

**MINUTES - RALPHO TOWNSHIP SUPERVISORS REGULAR MEETING**

**April 10, 2007 – 6:30 PM**

**Held in Municipal Building Meeting Room, 30 S. Market Street, Elysburg, PA 17824**

*Chairman Shadduck called meeting to order at 6:30 PM and led the group in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag. Responding to roll call were: Supervisors Madara, Payeskie, Shadduck and Wetzel. Supervisor Horne was absent due to illness. Also attending were Solicitor Todd Kerstetter, Engineer Michele Klopff, Police Chief Stu Appel, Roadmaster Bill Hoy, Township Manager Joe Springer, Code/Zoning/Planning Chairman Howard Howal, Township Secretary/Treasurer Joan Baskin, Mr. & Mrs. Jim Williams and family members, several interested citizens and member of the media.*

Shadduck announced that an Executive Session was held tonight immediately prior to regular meeting to discuss personnel matters.

In recognition of fifty (50) years of barbering in Ralpho Township and his many years of service to the youth and residents of Ralpho Township, Mr. Jim “Steck” Williams was presented with a citation declaring **Saturday, April 14, 2007 and Jim “Steck” Williams Day in Ralpho Township.**

**CITIZEN INPUT ON AGENDA ITEMS** – Mr. Larry Lahr representing Nextel told the Supervisors of the plan to install an additional antenna on an existing cell tower.

Shadduck declared the bidding process closed for 2007 supplies of stone and oil. Bids were opened and read. Results are listed on attached tabulation. Payeskie/Wetzel motion to accept apparent low bids of Corson Quarries in the amount of \$24,593.50 for stone supplies and Keystone Paving & Materials for CRS Seal Coat carried. On the question: approval is contingent upon all the required bonds and other paper work being in order.

**MINUTES** of March 13, 2007 Regular meeting were approved are presented on Madara/Wetzel motion and carried.

**TREASURER’S REPORT** was accepted as presented on Payeskie/Madara motion and carried. The 2007 State Aid Funds in the amount of \$134,666.75 were received on April 1<sup>st</sup> and will be included in next month’s Treasurer’s report.

**BILLS** were approved for payment as presented on Payeskie/Madara motion and carried.

**CORRESPONDENCE: None**

**COMMITTEE/DEPARTMENT REPORTS:**

**STREET DEPARTMENT –WETZEL**

- Consider Street Paving - Roadmaster was authorized to have our PaDOT rep Don Free spec out bid for paving as follows: W. Center St.; Orchard St; Terrace (now Beaver); Cherry (now Greene); Red Hill Lane; Overlook Blvd.; Poplar (now

- Clarion), Spruce (now Susquehanna); Chestnut (now Fayette) and Coolidge and the rear parking lot. Spec to include base coat on Kase Street.
- Street Department personnel were authorized to attend 8<sup>th</sup> Annual equipment show and training day May 16 on motion by Madara/Wetzel. This free event is sponsored by the West Branch Council of Governments and is held at the Lycoming County Fairgrounds.
  - Truck chassis is at Bradco; delivery of completed truck is expected toward mid or late May.
  - Police Chief and Roadmaster to coordinate purchasing two signs listing restrictions for Turkey Hill Road.
  - Resident Dave Cardell said he receives substantial runoff from Deerfield Development; further, he claims the detention basin does not receive water during a storm event. Roadmaster and Engineer each inspected the area; Engineer will do additional calculations and report back.
  - Roadmaster was authorized to sell for recycling the aluminum street signs that are being removed.
  - Wetzel will look into the matter of not receiving refund on unused time for pagers.
  - Pipe in front of Ralpho Fire Co. building in Overlook needs replacing. Company will purchase the pipe; Street Department will install. Payeskie/Wetzel motioned to purchase and install the approximate 100' of pipe. On the question: this is a special exception and is being done in view of the non-profit status of the fire company.
  - Control cabinet to traffic signal needs replaced; light continues to go into flash mode; service technician said they are unable to repair – this is additional damage from lightning strike. Payeskie/Shaddock motioned to purchase new cabinet with all new components from Signal Service, Inc. at a cost of \$9985.00. On the question: installation is expected to be completed by middle or late next week (approximately April 20<sup>th</sup>). Further on the question: Secretary was asked to confirm that the unit will include suppression and the connection for the backup generator will be transferred. Motion carried unanimously.

#### **BUILDINGS – MADARA reported for HORNE**

- New Office doors – must check status.
- Payeskie reported on his and Madara's review of municipal buildings and property for needed repairs and/or maintenance. (see attached list).
- Discussion about property formerly leased from Sunoco; Solicitor and engineer will review their files and report back.
- Secretary was asked to send Corson Quarries a Thank You letter for their generous donation of stone for the AYSO soccer field.

#### **POLICE DEPARTMENT/PUBLIC SAFETY –PAYESKIE read report of Police Department activity for March.**

- In response to their letter request, Payeskie/Wetzel motioned to advance \$20,000 to ambulance from their 2007 EMS Tax distribution; approval was unanimous.

- Questioning why PaDot is not realigning the R54/R487 intersection during their upcoming project, Police Chief Appel was asked to contact PaDot.
- Letter from Patrolman Christopher R. Grow resigning his position with the Ralpho Township Police Department was accepted with regrets on Payeskie/Wetzel motion. On the question: Officer Grow is relocating to Florida. Further on the question: resignation is effective June 15, 2007. Motion carried. Secretary was asked to send him a letter extending the Board's best wishes in his future endeavors.

**ZONING OFFICER'S REPORT – SHADDUCK** reported that 10 permits were issued and \$575 in fees were collected. Photographs were presented showing signs at the main intersection; no action taken.

**RECREATION – MADARA** – must work out mowing schedule.

Supervisor Madara was excused at 8 PM so he could go to work.

**RECYCLING – SHADDUCK** reported that a second dumpster is in place - this is for newspapers only.

**MANAGER'S REPORT - SPRINGER** – was authorized to purchase access control system for gym from A-1 Lock & Key for quoted price of \$2800.00 on Payeskie/Wetzel motion. On the question: additional 25 cards should be ordered which will increase costs. Motion carried unanimously.

#### **PLANNING COMMISSION**

- Burning Ordinance – no discussion
- Vacancy remains to be filled – no action
- Sign ordinance - no discussion

#### **SOLICITOR'S REPORT:**

**Resolution 2007-04** - adopting the new sewage enforcement fee schedule of Bill Brior Environmental Services was adopted on Payeskie/Wetzel motion and carried.

**ENGINEER'S REPORT** – GP-11 permit application and erosion and sediment pollution control plan were filed w/DEP to replace two culverts under Happy Valley Road and Bear Hollow Road.

#### **OLD BUSINESS:**

- Vehicle Insurance Coverage review by Departments – will be considered at later date.

#### **NEW BUSINESS:**

- 2006 Audit and DCED report were approved as presented by auditing firm Forgett & Kerstetter on Wetzel/Payeskie motion. Approval was unanimous.

- The firm that currently services and does routine maintenance on traffic signal is going out of business – auction is set for April 12. Payeskie/Shaddock motioned to accept the following proposals from Signing And Signal System Installers, LLC of Mifflinville, PA: (1) Yearly traffic signal maintenance service at a cost of \$475.00 per intersection and (2) On call traffic signal maintenance service at a cost of \$60.00 per hour (port to port) plus materials. Motion unanimously approved.

#### **CITIZEN INPUT**

Mr. & Mrs. Gary Houseknecht – in view of ongoing building moratorium imposed by DEP they are unable to obtain sewage permit and therefore no building permit. The Houseknecht's asked Supervisors to consider signing a Release of Liability which would hopefully allow them to begin construction before they incur additional increases in builder's fees. Solicitor will look into the matter.

#### **ADJOURNMENT:**

Because of a family commitment, Chairman Shaddock had to leave at 8:40 PM. Lacking a quorum, meeting was adjourned at 8:40 on motion by Payeskie.

Carol Phillips and Mrs. & Mrs. Labusky from Sunnyside asked Supervisors Payeskie and Wetzel to change the new name of their street from Fayette to something that's not "offensive". Howal explained the use of names of counties for renaming streets and read brief history of Fayette County. No action taken.

Respectfully submitted,

Joan E. Baskin, Secretary