

A. **OPENING**

1. **CALL TO ORDER:** The meeting of the Richland Township Board of Supervisor's was called to order on Monday, March 11, 2024, at 7:00 p.m. with Kathie Doyle, Chairperson President.
2. **ROLL CALL: Present:** Kathie Doyle, Chairperson; Chris Vanelli, Vice Chair; Tim Arnold, Member; Rich Ficco, Police Chief; Linc Treadwell, Township Solicitor; and Vicki Schuller, Administrative Assistant
Absent: Leslie Huhn, Township Manager and Mike Schwartz, Township Engineer

3. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

B. **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

C. **PUBLIC COMMENT**

D. **PUBLIC HEARINGS**

1. **Ordinance No. 301 – Truck Restriction on Reservoir Road & Weight Limit on Old Bethlehem Pike Bridge – Public Hearing and Consideration of Adoption**
Ordinance No. 301 has been advertised for a public hearing and consideration of adoption. This ordinance amends and revises Chapter 15, section 201 to establish a maximum speed limit of 35 MPH on Reservoir Road, Section 301 to revise the weight limit on the Morgan Creek Bridge to 15 tons, and Section 304 to restrict truck traffic on Reservoir Road. One other minor revision is to add school buses to the list of exemptions for the no truck prohibition.

Motion to open the Public Hearing.

MOTION BY: Chris Vanelli
SECOND BY: Kathie Doyle
MOTION CARRIED

Public Comment – Jeff McGalliard questioned if it is an amendment to the ordinance or if it will be a new ordinance. Linc Treadwell answered it is an amendment to the code.

Motion to close the Public Hearing.

MOTION BY: Chris Vanelli
SECOND BY: Tim Arnold
MOTION CARRIED

Motion to approve Ordinance No. 301.

MOTION BY: Tim Arnold
SECOND BY: Chris Vanelli
MOTION CARRIED

E. **DEVELOPER MATTERS**

F. **ZONING HEARING BOARD APPLICATIONS**

1. **Blue Haven Pools - Variance Application to Install a Pool at 1624 Salem Lane, TMP No. 36-015-084 - Property Owners Richard & Ann Krisher**

Zoning Hearing Board application for Blue Haven Pools. The subject property is owned by Richard and Ann Krisher, 1624 Salem Lane, Tax Map Parcel No. 36-015-084. The subject property lies

within the (SRL) Suburban Residential Low Zoning District (within the Sweetbriar Subdivision) which was approved as a B6 Single-Family Detached Cluster under the 1975 Quakertown Area Zoning Ordinance. The applicant is seeking the following variances for the proposed In-Ground Pool and Patio:

1. A variance from Article V. Section 502. (c) the 1975 Quakertown Area Zoning Ordinance permits a maximum allowable impervious surface of 20%. The existing nonconforming impervious surface is 42.38%. The applicant is seeking a variance to increase the on lot impervious surface to 49.60%.
2. A variance from 27-514. D. to disturb steep slopes between 8-15% (maximum disturbance 40% 1,952 sf) (proposed disturbance 73% 2,683 sf) and a variance to disturb steep slopes 25% or steeper (maximum disturbance 15% 25 sf) (proposed disturbance 21% 121 sf)
3. A variance from Section 23-603. A. of the Floodplain Management Ordinance - to permit fill within the floodplain.

The ZHB Application was stamped Administrative Complete on February 23, 2024. The 60-day MPC timeframe is set to expire on April 22, 2024. The Zoning Hearing Board meeting is scheduled for Thursday, March 21, 2024.

The Board chose to take no action in the matter.

G. BOARD & STAFF APPOINTMENTS

H. TOWNSHIP BUSINESS - NEW

1. Approval of February 12, 2024 Minutes

Motion to approve the February 12, 2024 Board of Supervisors Meeting Minutes.

MOTION BY: Chris Vanelli

SECOND BY: Tim Arnold

MOTION CARRIED

2. Financial Business – Approve payment of Bills

Motion to approve payment of the February 2024 bills.

MOTION BY: Tim Arnold

SECOND BY: Chris Vanelli

MOTION CARRIED

3. Richland Township – Request Authorization to Advertise Hiring a Police Officer and Front Desk Office Clerk

Motion to authorize advertisement for a Richland Township Police Officer and Front Desk Office Clerk.

MOTION BY: Tim Arnold

SECOND BY: Chris Vanelli

MOTION CARRIED

4. Award of 2024 Road Materials and Line Painting Bids

Motion to approve Line Painting and Thermoplastic Installation to A-1 Traffic Control Products, LLC, in the amount of \$44,800.00.

MOTION BY: Chris Vanelli
SECOND BY: Tim Arnold
MOTION CARRIED

Motion to approve Nova Chip – Ultra Thin bonded Wearing Course to Asphalt Maintenance Solutions, LLC in the amount of \$733,937.40.

MOTION BY: Chris Vanelli
SECOND BY: Tim Arnold
MOTION CARRIED

Motion to approve the purchase of manhole risers needed for the above roadwork at the price of \$42,235.00.

MOTION BY: Chris Vanelli
SECOND BY: Tim Arnold
MOTION CARRIED

5. Resolution #2024-13 – Approval of Destruction of Specific Records

Resolution #2024-13 approves the destruction of township records that have met or exceeded the retention requirements as per the Municipal Records Manual Issued for the Local Government Records Committee by the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission, Bureau of Archives and History.

Motion to approve Resolution #2024-13 approving the destruction of Township records that have met or exceeded the retention requirements.

MOTION BY: Tim Arnold
SECOND BY: Chris Vanelli
MOTION CARRIED

6. Reserve at Woodside Creek Phase 2 – Paletown Road & Rocky Ridge Road – Escrow Release Request #1

Gilmore and Associates, Inc. has conducted an inspection of work completed and is recommending a release in the amount of \$1,132,976.70.

Motion to approve Escrow Release #1 in the amount of \$1,132,976.70, for improvements completed to date, subject to any outstanding invoices owed to the Township being paid to date.

MOTION BY: Chris Vanelli
SECOND BY: Kathie Doyle
MOTION CARRIED

7. Steeple Run Residential Subdivision – Paletown Road – Escrow Release Request #1

Gilmore and Associates, Inc. has conducted an inspection of work completed and is recommending a release in the amount of \$258,944.00.

Motion to approve Escrow Release #1 in the amount of \$258,944.00, for improvements completed to date, subject to any outstanding invoices owed to the Township being paid to date.

MOTION BY: Tim Arnold
SECOND BY: Chris Vanelli

MOTION CARRIED

8. Richland Historical Society Donation Request

The Richland Historical Society would like to request that the Township include them in the budget for the Township's yearly donation of \$1,000. They are also requesting, since they have reorganized under new leadership if the Township would consider approving funds for the 2023 year, which would be an additional \$1,000.

Motion to approve a donation in the amount of \$2,000 covering the 2024 donation and a donation to cover 2023 to the Richland Historical Society.

MOTION BY: Chris Vanelli

SECOND BY: Tim Arnold

MOTION CARRIED

9. Consideration of Donation towards Quakertown Borough's Community Day

Motion to approve a donation to Quakertown Borough in the amount of \$1,500.00 toward Community Day.

MOTION BY: Tim Arnold

SECOND BY: Chris Vanelli

MOTION CARRIED

I. TOWNSHIP BUSINESS ITEMS - OLD – None

J. BOARD & STAFF REPORTS

1. SUPERVISORS

Tim Arnold –

- Supervisors had the opportunity to attend the Richlandtown Borough Volunteer Awards Dinner.

Kathie Doyle –

- Participated with other township officials across the state to discuss areas of concern. One topic brought up is the reduction of money received from Liquid Fuel Funds. This is an area of concern and they discussed possible solutions and what is coming in the future. PennDOT announced they are investing \$467 million dollars in liquid fuel payments to help municipalities across the Commonwealth. The formula for use allocation is based on population and the number of miles of locally owned roads within our township. This is a temporary solution and there will be more discussion in the future.
- Update on behalf of Leslie Huhn – We had sent letters to our legislators in regards to the left hand turn on 309 & Pumping Station Rd. Senator Coleman's office contacted Leslie with an update. They are coming close to a solution regarding the left hand turn. They will have more information next month.
- Richland Townships Birdtown designation has changed. There are different tiers of designation. You start out as green, following is bronze, silver and gold. The birdtown team consists of Barbara Beck, Cynthia Rosson and Tom Marino. Richland Township has been awarded a Silver designation.
- Opening Day for Trout season is Saturday, April 6th. There is a need for volunteers to stock the Unami creek on Thursday, March 21st at Noon. Volunteers will meet at the Milford Fire House.

2. TOWNSHIP MANAGER
3. ENGINEER
4. SOLICITOR
5. POLICE CHIEF –
 - Drug Take Back – April 27th at the Richland Township Police Department
 - Shred Event – May 4th

K. PUBLIC COMMENT

Donna Stanziola – 232 Tollgate Road

- Was there a traffic study done on Tollgate Road?
Gilmore reviewed the traffic study and also requires review and approval by PennDOT as well.
- Is there an update of what they intend to put in?
It is in the Land Development Process but they do not know who the tenant will be.

Benjamin Ocamb – 200 Rockhill Road

- Asked to go over a police concern / experience he had.
Kathie Doyle asked that he email the township manager before stating the public comment. Rich Ficco spoke to the family after the meeting ended.

L. ADJOURNMENT

Motion to Adjourn at 7:26 p.m.

MOTION BY: Chris Vanelli
SECOND BY: Kathie Doyle
MOTION CARRIED