

**East Rockhill Township Board of Supervisors**

**September 22, 2020**

**2021 Preliminary Draft Budget Meeting Minutes**

The special budget meeting of the East Rockhill Township Board of Supervisors was held at 6:15 p.m. on September 22, 2020 in the Township meeting room at the Pennridge Regional Headquarters, 200 Ridge Road, Sellersville, PA 18960.

Present:	David Nyman	Chairperson
	Gary Volovnik	Vice-Chairperson
	Jim Nietupski	Member
	Marianne Morano	Township Manager
	Jeff Scholl	Public Works Director

The meeting was called to order at 6:16p.m. by Mr. Nyman.

Mr. Nyman recommended at the October 27, 2020 budget work session the 2021 preliminary budget be approved for public inspection if possible.

**2021 Draft Fee Schedule:**

Proposed fee schedule changes were reviewed. Board consensus was to have the Township Solicitor prepare a Resolution setting policy for accepting Subdivision and Land Development fees and contributions.

**General Fund:** The Board discussed the proposed 2021 General Fund budget. A balance forward will be needed to cover 2021 expenses. Legal and Engineering in the amount of \$175,000 related to Rock Hill Quarry are proposed. It was noted this amount will not cover all expenses related to the Rock Hill Quarry DEP NPDES appeal. No formal action was taken by the Board.

**Open Space Fund:** The Board discussed the proposed 2021 Open Space Fund budget. No formal action was taken by the Board.

**Sewer Fund:** The Board discussed the proposed 2021 Sewer Fund budget. An annual \$40 residential and \$50 commercial increase will cover 2021 expenses. No formal action was taken by the Board.

**Capital Improvement Fund:** The Board discussed the proposed 2021 Capital Improvement Fund budget. No formal action was taken by the Board.

**Capital Reserve Fund:** The Board discussed the proposed 2021 Capital Reserve Fund budget. No formal action was taken by the Board.

**State Aid Fund:** The Board discussed the proposed 2021 State Aid (Liquid Fuel) Fund budget. No formal action was taken by the Board.

**Adjournment**

The Board adjourned into the September 22, 2020 Regular Meeting at 7:00p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Marianne Morano  
Township Manager

**East Rockhill Township Board of Supervisors**

**September 22, 2020**

**Regular Business Meeting Minutes**

The regular business meeting of the East Rockhill Township Board of Supervisors was held at 7:00p.m. on September 22, 2020 following the 2021 Preliminary Budget review in the meeting room at the Pennridge Regional Headquarters, 200 Ridge Road, Sellersville, PA 18960.

Present:	David Nyman	Supervisor Chairperson
	Gary Volovnik	Supervisor Vice-Chairperson
	Jim Nietupski	Supervisor Member
	Marianne Morano	Township Manager
	John Rice, Esq.	Township Solicitor
	Steve Baluh, P.E.	Township Engineer
	Jeff Scholl	Public Works Director

The meeting was called to order at 7:03p.m. by Mr. Nyman with the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Announcements:**

Based on the Governor's current COVID19 Disaster Declaration, the Board of Supervisors held their monthly meeting with special meeting protocol for public participation. The meeting packet was available on the Township website. Pre-registration on a first-come first-serve basis with limited attendance was available. Anyone wishing to provide public comment could do so electronically or by submitting a public comment form. All public comment will be read at the Board's meeting.

An executive session will follow the regular meeting for litigation.

**Public Comment #1:**

- Ryan Gottshall, 2201 N. Rockhill Road, asked why written public comment is not inserted into the minutes. Mr. Rice responded state law only requires subject, name and address for public comment. Mr. Gottshall made requests for a word change on page 86 of the draft comp plan relating to Rock Hill Quarry; noted mobile homes are allowed in the Extraction Zoning District; zoning district border of the Extraction Zone be considered to match the quarry mining area; quarry picture on Township Rock Hill Quarry page be removed; Supervisors to sign correspondence to DEP related to Rock Hill Quarry; more hydro-seeding be required by DEP at the Quarry; questioned the status of the NPDES DEP appeal which is still active and requested an Ordinance to prevent the storing of used railroad ties within the Township noting there is a pile located behind his property. Mr. Rice will provide legal guidance to change zoning and a property owner's rights. A prepared statement is on file.

**Approval of Minutes and Bills Payable:**

**Approval of Minutes from August 25, 2020 Regular Meeting.**

**On motion** by Mr. Nietupski, seconded by Mr. Volovnik, to adopt the meeting minutes from the Board of Supervisors' August 25, 2020 Regular Meeting as presented. With no additional discussion, all present voted in favor.

**Payment of Unpaid Bills dated September 18, 2020 in the amount of \$322,760.57.**

**On motion** by Mr. Volovnik, seconded by Mr. Nietupski, to approve payment of the Bills List dated September 18, 2020 in the amount of \$322,760.57 as presented. With no additional discussion, all present voted in favor.

**Township Manager's Report: Marianne Morano**

**East Rockhill Township 2019 Draft Financial Report.** Received and distributed to the Supervisors for review. Mrs. Morano noted PMRS would not be issuing 2019 pension amounts until November 2020 and therefore the 2019 pension amounts would be reported with the 2020 financials.

**On motion** by Mr. Nietupski, seconded by Mr. Volovnik, to acknowledge receipt and finalize the 2019 draft financial report prepared by the appointed Auditors and authorize Chairperson execution of the representation letter. With no additional discussion, all present voted in favor.

**Draft Ordinances.**

**On motion** by Mr. Nietupski, seconded by Mr. Volovnik, to authorize the Township Solicitor to prepare the draft sign ordinance amendment, draft homestead animal ordinance and draft homestead chicken ordinance in a final format and advertise a Public Hearing. With no additional discussion, all present voted in favor.

**Presentation of the 2021 Minimum Municipal Obligation (MMO) to the Township Pension Plans.**

Received and distributed to the Supervisors for review.

**On motion** by Mr. Volovnik, seconded by Mr. Nietupski, to acknowledge receipt of the 2021 Minimum Municipal Obligation. With no additional discussion, all present voted in favor.

**Park and Recreation Board Resignation.**

Consensus was to adopt a Resolution recognizing her volunteer service at the October meeting.

**Small Borrowing Note.**

**On motion** by Mr. Volovnik, seconded by Mr. Nietupski, to adopt **Resolution 2020-10** for small capital borrowing note in the amount of \$50,000 for the purchase of a one-ton truck contingent on no monies being available in General Fund to fund the truck purchase as presented. With no additional discussion, all present voted in favor.

**On motion** by Mr. Nietupski, seconded by Mr. Volovnik, to approve the Township Manager Report. With no additional discussion, all present voted in favor.

**Public Works Report: Jeff Scholl**

Mr. Scholl updated the Board on Public Works activities as of September 15, 2020. Of note, the paver and sweeper have sold on Municibid for a total price of \$6,206, a section of path at Willard H. Markey Centennial Park will be paved in-house this week; treatment plant contact starter is to be replaced tomorrow.

**On motion** by Mr. Volovnik, seconded by Mr. Nietupski, to accept the bids for the sale of the 1987 paver and 1971 sweeper in the amount of \$6,206.00 as presented. With no additional discussion, all present voted in favor.

The report is on file.

**On motion** by Mr. Nietupski, seconded by Mr. Volovnik, to approve the Township Public Works Report. With no additional discussion, all present voted in favor.

**Township Engineer Report: Steve Baluh, P.E.**

**Release of Escrow Vouchers.**

**On motion** by Mr. Volovnik, seconded by Mr. Nietupski, to approve Penridge Airport Business Park Authorization Voucher Number 7 payable to C. Robert Wynn Associates in the amount of \$407.86 for construction observation and Woods Edge Subdivision Voucher Number 14 payable to C. Robert Wynn Associates in the amount of \$240.84 for construction observation as presented. With no additional discussion, all present voted in favor.

**Municipal Office Addition / Renovation Update.**

Municipal office addition roof has been installed and ceiling issues are being worked through with a cost anticipated from the general contractor. The final cost for general contractor foundation change in the amount of \$7,006.09 was received which replaced the not to exceed approval of \$17,000.00.

**On motion** by Mr. Nietupski, seconded by Mr. Volovnik, authorizing an electrical change order for conduit wire trough in the amount of \$648.00 and electric hand-driers in the amount of \$720.00 as presented. With no additional discussion, all present voted in favor.

**On motion** by Mr. Volovnik, seconded by Mr. Nietupski, to accept the Township Engineer report. With no additional discussion, all present voted in favor.

**Township Solicitor Report: John Rice, Esq.**

**Firework Ordinance.**

A public hearing was advertised and posted to act on an Ordinance to amend Chapter 10 Part 4 for fireworks. Mr. Nietupski questioned the \$600.00 fine which is according to PA Municipal Planning Code and Mr. Volovnik read section 403 prohibiting consumer or display fireworks within 200 feet of any structure, property line, vehicle, or roadway without written approval from all property owners. Penridge Regional Police will enforce the Ordinance. The Hearing was opened to public comment.

- Dennis Worman, 2834 Hill Road, has had an ongoing problem with neighbors using fireworks and believes the \$600.00 fine penalty should be higher.

**On motion** by Mr. Volovnik, seconded by Mr. Nietupski, to adopt **Ordinance 294** amending Chapter 10, Part 4 fireworks as presented. With no additional discussion, all present voted in favor.

**Conditional Use Hearing Adjudication for 925 Three Mile Run Road.**

Mr. Rice read the seven (7) conditions in the adjudication.

- Mr. Singh, applicant, questioned the condition citing employee clearances be provided on an annual basis to Penridge Regional Police Department noting they have 150 employees and the

state license already oversees the three (3) required clearances. Mr. Singh will contact the Pennridge Regional Police Chief to clarify how the clearance oversight can transpire.

- Todd Hippauf, 29R Rockhill Road, questioned how to audit providing background checks. It is similar to youth organizations and no audit is in place making this an additional layer of oversight.

**On motion** by Mr. Nietupski, seconded by Mr. Volovnik, to approve the Conditional Use Adjudication for the construction of a B5 Group Home at 925 Three Mile Run Road tax map parcel 12-009-129 as presented. With no additional discussion, all present voted in favor.

#### **Continuously Operating Quarry Resolution.**

**On motion** by Mr. Volovnik, seconded by Mr. Nietupski, to adopt **Resolution 2020-11** requesting state legislature and DEP establish specific criteria requiring mine operators to document the continuation of mining under licenses approved pursuant to the Noncoal Surface Mining Act as presented. With no additional discussion, all present voted in favor.

**On motion** by Mr. Nietupski, seconded by Mr. Volovnik, to approve the Township Solicitor report. With no additional discussion, all present voted in favor.

#### **Board and Commission Reports**

##### **Penridge Regional Police Department.**

The August 2020 Penridge Regional Police activity report is on file.

##### **Planning Commission.**

The September 10 Planning Commission agenda and draft minutes were provided to the Board.

##### **Penridge Wastewater Treatment Authority.**

The July 2020 Penridge Wastewater Treatment Authority minutes and flows are on file.

#### **Department and Emergency Services Reports**

Department and service reports are on file.

**On motion** by Mr. Nietupski, seconded by Mr. Volovnik, to acknowledge the Pennridge Regional Police Department, Planning Commission, Penridge Wastewater Treatment Authority and Department and Emergency Services reports. With no additional discussion, all present voted in favor.

#### **New or Other Business – Supervisors' Items**

- Mr. Nietupski questioned inserting written comments into minutes. It was noted when minutes state a prepared statement is on file the written statement is posted in the proceeding public meeting packet and available on the meeting webpage.

#### **Public Comment #2:**

- Ryan Gottshall, 2201 N. Rockhill Road, cited the Supreme Court finding Governor Wolf COVID guidelines unconstitutional and the impact it would have to changing Township meetings. The

order is in appeal and has no impact. He stated protocol was not adhered to when equipment was removed from Rock Hill Quarry site and he will contact DEP and state legislators.

- Todd Hippauf, 29R Rockhill Road, questioned when Department of Health answers would be provided to DEP. A date is not known.

**Adjournment:**

**On motion** by Mr. Volovnik, seconded by Mr. Nietupski, to adjourn into Executive Session. With no additional discussion, the meeting was adjourned at 8:17p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Marianne Morano  
Township Manager