# RICE TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS - MINUTES JUNE 5, 2018

The duly advertised regular meeting of the Rice Township Board of Supervisors was held on Tuesday, June 5, 2018, at the Rice Township Municipal Building, 3000 Church Road, Mountaintop. Copies of the Agenda, previous meeting minutes and Treasurer Reports were available to the public. Chair Robert Pipech called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. It was announced that the meeting was being recorded for preparing the minutes. Interior cameras were also recording the video.

ROLL CALL: Arnold - here Pipech - here Smith - here

Also present were: Please see attached sign in sheet.

Chairman Robert Pipech announced that the Supervisors entered into Executive Session on May 17 and June 5, 2018 to discuss legal matters.

The Supervisors held a special meeting on Thursday, May 31st, to adopt Resolution 2018-12 authorizing the application to Greenways, Trails and Recreation Program grant for a pickleball court. Carl Smith thanked the Secretary/Treasurer for efforts on this grant since the court would be an asset to Rice Township residents.

The County Engineer reported that the Blytheburn bridge project was out for bid, with bids due to the County on June 6th.

HRI, contractor for the removal of the Church Road overpass, will close Henry Drive and Church Road for approximately 60 days beginning June 13, 2018.

Wright Recreation and Environmental sent the Township a letter of thanks for the \$250.00 donation towards the fireworks.

The Township Park trees were sprayed for gypsy moths.

PUBLIC COMMENT: Mary Anne Whitonis from Church Road complained about a neighbor's loud car noise and roaming dog and thought the police were not responsive. After discussion including Chief Franks and Solicitor Dean, Supervisors Pipech, Richard Arnold and Carl Smith all reassured Whitonis concerning her issues, and suggested that she file a complaint with the Secretary/Treasurer. Cliff Moralis of 1544 Laurel Lakes Drive complained about storm water in front of his house. Roadmaster Pipech responded that they would meet directly following the meeting. Barbara Miller from Wilderness Drive asked for an update regarding the use of Heslop Road by the proposed PRD. Dean noted that he had received word that the traffic study was complete but had not seen the results. Dean and Township Engineer Andrew Pasonick explained the road study process, and Supervisor Richard Arnold, Pipech and Smith noted that the study will include traffic projections for consideration and is being conducted by a third party. The outcome of the study will go to the Planning Commission for review.

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#### **BUSINESS MATTERS:**

**ENGINEER'S REPORT:** Pasonick reported that the Ice Lake water level continues to decline and the work will continue. Pasonick also stated that bids were received and opened that morning for the 2018 LSA Paving Project, and that Barletta Materials was the low bidder. Conversation between Marty Wentz and the supervisors centered around the progress on the dam project, and each Supervisor reiterated that they want to get the project done. Arnold noted that the contractor selected was the low bidder and was bonded.

**MOTION** by Arnold, second by Smith, to accept the low bid from Barletta Materials & Construction at a cost of \$164,475.00 for the base bid and \$60,757.60 for alternate 1 for the Laurel Drive repave project and the Ice Lake Drive base repair, together known as the 2018 LSA Paving Project, in accordance with DCED grant requirements.

ROLL CALL: Arnold - yes

Pipech - yes

Smith - yes

MOTION CARRIED.

**MOTION** by Pipech, second by Smith, to accept the Minutes of the Regular meeting held on May 1, 2018, and the Minutes of the Special Meeting held on May 31, 2018.

ROLL CALL: Arnold - yes

Pipech - yes

Smith - yes

MOTION CARRIED.

Treasurer Jeffrey Beck explained that EIT receipts have been transferred to the Money Market Account and that application for reimbursement for the purchase of the police cruiser was made. He also explained that the recreation fund was impacted by the installation of the whirl in the park. He noted the bills to be paid as presented on the General Fund, State Fund and Recreation Fund check register reports, and noted the bank balances below: Ending bank balances as of May 31, 2018: General Fund checking, \$98,059.48; General Fund MM, \$209,432.31; EDCIP Fund, \$60,017.42; Liquid Fuels checking, \$332.65; Liquid Fuels MM, \$160,014.83; Recreation checking, \$2,283.35; Recreation MM, \$3,001.99; for total cash on hand of \$473,124.61. The report was filed.

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

ROLL CALL: Arnold - yes

Pipech - yes

Smith - yes

MOTION CARRIED.

Roadmaster Pipech reported that the tar buggy had been repaired and the road crew was busy patching pot holes. The crew also helped install the new whirl at the park and helped with the park landscaping which is looking good. As reported, the park trees were sprayed for gypsy moths.

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

ROLL CALL: Arnold - yes

Pipech - yes

Smith - yes

MOTION CARRIED.

Received the Police Report for May, 2018 as presented by Chief Robert Franks and filed:

**MOTION** by Pipech, second by Smith, to accept the Police Report as presented.

ROLL CALL: Arnold - yes

Pipech - yes

Smith - yes

MOTION CARRIED.

# RICE TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS - MINUTES JUNE 5, 2018

**BUSINESS MATTERS: (Cont'd)** 

Received the Zoning Report for May, 2018 as presented by the Secretary/Treasurer and filed.

**MOTION** by Pipech, second by Arnold, to accept the Zoning Report for May, 2018.

ROLL CALL: Arnold - yes

Pipech - yes

Smith - yes

MOTION CARRIED.

**MOTION** by Smith, second by Pipech, to adopt Resolution 2018-13 which requests a grant of \$62,950.00 from the Luzerne County 2018 Community Development Infrastructure Grant Program due June 15, 2018, for the demolition of the old Rice Township Volunteer Fire Company Social Hall.

ROLL CALL: Arnold - yes

Pipech - yes

Smith - yes

MOTION CARRIED.

**MOTION** by Arnold, second by Pipech, to transfer the LSA grant C000064180 to Fairview Township and be relieved of all obligations relating to that grant.

ROLL CALL: Arnold - yes

Pipech - yes

Smith - yes

MOTION CARRIED.

**MOTION** by Pipech, second by Arnold, to donate \$20.00 to the American Legion Parade of Champions from the Recreation Fund. Last year we donated \$20.00.

ROLL CALL: Arnold - yes

Pipech - yes

Smith - yes

MOTION CARRIED.

**MOTION** by Pipech, second by Smith, to ratify the permission given by poll to the Secretary/Treasurer to attend 3 PSATS webinars this month at a cost of \$30.00 each.

ROLL CALL: Arnold - yes

Pipech - yes

Smith - yes

MOTION CARRIED.

**MOTION** by Pipech, second by Arnold, to approve the Secretary/Treasurer to attend 2 PSATS archived webinars this month at a cost of \$20.00 each.

ROLL CALL: Arnold - yes

Pipech - yes

Smith - yes

MOTION CARRIED.

**MOTION** by Pipech, second by Smith, to approve the Secretary/Treasurer attendance at the Luzerne County Borough and Township Association meeting on June 28th at a cost of \$10.00.

ROLL CALL: Arnold - yes

Pipech - yes

Smith - yes

MOTION CARRIED.

Wright Township Volunteer Fire Company Report & Fire Police Incident Recap. Arnold presented the report, and noted that the Fire Department has adjusted its response and routes to account for the road closure for the Church Road bridge removal. He also commented that the Fire Department Bazaar was being held. Pipech asked that the Fire Department determine if they could back flush the dry hydrant in the Ice Lakes to clear the hydrant.

The Planning Commission met on April 25th and draft minutes of that meeting are available.

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#### **BUSINESS MATTERS: (Cont'd)**

We received a request from Rice Elementary School to use the overflow parking lot at the Township Building for pick-up/drop off space and parking for chaperones of field trips. Such request was approved last year.

**MOTION** by Smith, second by Arnold, to ratify the approval by poll of the request from Rice Elementary School to use the overflow parking lot at the Township Building for pick-up/drop off space and parking for chaperones of field trips for May 14,18,21,24, and 29.

ROLL CALL: Arnold - yes Pipech - yes Smith - yes MOTION CARRIED.

**SOLICITOR'S REPORT:** The Solicitor had no report to give, but requested copies of the material left by Mary Anne Whitonis.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:** Robert Smith, member of the Planning Commission, inquired about dead trees lining some roads, and Pipech noted that they would be addressed late in the fall after the leaves had dropped. Jane Anne Lokken and Felicia Bierzynski noted that PPL is cutting trees along Henry, Blytheburn and Prospect. Contractor Diamond has not returned a quote to install sinks in the park bathroom. Bryan Brown, Township EMC, asked the Township Engineer to supply inundation maps for the EAP for the Ice Lakes.

**MOTION** by Pipech, second by Smith, to adjourn. Meeting adjourned at 7:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted;

Jeffrey D. Beck Secretary/Treasurer