

MINUTES - RALPHO TOWNSHIP SUPERVISORS
REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING - SEPTEMBER 12, 2017
Held in Municipal Building Meeting Room, 206 S. Market St., Elysburg, PA

Chairman Daubert 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, Stephen Major, Daniel Williams and Vincent Daubert; Supervisor William Wetzel was absent. Also attending were: Township Manager Joseph Springer, Solicitor Todd Kerstetter, Code Officer Mark Lyash; Township Engineer Drew Barton; Township Secretary/Treasurer Debra Olson; Police Chief Stu Appel; Roadmaster Howard Shaddock; Ron Bittner Uninvest Municipal Pension Services; and 20 interested citizens.

Corporal Chowka was present at the meeting to receive a promotion to Sergeant with the Ralpho Township Police Department. Many friends and family were in attendance to honor him.

Dale E. Lahr, member of the Elysburg Fire Department completed training to become a Fire Police Officer. The board is authorized under the Second Class Township Code to make this appointment and confirm Mr. Lahr as a fire police officer. Madara/Williams motioned to give him the oath, motion carried. The Oath was given by Chairman Daubert.

CITIZEN INPUT ON AGENDA ITEMS – none

Ron Bittner, Uninvest, presented on pension plans.

Major/Williams motioned to advise Uninvest Municipal Service to use scenario #3 by reducing long-term interest rate from 8% to 7.75% and also the salary scale from 5% to 4.75% for the 2017 filing. Motion carried.

2018 MMO's – Police and Non-Uniformed Pension Plans. Motion to approve MMO's as follows: Police Pension Plan = \$80,974 and Non-Uniformed Pension Plan = \$21,385 was made by Daubert/Madara and motion carried.

Minutes of August 8, 2017 regular monthly meeting were accepted as presented on Williams/Major motion and carried.

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

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

COMMITTEE/DEPARTMENT REPORTS:

CORRESPONDENCE

- Northumberland County Conservation District permit authorization for Brian Hubler residence was received.
- DEP letter regarding Transcontinental Pipe Line Erosion and Sediment Control E&S Permit application notice was received for Atlantic Sunrise Project.
- DEP letter regarding Transcontinental Pipe Line Water and Encroachment Permit was received for Atlantic Sunrise Project.
- An email from Dave Brennan regarding Traffic Signal and the response he got from PennDot were received.
- Lions Club International information for a start up club in Ralpho Township was received.

PLANNING COMMISSION – Harvey Boyer, Chairman

- Williams/Madara motioned to give Final Approval for Sheetz Land Development Plan with all previous conditions met and give approval for Supervisors to sign signature sheets when they arrive in the office. Motion carried unanimously.

- Madara/Major motioned to follow the recommendation of the Planning Commission and approved the Edward & Deanna Ciocco Final Add-on Subdivision. Motion carried.
- Major/Daubert motioned to follow the recommendation of the Planning Commission and approved the Michael Francis & Joyce Otto Mychak Final Minor Subdivision. Motion carried.
- Gallina sketch plan on Hillside Avenue was discussed.

STREET DEPARTMENT – Williams

- Report was received.
- Horizon Drive is receiving damage from each rain and has been ongoing for over 10 years. Roadmaster recommends that we get this on the list for next year's paving. He would like engineer to review the area for water flow prior to putting the road out for spring bid. Brad Klebon and Nathan Rosco residents on Horizon Drive were present with concerns as well. Madara/Major motioned to have engineer review for drainage, etc. Motion carried.
- Major/Williams motioned to purchase 2 backhoe tires from Weaver Tire for price of \$1,357. Motion carried.
- Crack sealing will start in the Township in about two weeks.
- Supervisors were in favor of adding required use of milling machine to contract for paving in the future.

BUILDINGS – Daubert

- Madara/Major motioned to ratify purchase of fan from Big Ass Solutions for gymnasium at a price of \$9,460. Motion carried with Supervisor Williams voting against. Roadmaster Shaddock will look into electrician to do the installation.
- Mr. Daubert will check with a couple local contractors for window air conditioner wall repair in library.

RECREATION - Madara

- Basketball and volleyball will start up soon. Supervisor Madara will be in contact with people in charge of the programs.

ZONING OFFICER'S REPORT – Major

- 8 permits were issued and \$735.00 in fees were collected during August. 27 permits were closed, 21 letters of correspondence were sent, 8 complaints were received for vehicles, trash, dumping, dangerous structures, etc.
- County mitigation plan was explained by Code Officer Lyash with him stating he could not find a negative to joining the plan. He will move forward and report back to the Board.
- CBRE information request was received. No action was taken.

POLICE DEPARTMENT/PUBLIC SAFETY – Daubert

- Report was read.
- Madara/Williams motioned to promote Officer Matthew Filarski to Patrolmen III retroactive to August 4, 2017, as per contract after successful probation period of 1 year. Motion carried.
- Notice was received from Ralpho Township Police Association requesting arbitration. This will be referred to the negotiation committee.

RECYCLING – Williams

- Gate for recycling center is in production.

MANAGER'S REPORT

- Madara/Majors motioned to change credit card to best card available to the Township. Motion carried.
- Geisinger Health Plan was discussed for renewal November 1st. Police negotiations are currently affecting this as well.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT

- Major/Williams motioned to return \$1,000 storm water escrow on completed lot in Roseview Estates, Lot #3 owned by Christian Heiser. Motion carried.

ENGINEER'S REPORT

- Report received
- Traffic study was discussed. Jesse Smith from Drive Engineering was present to give more details. Supervisors wish to move forward with timing that will help with the traffic and also for Manager Springer to apply for the Green Light Go grant with any help required by Jessie Smith. Jesse will get his rate sheet to the office for the Board to review.
- Madara/Daubert motioned to approve Sekora Brothers to do Ralpho Township Phase two storm water channel. Motion carried. Madara/Williams motioned to authorize the engineer to issue notice to proceed. Motion carried. A preconstruction meeting will take place in a few weeks with work starting in the spring.

OLD BUSINESS:

- none

NEW BUSINESS:

- JP Marinari, Ralpho Township All Homes Days Association was present to discuss what will happen if the association would dissolve in the future per the association bylaws. Board is okay with the land of All Home Days coming to the Township in the case of the association dissolving. Solicitor Kerstetter will work with the organization on behalf of the Township.
- Major/Williams motioned to have Trick or Treat night in the Township on Tuesday, October 31 from 5 to 8 p.m. Motion carried.

CITIZEN INPUT – none

Joe Zack, 6 Tioga Street, a paper street off of Alpha Ave was at meeting asking for help to make homeowner at 137 Alpha Ave clean up her property. The owner of the property has been sent to the magistrate once. Supervisors gave Code Officer approval to cite the property owner up to 3 to 5 times per week.

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

Executive session was held for land acquisition and personnel.

Respectfully submitted,

Debra L. Olson
Ralpho Township Secretary