

MINUTES - RALPHO TOWNSHIP SUPERVISORS MEETING - DECEMBER 13, 2011
Held in Municipal Building Meeting Room, 206 S. Market St, Elysburg, PA

Chairman Payeskie 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 Blaine Madara, Ed Payeskie William Wetzel, Stephen Major and Vincent Daubert(arrived at 6:34 p.m.). Also attending were: Township Manager Joseph Springer, Solicitor Todd Kerstetter, Township Secretary/Treasurer Debra Olson; Code Office Howard Howal; Township Engineer Justin Keister, Police Chief Stu Appel, Roadmaster Howard Shaddock, Debra Eliassen from the Shamokin News Item; and 4 interested citizens.

Chairman Payeskie welcomed Dan Williams who was in the crowd; he will take the oath of office at the January 3rd, 2012 meeting. Payeskie also took a moment to congratulate the Southern Columbia, Shamokin and Mount Carmel football teams for making it into the State playoffs this year. Good Luck to Southern Columbia as they play for the Class A State Championship on Friday, December 16th.

CITIZEN INPUT ON AGENDA ITEMS – Al Knerr and Mr. and Mrs. Schaffer were in attendance requesting information on the status of Craze Road. The Township is waiting on information in regard to possible reimbursement from PEMA and FEMA.

Minutes of November 8, 2011 regular monthly meeting were accepted as presented on Madara/Major motion and carried.

TREASURER’S REPORT was accepted as presented on Wetzel/Daubert motion and carried.

Bills were approved as presented for payment, including those bills paid between meetings and the transfer of money from the Equipment Fund to the General Fund to cover \$5,645 expense of pickup spreader on a Major/Madara motion, motion carried unanimously.

CORRESPONDENCE

- Thank you for the leaf service was received from Jeanne Shutt.
- PSATS New Township Emergency Management Association information was received.
- Notice was received of a final report from DEP on Schulykill Distributors remediation of site at Bottle Drive and Highway 487.
- Anti-Defamation League letter was received regarding guidelines for holiday decorating.
- Notice was received from Aqua in regard to a proposed rate increase.
- Notice from Benesch Engineering was received informing us they have submitted application for NPDES Permit Renewal for the Municipal Authority of Ralpho Township.
- Notice from the Ralpho Township Business Association was received alerting the Township residents that this year Saturday, January 7 they will be having curb side Christmas tree pick up. Residents should have them at the curb by 9 a.m. with a donation attached to the tree.

COMMITTEE/DEPARTMENT REPORTS:

PLANNING – Chairman Harvey Boyer

- None

STREET DEPARTMENT – Payeskie

- Report was read.

BUILDINGS – Daubert

- none

ZONING OFFICER’S REPORT – Daubert

- 2 permits were issued and \$145 in fees were collected during November and issued several occupancy permits.
- Notice was received from Zoning Hearing Board Solicitor Robert Dluge that the decision for the application filed by Carmel of Jesus, Mary and Joseph of Elysburg, PA, Inc. will be rendered on Thursday, December 15, 2011 at 7 p.m. at his office.

POLICE DEPARTMENT/PUBLIC SAFETY – Madara

- Report was read.
- TRA Electric Incorporated will get back to Chief Appel in the near future with an approximate cost because one of the loops has an electrical short.

RECREATION - Wetzel

- Gym floor will be refinished by 3B over the holiday break on the night of the 28th.

RECYCLING – Major

- Holiday hours for recycling are normal, with the exception of being closed on Saturday, December 24th.

MANAGER’S REPORT

- CDBG Grant was discussed. Mr. Springer will meet with the State Representative from CDBG.
- LST tax will continue to be collected by Berkheimer, Inc. and if we want to change to Centax for next year we will need to do that in September of 2012.

SOLICITOR’S REPORT

- Madara/Wetzel motioned to adopt Resolution 2011-14 to allocate costs and expenses of administering the PA Construction Code Act, Act 45 of 1999. Motion carried.
- Major/Daubert motioned to adopt Resolution 2011-15 authorizing tax and revenue anticipation note line of credit with M&T Bank. Motion carried.

ENGINEER’S REPORT

- Covered earlier in meeting.
- Engineering Rates for 2012 were discussed. Engineer will be reappointed at January Reorganizational Meeting.

OLD BUSINESS:

- Resolution 2011-11 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 Madara/Wetzel motion and carried.

- Proposed 2012 budget was posted for public inspection on November 14, 2011. Resolution 2011-12 establishing Real estate taxes for 2012 as follows: general purposes 3-1/4 mills; fire protection ½ mill; equipment ½ mill and library ¼ mill; street lighting depending on location .20, .21, .32 or \$6.17. Wetzel motioned and Major seconded. Motion carried unanimously.
- Resolution 2011-13 adopting 2012 Budget was approved on Madara/Major motion and carried unanimously. General Fund anticipated receipts including projected carry over from 2011 = \$1,233,595; budgeted expenditures = \$1,219,917 leaving a projected surplus of \$13,678. State Aid Fund anticipated receipts including projected carry over from 2011 = \$188,179, budgeted expenditures of \$178,900 leaving a projected surplus of \$9,279.
- Wetzel/Daubert motioned to approve advertising for meeting dates of Ralpho Township Supervisors meeting to be 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. and also to authorize advertising January's reorganization and regular monthly meeting for Tuesday, January 3, 2012 beginning at 6:30 p.m. Approval was unanimous.

NEW BUSINESS:

- Wetzel/Daubert to release \$10,000 of the budgeted amount to the Elysburg Ambulance Service. Motion carried.
- Daubert/Major motioned to adopt the Collective Bargaining Agreement with the police department effective January 2012 through December 2014. Motion carried.
- Payeskie/Madara motioned to purchase Christmas hams for all full and part-time regular employees. Motion carried.
- Madara/Daubert motioned to hire Edward Payeskie, Jr., as part-time snow plow driver at \$11.00 per hour. Motion carried, with Payeskie abstaining.
- Resignation from Zoning Hearing Board was tabled until the January meeting.
- Discussion took place on the positions that will be open for appointment at the January Reorganizational meeting. There is an opening for an auditor, one position on the Municipal Authority of Ralph Township and one position on the Municipal Authority of Sunnyside and Overlook. Chairman asked Supervisors to come up with people for the positions by next meeting. Supervisor Major is willing to take the seat on the Municipal Authority of Ralpho Township.

CITIZEN INPUT – none

Supervisor Madara thanked Chairman Payeskie on behalf of the taxpayers for his 12 years of service to Ralpho Township. Mr. Payeskie stated it has been a pleasure serving and he has learned a great deal.

ADJOURNMENT – there being nothing further for discussion, meeting adjourned at approximately 7:45 p.m. on Daubert/Major motion and carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Debra L. Olson
Ralpho Township Secretary