

RICE TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

MINUTES

December 3, 2019

The duly advertised regular meeting of the Rice Township Board of Supervisors was held on Tuesday, December 3rd, 2019, at the Rice Township Municipal Building, 3000 Church Road, Mountaintop. Copies of the Agenda and Treasurer Reports and minutes of the previous meeting were available to the public. Chair Robert Pipech called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m and called for the Pledge of Allegiance. 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.

PUBLIC COMMENT: Planning Commission member Mark Manosky read a statement concerning the cable diggers potential to permanently damage stormwater management protections that were in place in Wilderness Estates. The digging moved to the north side of Wilderness Drive when the plans were for digging on the south side. Pipech noted that Atlantic Broadband would be contacted about the change in plans.

ENGINEER'S REPORT: Engineer Pasonick explained that the fencing and lighting on the pickleball court will come after the paving is complete. The demolition of the fire house is awaiting historical commission clearance. Beck noted that we might get clearance in January.

BUSINESS MATTERS:

MOTION by Pipech, second by Smith, to accept the Minutes of the Regular Meeting held on November 5th, 2019.

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

Received the Treasurer's Report for November, 2019, as presented by Treasurer Jeffrey Beck. Beck noted in the Actual versus Budget report that Transfer Tax receipts were down by \$38 thousand while Earned Income Receipts were up by \$96 thousand. With the November 2019 surplus totaling in the \$60,000 range, Beck said that was more than he expected. There was nothing unusual in Liquid Fuels and there was no activity in the Recreation Account. Beck reported that General Fund balances totaled \$389,920.67; Liquid Fuels totaled \$83,881.36 and Recreation Funds totaled \$3,995.67 for total cash on hand of \$477,797.70 as of November 31, 2019. The report was filed.

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.

**RICE TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
MINUTES
December 3, 2019**

BUSINESS MATTERS (Con't):

MOTION by Pipech, second by Arnold, to approve Resolution 2019-10 for the Local Share Account (Gaming) Grant Application of \$232,400 for the installation of an upgraded stormwater management system on a section of Heslop Road and associated application fees and appoint Robert Pipech and Carl Smith to execute all documents.

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

MOTION by Pipech, second by Arnold, to approve Resolution 2019-11 for the H2O PA Grant Application of \$508,833 to retrofit the Ice Pond upper dam to bring it into compliance with PA law and associated application fees, and appoint Robert Pipech and Carl Smith to execute all documents.

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

MOTION by Pipech, second by Smith, to approve the calendar of meeting dates for the Board of Supervisors as the first Tuesday of every month, 2020, and the calendar of meetings for the Planning Commission as the fourth Wednesday of every month, 2020, except for November and December when those meetings are held on the Wednesday one week prior to avoid holidays, and for said meeting dates to be advertised.

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

**RICE TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
MINUTES
December 3, 2019**

Rice Township-General Fund Profit & Loss		Proposed 2020 BUDGET
Income		
Total 300.00 · TAXES		\$ 1,004,500
Total 320 · LICENSES AND PERMITS		\$ 20,404
Total 331.00 · FINES AND FORFEITS		\$ 11,670
Total 340.00 · INTEREST, RENTS AND ROYALTIES		\$ 12,874
342.10 · Rent of Land		\$ 1,500
Total 354.00 · STATE CAPITAL & OPER GRANTS		\$ 750,000
Total 355.00 · STATE SHARED REV. & ENTITLEMENT		\$ 96,250
Total 356.00 · STATE PMT IN LIEU OF TAXES		\$ 1,300
357.00 · LOCAL GOVT. GRANTS ,CAP. & OPER		\$ 62,000
Total 358.00 · LOCAL GOV PMT CONTRACTED SVCS		\$ 30,037
Total 360-370 · CHRGS FOR SERVICE(DEPT EARNING)		\$ 13,250
362 · PUBLIC SAFETY-POLICE REIMBURSE		\$ 6,500
Total 380 · Miscellaneous Income		\$ 71,200
389.00 · UNCLASSIFIED OPERATING REVENUE		\$ 3,500
Total Income		\$ 2,084,985
Expense		
Total 400-409 · GENERAL GOVERNMENT		\$ 200,586
Total 410-419 · PUBLIC SAFETY CAT		\$ 534,665
Total 426-429 · PUBLIC WORKS-SANITATION		\$ 10,500
Total 430-439 · PUBLIC WORKS-HWYS /STREETS		\$ 951,759
Total 440-449 · PUBLIC WORKS-OTHER SERVICES		\$ 5,000
Total 450-459 · CULTURE/RECREATION		
Total 481-484 · EMPLOYER PAID BENEFITS \$ WITHHO		\$ 175,575
Total 487.00 · HEALTH INSURANCE BENEFIT		\$ 157,800
489.00 · UNCLASSIFIED EXPENDITURES		\$ 500
492.00 · INTERFUND TRANSFERS		\$ 3,000
Total 493.00 · EMPLOYEE RELATED BENEFITS		\$ 600
6560 · Payroll Expenses		\$ 1,400
Total Expense		\$ 2,084,985
Net Income		\$ 0

**RICE TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
MINUTES
December 3, 2019**

		Proposed
Liquid Fuels		2020
		Budget
Income		
Total 341.00 · INTEREST ON DEPOSITS		\$ 500
355.02 · LIQUID FUEL TAX		\$ 129,507
Total Income		\$ 130,007
Expense		
Total 432.00 · SNOW REMOVAL		\$ 33,000
434.00 · Street Lighting		\$ 20,000
437.00 · REPAIRS & MAINT. TO EQUIPMENT		\$ 8,500
Total 438.00 · MAINT. & REPAIRS TO ROADS		\$ 87,000
492.00 · INTERFUND OPERATING TRANSFERS		\$ (20,000)
Total Expense		\$ 128,500
Net Income		\$ 1,507

		Proposed
Recreation Fund		Budget
		2020
Income		
341.02 · INTEREST ON SAVINGS		\$ 2
Total 341.00 · INTEREST EARNINGS		\$ 2
354.40 - DCED GTRP Grant		\$ 132,000
354.50 - DCED H2O grant		\$ 500,000
389.00 · ALL OTHER UNCLASSIFIED OPER REV		\$ 3,500
392.00 · Transfer from General Fund		\$ 4,200
Total Income		\$ 639,702
Expense		
454.00 · PARKS		
454.24 - Operating Supplies		\$ 2,700
454.31 - Professional services		\$ 5,000
454.61 - General Construction Contracts		\$ 632,000
Total Expense		\$ 639,700
Net Income		\$ 2

**RICE TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
MINUTES
December 3, 2019**

BUSINESS MATTERS (Con't):

Rice Township Tax Rates

Total.....0.26 mills (property assessed value x \$0.00026)
Real Estate Transfer Taxes.....1/2 of 1% collected
Local Services Tax.....\$5.00 Township; \$5.00 School District

There is NO tax increase for 2020.

MOTION by Pipech, second by Smith, to pass Resolution 2020-1 that the above millage and tax rate for Rice Township for 2020 be adopted as presented.

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

MOTION CARRIED.

MOTION by Pipech, second by Smith, to adopt the proposed budget as the budget for Rice Township for 2020, amended to increase the grant request for the H2O Project to \$508,833 decrease the Heslop Road stormwater management project to \$232,400, and increase the Paving Project to \$599,984 which does not require a re-advertisement of the budget.

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

MOTION CARRIED.

MOTION by Pipech, second by Arnold, to approve the lease agreement with Pruma, Inc., t/a Ice House Pub for 1 year at \$1,250.

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

MOTION CARRIED.

Pipech reported that: the Rice Township Planning Commission met on Wednesday, November 20th, 2019 and draft minutes are available to the public; the subcontractor for Atlantic Broadband will close the driveway cuts in Wilderness Estates with cold patch and will remove that patch and replace with hot patch and seal the seams in the spring; the State Police Fines and Penalties Payment of \$967.42 was received on December 2, 2019; the Supervisors want to thank residents for their cooperation and participation in the fall leaf program. Leaves brought to the recycle center by residents resulted in 2 dumpsters being filled and is estimated to have saved close to \$30,000 in taxpayer expense, allowing our Public Works Crew to patch roads and prepare the trucks for inclement weather; an executive session will be held prior to the 2020 Reorganization. Copies of the Township Officials list will be given to the Board of Supervisors; the reorganization meeting of the Board of Supervisors will be held on Monday, January 6, 2020 at 7:00 p.m., and the first regular meeting of the Board will be held immediately following; and the reorganization meeting of the Township Auditors will be held on Tuesday, January 7, 2020 at 6:00 p.m.

RICE TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
MINUTES
December 3, 2019

Pipech asked the Ryan Carter of the Fire Company to present the Fire Company update. Pipech also thanked the Fire Company for their prompt and professional work when the tree fell at Burma Road and Nuangola Road.

The Board of Supervisors, Police and Employees wish everyone a very happy, safe and healthy Holiday Season.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT: Attorney McCormick from the Solicitor's office had no report.

PUBLIC COMMENT: Pat Rushton asked about the H2O grant application. Pipech explained that it is the same dam for which we received prior grants, but the cost to complete the project far exceeds those amounts. McCormick noted that the litigation with A.R. Popple continues. Resident Barbara Miller inquired about the Stormwater Management Grant. Pipech responded that the project was along Ralph Street and would extend down both sides of Heslop Road from Ralph Street. The paving would extend down to Nuangola Road.

MOTION by Smith, second by Arnold, to adjourn. Meeting adjourned at 7:28 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted:



Jeffrey D. Beck

Secretary/Treasurer