

**MINUTES - RALPHO TOWNSHIP SUPERVISORS MEETING - NOVEMBER 8, 2011**  
**Held in Municipal Building Meeting Room, 206 S. Market St, Elysburg, PA**

**Chairman Edward Payeskie called the meeting to order at 6:32 p.m. and led the recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag.**

**Chairman Payeskie asked for a moment of silence to honor veterans.**

Attending were: Supervisors Blaine Madara (*arrived at 6:40 p.m.*), Ed Payeskie, William Wetzel, Stephen Major and Vincent Daubert. Also attending were: Township Manager Joseph Springer, Solicitor Todd Kerstetter, Township Secretary/Treasurer Debra Olson; Code Office Howard Howal; Township Engineer Justin Keister (*arrived at 6:45 p.m.*), Police Chief Stu Appel, Roadmaster Howard Shadduck, Bill Seigel from SEDA-COG, Debra Eliassen from the Shamokin *News Item*; and 4 interested citizens.

Bill Seigel from SEDA-COG gave a presentation on CDGB grant opportunities for Ralpho Township. He and Manager Springer will discuss further.

CITIZEN INPUT ON AGENDA ITEMS – none

Minutes of October 11, 2011 regular monthly meeting and October 25 budget session meeting were accepted as presented on Major/Daubert motion and carried.

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

Bills were approved as presented for payment, including those bills paid between meetings on a Major/Payeskie motion, motion carried unanimously.

Wetzel/Daubert motioned to move funds from the equipment account to cover the invoice from R.W. Maust for the 450 Ford Truck Repairs. Motion carried.

**CORRESPONDENCE**

- Thank you was received from Renelle Wetzel and family.
- Notice of tax hearing denial on property at 234 Hemlock Road was received.
- Notice of tax hearing assessment change was received on property at 147 Lawrence Avenue.
- Notice of Shamokin Coal Township Joint Sewer Authority GP4 Intake and Outfall structure permit was received.
- Northridge Group Incorporated submitted notice of intent to remediate & a final report summary to DEP.
- PSATS Notice Gov. Corbett signed House Bill 278 increasing bid limits townships must comply with when making purchases was received. Effective January 1<sup>st</sup> phone bids will be required if over \$10,000 and the bidding process must take place for \$18,500 and above.
- Note was received from township resident Joe Pechulis thanking Roadmaster Howard Shadduck and crew.
- Northumberland County Department of Public Safety letter invitation to Hazard Vulnerability Assessment and Hazard Mitigation Plan Stakeholder Kick-off Meeting was received.
- Request to use meeting room to negotiate contract was received from Teamsters Local 764 and Corson Quarries representatives. Madara/Wetzel motioned to allow them to use the facilities for \$25 per hour. Motion carried with Supervisor Payeskie voting no.

- 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter 2011 Investment Reports from pensions were received from TCG Investment and are available for review in the Township Office.

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

##### **PLANNING – Chairman Harvey Boyer and Vice Chairman Mark Lyash**

- Madara/Wetzel motioned to adopt Resolution #2011-09 Plan Revision for New Land Development for Roseview Estates Sewage Module. Motion carried.
- Madara/Payeskie motioned to take the recommendation of the Planning Commission and approve the Roseview Estates Preliminary/Final Subdivision plans dated September 8, 2011, contingent upon solicitor's receipt of a signed development agreement, revised plans with the updated on-lot storm water language delivered to the Township, and it is understood that the financial security required under section 305(5) for final approval will be exchanged for the signed plans at closing on the first lot being sold. Motion carried with Supervisor Major voting no.
- Wetzel/Daubert motioned to take the recommendation of the Planning Commission and give preliminary approval to Danson Enterprises LLC Major Subdivision, contingent upon solicitor's receipt of a signed development agreement, revised plans showing fire hydrant placement per the discussion with your engineer, Jeremiah Hoagland, and placement of a note on the plans to inform future buyers that they will be responsible for upkeep of right of ways adjoining their properties. Motion carried unanimously.

##### **STREET DEPARTMENT – Payeskie**

- Georgetta Schaffer and her husband from 136 Craze Rd attended the meeting and asked when Craze Rd would be repaired from flood damage. After much discussion they were informed of the possibly great cost to repair the road and that the Township is considering vacating the road as an option. At this point the Township is waiting for confirmation from sources at the County/State/Federal level as to how much reimbursement the Township could possibly receive for repairs. The Board told them they may want to attend future meetings for updates on the process.
- Madara/Daubert motioned to hire Jim Reynolds as part-time snow removal employee on an as needed, if needed basis. Motion carried. Supervisor Wetzel abstained.
- Wetzel/Madara approved Howard Shaddock, Roadmaster, to attend Roadmasters Round Up class on December 13 at Point Township and to include covering the price of his lunch. Motion carried.
- Craze, Hower and Drumheller Road are still in need of repair from flood damage from September. The Township is still waiting on confirmation from sources at the County/State/Federal level as to how much reimbursement the Township could possibly receive for repairs on all three Township Roads.

##### **BUILDINGS – Daubert**

- none

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

- 6 permits were issued and \$546 in fees were collected during October and issued several occupancy permits.

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

- Report was read.

- TRA Electric Incorporated was in the Township today to repair the traffic light and they will be forwarding an estimate to Chief Appel in the near future. An approximate cost could be near \$2,500, because one of the loops has an electrical short.

### **RECREATION - Wetzel**

- Playground bathrooms were closed as of October 25.
- Madara/Payeskie motioned to charge CYO and Tiger Youth Basketball \$450 per team for gym rent. Motion carried.
- Madara/Payeskie motioned to charge \$50 for first hour and \$25 thereafter to rent gym for birthday parties, etc. Motion carried.
- Supervisor Wetzel updated the Board on what items were purchased with memorials that were received in memory of Chris Fox. A new controller for the time clock, a possession arrow, a new portable clock and a volley ball net, along with a plaque honoring Chris and small brass plates to place on the items to make people aware of the memorials.
- Swipe cards and keys holders for the gym will be updated by Supervisor Wetzel with the secretary.
- Supervisor Madara will look into why the lights at basketball and tennis are not working. It may be that they are full of change and need to be emptied.

### **RECYCLING – Major**

- none

### **MANAGER'S REPORT**

- Mr. Springer got quotes from other providers for health insurance with possible minor cost savings. Discussion took place on deductibles and reimbursements. This will be discussed further.
- Township Manager Springer and Solicitor Kerstetter received paperwork for a line of credit from M&T bank. Daubert/Wetzel motioned to approve Mr. Springer to sign the commitment form. Motion carried unanimously.
- Payeskie/Wetzel adopted Resolution #2011-10 to designate Mr. Springer as the FEMA Applicant's Agent for the Township. Motion carried.
- MART may choose to have Mr. Springer as applicant agent as well. He will inform their board.
- It is energy provider renewal time. Madara/Major continue to have Exelon as provider for next year at a rate of \$.705 per kw or less. Motion carried.
- Act 32 EIT change in collectors. Centax will be the new EIT collector per the act starting January 2012. There would be a cost savings for collection if we have Centax be the collector of the LST tax as well. We have a 90 day cancellation notice with Berkheimer, our current collector, right now, so MR. Springer will look into contacting Berkheimer to cancel the contract. The Board was in favor of doing this.

### **SOLICITOR'S REPORT**

- Covered earlier in meeting.

### **ENGINEER'S REPORT**

- Covered earlier in meeting.

### **OLD BUSINESS:**

- Mr. Shadduck spoke to Henry Hynoski about honoring him and he will be more available in January. Mr. Hynoski was touched by the gesture.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

- Proposed Budget - Authorize advertising and posting proposed 2012 budget was approved on a Wetzel/Major motion. Motion carried. Real estate taxes will remain the same at 4-1/2 mills; i.e. general purposes 3-1/4 mills; fire protection 1/2 mill; equipment 1/2 mill and library 1/4 mill; street lighting per assessment formula. General Fund anticipated receipts plus carry over from 2011 = \$1,233,595; budgeted expenditures = \$1,219,917 leaving a projected surplus of \$13,678. State Aid Fund anticipated receipts plus carry over from 2011 = \$188,179, budgeted expenditures of \$178,900 leaving a projected surplus of \$9,279.

Proposed Budget – Authorize advertising Act 511 taxes as follows

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

**CITIZEN INPUT – none**

There was an executive session following the meeting for possible litigation issues.

ADJOURNMENT – there being nothing further for discussion, meeting adjourned at approximately 8:40 p.m. on Wetzel/Major motion and carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Debra L. Olson  
Ralpho Township Secretary