



**RICE TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS - MINUTES**

November 8, 2023

3000 Church Road, Mountaintop, PA

Restricted balances include \$514.31 in the DCNR Grant Account and \$5,144.85 in the Developers' Escrow Account for a total of \$5,659.16 of restricted funds, all as of October 31, 2023.

**BUSINESS MATTERS (Cont):**

**MOTION** by Smith, second by Arnold, to accept the Treasurer's Report as presented and all bills to be paid.

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

MOTION CARRIED.

Beck will calculate prior year surpluses in response to Perdoch's request. Beck also explained the G/L application for K-9 donations and expense.

Received the Roadmaster's Report for October, 2023: Roadmaster Pipech reported that all trucks were in good shape and ready for winter weather. The Public Works crew was out cold patching whenever weather permitted.

**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 October, 2023:

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

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

MOTION CARRIED.

Chief Ehret explained that the K-9 stayed with Officer Stout and his family 24/7 in response to Auditor Bierzynski's question.

Received the Zoning Report for October, 2023:

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

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

MOTION CARRIED.

**MOTION** by Arnold, seconded by Smith, to renew the lease agreement with Prumac, Inc. t/a Ice House Pub for rental of real property located along the roadway at 40 Willowby Street for parking purposes only for the term of January 1, 2024 to December 31, 2024 for a one time payment from Prumac, Inc. of \$1,250.00.

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

MOTION CARRIED. Resident Perdoch questioned the low cost and the Supervisors explained that the Ice House Pub supports Township events and takes care of the parking lot.

**MOTION** by Smith, seconded by Pipech, to award the 2023 Rice Township Drainage Improvement Project to Columbia Excavating, LLC as the low bidder for the base bid of \$121,144.44 and the Alternate #1 for \$78,250 for a total contract price of \$198,394.44.

Arnold asked if the contractors were vetted, a little gun shy from previous experience. Pasonick noted that they are bonded and the bonds cannot be transferred to another contractor. The project begins after the Notice to Proceed is issued.

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

MOTION CARRIED.

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**BUSINESS MATTERS (Cont):**

**MOTION** by Smith, seconded by Arnold, to renew the dental plan contract with Delta Dental with no increase in rates for 2024.

ROLL CALL: Arnold - yes

Pipech - yes

Smith - yes

MOTION CARRIED.

**MOTION** by Smith, second by Pipech, to adopt the following proposed budget for Rice Township for 2024 and authorize its advertisement.

ROLL CALL: Arnold - yes

Pipech - yes

Smith - yes

MOTION CARRIED.

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<b>Rice Township-General Fund</b>		<b>PROPOSED</b>
		<b>BUDGET</b>
		<b>2024</b>
<b>Income</b>		
	Total 300.00 · TAXES	\$1,173,150
	Total 320 · LICENSES AND PERMITS	\$ 17,000
	Total 331.00 · FINES AND FORFEITS	\$ 6,260
	Total 340.00 · INTEREST, RENTS AND ROYALTIES	\$ 26,350
	Total 354.00 · STATE CAPITAL & OPER GRANTS	\$1,261,500
	Total 355.00 · STATE SHARED REV. & ENTITLEMENT	\$ 96,510
	Total 356.00 · STATE PMT IN LIEU OF TAXES	\$ 1,277
	Total 357.00 - Local Govt Grants	\$ 443,000
	Total 358.00 · LOCAL GOV PMT CONTRACTED SVCS	\$ 34,067
	Total 360-370 · CHRGS FOR SERVICE(DEPT EARNING)	\$ 23,000
	Total 380.00 · MISCELLANEOUS INCOME	\$ 5,020
	Total 389.00 - UNCLASSIFIED OPERATING INCOME	\$ 1,000
<b>Gross Profit</b>		<b>\$3,088,134</b>
<b>Expense</b>		
	Total 400-409 · GENERAL GOVERNMENT	\$ 195,994
	Total 410-419 · PUBLIC SAFETY CAT	\$ 601,840
	Total 426-429 · PUBLIC WORKS-SANITATION	\$ 19,010
	Total 430-439 · PUBLIC WORKS-HWYS /STREETS	\$1,595,845
	Total 450-459 - CULTURE/RECREATION	\$ 22,250
	Total 481-484 · EMPLOYER PAID BENEFITS \$ WITHHO	\$ 150,868
	Total 486.00 · INSURANCE	\$ 71,448
	Total 487.00 · HEALTH INSURANCE BENEFIT	\$ 242,136
	Total 489.00 - UNCLASSIFIED EXPENDITURES	\$ 1,800
	Total 491.00 · REFUND PRIOR YEAR REVENUE	\$ 50
	492.00 · INTERFUND TRANSFERS	\$ 450,500
	Total 493.00 · EMPLOYEE RELATED BENEFITS	\$ 3,750
	6560 · Payroll Expenses	\$ 1,200
<b>Total Expense</b>		<b>\$3,356,691</b>
<b>Net Income</b>		<b>\$ (268,557)</b>
	Transfer from Prior Years	\$ 268,557
	Net surplus (deficit)	\$ -

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**PROPOSED**

<b>RICE TOWNSHIP 2024</b>		<b>BUDGET</b>
<b>LIQUID FUELS</b>		<b>2024</b>
<b>Income</b>		
341.00 · INTEREST ON DEPOSITS		\$ 1,800
355.02 · LIQUID FUEL TAX		\$ 132,985
<b>Total Income</b>		<b>\$ 134,785</b>
<b>Expense</b>		
430.00 - PUBLIC WORKS ADMIN		\$ 10
432.00 · SNOW REMOVAL		\$ 40,000
433.00 - ROAD SIGNS		\$ 1,000
434.00 · Street Lighting		\$ 24,000
437.00 · REPAIRS & MAINT. TO EQUIPMI		\$ 25,000
438.00 · MAINT. & REPAIRS TO ROADS		\$ 78,250
<b>Total Expense</b>		<b>\$ 168,260</b>
<b>Net Income</b>		<b>\$ (33,475)</b>
	<b>SURPLUS FROM PRIOR YEAR</b>	<b>\$ 33,475</b>
	<b>Net Surplus (deficit)</b>	<b>\$ -</b>

<b>RICE TOWNSHIP</b>		<b>PROPOSED</b>
<b>RECREATION FUND</b>		<b>BUDGET</b>
		<b>2024</b>
<b>Income</b>		
341.00 · INTEREST EARNINGS		\$ 6
392.00 · Transfer from General Fund		\$ 450,500
<b>Total Income</b>		<b>\$ 450,506</b>
<b>Expense</b>		
454.00 · PARKS		\$ 443,000
457 · CIVIL AND MILITARY CELEBRATIC		\$ 7,500
<b>Total Expense</b>		<b>\$ 450,500</b>
<b>Net Income</b>		<b>\$ 6</b>

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The pickleball and tennis courts lights are turned off for the winter.

The Roadmaster announces that leaf drop off concludes on Saturday, November 18th. Leaves can be left by the dumpster in the recycle area 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 2023-24 Recycle Permit will be allowed to leave their leaves. Cameras record the area.

The Planning Commission met on October 25, 2023.

Form 706B was filed with the Auditor General's office.

Wright Township Volunteer Fire Company Report & Fire Police Incident Recap. Arnold reported on the Fire Company's activities for the month, noting that they gave out about 2,000 safety lights at the Rice and Wright Halloween events. Arnold thanked the Fire Department, Rice Township Police Department, Cavanaugh's for their donation of time to set up the electricity for the event, support from the Guydish family, the Crowders and Officer Dombroski's wife. He also thanked the Public Works crew for all their work along the park trails and getting materials for the houses. They also transported one of those houses up to the tree for the Tree Lighting event scheduled for December 16, 2023 at 5 PM.

**SOLICITOR'S REPORT:** The Solicitor reported that the judge hearing the case about the ambulance building recused herself so the issue was awaiting the assignment of another judge. The Solicitor also announced an executive session immediately following the meeting.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:** Kaminski thanked Carl Smith for his service as Supervisor. Supervisor-elect Tom Romanyshyn will be sworn in at the Reorganization Meeting on January 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2024. Auditors Felicia Beirzynski and Scott Dane were also recognized for their reelection. Planning Commission member Mark Manosky recognized the Heslop Road bridge as well done, and it taking 3 years to complete. Resident Benzi asked for Wilderness Drive to be repaved, that water from the road be diverted away from his property and that he wants a grant application submitted to keep the water off his property. Beck noted that he accompanied Engineer Pasonick over a year ago in a heavy rainstorm and that water did not exit the road onto his property. Benzi disagreed. Additional discussion between Benzi, Arnold and Smith occurred.


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**MOTION** by Smith, second by Arnold, to adjourn. Meeting adjourned at 8:07p.m..

Respectfully Submitted:



Jeffrey D. Beck

Secretary/Treasurer