

MINUTES - RALPHO TOWNSHIP SUPERVISORS
REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING - March 12, 2013
Held in Municipal Building Meeting Room, 206 S. Market St, Elysburg, PA

Chairman Major 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 6:50 p.m.), Police Chief Stu Appel, Roadmaster Howard Shaddock, Stephanie Geise from the Shamokin *News Item* and 7 interested citizens.

Regular meeting was recessed at 6:31 p.m. to start the CDBG Hearing.

Jamie Shrawder of SEDA-COG held the Public Hearing to discuss the CDBG program. Hearing was adjourned at 6:38 p.m.

Regular meeting was called back to order at 6:38 p.m.

CITIZEN INPUT ON AGENDA ITEMS –A possible water issue at Mark Noll’s property was discussed. His property is at 475 W. Valley Ave. He asked that the permit for the house being built behind to his property be revoked. Mark Boyce and Mary Stout also had input on the issue. Several of the supervisors, the code officer and the solicitor explained that the permit was issued because all Township code was met. Mr. Noll was told he could appeal the permit, but only had 30 days from date of issuance to do that and the issue date was 2-12-13. This would leave him a couple of days to do so. An appeal would have to show that the permit was issued without meeting all requirements of the code of the Township. As a courtesy Code Officer Mark Lyash was asked by the board to call the owner of the new home being built and make them aware of the possible water issue and ask that they look into how the water will run off the lot onto adjoining properties.

Minutes of February 12, 2013 regular monthly meeting were accepted as presented on Daubert/Williams motion and carried.

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

Bills were approved as presented for payment with the exception of Forgett & Kerstetter for the audit report which has not been received as of yet, invoice will be paid at April meeting when report is received, motion includes those bills paid between meetings, on a Wetzel/Madara motion, motion carried unanimously.

CORRESPONDENCE

- Received a traffic pattern notification for bridge work on SR 61 beginning 3-25-2012 until 7-2-2013.
- Received a letter from County of Northumberland Office of Commissioners in regard to Conflict of Interest letter re: Pat Mack. The property we are using CDBG funds to demolish is across the street from Mr. Mack’s property. Mr. Mack works for Northumberland County.
- CET Engineering is requesting General Permit No. 5 for watermain replacement on Penn Avenue in Ralpho Township.
- Letter was received from Larson Design Group to inform us they are applying for a General Permit (GP-4 for the Pinebrook Stormwater Basin project on behalf of the Township.
- Chairman Major discussed the US Department of Energy (DOE) SunShot Grant with the board.

COMMITTEE/DEPARTMENT REPORTS:

PLANNING – Harvey Boyer, Chairman

- Madara/Daubert motioned to follow the Planning Commission recommendation to approve Robert A. & Nita H. Einsig Final Minor Subdivision. Motion carried.
- Wetzel/Madara motioned to approve a 90 day time extension for Danson Phase II Major Subdivision. Motion carried.

- Wetzel/Madara motioned to approve a 90 day time extension for Robert Lebo Minor Subdivision. Motion carried.
- Chairman Boyer asked for guidance on curbing versus swales in the Subdivision Ordinance from the Supervisors. Supervisors asked the Planning Commission to look into the issue with regard to impervious coverage.

STREET DEPARTMENT – Williams

- Report was received.
- Telephone or fax bids were received from 4 local stone vendors. Wetzel/Daubert motioned that letters be sent to Corson/Meckley's Limestone accepting their prices for stone for the next year for the Township at the discretion of the Roadmaster as to where to get it. A contract is not necessary because we are under the \$18,500 bid requirement. Vendors will be asked to sign off on their prices and return the letter to us. Motion carried.
- Jepko road will need some repair and to be chip and sealed after repairs.
- Stone rake, snow blower and diamond plated tool box. Howard will send pictures to other Townships and see if any interest. Table to next month.
- Supervisor Williams and Roadmaster will do a spring road inspection and come back to the next meeting with recommendations for construction projects for the summer.

BUILDINGS – Major

- Floor mats for the municipal building will be tabled until next month. Supervisor Wetzel will bring prices at that time.

POLICE DEPARTMENT/PUBLIC SAFETY – Daubert

- Report was read.
- Harvey Boyer gave the Board an update on the Ambulance Service.
- Madara/Daubert motioned to send a letter to our representatives in regard to House Bill 179 which is before the legislature at this time. The bill would require health care insurance to pay EMS Agencies directly for emergency assistance that would properly dispatched and medically necessary. Motion carried.
- Fire Cadet weekend will be held June 22 and 23 for ages 11-17 this year at the Elysburg Fire Company.

ZONING OFFICER'S REPORT – Wetzel

- 4 permits were issued and \$1,743.20 in fees were collected during February and addressed 12 complaints for junk, burning, vehicle and trash. Also performed research for 4 subdivisions and attended Zoning Hearing Board, issued one burn permit.

RECREATION - Wetzel

- Playground addition of a swing set was discussed. Wetzel/Madara motioned to purchase an 8' single post with 2 belt seats for the playground at a price of \$1,157 from George Ely Associates. Motion carried.
- Playground carpet mulch was discussed. Northwest students will be coming to help with the spreading of the mulch on April 27 at 8:30 a.m. Wheel barrows, etc. will be needed and it will help if Supervisors can attend as well.
- William/Daubert motioned for Roadmaster to order one truckload of mulch at a price of no more than \$2,500 to be delivered week of April 27th. Motion carried.
- Madara/Williams motioned to approve Crowl Basketball Tournament in municipal gym on April 13 and 14. Motion carried.

RECYCLING – Madara

- Department of Environmental Protection Act 101 Recycling Program Grant in the amount of \$3,837 for the calendar year 2011 will be received in the next 4 to 6 weeks.

MANAGER'S REPORT

- Traffic Light upgrade grant that was applied for was not awarded to the Township.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT

- Marino v ZHB/Ralpho Township update, Zoning Hearing Board hearing was held on January 24, 2013 at 7:00 in the meeting room of the municipal building. Decision was given on February 28. Mrs. Marino will be allowed to retain the steps/porch that exceeded the prior variance. The fact that she was granted this variance should also moot the appeal that was filed at the County.

ENGINEER'S REPORT

- Intent to enter letters will be sent out this week to affected home owners for the Stormwater Channel Improvements with CBDG funds.
- Drumheller and Craze road culvert crossings. Solicitor has construction easement exhibits for review and engineer is preparing bid documents.
- Danson Phase II has a fairly clean review and is waiting on Municipal Authority of Ralpho Township to release capacity letter for 43 EDU's.
- Heartland Village Subdivision cost estimate for improvements is still expected from developer.

OLD BUSINESS:

- Wetzel/Williams motioned to approve the budgeted \$2,500 donation to the Ralpho Youth Sports Program. Motion carried with Supervisor Madara voting no.

NEW BUSINESS:

- none

CITIZEN INPUT – none

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

Executive session was held after adjournment for possible land acquisition.

Respectfully submitted,

Debra L. Olson
Ralpho Township Secretary