### RICE TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS - MINUTES JANUARY 4, 2021

The duly advertised regular meeting of the Rice Township Board of Supervisors was held on Monday, January 4, 2021, at the Rice Township Municipal Building, 3000 Church Road, Mountaintop with limited attendance capacity due to social distancing requirements. The meeting was also being conducted using ZOOM. Copies of the Agenda, draft minutes of the previous meetings and Treasurer Reports were available to the public at the meeting and electronically by request to the Secretary/Treasurer. Chair Robert Pipech called the meeting to order at 7:06 p.m. It is announced that the meeting will be recorded for preparing the minutes. Interior cameras were also recording the meeting.

ROLL CALL: Arnold

- here

Pipech

- here

Smith .

- here

Also present were: Please see attached sign in sheet.

PUBLIC COMMENT: Tom Romanyshyn, member of the Planning Commission, asked about the process of forming a committee for the Ice Lakes. In discussion including Chair Pipech, Vice Chair Arnold and Solicitor Dean, the Solicitor is in the process of drafting a document including by-laws for the formation of a Recreation Committee for the Township. Arnold, liaison to the committee, noted that a committee for the Ice Lakes could be a subgroup of the Recreation Committee, but recreation suggestions needed to come from a broad representation of the Township. Dean and Arnold indicated that a draft could be available within 4-6 weeks. The Board of Supervisors would advertise for interest in membership. Romanyshyn noted that the lily pads were negatively impacting use of the lake. Arnold said that the number one Ice Lake issue is to retrofit the dam. Arnold added that we need to determine if we can fix the dry hydrant. Pipech added that the Fish and Boat Commission wants to stock the lake around the end of May. Romanyshyn suggested that some residents could get licensed to spray the lily pads. Dr. Greg Weiner, resident of Ice Lakes, suggested that Romanyshyn be a committee member. In response to concerns that the Supervisors were dominating the process, Dean explained that the very creation of such a committee with representation across the Township was evidence that the Supervisors were not dominating the process. Arnold and Pipech noted that such membership had been extended to Tom Romanyshyn. Nanci Romanyshyn stated her desire to be appointed a member of the Recreation Committee. Supervisor Smith pondered the best way to ensure broad representation on the Committee. Arnold speculated that a member might come from one of the baseball organizations and that the pickleball players would likely hope for a spot. Romanyshyn added that he thought that Ice Lakes residents could seek funding for lake improvements. The discussion concluded that Dean will draft a document to form such a committee for review.

**ENGINEER'S REPORT:** Engineer Pasonick reported that 1.) mobilization for the dam project was scheduled for tomorrow and that dewatering was scheduled to begin next week; 2.) that he recommended approval of the reduction of \$41,059.29 in financial security requested by Bruce Fine for Jennifer's Way, and assured Roadmaster Pipech that the road in the project was still rough grade and would meet township standards when complete; and 3.) that he would have draft plans to bring the front of the building up to ADA compliance for the Supervisors to review within a week or so.

## RICE TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS - MINUTES JANUARY 4, 2021

#### **BUSINESS MATTERS:**

MOTION by Pipech, second by Smith, to accept the Minutes of the regular meeting on December 1, 2020.

ROLL CALL: Arnold - yes

Pipech - yes

Smith - yes

MOTION CARRIED.

Received the Treasurer's Report for December, 2020. Treasurer Beck reported that there were no unusual expenses for the month of December. Referencing the General Fund Actual to Budget report for the year, Beck noted that the operation recorded about \$9,000 in surplus versus a budget expectation of \$1,000. Beck reported the following bank balances for December 31, 2021: Total for the General Fund, \$389,104.99; total for Liquid Fuels, \$135,708.66; total for the Recreation Fund, \$16,219.02; for total cash on hand of \$541,032.67, and total for the restricted Developer's Account, \$5,000.65.

MOTION by Smith, second by Pipech, 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, 2020: Roadmaster Pipech reported that the Road Crew handled two storms well, using large quantities of road salt and anti-skid. Pipech added that an additional 50 tons of salt had been ordered to replenish supplies but that patching potholes would be difficult given the amount of water in them. Pipech commented that recycling was going well but asked that residents comply with the one-at-a-time process at the recycle center. Arnold noted that the Road Crew had really done a good job keeping the roads clear during the two storms.

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

ROLL CALL: Arnold - yes

Pipech - yes

Smith - yes

MOTION CARRIED.

Received the Police Report for December, 2020:

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

ROLL CALL: Arnold - yes

Pipech - yes

Smith - yes

MOTION CARRIED.

Received the Zoning Report for December, 2020: Beck noted the 6 items for the month of December and the 3 pages of items for the full year with one pending for January.

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

ROLL CALL: Arnold - yes

Pipech - yes

Smith - yes

MOTION CARRIED.

Received the SEO Report for December, 2020: Beck noted the 1 item on the report for the month.

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

ROLL CALL: Arnold - yes

Pipech - ves

Smith - yes

MOTION CARRIED.

### RICE TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS - MINUTES JANUARY 4, 2021

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

**MOTION** by Arnold, second by Pipech, to submit a new Salt Contract Participation Agreement to DGS COSTARS for the August 2021-July 2022 Season. We requested 500 tons for the 2020-2021 Season.

ROLL CALL: Arnold - yes

Pipech - yes

Smith - yes

MOTION CARRIED.

**MOTION** by Pipech, second by Smith, to pay the Secretary/Treasurer's Health Care Premiums for 2021 not as compensation, saving the Township an estimated \$8,166 this year.

ROLL CALL: Arnold - yes

Pipech - yes

Smith - yes

MOTION CARRIED.

**MOTION** by Pipech, second by Smith, to award a net bonus of \$5,000 to the Secretary/Treasurer for work associated with grant management.

ROLL CALL: Arnold - yes

Pipech - yes

Smith - yes

MOTION CARRIED.

**MOTION** by Pipech, second by Arnold, to approve the reduction in financial security for Jennifer's Way by \$41,059.29 which includes 10% retainage, as recommended by the Township Engineer, bringing the total of financial security on this project to \$320,790.04.

ROLL CALL: Arnold - yes

Pipech - yes

Smith - yes

MOTION CARRIED.

**MOTION** by Pipech, second by Arnold, to approve the FirstLight Cable lease of the western section and rear eastern section of the Rice Township Fire Department property as noted on the map, for \$2,250.00 per month, to expire on January 31, 2022, subject to final terms to be reviewed and approved by the Township Solicitor.

ROLL CALL: Arnold - yes

Pipech - yes

Smith - yes

MOTION CARRIED.

Pipech announced that the Auditors meeting will be changed to 5:00 PM from 6:00 PM tomorrow, January 5, 2021 as advertised and will be conducted using ZOOM. Log in information can be obtained from the Township Secretary/Treasurer; that the Planning Commission met on December 16<sup>th</sup>, 2020 and draft minutes are available; that the Wright Township Volunteer Fire Company Fire Police Incident Recap was received. Arnold reported that he met with the two fire chiefs and thanked the Fire Company volunteers for their high level of service, Curt Hardiman for his efforts in the Fire Police and our Police Department for their performance. Pipech added that the Rice Township books were closed December 31, 2020 and an Audit of the Township books will be conducted; and concluded that 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.

**SOLICITOR'S REPORT:** Solicitor announced that 3 members of the undefeated Crestwood Football Team District 2 Champions were selected to the All Eastern Pennsylvania All-Star Team. One of those was Dean's son, and Dean was congratulated by the Supervisors.

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PUBLIC COMMENT:	There	was no	public	comment.
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MOTION by Pipech, second by Arnold, to adjourn. Meeting adjourned at 7:40 PM.

Respectfully submitted:

Jeffrey D. Beck

Secretary/Treasurer