

RICE TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
3000 Church Road
Mountaintop, PA 18707
MINUTES
June 6, 2023

BUSINESS MATTERS (Cont):

MOTION by Smith, second by Pipech, to close First Keystone bank account ending in 6095 to recognize the closeout of EDCIP grant for the Ice Lakes Dam Retrofit Project with a closing balance of \$15,891.31 which has been transferred into the General Fund.

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

MOTION by Arnold, second by Pipech, to ratify the decision by poll to approve up to 3 additional hours per week during the daytime for the Zoning/BCO.

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

MOTION by Smith, second by Arnold, to approve the purchase of a K-9 police cruiser not to exceed \$72,000, \$40,000 of which will be paid by the 2023 LSA grant and the remainder from the K-9 donations.

ROLL CALL: Arnold - yes Pipech - yes Smith - yes
MOTION CARRIED. Pipech noted that the K-9 unit project was not being funded with tax receipts so there was not tax burden on Rice Township residents.

MOTION by Smith, second by Arnold, to ratify the decision by poll to advertise for the open police position at a cost not to exceed \$3,000 and to offer a sign on bonus not to exceed \$10,000 as amended to the CBA.

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

MOTION by Arnold, second by Smith, to adopt the updated EAP for the Ice Lakes Dam and for Giant Meadow dam for submittal to DEP.

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

MOTION by Arnold, second by Smith, to authorize American Legion Post 781 Baseball to use the park ballfield, to work cooperatively with other users of the field to avoid conflicts, having presented their certificate of insurance naming the Township as the certificate holder.

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

Pipech reported that the Planning Commission did not meet on May 24th, 2023 for lack of a quorum and that Wright Township thanked Rice Township for the donation towards the fireworks.

Wright Township Volunteer Fire Company Report & Fire Police Incident Recap. Arnold noted from the report that there were about 10 calls in Rice Township for the month.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT: No report

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PUBLIC COMMENT: Planning Commission member Mark Manosky asked if the Township was reviewing the plans for the new Heslop Road bridge since there is a lot of pedestrian traffic on the road and the bridge.

Manosky expressed concern that the bridge would not be wide enough. Pipech responded that the bridge was owned by the County and they did not seek our input or review. Resident Elvio Benzi called for more street lighting on Heslop Road and at the bridge. Benzi inquired about the status of the secondary access for Heslop Road. Pipech and Arnold noted that the secondary access was part of the Woodberry Manor PRD and would not be installed until the later phases of the plan. Pipech added that significant opposition to that road by Heslop Road/Wilderness Estates residents sent the message to Hallmark Homes that there was no reason for them to rush to put the road in. Pipech also confirmed that the new Heslop Road box culvert bridge is a permanent structure. Benzi asked that he meet with Pipech and Pasonick after the meeting. Arnold responded to Planning Commission member Tom Romanyshyn that the dam project would start right after our response to the 11-item DEP letter next week and will be done this year. In response to Romanyshyn's question, Beck noted that the Township has \$443,000 plus grant funds for the soccer/multipurpose field but that the poor soil resulted in delays by DEP and the Conservation District concerns for drainage. As soon as the NPDES permit is received, Arnold noted that the project can go out for bid this summer. Arnold concluded that our patience with these projects is paying off.

MOTION by Smith, second by Arnold, to adjourn. Meeting adjourned at 7:51 p.m..

Respectfully submitted:


Jeffrey D. Beck, Secretary/Treasurer