

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

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

Attending were: Supervisors Blaine Madra Sr., Vincent Daubert, Stephen Major, Daniel Williams and Blaine Madara Jr. Also attending were: Township Solicitor Todd Kerstetter; Township Manager Joseph Springer; Township Secretary/Treasurer Debra Olson; Code Officer Mark Lyash; Chief Bryon Chowka; and Roadmaster Damion Beagle; and 2 interested citizens.

CITIZEN INPUT ON AGENDA ITEMS – Eileen Murphy, 2 Whitetail Dr, was present with a concern about a car being parked too close to the intersection within the Deerfield Development. Chief Chowka will look into this further.

Minutes of October 12, 2024 regular monthly meeting and October 22, 2024 budget meeting were accepted as presented on 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 regular on a Major/Madara Sr. motion, motion carried unanimously.

CORRESPONDENCE

- 2024 3rd Quarter Statement of Account for Police and Non-Uniform Pensions are available in the Township Office.
- Vector Security planned rate adjustment letter was received.
- Notice received for Polar Tech Industries Inc. for DEP Permit Application as required by the Clean Air Act of 1990.

COMMITTEE/DEPARTMENT REPORTS:

PLANNING – Mark Lyash

- none

STREET DEPARTMENT – Major

- Report was received.
- Major/Madara Sr. motioned for Roadmaster to submit application to Low Volume Road Grant for Happy Valley Road. Motion carried.
- Supervisor Major brought someone's concern of speed on Hwy 54 now that project is done and reopened.
- Supervisor Major was approached about safety of Intersection of SR54 and Center Street. Police Chief Chowka researched the area and the Department has responded to 22 motor vehicle accidents at the location. Supervisor Major, Police Chief Chowka and Roadmaster Beagle will follow up.

BUILDINGS – Madara Sr.

- None

RECREATION – Madara Jr.

- None

ZONING OFFICER'S REPORT – Daubert

- 16 permits were issued and \$1,737.92 in fees were collected during October. 35 letters of correspondence were sent; 15 permits were closed; and, 28 complaints were received for vehicles, trash, dumping and dangerous structures, etc.

- Ron Hinkley, Department of Public Safety from Northumberland County emailed to request information about resources the Township has available on an immediate basis in the event of a major emergency. Mr. Lyash will respond.
- PEMA email was received from National Flood Insurance Program regarding new disaster funding for Flood Mitigation Assistance Swift Current Initiative. Mr. Lyash will check to see if this type of grant would be able to be used to prevent damage from high water issues at pump station for MART at Reeder's Grove.

POLICE DEPARTMENT/PUBLIC SAFETY – Williams

- Report was read.
- Madara Jr./Williams motioned to adopt resolution 2024-06 showing support for Elysburg Fire Company Grant documentation for Local Shares Grant. Motion carried.
- Northumberland County burn ban is in effect until December 2nd.
- Madara Sr./Daubert motioned to use American Computer Associates of Frackville for IT for the Township moving forward. Motion carried.
- Madara Jr./Major motioned to purchase license plate reader for new police cruiser being purchased in 2025. Motion carried.

RECYCLING – Daubert

- none

MANAGER'S REPORT

- Manager Springer reported on loan program Secretary reported to him to possibly help with Bear Hollow repairs. Pennsylvania Infrastructure Bank Low Interest Loans for Transportation Projects. Interest rates are normally ½ of the prime rate.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT

- none

ENGINEER'S REPORT

- Report was received.

OLD BUSINESS:

- none

NEW BUSINESS:

- Proposed Budget – Major/Williams motioned to authorize advertising and posting proposed 2025 budget. Real estate taxes 8½ mills; i.e., general purposes 6¼ mills; fire protection 1½ mills; equipment ½ mill and library ¼ mill; street lighting per assessment formula. General Fund anticipated receipts plus carry over from 2024 = \$2,187,957; budgeted expenditures = \$2,185,858 leaving a projected surplus of \$2,009. State Aid Fund anticipated receipts plus carry over from 2024 = \$840,791 budgeted expenditures of \$841,791 leaving a projected surplus of \$0. Proposed Budget – Authorize advertising current Act 511 taxes as follows

Per Capita	\$5
Occupation	100%
Real Estate Transfer	1%
Earned Income	1%
LST	\$52 on earnings exceeding \$12,000
TV Franchise	2%
Mechanical Amusement	\$50 per machine

Motion carried.

- Williams/Daubert motioned to have Chairman and Secretary to work with Roaring Creek Machine Company to get Logo mugs and Sheetz gift cards for Township employees for the holidays. Motion carried.
- Major/Madara Jr. motioned to adopt Resolution 2024-07 to update Right to Know Policy. Motion carried.
- Madara Sr./Daubert motioned to release \$6,910.24 remainder of library budgeted monies. Motion carried.
- Williams/Major motioned to do request for proposals for Township engineering services. Motion carried.

CITIZEN INPUT – none

ADJOURNMENT – there being nothing further for discussion, meeting adjourned at approximately 7:20 p.m. on Daubert/Madara Sr. motion and carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Debra L. Olson
Ralpho Township Secretary