

MONTHLY MEETING - APRIL 14, 2009 - 6:30 P.M.
Held in Municipal Building Meeting Room, 206 S. Market Street, Elysburg, PA 17824

Chairman Howard Shadduck called meeting to order at 6:32 p.m. and led the group in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag.

Responding to roll call were Supervisors Howard Shadduck, Blaine Madara, Ed Payeskie and Joe Shirvinski. (Supervisor Shirvinski arrived at 6:35 p.m.) Supervisor Chip Wetzel was absent because of a vacation. Also attending were Solicitor Todd Kerstetter, Township Manager Joe Springer, Township Engineer Michele Aukerman, Roadmaster Bill Hoy, Chief of Police Stuart Appel, Secretary/Treasurer Debra Olson and 4 interested citizens.

Supervisor Shadduck took a moment to thank all those involved in the extensive search on 4-6-09 that took place in Ralpho Township. Thankfully the search ended successfully.

CITIZENS INPUT ON AGENDA ITEMS - none

Bidding process for spreader, stone and boiler replacement were closed.

There were no bids received for the spreader. Payeskie motioned and Shirvinski seconded to scrap the spreader, the motion passed.

Bids were opened, tabulated and considered (see tabulation sheet). Payeskie/Madara motioned to accept the apparent low bid of Corson Quarries for the stone supplies. On the question: award is contingent upon bid meeting all legal, bonding and insurance requirements. Motion unanimously approved.

Bids were opened, tabulated and considered (see tabulation sheet). Payeskie/Madara made a motion to table the bids for boiler replacement until a future date. Motion carried.

MINUTES of March 10, 2009 regular meeting were approved on Payeskie/Shirvinski motion and carried.

TREASURER'S REPORT was accepted as presented on Payeskie/Shirvinski motion and carried.

BILLS were approved for payment on Payeskie/Shirvinski motion and carried.

CORRESPONDENCE – none

- Letter from T. Bryce James in support of recycling program.
- PMAA Spring Dinner Meeting.
- Brush Valley Regional Chamber of Commerce Awards Dinner. Ralpho Township was nominated for Community Pride Award. Payeskie motioned to send Chairman Shadduck and Township Manager Joe Springer to the dinner at a cost of \$60, Madara seconded the motion. Motion was unanimous.
- Alfred Bensch & Company letter stating they are making application on behalf of the Municipal Authority of Ralpho Township to DEP for a Water Quality Management Part II Amendment (Act 14 Notification). The plant improvements are necessary for the plant to be in accordance with the Chesapeake Bay Strategy

- Mr. Frank Berger spoke on the Knoebels Conditional Use Application approved at March 10, 2009 meeting.

COMMITTEE/DEPARTMENT REPORTS:

PLANNING COMMISSION – Joe Springer, Township Manager

- Payeskie/Shirvinski made a motion to approve the Thomas & Jean Szczepkowski Minor Subdivision with one condition from The Municipal Authority of Ralpho Township as stated on the official plans filed with the Northumberland County. (*All sewer lines extending from the sub main shall be laterals and shall be the sole responsibility for maintenance and repairs on the part of the property owners and not the Municipal Authority of Ralpho Township.*) Motion carried unanimously.
- Payeskie/Madara motioned to give a 90 day extension to the Queen of Most Holy Rosary Education Project. Motion carried unanimously. Secretary will notify by letter.
- Wind Energy Ordinance as written was reviewed and approved by the Planning Commission.

STREET DEPARTMENT – Payeskie

- 2009 Paving Project – Payeskie/Madara motioned to authorize advertising 2009 street paving project which includes-base repair and wearing course of Fairview Street; base course and wearing course of Alpha St. and Parkview Rd.; repair base course and wearing course on Hickory St.; tar & chip Kase St., Franklin Rd., Hower Rd., Craze Rd., Frederick Rd., and sections of Sugar Hollow Rd. On the question: bids will be opened during regular meeting of May 12. Motion unanimously approved.
- Water pooling on the road by Duke’s Heating will be repaired by the Street Department.

BUILDINGS – Madara

- Roof repair was discussed. Mr. Springer and Supervisor Madara will look into which roofs to need to be repaired.

POLICE DEPARTMENT/PUBLIC SAFETY –Shadduck read report in supervisor Wetzel’s absence.

- Payeskie made a motion to approve the Use of Force Continuum Policy and Madara seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.
- Madara/Shirvinski motioned to accept the Use of Authorized Less Than Lethal Weapons Policy. Motion carried unanimously.
- Payeskie/Madara motioned to accept Medical Attention Required Policy. Motion carried unanimously.

ZONING OFFICER’S REPORT read by Supervisor Shirvinski.

- There were 6 permits issued and fees of \$461.41 collected. Several Occupancy Permits were issued.
- Zoning/Code Officer Howard Howal was absent from the meeting while away on vacation.

RECREATION – Madara

- Looking into gym door replacement.
- Playground bathrooms were opened April 1.
- Northwest Academy work detail will take place April 23rd and April 24th. Students and 1 supervisor will arrive at 9 a.m. Secretary will order a trailer load of wood carpet to be spread.

RECYCLING - read by Vice Chairman Madara in Shadduck's absence

- Recycling hours have been changed effective 4-6-09 because of misuse of the facility.
- Computer Tower/Tire/Brush recycling day held Saturday, April 11 was a success.

MANAGER'S REPORT - by Springer.

- Mr. Springer asked for permission to re-file the DCNR Grant with application deadline being April 24th. Madara/Shirvinski motioned for Manager to do that, motion carried. Mr. Springer is optimistic that more funds will be available this year.
- Mr. Springer was asked to look into possibly pressure washing the outside surface of the gymnasium building prior to refinishing.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT –

- Solicitor conducted a hearing on the proposed Wind Energy Ordinance. No citizen input. Discussion Payeskie stated that if in the future they need to revisit this ordinance they will have to do that but for now this is a place to start. Ordinance 172 was adopted on Madara/Shirvinski motion and carried unanimously.
- Payeskie/Madara made a motion to accept the Amendment to the Uniform Construction Code Inspection Agreement with Tri-County Council of Government. Motion carried.

ENGINEER'S REPORT –

- Queen of Most Holy Rosary Building Project waiting on one comment.
- Henry, William D. site development storm water plan, engineer has met with Henry engineer and has not received anything since the meeting. Solicitor stated that he has been contacted numerous times by the Henry lawyer asking if the township engineer can do the plans and use the money in the escrow account to cover her fees. The supervisors agreed to the solicitor and engineer getting together and discuss the township engineer doing the drawings.
- Vistra Ultra development road problems were discussed. No action at this time. Supervisors asked the engineer to look in to how the testing is done for compaction on future projects.

OLD BUSINESS:

- **Auditors positions** - 1 position remains to be filled.
- **Municipal Authority of Sunnyside/Overlook**, 1 vacancy, 5 year term, term would expire January 2012.
- Payeskie/Shadduck made a motion to increase the contents value in location 2-1(Municipal Building) to \$200,000 for an additional \$95 per year on our insurance package from Gannon Associates. Motion carried.
- Retirement gift for Joan Baskin was decided on.
- There was discussion on returning the remaining funds in the Deerfield Escrow Account. It was pointed out by the secretary that our audit firm Forgett & Kerstetter recommended that we start having a separate escrow account for all escrows that the township receives instead of running them through the general fund. A motion was made by Madara and seconded by Shadduck to pay the remaining funds of \$2,424.50 to the Deerfield Development and to convert the Deerfield Escrow bank account at M & T Bank into the Ralpho Township Escrow Account. Motion passed unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS:

- Citizen Jack Lakitis was in attendance in regard to his request for street lights on Hemlock & Monastery Road and Pearle & 487 that he had inquired about at the last meeting. With

apologies the board mistakenly forgot to ask the police to check into the matter after the last meeting. Chief Appel is going to look into the street light question prior to next months meeting. The supervisors apologized to Mr. Lakitis and told him they would look into it personally also and ask Chief Appel for direction and then discuss it at the May meeting.

- Approved a Copier Maintenance Agreement with C.S.P. Office Equipment of Shamokin for a period of on year for \$320. Motion by Payeskie/Shirvinski, carried.
- Payeskie/Madara approval to use gymnasium for benefit basketball tournament for the Derek Crowl Scholarship again this year. Motion Carried. Solicitor will get secretary the releases that need to be signed by all involved.
- Madara/Payeskie motion to accept 2008 Audit and DCED report as presented by auditing firm Forgett & Kerstetter. Motion passed unanimously.
- Madara/Shirvinski motioned to have secretary send thank you letter to all entities involved in the search for missing person on Monday, April 6. Motion carried.

CITIZEN INPUT –

- Blaine Madara, Jr. wanted to thank the Ralpho Township Supervisors for all that they did the day of the search for the missing person. He said the communication between the supervisors, police, fire department and all organizations involved was really appreciated and it helped to make things go smoothly.

Shaddock announced that there would be an executive session to discuss personnel matters at this time. He also noted that an executive session was held on April 9 for personnel matters.

ADJOURNMENT at 9:10 PM on motion by Payeskie.

Respectfully submitted,

Debra L. Olson
Ralpho Township Secretary