

**MINUTES - RALPHO TOWNSHIP SUPERVISORS MEETING - SEPTEMBER 14, 2010**  
**Held in Municipal Building Meeting Room, 206 S. Market St, Elysburg, PA.**

**Chairman Blaine Madara called meeting to order at 6:36 p.m. and led the recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag.**

Chairman Madara announced that there was an executive session prior to the meeting on Hemlock to discuss possible repairs to the drainage problems prior to repaving the road in the near future.

Attending were: Supervisors Blaine Madara, Ed Payeskie, William Wetzel and Stephen Major; Supervisor Vince Daubert was absent. Also attending were: Township Manager Joe Springer, Police Chief Stu Appel, Roadmaster Ed Miller, Code Enforcement Officer Howard Howal, Engineer Michele Auckerman, Township Secretary/Treasurer Debra Olson; Harvey Boyer, Planning Commission Chairperson; and Debra Eliassen and Robb Wheary of the Shamokin News-Item.

CITIZEN INPUT ON AGENDA ITEMS – none

Minutes of August 10, 2010 regular meeting were accepted as presented on Payeskie/Major motion and carried.

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

Bills were approved as presented for payment on Payeskie/Wetzel motion, motion carried unanimously.

**CORRESPONDENCE**

- An e-mail from Ultra Vista Homeowners Association was received. The Secretary was asked to send the homeowner’s association a letter explaining that Bucks Road will be reviewed in the spring, to explain the speed limitations in the residential area, to explain in the fall we have leaf collection and to inform them that this past year we did street sweeping in the Spring and hope to do that again this coming spring.
- The Formal 2009 Financial Statements for the Police and Non-Uniformed Pension Plans have arrived. Copies are available for review in the office.
- Northumberland County Office of the Commissioners KOZ designation letter was discussed. Payeskie/Wetzel motioned to have the secretary send a letter to the County Commissioners stating that Ralpho Township wants to fully cooperate with them to bring business and industry into our KOZ and the Township is willing to discuss waiving the permitting fees on a case by case basis. Motion carried.
- Shepard’s Pond Estates Correspondence was recognized. Solicitor Kerstetter noted that Uni-tec signed off on the cost of the improvements. Now a Development Agreement can be put in place and then wait until the developer moves forward.

**COMMITTEE/DEPARTMENT REPORTS:**

**PLANNING COMMISSION –**

- Wetzel/Payeskie motioned to approve Paul A. & Margaret L. McDermott Special Minor Subdivision. Motion carried.

### **STREET DEPARTMENT – Payeskie**

- Pipe Replacement at Hemlock was discussed. Permit has been applied for and DEP and was scheduled to be reviewed Monday, September 13. When permit is approved we are allowed to hold off on the project until the spring.
- Line Painting was discussed and will be postponed until next year.
- Two homeowners on Pocahontas Lane who needed to clean out the ditch on their properties for water drainage problem have taken care of the matter.
- Roadmaster Miller and Solicitor Kerstetter met with Mrs. Younkin and she will reimburse the township for the price of the pipe being replaced. She will be invoiced when the pipe is purchased.
- Payeskie/ motioned to send Roadmaster Miller and Wayne Horne to the Road Surface Management Workshop on Thursday, September 23, including lunch of up to \$15 each.
- The All Home Days Organization thanked the street crew and police for their help prior, during and after the community celebration over the Labor Day Weekend.
- Wetzel/Major motioned to allow Street Department Employee Wayne Horne to help out at the Haunted House if he is not needed for township work. Motion carried.

### **BUILDINGS – Daubert**

- New Time Clocks are in place in the office, street department and the police department.
- Mat service was discussed and secretary will send copy of contract agreement to the solicitor to review prior to October meeting.

### **POLICE DEPARTMENT/PUBLIC SAFETY – Wetzel**

- Note of thanks to Officer Spade via an e-mail from Howard Shadduck for his professional service in an emergency situation at a neighbor's house.
- Thank you to Officer Spade and Chief Appel from family of Chris Olson for professional service during an incident with a dog attack in the township recently.
- The 35<sup>th</sup> Annual Elysburg Haunted House will be October 15, 16, 22, 23, 29 and 30. Secretary was asked to verify with Insurance Agent that the insurance is in place for the event.
- The Drug Enforcement Administration and the Ralpho Township Police will coordinate its National Take Back Day Initiative, a one day collaborative effort to remove potentially dangerous controlled substances from our nation's homes. It will take place in the Municipal Building Meeting Room on Saturday, September 25 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

### **ZONING OFFICER'S REPORT – Madara**

- 15 permits were issued and \$1,367.50 in fees were collected during August. Zoning officer issued several Occupancy Permits and drafted proposed ordinance for Public Nuisance.
- The 2 sample drafts of the Public Nuisance ordinance that Mr. Howal drafted were discussed. It was decided that the solicitor should look them over, talk to Mr. Howal and bring back the ordinance for the supervisors to review at the next meeting. Supervisor Wetzel noted that household waste and animal feces could be added to the ordinance.

### **RECREATION - Major**

- No report at this time.

### **RECYCLING – Major**

- No report at this time.

### **MANAGER'S REPORT - Joe Springer**

- Geisinger Health Plan Renewal was discussed. There is an approximate cost savings of 3% for the upcoming year. Wetzel/Madara made a motion to renew the contract for employee health insurance with GHP. Motion carried unanimously.
- Manager attended an Act 32 meeting on September 9. They reviewed 3 different tax collectors at that time. Mr. Springer will attend another meeting September 15 where the committee will appoint the collector. He will update further at the October meeting.

### **SOLICITOR'S REPORT**

- Zoning Officer Howard Howal and Solicitor Kerstetter attended the Planning Commission meeting for September to discuss the Campground Ordinance. Solicitor will have a final draft to the Commission for October meeting for their review before presentation to the Supervisors.
- Liquor Control Board Exemption was brought up because it will expire in November. Solicitor and Secretary sent letters to those affected and asked if they are interested in this exemption being renewed. Knoebel's Three Ponds Golf Course and Wayside Inn are willing to pay the fees to have the solicitor file to have the exemption extended. Wetzel/Madara motioned to authorize Solicitor to file a petition to extend the exemption. Motion carried.

### **ENGINEER'S REPORT**

- Hemlock Pipe replacement permit is still waiting approval from DEP.
- Henry site has not begun construction.
- Cancer Care Center has not begun construction.

### **OLD BUSINESS:**

- Having heard no problems with the date the Trick or Treating will take place in Ralpho Township on Thursday, October 28 from 6 to 9 p.m. Payeskie/Madara motion, motion carried.

### **NEW BUSINESS:**

- The leaf collection schedule will be advertised one time each in the Press Enterprise and Shamokin News-Item per a motion by Wetzel/Major. Motion carried.
- Dumpster Day was discussed and will be brought up in the spring.

### **CITIZEN INPUT –none**

ADJOURNMENT – there being nothing further for discussion, adjourned at approximately 8:13 p.m. on a Wetzel/Payeskie motion and carried.

An executive session was held after the meeting for personnel issues.

Respectfully submitted,

Debra L. Olson  
Ralpho Township Secretary