

**MINUTES - RALPHO TOWNSHIP SUPERVISORS**  
**REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING - JUNE 14, 2022**  
**Held in Municipal Building Meeting Room, 206 S. Market St., Elysburg, PA**

*Chairman Williams called the meeting to order at 6:31p.m. and led the recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag.*

*Supervisor Williams stated that an executive session will be held at the end of the meeting for personnel.*

Supervisor Madara Jr. and Madara Sr., on behalf of the entire Board of Supervisors, presented Chief Kroh and Fireman Timco a Life Saving Award in recognition of their courageous and life-saving actions at the scene of a rope rescue on February 4, 2022. They put themselves in harm's way to save another human life with dedication and courage. Fireman Santor was also involved in the save and will be honored at a later meeting because of work scheduling conflicts. Chief Kroh and Fireman Timco stated that everyone played an integral part in the rescue; from the rigging team, rescue team, haul teams, crews clearing trees and our EMS crews.

Linda Sterling from SEDA-COG was present to hold CDBG hearing for FY 2022. Hearing began at 6:35 p.m. and was completed at 6:47 p.m.

Discussion of future CDBG projects took place.

Madara Jr./Major motioned to go out to bid on phase one of removal of architectural barriers project in the Township Gymnasium. Project will use funds from FY2019, FY2020 and FY2021 CDBG funds. Motion carried.

Attending were: Supervisors Blaine Madara Sr., Vincent Daubert, Stephen Major, Daniel Williams and Blaine Madara Jr. Also attending were: Township Manager Joseph Springer, Solicitor Todd Kerstetter, Township Secretary/Treasurer Debra Olson; Code Officer Mark Lyash; Chief Bryon Chowka; Roadmaster Damion Beagle; Engineer Bradley Aurand, Larson Design; Denny Kroh and Mike Timco, and several family and friends in support of the firemen; Larry Deklinski *Shamokin-News Item*; and 3 interested citizens.

CITIZEN INPUT ON AGENDA ITEMS – Samantha Ruiz, 428 Swift Road, was present to propose a speed limit sign be placed on Swift Road within the Township. After discussion, Madara Sr./Daubert motioned to have the solicitor prepare an ordinance for future approval, to have 25 mph speed limit sign placed on Swift Road. Motion carried.

Bryce Turner, 204 N Market Street, was present at to discuss the possibility of him doing an Eagle Scout project to have a container for old flags to be dropped off at the Township. The Board thanked him for his idea. Major/Madara Jr. motioned to have Bryce go forward with worn flag depository in the main hall of the Municipal Building. Motion carried. Bryce can follow up with Code Officer Mark Lyash.

Patrick Sassani, 3 Horizon Drive, was present at the meeting to discuss the condition of Horizon Drive. He stated that with costs of everything the way they are right now it would be fine to wait on any updates to the road right now. The Roadmaster and board informed him that right now it would be difficult to say when it will be on the radar for future projects and feel the road is in good condition at this point.

Bryon Sokoloskie, 5 Hickory Street, was present at the meeting to get permission to do audio/video of future board meetings on his platform "Elysburg Live". After much follow up the solicitor informed the board that it is a public meeting and he is able to do audio/video if he chooses. He also wanted to bring up that the channel at Hickory and Center is having an erosion/sediment problem; and that 4 of the streets near his home have drainage problems. Supervisors asked that he get into contact with Mark Lyash for his concerns. The

Board also thanked him for helping to get together the group that did community clean up in the playground in the spring. He stated that he hoped that would be an annual effort.

Minutes of May 10, 2022 regular monthly meeting were accepted as presented on Madara Jr./Major 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 Madara Jr./Major motion, motion carried unanimously.

Major/Daubert motioned to approve Final Payment App #3 submitted by Mitchell Knorr Contracting for the Center Street Flood Mitigation Project through CDBG funds contingent upon engineer review and approval. Motion carried with Madara Sr. and Madara Jr. abstaining.

### **CORRESPONDENCE**

- PennDOT notice of paint project/detour in Columbia County, Cleveland Township/Northumberland County, Ralpho Township on Campground Road was received. Roadmaster spoke to PennDOT representative this week. He told him it would be best to do the project during Knoebel's closed season.
- Letter from United States Deputy Secretary of the Treasury regarding American Rescue Plan State and Local Recovery funds was received.

### **COMMITTEE/DEPARTMENT REPORTS:**

#### **PLANNING – Mark Lyash**

- Pantalone subdivision sketch plan was discussed.
- Madara Jr./Daubert motioned to give Thomas-Williams Subdivision extension until September 13, 2022. Motion carried.

#### **STREET DEPARTMENT – Madara Sr.**

- Report was received.
- Bids for Horizon Drive seal coat contract were opened in June, tabulated and considered and tabled. After some discussion Major/Madara Sr. motioned to reject all bids because cost of the project was nearly twice the estimate; and, after talking with some of the homeowners thought it would be best to wait. Motion carried.

#### **BUILDINGS – Daubert**

- Madara Jr./Madara Sr. motioned to approve advertising for fuel bid to be awarded at July 12, 2022 meeting. Motion carried.

#### **RECREATION – Madara Jr.**

- none

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

- 14 permits were issued and \$2,364.90 and \$70 in transient merchant fees were collected during May. 33 letters of correspondence were sent and 20 complaints were received for vehicles, trash, dumping and dangerous structures.
- Potential zoning amendments were discussed. Supervisors asked that planning commission look over and bring forward proposed amendments.

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

- Report was read

- Chief Chowka gave an update on the new cruiser, decals are done and they are waiting for equipment for the inside.
- Carpet was replaced in police station last week.

### **RECYCLING – Major**

- none

### **MANAGER’S REPORT**

- ARPA funds report was submitted stating the use of funds for revenue replacement. 2<sup>nd</sup> installment of funds will come in late June or early July.
- DCNR grant was submitted successfully.
- Manager updated the board on health insurance. Renewal will take place in October and we have a possible shortage of \$50,000. Past year a refund was received, but this year 2 large claims have made it so there may be a possible shortage. He will follow up in the future.

### **SOLICITOR’S REPORT**

- none

### **ENGINEER’S REPORT**

- Report was reviewed.
- Gallina mall project is still awaiting ZHB decision before moving forward further.

### **OLD BUSINESS:**

- Possible electric sign with the library will be discussed further next month.

### **NEW BUSINESS:**

- Appointment to MART board was discussed.
- Major/Madara Jr. motioned to allow 10-15 cars to park in the back of the Municipal Building for a trip. Motion carried with Williams abstaining.

### **CITIZEN INPUT – none**

ADJOURNMENT – there being nothing further for discussion, meeting adjourned at approximately 8:05 p.m. on Daubert/Madara Jr. motion and carried.

Executive Session was held for personnel.

Respectfully submitted,

Debra L. Olson  
Ralpho Township Secretary