The duly advertised regular meeting of the Rice Township Board of Supervisors was held on Tuesday, December 4th, 2018, at the Rice Township Municipal Building, 3000 Church Road, Mountaintop. Copies of the Agenda and Treasurer Reports and minutes of the previous meeting were available to the public. Chair Robert Pipech called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. It was announced that the meeting would be 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.

PUBLIC COMMENT: Chairman Pipech called for public comment but none was forthcoming.

ENGINEER'S REPORT: Township Engineer Pasonick reported that the draw-down permit for the Ice Lake Dam project was extended to April 30, 2019.

BUSINESS MATTERS:

MOTION by Smith, second by Arnold, to accept the Minutes of the Regular Meeting held on November 7th, 2018.

ROLL CALL: Arnold - yes

Pipech - yes

Smith - yes

MOTION CARRIED.

Received the Treasurer's Report for November, 2018: Treasurer Beck reported that EIT receipts were strong for November, and that the \$282,605 receipt of LSA funds offset the \$282,605.20 check to Barletta Materials for the 2018 Pave Project. Significant equipment repairs were paid by Liquid Fuels, and the final master plan park payment was made out of the Recreation Fund. Total General Fund balances were \$347,059.76; for Liquid Fuels, \$137,425.58; and for Recreation Fund, \$3,756.47. 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.

Received the Roadmaster's Report for November, 2018: Roadmaster Pipech reported that, with the change in the leaf program, Township trucks were ready for the storm and the public works crew did a great job clearing the roads. Their biggest difficulty was getting stuck in the traffic trying to get back to pick up more salt/anti-skid. They will continue to cold patch as weather permits.

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

ROLL CALL: Arnold - yes

Pipech - yes

Smith - yes

MOTION CARRIED.

BUSINESS MATTERS (Con't):

Received the Police Report for November, 2018: Chief Robert Franks presented the Police Report and it was filed.

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

ROLL CALL: Arnold - yes

Pipech - yes

Smith - yes

MOTION CARRIED.

Received the Zoning Officer Report for November, 2018: Secretary/Treasurer Beck presented the report and it was filed.

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

ROLL CALL: Arnold - yes

Pipech - ves

Smith - yes

MOTION CARRIED.

MOTION by Arnold, second by Smith, to purchase a Ford 550 truck from Kovatch Ford, as configured, for \$85,823.60 less the trade-in of the one ton truck for \$14,000 netting \$71,823.60 to be paid from Liquid Fuels funds.

ROLL CALL: Arnold - yes

Pipech - yes

Smith - yes

MOTION CARRIED.

In compliance with the Police Contract:

MOTION by Smith, second by Pipech, to approve Resolution 2018-15 that payments into the police pension fund by members of the police department are eliminated for the year of 2019, 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 - yes

Pipech - yes

Smith - yes

MOTION CARRIED.

MOTION by Smith, second by Pipech, to approve Resolution 2018-16 adopting the Rice Township Personnel Manual dated 11/29/2018.

ROLL CALL: Arnold - yes

Pipech - yes

Smith - yes

MOTION CARRIED.

MOTION by Arnold, second by Smith, to approve Resolution 2018-17 for the Local Share Account (Gaming) Grant Application of \$250,000 for the paving of Henry Drive, Basswood Court and associated application fees, and appoint Robert Pipech to execute all documents.

ROLL CALL: Arnold - yes

Pipech - yes

Smith - yes

MOTION CARRIED.

BUSINESS MATTERS (Con't):

MOTION by Smith, second by Arnold, to approve Resolution 2018-18 for the Local Share Account (Gaming) Grant Application of \$180,000 for the replacement of the culvert on Henry Drive and associated application fees, and appoint Robert Pipech to execute all documents.

ROLL CALL: Arnold - yes

Pipech - yes

Smith - yes

MOTION CARRIED.

Pipech noted that he will go, along with two of the Road Crew, to Harrisburg to inspect this machine which is a backhoe, milling machine, road sweeper and gradeall in one.

MOTION by Arnold, second by Pipech, to approve Resolution 2018-19 for the Local Share Account (Gaming) Grant Application of \$150,000 for the purchase of a new JCB backhoe with patch planer, sweeper and steel wrist and associated application fees, and appoint Robert Pipech to execute all documents.

ROLL CALL: Arnold - yes

Pipech - yes

Smith - yes

MOTION CARRIED.

MOTION by Smith, second by Arnold, to approve Resolution 2018-20 for the Local Share Account (Gaming) Grant Application of \$150,000 to begin the execution of the Park Master Plan and associated application fees, and appoint Robert Pipech to execute all documents.

ROLL CALL: Arnold - yes

Pipech - yes

Smith - yes

MOTION CARRIED.

MOTION by Smith, second by Arnold, to approve the calendar of meeting dates for the Board of Supervisors as the first Tuesday of every month, 2019, except for Wednesday, November 7 due to election day, and the calendar of meetings for the Planning Commission as the fourth Wednesday of every month, 2019, 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 - yes

Pipech - yes

Smith - yes

MOTION CARRIED.

MOTION by Pipech, second by Smith, to approve to send a letter of support for the LSA grant sought by Wright Township on behalf of the Mountaintop Little League for lighting of their ball fields.

ROLL CALL: Arnold - yes

Pipech - yes

Smith - yes

MOTION CARRIED.

MOTION by Arnold, second by Pipech, to donate \$100.00 to the SPCA of Luzerne County in memory of John S. Dean, father of Solicitor Jack Dean.

ROLL CALL: Arnold - yes

Pipech - yes

Smith - yes

MOTION CARRIED.

The Rice Township Planning Commission did not meet on Wednesday, November 15th, 2018 for lack of agenda items.

BUSINESS MATTERS (Con't):

Rice Township Tax Rates

Total	0.26 mills (property assessed value x \$0.00026)
Real Estate Transfer Taxes	
	\$5.00 Township; \$5.00 School District

There is NO tax increase for 2019.

MOTION by Arnold, second by Smith, to pass Resolution 2019-1 that the above millage and tax rate for Rice Township for 2019 be adopted as presented.

ROLL CALL: Arnold - yes

Pipech - yes

Smith - yes

MOTION CARRIED.

MOTION by Smith, second by Pipech, to adopt the proposed budget as the budget for Rice Township for 2019, amended to increase the grant request for the backhoe to \$150,000 and the Henry Drive culvert to \$180,000, both of which do not require a re-advertisement of the budget. ROLL CALL: Arnold - yes Pipech - yes Smith - yes

MOTION CARRIED.

In response to a question from Pipech, Pasonick reported that he used the experience for the Laurel Lakes culvert project as a guide to cost out the Henry Drive Culvert replacement. Since that culvert is under supporting structure for the Wilkes-Barre and Hazelton rail line, the extent of work will not be known until the section of road is removed and excavation begun. Pasonick also agreed that any repaving on Henry Drive will begin at Blytheburn Road and move north as far as the money will take the project.

Pipech reported that: the State Police Fines and Penalties Payment of \$1,066.42 was received on December 3, 2018;

the Supervisors wanted to thank residents for their cooperation and participation in the new fall leaf program this year. 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 be proactive in plowing the last storm and allowing road patching to extend into the fall. The program also saved wear and tear on the trucks;

an executive session will be held prior to the 2019 Reorganization. Copies of the Township Officials list will be given to the Board of Supervisors;

the reorganization meeting of the Board of Supervisors will be held on Monday, January 7, 2019 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 Tuesday, January 8, 2019 at 6:00 p.m.; and

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

Public Comment: Pat Rushton of Citizen's Voice confirmed that the new truck is a 2019, not likely to be delivered before the spring, and that the Township was trading in the one ton 2000 truck.

Solicitor's Report: Attorney Charles McCormick reported that there was no report.

MOTION by Smith, second by Arnold, to adjourn. Meeting adjourned at 7.22 p.m..

Respectfully submitted:

Jeffrey D. Beck

Secretary/Treasurer