

**MINUTES - RALPHO TOWNSHIP SUPERVISORS**  
**REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING - OCTOBER 14, 2014**  
**Held in Municipal Building Meeting Room, 206 S. Market St, Elysburg, PA**

**Chairman Madara called the meeting to order at 6:32 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 6:50 p.m.), Roadmaster Howard Shaddock, Code Officer Mark Lyash, Police Chief Stu Appel; and 1 interested citizen.

CITIZEN INPUT ON AGENDA ITEMS – none

Minutes of September 9, 2014 regular monthly meeting were accepted as presented on Daubert/Williams 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, 2015 Ford Explorer police cruiser will be paid out of the Equipment Fund, on a Daubert/Major motion, motion carried unanimously.

**CORRESPONDENCE**

- Notice was received from GHD that Aqua PA is submitting an NPDES Permit for Stormwater discharges on a project in Elysburg; they have requested a municipal land use letter. Manager and Zoning Officer need to help complete.
- Northumberland County Conservation District sent information on Dirt, Gravel and Paved Low Volume Roads Program. Roadmaster called Northumberland County representative and will get more information in the future. Major/Madara motioned to send Roadmaster to the training on October 28 and 29 in Carlisle. Motion carried.
- New Penn Dot maps were received with the Happy Valley Road correction.

**COMMITTEE/DEPARTMENT REPORTS:**

**PLANNING – Harvey Boyer, Chairman**

- Curbs/Swales ordinance was discussed.

**STREET DEPARTMENT – Major**

- Report was received
- Leaf collection will begin Monday, October 27 and continue through Wednesday, November 26<sup>th</sup>.
- Wetzel/Williams motioned to advertise leaf collection schedule one time in each the Press Enterprise and The News-Item. Motion carried.
- Purchase of plow edges was discussed. Daubert/Wetzel motioned to purchase carbide edges for two trucks this season to see how they wear. Motion carried.
- Board gave approval for Supervisor Major to check with MART board at his next meeting to see if we can pick up the Steam Jenny they are not using and take to see if it can be repaired for our future use.
- Cinder spreader on International is broken and out for repair to be returned in next couple of weeks.

**BUILDINGS – Wetzel**

- none

#### **ZONING OFFICER'S REPORT – Williams**

- 5 permits were issued and \$527.50 in fees were collected during September. 8 letters of correspondence were sent, 18 complaints were received for vehicles, trash, grass/weeds and pools; 4 burning permits were issued.
- Great Valley Consultants letter was received in regard to SCTJSA to request permit extension; Williams/Daubert motioned to extend for another 3 months. Motion carried. Solicitor will send letter.

#### **POLICE DEPARTMENT/PUBLIC SAFETY – Daubert**

- Report was read.
- Supervisor Daubert updated the board that the new 2015 Ford Explorer police cruiser is at Keystone for equipment installation and will be picked up this week.
- 2008 Police cruiser was involved with deer incident past weekend. Board decided not repair because unit will be sold once new cruiser is in service.
- Chief Eric Haupt from Elysburg Fire Department/Ambulance was in attendance requesting funding for possible used ambulance purchase from Southside Ambulance. Wetzel/Williams motioned to donate \$3,000 from Fire Equipment Fund and an additional \$7,000 from general fund budget line item to the Elysburg Ambulance, pending sale going through. Motion carried.
- Major/Wetzel motioned to transfer \$10,000 from General Fund to Fire Equipment Donation account per 2014 budget. Motion carried.

#### **RECREATION - Wetzel**

- Basketball court lights were looked into, it is being worked on.
- Playground bathrooms were closed Monday, October 13, 2014.

#### **RECYCLING – Madara**

- Recycled glass will need to be transferred to Coal Township recycling once Reidinger Trucking discontinues collecting November 30<sup>th</sup>, 2015.

#### **MANAGER'S REPORT**

- Manager Springer and Roadmaster Shaddock met with Aqua PA to discuss future projects in the township.
- Wetzel/Madara motioned to have solicitor send a letter to Aqua in regard to compaction and core samples on overlook project. Motion carried.

#### **SOLICITOR'S REPORT**

- Manager Springer looked into dental insurance with another vendor(s) to see if it is comparable in price to current PSATS plan with Aetna, he found plans comparable in price, but with less benefits. It was his recommendation to continue on with the PSATS plan.
- Wetzel/Major motioned to adopt resolution 2014-05 PSATS approving amended and restated declaration of trust. Motion carried.
- Major/Williams motioned to authorize solicitor to update police and non-uniformed pension plan ordinances based on recommendation from Ron Bittner, Univest Pension Services. Motion carried.

#### **ENGINEER'S REPORT**

- Report was received.
- Stormwater channel improvements will have bid set to look at next month.

#### **OLD BUSINESS:**

- 2015 MMO's – Police and Non-Uniformed Pension Plans. Motion to approve MMO's as follows: Police Pension Plan = \$68,884 and Non-Uniformed Pension Plan = \$12,651 was made by Major/Wetzel and motion carried.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

- Digital recorder will be purchased to record meetings in the future. Recordings will be kept until the minutes are formally approved. Daubert/Wetzel, motion carried.
- Trick or Treat night will be held Thursday, October 30<sup>th</sup> from 5 to 8 p.m. Wetzel/Williams motioned, motion carried.
- October budget meeting and meeting for general purposes will be advertised for Tuesday, October 28, 2014 at 6 p.m. Madara/Wetzel, motion carried.
- Major/Daubert motioned to allow the Ralpho Township All Home Days Association to use the meeting room in the municipal building on 1/8, 2/5, 3/5, 4/2, 10/1 and 11/5 in 2015 and for Tiger Youth Basketball to use the meeting room as needed when it is available. Motion carried.

**CITIZEN INPUT** – Tom Petrusky was present with questions on the sign ordinance.

At 7:52 p.m. the board went into executive session for personnel issues. The board reconvened at 8:23 p.m.

Major/Daubert motioned to hire Frank Competiello and Ben Tharp as part-time snow plow help. Motion carried.

Major/Madara motioned to have all part-time snow plow help be paid \$12.00 per hour. Motion carried.

Major/Williams motioned to pay Charles Kowalchick \$12.00 per hour effective immediately. Motion carried.

**ADJOURNMENT** – there being nothing further for discussion, meeting adjourned at approximately 8:25 p.m. on a Major/Wetzel motion and carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Debra L. Olson  
Ralpho Township Secretary