

East Rockhill Township Board of Supervisors

September 28, 2021

Regular Business Meeting Minutes

DRAFT

The regular business meeting of the East Rockhill Township Board of Supervisors was held at 7:00p.m. on September 28, 2021 following the 2022 Preliminary Budget review in the meeting room at the East Rockhill Township Municipal Office, 1622 North Ridge Road, Perkasie, PA 18944.

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 7:00p.m. by Mr. Nyman with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Members of the public and press were present.

Announcements or Presentations:

Pennridge Community Center Annual Report: Mr. Nyman provided the annual report announcing the many services available for members 55 years and older in addition to their Legacy Room rental being available to the general public.

Public Comment #1:

- Lou DiTonno, 1 Boulder Drive, stated the Ridge Run Development was isolated during remnants of Hurricane Ida storm due to Stone Edge Road bridge flooding, Hill Road bridge flooding and a tree down on East Rock Road.
- Tom Reiss, 53 Stone Edge Road, has owned the property since 1992 and flooding has occurred regularly since that time.
- Larry Wheatley, 5 Boulder Drive, stated water concerns as a result of the remnants of Hurricane Ida and the rain storm the previous week.

Approval of Minutes and Bills Payable:

Approval of Minutes from August 24, 2021 Regular Meeting.

On motion by Mr. Volovnik, seconded by Mr. Nietupski, to adopt the meeting minutes from the Board of Supervisors' August 24, 2021 Regular Meeting as presented. With no additional discussion, all present voted in favor.

Payment Unpaid Bills dated September 23, 2021 in the amount of \$397,604.96.

On motion by Mr. Nietupski, seconded by Mr. Volovnik, to approve payment of the Bills List dated September 23, 2021 in the amount of \$397,604.96 as presented. With no additional discussion, all present voted in favor.

Township Manager's Report: Marianne Morano

Park and Recreation Board Appointment. Mr. M. Arthur Hallett introduced himself.

On motion by Mr. Nietupski, seconded by Mr. Volovnik, to appoint M. Arthur Hallett to the Park and Recreation Board with a term ending December 31, 2021. With no additional discussion, all present voted in favor.

Road Dedication Resolution 2021-13.

On motion by Mr. Volovnik, seconded by Mr. Nietupski, to adopt **Resolution 2021-13** accepting the deed of dedication of Fox Hill Road as presented. With no additional discussion, all present voted in favor.

Presentation of the 2022 Minimum Municipal Obligation (MMO) to the Township Pension Plans.

Received and distributed to the Supervisors for review.

On motion by Mr. Nietupski, seconded by Mr. Volovnik, to acknowledge receipt of the 2022 Minimum Municipal Obligation. With no additional discussion, all present voted in favor.

Salt Bids 2021-2022 Season.

On motion by Mr. Nietupski, seconded by Mr. Volovnik, to award the 2021-2022 salt bids to Cargill, Inc. through Costars at the rate of \$62.31 per ton for the 250 tons as required and to Morton Salt, Inc. through Bucks County Consortium at the rate of \$57.88 per ton delivered and \$57.00 per ton undelivered as presented. With no additional discussion, all present voted in favor.

Municipal Office Addition. A proposal was presented from Wenhold Builders for crown moulding and eave extension for fascia replacement. It was noted the current fascia was as specified and installed according to approved bid plans. Board consensus was to replace the fascia with the same style but with a material of a heavier guage that would remain straight.

Request to Purchase Sewer EDU's. Correspondence from Pennridge Wastewater Treatment Authority (PWTA) to all members was received to consider the sale of 25 sewer EDU's to Hilltown Township Water and Sewer Authority. The Board was provided an evaluation of how many EDUs East Rockhill Township currently has.

On motion by Mr. Volovnik, seconded by Mr. Nietupski, to decline the request for the sale of Equivalent Dwelling Units (EDUs). With no additional discussion, all present voted in favor.

Bridge #279 on West Rock Road over Three Mile Run. Bucks County anticipated bridge reconstruction and closure Spring 2022.

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 23, 2021. Of note, remnants of Hurricane Ida with unprecedented rain fall was handled without any major incidents and a check valve at the sewer pump station needs replacement. The report is on file.

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

Township Engineer Report: Steve Baluh, P.E.

Stone Edge Road Bridge. Mr. Baluh provided the history of the Stone Edge Road bridge installation.

- The Ridge Run Development was approved by a court stipulation agreement dated 1988. Per the recorded plan all five (5) phases were approved at that time.
- Stone Edge Road crosses Three Mile Run with a box culvert that was built according to the approved Ridge Run Development plan. An image was provided to the Board and public that showed the approved design which depicts the culvert is constructed below the 25 year floodplain and 100 year flood plain and thus was designed and constructed to flood during heavy rain events.
- In 1998 the Reserve at Woodbridge Development was approved by conditional use with the condition a new bridge was to be constructed or \$300,000 was to be contributed to the Township for Stone Edge Road improvements. The applicant appealed the approval and by a 1999 Court Order the new bridge requirement was removed and a \$225,000.00 contribution was required to be made to the Township. The funds remain accounted for by the Township allocated to remediate the Stone Edge Road culvert.
- The Reserve at Woodbridge was not approved with an easement or emergency access to Three Mile Run Road. There is a driveway that allows access to (Lysak) existing dwelling.
- A 2015 FEMA map which is still relevant today was provided depicting the railroad culvert causes water to spread out but the flood plain is narrow at the rail road bridge. A 100 year, 500 year and cross-section lines which indicates DEP has done a detailed study for accuracy was provided to the Board and public.
- A Three Mile Run creek profile depicted the railroad bridge height, a small private driveway and Stone Edge Road with 10 year to 500 year floodplain indicators. It was noted the private driveway and Stone Edge culvert are constructed below the 10 year flood level and was designed and approved to flood.
- In 2000 staff was directed to meet with DEP to explore options to improve the Stone Edge Road culvert. Changes in the existing creek bed were not permitted and it was to be maintained. At that time DEP recognized there was a problem and were agreeable to adding two (2) additional culverts and raising the height of Stone Edge Road two feet (2'). DEP required a construction easement to do the work and a floodplain easement in recognition that the water could back up more frequently on the private property. The floodplain easement encompassed a large portion of the private property. In 2004 the project ceased due to the Township not being able to meet the demands of the property owner and therefore obtaining the required easements could not be accomplished.
- It was stated to raise Stone Edge Road bed over the 100 year floodplain would have the potential to back up water more frequently downstream. If a bridge were constructed, the beams under the bridge would need to be out of the 100 year floodplain and therefore Stone Edge Road would be raised four feet (4') higher than Three Mile Run Road.

- Mr. Nietupski questioned if improvements could be done to Hill Road bridge and if there was grant availability. The Hill Road bridge is owned by Bucks County. FEMA has competitive grant projects which are considered with all project grant applications in the area.
- Mr. Volovnik questioned if stream overgrowth and depth of creek could be corrected. Approvals are required for any work outside of 50 feet from the edge of a roadway in a waterway from Army Corp of Engineers and DEP.
- Larry Wheatley, 5 Boulder Drive, stated SEPTA should be talked to about railroad bridge.
- Cathy Costello, 10 Boulder Drive, questioned what action could be taken if a property owner will not allow an easement. Eminent domain.
- Arthur Hallett, 2210 N. Rockhill Road, noted Bucks County recently did improvements to the Hill Road bridge.
- Lou DiTonno, 1 Boulder Drive, questioned if the two culverts considered in 2000 were an exception to the rule. Yes.
- Photos of flooding will be emailed to the Township Manager for the public record.
- Ron Schulberger, 2386 Hill Road, questioned the impact to properties downstream. Typically diminished with the length but would need to be investigated.
- Mr. Volovnik questioned why Old Bethlehem Pike bridge does not flood. The bridge has good height and less stream flow.
- Lou DiTonno, 1 Boulder Drive, stated he does not believe the McClennen Tract will not create more water into their development. The Township Engineer has stated there will be less water from the McClennen Tract and DEP NPDES permit is also required. These requirements were not in effect in 1988 when his development was approved.
- Larry Wheatley, 5 Boulder Drive, stated retention basins do not work
- Cathy Costello, 10 Boulder Drive, stated driveway pipes are not being maintained and are not functioning and property owners should be notified.
- Lou DiTonno, 1 Boulder Drive, stated water would flow in a stormwater pipe if it was at a 90 degree angle instead of a T.

The Township Engineer will meet with Department of Environmental Protection for consideration of allowable design options impacting the FEMA floodplain and develop options for consideration.

Release of Escrow Vouchers.

Pennridge Animal Hospital.

On motion by Mr. Volovnik, seconded by Mr. Nietupski, to accept completion of the Pennridge Animal Hospital (Mehmanus Holdings LLC) and the maintenance period. With no additional discussion, all present voted in favor.

On motion by Mr. Nietupski, seconded by Mr. Volovnik, to approve the Mehmanus Holdings LLC Escrow Voucher 1 dated September 17, 2021 payable to Wynn Associates, Inc. in the amount of \$448.17 for construction observation and to approve the Mehmanus Holdings LLC Escrow Voucher 2 dated September 17, 2021 payable to Mehmanus Holdings LLC in the amount of \$78,280.82 for reduction to maintenance retainage as presented. With no additional discussion, all present voted in favor.

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

Township Solicitor Report: John Rice, Esq.

Fox Stormwater Operation and Maintenance Agreement and Access Easement for Casadonti Homes Inc., Ridge Road Bucks County Tax Map Parcel 12-009-224-002

On motion by Mr. Nietupski, seconded by Mr. Volovnik, to approve the Chairperson to execute the Stormwater Operation and Maintenance Agreement and Access Easement for Ridge Road, Casadonti Homes, tax map parcel 12-009-224-002 as presented. With no additional discussion, all present voted in favor.

Mr. Rice requested an Executive Session to discuss litigation.

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

Board and Commission Reports

Pennridge Regional Police Department: Chief Paul Dickinson, Jr.

The Chief shared the August, 2021 Pennridge Regional Police activity report. The report is on file.

- Lou DiTonno, 1 Boulder Drive, requested the status of Stone Edge Road speed studies. The Police Department had speed boards in three (3) locations and conducted 45 details were done in the last month. Speeds are not excessive and on average are 25 mph.
- Larry Wheatley, 5 Boulder Drive, stated the presence of the Officer's car slows down vehicles.

On motion by Mr. Nietupski, seconded by Mr. Volovnik, to accept the Pennridge Regional Police Department report. With no additional discussion, all present voted in favor.

Pennridge Wastewater Treatment Authority: David Nyman

Mr. Nyman shared the September 27, 2021 meeting report noting the 2022 budget was approved. The August 2021 minutes and flow reports were provided to the Board.

- Larry Wheatley, 5 Boulder Drive, stated PRA trucks continue to go by his house which is a cul-de-sac. Mrs. Morano was directed to contact PRA (Perkasie Regional Authority) for a reason.

On motion by Mr. Volovnik, seconded by Mr. Nietupski, to accept the Pennridge Wastewater Treatment Authority report. With no additional discussion, all present voted in favor.

Pennridge Area Coordinating Committee: Gary Volovnik

Mr. Volovnik shared highlights of the September 23, 2021, meeting. The notes were provided to the Board and are on file.

On motion by Mr. Nyman, seconded by Mr. Nietupski, to accept the Pennridge Area Coordinating Committee report. With no additional discussion, all present voted in favor.

Department and Emergency Services Reports

On motion by Mr. Nietupski, seconded by Mr. Volovnik, to acknowledge receipt of the Department and Emergency Services reports. With no additional discussion, all present voted in favor.

New or Other Business – Supervisors’ Items:

- Mr. Nietupski suggested the Township Engineer Planning Commission review letters be posted to the Township website. It was stated the entire review letter is available in approved minutes with the applicants response to each item.

Public Comment #2:

- Lou DiTonno, 1 Boulder Drive, stated a thank you in particular to the Township Engineer.

Adjournment:

On motion by Mr. Volovnik, seconded by Mr. Nietupski, to adjourn the regular meeting. With no additional discussion, the meeting was adjourned at 8:37p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Marianne Morano
Township Manager

Unpaid 2021 Bills List
 October 18, 2021

<u>Payable To</u>	<u>Memo</u>	<u>Amount</u>
General Fund - 01		
Chase Credit Card	Lowes	86.38
Chase Credit Card	Northern Safety	321.36
Chase Credit Card	GoDaddy	121.02
Chase Credit Card	PSATS	135.00
Clemens Uniform	Uniforms	188.96
Comcast	Phone & Internet	365.67 *
Costco	Annual Renewal	180.00
DCED	July-Sept Permits	112.50
Delaware Valley Health Insurance (DVHT)	Insurance Premium	7,564.15
Emerald Garden	Lawn Maintenance	1,176.04
Georges Tool Rental	Equipment Rental	183.00
Grim, Biehn & Thatcher	Township Solicitor General Matters	1,072.00
Grim, Biehn & Thatcher	Township Solicitor Lakehouse Inn	825.00
Home Depot	Supplies	14.44 *
IT Business Solutions, Inc.	Monthly Service	459.00
Keystone Collections Group	EIT Commission	1,337.35 *
Keystone Collections Group	Costs Retained by Tax Officer (Act 192)	769.43 *
Keystone Collections Group	EIT Taxpayer Refunds	65.15 *
Keystone Collections Group	LST Commission	12.12 *
Little's	Supplies	207.09
Manko Gold Katcher Fox	Township Environmental Solicitor	887.50
Neat & Clean	Township Office	280.00
PAPCO	Unleaded Fuel	113.43
PAPCO	Diesel Fuel	894.50
Pennridge Regional Police	Police Service	82,559.00
Pitney Bowes	Quarterly Lease	102.00
PK Moyer	Hauling Service	1,080.00
PMRS	2021 MMO	62,214.00
PMRS	2021 Admin Fee	40.00
PP&L Electric	Emergency Aux Bldg. + Break Room	115.64
PP&L Electric	Parking Lot Lights	120.00
PP&L Electric	Municipal Office	119.57
PP&L Electric	Garage/Shop	98.07
Principal Financial Group	Insurance Premium	347.55
Raifsnider's Exterminating	Quarterly Pest Control	90.00
Reiss Hauling & Recycling, Inc.	Trash & Recycling Service	1,930.00
Ricoh	Prepay Copier Rental	128.07

Unpaid 2021 Bills List
 October 18, 2021

<u>Payable To</u>	<u>Memo</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Ricoh-Images	Black & White/Color Copies	88.95
Scarlet Oaks	Supplies	64.00
Shadywood Communications	Enews	215.00
Staples Credit Plan	Supplies	64.12 *
Sprint	Cell Phone Service	132.75
Waste Management	Trash	271.42
Wynn Associates	Township Engineer Rockhill Quarry	165.38
Wynn Associates	Township Engineer General Engineering	550.17
Wynn Associates	Township Engineer Public Works	1,261.70
Wynn Associates	Township Engineer Stone Edge Road	2,032.30
Wynn Associates	Township Engineer MS-4	1,288.81
	<i>General Fund</i>	<u>\$ 172,449.59</u>
Open Space Fund - 05		
Grim, Biehn & Thatcher	Township Solicitor Tohickon Campground	209.00
Keystone Collections Group	EIT Commission	597.74 *
Keystone Collections Group	Taxpayer Refunds	32.57 *
	<i>Open Space Fund</i>	<u>\$ 839.31</u>
Sewer Fund - 08		
Bullseye	Pumping Station Alarm Service	161.21
CKS Engineers	Engineering Pump Station	994.50
Comcast	Treatment Plant Phone Service	99.96
Delaware Valley Health Insurance (DVHT)	Insurance Premium	3,180.72
Emerald Garden	Lawn Maintenance	351.96
Kevin Franks	Treatment Plant	1,850.00
Lawson	Supplies	596.24
MJ Reider Associates	Lab Analysis	285.00
PA One Call	Monthly Activity	35.40
PMRS	2021 MMO	62,215.00
PP&L Electric	Pump Station	451.94
PP&L Electric	Treatment Plant	1,766.32
Principal Financial Group	Insurance Premium	294.54
PWTA - Capital Fund	Quarterly Billing	4,589.00
PWTA - Operating Fund	Quarterly Billing	36,323.00
Quakertown National Bank	2021 Note Principal & Interest	26,666.66 *
Sprint	Cell Phone Service	88.52
Univar Solutions	Aluminum Sulfate	2,681.60
	<i>Sewer Fund</i>	<u>\$ 142,631.57</u>

Unpaid 2021 Bills List
 October 18, 2021

<u>Payable To</u>	<u>Memo</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Park & Recreation / Driving Range Fund -09		
Auto Plus	Supplies	67.18
Chase Credit Card	Stone Depot	116.00
Chase Credit Card	Trash Cans Warehouse	1,593.00
Chase Credit Card	Harbor Freight	11.98
Davis Feed	Markey Centennial Park	102.35
Emerald Garden	Lawn Maintenance	645.00
George Allen Portable Toilets Inc.	Markey Centennial Park	160.00
PP&L Electric	Markey Centennial Park Sign	31.76
PP&L Electric	Markey Centennial Park Buildings	46.52
Ringo Hill Farms Equipment Co	Parts	102.00
Trumbauers Lawn & Garden	Parts	27.18
		2,902.97
	<i>Park & Rec / Driving Range Fund</i>	\$
Street Light Fund - 13		
PP&L Electric	Street Lights	1,622.63
		1,622.63
	<i>Street Light Fund</i>	\$
Building Debt Fund - 22		
Pennridge Regional Police Department	Principle and Interest Debt Payment	5,797.22
Quakertown National Bank	2019 Note Interest	2,327.14 *
		8,124.36
	<i>Building Debt Fund</i>	\$
State Aid (Liquid Fuel) Fund - 35		
Coopersburg Materials	Supplies	51,447.95
EM Kutz	Parts	225.00
Established Traffic Control	Signs	1,155.39
Georges Tool Rental	Equipment Rental	844.00
Hart Mechanical	Mower Repair	195.00
H&K Materials	Supplies	2,803.75
LB Water	Pipes	1,462.80
Morton Salt	3/2021 Salt delivery	1,189.13 *
PK Moyer	Hauling Service	4,927.50
PP&L Electric	Signal 313 & 5th	33.73
PP&L Electric	Flasher 5th Street	29.87
PP&L Electric	Signal Campus & 5th	39.01
PP&L Electric	Signal 313 & 563	34.03
PP&L Electric	Flasher Schwenkmill Road	30.28
PP&L Electric	Signal 313 & Mountain View	48.08

Unpaid 2021 Bills List
October 18, 2021

Payable To	Memo	Amount
PP&L Electric	Flasher Mountain View 9/2021	29.65
PP&L Electric	Flasher Mountain View 8/2021	30.22 *
Service Tire Truck Centers	Tire Repair	1,019.06
US Municipal	Parts	1,420.53
		<u>State Aid Fund \$ 66,964.98</u>

Escrow Fund - 90

Grim Biehn & Thatcher	Township Solicitor Casadonti	519.25
Grim Biehn & Thatcher	Township Solicitor Pennridge Airport	32.00
Grim Biehn & Thatcher	Township Solicitor Pennridge Animal Hospital	38.00
Grim Biehn & Thatcher	Township Solicitor Pennridge SD	114.00
Grim Biehn & Thatcher	Township Solicitor Scholl	589.00
Grim Biehn & Thatcher	Township Solicitor Select/McClennan	228.00
Wynn Associates	Township Engineer First Baptist Church	36.75
Wynn Associates	Township Engineer Pennridge School Dist	462.79
Wynn Associates	Township Engineer McClennan Tract	1,909.03
Wynn Associates	Township Engineer Weidner Tract	24.50
Wynn Associates	Township Engineer Scholl	153.13
Wynn Associates	Township Engineer Stewart	55.13
Wynn Associates	Township Engineer Meyers/Blue Sky Prop	409.38
Wynn Associates	Township Engineer Jordan	311.38
Wynn Associates	Township Engineer Sherwood	352.17
		<u>Escrow fund \$ 5,234.51</u>

Total Unpaid Bills \$ 400,769.92

**denotes already paid*

Bucks County 2021 Hazard Mitigation Plan Update

Municipal Adoption Resolution

Resolution No. 2021-15

East Rockhill Township, Bucks County, Pennsylvania

WHEREAS, the Township of East Rockhill, Bucks County, Pennsylvania is most vulnerable to natural and human-made hazards which may result in loss of life and property, economic hardship, and threats to public health and safety, and

WHEREAS, Section 322 of the Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000 (DMA 2000) requires state and local governments to develop and submit for approval to the President a mitigation plan that outlines processes for identifying their respective natural hazards, risks, and vulnerabilities, and

WHEREAS, the Township of East Rockhill acknowledges the requirements of Section 322 of DMA 2000 to have an approved Hazard Mitigation Plan as a prerequisite to receiving post-disaster Hazard Mitigation Grant Program funds, and

WHEREAS, the Bucks County 2021 Hazard Mitigation Plan Update has been developed by the Bucks County Emergency Management Agency and the Bucks County Planning Commission in cooperation with other county departments, local municipal officials, and the citizens of the East Rockhill Township, and

WHEREAS, a public involvement process consistent with the requirements of DMA 2000 was conducted to develop the Bucks County 2021 Hazard Mitigation Plan Update, and

WHEREAS, the Bucks County 2021 Hazard Mitigation Plan Update recommends mitigation activities that will reduce losses to life and property affected by both natural and human-made hazards that face the County and its municipal governments,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the governing body for the Township of East Rockhill, that:

- The Bucks County 2021 Hazard Mitigation Plan Update is hereby adopted as the official Hazard Mitigation Plan of the County, and
- The respective officials and agencies identified in the implementation strategy of the Bucks County 2021 Hazard Mitigation Plan Update are hereby directed to implement the recommended activities assigned to them.

ADOPTED, this 26th day of October, 2021

EAST ROCKHILL TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

David R. Nyman, Chairperson

Gary W. Volovnik, Vice Chairperson

James C. Nietupski, Member

ATTEST:

Marianne K. Morano
Township Secretary

