

MINUTES - RALPHO TOWNSHIP SUPERVISORS
REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING - SEPTEMBER 13, 2022
Held in Municipal Building Meeting Room, 206 S. Market St., Elysburg, PA

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

Chairman announced that an executive session was held prior to the start of tonight's meeting for personnel.

Attending were: Supervisors Blaine Madara Sr., Stephen Major, Daniel Williams, Blaine Madara Jr. and Vince Daubert. 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; Linda Sterling SEDA-COG; Ron Bittner and Barry Keck from Girard Pension Services and 1 interested citizen.

Ron Bittner and Barry Keck of Girard Pension Services were present to discuss the pension funds.

Linda Sterling SEDA-COG was present to discuss CDBG funding.

- Major/Madara Jr. motioned to reject all bids for engineering for the Township Gym Removal of Architectural Barriers (RAB) project through CDBG funds. Motion carried.
- CDBG 2020-CV Funding was discussed. Will be discussed further at October meeting.

CITIZEN INPUT ON AGENDA ITEMS – none

Minutes of August 9, 2022 regular monthly meeting were accepted as presented on Daubert/Madara Jr. 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 Major/Madara Jr. motion, motion carried unanimously.

CORRESPONDENCE

- Northumberland County Conservation District Aqua General Permit Acknowledgment Notification was received.
- KPI Act 14 Notification Shamokin Coal Township Joint Sewer Authority Water Quality Management Permit Amendment was received.

COMMITTEE/DEPARTMENT REPORTS:

PLANNING – Mark Lyash

- Daubert/Madara Sr. motioned to give Toy Factory Land Development Preliminary Plan 90-day extension until 12-13-2022. Motion carried.
- Madara J./Major motioned to accept recommendation of the Planning Commission to approve Thomas/Williams Subdivision (2). Motion carried. Chairman Williams abstained.

STREET DEPARTMENT – Madara Sr.

- Report was received.

- Madara Sr./Daubert motioned to have Pave-It Inc. repair and pave 10'x11' location on Horizon Drive for quoted price of \$1,709. Motion carried.
- Leaf collection information will be included in the Township newsletter.
- Madara Sr./Daubert motioned to hire Dan Pawelczyk Jr. for full-time street department position at \$18.00 per hour, effective September 28, 2022. Motion carried.

BUILDINGS – Daubert

- Supervisor Madara Jr. gave Supervisor Daubert a vendor contact for a quote on carpet for Library Steps.
- Daubert/Madara Sr. motioned to purchase new phone system and monthly service, from Contrast for a quote of \$3,603.23 for equipment and set up, with a monthly charge of \$179.55. Motion carried.

RECREATION – Madara Jr.

- Township was awarded \$70,000 DCNR grant to upgrade recreation facilities.

ZONING OFFICER'S REPORT – Major

- 17 permits for \$4,591.69 were collected during August. 38 letters of correspondence were sent and 16 complaints were received for vehicles, trash, dumping and dangerous structures.
- Potential zoning amendments were discussed. Planning will continue to review and bring forward a draft ordinance in October.
- Dry weather burning ban amendment was discussed with no changes to be made at this time.
- FEMA request for information was received on property in Reeder's Grove in regard to flood plain.
- Major/Madara Sr. motioned to return escrow balance of \$1,082.50 to Hoagland (2) Subdivision. Motion carried.

POLICE DEPARTMENT/PUBLIC SAFETY – Williams

- Report was read

RECYCLING – Major

- DEP recycling grant was discussed. Williams/Madara Jr. authorize Mr. Springer to apply for grant to purchase an updated leaf machine. Motion carried.
- Glass recycling will need to be hauled by someone else within 6 months, current vendor, Shingara has sold business.

MANAGER'S REPORT

- GHP Health Insurance Renewal was discussed, more information will be brought to October meeting.
- Williams/Daubert motioned to adopt 2023-2027 Collective Bargaining Agreement for Ralpho Township Police. Motion carried. Supervisor Major expressed appreciation for the committee handling this.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT

- Hearing to Consider an Ordinance 193 amending Speed Limit on Swift Road, Madara Sr./Major motioned to adopt Ordinance 193 amendment. Motion carried.
- Cable TV Franchise renewal was discussed. Sr./Daubert motioned to have solicitor amend current ordinance. Motion carried.

ENGINEER'S REPORT

- Report was reviewed.

OLD BUSINESS:

- Major/Madara Jr. motioned to appoint Doug Avellino to the open MART board position until December 31, 2025. Motion carried.
- Supervisor Major gave an update on MART Smoke Testing. MART has also televised the interceptors recently. Chapter 94 reports were filed and MART is waiting to see if any EDU's will be released.
- Major/Madara Jr. motioned to add Municibid auction results acceptance to the agenda. Motion carried.
- Madara Jr./Madara Sr. motioned to accept highest bid through Municibid for the 2013 Chevrolet Tahoe 4x4 of \$10,600 from Kenold Charles of Brooklyn, NY; and for JD X320 Lawn Tractor of \$750 from Christopher Miller of York, PA, motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS:

- Major/Madara Sr. motioned to hold Trick or Treat night on Monday, October 31, from 5 to 8 p.m. Motion carried.
- 2023 MMO's – Police and Non-Uniformed Pension Plans. Motion to approve MMO's as follows: Police Pension Plan = \$136,720 and Non-Uniformed Pension Plan = \$47,095 was made by Madara Jr./Major and motion carried.
- Major/Madara Jr. motioned to reject all bids for engineering for the Township Gym Removal of Architectural Barriers (RAB) project through CDBG funds. Motion carried.
- Ralpho Township's portion of Northumberland County CDBG FFY 2020-CV Funding will be discussed further at October meeting.
- Supervisor Major will work on a Facebook page for the Township and bring example to October meeting.
- The Knight's of Columbus will have Community Christmas Tree lighting on November 27th at 6 p.m.

CITIZEN INPUT – Bryon Sokoloski, 5 Hickory Street, was present and wanted to be sure the Township was aware of Officer Filarski's heroism at recent house fire in the Township. The Township stated that we were going to honor him to night, but he was unable to attend. We plan to honor him in October.

ADJOURNMENT – there being nothing further for discussion, meeting adjourned at approximately 8:28 p.m. on Madara Jr./Williams motion and carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Debra L. Olson
Ralpho Township Secretary