

MINUTES
RICHLAND TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
February 1, 2021

The Richland Township Board of Supervisors met for their regular meeting on Monday, February 1, 2021 at 6:00 p.m. The meeting was held at the Richland Township municipal building, 322 Schoolhouse Road, Johnstown PA 15904.

All COVID 19 restrictions for social distancing and masks were followed.

PRESENT

Robert Heffelfinger , Chairman	Gary L Costlow, Solicitor present via Phone Conference
Keith W Saylor	Kimberly Stayrook, Secretary
Gary Paul	
Brian H Lehman	
Jeffrey D Wingard	

CALL TO ORDER/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG

Chairman Heffelfinger called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

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- Mr. Saylor moved to approve the minutes of January 18, 2021 as distributed, seconded by Mr. Lehman. All in favor. Motion Carried

MOMENT OF SILENCE – James P. Heilmann

APPROVE AGENDA - ANY CHANGES TO WRITTEN AGENDA

Chairman Heffelfinger added a Memo from Chief Michael Burgan Re; Hiring a Full Time Police Officer to New Business.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD ON AGENDA ITEMS - The Public has the right and the opportunity to comment on any agenda item - None

CORRESPONDENCE

Letter from HS&WA – 2020 Annual Report

Highland Sewer & Water Authority provided a copy of their 2020 Annual Report of Municipal Authorities and Non-Profits. Highland has been founded in 1953, currently serve 18 municipalities, including Richland. In addition, their annual year is fiscal, from 9/30 to 9/30 every year. A copy of this report is on file in their office.

Letter (Copy) from PADEP to Rosebud Mining Co – Revised Coal Mining Activity (Paint Twp)

A copy of a letter from the PA DEP to Rosebud Mining co was received and read. Rosebud has submitted a revised Coal Mining Activity Permit for Mine #78, Permit #56841328 in Paint Township. They are revising their permit to add 2,292.1 acres of underground permit area and subsidence control plan to the Upper Freeport and Upper Kittanning coal seam.

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OLD BUSINESS

There was no Old Business presented.

Zoning Hearing Board Alternate

Mr. Heffelfinger stated that a vacancy exists on the Zoning Hearing Board due to the resignation of Mary Lou Gelles, Alternate. The alternate position is a yearly appointment and is called to attend meetings to assure quorums in cases such as a regular board member not being able to attend or a conflict of interest exists, and a board member could not attend.

- Mr. Lehman moved to appoint David Strushensky, Mya Drive as an Alternate for the yearly term on the Zoning Hearing Board, seconded by Mr. Wingard. All in favor.

NEW BUSINESS

Payment of the Bills

- Mr. Saylor moved to authorize payment of the general fund bills in the amount of \$155,941.35, seconded by Mr. Wingard. All In favor. There were not out of meeting checks to present.

Hiring – Full Time Police Officer

Mr. Heffelfinger read a memo received from Chief Burgan requesting that the Board hire a new Full Time Police Officer. The hiring process was completed, and his recommendation is to hire Jeffrey Meden, Kelly Drive, Windber Pa. He asks that the Board authorize hiring Mr. Meden with the usual Conditional Offer of Employment at a rate of \$20.23 per hour to start. Chief Burgan noted his prior police experience, as well as his activity in the fire department makes him an excellent candidate.

- Mr. Wingard moved to hire Jeffrey Meden as a Full Time Police Officer at the rate of \$20.23 per hour with the stipulation that the Conditional Offer of Employment being met, seconded by Mr. Paul. All in favor.

Sewage Enforcement Officers – 2021

- Mr. Paul made a motion to hire The Eads Group as Sewage Enforcement Officers for 2021, seconded by Mr. Wingard. All in favor.

Public Comment

Mr. Barker, Executive Director stated that a letter of congratulations was sent to Detective Richard Pollino, on his new appointment. He noted that the tower in the rear of the municipal building is scheduled to be installed in 2021, finally. Mr. Barker stated that the Nees Avenue project is moving along, and the Board will be asked to advertise for bids soon.

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Chief Burgan told the Board that when they were in attendance for Jim Heilmann's funeral his family was very appreciative for their attendance, as well as the flowers that were sent from the Township.

Mrs. Strushensky commented that the 814 Lanes and Games is a nice venue and should be good for the kids in the area. She had some questions regarding Rosebud Mining and why property owners do not own the coal rights on their properties, which the Board explained to her.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 6:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kimberly D Stayrook, Secretary
Richland Township