

**MINUTES - RALPHO TOWNSHIP SUPERVISORS**  
**REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING - MAY 8, 2012**  
*Held in Municipal Building Meeting Room, 206 S. Market St, Elysburg, PA*

*Chairman Wetzel called the meeting to order at 6:35 p.m. and led the recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag.*

*Chairman Wetzel announced that an executive session was held Monday evening and at 6 p.m. prior to tonight's regular meeting for personnel issues.*

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; Township Engineer Justin Keister (*arrived at 6:38 p.m.*), Roadmaster Howard Shaddock(*arrived at 6:48 p.m.*), Joshua and Jeremy Hoagland of Crossroads Group; and 2 interested citizens.

Toby Neff from TRA Electric was in attendance to speak about the repairs needed for the traffic signal at the intersection of 487 and 54.

Bidding process for Paving and Seal Coat Contracts was officially closed.

Bids for paving contract were opened, tabulated and considered (see tabulation sheet). Madara/Major motioned to accept the apparent low bid of \$87,943.75 from Meckley's Limestone for the Paving Contract. On the question: award is contingent upon bid meeting all legal, bonding and insurance requirements. Motion unanimously approved.

Bids for seal coat contract were opened, tabulated and considered (see tabulation sheet). Major/Daubert motioned to accept the apparent low bid of \$8,684.00 from Keystone Paving & Materials for the Seal Coat Contract. On the question: award is contingent upon bid meeting all legal, bonding and insurance requirements. Motion unanimously approved.

CITIZEN INPUT ON AGENDA ITEMS – Eddie Gappa was present to find out how to get a permit now with the absence of a Code Officer. He was asked to stay to the end of the meeting and the Supervisors along with Mr. Springer will help him at that time.

Minutes of April 10, 2012 regular 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 on a Madara/Major motion, motion carried unanimously.

**CORRESPONDENCE**

- Letter was received from Corson Quarries, Inc., Bear Gap Stone Division, as required by the 1990 Clean Air Act, that Contract Crushing, Inc. (sister company of Corson Quarries, Inc.) is applying for a DEP General Plan Approval & General Operating Permit (GP-3 for Portable Non-Metallic Mineral Processing Plant, and GP-9 for Diesel or No. 2 Fuel-Fired Internal Combustion Engines) to construct and operate at Corson Quarries, Inc., located in Ralpho Township. The item to be added to the permit is a Metso LT1213 Portable Track Mounted Crusher which will be

used to augment the already permitted Cone Crusher and the Portable Track Mounted Screening Plants. Adding this additional item will ensure they are able to keep up with customer's needs.

- Investment Summary Reports for period ending March 31, 2012 are in the Supervisor's office for review.
- Thank you to the Street Department was received from Joseph Lobos.
- Invitation was received to participate in the upcoming parade for the Anthracite Heritage Festival of the Arts on Friday, May 25.
- Letter was received from Rep. Kurt Masser in response to our letter regarding House Bill 1329 Prevailing Wage Act.
- Letter was received from Ralpho Youth Sports requesting our annual donation. Madara motioned and Williams seconded to release \$2,500 budgeted to Ralpho Township Youth Sports. Motion carried.

#### **COMMITTEE/DEPARTMENT REPORTS:**

##### **PLANNING –**

- No report.

##### **STREET DEPARTMENT – Daubert**

- Report was submitted.
- Madara/Daubert motioned to advertise cinder spreader for sale on Asset Auctions with guidance from the Solicitor and a reserve of \$900. Motion carried.
- Mowing on the tar and chip roads in the township was discussed. Roadmaster is going to just mow intersections and poor site areas as a cost savings measure. He will communicate with Chief Appel for any areas of concern as well.
- Detention pond ownership behind Philippines old bard in Pine Brook Development was discussed. Mr. Springer will look into finding original plans.
- An easement was discussed at Hemlock Lane for a pipe that is rusted out and will need to be replaced. Roadmaster has spoken to owner per Solicitor's request. Daubert/Williams motioned to proceed with easement with the hope of protecting our new pipe placed last year. Motion carried with Supervisor Major voting no.

##### **BUILDINGS – Madara**

- Wetzel/Daubert motioned to have Chief Appel go forward with changing over the phone/internet service in the Municipal Building to Service Electric for a 3 year contract and also as landlord require all people in the building to switch over with everyone seeing major savings. Motion carried unanimously.
- Air Conditioning at the Police Department was discussed. Supervisor Madara will bring more quotes back to the next meeting.

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

- 5 permits were issued and \$367.25 in fees were collected during April and issued several occupancy permits.
- Madara/Major motioned to accept the retirement/resignation of Howard Howal effective April 27, 2012. Mr. Howal was with the Township over 15 years. Motion carried.
- In the interim until a new Code Officer is in place normal permit issues will be handled by an application being filled out in the office and then speaking to Manager Springer, Chairman Wetzel or Vice Chairman Major to follow up.
- Madara/Daubert motioned to give Chairman or Vice Chairman permission to sign permits temporarily. Motion carried.

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

- Report was read.

## **RECREATION - Wetzel**

- Replacing trees in playground is on hold for now.
- Madara/Major motioned to allow Christian Missionary Alliance Church to have Fun Day June 9 from 1 to 4 p.m. in the playground. Motion carried. Church will provide proof of insurance and also sign a release.

## **RECYCLING – Williams**

- Williams/Madara motioned to allow Andrew Diehl to do community service for his senior project for High School. Motion carried.
- 902 Recycling Grant was discussed. Supervisor Williams has included a quote for 3 compartment container for glass and security system with tonight's electronic packet. Mr. Springer/Mr. Williams will continue to follow up on this.

## **MANAGER'S REPORT.**

- Mr. Springer spoke to Ken Wieser from FEMA this week and he has the paperwork he needs from the Township. We are on a list of those waiting at this point.
- Madara/ Williams motioned to have Chairman Wetzel write letter to Paul Dembowski, Senior Civil Engineer from Department of Environmental Protection, as requested by FEMA, stating history on both Kraze and Drumheller roads and to have Township Engineer move forward on permitting process for both roadways. Motion carried.

## **SOLICITOR'S REPORT**

- Kathy/Gerald Strausser lawsuit filed to mandate curbing on their property. Preliminary objections are due within 20 days of receiving paperwork. Supervisor Wetzel will follow up with Township Insurance agent if we haven't heard by the end of this week.
- South Street question brought up by Attorney Robert Dluge's office. After research by Solicitor and Township Secretary in minutes from back in 1973, etc. Solicitor will give Attorney Dluge a report on what was found in his research.

## **ENGINEER'S REPORT**

- Josh and Jeremy Hoagland, Whitetail Run Subdivision, were present to follow up on their plans that were initially submitted and accepted with conditions in November of 2008. Township Engineer and Solicitor have verified they have met all conditions with the exception of printing out plans and then collecting signatures. The Hoagland's discussed with the Board curbing in Subdivisions and AF Zone. The Supervisors are willing to look at a proposal for shoulders instead of curbing in their development. They were told to go through the Planning Commission with that proposal.

## **OLD BUSINESS:**

- none

## **NEW BUSINESS:**

- Wetzel/Madara motioned to advertise the fuel bid, with bids to be opened at the June 12, 2012 meeting. Motion carried.
- Madara/Major motioned to advertise the ordinance to join the Tri-County COG. Motion carried unanimously.

**CITIZEN INPUT** – Dean LaCrosse brought concerns about a tree on Clark Road/Reading Turnpike right of way on the property of his neighbor. His fear is that the tree will fall across the road and land on his house. Solicitor Kerstetter was asked to send the landowner a letter.

ADJOURNMENT – there being nothing further for discussion, meeting adjourned at approximately 8:55 p.m. on Daubert/Major motion and carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Debra L. Olson  
Ralpho Township Secretary