

**RYE TOWNSHIP  
SUPERVISORS' MEETING  
March 26, 2024**

**PAGE 1 OF 4**

**PRESENT:** Chairman Jim M. Sabo, Vice-Chairman Sean M. Fedder, Supervisor Brad L. Sloop, Secretary/Treasurer, Daisy Lightner, Clerk, Nancy Sunday, Emergency Management Coordinator, Jim Cassidy, Kimberly Sloop, Elected Auditor, Catherine Sabo, Jackie Green, CPA Teena Curnow of Smith Elliot Kearns & Co., and Solicitor Michael Pykosh.

**FORMER SUPERVISORS PRESENT:** Robert Lightner, and John Schulze

The meeting was held at the municipal building and called to order at 7:00 PM. Chairman Sabo convened the meeting with the pledge of allegiance to the flag. The meeting was recorded to aid with a more accurate preparation of minutes.

**MOMENT OF SILENCE/PRAYER:** Chairman Sabo invited all to observe a moment of silent prayer.

**CITIZEN PARTICIPATION:** Chairman Sabo welcomed everyone and asked if there was any citizen participation at this time for items listed on the agenda. John Schulze commented on the permissible time to ask questions of the independent auditor relating to the 2023 financial audit.

**APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES:** Chairman Sabo made a motion with a second from Supervisor Sloop to approve the minutes of the February 27, 2024 supervisors' meeting submitted with a minor clarification. Motion carried unanimously.

**PERSONS TO BE HEARD:** Auditor and CPA, Teena Curnow of Smith, Elliott, Kearns & Co., (SEK) was in attendance to present a brief summary to the Board of the 2023 Financial Audit Report for Rye Township. Ms. Curnow reported that in summary Rye Township once again received an unmodified, clean audit opinion, which is the best opinion that may be received indicating that SEK is confident that the financial statements are materially correct. There were no internal control findings or recommendations for improvement. There was a surplus in all the funds - the governmental funds, which includes the General Fund, Capital Reserve Fund, and Highway Aid Fund, and the proprietary fund, which includes the Solid Waste Fund.

Ms. Curnow explained that the Management Discussion and Analysis, MD & A, included with the report was prepared by Township management. She explained that the MD & A provides useful information in simple terms that most can understand including a summary of activities and trends throughout the year 2023 along with comparisons to other previous years and 2024 budget projections.

Ms. Curnow explained the analysis of all the funds, notes to financial statements, the management letter, and a general communication letter. She finished her presentation by explaining the five-year graphical analysis of cash and investment trends, revenue versus expenses; revenue trends; expenditure trends; revenue allocation and expense allocation. She noted highlights such as the increase in interest income due to increased rates available and a decrease in expenditures related to road projects. The highest revenue for the Township at 56% is derived from taxes and the highest expense at approximately 34% is Highways, with public sanitation, the collection of solid waste at 26% of the overall expenditures for the Township. The record notes that the audit report is on file as a permanent public record in the Township office.

Ms. Curnow fielded a few questions on the presentation. The Board thanked Ms. Curnow and Secretary/Treasurer Lightner for jobs well done. Ms. Curnow offered to answer any additional questions from the Board that may arise following their review of the audit. The final 2023 audit report was emailed to residents and posted on the Township's website.

**MONTHLY MUNICIPAL REPORTS:** The **Zoning Report** was presented by Max Stoner, PE of Glace Associates, Zoning Officer, listing the issuance of two (2) zoning permits.

Chairman Sabo made a motion with a second from Vice-Chairman Fedder to approve the **Sewage Enforcement Report** presented by **SEO Lenny Sizer** of Frederick Seibert Associates listing one activity for a total due in fees of \$330.00. Motion carried unanimously.

The **Road Report** was provided and read by Road Foreman Brad Sloop, as follows: clean up trees from high wind storms on several occasions; clean drains on various roadways from heavy rains; repair flat tire on #10 tractor/mower; install new street signs; pressure wash #2, #3, & #4, remove Township property from park property; and deliver trash cans to residents whose cans were damaged.

**Recreation Board** member **Nancy Sunday** announced the next event scheduled is an "*Evening of History*" with local historian, Brian Hummel on April 11, 2024 7:00 PM to be held at the Township municipal building. She encouraged residents to bring along photos or other memorabilia they might like to share with the group. Light refreshments will be served.

The next event is the Annual Fishing Derby:

May 18 - Fishing Derby; 9-10:30 AM; Marysville Sportsmen's Association

For all children ages 3 to 15 years old. Be there early to register around 8:30 AM. Prizes, snacks and beverages.

May 19 – Rain Date; 1-2:30 PM; same location, Marysville Sportsmen's Association

**Emergency Management Report** was presented by Emergency Management Coordinator, EMC Jim Cassidy. EMC Cassidy offered that in light of the resignation of the Assistant Emergency Management Coordinator, he indicated he would endeavor to find someone to fill that role.

The **February Treasurer's Report** was submitted for review and read by the Secretary/Treasurer. The report is submitted and approved pending the 2024 Financial Audit. The checks for the 1<sup>st</sup> quarter tax distribution to the fire companies, the ambulance associations, and the Marysville/Rye library are listed on the check register included on the agenda for approval.

**OLD BUSINESS:** Vice-Chairman Fedder made a motion with a second from Supervisor Sloop to approve the **2023 Planning Commission Annual Report**. Motion carried unanimously.

Discussion ensued on the consideration to purchase a new John Deere tractor/mower. As discussed and requested at the February meeting, Supervisor Sloop provided the written assessment quote for repair of the existing tractor from LandPro of Halifax at a cost of \$30,258.17. Supervisor Sloop explained that LandPro stressed that this is an estimated quote. There may be other repairs found when the tractor is torn apart. The good news according to the salesman is that John Deere now offers a new tractor that does not use DEF, diesel exhaust fluid.

Upon due consideration and discussion, Chairman Sabo made a motion with a second from Vice-Chairman Fedder to **table any decision on the purchase of the tractor/mower** to acquire an updated quote for the mower and also for a tractor that no longer uses the DEF. Motion carried unanimously. Supervisor Sloop indicated he would provide the contact information for LandPro for the tractor and Stephenson Equipment for the mower to Chairman Sabo.

**NEW BUSINESS:** Chairman Sabo made a motion with a second from Supervisor Sloop to advertise an Ordinance to close Grier Point Road to safely permit the Bethel Independent Church to hold an event on Saturday, June 8, 2024. Motion carried unanimously.

Upon due consideration, Vice-Chairman Fedder made a motion with a second from Supervisor Sloop to authorize the advertisement of the 2024 road bids for tentative award at the May 21 supervisors' meeting. Motion carried unanimously. The roads under consideration for overlay this year are Stiles Drive, including the cul-de-sac, Hickory Street, including the cul-de-sac, Oak Grove Road, a portion of Lambs Gap Road, and a portion of Reed Drive near Woods and Cherry Drive.

Chairman Sabo made a motion with a second from Vice-Chairman Fedder to accept the **resignation of Recreation Board member, Dana Graupensperger** from the Parks and Recreation Board with regrets. Motion carried unanimously.

Chairman Sabo made a motion with a second from Vice-Chairman Fedder to **appoint Britany Baksa** to fill the partial term on the Recreation Board left vacant with the resignation of Dana Graupensperger. Motion carried unanimously.

Discussion ensued on an ongoing **codes matter at 22 Bellview Road**. Upon due consideration and in consultation with the Solicitor, Chairman Sabo made a motion with a second from Supervisor Sloop to authorize Max Stoner, PE, the Township engineer at Glace Associates, Inc. to provide an analysis of the condition of the property at 22 Bellview Road for the Board and the Solicitor to better evaluate how best to remedy the ongoing concerns. Motion carried unanimously.

Chairman Sabo announced the following upcoming events:

- ◆ March 29 - Good Friday, Office Closed with no change in weekly trash collection
- ◆ April 11 – 7:00 PM - An “Evening of History” with Brian Hummel at the Township building with a focus on early business and industry.
- ◆ April 16 – 7:00 PM, Regular board meeting rescheduled due to Election Day.
- ◆ April 23 – Election Day, 7 AM to 8 PM. *Plan to vote!*
- ◆ May 3 & May 4 - Annual Spring Bulk Clean-up Days; Friday, 6 AM to 1:45 PM, Saturday, 8 AM to 12 noon.
- ◆ May 18 – Annual Fishing Derby, 9:00 AM to 10:30 AM Marysville Sportsmen’s Association. Arrive early to register.
- ◆ May 19 – Rain Date, 1-2:30 PM; same location; Marysville Sportsmen’s Association

**APPROVAL AND PAYMENT OF THE BILLS:** The Secretary/Treasurer provided a March expense check register and submitted the following checks for approval and payment:

- General Fund Check #s 17908-17932 in the amount of \$33,594.16. No checks void.
- Payroll checks #s 8326-8331 in the amount of \$5,419.40. No payroll checks void.
- Payroll checks #s 8332-8337 in the amount of \$4,557.88. No payroll checks void.

With no further discussion on the bills presented, Chairman Sabo made a motion and Vice-Chairman Fedder seconded to approve the expense and payroll checks submitted for payment excluding check # 17931 issued to Brad Sloop. Motion carried unanimously.

Vice-Chairman Fedder made a motion with a second from Chairman Sabo to approve payment of check # 17931 issued to Brad Sloop in the amount of \$10.00. Motion carried. Supervisor Sloop abstained due to a conflict of interest since he is also a full-time employee of the Township.

**CITIZEN PARTICIPATION:** Chairman Sabo opened the floor for public participation. The following names were listed on the public participation sheet:

John Schulze of Lee Drive commented on the scheduling of road projects, the use of committed funds, and the public office hours.

Jackie Green of Lone Oak Drive provided no comment.

Robert Lightner of Valley Road asked if the costs paid by the Township and therefore the taxpayers for RTK requests are public information. The Solicitor offered to check into this request.

**ADJOURN THE MEETING:** With no further business or discussion before the Board, Chairman Sabo thanked everyone for coming and the meeting adjourned on a Sabo/Sloop motion at 8:12 PM. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

---

Daisy Lightner, Secretary/Treasurer