam project, and that he had received the Fish and Boat dewatering permits which expire on April 30, 2018. He expected to issue the Notice to Proceed within a week, and suggested that the lake be closed to any usage during the construction period. Pipech announced that the lake will be closed during the duration of this construction.

BUSINESS MATTERS:

MOTION by Pipech, second by Arnold, to adopt Resolution 2018-3 which expresses the Township's opposition to HB 1620 which would strip the Township of its authority to regulate wireless facilities within and outside the public rights-of-way.

ROLL CALL: Arnold - yes

Pipech - yes

Smith - yes

MOTION CARRIED.

MOTION by Smith, second by Arnold, to submit a new Salt Contract Participation Agreement to DGS COSTARS for the August 2018-July 2019 Season. We requested 500 tons for the 2017-2018 Season.

ROLL CALL: Arnold - yes

Pipech - yes

Smith - yes

MOTION CARRIED.

MOTION by Pipech, second by Arnold, to adopt an amended lease agreement with the Ice House Pub regarding the former RTVFD parking lot whereby the Pub will contribute \$500 this year to the recreation fund.

ROLL CALL: Arnold - yes

Pipech - yes

Smith - yes

MOTION CARRIED.

MOTION by Smith, second by Arnold, to pay the Secretary/Treasurer's Health Care Premiums for 2018 not as compensation.

ROLL CALL: Arnold - yes

Pipech - yes

Smith - yes

MOTION CARRIED.

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MOTION by Pipech, second by Arnold, to pay the Road Worker's Sick Days for time exceeding the 90-day cap.

ROLL CALL: Arnold - yes

Pipech - yes

Smith - yes

MOTION CARRIED.

The Planning Commission did not meet on December 13th, 2017, for lack of agenda items.

Wright Township Volunteer Fire Company Report & Fire Police Incident Recap. Arnold did not have a formal report, but noted that the cold weather required extra caution for carbon monoxide and be careful. Discussion regarding the pending Henry Drive road closure prompted Arnold to note that alternate detour routes have been created.

Rice Township books were closed December 31, 2017. An Audit of the Township books will be conducted.

With the snow season here, the Police Department asks that residents remove all portable basketball hoops and refrain from parking on township roads or rights-of-way during storms for safe snow removal.

PUBLIC COMMENT: Robert Smith, member of the Planning Commission, initiated further discussion concerning the Henry Drive closure and asked if a start date had been set. Arnold responded that while the closure period is anticipated to be 60 days, and actual start date does not exist, but the whole project would take about 5 months. Currently trees are being removed and utilities will need to be relocated. He also confirmed that the resulting intersection will be a 4-way stop. Pipech confirmed with Beck that all 4 grants requests have been sent to Harrisburg.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT: Solicitor Dean did not have an official report, but thanked the Supervisors' for his reappointment and reported that he has also been appoint as Solicitor to Wright Township.

MOTION by Pipech, second by Smith, to adjourn. Meeting adjourned at 7.23 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jeffrey D. Beck
Secretary/Treasurer