

MINUTES - RALPHO TOWNSHIP SUPERVISORS
REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING - FEBRUARY 9, 2021
Held in Municipal Building Meeting Room, 206 S. Market St., Elysburg, PA

Chairman Major 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 Sr., Vincent Daubert, Stephen Major, Daniel Williams and Blaine Madara Jr. arrived at 6:43 p.m. Also attending were: Township Manager Joseph Springer, Solicitor Todd Kerstetter, Township Secretary/Treasurer Debra Olson; Assistant Manager Mark Lyash; Sergeant Bryon Chowka; Larry Deklinski *Shamokin News-Item*; and Jeff Kyle DGK Insurance.

CHAIRMAN APPOINTS COMMITTEE/DEPARTMENT HEADS:

STREET DEPARTMENT – Daubert

BUILDINGS - Madara Sr.

POLICE DEPARTMENT/PUBLIC SAFETY - Williams

ZONING -Major

RECREATION – Madara Jr.

RECYCLING - Major

CITIZEN INPUT ON AGENDA ITEMS – none

Minutes of January 4, 2021 regular monthly meeting were accepted as presented on Williams/Daubert motion and carried.

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

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

Williams/Daubert motioned to approve invoice submitted for payment from Larson Design for the Center Street Flood Mitigation Project for payment through CDBG funds. Motion carried with Madara Sr. abstaining.

CORRESPONDENCE

- Williams/Madara Sr. motioned to exonerate Tax Collector Vanessa Major from further collections on the 2020 tax duplicate. Motion carried with Supervisor Major abstaining.
- 2020 4th Quarter and Annual Investment Reports for the Ralpho Township Police and Non-Uniformed Pension Plans are available for review in the Township Office.
- Liquid Fuels Audit for 2019 was received.
- TRA Electric Annual Maintenance Agreement was received in the fall, for March meeting Secretary will ask Herr Signal for a quote for annual maintenance for comparison.

COMMITTEE/DEPARTMENT REPORTS:

PLANNING – Mark Lyash

- Madara Sr./Daubert motioned to accept the recommendation of the Planning Commission to approve the Thomas/Williams Minor Subdivision and sewage module. Motion carried with Williams abstaining.

Supervisor Madara Jr. arrived at the meeting at 6:43 p.m.

STREET DEPARTMENT – Madara Jr.

- Report was received.
- Assistant Manager Lyash lead a discussion on options for paving projects.
- 2021 Paving Project –Madara Sr./Daubert motioned to authorize advertising 2021 street paving project which includes – Base repair & wearing course on All Saints Road from Rt. 54 to Bear Hollow with 2A subbase shoulder backup and asphalt seal coat; asphalt wearing course and asphalt seal coat on Bear Hollow Road; alternate bid of asphalt wearing course and asphalt seal coat double application on All Saints Road from Bear Hollow to bridge. On the question: bids will be opened during regular meeting of March 9, 2021. Motion carried unanimously.

Jeff Kyle, DGK Insurance gave presentation on insurance renewal.

BUILDINGS – Madara Jr.

- Discussion took place as to when the Municipal building will be opened back up to foot traffic. It was decided that the building will not be opened until further discussion at the March 9th meeting.
- Cameras at recycling are continuing to have problems, Madara Jr. will look into these issues.
- Madara Jr. spoke with Rick Dabulis to repair the stone wall in front of the municipal building. Will follow up on this in the spring.

RECREATION – Major

- The gym will remain closed until March meeting.

ZONING OFFICER’S REPORT – Madara Sr.

- 8 permits were issued and \$7,995 in fees were collected during January; \$25 transient merchant license. 26 letters of correspondence were sent, 16 complaints were received for vehicles, trash, dumping, dangerous structures, etc.
- BCEGS for SCTJSA was explained by Lyash.
- Zoning Officer Lyash explained flood plain ordinance update.

POLICE DEPARTMENT/PUBLIC SAFETY – Daubert

- Report was read.
- Daubert/Madara Sr. motioned to accept with regret and much thankfulness the retirement of Police Chief Stuart Appel effective March 1. The board thanks Chief Appel for all of his years of excellent service to Ralpho Township and it’s residents. Motion also included approval of his Retirement Benefit Election and for spreading of his sick leave benefit payout throughout the remainder of 2021. Motion carried.
- Board will vote on agreement with Sergeant Bryon Chowka to fill Chief of Police position at March 9th meeting.
- Dash cameras are currently being installed in the cruisers. Watchguard will be here week of March 22nd to complete installation and training for dash cameras and body cameras.

RECYCLING – Daubert

- none

MANAGER’S REPORT

- Madara Sr./Daubert motioned to stay with current energy provider at a rate of \$.06071 for 3 years. Motion carried.

- Major/Daubert motioned to accept change order for CDBG Center Street Stormwater project for split rail fence and reduction of trees removed with a net increase of \$750. Motion carried with Madara Sr. and Madara Jr. abstaining.
- Municibid auctions were reviewed: Traffic signal heads and galvanized posts highest bid \$1,150 Troy's Auto Sales; ESP model 100 infra-red speed control \$6.00 Kevin Mains; Motorola radio equipment \$6.00 John Galarza; police cruiser laptop desks and armrest printer stand \$11.00 John Galarza; 2 light bars with console control \$260 Brad Hart. Madara Jr./Madara Sr. motioned to accept all bids. Motion carried unanimously.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT

- Land purchase closing is complete.

ENGINEER'S REPORT

- Report was reviewed.

OLD BUSINESS:

- none

NEW BUSINESS:

- Williams/Madara Sr. motioned to adopt Resolution 2021-04 Succession of Municipal Officers. Motion carried.
- Daubert/Madara Jr. motioned to authorize releasing \$1,200 from both the Police and Non-uniformed Pension Plans to pay actuarial/consulting fees to Girard Pension Services. Motion carried.
- Williams/Madara Sr. motioned to accept insurance renewal with DGK for package, worker's comp and State Worker's Insurance Fund for firemen's worker's compensation for a total of \$124,092. Motion carried.
- Williams/Madara Sr. motioned to approve Chairman to sign subrecipient agreements with Northumberland County for 2017 and 2018 CDBG Funds. Motion carried.

CITIZEN INPUT – none

ADJOURNMENT – there being nothing further for discussion, meeting adjourned at approximately 8:32 p.m. on Williams/Madara Jr., motion and carried.

Executive Session was held for personnel.

Respectfully submitted,

Debra L. Olson
Ralpho Township Secretary