

RICHLAND TOWNSHIP
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

November 15, 2017

PUBLIC MEETING

The Richland Township Board of Supervisors meeting held at the municipal building on Wednesday, November 15, 2017 was called to order by Chairman, Raymond Kendrick. Mr. Kendrick explained that prior to the public meeting the Supervisors meet with the Solicitor in Executive Session to discuss matters of potential litigation. There were two people present in the audience. The Officials present were:

Raymond P. Kendrick, Chairman
George P. Allen, Vice Chairman
John Marshall, Supervisor
Barton D. Miller, Supervisor

Donna L. Snyder, Supervisor
Dean E. Bastianini, Township Manager
Tina L. Shaw, Recording Secretary
Donald Palmer, Esquire

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

Mr. Allen made a motion to approve the October 2017 Financial Statements which included balance sheets and revenue/expenditure reports for all funds, as well as, a list of the following checks issued in October. General PLGIT, Fund 01: #47272 - #47313, ACH Transfer Account, #1113 - 1123, Bond-Payment-Wire Transfer, #4 and PLGIT Mastercard, #91947 - #91969. Mr. Marshall 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, \$71,479.05, Sewer Fund, \$224,173.67 and Sewer Capital Reserve Fund, \$48.50. Mr. Marshall seconded the motion and it was approved by all.

CORRESPONDENCE

David M. Sanko, Executive Director
PSATS

A letter explaining that Act 42 of 2017 authorizes the placement of ten "mini-casinos" with not less than 300 or more than 750 slot machines and table games, within the State. Act 42 also grants municipalities the authority to prohibit the location of "mini-casinos" within their boundaries by passing a resolution no later than December 31, 2017. Municipalities that pass a resolution to prohibit mini-casinos may in the future pass another resolution to rescind the prohibition. If a municipality passes resolution to rescind the original resolution, it will no longer have the authority to prohibit Category 4 casinos in the future.

Mr. Keally, Bauer Drive asked if the "mini-casinos" would generate any local tax revenue. Mr. Palmer responded by saying yes, 2% of gross revenues up to an amount equal to one half of the municipal budget.

Ms. Snyder made a motion to schedule consideration of a resolution which would prohibit mini-casinos in Richland Township at the Board's December 20, 2017 meeting. Mr. Miller seconded the motion and it was approved by all.

PLGIT Procurement

Notice of a rebate check in the amount of \$666.97, for participating in the PLGIT Procurement Card Program. The rebate is equal to the cost of approximately ten tons of salt.

NEW BUSINESS

Ms. Snyder made a motion to award the sale of the Township's used, 2004 Ford F550 LX Super Duty Utility Truck, which was advertised for auction on Municibid, to the high bidder Mr. Bruce Goldberg for \$11,000. Mr. Miller seconded the motion and it was approved by all. Mr. Kendrick and Mr. Reichart were authorized to execute the paperwork necessary to transfer the title.

MANAGER'S REPORT

Mr. Bastianini announced that State Representative Hal English had informed him that the Commonwealth Funding Authority of Pennsylvania had approved Richland's Abandoned and Orphaned Gas Well Application and will provide a grant of \$192,400 to be used for the capping and plugging of two gas wells in the Township. One is located at 420 Ridge Road. The second is located at 4136 Bakerstown Road. Mr. Bastianini said that receipt of the grant was a two year process and was only accomplished thanks to a exerted team effort.

He praised State Representative Hal English, State Senator Randy Vulakovich and Speaker of the House Representative Mike Turzai for their support and advocacy of the gas well projects. He acknowledged the Board of Supervisors, Mr. Allen and Mr. Marshall in particular for their efforts to make sure the application received the attention it deserved. He thanked Mr. Seth Palko and the staff at the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection Division and Well Plugging and Subservice Activities, for prioritizing Richland Township's wells. Finally he recognized Ms. Sara Knapp for her commitment and grant writing skills. He said that the grant award demonstrated how professionally engaged public employees can make difference in the community where they work.

There are hundreds of thousands of wells like this in Pennsylvania for which no responsible party can be identified. They omit toxic and combustible fumes which are threats to health and safety and pose serious environmental concerns. Without the type of effort made by our State and Township officials these problems would remain unaddressed for years to come. The next step in the process will be to enter into grant agreement with the Commonwealth Funding Authority and to work with DEP officials to prepare bids and technical specifications for the award of the work. The plugging will occur in 2018.

Mr. Bastianini stated that the Preliminary Budget was prepared and available for public review and contains no tax increase. A public hearing will be held on December 5th at 7:00 p.m. Adoption is scheduled for December 20th.

There being no further business the meeting adjourned at 7:32 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Tina L. Shaw

