

MINUTES - RALPHO TOWNSHIP SUPERVISORS
REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING - MARCH 12, 2024
Held in Municipal Building Meeting Room, 206 S. Market St., Elysburg, PA

Executive Session was held for personnel at 6:00 p.m. prior to tonight's meeting.

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

Oath of Office was held for new police officer Tyler Bischof

Attending were: Supervisors Blaine Madara Sr., Vincent Daubert, Stephen Major, Daniel Williams and Blaine Madara Jr. Also attending were: Township Manager Joseph Springer, Township Solicitor Todd Kerstetter; Township Secretary/Treasurer Debra Olson; Code Officer Mark Lyash; Chief Bryon Chowka; and Roadmaster Damion Beagle; Larry Deklinski *Shamokin News-Item*; and 20 interested citizens.

Bids for paving contract were opened, tabulated and considered (see tabulation sheet). Major/Madara Sr. motioned to accept the apparent low bid of \$156,977 from Dave Gutelius Excavating Inc. for the Paving Contract. On the question: award is contingent upon bid meeting all legal, bonding and insurance requirements. Motion unanimously approved.

CITIZEN INPUT ON AGENDA ITEMS – Bob Hertzog, 9 Shamokin Ave, was present to ask the Supervisors to do something about a dangerous dog in their neighborhood. Chief Chowka informed him that they are actively pursuing this matter.

Minutes of February 13, 2024 regular monthly meeting were accepted as presented on Major/Daubert motion and carried.

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

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

CORRESPONDENCE

- none

COMMITTEE/DEPARTMENT REPORTS:

PLANNING – Mark Lyash

- Madara Sr./Major motioned to adopt Resolution 2024-04 Component II Sewage Planning Module for 3-Ponds Golf Course Land Development. Motion carried.
- Williams/Madara Jr. motioned to accept the recommendation of the Planning Commission and approve the Michael Lerch Land Development Plan. Motion carried.
- Daubert/Major motioned to approve extension for Heath Subdivision until October 1, 2024. Motion carried.

STREET DEPARTMENT – Major

- Report was received.
- Update was given on Hydradig.
- Major/Madara Sr. motioned to have Robert C. Young Incorporated do Street Sweeping for \$1,880. Motion carried.
- Williams/Madara Jr. motioned to have J.C. Ehrlich do vegetation spraying for \$2,967.54. Motion carried.

- Board discussed brush collection program.
- A co-op student from Southern Columbia Area School District was discussed. More in near future.
- Madara Sr./Major motioned to rent crack seal machine from Seal Master for \$6,791 including materials. Motion carried.

BUILDINGS – Madara Sr.

- Madara Sr./Williams motioned to give Ralpho Township Library permission to do a feasibility study. Motion carried.

RECREATION – Madara Jr.

- Madara Jr./Williams motioned to purchase 2 truckloads of wood playground carpet for up to \$6,702. Motion carried.

ZONING OFFICER’S REPORT – Daubert

- 7 permits were issued and \$8,209.50 fees were collected during February. 31 letters of correspondence were sent; 11 permits were closed; and, 15 complaints were received for vehicles, trash, dumping and dangerous structures, etc.

POLICE DEPARTMENT/PUBLIC SAFETY – Williams

- Report was read.
- Elysburg Fire and Ralpho Fire Annual Reports were received. Supervisor Williams thanked both fire companies for the excellent care they give our community. Supervisor Madara Jr. also thanked the Elysburg Ambulance for the excellent service they provide.
- Supervisor Major also thanked our police for their presence at the active shooter training at the SCA in-service recently.

RECYCLING – Daubert

- none

MANAGER’S REPORT

- Madara Sr./Major motioned to do 1-year electric supply contract with Constellation at a rate of \$.08155. Motion carried.
- Manager Springer recommended to transfer monies from ARPA to pay for the recycling grant purchases and then transfer back when monies are reimbursed.

SOLICITOR’S REPORT

- none

ENGINEER’S REPORT

- Report was received.
- Supervisor Madara Sr. also discussed with the engineer possibly doing a vertical lift instead of a ramp for the CDBG project at the gymnasium for handicapped accessibility.

OLD BUSINESS:

- Tabled appointment of ZHB Member.
- Williams/Sr. motioned to renew insurance package with Crime Coverage included, effective March 5, 2024 through March 5, 2025 with DGK/EMC for total of \$108,974. Motion carried
- Vector gym access is still in process for the gymnasium.

NEW BUSINESS:

- Williams/Madara Sr. motioned to hire Carol Williams for Tax Assistant position at a rate of \$1,500 annually with additional \$2.00 each per each name added to the rolls. Motion carried.

- Supervisor Madara Sr. shared information he learned at the Northumberland County Tax-Reassessment information meeting.
- Secretary Olson shared information about the interest-bearing accounts changing at Journey Bank. Paperwork will be forthcoming at the April meeting.
- Major/Williams motioned to accept the CDBG FFY 2024 schedule. Motion carried.
- Major/Daubert motioned to accept 2023 Audit and DCED report as presented by auditing firm Wagner, Dreese, Elsasser and Associated, P.C. Motion carried.

CITIZEN INPUT – Bryan Sokolskie, S Hickory St, asked for more information on the brush collection; and asked that the board please look further into the co-op program.

ADJOURNMENT – there being nothing further for discussion, meeting adjourned at approximately 7:50 p.m. on Williams/Major motion and carried.

Executive session was held for litigation.

Respectfully submitted,

Debra L. Olson
Ralpho Township Secretary