

RICE TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
MINUTES
REORGANIZATION MEETING
JANUARY 4, 2021

The duly advertised reorganization 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. The meeting was also being conducted using ZOOM. Copies of the Agenda were available to the public. Attorney John G. Dean, Township Solicitor, called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. It was announced that the meeting was 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.

Robert Pipech announced that the Board of Supervisors met in Executive Session on December 31st at 2:00 p.m. to discuss personnel matters. The regular meeting of the Supervisors will be held immediately following the reorganization.

MOTION by Pipech, second by Smith, to name Rick Arnold temporary Chair.

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

MOTION by Arnold, second by Pipech, to name Jeffrey Beck as temporary Secretary.

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

MOTION by Arnold, second by Smith, to name Robert Pipech as Chairman for the year 2021.

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

MOTION by Smith, second by Pipech, to name Rick Arnold as Vice-Chair for the year 2021.

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

MOTION by Smith, second by Arnold, to name Jeffrey D. Beck as Secretary/Treasurer for the year 2021.

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

Pipech noted that there were no changes made concerning reappointments for 2021, with the exception of the addition of John (Curt) Hardiman as Zoning Hearing Board Alternate. As such, Pipech made the following motion:

MOTION by Pipech, second by Arnold, to adopt all motions contained in the Reorganization Agenda for 2021.

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

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MOTION by _____, second by _____, to make the following appointments:

Police--Carl Smith
Pensions-- Carl Smith
Fire Departments--Rick Arnold, Liaison
Personnel--Bob Pipech
Recycling--Bob Pipech
Recreation--Rick Arnold
Roadmaster--Bob Pipech
Planning & Zoning--Rick Arnold, Liaison
Mountain Top Regional Police--Rick Arnold
Mountaintop Area Joint Sanitary Authority Liaison--Carl Smith

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

MOTION by _____, second by _____, to make the following appointments:

Acting Zoning Officer -- Strategic Municipal Group
SEO-- William Brior
SEO Alternate--Robert Fugate
Zoning Consultant -- Jack Varaly
Planning Commission Administrator/Secretary--Jeffrey D. Beck
Earned Income Tax Collector--H.A. Berkheimer, Inc.
Local Service Tax Collector--H.A. Berkheimer, Inc.
Tax Hearing Officer--H.A. Berkheimer, Inc.
Deputy Tax Collector--Diane Kendig

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

MOTION by _____, second by _____, to enter into a contract for 2021 engaging Strategic Municipal Group(SMG) as the acting Zoning Officer for the Township

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

MOTION by _____, second by _____, to make appointments of personnel as per attached schedule which includes salaries/wages. [See Wages page]

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

MOTION by _____, second by _____, to make the following appointments:

Township Engineer--PennEastern Engineers
Township Solicitor--John G. Dean, Esq.
Planning Commission Solicitor--John G. Dean, Esq.
Zoning Hearing Board Solicitor--Jeffrey Malak, Esq.

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

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MOTION by _____, second by _____, to make the following appointments:
Planning Commission: Robert Smith and Paul Ward (4-year term);
Zoning Hearing Board: Henry Krajewski (3-year term);
Zoning Hearing Board Alternate: John Hardiman (3 Year term)
UCC Appeal Board: VACANCY (5-year term); since 2016
Vacancy Board: Albert Bierzynski (annual);
UCC Appeal Board: _____ (4-year term)
Emergency Management Coordinator: Bryan Brown (annual);
Flood Plain Administrator: Strategic Municipal Group (annual);
ROLL CALL: Arnold - _____ Pipech - _____ Smith - _____
MOTION CARRIED.

The Board of Supervisors is currently accepting applications for a UCC Appeal Board position (5-year term). Residents may submit applications to the Township or call the Supervisors if interested.

MOTION by _____, second by _____, to adopt Resolution #2021-2, appointing Pam Heard as the Primary TCC voting delegate, _____ as the first alternate voting delegate, and _____ as the second alternate voting delegate.
ROLL CALL: Arnold - _____ Pipech - _____ Smith - _____
MOTION CARRIED.

MOTION by _____, second by _____, to adopt Resolution 2021-3 appointing Jeffrey D. Beck as Chief Administrative Officer of the Pension Funds.
ROLL CALL: Arnold - _____ Pipech - _____ Smith, - _____
MOTION CARRIED.

MOTION by _____, second by _____, to name Jeffrey D. Beck the Rice Township Open Records ("Agency Right to Know") Officer for the year of 2021.
ROLL CALL: Arnold - _____ Pipech - _____ Smith - _____
MOTION CARRIED.

MOTION by _____, second by _____, to appoint Pat Davis as backup secretary/treasurer at \$25.00 per hour, if and when needed, for 2021.
ROLL CALL: Arnold - _____ Pipech - _____ Smith - _____
MOTION CARRIED.

MOTION by _____, second by _____, that the IRS mileage rate of 56 cents per mile for 2021 be paid for Township matters, to Township employees and officials.
ROLL CALL: Arnold - _____ Pipech - _____ Smith - _____
MOTION CARRIED.

MOTION by _____, second by _____, to name First Keystone Community Bank as the depository for Rice Township funds for the year 2021, checks to be signed by any two supervisors and the treasurer, and the treasurer is authorized to make interim payments and to transfer money between funds.
ROLL CALL: Arnold - _____ Pipech - _____ Smith - _____
MOTION CARRIED.

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MOTION by _____, seconded by _____, to authorize the Treasurer to pay any bill prior to the monthly Board of Supervisors' Meeting if such payment will prevent a late fee, service charge, or cancelation of service, such payment to be reported in the bills to be paid as listed on the check register report at the next Board of Supervisors Meeting.

ROLL CALL: Arnold -

Pipech -

Smith -

MOTION CARRIED.

MOTION by _____, second by _____, to pay yearly dues to the Pennsylvania State Association of Township Supervisors in the amount of \$1,523.00, based on Township population, and is a \$10 increase from last year.

ROLL CALL: Arnold -

Pipech -

Smith -

MOTION CARRIED.

MOTION by _____, second by _____, to approve attendance of the 2021 PSATS Annual Conference in Hershey, PA from April 18th to the 21st at the expense of the Township, open to Supervisors and personnel, and to name Jeffrey D. Beck as the Voting Delegate.

ROLL CALL: Arnold -

Pipech -

Smith -

MOTION CARRIED.

Pipech reported that the Treasurer's Bond in the amount of \$650,000 is in effect from January 3, 2021 to January 3, 2022; that the Board of Supervisors officially recognizes the Wright Township Volunteer Fire Department as the Primary Fire Protection Service for Rice Township and assures that volunteers are covered by municipal policy as it applies; that the reorganization meeting of the Board of Auditors will be held Tuesday, January 5, 2021, at 5:00 p.m., using ZOOM. Log in information can be obtained from the Township Secretary/Treasurer.

Pipech called for public comment and there was none.

MOTION by Arnold, second by Smith, to adjourn the reorganization meeting.

ROLL CALL: Arnold - yes

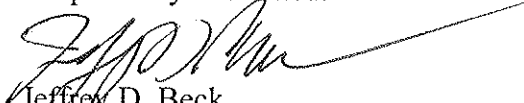
Pipech - yes

Smith - yes

MOTION CARRIED.

The meeting adjourned at 7:05 PM. The regular meeting of the Board of Supervisors followed immediately.

Respectfully submitted:


Jeffrey D. Beck
Secretary/Treasurer