

MINUTES - RALPHO TOWNSHIP SUPERVISORS
REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING - AUGUST 12, 2014
Held in Municipal Building Meeting Room, 206 S. Market St, Elysburg, PA

Chairman Madara 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, Daniel Williams and Vince Daubert. Also attending were: Solicitor Todd Kerstetter, Township Secretary/Treasurer Debra Olson; Township Engineer Justin Keister (arrived at 7:22 p.m.), Roadmaster Howard Shaddock (arrived at 7:22 p.m.), Code Officer Mark Lyash, Township Manager Joe Springer, Police Chief Stu Appel; Harvey Boyer, Planning Commission Chairman; Rob Wheary, *Shamokin News-Item*; and 1 interested citizen.

Chairman Madara apologized for his absences at the last two meetings because of work and thanked the board for handling business while he was away.

CITIZEN INPUT ON AGENDA ITEMS – Peter Tipka from the Bear Gap area was present to discuss the Williams pipe line possibly going through the township on his and his mother's property. He attended a public meeting in Bloomsburg regarding the future pipe line. Code Officer Lyash also attended the meeting.

Minutes of July 8, 2014 regular monthly meeting were accepted as presented on Major/Daubert motion and carried.

TREASURER'S REPORT was accepted as presented on Daubert/Williams motion and carried.

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

CORRESPONDENCE

- DEP letter re: Pennsylvania State Sportsman's Association Completeness Notification for Shamokin Creek Culvert Extension was received.
- AQUA Application for approval of the alteration of the crossing where Mountain Rd crosses at grade tracks operated by SEDA-COG Joint Rail Authority and Shamokin Valley Railroad was received.
- Shamokin Terminal Annual Notification was received. Secretary will forward to both fire companies.
- Northumberland County Conservation District Completeness Notification Letter of General NPDES Permit for Stormwater Discharges associated with Overlook Phase Watermain Replacement was received. Supervisor Wetzel/Williams motioned to have Solicitor Kerstetter send a letter to AQUA to reiterate the requirements of our code when roadways are cut within the Township. Motion carried.
- Investment Summary Reports for period ending June 30, 2014 are in the Supervisor's office for review
- All Home Days request for sponsoring a prize for annual bingo was read. The Supervisors may donate \$10 each personally for a donation for the bingo.
- Northumberland County Conservation District letter regarding Dirt & Gravel Roads/low volume paved road maintenance program was received.
- Northumberland County Conservation District letter for permit authorization cover letter for general NPDES permit Whitetail Run Subdivision was received.
- DEP Notification of Reportable Release at Shamokin Coal Township Joint Sewer Authority was received with notification of contamination and the interim remedial actions initiated or completed to date.

COMMITTEE/DEPARTMENT REPORTS:

PLANNING – Harvey Boyer, Chairman

- Discussion took place on curbing and swales at last Planning Commission meeting and Solicitor forwarded the proposed ordinance to the Supervisors for their review.

STREET DEPARTMENT – Major

- Report was received
- Major/Madara motioned to purchase a new arm mower from Bradco, Inc. for a price of \$5,000 plus \$551 for broom wafers; receiving a credit of \$900 for trade on old mower. Motion carried.
- Hemlock Lane paving project is underway, Roadmaster updated the board on the progress of excavation, paving and possible overages.
- There will be an asphalt escalation of additional \$.30 per ton on base repair and \$.35 per ton on wearing course.
- Stoney Lane and Romanaski Lane have been tar and chipped by Hammaker East, Ltd. and project is complete.
- A couple of pieces of iron were found in the cinder/ash pile, Roadmaster will keep monitoring it. Possibly have to stop resident drop off if this continues.

BUILDINGS – Wetzel

- Paper and cleaning supply purchases were discussed. Current vendor is now employed by the Township part-time so supplies will be purchased from a different vendor.

ZONING OFFICER'S REPORT – Williams

- 11 permits were issued and \$1,034.78 in fees were collected during July. 12 permits were closed, 5 letters of correspondence were sent, 19 complaints were received for vehicles, trash, grass/weeds and pools.
- Bear Hollow and Happy Valley Road naming/signage is still be investigated by Mr. Lyash.
- Wetzel/Madara motioned to have Code Officer Lyash go forward with enforcement action at two properties within the township. Motion carried.
- Officer Lyash asked for approval to call SEO to handle a resident who is releasing raw sewage into a stream on his property. Supervisors requested he call Mr. Brior about the matter.

POLICE DEPARTMENT/PUBLIC SAFETY – Daubert

- Report was read.
- Letter was received from Northumberland County Department of Public Safety making the Township aware that they will be providing \$15,829 toward the new required radio equipment that will be required as the project progresses county wide.
- Williams/Madara motioned to purchase 2015 Ford Utility Police Interceptor from Sunbury Motors at a purchase price of \$28,097. Motion carried.
- Chief Appel updated the board on an incident that occurred on August 2nd with officer Grow in a chase to apprehend a suspect. Damage occurred to the 2010 police cruiser.

RECREATION - Wetzel

- Basketball lights at outdoor court will be checked into by Supervisor Madara and Supervisor Wetzel.

RECYCLING – Madara

- none

MANAGER'S REPORT

- Wetzel/Major motioned to have manager sign letter to be sent to Pennsylvania Compensation Rating Bureau asking that the fire company be separated from the Township and that the Township's experience modification be recalculated based upon the change. Motion carried.
- Manager Springer will get with Supervisor Williams/Supervisor Daubert after meeting to schedule meeting with Police to negotiate contract.

SOLICITOR’S REPORT

- Williams/Major motioned to approve Chairman Madara to sign the stormwater agreements on behalf of the township for the Hemlock Lane paving project. Motion carried.

ENGINEER’S REPORT

- Report was received.

OLD BUSINESS:

- none

NEW BUSINESS:

- Marian Williams asked for permission to have 12-14 cars park in back parking lot while away on bus trip from October 13th through 17th. Permission was granted and they will be told where to park.
- Supervisor Madara asked if the Township would pay for pipe being replaced behind the post office. It is out of right away and on a paper street so the Township will not get involved. This has been brought up before and resident was told Township will not pay.
- Williams/Major motioned to have Code Officer Lyash forward a letter to FERC (Federal Energy Regulatory Commission) letting them know the concerns of the township in regard to the proposed pipe line going through Ralpho Township. Motion carried.
- It was discussed that a resident is piling firewood in a detention basin in his development. Officer Lyash is to move forward with letter to resident.

CITIZEN INPUT – none

ADJOURNMENT – there being nothing further for discussion, meeting adjourned at approximately 8:20 p.m. on Williams/Madara motion and carried.

Executive session was held for personnel purposes.

Respectfully submitted,

Debra L. Olson
Ralpho Township Secretary