

**MINUTES - RALPHO TOWNSHIP SUPERVISORS**  
**REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING - JULY 10, 2012**  
**Held in Municipal Building Meeting Room, 206 S. Market St, Elysburg, PA**

**Chairman Wetzel called the meeting to order at 6:32 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; Police Chief Stu Appel; Township Engineer Justin Keister (*arrived at 6:44 p.m.*); Roadmaster Howard Shaddock; Harvey Boyer, Planning Commission Chairman; Debra Eliassen, Shamokin News-Item; Josh Hoagland Crossroads Group; and 4 interested citizens.

Bidding process for spreader was officially closed. No bids were received for spreader that was advertised for sale.

Williams/Major motioned to take spreader to Jeff's Recycling for scrap. Motion carried.

CITIZEN INPUT ON AGENDA ITEMS – none

Minutes of June 12, 2012 regular meeting were accepted as presented on Major/Madara 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 Major/Williams motion, motion carried unanimously.

**CORRESPONDENCE**

- Notice of Northumberland County Blight Task Force meeting Friday, July 13, 2012, 11 a.m. was received.
- Letter was received from Light-Heigel & Associates to give notice that UGI Utilities will be applying for permitting associated with the construction of a gas main along State Route 61 and Bridge Street in Shamokin, Ralpho and Coal Townships in Northumberland County.

**COMMITTEE/DEPARTMENT REPORTS:**

**PLANNING – Chairman Harvey Boyer**

- Madara/Wetzel motioned to give Paul A. McDermott Add-on Subdivision a 60 day extension. Motion carried.
- Discussion on Whitetail Run Subdivision plans brought before planning commission with a possibility of a waiver of the curbing in the subdivision. Josh Hoagland from Crossroads Group did address the issues brought up by Harvey Boyer and the Board of Supervisors. The plans will be brought back to the Planning Commission at the next meeting taking into consideration the concerns of the Township Engineer.
- Campground ordinance is in the hands of Solicitor and he will make some recommendations to the Planning Commission prior to their next meeting.
- Danson Subdivision prior approval conditions were discussed. Madara/Daubert motioned to modify the conditional approval for Danson Subdivision by removing the condition that deals with maintaining the right of way. Motion carried.

Richard Gusick, Henry Augustine and 3 other citizens were in attendance at the meeting in regard to an issue with a cottage in Reeder's Grove. Madara/Major motioned to have Code Officer Lyash send a letter of enforcement back to the original modification of the Zoning Hearing Board to Ray and Susan Marino property owners at Reeder's Grove who are out of compliance from a variance from 1994. Motion carried

**STREET DEPARTMENT – Daubert**

- Report was submitted.
- Detention pond ownership behind Philippines old barn in Pine Brook Development was discussed. Board Supervisors will look at site after meeting tonight and will be brought up at next meeting.
- July 16th, 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> SCI Prisoner trash detail will be in the township.
- Base repair paving on Overlook Boulevard has been completed with top coat to be done 1<sup>st</sup> or 2<sup>nd</sup> week of August
- Wetzel/Madara motioned to have solicitor send a letter to Meckley's Limestone telling them we expect reimbursement for the stone and Township man power used for base repair work at paving site. Motion carried.

**BUILDINGS – Madara**

- Madara/Wetzel motioned to purchase a 3 ton air conditioning unit from Dave’s HVAC at a price of \$5,330 for the police department. Motion carried.
- Madara/ motioned to have Landscaping Services Inc. of Locust Gap, with proof of insurance, do tree trimming, etc. in the playground and building areas for \$856. Motion carried.

**ZONING OFFICER’S REPORT – Madara**

- 7 permits were issued and \$755.52 in fees were collected during June. 2 swimming pool complaints, one junk complaint, 3 grass complaints and one burning complaint were addressed.

**POLICE DEPARTMENT/PUBLIC SAFETY – Major**

- Report was read.
- Traffic signal repair has not taken place as of yet.
- Red Light Enforcement grant was submitted by Township Manager to update the traffic light.

**RECREATION - Wetzel**

- none

**RECYCLING – Williams**

- 902 Recycling Grant has been submitted by Supervisor Williams and Manager Springer.

**MANAGER’S REPORT.**

- FEMA update was given by Mr. Springer. Project worksheets were completed. Roads other than Drumheller and Craze could total a reimbursement of \$27,000 for roads already repaired and Drumheller and Craze are in mitigation. Mr. Springer is in contact with Ken Weiser with FEMA for help with Drumheller and Craze Roads.
- There was an emergency meeting last night of the Columbia County Tax Committee and Mr. Springer attended. Complaints with Central Tax doing tax collection to this point will be directed to the secretary of the committee and will be forwarded to Centax. This will be looked into by the committee at the August meeting. The Township estimates to be behind nearly \$60,000 in earned income tax so far because of the problems with Central Tax doing the collection.
- Manager and Engineer met with Jamie Shrawder from SEDA-COG about CDBG Grant and surveyed the area behind Market Street for possible stormwater project. Mr. Springer will be knocking on doors to survey residents at those properties affected.
- Chairman Wetzel asked Mr. Springer to give a synopsis of revenue and expenses for first 6 months of the year. His professional opinion is that we are doing somewhat better this year because of the large zoning permit issued in May and also because of the increase in Occupation Tax for the Township.

**SOLICITOR’S REPORT**

- Major/Madara motioned to advertise updated solid waste ordinance. Motion carried unanimously.
- Liquor Control Board has informed us that the Township is no longer allowed to file for an exemption for noise outside establishments.

**ENGINEER’S REPORT**

- All topics discussed earlier in the meeting.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

- none

**NEW BUSINESS:**

- Madara/Major motioned to make a \$25 donation to Ralpho Township Library in memory of Dolores Herring, Supervisor Wetzel’s Mother-in-law. Motion carried. Mr. Wetzel abstained from voting and thanked the board for their support.
- Chairman Wetzel appointed Township Manager Springer, Supervisor Daubert and Supervisor Williams to the negotiating committee for the AFSCME contract which is due to expire December 31, 2012. Secretary will inform AFSCME Union office.
- Library lights were discussed and will update next month.

**CITIZEN INPUT – none**

ADJOURNMENT – there being nothing further for discussion, meeting adjourned at approximately 8:15 p.m. on Daubert/Williams motion and carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Debra L. Olson  
Ralpho Township Secretary