

RICE TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
MINUTES
FEBRUARY 9, 2021

The duly advertised rescheduled regular meeting of the Rice Township Board of Supervisors was held on Tuesday, February 9, 2021, at the Rice Township Municipal Building, 3000 Church Road, Mountaintop at 7:00PM 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 7:00 p.m. It was announced that the meeting was 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: Resident Steve Pantalone from Heslop Road inquired about the possibility of buying the Fire Company property for a somewhat upscale restaurant. Pipech responded that the property was already leased to FirstLight Cable and the Ice House Pub. Arnold added that the property should be kept for the use of the larger community. Pantalone explained that he was looking for maybe 2000 square feet for a restaurant. Arnold wondered if a lease might be more appropriate since the sale of the property was not desired. Solicitor Dean added that municipal property sales are difficult. Dean suggested that one or more of the supervisors walk the property with Pantalone and meet in executive session. Planning Commission member Mark Manosky offered a character reference for Pantalone. Beck will set up the meeting with Pantalone.

ENGINEER'S REPORT: Andrew Pasonick reported that the preliminary dewatering of the Ice Lake was complete. Fabcor was working on installing a new coffer dam which would need to be lined. The weather is problematic and work beyond the coffer dam depends on a successful DEP inspection which is also weather-dependent. He also reported that he had drafted plans for a possible ADA solution to the front of the Township Building. He was unable to get any firm cost estimates but one contractor's high range was above \$30,000. The Supervisors will review the project.

BUSINESS MATTERS:

MOTION by Pipech, second by Smith, to accept the Minutes of the reorganization and regular meetings on January 4, 2021.

ROLL CALL: Arnold - yes

Pipech - yes

Smith - yes

MOTION CARRIED.

Received the Treasurer's Report for January, 2021: Beck reported the transfer of \$50,000 from General Fund Money Market to checking to cover January, a period of slow tax receipts. Beck noted the higher expenditures in Liquid Fuels due to the number of snow days, and that there was no activity in the Recreation Fund. Beck reported the following bank balances for January 31, 2021: Total for the General Fund, \$342,845.08; total for

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BUSINESS MATTERS (Cont):

Liquid Fuels, \$132,535.33; total for the Recreation Fund, \$16,219.14; for total cash on hand of \$491,599.55, and total for the restricted Developer's Account, \$5,000.86.

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 January, 2021: Roadmaster Pipech reported that salt usage was high and that the public works crew were out plowing. Pipech noted that residents are complaining that the plow is leaving snow at their driveway and there was no solution to that. The crew cannot lift the plow for fear of damaging a curb or other structure. Pipech also asked residents to not park their vehicles on the road to allow the plow to make a straight pass on each lane. Police will warn, ticket and tow cars if necessary.

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 January, 2021:

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 January, 2021:

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

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

MOTION CARRIED.

MOTION by Pipech, second by Arnold, to ratify the reappointment of Robert Smith to the UCC Appeal Board by poll for a 5-year term.

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

MOTION CARRIED.

MOTION by Pipech, second by Smith, to approve the 4th reduction in financial security for Jennifer's Way by \$16,575.75 which includes 10% retainage, as recommended by the Township Engineer, bringing the total of financial security on this project to \$307,213.79.

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

MOTION CARRIED.

The Planning Commission met on January 27th, 2021 and the meeting was continued to February 10, 2021.

Wright Township Volunteer Fire Company Report & Fire Police Incident Recap. Arnold reported that he met with the two fire chiefs and they continue to provide the high quality of service to our residents as the Township

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continues to grow. Arnold added that most of the volunteers have received their COVID vaccines. Arnold also noted that the Township will coordinate with Chief Pettit and DEP regarding the dry hydrant on Nuangola Road.

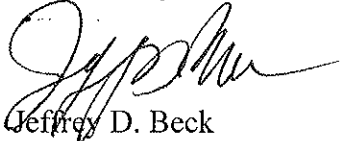
With the snow season here, the Police Department asks that residents remove all portable basketball hoops and refrain from parking on township roads or rights-of-way during storms for safe snow removal.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT: Solicitor Dean had no report but asked for a short executive session following the meeting.

PUBLIC COMMENT: There was none.

MOTION by Pipech second by Smith, to adjourn. Meeting adjourned at 7:33 PM.

Respectfully submitted:



Jeffrey D. Beck

Secretary/Treasurer