

MINUTES - RALPHO TOWNSHIP SUPERVISORS MEETING - AUGUST 10, 2010
Held in Municipal Building Meeting Room, 206 S. Market St, Elysburg, PA.

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

Attending were: Supervisors Blaine Madara, Ed Payeskie, William Wetzel, Stephen Major and Vince Daubert. Also attending were: Solicitor Todd Kerstetter, Township Manager Joe Springer, Police Chief Stu Appel, Roadmaster Ed Miller, Code Enforcement Officer Howard Howal, Engineer Michele Auckerman, Township Secretary/Treasurer Debra Olson; Mark Gilger of the Shamokin News-Item and 2 citizens.

CITIZEN INPUT ON AGENDA ITEMS – none

Bids for 2010 Ford Crown Victoria Police Cruiser were opened. Madara/Payeskie motioned to accept the apparent high bid of Grace Quality Used Cars, Inc. of \$1,858. Motion carried.

Minutes of July 13, 2010 regular meeting were accepted as presented on Wetzel/Major motion and carried.

TREASURER’S REPORT was accepted as presented on Wetzel/Payeskie motion and carried.

Wetzel/Payeskie motioned to approve also paying KC Decals for 2010 Cruiser marking for up to \$600. Motion carried unanimously.

Wetzel/Payeskie motioned to move funds from the Equipment Fund to the General Fund to cover the cost of the 2010 Ford Crown Victoria Police Cruiser, lights, radios, etc. Motion carried unanimously.

Bills were approved as presented for payment on Payeskie/Daubert motion, motion carried unanimously.

CORRESPONDENCE

- 2nd Quarter Investment Summary Reports for pensions were received from TCG Investment and available in the Supervisor’s office for review.
- Annual Notification from Shamokin Terminal for Superior Plus Energy Services for storing “regulated substances” was read. Supervisor Wetzel asked that the secretary forward this information to both fire companies as well.
- Report from SEDA COG in regard to Long Range Transportation Plan Project Solicitation was received.
- Public Employee Retirement Commission Notice of 2010 Distress Determination was read.
- Read letter of support for the MART plant improvements from Representative Belfanti. Supervisors asked that the secretary make sure Municipal Authority of Ralpho Township received this letter as well.

Payeskie/Daubert motioned to make a donation of \$25 each to the Ralpho Township Public Library in memory of Chairman Madara’s mother, Mary Jane Madara; and Township Manager Springer’s step-father, Walter Todd. Motion carried with Supervisor Madara not voting.

COMMITTEE/DEPARTMENT REPORTS:

PLANNING COMMISSION –

- None

STREET DEPARTMENT – Payeskie

- Pipe Replacement at Hemlock was discussed. Permit has been applied for and DEP has not reviewed as of yet.
- Line Painting was discussed. Mr. Miller will get further information on this and we will double check with PenDot to see if the 487 project will be completed yet this year and who is responsible for the painting of the intersection after the project is complete the State or the Township.
- Salt Contract – American Rock Salt has the contract for 2010-2011 road deicing salt supplies. Price per ton = \$63.70, up \$2.13 from last year.
- Letter will be sent to the two homeowners on Pocahontas Lane who need to clean out the ditch on their properties for water drainage problem.
- Driveway pipe at property of 487 and Richard's road needs to be replaced. Solicitor will inform homeowner.
- Supervisor Payeskie asked that all Supervisors, Engineer, Solicitor, Roadmaster and Manager to meet at Hemlock St. at 6:00 p.m. on Tuesday, September 14, prior to the regular meeting to look at drainage problems, etc. prior to the possible paving of this area next year. Most in attendance agreed to meet at the site to review the situation.

BUILDINGS – Daubert

- Mr. Daubert looked into replacing time clocks for the township. He recommends the Pyramid Technologies 3500 Electronic. Wetzel/Madara motioned. Motion carried.
- Mat Service prices were looked into and the price we are getting is good and our contract is through January 2013. Supervisors would like to look into this for the future.

POLICE DEPARTMENT/PUBLIC SAFETY – Wetzel

- Wetzel/Payeskie motioned to ratify purchasing 2010 Cruiser from Sunbury Motors through the state contract at the price of \$22,983. Motion carried.

ZONING OFFICER'S REPORT – Madara

- 9 permits were issued and \$1,098.50 in fees were collected during July. Zoning officer issued several Occupancy Permits and handled one complaint.

RECREATION - Major

- None

RECYCLING – Major

- We have switched over to Jeff's Recycling as our vendor for our recycling center. The transition was a bit rough, but has been worked out. The township will now be seeing a savings from not having to pay to transport the recycled goods.

MANAGER'S REPORT - Joe Springer

- Spoke with Wes Fahringer about the DCNR grant in the last week. It appears that because our request is to do an indoor project we will be lower on the list of those that receive grants. We will know more in the future.
- Manager will be attending an Act 32 meeting on Wednesday, August 11. They will review 3 different tax collectors at that time. He will keep the supervisors updated.

SOLICITOR’S REPORT

- Campground Ordinance was finalized by the Planning Commission and the supervisors asked the solicitor to look into adding cabins or permanent structures to the ordinance. The Planning Commission requested that Zoning Officer Howard Howal and Solicitor Kerstetter attend the next meeting to help with this addition to the ordinance.
- Solicitor Kerstetter said Act 51 Ordinance is still being reviewed by Mr. Bittner. Mr. Bittner e-mailed that he will be in contact with Solicitor Kerstetter. With permission from the board the Solicitor asked that his item be removed from the agenda and brought back up in 6 months.
- Wetzel/Madara motioned to adopt Resolution No. 2010-04 Transient Merchant Permit Fee effective immediately to be \$25 for 5 days. Motion carried.
- Liquor Control Board Exemption was brought up because it will expire in October. Solicitor and Secretary will send letters to those affected and ask if they are interested in this exemption being renewed. It was also discussed as to whether the township could then charge a fee for this renewal to those that are still interested.
- Land acquisition is moving forward. Solicitor is doing the title search right now, not aware of any problems and would expect the process to take 2 to 3 months to complete.

ENGINEER’S REPORT

- Hemlock Pipe replacement permit is still waiting approval from DEP.
- Henry site has not begun construction.
- Cancer Care Center has not begun construction.
- Shamokin-Coal Township Wastewater Treatment Plant has been in contact with questions as they are developing the stormwater management plan and preparing to submit their land development plan to the Township. The escrow for plan review is in place with the township.

OLD BUSINESS:

- None

NEW BUSINESS:

- Halloween in Ralpho Township will be tentatively set up for Thursday, October 28th.

CITIZEN INPUT –

Rudy Persing was in attendance and had a complaint about neighbor on South Market St. with junk, waste, etc. in the yard. He asked that something be done about this. The Supervisors will look into this matter further.

ADJOURNMENT – there being nothing further for discussion, adjourned at approximately 8:05 p.m. on a Payeskie/Wetzel motion and carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Debra L. Olson
Ralpho Township Secretary