

**RYE TOWNSHIP
SUPERVISORS' SPECIAL MEETING
February 10, 2012**

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MEMBERS PRESENT: Robert Lightner, Chairman, Vice-Chairman Ken Quigley, Supervisor Ronald Cree, Daisy Lightner, Secretary/Treasurer, Nancy Sunday, John Madden, Madden Engineering Services

The meeting was held at the municipal building and called to order at 9:00 AM. Chairman Lightner convened the meeting with the pledge of allegiance to the flag.

CITIZEN PARTICIPATION: No citizen participation was offered.

APPROVAL PENN DOT REIMBURSEMENT AGREEMENT – PINE HILL ROAD BRIDGE: The Supervisors are required by PennDot to adopt a Resolution to authorize an individual to sign all the documents that come through on the Pine Hill Road Bridge Replacement Project. Resolution #12-04 authorizes Robert Lightner, Board Chairman, to sign and the Township Secretary to attest, on behalf of Rye Township, on Reimbursement Agreement #089892. The Secretary/Treasurer noted that the Board still makes the decisions concerning this project, but the Resolution authorizes the Chairman to sign all the documents on behalf of the Board. Upon due consideration Supervisor Ronald Cree made a motion to **approve Resolution #12-04** with a second from Robert Lightner, Board Chairman. Motion carried. Vice Chairman Quigley abstained from the vote citing conflict of interest since he works part time for the engineering firm of Wilson Consulting.

The Secretary/Treasurer presented a 50-page document from the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation, which details the information and procedures that are required in order to secure the 80% State funding for this project. Upon due consideration and discussion Supervisor Ronald Cree made a motion to **accept the Reimbursement Agreement #089892 between Rye Township and the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation.** Chairman Lightner seconded the motion to accept the Agreement. Motion carried. Vice-Chairman Quigley abstained from the vote citing conflict of interest. The Secretary/Treasurer is working with Mark Wilson on the details of the engineering agreement to tentatively present to the Board for approval at the February board meeting.

APPROVAL NEW STYLE BILLING – CTCB TOWNSHIP REFUSE COLLECTION: The new form which CTCB proposes to use for Refuse Collection is a longer form and there will be no increase in fees for collection and will be used for the next quarter billing. The Secretary/Treasurer indicated she would check if a return envelope will be included with the Refuse Bill. Upon due consideration and discussion, Vice Chairman Quigley made a motion to accept the new billing format with a second from Supervisor Cree. Motion carried unanimously. The Secretary/Treasurer will include information on this new billing format in the upcoming Township newsletter.

UNLEADED GASOLINE: The Secretary/Treasurer reported that the State Police cannot accept our offer of free gasoline. Sergeant Ringer expressed much appreciation for the offer. However, it is the policy of the State Police to not except any donations. The Secretary/Treasurer also checked with the local Ambulance Association and was told that they use only diesel in the ambulances. It was suggested that we consider donating this

gasoline to the Perry County Transportation Authority since they do provide services to the public including Rye Township residents. Upon due consideration and discussion, Chairman Lightner made a motion to attempt to **donate the Township's 400+ gallons of unleaded gasoline to Perry County Transportation Authority** with a second from Vice Chairman Quigley. Motion carried unanimously. The Secretary/ Treasurer indicated she would contact PCTA about the unleaded gasoline donation.

John Madden – Madden Engineering Interview: Chairman Lightner explained to the Board and Mr. Madden that the current Sewage Enforcement Officer position is considered and paid as a part-time employee of Rye Township. He noted that current SEO Higgins recently applied for and was approved to receive unemployment compensation. The Township did not contest this unemployment application. It was the understanding of the Township that the SEO was hired strictly on an "As Needed" basis and Mr. Higgins understood this condition when he accepted the position. The Board was concerned with the economy and financial situation and the additional costs to the Township and additional exposure to future UC claims. The Township is considering the appointment of a firm to handle the Sewage Enforcement work if the fees charged are comparable to the current sewage fee schedule.

Mr. Madden explained the makeup of his Company. The majority of his work is municipal with his son handling the private business. Madden Engineering uses Burget & Associates, Jim Hockenberry, etc. for surveying work. Mr. Madden reviewed a copy of the current Sewage Enforcement fee schedule. He offered to accept and continue with the current fees for at least a year or so to help the Township with the transition. Mr. Madden noted that the Perk/Probe fees are slightly low, but the remainder of the fee schedule is comparable to what Madden Engineering charges.

Discussion ensued relating to a pending sewage concern on Rattling Rock Road. Vice Chairman Quigley felt that since there are no building permits or major developments pending, the timing would be good to make a transition to a firm for sewage enforcement since the Board is also considering appointment of an engineering firm for plan review.

The Board also discussed the possible appointment of Madden Engineering as the Township's engineer. Vice-Chairman Quigley noted that a box culvert replacement is tentatively scheduled for Millers Gap Road and inquired about the use of the Township engineer's services to assist with the permit submission to DEP. Since this area is on Game land, the Township is attempting to secure assistance with the permitting process from the Game Commission. Mr. Madden explained to the board that his firm handled a similar municipal project in Wheatfield Township, Perry County.

Referring to plan reviews and the role of the Township engineer, Chairman Lightner stated that we have an excellent volunteer Planning Commission and noted that several members of the Commission are engineers.

The Board explained that a monthly SEO Report is required. Supervisor Cree suggested that if Madden Engineering is appointed as Township engineer and/or SEO, that Mr. Madden or his representative be available to attend a Supervisors' Meeting upon request a couple of times a year to present monthly reports and answer any questions.

Mr. Madden provided a document explaining his company, services, fees charged, etc. Vice Chair Quigley asked if Mr. Madden would be willing to work on an "as needed" basis and if zoning work could be done by his company. Mr. Madden said "yes" to both questions and noted that zoning work involving complaints would be billed at \$65/hour.

Vice Chairman Quigley offered that, in his opinion, Madden Engineering would be a better fit for the Township at this time.

Any decision or motion on appointing Mr. Madden's Engineering Firm as SEO or Township engineer was tabled until the regular supervisor's meeting (2/27/12) in order to allow time to give notice of intent to current SEO Mr. Higgins and to allow ample time for consideration of this change by the Board.

APPROVAL AND PAYMENT OF THE BILLS: The Secretary/Treasurer provided a 2/10/12 check register and submitted the following checks for approval and payment.

General checks #s13394 – 13409 in the amount of \$3,727.67. No checks void.

Clarification was given on check #13409 to Whitetail Lodge explaining that this was the Township's share of a property tax refund, and on check #13401 in the amount of \$127.50 to Kay Park-Rec Corp. which was for the purchase of a domed lid for a park trash can. Chairman Lightner made a motion to pay the bills except for check #13398 issued to Daisy Lightner for mileage reimbursement. Vice Chair Quigley 2nd the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Vice Chairman Quigley made a motion and Supervisor Cree seconded the motion to pay check #13398 issued to Daisy Lightner for mileage reimbursement. Motion carried. Chairman Lightner abstained from the vote because of a conflict of interest, since Daisy is his spouse.

The Secretary/Treasurer left the meeting for an appointment at 9:45 a.m.

PERSONNEL BUSINESS: At this time, Chairman Lightner recessed the meeting at 10:15 a.m. to executive session to discuss personnel issues with the road crew.

RECONVENE THE MEETING: Chairman Lightner reconvened the special meeting at 11:25 a.m. explaining that personnel issues were discussed with the road crew.

ADJOURNMENT OF THE MEETING: With no further business or discussion before the Board, Vice-Chairman Quigley made a motion with a second from Supervisor Cree to adjourn the meeting at 11:25 am. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy Sunday, Recorder
Clerk