

MINUTES - RALPHO TOWNSHIP SUPERVISORS
REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING - DECEMBER 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.

A moment of silence was held for 2 firemen from New Tripoli who perished in a fire.

Supervisors congratulated Southern Columbia High School Football on 6th consecutive State Championship and Southern Columbia Girls Soccer on 3rd Consecutive State Championship. Congrats to the teams, coaches, fans, families and the community.

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; and 1 interested citizens.

CITIZEN INPUT ON AGENDA ITEMS – none

Minutes of November 8, 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 Madara Sr./Major motion, motion carried unanimously.

CORRESPONDENCE

- Northumberland County Department of Economic Development & Planning Solid Waste Management Plan notice was received.
- Village Cat Knapper update was read and received.
- Columbia County Bridge No. 31 detour information was received.

COMMITTEE/DEPARTMENT REPORTS:

PLANNING – Mark Lyash

- Madara Jr./Major motioned to accept recommendation of the Planning Commission to approve Craig & Cristine Richard Final Minor Subdivision. Motion carried.

STREET DEPARTMENT – Madara Sr.

- Report was received.
- Daubert/Madara Jr. motioned to hire Albert Goodlunas part-time at \$14 per hour. Motion carried.
- Purchasing pipe for 2023 road projects was tabled until next month.
- Madara Sr./Daubert motioned to accept the resignation of Daniel Pawelczyk from the Street Department, effective November 11, 2022.

BUILDINGS – Daubert

- none

RECREATION – Madara Jr.

- Pickleball use of the gym was discussed. Supervisor Madara Jr. has placed tape on the floor to see how it works out.

ZONING OFFICER'S REPORT – Major

- 6 permits were issued for \$579.34 were collected during November. 40 permits were close, 30 letters of correspondence were sent and 14 complaints were received for vehicles, trash, dumping and dangerous structures.
- Potential zoning amendments will be discussed in future.

POLICE DEPARTMENT/PUBLIC SAFETY – Williams

- Report was read.
- Virus software was added to 2 virtual servers through Arete.
- Repair of speed timing equipment was discussed.

RECYCLING – Major

- Supervisor major updated the Board on recycling being pulled to Jeff's Recycling.

MANAGER'S REPORT

- DCNR contract was received. Order to proceed has not been received yet.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT

- none

ENGINEER'S REPORT

- Report was reviewed.

OLD BUSINESS:

- Resolution 2022-07 re-enacting current Act 511 taxes as advertised:
 - Per Capita \$5
 - Occupation 100%
 - Real Estate Transfer 1%
 - Earned Income 1%
 - LST (formerly EMST) \$52 on earnings exceeding \$12,000
 - TV Franchise 2%
 - Mechanical Amusement \$50 per machine

Was adopted on a Madara Sr./Major motion and carried unanimously.

- Proposed 2023 Budget was posted for public inspection on November 17, 2022. Resolution 2022-08 establishing Real estate taxes for 2023 as follows: general purposes 6-1/4 mills; fire protection ½ mill; equipment ½ mill and library ¼ mill; street lighting depending on location .22, .25, .37 or \$6.46. Madara Jr./Madara Sr. seconded. Motion carried unanimously.
- Resolution 2022-09 adopting the 2023 Budget was approved on Major/Madara Sr. motion and carried unanimously. General Fund anticipated receipts including projected carry over from 2022 = \$2,075,830; budgeted expenditures = \$2,072,445 leaving a projected surplus of \$3,385. State Aid Fund anticipated receipts including projected carry over from 2022 = \$549,896, budgeted expenditures of \$468,910 leaving a projected surplus of \$80,986.
- Supervisor Major updated the board on MART moratorium and EDUs received for 2022.

NEW BUSINESS:

- Madara Sr./Major motioned to adopt resolution 2022-10 requiring contribution of 5% of gross pay from uniformed employees toward pension for 2023. Motion carried.
- Daubert/Madara Jr. motioned to adopt resolution 2022-11 requiring contribution of 1.25% of gross pay from non-uniformed employees toward pension for 2023. Motioned carried.
- Major/Madara Sr. motioned to approved advertising for meeting dates of Ralpho Township Supervisors meeting to be the 2nd Tuesday of month beginning at 6:30 p.m. and for Planning

Commission meetings to be 1st Tuesday of month beginning at 6:30 p.m., January Planning Commission meeting will be held at 5 p.m., Tuesday, January 3 to accommodate any plans, etc. to move forward to the Supervisor's meeting; also, to authorize advertising January's reorganizational and regular monthly meeting for Tuesday, January 3, 2023 beginning at 6:30 p.m. The annual budget meeting the 4th Tuesday of October will also be included in the advertisement. Approval was unanimous.

- Secretary informed the Board of Vacancies for next year.

CITIZEN INPUT – none

Board went into executive session for personnel and possible litigation at 6:52 p.m. Board reconvened at 7:27p.m.

- Madara Sr./Madara Jr. motioned effective January 1, 2023 to give Debra Olson, Secretary \$.75/hr raise; Damion Beagle Roadmaster, \$.75/hr raise per contract; Officers Stephen Spade, Officer Matthew Filarski, Officer David Tomtishen, Officer Glen Wonsock, and Officer Brandon Cohick \$1.00/hr raise per contract; Chief Bryon Chowka \$1.00/hr raise per contract; Mark Lyash, Assistant Manager \$.75/hr.; Charles Kowalchick, Buildings/Grounds \$.75/hr; Joseph Springer, Manager \$2,000/annual raise; Albert Goodlunas \$2.00/hr raise. Motion carried unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT – there being nothing further for discussion, meeting adjourned at approximately 7:30 p.m. on Madara Sr./Madara Jr. motion and carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Debra L. Olson
Ralpho Township Secretary