

MONTHLY MEETING - October 13, 2009 - 6:30 P.M.
Held in Municipal Building Meeting Room, 206 S. Market Street, Elysburg, PA 17824

Chairman Howard Shadduck called the 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, Joe Shirvinski and Supervisor Chip Wetzel. Also attending were Township Manager Joe Springer, Roadmaster Bill Hoy; Code Enforcement Officer Howard Howal; Chief of Police Stuart Appel; Secretary/Treasurer Debra Olson; Solicitor Todd Kerstetter and several interested citizens.

Wetzel/Madara motioned to change Trick or Treat Night in Ralpho Township from October 31 to Thursday, October 29, 2009. Motion carried, Shadduck and Shirvinski voted no.

CITIZENS INPUT ON AGENDA ITEMS –

MINUTES of September 8, 2009 regular meeting were approved with a correction by Madara/Shirvinski motion and carried.

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

BILLS were approved for payment on Wetzel/Payeskie motion. Carried unanimously.

CORRESPONDENCE –

- Jeff Kazaro of Lyric Communications spoke on the letter that was received by the township via Rep. Belfanti. Meg Bartos also spoke in regard to Lyric's request. Dwight Walter local GM of Service Electric also had a chance to speak on this topic. Several employees of SE were also in attendance. They had concerns with job losses, etc. if the Township gives Lyric a resolution.

A straw poll was taken and the supervisors took no action on this request, they chose to discuss this topic again when they meet on October 27, 2009 at our annual budget work session meeting at 6:30 p.m.

- A letter was received from DCED approving the extensions on the 2 KOZ properties in Ralpho Township.
- We received a letter from AQUA Water Company stating that the Roadarmel Lane Water Distribution Main Construction project started the first week in October.
- A Thank You was received from Ralpho Youth Sports thanking the Township for their monetary support of the program.
- Notice was received for a Real Estate hearing for Pentacor Partnerships, Inc. on Wednesday, October 14, 2009. Solicitor will attend.
- Ron Bittner from Trollinger Consulting Group sent a letter to the Township alerting us of the affect that House bill 1828 (Act 44) will have on municipal pension funding and reporting.
- The Vista Ultra Homeowners Association requested that their development be put on the list for the next street cleaning. They also said thank you for getting Bucks Road fixed. The Secretary will send a letter explaining that the Township does not have a street cleaner at this time.
- SEDA-COG sent an e-mail in regard to a meeting October 14 to discuss UBA (utility bill analysis) and energy conservation with a \$75,000 funds through DCED.

COMMITTEE/DEPARTMENT REPORTS:

PLANNING COMMISSION – Joseph Springer, Township Manager

- Mr. Springer reported on what took place at the last meeting and gave a heads up on what would come before the board at the next meeting.

STREET DEPARTMENT – Payeskie

- Mr. Wetzel was approached about the cement blocks that are blocking the back road by the softball field for the September meeting? Mr. Wetzel made a motion to move the blocks for the winter and the motion died for lack of a second. Township Secretary will send letters to homeowners this affects with reasons stated for not moving them as being speeding traffic through the municipal lot and parking in library parking spaces.
- Salt Contract – American Rock Salt, Co. has the contract for 2009-2010 road deicing salt supplies. Price per ton = \$61.57, up \$1.12 from last year.
- The SCI Coal Township had a work group in the Township on October 9 to do garbage pickup.
- Accepted the resignation for retirement letter from Roadmaster, William Hoy, after 24 years of employment, to be effective April 2010.
- The supervisors accepted a letter from Chairman Shadduck requesting that he stay on as a part-time street worker for snow removal through the winter as needed after his term expires. The secretary will make sure he stays on the insurance policy for this purpose.

BUILDINGS – Madara

- Playground fence has not been looked into yet.
- Boiler replacement was discussed with a deadline of November 1st. Mr. Springer gave an update. Madara/Payeskie made a motion to pay CCSI \$12,404 partial payment at this point for the project. Motion carried.
- The library would like to put more receptacles in to handle computers, etc. Mr. Springer spoke to Wade Hampton to come in and look into this. Should have more information for next month's meeting.
- Tiles lifting off in the transition from tile to wood floor in the police vestibule. Mr. Payeskie will call contractor to see if he can come look at the project.
- Mr. Kerstetter will discuss the Haunted House liability insurance with Supervisor Payeskie at a later time with the approval of the board.

POLICE DEPARTMENT/PUBLIC SAFETY- report was read by Supervisor Wetzel.

- The Elysburg Fire Company Ambulance Committee request for guidance was discussed. This will also be discussed at the budget work meeting on October 27, 2009.

ZONING OFFICER'S REPORT read by Supervisor Shirvinski.

- There were 6 permits issued and fees of \$283.40 collected. Several Occupancy Permits were issued, handled burn barrel complaint and revoked a burning permit.
- Exotic Animal Ordinance will be discussed by Code Officer Howard Howal and Solicitor Kerstetter and be brought to the next supervisor's meeting.
- A campground ordinance will be forwarded to the supervisors for review at the next meeting.
- Land Lord Ordinance, Chief Appel and Code Officer Howal will discuss and bring to next meeting.
- Zoning Hearing Board decision meeting was held October 13, 2009 at 6 p.m. on the variance applied for by Naren Srivastava, owner of the Cancer Care Center. The variance was allowed and Zoning Officer Howal was instructed to issue the land owner the appropriate permit(s).

RECREATION – Madara

- 1 Gym door replacement quote was received. Manager will look into this farther with at least 3 local contractors.
- Playground bathrooms will close around November 1st. Outdoor lights will also be adjusted at that time.

RECYCLING – Shadduck

- Program is running smoothly.
- Beginning in November Saturday hours will adjust to close at 11:00 a.m. for the winter hours.
- Mr. Shadduck has offered to remain on as a volunteer coordinator of the recycling program after his Supervisor term runs out 12-31-09. The supervisors are thankful for his offer and are happy to have him stay with the program.

MANAGER’S REPORT – by Joe Springer

- Madara/Payeskie motioned to have Boss Roofing do an emergency repair to the roof with a maximum cost of \$1,000 and do specs and advertise for 2 roofs to be replaced for the November meeting. Motion carried.

SOLICITOR’S REPORT –

- Vista Ultra Bucks Road repairs were discussed.

The board went into executive session at 9:30 p.m. for possible litigation. The meeting was reconvened at 9:49 p.m.

Wetzel/Madara motion to authorize chairman to sign release contingent upon receiving all payments from Uni-tec and Farnsworth Family Limited Partnership. Motion carried.

- The LCB hearing was held on Thursday, August 13 at 1 p.m. in the meeting room. We received notice that the exemption has been accepted and it will last until November 30, 2010. Will need to petition to be renewed. At that time the cost of the solicitor’s charges would be looked at and decide if fees will be charged to those businesses asking for this exemption.
- Garancosky Paper Street. Code Officer and Solicitor will discuss and see what adjoining property owners would be affected if vacated.
- The case with Mr. Krushinski update. Solicitor is still verifying a few details.

ENGINEER’S REPORT –

- William Henry plans have been given to the Henrys and they now need to forward them to the Planning Commission to have the plan formally approved by the Township. They have been received by the township and will be reviewed at the November Planning Commission meeting.
- Joseph Shepard Major Subdivision has been reviewed and comments have been forwarded to Chairman Steve Major.
- Mr. Szczepkowski called the engineer and asked questions directly to her. The Supervisors asked that in the future if residents contact her directly that she inform them they will need to attend a supervisor’s meeting.
- Creekside Subdivision has given no new information.

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.

NEW BUSINESS:

- 2010 MMO's – Police and Non-Uniformed Pension Plans. Motion to approve MMO's as follows: Police Pension Plan = \$25,086 and Non-Uniformed Pension Plan = \$18,996 was made by Payeskie/Shirvinski and motion carried.
- Motion to advertise leaf collection was made by Madara/Wetzel, motion passed. It will be advertised as in the past one time in the News-Item and one time in the Press Enterprise.
- Because of a complaint about the tenants at the property next to the Bloomsburg Clinic the secretary will write a letter to Bloomsburg Hospital, the land owner, and let them know that we are having nuisance issues with their tenant and ask them to look into it immediately.

CITIZEN INPUT – none

Chairman Shadduck announced that there would be an executive session litigation and land acquisition.

ADJOURNMENT at 10:15 p.m. on motion by Wetzel/Shirvinski.

Respectfully submitted,

Debra L. Olson
Ralpho Township Secretary