

MINUTES - RALPHO TOWNSHIP SUPERVISORS
REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING - DECEMBER 11, 2012
Held in Municipal Building Meeting Room, 206 S. Market St, Elysburg, PA

Chairman Wetzel 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; Police Chief Stu Appel; Township Engineer Justin Keister (*arrived 6:45 p.m.*); Roadmaster Howard Shadduck; Mark Gilger and Stephanie Geise, *Shamokin News-Item*; and no citizens.

CITIZEN INPUT ON AGENDA ITEMS – none

Minutes of November 13, 2012 regular meeting were accepted as presented on Major/Daubert 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 on a Williams/Daubert motion, motion carried unanimously.

CORRESPONDENCE

- Tax claim petition for distribution was received for Parcel No. 040-00-051-037-C from an upset sale. The Township will receive taxes with penalties and interest for 2010, 2011 and 2012.
- Shadduck family sent a thank you for turkey that was provided for the Thanksgiving holiday.
- Bill Brior, SEO, letter to consider him for re-appointment next year.
- PA DOT Letter for better communication between permit unit and local municipal planning agencies was received.
- Univest letter was received in regard to Professional Services Contract Provisions of Act 44 of 2009 Resolution. Madara/Wetzel motioned to adopt Resolution 2012-13 adopting written procedures governing how professional services are chosen for its Pension Plans. Motion carried.

COMMITTEE/DEPARTMENT REPORTS:

PLANNING – Chairman Harvey Boyer

- none

STREET DEPARTMENT – Daubert

- Report was submitted.
- Williams/Daubert motioned to purchase 6 tires for the Ford 550 from Bastian Tire and Auto for the price of \$1,845 under the state contract. Motion carried.

BUILDINGS – Madara

- Lighting in the Police Department will be replaced by Lenape Solar on December 13 and 14; and in the Library on December 17.

ZONING OFFICER’S REPORT – Madara

- 4 permits were issued and \$398.75 in fees were collected during November. Addressed 8 complaints: junk, burning, tree, pool, vehicle, code violations. Issued 3 burning permits.

- Mr. Lyash gave an update on the Zoning Hearing Board decision from November for Susan Marino.
- Madara/Major motioned to authorize the filing of a petition for intervention on ZHB appeal by Susan Marino. Motion carried.
- Letter was received from Department of Commerce about boundary and annexation survey. Mr. Lyash will respond there have been no changes and he will request maps to review at no charge.

POLICE DEPARTMENT/PUBLIC SAFETY – Major

- Report was read.
- There was a cruiser deer accident on Thursday, December 6. Insurance will take care of repairs with \$250 deductible.

RECREATION - Wetzel

- Roadmaster Shadduck ordered parts for the water fountain for the gymnasium. It should be repaired in next few days. Also a fountain was donated from Drug Plastics and Glass and a thank you will be sent. This will be kept for backup at this time.
- Major/Madara motioned to allow Meadowview Christian School to use the gym on (1/11, 1/25, 2/8, 2/22, 3/8, 3/22) from 1:30 to 2:30 p.m. Motion carried.
- Gym floor will be refinished with a top scrub and re-coat; gym will be closed from December 30 until January 2.

RECYCLING – Williams

- Closed for Christmas and New Year's Day.

MANAGER'S REPORT

- none

SOLICITOR'S REPORT

- Liquor Control Board music exemption was granted through November 30, 2015.
- Solicitor updated the Board on Strausser v. Ralpho Township which is being handled by the attorneys for our insurance company. The Township has won the case and the case has been dismissed. They do have the right to appeal within 30 days.

ENGINEER'S REPORT

- Drumheller and Craze roads. Engineer Keister is still working on DEP permits to bid construction in the spring.
- Larson Design requests to continue to be Township Engineer next year. Rates were discussed. Reappointment will take place next month. Engineer Keister did point out that there is a set fee of \$200 per meeting with no additional mileage or expenses included.

OLD BUSINESS:

- Resolution 2012-10 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 Madra/Major motion and carried unanimously.

- Proposed 2013 budget was posted for public inspection on November 15, 2012. Resolution 2012-11 establishing real estate taxes for 2013 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 \$6.17. Major motioned and Daubert seconded. Motion carried unanimously.
- Resolution 2012-12 adopting 2013 Budget was approved on Williams/Madara motion and carried unanimously. General Fund anticipated receipts plus carry over from 2012 = \$1,311,620; budgeted expenditures = \$1,302,181 leaving a projected surplus of \$9,439. State Aid Fund anticipated receipts plus carry over from 2012 = \$212,497, budgeted expenditures of \$178,900 leaving a projected surplus of \$33,597.

NEW BUSINESS:

- Daubert/Major motioned to approved advertising for meeting dates of Ralpho Township Supervisors meeting to be the 2nd Tuesday of month beginning at 6:30 p.m. and for Planning Commission meetings to be 1st Tuesday of month beginning at 6:30 p.m., with the January Planning Commission meeting being held Tuesday, January 8; and also to authorize advertising January's reorganizational and regular monthly meeting for Monday, January 7, 2013 beginning at 6:30 p.m. Approval was unanimous.
- Discussion took place on the positions that will be open for appointment at the January Reorganizational meeting. There is an open position for MASO.

CITIZEN INPUT – none

Chairman Wetzel announced that there would be an executive session for personnel issues and possible litigation at 7:05 p.m. Meeting reconvened at 7:47 p.m.

- Williams/Major motioned to accept the tentative Collective Bargaining Agreement with AFSCME effective January 1, 2013 through December 31, 2015. Motion carried.
- Madara/Major motioned to authorize Township Manager Springer to ask the actuary to calculate the cost of the two changes for the non-uniform contract: increase the current 1 ¼ percent by .10 percent each year of the contract and drop the current vesting years from 10 to 8 years. Motion carried.

ADJOURNMENT – there being nothing further for discussion, meeting adjourned at approximately 7:49 p.m. on a Daubert/Williams motion and carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Debra L. Olson
Ralpho Township Secretary