

**MINUTES - RALPHO TOWNSHIP SUPERVISORS**  
**REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING - October 8, 2013**  
**Held in Municipal Building Meeting Room, 206 S. Market St, Elysburg, PA**

**Chairman Major 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 William Wetzel, Blaine Madara, Stephen Major, Vincent Daubert and Daniel Williams. Also attending were: Solicitor Todd Kerstetter, Township Secretary/Treasurer Debra Olson, Township Manager Joseph Springer, Code Officer Mark Lyash, Township Engineer Justin Keister (arrived at 6:35 p.m.), Police Chief Stu Appel, Roadmaster Howard Shaddock; Dave Nowroski and Mark Gilger from the *Shamokin News-Item*.

CITIZEN INPUT ON AGENDA ITEMS – none

Minutes of September 10, 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, including those bills paid between meetings on a Madara/Williams motion, motion carried unanimously.

**CORRESPONDENCE**

- Invitation was received from Larson Design Group for a Business After Hours event, Thursday, October 17 from 5 to 7 p.m. Secretary needs to RSVP by Friday, October 11, 2013, for anyone who wishes to attend.
- Notice was received from Polar Tech that they are applying for a DEP facility-wide Air Quality State Only Permit.
- Northumberland County Conservation District sent Completeness Notification Letter – General NPDES Permit for stormwater discharges associated with construction activities for Danson Subdivision. This is the first step in a series of reviews conducted by DEP or the District.

**COMMITTEE/DEPARTMENT REPORTS:**

**PLANNING –**

- Wetzel/Madara motioned to ratify Chairman Major signing sewage module for Lebo Subdivision. Motion carried.

**STREET DEPARTMENT – Williams**

- Report was received
- Leaf collection will begin Monday, October 28 and continue through Wednesday, November 27<sup>th</sup>.
- Madara/Wetzel motioned to advertise leaf collection schedule one time in each the Press Enterprise and The News-Item. Motion carried.
- Backhoe replacement will be discussed further at the budget meeting in two weeks; Roadmaster will get further quotes prior to that meeting.

**BUILDINGS – Major**

- none

**POLICE DEPARTMENT/PUBLIC SAFETY – Daubert**

- Report was read

**ZONING OFFICER'S REPORT – Wetzel**

- 8 permits were issued and \$367.35 in fees were collected during September and addressed 6 complaints for junk, burning, vehicle, trash, grass; responded to (1) zoning clarification request, issued (3) temporary burning permits.
- Permit fees were discussed. Zoning officer will bring recommendations to next meeting.
- Enforcement action for Burris property at 10 Third Ave has been corrected.

**RECREATION - Wetzel**

- Williams/Madara motioned to allow Bear Gap Vaulters to use the gymnasium for an all day Saturday event for \$100. Motion carried.
- Playground bathrooms will close when it gets colder, possibly on or around October 25<sup>th</sup>.

**RECYCLING – Madara**

- Grant update. Cameras are installed and up and working. 3 containers have been ordered and should arrive any day now.
- Signage for recycling grant needs to be discussed. Manager, Supervisor Madara and Charles Kowalchick will get together to discuss what is needed.

**MANAGER'S REPORT**

- Scott Bordner broker from First National Insurance Agency has collected personal data from all those able to participate in Township Health plan and will get back to us prior to November 1st with any savings we may be able to get with another health insurance provider.
- Manager received a request from Great Dane who purchased upper Fleetwood building for right of way on Progress road. Manager sent a letter.
- FEMA/PEMA has given us an extension for Tropical Storm Lee road repairs until November 15, 2013.
- Manager met with a pension consulting service Sterling Financial Advisors LLC. Wetzel/Williams motioned to have Sterling Financial Advisors LLC do an investment review of the current Township Investment Advisor not to exceed \$500. Motion carried.

**SOLICITOR'S REPORT**

- Campground Ordinance was discussed at Planning Commission meeting with Solicitor present. Solicitor has made some changes to the ordinance and has forwarded copy to all board members for review with discussion at November meeting.
- Solicitor updated board on capacity reservations for EDUs at the Municipal Authority. Authority has just re-permitted and has approximately 400 EDU's of capacity right now. Chairman Major will discuss the Supervisor's concerns with the Municipal Authority of Ralpho Township at their regular meeting on Thursday, October 10.

**ENGINEER'S REPORT**

- CBDG Stormwater channel improvements will be discussed with Manager, Jamie from SEDA-COG and engineer in near future.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

- 2014 MMO's – Police and Non-Uniformed Pension Plans. Motion to approve MMO's as follows: Police Pension Plan = \$53,484 and Non-Uniformed Pension Plan = \$5,038 was made by Wetzel/Madara and motion carried.
- Secretary explained that the additional letters sent out to tax payers after the comparison between real estate tax bills and per capita/occupation tax bills will be very beneficial to Township in future years.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

- Daubert/Williams motioned that the Elysburg Fire Company will pay the \$250 insurance deductible for the repairs required for tanker truck after damages incurred by tiring blowing. Motion carried.
- October budget meeting and meeting for general purposes will be advertised for Tuesday, October 22, 2013 at 6 p.m.
- It was noted that PSATS Unemployment Compensation Group Trust Fund 2014 rate will be 5.75%, up from 5% in 2013.

**CITIZEN INPUT – none**

- After a lengthy discussion Williams/Madara motioned to have engineer complete a change order with contractor R.C. Young to add 4 feet of pipe on each end of Drumheller pipe and repair road for that width; also to include grouted rip rap finish on both Drumheller and Craze. Motion carried.
- Daubert/Madara motioned to accept \$7,416 for reimbursement work on Drumheller from Larson Design contingent upon FEMA reimbursement. Motion carried

Chairman Major announced that there would be an executive session for personnel issues and possible litigation at 8:20 p.m. Meeting reconvened at 8:51 p.m.

- Williams/Daubert motioned to hire Matt Swank and Andy Bower for part-time help on an as needed basis at a rate of \$12 per hour; and to hire Vincenzo Forte and Matthew Jeremiah for part-time help on an as needed basis at a rate of \$10 per hour. Motion carried.

ADJOURNMENT – there being nothing further for discussion, meeting adjourned at approximately 8:53 p.m. on Wetzel/Daubert motion and carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Debra L. Olson  
Ralpho Township Secretary