

YPINE GROVE TOWNSHIP SUPERVISORS

175 OAK GROVE ROAD, PINE GROVE, PA 17963

MAY 14, 2008 MEETING MINUTES

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CALL TO ORDER - Chairman Larry Zimmerman called the May 14, 2008 meeting to order with the Pledge of Allegiance at 7:05 PM. Attending were Supervisors Allen Aungst, Judith Lehman, Diane Tobin and Jerry Wise. Solicitor Gino DiNicola was absent. Also present: Sect. / Treas. Kathy Ferguson, Bernie Kulkaski, Bernie Thompson, Bonnie Brown, Tim Weaver, Ed Ely, other residents; list on file.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS - Bernie Kulkaski said he would like a report on the Roberts Road cul-de-sac, Zimmerman said they would discuss it under "Reports".

MINUTES / FINANCIAL ITEMS

- ♦ **April 9, 2008 Meeting Minutes**
- ♦ **April 21, 2008 Special Meeting Minutes**
Aungst moved to approve the minutes for both meetings and Lehman seconded the motion, all were in favor and motion carried 5 to 0.
- ♦ **Treasurer's Report** – Zimmerman said the General Fund beginning balance in April was \$231,102.87, April receipts were \$82,279.94, April expenses were \$43,932.79 and the General Fund ending balance is \$269,450.02; the Combined Funds ending balance is \$3,022,241.31. Aungst moved to approve the report, Wise seconded the motion, all were in favor and motion carried 5 to 0.
- ♦ **Recreation Area Savings Account**– Ferguson gave details of \$16,440.00 in the General Fund set aside for the Recreation Area that should be deposited into a separate account (\$13,400 from Solar Innovations development, \$2,400 from Bird's Eye View development, \$600 donation from Sovereign Bank). Zimmerman moved to approve a Resolution for Fulton Bank as the depository for a Recreation Area Savings Account. Tobin seconded the motion, all were in favor and motion carried 5 to 0.
- ♦ **Recreation Fees** – Aungst asked if Feeser should have given money to the Recreation Fund for his development. Zimmerman said there may be land that should be deeded to the Township and he will talk to Feeser about it.
- ♦ **Approval of Bills** – Tobin moved to approve paying the bills totaling \$18,211.23. Lehman seconded the motion, all were in favor and motion carried 5 to 0.

PERSONS TO BE HEARD - Janet Krammes, Bonnie and Mike Gilbert were unable to attend the meeting and were rescheduled to be heard at the June meeting.

REPORTS

Committee Reports – Zimmerman (Property & Roads) said the engineers are finishing the rough drawing of the cul-de-sac and would like to have a meeting with the Board as it does not look like they can fit it on the far side because of the pump station. Bernie Kulkaski asked if he could be advised of any meeting; he would like to attend because he is speaking with DEP about building a levee to protect his property.

Engineers Report / Planning Commission Report

- ♦ **Schuylkill County / Peiffer Sketch Plan of Record** – Aungst moved to approve the plan, Lehman seconded the motion, all were in favor and motion carried 5 to 0.
- ♦ **Thompson Airport Plan** – Zimmerman moved to approve the site plan, Aungst seconded the motion all were in favor and motion carried 5 to 0.

Swatara Creek CLC Request for Reduction in Letter of Credit – Aungst moved to approve a reduction in the letter of credit in the amount of \$7,405.00, Zimmerman seconded the motion, all were in favor and motion carried 5 to 0. Tobin noted the sewer lines have been taken over by the Joint Treatment Authority.

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- ♦ **Letters of Credit** – Zimmerman moved to have the engineer add language to the SALDO draft stating the Township has the authority to withhold from reducing letters of credit until they receive letters from other authorities involved that the developer has complied with their requirements. Lehman seconded the motion, all were in favor and motion carried 5 to 0. Zimmerman said he will call Horst about this item.
- ♦ **SALDO Draft Comments** – Aungst referred to the Planning Commission's comment on sections 1119, 1120 and 1121 regarding requirements for a hydrologist to do water testing depending on the number of lots being developed and said he agrees with the Planning Commission's recommendation. Discussion followed on the issue with the Board supporting the Planning Commission's recommendation. Aungst said he will give a list of comments to the office to type and circulate to the Board.

Zimmerman said there needs to be a tracking system for subdivisions so someone cannot sell five lots as a minor subdivision, then sell the property and the new owner sells another five lots as a minor subdivision. The Board agreed and Zimmerman said he will talk to the engineer about it.

Landfill Inspector – Lehman said Ingenco is almost through with testing the gas lines and everything is flowing smoothly.

Recreation Board – An application was received to fill the seat left vacant by the resignation of member Wes Levan. Lehman moved to appoint Aimmee Reiter to the Recreation Board for a term ending January 2011. Aungst seconded the motion, all were in favor and motion carried 5 to 0.

Roadmaster – Roadmaster was not present. Zimmerman said the road crew had closed the road at Chewing Gum Hill today for paving, they plan to close the roads for the 2008 road projects and Ralph is aware of notifying the water company and residents.

Zoning Officer – Zoning Officer was not present. Zimmerman said there were twelve approved permits for April.

Zoning Office Hours - Wise (Personnel Committee) said he discussed the possibility of establishing office hours with Koontz. Wise said before Koontz would commit to office hours in the building he would need to talk to the supervisors about the hours and his stipulations. Wise said if one or two supervisors insist he has hours then they need to arrange a meeting with Koontz.

Tobin said it is not a matter of one or two insisting he has hours, it is a majority of the Board. Tobin asked if Koontz gave Wise any of his stipulations so they have an idea of where they are at. Zimmerman said he probably wants to know what the Board wants and Wise said that is basically what Clint is saying. Tobin said she thought Wise said Koontz had stipulations. Wise said Koontz wants the Board to clarify what they want.

A discussion of hours followed with Tobin saying she doesn't want to dictate the hours because she doesn't know his schedule, but some evening and some day hours would be good. Wise said Koontz didn't feel hours are necessary because he is available to the public as needed, but he would meet with the Board to discuss what they are looking for.

Wise asked if they want to meet with Koontz. Zimmerman said it is up to them because he feels it is working fine the way it is. Zimmerman said even if Koontz is here four hours one day and a realtor comes in asking what they can do, Koontz will tell them to buy a book and read it themselves because he is not going to give them that information. Zimmerman said Koontz is our zoning officer to represent the township; he is not out there to make decisions for everybody down the line, if Clint made all the decisions we wouldn't need an engineer for a subdivision.

Bonnie Brown asked if that is how the mess happened on Keefer Road behind Joe Fisher's place and Zimmerman said Koontz had nothing to do with that. Brown asked how they got the address and things. Zimmerman said Koontz does not issue addresses. Tobin said Koontz issues zoning permits and he should answer zoning questions directed to him. Brown mentioned violations of building in her development and discussion continued on enforcement of zoning.

Zoning Office Hours, cont.

Tobin moved to have the Zoning Officer establish day and evening hours that he will be available to the public. Lehman seconded the motion. Tobin, Lehman, Aungst, and Wise voted in favor of the motion, Zimmerman opposed the motion, motion carried 4 to 1.

OLD BUSINESS

- ♦ **2008 Road Projects Bid Opening** – The Board reviewed the following bids received:

Eastern Industries @ \$231,698.00 EJB Paving @ \$238,072.30,
Penny Supply @ \$232,920.84 Reading Site Contractors @ \$230,484.92.

Tobin moved to award the road project to Reading Site Contractors as lowest bidder contingent upon review of the bid package and project approval from the township PennDOT representative. Lehman seconded the motion, all were in favor and motion carried 5 to 0.

- ♦ **Emergency Management Coordinator Pay** – The Board discussed the current pay rate of \$200 per incident for the Emergency Management Coordinator and Lehman asked who calls it an incident. Tim Weaver (EMC) said the county or the supervisors decide if it is an incident for him to handle. Other issues discussed were making room at the township building for the emergency management records, insurance liabilities and emergency plans not returned from the previous EMC. Zimmerman moved to pay the current pay rate of \$200 to the Emergency Management Coordinator Tim Weaver for the flooding incident in March, Wise seconded the motion; all were in favor and motion carried 5 to 0. Tobin asked if a motion is needed every time to pay the Emergency Management Coordinator and Zimmerman said no, only this time because it was delayed. The Board confirmed the current pay for the Emergency Management Coordinator is \$200 per incident and mileage (including to training).
- ♦ **Jury Duty Pay** – Zimmerman moved to have employees serving jury duty get paid by the township and return the money the court pays them for jury duty to the township. Motion died for lack of a second. Discussion continued. Lehman moved to pay employees their regular rate of pay for an eight hour day when serving jury duty with the employee keeping any money they receive from the court for jury duty. Tobin seconded the motion, all were in favor and motion carried 5 to 0.
- ♦ **Waste Management Negotiations on Landfill Gas** – DiNicola was not present to report on this item and it was tabled.
- ♦ **Dan Grow as Alternate Host Municipal Inspector** - Aungst moved to keep Dan Grow as the Township Alternate Host Municipal Inspector without pay. Lehman seconded the motion. Aungst, Lehman, Zimmerman, and Wise voted in favor of the motion. Tobin opposed the motion and motion carried 4 to 1. Tobin said she opposed the motion only because she feels he should be paid as it is crucial to have him as an alternate inspector.

NEW BUSINESS

- ♦ **Donations** – Tobin moved to approve the donations totaling \$3,000 as follows, keeping them the same as last year. Lehman seconded the motion, all were in favor and motion carried 5 to 0.
Paraclete Foundation - \$675 Pine Grove Ambulance Association - \$1,000
Pine Grove Borough for the fire hydrants - \$1,000 Pine Grove Community Band - \$25
Ruth Steinert Memorial SPCA - \$200 Tremont Public Library - \$100
- ♦ **Direct Deposit of Payroll Checks** – Ferguson asked the Board to consider mandatory direct deposit of payroll checks explaining the time savings etc. Aungst said not all employees have a bank account and after discussion the item was tabled.
- ♦ **UCC Appeals Board** – Aungst said the municipalities involved are Pine Grove Township, Pine Grove Borough, Tremont Township and Washington Township. Aungst said a meeting needs to be held and an appeals board set up with a representative from each municipality. Zimmerman said supervisors cannot be on the appeals board.

UCC Appeals Board, cont.

Tobin asked if she could have a copy of the inter-municipal agreement and asked if it states how many people will be on the appeals board. Aungst said the agreement for the appeals board was never implemented by the combined board and it should be less detailed. Tobin said each municipality should look for two or three people to be on the appeals board and discussion continued. The Board agreed to have Aungst continue as the representative to the inter-municipal board and set up a meeting about the appeals board.

CORRESPONDENCE

- ♦ **Borough Request** – Pine Grove Borough sent a letter requesting the use of township roads for detour purposes during the Memorial Day Parade to be held on Monday, May 26, 2008. Tobin moved to approve the Borough's request, Zimmerman seconded the motion, all were in favor and motion carried 5 to 0.
- ♦ **Zoning Hearing Board Notice** – The Zoning Hearing Board will hold a hearing on May 29, 2008 with two applicants to heard: 1) Wertz/Cool, Keefer Road 2) Double T Realty, Shultz Road.

PUBLIC COMMENT

- ♦ **Tim Weaver** said he has gotten the NIMSCAST password for the township.
- ♦ **Ed Ely** asked about the 645 bridge and Tobin said she called them today but the person she needed to talk to was not in. Tobin said if PennDOT was at the bridge last week then we should get a report soon.
- ♦ **Bernie Kulkaski** said the County is getting Act 167 established and eight months ago they weren't even working on it, he guesses pushing it has helped. Aungst said we will be getting a letter from Charlie Ross letting us know what the next procedures are.
- ♦ **Wise** read a complaint he received today (copy on file) about billboards going up along Interstate 81 in Ravine. Zimmerman said there are three going up and he will call Clint to see if they were approved.
- ♦ **Aungst** said we have nine dusk to dawn lights on the property and we could save hundreds of dollars if we reduced it to three. Zimmerman said he didn't care if they turned them all off and Tobin said they should selectively choose which ones to turn off. Tobin and Zimmerman also said there should be a motion sensor light at the back door of the office. Aungst said he would tell Ralph about turning off the dusk to dawn lights.
- ♦ **Tobin** said she has been on the phone with PennDOT regarding the bridge on 645 and if the Board has no objection she will send them a letter on Township letterhead. The Board voiced no objections.
- ♦ **Ferguson** said Cameron Wise received his Eagle Scout rank in March and we have been waiting for his scoutmaster to send us a letter so we can order a plaque. Ferguson asked the Board for approval to prepare a resolution for next meeting and to order the plaque for him. The Board approved both items.

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ADJOURNMENT

At 9:30 PM Zimmerman moved to adjourn the meeting, Lehman seconded the motion, all were in favor and motion carried 5 to 0.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathy Ferguson, Secretary / Treasurer