

RICE TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS - MINUTES

October 4, 2022

3000 Church Road, Mountaintop, PA

The duly advertised regular meeting of the Rice Township Board of Supervisors was held on Tuesday, October 4, 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. with the recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance. It was announced that the meeting was recorded for preparing the minutes. Interior cameras were also recording the meeting.

ROLL CALL: Arnold - here via telephone
 Pipech - here
 Smith - here

Also present were: Please see attached sign in sheet.

PUBLIC COMMENT: Residents Ray and Susan Walton of Laurel Lakes complained that neighbors were parking in the street right-of-way on their property and damaging their property. Attorney Jeckell said that it is a civil issue if it is an easement but not a right-of-way. Pipech and Pasonick explained the right-of-way. Chief Ehret reported that parents would stop there to pick up their children at the bus stop when it rains. Pipech directed Andy to look at 1024 Aspen Drive regarding the right-of-way and drainage issues. The Walton's may call the school district to move the bus stop.

ENGINEER'S REPORT: Pasonick recommended the payment of \$484,986.05 to New Enterprise Stone and Lime for the satisfactory completion of the 2022 Pave Project. The total is below budget since the impaired County-owned Heslop Bridge prevented the paving work on Wilderness Drive. Pasonick reported that shop drawings were proceeding and that the dam gate might be available in 60 days or so. Lastly, Pasonick stated that he contacted the County regarding the Heslop Road bridge and the County expects to seek bids for its repair or replacement in the spring of 2023.

BUSINESS MATTERS:

MOTION by Smith, second by Arnold, to accept the Minutes of the regular meeting held on September 6, 2022 and for the special meeting held on September 29, 2022.

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

MOTION CARRIED.

Received the Treasurer's Report for September, 2022: Supervisor Smith noted that Secretary/Treasurer Beck had to leave for a medical issue but any questions should be directed to Beck at the office.

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.

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BUSINESS MATTERS (Cont):

Received the Roadmaster's Report for September, 2022: Roadmaster Pipech reported that patching pot holes was over due to the weather and the crew is attaching spreaders on the trucks and preparing for the winter. Pipech noted that we should have all 4 trucks ready for the winter.

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 September, 2022 as presented by Chief Ehret:

MOTION by Smith, 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 September, 2022 as presented by the Zoning Officer Mleczynski:

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

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

MOTION CARRIED.

Received the SEO Report for September, 2022:

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

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

MOTION CARRIED.

MOTION by Arnold, seconded by Smith, to approve the Recreation Committee's Halloween party to be held at the Township Park from 4:00 PM to 7:00 PM on Saturday, October 22nd and to provide up to \$4,000 from the Recreation Fund for this event.

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

MOTION CARRIED. Arnold encouraged all to attend and have a great time. Pipech thanked Arnold for such a good job last year and the crowd was amazing despite the poor weather.

MOTION by Smith, seconded by Pipech, to allocate the excess Municipal State Aid of \$584.67 to the Uniformed Pension Plan.

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

MOTION CARRIED.

MOTION by Smith, seconded by Pipech, to participate with Fairview and Wright Townships for an electronics recycling event on October 13th from 3-6 PM at cost of \$298 for the first truck, other costs to be determined.

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

MOTION CARRIED.

Budget preparation begins in October. Departments were asked to submit their budgetary needs for 2023.

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The Commonwealth's 2022 state aid allocation supporting the Volunteer Fire Relief Association of the Wright Township Fire Company in the amount of \$24,311.64 was received September 21, 2022, approximately \$4,000 more than last year. Funds will be distributed to Wright Township Volunteer Firefighters' Relief Association in October in accordance with Act 205. Form 706-B will be completed and returned to the Department of the Auditor General.

The Pension Plans' Minimum Municipal Obligation Reports for 2023 were completed and distributed to the Supervisors and filed before September 30, 2022.

The 2022 Commonwealth allocation of GENERAL MUNICIPAL PENSION SYSTEM STATE AID funds in the amount of \$82,852.42 were received on September 28, 2022, an increase of approximately \$6,000 above last year. As directed by the PA Auditor General, a check in the amount of \$64,150.75 will be directed to Principal Financial Group for deposit into Rice Township Police Pension Fund #4-50708; and \$18,177.00 will be distributed to PMRS for Rice Township Plan (40-168-5N). This satisfies the Minimum Municipal Obligation payment for 2022. The excess receipt of State Aid of \$584.67 will be added to the check to Principal to total \$64,735.42. This means that there is no required contribution from the General Fund this year.

The Roadmaster announces that leaf drop off will begin on Saturday, October 15th and concludes on Saturday, November 19th. Leaves can be left by the dumpster by the Township Building and must be in clear plastic bags. Branches cut to a length of 3 feet and no more than 1" in diameter may also be left. Holders of the Rice Township 2021-22 Recycle Permit will be allowed to leave their leaves. Cameras record the area.

PennDOT estimates our Liquid Fuels allocation for 2023 at \$132,505.10.

The Pennsylvania Auditor General's office announced that our allocation of the Foreign Firefighter is received on 9/21/2022. These funds are passed through to the Wright Township Firefighters Relief Fund.

The Planning Commission did not meet on September 28, 2022 for lack of agenda items.

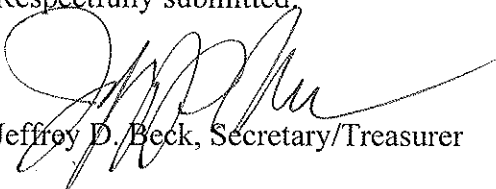
Wright Township Volunteer Fire Company Report & Fire Police Incident Recap reported by Gary Price.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT: There was no report.

PUBLIC COMMENT: Planning Commissioner asked for clarification of the cost of the truck for the electronics recycling and Gary Price was able to explain.

MOTION by Pipech, second by Smith, to adjourn. Meeting adjourned at 7:42 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:



Jeffrey D. Beck, Secretary/Treasurer