RICE TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
JULY 7, 2015

The duly advertised regular meeting of the Rice Township Board of Supervisors was held on Tuesday, July 7, 2015, at the Rice Township Municipal Building, 3000 Church Road, Mountaintop. Copies of the Agenda and Treasurer Reports were available to the public. The meeting was called to order by Chair Marcia Thomas at 7:00 p.m. It is announced that the meeting will be recorded for preparing the minutes. Interior cameras are also recording the video.

A special meeting was held July 6, 2015 at 7:00 p.m. to appoint Robert Pipech as Supervisor and Alan Snelson as Zoning Officer.

ROLL CALL: Stella - Here
Pipech - Here
Thomas - Here

Also present were: Please see attached sign in sheet.

Received Treasurer's Report: General fund total income for June was $125,431.09; total expenses were $65,437.09. Recreation fund had no activity. Liquid Fuels fund had expenses of $1,131.35. Bills presented to be paid tonight total $24,528.42.

Balances as of June 30th:

General Checking: $187,460.69
Liquid Fuels Checking: $48,463.79
Recreation Checking: $3,727.75

General Money Market: $150,372.58
Liquid Fuels Money Market: $50,063.22
Recreation Money Market: $10,013.12

Total Cash on Hand: $450,101.15

MOTION by Thomas, second by Stella, to accept the Treasurer's Report as presented, and all bills to be paid.
ROLL CALL: Stella - Yes Pipech - Yes Thomas - Yes
MOTION CARRIED.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Joe Tweedle asked that the Recycling Center be open one day during the week to accommodate residents who go out of town on the weekends. All Board members agreed that adjusting the Recycling schedule would be feasible.

BUSINESS MATTERS:

MOTION by Stella, second by Pipech, to adjust Summer Hours for the Recycling Center to include Wednesdays from 4:00 pm to 7:00 pm.
ROLL CALL: Stella - Yes Pipech - Yes Thomas - Yes
MOTION CARRIED.

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MOTION by Thomas, second by Stella, to accept the Minutes of the regular meeting on June 2, 2015.
ROLL CALL: Stella - Yes Pipech - Yes Thomas - Yes
MOTION CARRIED.

MOTION by Thomas, second by Pipech, to accept the Minutes of the special meeting on July 6, 2015.
ROLL CALL: Stella - Yes Pipech - Yes Thomas - Yes
MOTION CARRIED.

No Roadmaster's Report was given for June 2015. Roadmaster Pipech stated that the Road Department will be on Summer Hours.

Received the Police Report for June 2015: 234 Incidents, 133 Complaints, 2 Accidents, 28 Assist Calls, 17 Traffic Citations Issued, 4 Criminal Arrests (2 Simple Assault, 1 Theft, 1 DUI), and 1 Search Warrant served. A total of 858 hours worked, 316 gallons of gasoline used, total mileage 5140.

MOTION by Thomas, second by Pipech, to accept the Police Report as presented.
ROLL CALL: Stella - Yes Pipech - Yes Thomas - Yes
MOTION CARRIED.

Received the Zoning Officer Report: 4 Driveway Installs, 3 Driveway Repaves, 1 New Home, 2 Fences, 1 Room Addition, 1 In-ground Pool, 1 Deck. Total collected for the month of June: $985.00.

MOTION by Thomas, second by Stella, to accept the Zoning Report as presented.
ROLL CALL: Stella - Yes Pipech - Yes Thomas - Yes
MOTION CARRIED.

Marcia Thomas stated that we will have a new Zoning Officer for next month's meeting.

The Planning Commission Draft Minutes for the regularly scheduled June meeting will be available shortly. Marcia Thomas stated that she asked the Planning Commission to review the Rice Township Zoning Fee Schedule. We will be looking at the Fee Schedules from surrounding municipalities to see how we compare. The issue may be brought up in a future meeting.

Mountain Top Area Joint Sanitary Authority Minutes from May 11, 2015 are available to the public.

Wright Township Volunteer Fire Company Report was not received.

Wright Township Fire Police Incident Recap is available to the public.

Sealed bids for the "2015 Rice Township Pave Project" were publicly opened on Wednesday, July 1st at 11am. The bids were reviewed by the Solicitor and Project Engineer PennEastern. 2 bids were received:

	Base Bid	Alt #1	Alt #2	Total
American Asphalt	$58,362.70	$36,202.00	$23,973.00	$118,537.70
Pennsy Supply	$64,202.50	$40,416.25	$24,823.00	$129,441.75

Marcia Thomas explained that the Base Bid is for Fairwood Boulevard, Alternate 1 is for Aleksander Boulevard, and Alternate 2 is for a section of Wilderness Drive.

A recommendation was received by Engineer Pasonick on July 1, 2015. Pasonick stated that if the Solicitor concurs, PennEasteren recommends awarding the base bid of $58,362.70 to American Asphalt Paving Co. He further stated that if funding is available, Alternate #1 and/or Alternate #2 may be considered by the Supervisors for award.

MOTION by Stella, second by Pipech, to accept the bid of American Asphalt in the amount of $118,537.00.
ROLL CALL: Stella - Yes Pipech - Yes Thomas - Yes
MOTION CARRIED.

Marcia Thomas discussed the possibility of contracting out smaller road projects, as well as tree trimming projects which will help the roads dry out faster.

Miller Stella stated that he used to appropriate $4,000 per year for tree trimming, and added that January/February is the best time to do this work. The Board decided to discuss smaller projects at a later date.

Rice Township has been awarded a Community Development Block Grant in the amount of $20,000. Its intended use is to update the Rice Township Comprehensive Plan, which has not been updated for a very long time.

MOTION by Thomas, second by Stella, to execute the agreement and all documentation required by the agreement for the Community Development Block Grant.
ROLL CALL: Stella - Yes Pipech - Yes Thomas - Yes
MOTION CARRIED.

MOTION by Thomas, second by Pipech, to pass Ordinance 2015-1, declaring Rice Township's formal membership in the PSATS Unemployment Compensation Trust, as requested by PSATS.
ROLL CALL: Stella - Yes Pipech - Yes Thomas - Yes
MOTION CARRIED.

MOTION by Stella, second by Pipech, to advertise for sale of the 2008 Chevrolet Impala Sedan, in "as is" condition, when it is retired.
ROLL CALL: Stella - Yes Pipech - Yes Thomas - Yes
MOTION CARRIED.

MOTION by Thomas, second by Stella, to pay $69,048.00 to PIRMA for Liability insurance, effective August 1, 2015.
ROLL CALL: Stella - Yes Pipech - Yes Thomas - Yes
MOTION CARRIED.

Miller Stella stated that we should advertise for an insurance company to lower the cost of the liability insurance. Secretary Stier stated that no one will provide quotes to the Township until all court cases are closed, which they are not. Marcia Thomas added that, as part of a pool, the new insurance coverage would need retro-coverage from 1982 forward.

The Township received notification that the WTVFD Workers' Comp premium for the year totals $34,533.00. The previous Board negotiated to pay 37% of the premium, which makes our obligation total $12,777.21 for the period 8/28/15 to 8/28/16. Last year the premium totaled $26,905.00 and our obligation totaled $9,954.85 for the period 8/28/14 to 8/28/15.

MOTION by Stella, second by Pipech, to pay $12,777.21 to Wright Township for our portion of Wright Township Fire Department's Worker's Compensation coverage for the period 8/28/15 to 8/28/16.
ROLL CALL: Stella - Yes Pipech - Yes Thomas - Yes
MOTION CARRIED.

A 4-year charge analysis of our energy supplier bills was conducted. Quotes were received from various other suppliers, and ThinkEnergy will save the Township an average of $2,643.34 per year based on a 36-month contract.

MOTION by Stella, second by Pipech, to enter into a 36-month contract with ThinkEnergy, and to cancel services with Agera Energy.
ROLL CALL: Stella - Yes Pipech - Yes Thomas - Yes
MOTION CARRIED.

MOTION by Thomas, second by Pipech, to allow School Age Summer Camp Class at Building Blocks Learning Center to utilize the Rice Township Playground as a field trip location on Tuesdays throughout the summer. Certificate of Liability was provided to the Township.
ROLL CALL: Stella - Yes Pipech - Yes Thomas - Yes
MOTION CARRIED.

MOTION by Thomas, second by Stella, to donate $200 to the Yudichak Family Lighthouse Fund of the Luzerne Foundation. Last year we donated $200.
ROLL CALL: Stella - Yes Pipech - Yes Thomas - Yes
MOTION CARRIED.

MOTION by Stella, second by Pipech, to donate $20 for two sponsor tickets for the American Legion Parade of Champions Drum and Bugle Corps for underprivileged children.
ROLL CALL: Stella - Yes Pipech - Yes Thomas - Yes
MOTION CARRIED.

The Rice Township Police Department will be joining Wright Township and Fairview Township Police Departments for "National Night Out." The event will take place on August 4, 2015 from 4pm to 9pm at the Wright Township Park.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT: Nothing to report.

PUBLIC COMMENT: Bob Pipech thanked Secretary Stier for helping him in the Zoning Office.

MOTION by Thomas, second by Pipech, to adjourn. Meeting adjourned at 7:19 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Alicia E. Stier
Secretary