

MINUTES - RALPHO TOWNSHIP SUPERVISORS
REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING - December 11, 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 (arrived at 6:47 p.m.), Stephen Major, Vincent Daubert and Daniel Williams. Also attending were: Solicitor Todd Kerstetter, Township Secretary/Treasurer Debra Olson, Code Officer Mark Lyash, Roadmaster Howard Shaddock, Justin Keister Engineer (arrived at 6:43 p.m.), Harvey Boyer Planning Commission Chairman; Dave Nowroski, from the *Shamokin News-Item*, Brian Slavinski Medico Industries, Rory Kania Five Star; and Ron Bittner and Barry Keck of Univest Municipal Services; and 1 interested citizen.

Ron Bittner gave a presentation and answered questions after the review of the pension plans in place for the Township by Richard S. Waldron, Sterling Financial Advisors LLC.

CITIZEN INPUT ON AGENDA ITEMS – William Burris, 10 3rd Ave, Elysburg, was at the meeting to point out all the break-ins, etc. at his home and that he is not getting help from the local enforcement. Supervisor Daubert will review this with Chief Appel and report back to the board.

Minutes of November 11, 2013 regular monthly meeting were accepted as presented on Daubert/Wetzel motion and carried.

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

Bills were approved as presented for payment including those bills paid between meetings with the exception of the TRA Electric bill, secretary will call them for further information, can be paid prior to next month at the Chairman's discretion; on a Wetzel/Madara motion, motion carried unanimously.

CORRESPONDENCE

- Invitation was received for 98th Pennsylvania Farm Show and the 11th Annual Public Officials Day, Thursday, January 9, 2014.
- The Auditor General Liquid Fuels Tax Fund Examination Report for the period January 1, 2011 to December 31, 2012 was received with no instances of noncompliance.
- Northumberland County Conservation District Completeness Notification Letter Roseview Estates was received.
- Earth disturbance inspection report was received from DEP for property at junction of Montour and Bottle Roads.

COMMITTEE/DEPARTMENT REPORTS:

PLANNING – Harvey Boyer, Chairman

- Williams/Madara motioned to appoint Vince Daubert to fill the position on Planning Commission that became open when Wendy Shirvinski resigned effective December 31, 2013. The term will expire December 31, 2015. Motion carried with Daubert abstaining from the vote.

STREET DEPARTMENT – Williams

- Report was received
- Williams/Madara motioned to purchase a Case 580 Backhoe from Medico Industries, Wilkes-Barre for a price of \$62,650 which already includes a trade in value of \$25,250 for 98 John Deere

backhoe. Supervisor Williams and Roadmaster Shadduck in consultation with the Case representative will review warranty information prior to next meeting. Motion carried.

BUILDINGS – Major

- Chairman Major will follow up with those who responded to his request to contract to do maintenance and repair on the boilers in the Municipal Building and share this information with Mr. Springer as well.

ZONING OFFICER'S REPORT – Wetzel

- 9 permits were issued and \$810.00 in fees were collected during November and addressed 1 complaints for vehicle and issued (4) temporary burning permits.
- Permit fees were discussed. More next month.
- Wetzel/Madara motioned to have Code Officer initiate enforcement action on Fred Hummel's properties in the Township. Motion carried.

POLICE DEPARTMENT/PUBLIC SAFETY – Daubert

- Report was read.
- Harvey Boyer gave a review of the Ambulance service including a forecast for next year with an expected deficit of near \$22,000.
- Daubert/Williams motioned to disburse remaining 2014 budgeted amount of \$11,635.03 to the ambulance service. Motion carried.
- As president of the fire company Harvey Boyer also wanted to bring information to the board in regard to the future expense of radios needed to be updated with frequency change required by Northumberland County.
- Madara/Wetzel motioned to have Solicitor write a letter to Columbia County Commissioners and EMA Coordinator to allow radio contact with emergency personnel in the County. Harvey Boyer will provide the solicitor with more information on this matter. Motion carried.

RECREATION - Wetzel

- Madara/Major motioned to raise volleyball team fees next year to \$300 per team. Motion carried.

RECYCLING – Madara

- It was noted that recycling will be closed on Christmas Eve. All other hours will remain the same during the holiday season.

MANAGER'S REPORT

- Recycling containers: The three new containers have been delivered and were rotated in by Jeff's Recycling. We received a letter authorizing us to dispose of the old containers with the limitation that the money received should go back into the recycling program. Jeff's will provide a separate receipt showing the amount so that can be done. Wetzel/Williams motioned to have Jeff's Recycling dispose of the containers. Motion carried.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT

- Campground Ordinance was discussed after the solicitor sent it to Pat Mack, Northumberland County Planning, and he had a few minor comments.

ENGINEER’S REPORT

- Engineer met with Jamie Shrawder, SEDA-COG, Blaine Madara, Joe Springer to discuss CDBG phasing of stormwater project to help use money we have from the grant and future moneys for the next few years.

OLD BUSINESS:

- Resolution 2013-04 re-enacting current Act 511 taxes as advertised:

Per Capita	\$5
Occupation	100%
Real Estate Transfer	1%
Earned Income	1%
LST (formerly EMST)	\$52 on earnings exceeding \$12,000
TV Franchise	2%
Mechanical Amusement	\$50 per machine

Was adopted on a Daubert/Madara motion and carried unanimously.

- Proposed 2014 budget was posted for public inspection on November 14, 2013. Resolution 2013-5 establishing real estate taxes for 2014 as follows: general purposes 4-1/4 mills; fire protection ½ mill; equipment ½ mill and library ¼ mill; street lighting depending on location .20, .21, .32 or \$6.00. Madara motioned and Daubert seconded. Motion carried unanimously.
- Resolution 2013-06 adopting 2014 Budget was approved on Madara/Daubert motion and carried unanimously. General Fund anticipated receipts plus carry over from 2013 = \$1,384,422; budgeted expenditures = \$1,379,053 leaving a projected surplus of \$5,369. State Aid Fund anticipated receipts plus carry over from 2013 = \$246,249, budgeted expenditures of \$211,900 leaving a projected surplus of \$34,349.

NEW BUSINESS:

- Madara/Williams 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; and Chief Appel \$1.25/hr raise per contract; Charles Kowalchick, Buildings/Grounds, \$.50/hr raise, Mark Lyash, Code Officer, \$.50/hr raise and Joe Springer, Township Manager \$.50 raise. Motion carried.
- Vacancies for 2014 appointments were discussed.

CITIZEN INPUT – none

ADJOURNMENT – there being nothing further for discussion, meeting adjourned at approximately 9:40 p.m. on Daubert/Wetzel motion and carried.

Executive session for personnel matters was held.

Respectfully submitted,

Debra L. Olson
Ralpho Township Secretary