

MINUTES - RALPHO TOWNSHIP SUPERVISORS
REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING - February 9, 2016
Held in Municipal Building Meeting Room, 206 S. Market St., Elysburg, PA

Chairman Wetzel called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. and led the recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag.

Attending were: Supervisors Blaine Madara, William Wetzel, Stephen Major, Vincent Daubert and Daniel Williams. Also attending were: Township Manager Joseph Springer, Solicitor Todd Kerstetter, Township Secretary/Treasurer Debra Olson; Code Officer Mark Lyash; Township Engineer Justin Keister (*arrived at 6:45p.m.*), Police Chief Stu Appel, Roadmaster Howard Shadduck; Harvey Boyer Chairman Planning Commission; Jeff Kyle DGK Insurance and Larry Deklinski *Shamokin News-Item*; 2 interested citizens.

CHAIRMAN APPOINTED COMMITTEE/DEPARTMENT HEADS:

STREET DEPARTMENT – Madara

BUILDINGS – Major

POLICE DEPARTMENT/PUBLIC SAFETY – Williams

ZONING – Daubert

RECREATION – Major

RECYCLING – Wetzel

CITIZEN INPUT ON AGENDA ITEMS – Turkey Hill 5K for November 26, 2016 was discussed. Chief will be in touch with Ralph Renn to discuss event route.

Minutes of January 4, 2016 regular monthly meeting were accepted as presented on Major/Daubert motion and carried.

TREASURER’S REPORT was accepted as presented on Daubert/Major motion and carried.

Bills were approved as presented for payment, including those bills paid between meetings on a Major/Madara motion, motion carried unanimously.

Invoice payment to G&M Crawford, Inc. for \$9,300 and Kreco Electric, Inc. for \$2,148.95 for work done for the Municipal Authority of Sunnyside Overlook for grinder pump installation, to be reimbursed by the Authority back to the township will be held over for more information and will likely be brought back to the board.

CORRESPONDENCE

- Tax Collector Amy Snyder was exonerated from further collections on the 2015 tax duplicate on Madara/Williams motioned and carried.
- 2015 Annual Investment Reports for the Ralpho Township Police and Non-uniformed Pension Plans are available for review in the Township Office.
- Thank you from Ralpho Township Business Association was read.
- Northumberland County Soil Conservation 4th Annual CD Winter Forum is March 1, 2016.
- Received DEP Completeness Notification for Ralph Township Channel Improvements.
- Letter received from PA Housing Finance Agency regarding Berkshire Gardens/Valley Place, 19 Columbia Drive.
- Letter received from Mid-Penn Engineering Corporation regarding PA DEP and Department of Army Corps of Engineers joint application for PA Water Obstruction and Section 404 Permit for Great Dane Trailers, Inc.
- Northumberland County Department of Public Safety letter encouraging municipality to update Emergency Operation Plan by July 1, 2016 was received. Secretary will follow up with Donald J. Spotts, Jr., EMA Coordinator.

COMMITTEE/DEPARTMENT REPORTS:

PLANNING – Harvey Boyer, Chairman

- Daubert/Madara motioned to approve Shererwood Forest Land Development Plan at the recommendation of the Planning Commission with a waiver of requirement to have preliminary plan and proceed directly to final plan. Motion carried.

STREET DEPARTMENT – Major

- Report was received.
- Progress road update was discussed. Major/Madara motioned to reject 3-year warranty agreement on Progress Road and request 10 year warranty from Don. E. Bower. Motion carried.
- Major/Madara motioned to pay Construction Invoice No. 4 to Don E. Bower for Progress Road project for \$27,855.98 when grant monies are received from the Commonwealth. Motion carried.
- Williams/Major motioned to have Street Light LED conversion done to lights on East and West Center Street. Supervisors want to see how they work out on those streets prior to having all lights converted to LED. Motion carried.
- Madara/Williams motioned to complete Township Shed Metal building project for \$17,365 with Pioneer Pole Buildings. Motion carried.

BUILDINGS – Madara

- Major/Madara motioned to allow Ralpho Youth Sports Teener team to use the meeting room on Saturday, February 27 from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. and Tiger Youth Basketball to use the room Saturday, February 13 from 8 a.m. to 12 noon. Motion carried.

RECREATION - Madara

- Gym swipe card system was discussed. Wetzel/Daubert motioned to have Computation place system for approximately \$4,091.60. System would include a refurbished computer, training; lock systems for outside door, kitchen and coach's room as well. Motion carried.
- Madara/Wetzel motioned to limit gym rentals for parties from October through March because of clean-up, etc. Motion carried.
- Williams/Madara motioned to accept \$1,000 donation to the gym floor project from GDK Development, Inc. (Burger King). Motion carried.
- Supervisor Wetzel will call gym floor finishing company to see when they will be back to redo the floor.

ZONING OFFICER'S REPORT – Williams

- 0 permits were issued and \$0 in fees were collected during February. 7 letters of correspondence were sent, 13 complaints were received for vehicles, trash, dumping and dangerous structures.
- Mr. Lyash will purchase new tax maps and computer disk from the county with his supervisor's approval.

POLICE DEPARTMENT/PUBLIC SAFETY – Wetzel

- Report was read.
- Chief Appel letter was received with notice he would like to retire for pension purposes and enter the Deferred Retirement Option Plan (DROP) effective February 29, 2016 with monthly benefits credited to his DROP account starting on March 1, 2016. This item will be tabled until executive session at the end of the meeting for personnel issues.
- Madara/Major motioned to allow Knoebels Amusement Park to use the gymnasium in case of an emergency at the park as a location to host a press conference and conduct media relations in the event the park locations are unavailable. Motion carried with Supervisor Williams abstaining.

RECYCLING – Daubert

- Supervisor Wetzel is going to contact County Waste Recycling for further information on if they can report single stream collection weights to the Township for annual reporting.

MANAGER'S REPORT

- none

SOLICITOR'S REPORT

- Madara/Wetzel motioned to advertise ordinance for Drop option on retirement. Motion carried.

ENGINEER'S REPORT

- Discussion on Stormwater Channel was discussed. Engineer would recommended to postpone project and get 2016 money in hand and do complete project instead of doing it in pieces. Madara/Major motioned to wait on the project. Motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS:

- none

NEW BUSINESS:

- Major/Daubert motioned to adopt resolution 2016-05 Succession of Municipal Officers. Motion carried.
- Williams/Major motioned to have Chairman sign Act 205 reports and accompanying Actuarial Valuation report upon review of Township Manager. Motion carried.

CITIZEN INPUT – Mr. Boyer questioned cell phone towers in Ralpho Township.

ADJOURNMENT – there being nothing further for discussion, meeting adjourned at approximately 7:25 p.m. on Daubert/Williams motion and carried.

Executive session was held for personnel.

Respectfully submitted,

Debra L. Olson
Ralpho Township Secretary