

**MINUTES - RALPHO TOWNSHIP SUPERVISORS REORGANIZATION
AND REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING - JANUARY 7, 2013
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.

Chairman Wetzel comment: As mandated by State Law and as advertised this meeting is for Reorganization purposes and the regular January meeting.

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 6:44p.m.*), Police Chief Stu Appel, Roadmaster Howard Shadduck and Justin Strausser from the Shamokin News Item.

Changing Chairman is merely following past practice of rotating the position every year so each board member has an opportunity to fill that capacity.

Chairman Wetzel requested nominations for the Chairman's position. Daubert/Madara motioned to elect Supervisor Major as chairman. Chairman Wetzel moved that nominations cease with approval of Major as Chairman unanimous.

Wetzel/Madara motioned to nominate Supervisor Daubert as Vice Chairman. Chairman Major motioned to close nominations with approval of Daubert as Vice Chairman unanimous.

Williams/Wetzel motioned to appoint Joseph Springer, Township Manager; Debra Olson, Township Secretary/Treasurer; Schelsinger & Kerstetter, Solicitor and Larson Design Group as Township Engineers. Motion carried unanimously.

Wetzel/Madara motioned to adopt Resolution 2013-01 establishing the revised engineering fee schedule. Motion carried.

Williams/Madara motioned to appoint Forgett & Kerstetter, certified public accountants for auditing services; and designate township depositories PLGIT and M&T Bank; Charlene Zeigler as Real Estate Tax Certifier, Act 511 tax collector and Delinquent Tax Collector per ordinance. Motion carried unanimously.

Daubert/Madara motioned to appoint Berkheimer Associates Tax Collector for Earned Income and LST taxes; Statewide Tax Recovery for delinquent taxes. Motion carried unanimously.

Daubert/Wetzel motioned to appoint Mark Lyash as Code Enforcement Officer; Tri-County COG Uniform Construction Code Officer and Building Code Officer; Howard Shadduck as Roadmaster; Bill Brior as Primary Sewage Enforcement Officer and Bruce Dobash Alternate Sewage Enforcement Officer. Motion carried unanimously.

The following re-appointments were made on Madara/Daubert motion and carried unanimously: John Yost to a one year term on Township Vacancy Board; Donald J. Spotts, one year term as EMA Coordinator; Joe Pechulis, ZHB 3 year term; Robert L. Dluge, Jr., Esq. one year term as solicitor to Zoning Hearing Board; Ted Yeager, 5 year term to Municipal Authority of Ralpho Township; Mark Lyash 5 year term to Municipal Authority of Sunnyside Overlook.

The following positions remain to be filled:

One vacancy on Municipal Authority of Sunnyside/Overlook, 5 year term, term would expire January 2016.

Chairman Major will announce Committee/Department appointments at February meeting.

CITIZEN INPUT ON AGENDA ITEMS – none

Minutes of December 11, 2012 regular monthly meeting were accepted as presented on Wetzel/Daubert motion and carried.

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

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

CORRESPONDENCE

- Invitation to Penn State Extension Local Planning, Regulations & Policies Workshop February 27, 2013 was received. Wetzel/Madara motioned to pay for any Planning members who would like to attend. Secretary will give the invite to the Planning Commission members at their meeting Tuesday, January 8, 2013.
- PSATS invite to Annual Public Officials Day Brunch on Thursday, January 10, 2013 at the PA Farm Show was received.
- Notice was received from Environmental Compliance Management, Inc. was received for Clarks Feed Mills, Inc. official notification they are applying for Air Quality State Only Permit.

COMMITTEE/DEPARTMENT REPORTS:

STREET DEPARTMENT – Daubert

- Report was received.
- It was noted that Roadmaster Shadduck has shown the Grader to Penn Township and Gregg Township. They are both interested in it and are having their meetings tonight as well. Offers may come during or after the meeting.
- Thank you to the Municipal Authority for the use of the truck/plow during last snow storm.

BUILDINGS – Madara

- Municipal Building boiler was serviced; Roadmaster will have it serviced when the maintenance garage furnace is serviced each year from now on.

POLICE DEPARTMENT/PUBLIC SAFETY – Major

- Report was read.
- District Attorney Tony Rosini purchased new computers for the police department with money from the Asset Forfeiture Fund. The money was a result of a criminal case our department investigated.

ZONING OFFICER'S REPORT – Madara

- 3 permits were issued and \$198.87 in fees were collected during December and addressed 4 complaints for junk, burning and vehicle.

RECREATION - Wetzel

- Playground addition of a swing set was discussed and tabled to later meeting.
- Supervisor Williams and Roadmaster Shaduck will look into recycling of plastics and aluminum cans at the gymnasium.

RECYCLING – Williams

- Notice was received from DEP that the Township was approved for the Act 101 Recycling Program Performance Grant in the amount of \$2,942. This reflects the 345.4 tons of residential and commercial materials recycled by our citizens and businesses in the calendar year of 2010.

MANAGER'S REPORT

- CDBG Application Preparation Schedule was approved as presented. It was also decided that SEDA-COG will do request for proposals to hire engineer and solicitor to handle blight demolition and the stormwater channel improvements.

PLANNING –

- None

SOLICITOR'S REPORT

- Strausser v Ralpho Township update. Today was last day to appeal. The solicitor did not receive notice that they are going forward with an appeal.
- Marino v ZHB/Ralpho Township update, Zoning Hearing Board hearing is scheduled on January 24, 2013 at 7:00 in the meeting room of the municipal building.

ENGINEER’S REPORT

- Report has been submitted to Planning Commission on recommendations for Danson Phase II Subdivision Plan.
- A lot layout plan has been reviewed for Heartland Subdivision Revision and are currently waiting additional information before preparing response to the Planning Commission.
- Engineer Keister cautioned that stormwater channel improvements is a major undertaking and to tread lightly. After discussion the Supervisors understand his concerns and are preparing to use CBDG funds in future years for the project as well.

OLD BUSINESS:

- none

NEW BUSINESS:

- Madara/Williams made a motion to pay any regular bills that come in after meeting date because of early meeting for the month of January. Motion carried.
- Madara/Daubert motioned to make a \$25 donation each to the Ralpho Township Library in memory of Renee Snyder, Wayne Horne’s sister; and Helen Bird, Wayne Horne’s mother-in-law. Motion carried.
- Insurance will be put out on bid for February12 meeting. Secretary will contact Gannon, Klebon, WSA Insurance and current carrier DGK. Proposals will be due to the office by Friday, February 8 so Supervisors can review prior to Tuesday, February 12 regular meeting to make a decision.

Chairman Major announced that there would be an executive session for personnel issues and possible litigation at 7:31 p.m. Meeting reconvened at 7:46 p.m.

- Williams/Wetzel motioned to give Debra Olson, Secretary \$.50/hr raise; Howard Shadduck and Wayne Horne, Street Department, \$.50/hr raise per contract; 5 full-time police officers, \$.75/hr raise per contract. Motion carried.
- Wetzel/Madara motioned to accept agreement with Chief Appel. Motion carried unanimously.
- Madara/Wetzel motioned to give Charles Kowalchick, Buildings/Grounds, \$.50/hr raise. Motion carried.
- Williams/Wetzel motioned to give Joe Springer, Township Manager, \$1.00/hr raise. Motion carried.

CITIZEN INPUT – none

Madara/Williams motioned to sell the 1982 Grader to Penn Township for \$24,399 after speaking on the phone with Supervisor Dan Dorman of Penn Township. Motion carried unanimously. Supervisors thanked Roadmaster Shadduck for his work on helping this deal go through.

ADJOURNMENT – there being nothing further for discussion, meeting adjourned at approximately 8:08 p.m. on Wetzel/Daubert motion and carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Debra L. Olson
Ralpho Township Secretary