

RICHLAND TOWNSHIP
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

February 15, 2017

PUBLIC MEETING

The Richland Township Board of Supervisors meeting held at the municipal building on Wednesday, February 15, 2017 was called to order at 7:00 PM by Chairman, Raymond P. Kendrick. There were four people in the audience. The Officials present were:

Raymond P. Kendrick, Chairman	Dean E. Bastianini, Township Manager
George P. Allen, Vice Chairman (via video call)	Donald Palmer, Esquire
Donna L. Snyder, Supervisor	Tina L. Shaw, Recording Secretary

Ms. Snyder made a motion to approve the minutes from the Supervisors' Meeting of January 18, 2017. Mr. Allen seconded the motion and it was approved by all.

Mr. Kendrick asked if anyone in the audience wished to speak. No one came forward.

Ms. Snyder made a motion to approve the January 2017 Financial Statement which included balance sheets and revenue/expenditure reports for all funds, as well as, a list of the following checks issued in January: General PLGIT, Fund 01: #46810 - #46852, PLGIT Mastercard, #91728 - #91750, ACH Transfer Account, #1014 - #1025. Mr. Allen seconded the motion and it was approved by all.

Mr. Allen made a motion to approve the bills payable in the following amounts: General PLGIT, \$15,428.66, Fire Protection Fund, \$210.00, Highway Improvement Capital, \$1,957.00 and Sewer Fund, \$39,789.60. Ms. Snyder seconded the motion and it was approved by all.

CORRESPONDENCE

Allegheny League of Municipalities 2017 Annual Conference

An announcement that the 2017 Educational Conference will be on April 6th - 9th at Seven Springs.

Mr. Allen made a motion authorizing all Board members, the Township Manager and Assistant Manager to attend the conference with the Township covering all expenses for meals, lodging, transportation and registration. Ms. Snyder seconded the motion and it was approved by all.

PLANNING COMMISSION MINUTES OF JANUARY 9, 2017

The Supervisors acknowledged that the Planning Commission had voted, by a majority of three to one, to deny three applications by Giant Eagle to rezone property situate Grandview and Oakhill Drive from "RA" one acre residential to "RH" high-intensity residential. In order to allow time to evaluate alternatives and to address concerns identified at the Planning Commission meeting, the applicant has requested the rezoning application to be tabled and not advertised for a public hearing. The Township has agreed to table the application indefinitely.

NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Michael Zubasic, of PNC Capital Markets presented an analysis of the potential savings from refinancing of the Township’s 2012 Series Bonds. After a brief discussion of the procedure, Ms. Snyder made a motion to authorize PNC Capital Markets to initiate the refinancing process and to appoint Mr. Ronald Stout of Clark Hill as Bond Counsel. Mr. Allen seconded the motion and it was approved by all.

Following a review of a bid tabulation of the proposals received for the Township’s 2017 paving program Ms. Snyder made a motion, which was seconded by Mr. Allen, to award the following contracts:

Shields Asphalt Paving

17-01: Sandy Hills Road (portion), Circle Drive, Critchlow Drive, Van Velsor Drive (portion), St. George Drive, Oakhill Road	\$477,955.15
17-05: Valleyvue Drive, Ridgemont Drive	<u>\$215,292.80</u>
Total:	\$693,247.95
<u>A. Liberoni, Inc.</u>	
17-02: Orchard Park Drive, Pine Tree Drive, Vineyard Drive Westwood Drive	\$185,932.29
17-03: Beechnut Drive, Oakcrest Drive, Overbrook Road, Richland Avenue	\$258,188.74
17-04: East Ewalt, Peach Drive, Benedick Road, Chardick Drive	<u>\$171,470.43</u>
Total:	\$615,591.46
Grand Total:	\$ 1,308,839.41

Ms. Snyder made a motion to reject all of the bids received for Contract 17-06: Kettering Circle, Newbury Way and Whitby Place. Mr. Allen seconded the motion and it was approved by all.

Ms. Snyder made a motion, which was seconded by Mr. Allen, to table award of Contract 17-07 pending authorization from the Richland Municipal Authority.

Mr. Bastianini thanked Mr. Shoup and Mr. Reichart for their work on the paving bids.

Ms. Snyder made a motion to approve the following change orders to the contract with J.M. Clark Construction to construct a restroom/shelter in Richland Park.

<u>Change Order</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Cost</u>
#1	a) Upgrade all lights to LED b) Install exterior photo cell.	\$ 790.00
#2	Install duct work and fan system for two separate exhausts.	\$1,400.00

The motion was seconded by Mr. Allen and approved by all.

MANAGER'S REPORT

The Manager reported on the following:

- The Township staff has been working with Management Science Associates, Inc. to test a new mobile application which creates a direct one-way communications line between local government and its citizens. It is named Savvy Citizen. Residents who sign up for the application can receive text and email notifications via mobile device, cell phone or computer. Once the test period is completed the Township will have an opportunity to launch the application some time this Spring.
- Chatham University has completed the improvements to Ridge Road called for in the development agreement for the latest phase of the Eden Hall Campus Master Plan. The cost of the improvements was \$825,390.00. The University has posted a maintenance bond in the amount of 10% of the improvements. The bond will expire in July 2018.
- A representative of the mechanical engineering company which designed the heating and air conditioning system for the Municipal Building has determined that the discoloration evident along the peak of the ceiling in the municipal assembly room is mold caused by humidity. The Township will attempt to mitigate the problem by increasing the air flow in the room. The ceiling will be cleaned and proposals will be obtained to have it repainted.
- Pennsylvania has approved a law which authorizes municipalities to enact earned income and property tax credit for active volunteers of fire and emergency medical service companies. The law grants municipalities the authority to offer active volunteers a tax credit of up to 20% of their tax liability based on the number of calls a volunteer responds to or the training in which they participate. Managers of the various municipalities within the North Hills have discussed establishing a committee to identify uniformed eligibility criteria for volunteers throughout the North Hills area.
- The Solicitors for the Township and the Breakneck Creek Regional Authority are in the final stages of preparing an amendment to the 1990 Intermunicipal Sewer Agreement which would grant the Authority responsibility for the sewerage facilities constructed within a revised service area including the Traditions of America Plan and the Haymont/Hillcrest Drive neighborhoods both of which are located within the upper reaches of the Montour Run Watershed. The agreement should be ready for consideration at the Board's March 15th meeting.
- The Pine Richland Baseball Softball Association has obtained a quotation from Athletic Field Pros to improve the infield of Field #6 at Richland Park for a total bid price of \$22,715.26. The Baseball Association would be responsible for the entire cost and has requested permission from the Township to proceed. Mr. Anton Krysa, a member of the Township's Parks and Recreation Board, who has donated his knowledge and skill to maintain the playing fields at the park, has reviewed the proposal and endorsed the scope of work.

Ms. Snyder made a motion authorizing the PRSBA to proceed with the field work as identified in the quote from Athletic Field Pros at the organization's own expenses.

- Mr. Bastianini read an email from Ms. Natausha Horton, Esquire of the Cohen Law Group, regarding a proceeding before the Federal Communication Commission which has the potential of reducing municipal authority over wireless facilities located within public right of ways. Ms. Horton's firm, which specializes in cable television matters, intends to submit filings to the FCC which underscore the importance of municipal zoning and confirm the reasonableness of local application and regulation processes. Ms. Horton will include Richland in her filing at no cost.

After a brief discussion Ms. Snyder made a motion authorizing the Chairman to execute an engagement letter allowing Cohen Law Group to draft comments to the FCC on Richland Township's behalf. Mr. Allen seconded the motion and it was approved by all.

COMMENTS FROM THE BOARD

Ms. Snyder made a motion to cancel the Supervisors' public meeting scheduled for March 1, 2017. Mr. Allen seconded the motion and it was approved by all.

COMMENTS FROM THE FLOOR

Mr. Justin Jocuns, 5977 State Road asked if the Supervisors have had any further discussion regarding his recommendation that the Supervisor's meeting information packets be made available on the Township's website prior to the public meeting.

Mr. Bastianini indicated that although no further discussion had taken place on the matter he had concerns about being responsible for picking and choosing what to include and what not to include in future postings. Mr. Palmer agreed that it is difficult to establish a bright line of distinction between what is appropriate to be posted and what is not. He said that many of his other clients have struggled with the matter and had in fact made mistakes by posting things which should not have been included on the website. Mr. Bastianini concluded by saying it seemed to him that a reasonable approach would be to post any proposed action item which is included on the agenda. The discussion concluded with no further action being taken. Various Board members and members of the audience expressed their opinion the effectiveness of the TV screens which are used to display information during the public meetings.

There being no further business the meeting adjourned at 8:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,