

**RYE TOWNSHIP  
SUPERVISORS' MEETING  
June 25, 2024**

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**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, Elected Auditor Cathy Sabo, Jaclyn Green, Nicholas Melnick, and Attorney Michael Pykosh.

**FORMER SUPERVISOR PRESENT:** John Schulze

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

**MOMENT OF SILENCE:** Chairman Jim Sabo called for and observed a moment of silence.

**CITIZEN PARTICIPATION:** Chairman Sabo welcomed everyone and asked if there was anyone who would like to offer comments at this time for any items listed on the agenda.

Nick Melnick of Scenic Drive apologized that he missed the Public Hearing for the Solar Ordinance. He offered the following comments on the proposed solar ordinance: the use of Acronyms; the reference to the "Florida Solar Energy Center" as a source for applicable industry standards, and solar grazing.

**APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES:** Chairman Sabo made a motion with a second from Vice-Chairman Fedder to approve the minutes of the meeting held on May 21, 2024 as submitted. Motion carried unanimously.

**MONTHLY MUNICIPAL REPORTS:** A **Zoning Report** was presented by Zoning Officer Max Stoner of Glace Associates. Chairman Sabo noted the report listed ten (10) items for June: five (5) Zoning permits issued, one (1) demolition permit issued, and four (4) Certificates of use issued. Chairman Sabo made a motion with a second from Supervisor Sloop to approve payment of \$1,602.05 to JHA Companies/Glace. Motion carried unanimously. Chairman Sabo placed the report on the front table for public review.

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 listing seven (7) activities: Six Small Flow Treatment Facilities, SFTF, inspections and a site visit to verify prior testing. Chairman Sabo made a motion with a second from Vice-chairman Fedder to approve the report and pay the fees due in the amount of \$1,200.00. Motion carried unanimously. Chairman Sabo placed the report on the front table for public review.

The **Road Report** for June was provided and read by Road Foreman Brad Sloop as follows: mowed along various Township roads; delivered tires from the bulk clean-up to Mahantagos in Liverpool for proper disposal; called out to clean up downed trees on Pine Hill Road and New Valley Road; delivered all dump trucks for State inspection; cold patched several pot holes on various roads; cleaned ditches on Idle Road; re-installed stop sign on Idle Road; and installed new drain pipes on Oak Grove Road in preparation for overlay paving.

Supervisor and Road Foreman Brad Sloop offered that New Enterprise would be completing the road paving projects in July following the 4<sup>th</sup> of July Holiday. At that time Lambs Gap Road will be closed to thru traffic to safely complete the paving, mowing, and taking down of several dead trees for safe passage of the traveling public. The Road will be properly signed and notice provided on the Township website and email listing.

**Recreation Board** member Nancy Sunday was present and reported a successful "Strawberry Festival at Bethel Church's Community Day event with approximately 96 people served ice cream and strawberries. She announced and invited all to attend the following upcoming events:

July 14 – Old Tyme Sundae Social at Bethel Church, 6:30-7:30 PM, rain or shine. Free vanilla ice cream and all sorts of toppings with beverages provided.

September 14 – Fishing Derby Rescheduled. 9:00 AM to 10:30 AM at the Marysville Sportsmen's Association in Marysville Borough.

No **Emergency Management Report** was provided.

The **May Treasurer's Report** was presented and read by the Secretary/Treasurer. The report is on file in the Township office and approved pending the 2024 Financial Audit. She noted that the 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter tax distribution payments are on the check register for approval this evening for the Marysville Fire Company, Shermans Dale Fire Company, Shermans Dale Ambulance, East Pennsboro Ambulance, and the Marysville/Rye Library.

**ORDINANCE:** The record notes that a duly advertised public hearing as required by the Pennsylvania Municipalities Planning Code (MPC), was held immediately prior to this regular meeting at 6:30 PM to accept comments and answer any questions on the proposed Ordinance 24-02, the Solar Ordinance, Chapter 360 Zoning of the Rye Township Code of Ordinances. No public comments were received. Proof of publication of the public hearing and the intent to adopt and enact the amendment to the Zoning, Chapter 360 is also on file in the Township office.

Upon due consideration and discussion and with the recommendation of the Rye Township Planning Commission, Supervisor Brad Sloop made a motion with a second from Vice-Chairman Fedder to adopt Ordinance 24-02, establishing procedures and guidelines for the construction, use, decommissioning and enforcement of Principal Solar Energy Systems while providing for the health and safety for all residents and amending and updating Chapter 360 Zoning of the Code of Rye Township with the new regulations effective beginning Monday, July 1, 2024. Motion carried unanimously.

The record notes that during the time period between the Public Hearing and this regular meeting, the Board expressed appreciation to the volunteer members serving on the Planning Commission for the time spent over several months in review and developing the Solar Ordinance regulations for Rye Township.

**RESOLUTION:** Chairman Sabo made a motion with a second from Supervisor Sloop to adopt **Resolution 24-19**, which authorizes the Secretary/Treasurer to transfer \$125,000 from the General Checking Account at Mid Penn Bank and deposit into a better rate short term three (3) month Cd account at Mid Penn Bank at 5.20% APY. Motion carried unanimously.

**OLD BUSINESS:** The Board discussed the various quotes received for the purchase of a John Deere tractor/mower and the specifications for the John Deere Model 6110M tractor with the Diamond Model Rear Cradle Boom Mower mounted on the tractor. Total purchase cost with the Costars discount is \$220,190.59. Upon due consideration and discussion, Vice-Chairman Fedder made a motion with a second from Supervisor Sloop to purchase the 2025 John Deere tractor Model 6110M with the Diamond Model Rear Cradle Boom Mower mounted on the tractor in the amount quoted for a total due of \$220,190.59. Motion carried. Chairman Sabo opposed stating he thought it better to repair the existing 2001 tractor/mower.

In light of the future sale of the 2001 tractor/mower, Chairman Sabo expressed concern with Township employees/supervisors bidding and purchasing Township equipment. The Board discussed this concern and the possibility of creating a policy that a Township employee/supervisor or elected official could not bid or purchase Township equipment when it is advertised for sale. The Solicitor will review the Ethics Law and provide recommendations.

**NEW BUSINESS:** Upon due consideration and the research and recommendation of the current EMC Jim Cassidy, Chairman Sabo made a motion with a second from Vice-Chairman Fedder to appoint Curt Whitmer as the Assistant or Deputy Emergency Management Coordinator, EMC, for Rye Township. Motion carried unanimously.

Chairman Sabo made a motion with a second from Vice-Chairman Fedder to accept the resignation of William, (Bill), Holley from the Recreation Board with regrets. Motion carried unanimously.

Chairman Sabo made a motion with a second from Vice-Chairman Fedder to appoint resident Kelly Little to fill the partial term on the Recreation Board left vacant with the resignation of Bill Holley. Motion carried unanimously.

With the merger of Glace Associates and JHA Companies, new contracts for professional services, one for engineering and one for code enforcement/zoning services with attached terms and conditions, were presented by JHA requesting approval and signatures from the Board. Upon due consideration, Chairman Sabo made a motion with a second from Vice-Chairman Fedder to table the approval of the new contracts for professional services to allow time for the Township solicitor to review and provide recommendations. Motion carried unanimously.

Chairman Sabo made a motion and Vice-Chairman Fedder seconded to authorize Chairman Sabo, Vice-Chairman Fedder, Secretary/Treasurer, Daisy Lightner, and Tax Collector Rebecca Schulze, if available, to attend the annual **Perry County Association of Township Officials Convention to be held on Saturday, September 14, 2024** at the Newport Fairgrounds. Motion carried unanimously.

Discussion ensued on the culvert located on New Valley Road near the intersection of Tower Road. Upon due consideration and discussion, Chairman Sabo made a motion with a second from Vice-Chairman Fedder to authorize Township engineer, Max Stoner, PE of Glace Associates/JHA Companies to conduct a stormwater study and proceed with a preliminary analysis of the drainage area and any possible effects on downstream properties or culverts. Motion carried unanimously. The record notes the existing culvert is a 48" RCP culvert that runs underneath New Valley Road and can only handle a limited amount of flow. The drainage area flowing into this culvert is estimated at approximately 754 acres of primarily steep forested land south of New Valley Road, which encompasses a large portion of State Game Lands 170.

Chairman Sabo announced the following upcoming events:

- ◆ 4<sup>th</sup> of July Holiday, Office Closed, Thursday, July 4. No change in trash collection.

- ◆ July 14 – Old Tyme Sundae Social, 6:30-7:30 PM, Bethel Church, Grier Point Road. Event is free and will be held rain or shine.

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

General Fund Checks #s 17969-18000 in the amount of \$40,875.36. No expense checks were voided during processing.

Payroll checks #s 8367-8371 in the amount of \$4,408.61. No payroll checks void.  
Payroll checks #s 8372-8376 in the amount of \$4,412.66. No payroll checks void.

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

**CITIZEN PARTICIPATION:** Chairman Sabo checked the participation list for any additional citizen participation.

John Schulze of Lee Drive commented on the details provided on meeting agendas, the New Valley Road culvert replacement, tracking of engineering expenses, and purchase of Township equipment by employees and supervisors.

**ADJOURNMENT:** With no further business 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