

**RYE TOWNSHIP
SUPERVISORS' MEETING
April 22, 2025**

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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, Jeremy and Toni Herb, and Solicitor, Michael Pykosh.

FORMER SUPERVISOR PRESENT: 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: Chairman Sabo made a motion with a second from Vice-Chairman Fedder to approve the minutes of the March 25, 2025 supervisors' meeting with the removal of two sentences on the third page at the end of the third paragraph. Motion carried unanimously.

PERSONS TO BE HEARD: Jeremy and Toni Herb of 15 Dicken Drive were in attendance to discuss options to permit the construction of a detached garage on their parcel. Jeremy explained that he submitted a zoning permit application for the accessory garage. The Zoning Officer determined that according to protective covenants listed on the 1973 final recorded Plan of Dicken Acres: *All garages constructed in this subdivision shall be attached to the dwelling.* Jeremy offered that there are three (3) other parcels that have detached accessory structures on their lots.

Discussion ensued. Solicitor Pykosh explained that the notes are protective covenants. Any one that buys out of the Subdivision has the ability to enforce the restrictions. He recommended that the Herbs contact Zoning Officer Max Stoner, PE and discuss connecting the proposed structure to the primary dwelling. The Secretary indicated that she would contact the Zoning Officer and request that he contact Jeremy to discuss this project further.

The Herbs thanked the Board and left the meeting at this time. Eric Simmons also left the meeting at this time.

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 2024 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 had a minimal surplus with a rather large transfer of reserve monies to subsidize the 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 2024 along with comparisons to other previous years and 2025 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 54% is derived from taxes and the highest expense at approximately 34% is Highways, with public sanitation, the collection of solid waste at 25% 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.

MONTHLY MUNICIPAL REPORTS: A **Zoning Report** was presented by Max Stoner of JHA Company representing activities from April 3 through April 17, 2025 listing two (2) permits issued, one (1) for a single family dwelling and one (1) for a hot tub, two (2) certificates of use, and three (3) courtesy notices of violations. No invoice was generated for these 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 \$ 1,130.00. Motion carried unanimously.

The **Road Report** was provided by Road Foreman John Ritter, Jr. and read by Supervisor Brad Sloop. Activities included: attended training class for 811 calls; cold patched potholes and edges of roadway through the Township; sprayed trucks with rust inhibitor; cleaned side ditches and pipes on dirt portion of Millers Gap Road; replaced broken light bar on #3 truck; prepped and painted rear bumper, hydraulic reservoir and wheels on trucks #3 & #4; waxed trucks #1-3 & #4; mowed grass around Township building; pressure washed trucks and took off snow plow equipment; cleaned up brush in rear lot; and repainted side steps on trucks #s 1 & 2.

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” with Brian Hummel, was well attended with 32-33 people in attendance. Nancy announced the next upcoming event as follows:

May 17 - Annual Fishing Derby; 9-10:30 AM; Marysville Sportsmen’s Association

May 18 – 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.

Curt Whitmer, Assistant Emergency Management Coordinator provided a verbal **Emergency Management Report**. He offered that he now has his FEMA ID so he can begin taking classes to become certified. He provided an update on the radios. The frequencies are in the process of being updated to VHF. Once that license is approved accomplished through the Federal Communications Center, the four (4) radios would need programmed by Moyer Communications with the frequencies and chargers purchased . It was the consensus of the Board to approve Curt to proceed with programming of the radios and to purchase the needed chargers.

The **March Treasurer’s Report** was submitted for review and read by the Secretary/Treasurer. The report is submitted and approved pending the 2025 Financial Audit.

RESOLUTIONS: Chairman Sabo made a motion with a second from Supervisor Sloop to adopt **Resolution 25-16**, which authorizes the transfer of a General Savings Cd at Mid Penn Bank at maturity into a five, (5) year Certificate of Deposit at the Bank of Landisburg, Shermans Dale. Motion carried unanimously.

Vice-Chairman Fedder made a motion with a second from Supervisor Sloop to adopt **Resolution 25-17**, which authorizes the Secretary/Treasurer to renew a CD designated for Comp Plan update at maturity into a twelve (12) month Cd at Mid Penn Bank. Motion carried unanimously.

Vice-Chairman Fedder made a motion with a second from Supervisor Sloop to adopt **Resolution 25-18**, which authorizes the Secretary/Treasurer to transfer a Solid Waste easy access Cd at Pennian Bank into a seven, (7) month CD at Mid Penn Bank in Marysville. Motion carried unanimously.

Chairman Sabo made a motion with a second from Supervisor Sloop to approve **Resolution 25-19**, which documents payment in the amount of \$220,190.50 and authorizes the Secretary/Treasurer of Rye Township, Perry County, Pennsylvania to transfer ARPA fund monies as obligated in 2024 by Agreements with John Deere Country for the tractor and Stephenson's Equipment for the mower from the ARPA Money Market at Pennian Bank into the General Checking account at Mid Penn Bank for payment of the new tractor/mower when all concerns and discrepancies are satisfactorily addressed. Motion carried unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS: Following a successful ninety (90) day probation period new hire, William Starner's ongoing full-time employment was approved with a motion by Vice-Chairman Fedder and a second by Supervisor Sloop to include full benefits and a \$1.00 per hour pay increase retroactive to the first payroll period following his probation period. Motion carried unanimously. The record notes his approved wage increase brings his hourly rate to \$19.50 per hour.

Vice-Chairman Fedder made a motion with a second from Supervisor Sloop to authorize the Secretary/Treasurer to contact the Penn Waste municipal contract manager to discuss the possibility of an additional two-year extension to the existing weekly trash collection contract. Motion carried unanimously. The record notes the current trash contract extension expires December 31, 2025.

The Board discussed the wood chipping/recycling program whereby residents drop off limbs in the rear lot for chipping. Supervisor Sloop noted that many times residents bring in bush & shrub trimmings and other debris that cannot be chipped in the Township's large wood chipper. The concern is where to dispose of the debris left in the rear lot. Discussion ensued with no action or resolution to the concerns expressed with the wood chipping program at this time.

Upon due consideration and discussion, 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 11.18% increase effective June 1, 2025. However, only 6 months or 5.59% will be realized in the 2025 budget. Motion carried unanimously. The Secretary/Treasurer indicated she would contact the Pennsylvania Chamber Insurance, PCI, to renew the insurance.

Chairman Sabo announced the following upcoming events:

- ◆ May 2 & May 3 - Annual Spring Clean-up; Friday, 6 AM – 1:45 PM, Sat. 8 AM- 12 Noon.
- ◆ May 17 – Fishing Derby, 9:00 AM to 10:30 AM, Marysville Sportsmen's Association
- May 18 – 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(ren).
- ◆ May 20 – Primary Election Day, 7 AM to 8:00 PM; Come out & exercise your right to vote.
- ◆ May 22 – 7:00 PM, Board of Supervisors meeting was rescheduled due to Election Day.
- ◆ May 26 – Office closed- Memorial Day; trash collection rescheduled to Wed., May 28.

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 18278-18304 in the amount of \$29,242.61. No checks void.

Payroll checks #s 8493-8499 in the amount of \$5,191.56. No payroll checks void.

Payroll checks #s 8500-8504 in the amount of \$8,010.86. No payroll checks void.

With no further discussion on the bills presented, Vice-Chairman Fedder made a motion and Supervisor Sloop seconded to approve all the expense and payroll checks submitted for payment. Motion carried unanimously. The checks were signed following the meeting.

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

John Schulze of Lee Drive asked when the 2024 Audit report would be posted on the website; commented on offering different options for weekly trash collection, the new hire's pension benefits, brush chipping, and the employee's share of costs towards their health insurance benefit.

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 8:40 PM. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Daisy Lightner, Secretary/Treasurer