

RICE TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS - MINUTES

March 1, 2022

3000 Church Road, Mountaintop, PA

The duly advertised regular meeting of the Rice Township Board of Supervisors was held on Tuesday, March 1, 2022, at the Rice Township Municipal Building, 3000 Church Road. Copies of the Agenda, draft minutes of the previous meeting 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 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.

Solicitor Dean announced that there was an executive session prior to the meeting to discuss real estate matters.

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

ENGINEER'S REPORT: While the Township Engineer was not in attendance, Pipech reported that the roads had suffered significant winter damage and that plans were underway to do base repair and paving followed by a second phase of double tar and chip.

BUSINESS MATTERS:

MOTION by Arnold, second by Smith, to accept the Minutes of the regular meeting held on February 1, 2022.

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

MOTION CARRIED.

Received the Treasurer's Report for February, 2022: Treasurer Beck noted the \$50,000 transfer from the General Fund checking to the Money Market Account as tax receipts increased. He pointed out the voided Cargill payments in the General Fund as the Liquid Fuels distribution of \$130,360 was received in time for Liquid Fuels to pay the Cargill bill. Referring to the General Fund Budget versus Actual, the surplus was close to target. Beck also noted the \$15,000 of salt and winter-related expenses in the Liquid Fuels account. There was no activity in the recreation Fund. General Fund balances totaled \$474,917.29, Liquid Fuels balances totaled \$140,211.47 and Recreation Fund balances totaled \$5,434.02, all for a total of \$620,562.78 cash on hand. Restricted balances include \$500.20 in the DCNR grant account, \$5,003.55 in the Developers' Escrow Account and \$180,339.64 in the ARPA account for a total of \$185,843.39 of restricted funds, all as of February 28, 2022.

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BUSINESS MATTERS (Cont):

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 February, 2022: Roadmaster Pipech reported that bids will be out for the road project and a decision will be made at the next meeting. One of the old trucks is having the box frame rebuilt to make that truck serviceable, and an application has been submitted for an LSA grant for 2 new trucks. Pipech replied to Smith's question that we have 3 operating trucks out of a fleet of 4.

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 February, 2022: Chief Ehret presented the report and thanked the Supervisors for approving the hire of Jenna Rajnes to bring the police force up to its normal complement of 6.

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

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

MOTION CARRIED.

Received the Zoning Report for February, 2022 as presented by Zoning Officer Mleczynski.:

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

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

MOTION CARRIED.

Received the SEO Report for February, 2022: There was no SEO report.

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

ROLL CALL: Arnold - Pipech - Smith -

MOTION CARRIED.

MOTION by Arnold, second by Pipech, to adopt Resolution 2022-5 which declares a revenue shortfall for all funds received from the American Rescue Program Act in accordance with Final Treasury Guidance and as recommended by consultant Zelenkofske Axelrod.

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

MOTION CARRIED.

MOTION by Arnold, second by Pipech, to adopt Resolution 2022-6 which directs the expenditure of ARP funds received in 2021 as revenue shortfall for reimbursement of payroll since 3/3/2021 and acknowledges the payment to Zelenkofske Axelrod previously made in accordance with Final Treasury Guidance and as recommended by consultant Zelenkofske Axelrod.

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

MOTION CARRIED.

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BUSINESS MATTERS (Cont):

MOTION by Smith, second by Arnold, to approve the request by Park Engineer Barry Isett to perform additional soil testing of the soccer field site for stormwater management purposes at a cost of \$4,000.

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

MOTION CARRIED.

MOTION by Smith, second by Arnold, to approve the request by the Mountaintop Area Little League to use the Rice Township ball field from March through October, 2022, cooperating with other groups who may wish to use the field, and had provided proof of insurance.

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

MOTION CARRIED.

MOTION by Smith, second by Pipech, to approve the amendment to the December 7, 2021 lease agreement with First Light to add their use of one (1) bay in the garage at 40 Willowby Street for \$500 per month.

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

MOTION CARRIED.

The Planning Commission did not meet on February 23rd, 2022 for lack of agenda items.

Wright Township Volunteer Fire Company Report & Fire Police Incident Recap. Arnold presented the report concerning storm management and down wires.

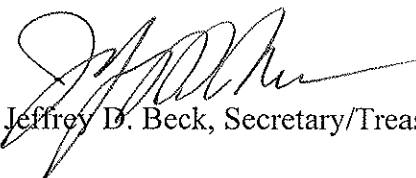
With the snow season here, the Police Department asks that residents remove all portable basketball hoops and refrain from parking on Township roads or rights-of-way during storms for safe snow removal.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT: Solicitor Dean reported that he had reviewed and revised two resolutions and the First Light Lease amendment.

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

MOTION by Smith, second by Arnold, to adjourn. Meeting adjourned at 7:21p.m..

Respectfully submitted,


Jeffrey D. Beck, Secretary/Treasurer