RICE TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS 3000 CHURCH ROAD, MOUNTAIN TOP, PA MINUTES MARCH 2, 2021

The duly advertised regular meeting of the Rice Township Board of Supervisors was held on Tuesday, March 2, 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 meeting 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. with the Pledge of Allegiance. Pipech 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 and Solicitor Dean, Engineer Pasonick, Al Mastalski, Michele Millington, Rebecca Sodergren, Nanci Romanyshyn, Pat Rushton, and Mark Manosky.

Pipech announced that the Board of Supervisors held an executive session on February 25th regarding potential property acquisition.

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

ENGINEER'S REPORT: Engineer Pasonick explained that Fabcor had adjusted the siphon to increase the dewatering of the lake and the water between the dam and the coffer dam. When drained, DEP can inspect and PennEastern can perform its survey. The DEP inspection is tentatively set for this Thursday. Arnold expressed his concern that the delivery time for the sluice gate could delay the project. Arnold explained that the survey had to be conducted before ordering the gate because the survey would confirm, or possibly change, the size of the gate needed. If all goes according to plan, the gate will be a standard 24" gate.

BUSINESS MATTERS:

MOTION by Pipech, second by Arnold, to accept the Minutes of the meeting on February 9 2021.

ROLL CALL: Arnold - yes

Pipech - yes

Smith - yes

MOTION CARRIED.

Received the Treasurer's Report for February, 2021: Beck reported the transfer of \$70,000 from General Fund Checking back into the Money Market Account as earned income tax receipts increase in February. Beck noted the higher expenditures in Liquid Fuels for salt and anti-skid and the deposit of \$126,503.76 to the Liquid Fuels Checking Account on March 1, 2019 as our annual allotment and is \$9,000 less than last year. He reported that there was no activity in the Recreation Fund. Beck reported the following bank balances for February 28, 2021: Total for the General Fund, \$449,246.22; total for Liquid Fuels, \$118,813.42; total for the Recreation Fund, \$16,219.25; for total cash on hand of \$584,278.89, and total for the restricted Developer's Account, \$5,001.05.

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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, 2021: Roadmaster Pipech noted that the harsh winter has been hard on the Township infrastructure with numerous sections of road blown out. Pipech asked Pasonick to meet later in the week to review the roads and bridges which also need repair.

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 February, 2021 as presented:

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

ROLL CALL: Arnold - yes

Pipech - yes

Smith - yes

MOTION CARRIED.

Received the Zoning Report for February, 2021 as presented by Beck. In response to Arnold's question, Beck reported that Barry Isett is the only code enforcement company serving the Township as Code Inspections Inc. pulled out. Beck will search for a replacement.

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

ROLL CALL: Arnold - yes

Pipech - yes

Smith - yes

MOTION CARRIED.

MOTION by Pipech, second by Arnold, to approve the minor subdivision by John Giampietro and Presidential Lands as approved by the Planning Commission.

ROLL CALL: Arnold - yes

Pipech - yes

Smith - yes

MOTION CARRIED.

MOTION by Pipech, second by Smith, to ratify the decision by poll to set the current balance of financial security for Jennifer's Way at \$304,214.29 as the previous balance of \$307,213.79 was in error.

ROLL CALL: Arnold - yes

Pipech - yes

Smith - yes

MOTION CARRIED.

MOTION by Pipech, second by Arnold, to adopt Resolution 2021-4 establishing the Rice Township Park and Recreation Board.

ROLL CALL: Arnold - yes

Pipech - yes

Smith - yes

MOTION CARRIED.

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BUSINESS MATTERS (Cont):

MOTION by Pipech, second by Smith, to adopt the By-Laws dated 3/2/2021 for the Parks and Recreation Board.

ROLL CALL: Arnold - yes

Pipech - yes

Smith - yes

MOTION CARRIED.

MOTION by Pipech, second by Arnold, to resume summer hours for the recycling center beginning Wednesday, April 7th. Saturday hours will be from 9am to 2pm and Wednesdays from 4pm to 7pm.

ROLL CALL: Arnold - yes

Pipech - yes

Smith - yes

MOTION CARRIED.

MOTION by Smith, second by Arnold, to allow the Mountaintop Men's Softball League, soccer and little leagues to utilize the field contingent on their cooperation on field use and supply proof of insurance.

ROLL CALL: Arnold - yes

Pipech - yes

Smith - yes

MOTION CARRIED.

MOTION by Pipech, second by Arnold, to accept the Planning Commission Annual Report for 2020 as presented.

ROLL CALL: Arnold - yes

Pipech - yes

Smith - yes

MOTION CARRIED.

Pipech reported that: ceiling fans were installed in the meeting room to facilitate cross ventilation for COVID mitigation and the inoperable emergency light systems were replaced for safety reasons; the Planning Commission met on February 24th, 2021 and draft minutes are available; the Wright Township Volunteer Fire Company Fire Police Incident Recap was received and Arnold reviewed the recap report; and stated 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. Pipech thanked Sargent Ehret for the good work that the Police have done keeping the roads clear so that they could be plowed.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT: Solicitor Dean had no report.

PUBLIC COMMENT: Resident Mastalski thanked the public works crew for their snow removal efforts and wanted to make the Supervisors aware of the deteriorated roads. Solicitor Dean noted that no funding has come from the state or county in 2020. Arnold added that the Ice Lakes roads were installed with inadequate base and poor drainage. Pipech said that as soon as hot patch is being manufactured, repairs will start. Resident Nanci Romanyshyn inquired about the next steps regarding the Parks and Recreation Board. Dean explained that the Supervisors will appoint 5 members to comply with geographic diversity required by the By-Laws. Nanci expressed her interest in serving on the Board.

Rebecca Sodergren asked if there was a construction schedule for the Ice Lake dam and Pasonick answered that the time frame is really driven by DEP's review process. Pasonick estimated a few more months of

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construction. Pipech clarified that bridges which needed repair were one in Laurel Lakes and two on Henry Drive. Arnold explained the minor subdivision on Heslop Road and Beck will get the Park and Recreation Board By-Laws to her.

MOTION by Smith, second by Arnold, to adjourn. Meeting adjourned at 7:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Leffrey D. Beck

Secretary/Treasurer