

**MINUTES - RALPHO TOWNSHIP SUPERVISORS**  
**REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING - September 14, 2021**  
**Held in Municipal Building Meeting Room, 206 S. Market St., Elysburg, PA**

***Vice Chairman Madara Jr. called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. and led the recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag.***

Attending were: Supervisors Stephen Major (virtually), Blaine Madara Sr., Vincent Daubert, Daniel Williams and Blaine Madara Jr. Also attending were: Township Manager Joseph Springer, Solicitor Todd Kerstetter, Township Secretary/Treasurer Debra Olson; Engineer Brad Aurand; Chief Bryon Chowka; Assistant Manager Mark Lyash; Roadmaster Damion Beagle; Ron Bittner and Barry Keck of Girard Pension Services and 8 interested citizens.

Ron Bittner pension presentation

CITIZEN INPUT ON AGENDA ITEMS – Elaine Foster, 401 Overlook Boulevard and Cheryl Waugh, 439 Overlook Boulevard, were present to share concerns about 4 dead ash trees near the road on property at 2 Mercer Avenue. Township does not have code to regulate the removal of trees. Solicitor and Secretary will send a letter with concerns and share signed petition from the neighbors with property owner.

Robert Clark, 344 Sleepy Hollow Road and Tessa Applegate, 319 E. Center Street, were present to ask for guidance on a subdivision. Discussion took place and they were instructed to make an appointment with Code Officer Mark Lyash and then take a sketch plan to the Planning Commission for further guidance.

Bryant Farrence, 335 Hemlock Lane; Peter Evans, 155 Butternut Lane; and William and Elizabeth Richie, 344 Hemlock Lane, were all present with concerns about stormwater basin and swale near their properties working properly in future major rain storms. Engineer will review original subdivision plan and report back at the October board meeting.

Minutes of August 10, 2021 regular monthly meeting were accepted as presented on Williams/Daubert motion and carried.

TREASURER'S REPORT was accepted as presented on Williams/Daubert motion and carried.

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

Major/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./Madara Jr. abstaining.

**CORRESPONDENCE**

- Toni Ditzler email in regard to yoga event in playground was received. Response will be sent by Secretary.
- Howard Shadduck thank you was received.
- Great Dane permit renewal notice was received.

**COMMITTEE/DEPARTMENT REPORTS:**

**PLANNING – Mark Lyash**

- Daubert/Williams motioned to accept the recommendation of the Planning Commission to approve the Gary & Ruth Latsha Minor Subdivision. Motion carried.

**STREET DEPARTMENT – Daubert**

- Report was received.
- Major/Daubert motioned to approve High Street pipe replacement. Motion carried.

- Major/Daubert motioned to approve Park View Drive Pipe Replacement. Motion carried.
- Williams/Madara Sr. motioned to approve Clark Road temporary repair. Motion carried.
- Daubert/Madara Sr. motioned to add 2008 F550 spring repair to the agenda for action because of time urgency for repair. Daubert/Madara Sr. motioned to authorize repair at Central Spring Service, Inc. for a \$1,194. Motion carried.
- Supervisor Madara Jr. commended the street crew on their excellent work during the heavy rain storm and working in dangerous conditions through the night.

#### **BUILDINGS – Madara Sr.**

- none

#### **RECREATION – Madara Jr.**

- Carpet in the coach’s room in the gym will be cleaned by Best Cleaners for \$85. They will also be giving a quote for cleaning other surfaces in the gymnasium area in the future.

#### **ZONING OFFICER’S REPORT – Major**

- 12 permits were issued and \$3,837.63 in fees were collected during August; \$2,700 mechanical amusement licenses. 34 letters of correspondence were sent; 17 complaints were received for vehicles, trash, dumping, dangerous structures, etc.

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

- Report was read.
- Chief Chowka gave an update on electronic “your speed” sign.
- Screen from laptop in a cruiser was damaged and was replaced.
- Traffic signal extra switches if needed are in the control box.

#### **RECYCLING –Major**

- Supervisor Major asked Secretary to send a letter to the Elysburg Rotary Club to thank them for arranging the successful electronics recycling day in August.

#### **MANAGER’S REPORT**

- Manager reported that the Health Insurance will renew November 1, 2021. Madara Sr./Daubert motioned to continue with same plan. Motion carried.

#### **SOLICITOR’S REPORT**

- none

#### **ENGINEER’S REPORT**

- Report was reviewed.
- Center Street Flood Mitigation CDBG project bid will be opened September 24.
- Madara Sr./Daubert motioned to add Proposal for Engineering Services for Recreation Planning to the agenda because of time constraints of the grant writing process. Madara Sr./Major voted to approve Larson Design to do proposal for Engineering Services for Recreation Planning for \$5,650. Motion carried.

#### **OLD BUSINESS:**

- Fall Winter Newsletter will be distributed electronically and a few paper copies will be available in the municipal building, library and possibly the post office.

#### **NEW BUSINESS:**

- Daubert/Madara Jr. motioned to have Trick or Treat on Sunday, October 31<sup>st</sup> from 5 to 8 p.m.
- 2022 MMO’s – Police and Non-Uniformed Pension Plans. Motion to approve MMO’s as follows: Police Pension Plan = \$128,009 and Non-Uniformed Pension Plan = \$27,287 was made by Madara Sr./Daubert and motion carried.

**CITIZEN INPUT** – none

Board adjourned to executive session for personnel and possible litigation at 9:00 p.m. and returned to public meeting at 9:30 p.m.

- Williams/Major motioned to hire James Beagle at an hourly rate of \$19 per hour with benefits from the AFSCME agreement. Motion carried.

ADJOURNMENT – there being nothing further for discussion, meeting adjourned at approximately 9:33 p.m. on, Williams/Madara Sr. motion and carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Debra L. Olson  
Ralpho Township Secretary