

MINUTES - RALPHO TOWNSHIP SUPERVISORS
REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING - FEBRUARY 11, 2025
Held in Municipal Building Meeting Room, 206 S. Market St., Elysburg, PA

Executive session for personnel was held prior to meeting.

Chairman Daubert called the meeting to order at 6:35 p.m. and led the recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag.

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; Larry Deklinski Shamokin News-Item and 2 interested citizens.

Madara Jr./Williams motioned to renew insurance policy for period of March 5, 2025 to March 5, 2026 with DGK for package of \$98,742 plus additional \$1,525 to increase umbrella package from 2-million to 3-million; and, Cyber Security coverage from \$100,000 to \$250,000 for additional \$568. For a total of \$100,835. Motion carried.

CITIZEN INPUT ON AGENDA ITEMS – none

Minutes of January 6, 2025 regular monthly meeting and reorganizational meeting were accepted as presented on Williams/Major.

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

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

CORRESPONDENCE

- Williams/Madara Sr. motioned to exonerate Tax Collector Vanessa Major from further collections on the 2024 tax duplicate. Motion carried with Major abstaining.
- 2024 4th Quarter and Annual Investment Reports for the Ralpho Township Police and Non-Uniformed Pension Plans are available for review in the Township Office.
- Annual Cat Knapper Report was received.
- Aqua Mandatory Water Conservation notice was received.
- Email from Tax Payer regarding volunteering for boards or committees was received.
- Knoebels Three Ponds Golf Course Notice of Application to Susquehanna River Basin Commission for consumptive use permit was received.

COMMITTEE/DEPARTMENT REPORTS:

PLANNING – Mark Lyash

- Madara Jr./Daubert motioned to give Gallina Land Development 6-month extension with notation of further extensions not guaranteed. Motion carried with Madara Sr. voting no.

STREET DEPARTMENT – Madara Sr.

- Report was received.
- Madara Sr./Williams motioned to put 2025 summer road projects out to bid with bids being opened at March meeting. Projects include: Bear Hollow Rd. pulverization, geotextile, subbase, asphalt prime coat, asphalt surface treatment, seal coat and fog coat; Swift Rd. & Berks Rd. asphalt wearing course, asphalt seal coat and asphalt fog seal; Happy Valley Road pulverization, geotextile, subbase, asphalt price coat, asphalt surface treatment, asphalt seal coat; Happy Valley Road would be done

with grant from Soil Conservation Dirt and Gravel, with a match from the Township. Motion carried.

- Madara Sr./Major motioned to hire Stephen Know as a part-time snow plow driver effective immediately at a rate of \$17 per hour. Motion carried.

BUILDINGS – Daubert

- Madara Jr./Major motioned to have Chairman sign Ralpho Township Library Memorandum of Understanding. Motion carried.

RECREATION – Madara Jr.

- none

ZONING OFFICER’S REPORT – Williams

- 8 permits were issued and \$1,194 fees were collected during January. 11 permits were closed, 48 letters of correspondence were sent; and, 26 complaints were received for vehicles, trash, dumping and dangerous structures, etc.

POLICE DEPARTMENT/PUBLIC SAFETY – Major

- Report was read
- Major/Sr. motioned to accept resignation of part-time police officer Francis Petrovich; motion carried.
- Discussion took place on part-time wages for police officers, Chief will bring further information to March meeting.
- Elysburg Fire Company Annual Report was received.
- Ralpho Fire Company Annual Report was received.
- The Board took time to thank all the volunteer firemen and auxiliaries for all they do for our community.
- Madara Jr. discussed the multiple ambulance fliers going out to residents. In Ralpho Township Elysburg Ambulance is “first call”.

RECYCLING – Williams

- none

MANAGER’S REPORT

- LSA Grant monies were discussed with no decision at this time.
- Recycling Grant monies are still in process. It was a reimbursable grant and we are waiting for payment.

SOLICITOR’S REPORT

- none

ENGINEER’S REPORT

- No report was received.

OLD BUSINESS:

- Madara Sr./Williams motioned to appoint KPI Engineering Firm for the year 2025. Motion carried.
- Act 205 Recovery discussion took place.

NEW BUSINESS:

- Williams/Madara Sr. motioned to authorize releasing \$2,200 from both the Police and Non-uniformed Pension Plans to pay actuarial/consulting fees to Girard Pension Services. Motion carried.
- Major/Madara Jr. motioned to adopt Succession Resolution 2025-02. Motion carried.

- Stacy Macdonald, 81 Happy Valley Rd, Elysburg, was present at the meeting on behalf of her Family's business, Knoebels Amusement Resort; in regard to having a wayfinding traffic study done for the park within the 3 Townships and 2 Counties that the park is in. The process is in the beginning stages, SEDA-COG would possibly be the administrator.
- Madara Sr./Daubert motioned to have Chairman sign agreement with PSPCA for cat vouchers. Motion carried.
- Madara Sr./Williams motioned to adopt Resolution 2025-03 an amendment to Resolution 2024-06 Support for LSA Grant Application from Elysburg Fire Company, from requesting \$300,000 to requesting \$435,000 in grant monies for their building project. Motion carried.
- Madara Jr./Major motioned to accept the sole bid for the RAB, Township Gym, Phase 2 engineering quote from Peters Consultants Inc. in the amount of \$16,680.00, to be paid through CDBG funds. Motion carried.

CITIZEN INPUT – none

ADJOURNMENT – there being nothing further for discussion, meeting adjourned at approximately 7:25 p.m. on Williams/Madara Sr. motion and carried.

Executive session for personnel was held.

Respectfully submitted,

Debra L. Olson
Ralpho Township Secretary