

**RYE TOWNSHIP  
SUPERVISORS' MEETING  
April 16, 2024**

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**PRESENT:** Chairman Jim M. Sabo, Vice-Chairman Sean M. Fedder, Supervisor Brad L. Sloop, Secretary/Treasurer, Daisy Lightner, Driveway Officer, Eric Simmons, Elected Auditor, Cathy Sabo, Clerk, Nancy Sunday, Kimberly Sloop, and Ronald and Jodi Barrick.

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

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

**MOMENT OF SILENCE:** Chairman Sabo observed a moment of silent prayer.

**CITIZEN PARTICIPATION:** Chairman Sabo welcomed everyone and asked if there was anyone who would like to offer comments for any items listed on the agenda. No comments were offered.

**APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES:** Vice-Chairman Fedder made a motion with a second from Supervisor Sloop to approve the minutes of the March 26, 2024 supervisors' meeting as submitted. Motion carried unanimously.

**PERSONS TO BE HEARD:** Sergeant Olinger of Newport PA State Police was in attendance to provide a brief summary statistical report for calls within Rye Township from January 2024 to the end of March 2024. Sergeant Olinger reported 56 total calls for service, which included 10 arrests, including DUIs. The number of crashes is down from last year. DUIs increased by three (3) in comparison to last year. However, overall, the total calls for service in 2024 decreased by 15 calls from 71 calls this same time last year to 56.

Supervisor Sloop requested when available that the troopers patrol SR850 for speed enforcement. The Sergeant explained the Statewide shortage of staff that the State Police are currently experiencing. Sergeant Olinger offered to relay the concern and focus on traffic enforcement on SR 850 when troopers are available and in the area. The Board expressed appreciation to the State Police. Sergeant Olinger thanked the Board & left the meeting at this time.

**MONTHLY MUNICIPAL REPORTS:** A brief **Zoning Report** was presented by Max Stoner of Glace Associates representing activities from March 26 through April 16, 2024 listing two (2) permits issued, one (1) to erect a chicken coop in a residential district and one (1) for an accessory garage. No invoice was generated or received for services at this time.

Chairman Sabo made a motion with a second from Vice-Chairman Fedder to approve the **Sewage Enforcement Report** submitted by SEO Lenny Sizer of Frederick Seibert Associates for two (2) activities: testing for a primary and back up on an existing lot and an application design and septic permit issuance for a total due in fees of \$ 800.00. Motion carried unanimously.

The **Road Report** was provided and read by Road Foreman Brad Sloop. Activities included: clean up debris and limbs after wind & rain storms and high water; patch potholes throughout the Township; clean drainage ditch on Flowers and Rupley Lane; service #10 tractor/mower, pick up and install new front

Tires on #10 tractor; pick up trash dumped on Idle Road; clean up downed trees on Millers Gap Road; unclog shop drain and cut up downed trees on Cove Road and Idle Road.

Chairman Sabo mentioned a concern with a drainage grate along Spruce Road. Supervisor Sloop said he is aware of the concern, visited the site, and is evaluating the best way to resolve the concern.

**Recreation Board** member Nancy Sunday reported that the Board met in April to continue to make plans for upcoming events. She reported that the first event an “Evening of History” was well attended with 40 people in attendance. Nancy announced the upcoming events as follows:

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

May 19 – Rain date; 1- 2:30 PM- Annual Fishing Derby;

Ages 3 to 15 years old. Please come early around 8:30 AM to register the children.

June 8 -- 3:00 to 7:00 PM, Strawberry Festival at Community Day held at Bethel

Independent Church; Free strawberries and ice cream/shortcakes. Other food items will be available for sale at the Church.

No **Emergency Management Report** was presented.

The **March Treasurer’s Report** was submitted for review and read by the Secretary/Treasurer. The report is submitted and approved pending the 2024 Financial Audit.

**RESOLUTIONS:** Supervisor Sloop made a motion with a second from Vice-Chairman Fedder to adopt **Resolution 24-12**, which authorizes the transfer of easy access Certificates of deposit at maturity at Pennian Bank into 12 month certificates at Pennian Bank. Motion carried unanimously.

Chairman Sabo made a motion with a second from Supervisor Sloop to adopt **Resolution 24-13**, which authorizes the Secretary/Treasurer to transfer a CD designated for Comp Plan update at maturity into a three (3) month Cd at Mid Penn Bank. Motion carried unanimously.

Chairman Sabo made a motion with a second from Vice-Chairman Fedder to adopt **Resolution 24-14**, which authorizes the Secretary/Treasurer to transfer two matured General Fund CDs held with Cetera Investment Services to twelve (12) month Cds at Pennian Bank. Motion carried unanimously.

**OLD BUSINESS:** The Board discussed the quotes and specifications received for the different models of the John Deere tractor with a boom mower under consideration for purchase. It was noted that the information provided by the salesman last month was incorrect. The tractors *do* require DEF, diesel exhaust fluid. Upon due consideration and discussion, Chairman Sabo made a motion with a second from Vice-Chairman Fedder to table any action on the purchase of the tractor/mower to allow for more research, to confirm specifications, and for the Secretary to compile a spreadsheet of information for a side by side comparison of the quotes received for the Board’s review. Motion carried unanimously.

**NEW BUSINESS:** The owners of 1860 Valley Road were in attendance to discuss the requirement to apply and pay for a temporary permit issued by the Board. They explained that they plan to submit a zoning and building permit application to construct a new dwelling on their parcel and continue to live in their existing dwelling while the new home is being constructed. They did not understand the reasoning behind the requirement to apply for a permit to live in an existing dwelling.

Chairman Sabo explained that the requirement is to assure compliance with the Zoning Ordinance that prohibits two dwellings on the same lot in any zoning district. The temporary permit issued by the Board provides a check and balance and allows for this exception to the regulations during construction of the new home to assure and document that the existing structure or use of the existing structure as a second dwelling ceases.

Upon due consideration and discussion, Chairman Sabo made a motion with a second from Vice-Chairman Fedder to approve the issuance of the temporary permit for 1860 Valley Road to allow the owners to construct a new home while residing in their existing home conditional upon review and any recommendations from the Zoning Officer. Motion carried unanimously.

Upon due consideration, Chairman Sabo made a motion with a second from Vice-Chairman Fedder to renew with the same coverage high deductible plan for health insurance with Highmark Blue Shield through the Pennsylvania Chamber Insurance, PCI, which is an 8.13% increase effective June 1, 2024. However, only 6 months or 4.07% will be realized in the 2024 budget. Motion carried. The record notes Supervisor Brad Sloop abstained due to a conflict of interest. He is a full-time employee enrolled in the Township's health insurance coverage.

Chairman Sabo announced the following upcoming events:

- ◆ April 23 – Primary Election Day, 7 AM to 8:00 PM; Come out to exercise your right to vote.
- ◆ May 3 & May 4 - Annual Spring Clean-up; Friday, 6 AM – 1:45 PM, Sat. 8 AM- 12 Noon.
- ◆ May 18 – Fishing Derby, 9:00 AM to 10:30 AM, Marysville Sportsmen's Association  
May 19 – Rain Date for Fishing Derby, 1:00 PM to 2:30 PM, Marysville Sportsmen's Association; Come early around 8:30 AM to register your child.
- ◆ May 21 – 7:00 PM, Board of Supervisors meeting was rescheduled to the 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of the month due to the Memorial Day Holiday.
- ◆ May 27 –Office closed- Memorial Day; trash collection rescheduled to Wed., May 29.

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

General Fund Check's #s 17933-17950 in the amount of \$24,712.00. No checks void.

Payroll checks #s 8337-8342 in the amount of \$4,969.34. No payroll checks void.

Payroll checks #s 8343-8348 in the amount of \$7,637.37. No payroll checks void.

With no further discussion on the bills presented, Chairman Sabo made a motion and Supervisor Sloop seconded to approve all the expense and payroll checks submitted for payment. Motion carried unanimously.

**CITIZEN PARTICIPATION:** Chairman Sabo checked the comment participation sheet and asked if there were any additional comments.

John Schulze of Lee Drive commented on the costs of the health insurance renewal.

Robert Lightner of Valley Road recommended the Township consider taking down several dangerous trees along Lambs Gap Road when the road is closed later this summer for road paving and base repair.

Jaclyn Green of Lone Oak Drive also commented on the cost of the health insurance.

Kim Sloop & Jodi Barrick of Valley Road commented on the costs of health insurance.

**ADJOURN THE MEETING:** With no further business or discussion before the Board, Chairman Sabo made a motion with a second from Supervisor Sloop to adjourn the meeting at approximately 7:59 PM. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

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Daisy Lightner, Secretary/Treasurer