

**MINUTES - RALPHO TOWNSHIP SUPERVISORS**  
**REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING - SEPTEMBER 9, 2014**  
*Held in Municipal Building Meeting Room, 206 S. Market St, Elysburg, PA*

*Chairman Madara called the meeting to order at 6:31 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 7:12 p.m.), Roadmaster Howard Shadduck (arrived at 7:12 p.m.), Code Officer Mark Lyash, Police Chief Stu Appel; and Mark Gilger, *Shamokin News-Item*.

Ron Bittner, Univest Municipal Pension Services, gave a presentation on pensions for 2015

CITIZEN INPUT ON AGENDA ITEMS – none

Minutes of August 12, 2014 regular monthly meeting were accepted as presented on Daubert/Major motion and carried.

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

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

**CORRESPONDENCE**

- Penn Dot letter regarding proposed project on SR 54 to mill and resurface the pavement starting at Boyd Station and ending in Elysburg for May 2015 was received.
- Penn Dot letter regarding proposed project on SR 54 to mill and resurface the pavement starting at Bottle Road and ending at SR 54 for spring of 2015 was received.
- Received Liquid Fuels Tax Fund Examination report from Auditor General for January 1, 2013 to December 31, 2013. Full report is available in the office.
- Northumberland County Association of Township Officers 2014 Annual Banquet is Thursday, October 23, 2014 at 5:45 p.m. Deadline to register is October 13<sup>th</sup>.
- Grants and Services Open House will be September 30, 2014 at Degenstein Community Library in Sunbury from 2 to 7 p.m. Event is sponsored by State Representatives Masser, Schlegel-Culver and Keller.
- DEP letter received in regard to Shamokin Coal Township Joint Sewer Authority reportable release notice received last month. The letter advises them of responsibilities and corrective actions required.

**COMMITTEE/DEPARTMENT REPORTS:**

**PLANNING – Harvey Boyer, Chairman**

- Curbs/Swales ordinance was discussed. Planning Commission will look at sidewalk, swale maintenance ordinance as well, prior to advertising.

**STREET DEPARTMENT – Major**

- Report was received
- Hemlock Lane project update was given. It is mostly complete; just few drainage pipes remain to be connected.
- Major/Madara motioned to have W.F.Welliver & Sons, Inc. repair mower tractor with expenses not to exceed \$6,000. Motion carried.
- Crack Sealing will start to take place next week within the township.
- 2 part-time help applications will be looked at by the Roadmaster and Supervisor Major.

**BUILDINGS – Wetzel**

- none

**ZONING OFFICER'S REPORT – Williams**

- 1 permit was issued and \$50.00 in fees were collected during August. 11 permits were closed, 4 letters of correspondence were sent, and 22 complaints were received for vehicles, trash, grass/weeds and pools.
- Code officer shared letter he sent to Ecology and Environment, Inc. from last month's meeting.

- Code Officer asked for approval of letter regarding position on pipeline before sending to FERC. It was decided that with a few minor changes the letter would be signed by Chairman and mailed.
- Bellis driveway project will have contractor start on Monday, September 15<sup>th</sup>.

**POLICE DEPARTMENT/PUBLIC SAFETY – Daubert**

- Report was read.
- Chief Appel updated the board on the purchasing of new cruiser; it is 4 to 6 weeks out yet.

**RECREATION - Wetzel**

- Timer at basketball lights at outdoor court will be reviewed.
- Playground bathrooms will be closed in a month or so.

**RECYCLING – Madara**

- Secretary is to ask Manager Springer about signage under grant for recycling center.

**MANAGER’S REPORT**

- none

**SOLICITOR’S REPORT**

- Supervisors would like Manager Springer to look into dental insurance with GHP or another vendor to see if it is comparable in price to current PSATS plan with Aetna.

**ENGINEER’S REPORT**

- Report was received.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

- none

**NEW BUSINESS:**

- Williams/Major motioned to authorize Township Manager to complete the paperwork to make changes to the GHP employee health care plan to adopt an “Obamacare” eligible plan. It appears the new plan would save approximately \$25,000 in premiums as well as the Township covered deductibles. Motion carried.
- Wetzel/Majors motioned to allow Township Manager to put a page on the Township website for the Ralpho Township Library. Motion carried.

**CITIZEN INPUT – none**

At 8:34 p.m. the board went into executive session for personnel issues. The board reconvened at 8:49 p.m.

Wetzel/Williams made a motion to have employees contribute 3.75% of pre-taxed gross pay toward the pension plans for the year 2015. Motion carried unanimously

ADJOURNMENT – there being nothing further for discussion, meeting adjourned at approximately 8:50 p.m. on a Daubert/Williams motion and carried.

Executive session was held for personnel purposes and land acquisition.

Respectfully submitted,

Debra L. Olson  
Ralpho Township Secretary