

PINE GROVE TOWNSHIP SUPERVISORS  
175 OAK GROVE ROAD, PINE GROVE, PA 17963  
DECEMBER 14, 2005 MEETING MINUTES



**CALL TO ORDER**

Chairman Larry Zimmerman called the December 14, 2005 meeting to order at 7 PM and opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance. Attending were Supervisors Diane Tobin, Allen Aungst, Herm Clemens and Jerry Wise. Also present were Solicitor Gino DiNicola, Sect. / Treas. Kathy Ferguson, Judith Lehman, John Heinbach, Dennis Fidler, Donald Wenrich, John Stahl, other residents; list on file.

**PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS**

- ♦ Donald Wenrich said he would like to discuss the EMS tax.
- ♦ John Stahl said he would like to comment on the Pine Vista Phase III Plans.

Chairman Zimmerman said they would have time to speak when those items are discussed.

**MINUTES / FINANCIAL ITEMS**

- ♦ **October 25, 2005 Budget Meeting Minutes**
- ♦ **November 1, 2005 Budget Meeting Minutes**
- ♦ **November 9, 2005 Meeting Minutes**

Aungst moved to approve the minutes, Tobin seconded the motion; all were in favor and motion carried 5 to 0.

- ♦ **Treasurer's Report** - The General Fund beginning balance was \$152,454.56. Zimmerman said the November General Fund receipts were \$43,309.40, November General Fund expenses were \$43,770.75 and the ending balance of the General Fund is \$151,993.21. Zimmerman said the Combined Township Fund ending balance is \$2,216,139.13. Clemens moved to approve the Treasurer's Report, Aungst seconded the motion, all were in favor and motion carried 5 to 0.
- ♦ **Reimburse General Fund for 2005 Liquid Fuels Expenses** – Zimmerman moved to adopt Resolution #2005 -10 authorizing the transfer of funds to reimburse General Fund for Liquid Fuel expenses in 2006 in the amount of \$31,475.84. Clemens seconded the motion, all were in favor and motion carried 5 to 0. Aungst asked Ferguson if the money will be transferred before the close of the books for this year and be in this year's audit; Ferguson said yes.
- ♦ **Approval of Bills** – Tobin moved to approve paying the bills totaling \$43,665.73; Wise seconded the motion, all were in favor and motion carried 5 to 0.

**PERSONS TO BE HEARD** – None.

**REPORTS**

**Engineers Report / Planning Commission Report**

- ♦ **Pine Vista Phase III Final Plan** – Ferguson reported that approval for the sewage module had not been received from DEP; although engineer Dave Horst and Ron Aungst said that Rob Stermer had given verbal approval, Stermer had not contacted our office. Ferguson said Ron Aungst asked to have the plan on next month's agenda.

John Stahl said in reviewing the sewage module he noticed Pine Grove Borough is providing public water for the project which means a public water system. Stahl said the Township does not have a public water system and according to Township ordinances there are three ways to provide water to a subdivision; wells, a public water system that is the Township's or the Borough which requires a PUC certificate.

**Pine Vista Phase III Final Plan, cont.**

Stahl asked if there is a PUC certificate of approval for this or any subdivision plan where the Borough is listed as the supplier of public water. Zimmerman said he is not aware of any and doubts there is any. Stahl suggested they review it before they move forward with the plan or they will be setting a precedent although that may have already been done with the Vince Miller project.

Zimmerman said he would hate to have them put wells on every lot in this plan. Stahl said they could do an agreement with the Borough and get a certificate for the project which would mean the rates would have to be reviewed and approved by the PUC.

The Board tabled the plans until next month's meeting.

- ♦ **Lengel Lot #8 Sewage Module Resolution** – Ferguson said it is not noted in the Planning Commission minutes, but Lynn Johnson came in and completed their checklist two days after their meeting with the help of our engineer; the plan itself is on their January agenda. Zimmerman moved to approve Resolution #2005-11 for the Lengel Lot #8 sewage module, Aungst seconded the motion, all were in favor; motion carried 5 to 0.
- ♦ **Olesh Request for Planning Waiver & Non-Building Declaration** – Tobin asked what the planning waiver is for. Dennis Fidler said it is because there is an existing system and a trailer on lot one which they are giving to their daughter and the residue parcel they are keeping is going to be used for agricultural purposes. Fidler said they are also asking the board to allow flag lots for the residue parcel because there isn't enough road frontage for two parcels, he added that there is two access strips because they didn't want to only have one because of the dirt road going back to the Wolfe property. Fidler said the other option if it would be developable land would be a road with a cul-de-sac, but it is low-lying land and doesn't have much potential for further development.

Tobin said the Planning Commission didn't do anything with it, just forwarded it on to the Board. Fidler said he thought they were satisfied with the requirements and Tobin said their minutes say they voted to pass it on to the Board of Supervisors.

Ferguson said the Olesh plan itself was not on the Supervisor's agenda because approval should be received from DEP on the Planning Waiver before the plan is approved. Zimmerman asked DiNicola if DEP has to approve the waiver before they approve the plan and DiNicola said he believes so; Fidler said technically they have to.

Tobin said they are not asking for approval of the plan itself, just for the waiver. Fidler said they are asking for approval of the plan, he thought they met the two requirements for the plan that Dave Horst asked for. Ferguson said the waiver was reviewed by the Planning Commission at their last meeting; it was not reviewed by Horst and had just been submitted on November 17 although the plan was in process for two months and approval of the plan isn't in the Planning Commission minutes.

Zimmerman asked DiNicola if they can approve everything and just not hand it out until that comes back from DEP and noted the Planning Commission had not signed the plans. DiNicola said there is a concern from a policy standpoint of the Board giving conditional approval of the plan without receiving approval from DEP and the Planning Commission signatures, but noted the Township doesn't have a problem with the applicant going forward at their own risk with the understanding when the conditions are met, the plans will be probably signed.

Zimmerman said in this case technically the plan for DEP was only here for one meeting so there wasn't anything we could do to speed things up. Zimmerman moved to approve the waiver and sign the plans and Ferguson asked him if his motion included approval of the plans; Zimmerman said yes. Ferguson asked him to restate his motion. After discussion of the Township policy, Zimmerman moved to approve the Olesh Request for Planning Waiver & Non-Building Declaration and tabled the plans, Clemens seconded the motion, all were in favor and motion carried 5 to 0.

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- ♦ In conjunction with the Olesh request, the Board discussed the review of sewage planning modules. Fidler said he had spoken to Allen about planning modules going through the process as soon as they come into the office instead of waiting until the plans come up and have a couple of weeks of lapsed time. Zimmerman said they have talked about sending sewage modules off right away. Fidler said most other Townships send it to DEP right away so it comes back the same time as the plan is approved.

Zimmerman said he thinks any sewage module or anything that goes to DEP should be looked at by the Board and sent right out to DEP while the Planning Commission has the prints. Tobin said the Planning Commission has to sign off on the sewage modules and then it comes to the Board. Aungst said the only thing the Planning Commission does is go through the checklist page and the chairman signs it, they don't really do any analyzing and Zimmerman agreed. Tobin said they *should* be reviewing it to make sure it complies with our ordinances. Aungst questioned if they are doing that with the sewage modules and Tobin said he should read the checklist; they are signing that it complies with our ordinances. Aungst said actually our sewage enforcement officer signs that it does. Tobin said there are different sections for him to sign than what the Planning Commission signs for.

Fidler said the Board should do an in-depth review with major planning modules (ten lots or greater) but the single lots for a minor plan are fairly standard. Tobin said it still asks if it is in compliance with our ordinances. Fidler said it would take probably ten minutes to look at it and say if it is within two or three hundred feet of a sewer line and if it has to be connected to a sewer line, greater than that distance Rob Stermer will probably waive it unless you have plans to extend your line.

Zimmerman said he is trying to speed it up but doesn't know how to do it. Tobin said the question is does it have to go through the Board to pass it on to DEP. Zimmerman said it has to go through the Board. Tobin said then it has to go through a meeting and Zimmerman agreed. Aungst asked if it has to go through the Planning Commission and Tobin said yes they have to sign off on it; if she was the chairman of the Planning Commission she would not want to be responsible to sign off on a plan if the others had not reviewed it.

Zimmerman said if they reviewed anything that had to go to DEP at their first meeting, if the sewage module came in with the plan they could approve it and pass it on even if there was a problem with the plan, the only problem would be the land owner would pay if it isn't approved. Fidler said it is only \$35 per lot for a minor plan review. Zimmerman said that is the only way it could be sped up – is to have the Planning Commission review the sewage plan at the first meeting.

Fidler asked if the policy will be changing for a waiver of a minor subdivision and Zimmerman said no, not now, not until we can come up with a reasonable solution.

- ♦ **Anna Sweigart Resignation** – Zimmerman moved to regretfully accept the resignation of Anna Sweigart from the Planning Commission, Clemens seconded the motion, all were in favor and motion carried 5 to 0. Aungst asked Ferguson to send a letter thanking her for her service to the Planning Commission.
- ♦ **Swatara Creek CLC, Reduction of Letter of Credit** – Zimmerman said there is a request for a reduction in the letter of credit and the estimate of the work completed is \$42,100.00. Zimmerman said we received a paper from Benesch saying the work was done and they signed off on the reduction of the letter of credit. Zimmerman moved to approve a reduction in the letter of credit for the Swatara Creek CLC in the amount of \$42,100.00, Clemens seconded the motion, all were in favor; motion carried 5 to 0.

**Landfill Inspector** – No comments on the report.

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**Roadmaster** – Zimmerman asked if they had any problems with the recent snows and Heinbach said no except he ruined a tire at the recycling center.

- ♦ **Boyer / Ward Property** - DiNicola said his office was contacted by a Robert Boyer and Margaret Ward who own a parcel that is about .2 acres; they claim it is at the fork of a road and it is of nominal value to them and would like to consider dedicating it to the Township. DiNicola suggested the Roadmaster take a look at it to see if it is of any value. DiNicola said they were going to consult with an attorney, Derenzo, but he has not heard from him. A discussion on the location of the parcel followed and DiNicola said it was parcel # 21-08-001. Fidler said it was on a subdivision he did for one of Boyer's stone homes and the mobile home that sets near the main mansion; there was a sliver of property left there because of a question about title to the stone home, it was left to increase the lot size in case they couldn't get title to it. Tobin asked why they wouldn't sell it to the adjoining property. Fidler said if this is the right parcel, it's nothing the Township would be interested in and should be sold to an adjoining property owner. The item was tabled until further information is received from Boyer or his attorney.

**Zoning Officer** – Zoning Officer was not present and Zimmerman said there were two permits approved and two complaints.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

**EMS Tax** - Zimmerman gave Wenrich the opportunity to speak as he requested in the opening public comments. Wenrich asked if the tax was already calculated into the budget and DiNicola said yes, \$37,000.00. Wenrich asked if they have it earmarked for something they don't have money for now. Zimmerman said not for anything special, it was worked into the budget figure; Aungst said the paperwork from the attorney said it is to be used for the fire companies and for road maintenance and that is what it is budgeted for. Zimmerman said if the donations go through like they have been, that is what it will be used for.

Wenrich said his point is we have two million dollars in the budget now, do you have plans on using that, are you looking ahead where you are going to do something for the infrastructure for the Township or are we just going to keep that and get possibly two million more from the landfill? Wenrich said he doesn't think the purpose of taxes is to accumulate a big slush fund and let it sit there; he feels taxes are if you need something done for the people, you tax the people to do that.

John Stahl asked what the rate is; Aungst said it is \$52. Stahl asked how they got \$37,000; the township only has about 4,000 citizens and Aungst said it goes by the people employed and Tobin said it is only on people working in the township, not the population.

Wenrich said it doesn't affect him, but it does affect the kids working at McDonald's. Aungst said the law allows an exemption up to \$12,000; but we haven't set the amount yet, it is up for discussion tonight.

Wenrich said he doesn't see where we need the money. Zimmerman said he is the person who said six months ago that we should put the property tax back on the Township and now he's saying we shouldn't tax the people. Wenrich said absolutely, saying that Zimmerman said then that we didn't need the money, now he says we need a tax. Zimmerman said this is not a tax on property owners; this is tax on the worker. Wenrich said that Zimmerman doesn't want to tax property owners because he will have a lot of hash come back.

Wenrich said he thinks the business people should be paying the tax, not the kids working at McDonald's.

Wenrich asked how much property tax they would have to levy for \$37,000 and Zimmerman said roughly a mill.

**EMS Tax, cont.**

Wenrich asked if they are going to have Berkheimer collect the EMS tax and DiNicola said yes, employers will have to send certification in to the tax collector with the number of employees. Wenrich said what about the people who are self employed; Berkheimer did such a good job for us before that we're trying to get six years of back taxes from them. Wenrich said if they are going to invoke it and have Berkheimer do it, they should be required to canvas the township and see who has to pay the tax; they are not up to date now.

Zimmerman said the main reason for the tax was emergency services and he is sure most of it is going to go there. Stahl asked if this is to replace the contributions to the fire companies that they may not be collecting from the landfill host agreement. Zimmerman said yes, we dug into the General Fund this past year a lot deeper than we ever did before for the fire companies. Zimmerman said it is an emergency services tax and that is where it should go and we discussed that is where we should use it instead of digging into the General Fund. Zimmerman added that the host fee money to the fire companies will be discussed this year and maybe changes will be made. Aungst said \$35,000 income is budgeted from the EMS tax and \$20,000 of that is budgeted for the fire companies.

Wenrich said he doesn't know what we are saving the two million dollars for and Aungst said the interest helps the general budget. Wenrich said all we're doing is fixing roads and paying salaries, do they have any plans for doing anything for improving the municipality other than the roads. Aungst said the money will be there when an opportunity comes up.

Stahl said this township received approximately five million dollars in host fees over the past term of the landfill, with two million in the bank yet; he agrees with Wenrich that there has been nothing done that has been of visible use or benefit to the residents of the Township.

Tobin said there is a recreation area and Stahl said that was an extra contribution of \$60,000 from the landfill, not host fees. Tobin said some of the host fees have been spent on the recreation area. Stahl said his point is that in approximately thirteen years of host fee contributions, there's been some upgrading of Township equipment, but the residents of the township have received to date no improvements, for example no road extensions.

Aungst asked like where and Stahl said if you go back Oak Grove Road, every one of those roads that used to go to the mountain and connect at one time to Coal Street, now end at the mountain. Stahl said what used to be a complete loop forty years ago now is a dead end. Aungst said we don't own them anymore and Stahl said all those things were allowed to lapse and Zimmerman said not in the last thirteen years. Stahl said you should have a policy in place now that any land that is transferred you require those rights so in the future you can complete those links. Stahl said you don't want any development in the farmlands, so the foothills of the mountains are the most likely spot, so you should create a plan to point development that way by opening those old roads. Stahl said if there is no plan, you will just drift forward and the money will disappear and there will have been no general benefit to the township.

Zimmerman said he disagrees there is no benefit, they have saved the taxpayers. Stahl said overall the advancement of the township has stayed zero. Zimmerman said that is correct, you want to see it developed real big; I would like to see it stay the way it is. Wenrich said that is not going to happen. Zimmerman said if they develop roads back at the mountain it will happen and he doesn't want it. Aungst said with the Comprehensive Plan the people said they don't want to see the community grow by leaps and bounds, they want to keep it a rural community. Wenrich said they cannot stop growth and they are not planning ahead; last month he said they react rather than act.

Zimmerman asked what Wenrich has to say about the EMS tax and Wenrich said if Berkheimer is going to do it they should canvas the township for who has to pay it. DiNicola said the proposed ordinance states each employer within the township is charged with the responsibility and Berkheimer will have to verify it. Wenrich asked about the self employed

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**EMS Tax, cont.**

and Tobin said they should be submitting to Berkheimer now. Aungst said we supplied Berkheimer with a list and are waiting to get an updated list back to look throughout the community to see if any are missing from it. Ferguson said she has been emailing Jim Bush and he said they had made changes in May for the two major employers we had looked at and she had asked for dollar amounts, but they were not supplied. Ferguson said she had asked Bush to set up a meeting and had asked about prior year's money and his email stated that prior year's money would take some research and he would get back to her with information. Ferguson said she felt he was being somewhat vague and they may need to put some pressure on Berkheimer for information.

Aungst said we should send him a letter requesting the computerized list with the updates of the list we sent to him. Ferguson said that is one thing she has been asking him for. Aungst said we may have to look for a new tax collector.

DiNicola said the proposed ordinance which is before them and was advertised, calls for the adoption of the EMS tax of \$52 per year which is scheduled to commence next year, 2006. DiNicola said the exemption that is proposed in this ordinance is \$12,000 and right now the exemption is discretionary but there is legislation that might make it a mandatory exemption of \$12,000. DiNicola said the school district was notified in June of the Township's intention to adopt this tax. Aungst said in the original one it was \$4,000 and DiNicola said in the actual ordinance it is \$12,000, but that is not a substantial amendment that would require it to be re-advertised.

Wenrich asked if the exemption is on earned income tax and DiNicola said it is income from all sources. Wenrich said social security and interest is included. Aungst disagreed and said it is on earned income only.

Clemens said one of the things wrong with this tax is there are still changes pending to it. Clemens said he thinks if they were to go with a small percentage of millage for taxes it would hit everybody including businesses and be fairer; people don't realize they don't pay real estate tax in the township now.

Aungst said other municipalities have enacted the tax, everybody who works outside the township is paying the \$52 or part of it now and people from outside who work in Pine Grove Township don't have to pay it.

Zimmerman said at least this is a tax on people who work, not people who have worked all their lives and have an acre of land.

Aungst said his feeling is to have the exemption level the same as the Borough with a clause to change it if the law is amended.

Zimmerman moved to adopt Ordinance #72 to levy the EMS tax of \$52, Wise seconded the motion. Aungst voted in favor, Clemens and Tobin opposed the motion; motion carried 3 to 2.

Zimmerman moved to set the exemption level at \$12,000, Aungst seconded the motion, all were in favor and motion carried 5 to 0.

**Equipment for Sale** – Ferguson said the equipment was advertised for sale on eBay and when the bidding closed the reserve price was not met. Ferguson said the Board directed her to send a second chance offer to the highest bidders. Ferguson said the last bid for the truck was for \$2,550.00, but the person did not buy it with the second chance offer. Ferguson said the highest bid for the grader was \$2,325.00; she sent a second chance offer to that bidder and he accepted the offer. Zimmerman moved to sell the grader for \$2,325.00 to Hubert Kerton of Port Clinton, Ohio. Clemens seconded the motion, all were in favor and motion carried 5 to 0. Ferguson said the buyer would like to make a deposit with a Comcheck that we can pick up at the truck stop and then pay the balance with a certified check in January when he picks up the grader. The Board agreed to those terms with a \$500 deposit.

**Equipment for Sale, cont.**

Zimmerman asked what they want to do with the truck. Ferguson said the next highest bid for the truck was \$2,500.00. Aungst suggested that Ferguson should continue with second chance offers to other bidders using their bid amounts, down to the \$2,100.00 bid.

Zimmerman said they should decide who should say yes or no if Ferguson gets a bid on the truck, if it is up to him she should keep going down the list until someone says yes; he said he knows someone who will buy the truck tomorrow for \$1,700 and he is asking if everyone on the bidder's list says no, can he sell it for \$1,700. Wise and Aungst said they don't have a problem with that and Zimmerman told Ferguson to let him know how the offers turn out.

Lehman asked what the difference is from the first set of bids, when they didn't make a phone call to see if the difference in the year of the truck was a problem for the bidder. Zimmerman said about a \$2,500 loss and they decided to re-bid it because they advertised it wrong, that was a mistake on our part; we should have called the guy and asked him if he wants it at the price.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**Adoption of 2006 Budget -** Aungst moved to adopt the 2006 budget, Wise seconded the motion.

Zimmerman and Clemens voted in favor and Tobin opposed the motion; motion carried 4 to 1. Tobin said she opposed the motion to adopt the budget because she opposed the levying of the EMS tax which is included in the budget.

**Shell Credit Card -** Ferguson said during the budget meeting the Board talked to Heinbach about checking with Gooseberry about claiming the fuel taxes for us and Heinbach asked her to see if Shell had a credit card to set up the same way as Hess does for fuel purchases. Ferguson said the Shell card is similar to the Hess card and has a ten dollar a month fee for purchases when it falls under \$1,000 a month, but they also have an additional fee of 1.5% of the purchases for the fleet card services. Ferguson said she checked the fuel bills and approximately six months of the year our fuel purchases are over \$1,000. Ferguson said she got the information from the internet and called them to verify it. Aungst said right now Gooseberry gives us a statement with the gallons on and it is no big deal to calculate the tax and send it in, it probably only takes an hour or two to do it. Ferguson said it takes longer than that because you have to copy each bill and list each piece of equipment and the number of gallons used per equipment. Aungst said we didn't do that three years ago, because he did it. Ferguson said that is what she had to do last year.

Stahl asked if the majority of the equipment is diesel and Zimmerman said yes. Zimmerman said if we had a tank we could bid our fuel, but to have a tank would be an expense and a lot of regulations. Zimmerman moved to buy all the fuel at Hess, Clemens seconded the motion, all were in favor and motion carried 5 to 0.

Stahl asked if they want to buy fuel from the Authority and Zimmerman asked if they have a tank. Stahl said they are putting a tank in and he would consider putting a larger one in if they are interested in purchasing fuel from them. Zimmerman said he would talk with Stahl at their next meeting.

**Filing Cabinets Purchase –** Ferguson said the Planning Commission and the office files are full and she would like to purchase three new filing cabinets costing about \$350 each; there is a possibility of finding some at the surplus place in Harrisburg. Stahl said he has a four drawer lateral file cabinet they can have and Ferguson said they will take it. Zimmerman asked where they are going to put it and Ferguson said the storage room downstairs is nearly full. Tobin asked if some of the records could be archived and Ferguson said some of the records could probably be disposed of, but it is a major project.

Ferguson said she would need time to go through the records because there is a whole archival system of what you can and cannot dispose of and a records retention schedule.

**Filing Cabinets Purchase, cont.**

Zimmerman asked if the PSATS schedule is in plain English and something a temp could follow and Ferguson said probably not, it takes more judgment than that. After discussion the Board decided to get the records retention schedule from PSATS and set a date for the Supervisors to come in and go through the records; the date was set for January 9<sup>th</sup>.

**CORRESPONDENCE**

**Request for traffic signal at McDonald's** – Zimmerman said this has been talked about before and they have flashing lights there now that the state suggested previously. Zimmerman said he was against the traffic light there because it is a private road coming out there. He added that the person requesting this lives in the Village and the biggest problem is they don't have a second way out. Zimmerman said they need a second entrance and exit and the owner has access to Rt. 443, but it is a financial issue; he doesn't want to lose the road frontage by putting a road in, but it would be the safest solution to the problem and alleviate the traffic congestion.

Tobin said they were offered a different way out there through Canal Drive to the Assisted Living units, but they don't want the through traffic. Clemens said the through traffic could be solved with a gate. Aungst said if something would break down at McDonald's and they needed a fire truck or something in the Village, a traffic light wouldn't help, he questioned how such a large development was allowed to go in with only one entrance. Tobin said possibly the original plans called for two entrances. Tobin said a traffic study would have to be done and who would pay for that. After discussion the Board agreed to have Ferguson send the requester a letter stating it is our recommendation they look to the developer and home owners association for a second way out of the development as the best solution.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

- ♦ Tobin said there is a letter in the correspondence folder from PIRMA about Wayne Love's questioning that the chipper be enclosed. Aungst said he talked to Zimmerman and the foundation is in, Miller has the steel for the building and he is waiting for Martin to come and erect it. Tobin asked if he has a permit and Aungst said that's a good question, he told him he needs a permit and he'll remind him.
- ♦ Clemens said he would like to wish Tobin well, they belonged to different parties and nationally they might have disagreed on things, but he enjoyed working with her and she had the best interests of the community at heart and that was thwarted often by the mandates and big government. Clemens said Tobin was one of the more knowledgeable people on the Board and he hates to see her go, he wishes her well.
- ♦ Ferguson said in the correspondence folder there is a new form from Light-Heigel that requires applicants to obtain written permission from a township official before a state permit can be issued. Ferguson said they provided a copy for us to have one designated official sign and return to them; as applicants go through the permit process we must complete a copy of this form for each applicant stating that all municipal requirements have been satisfied, including sewer permits, driveway and zoning permits, land use requirements, flood plain authorization etc. Zimmerman said the form should go to Koontz to sign because he is the one who is going to know if they have all the things listed.
- ♦ John Stahl asked if the Township is getting any closer to getting their own inspector, when someone gets a permit, they pay the building permit fee to the township and also pay a construction permit to Light-Heigel. Zimmerman said when we have our own inspector they will still have to pay both, it won't change.  
Stahl said when he built his house he paid the Township \$175 and then paid Light-Heigel \$250 for a construction permit and \$500 for the inspections. Stahl said he is questioning why there is a charge for a construction permit. Zimmerman said Koontz will be requiring

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a set of engineered plans to follow; he won't need to verify the footers, trusses, etc. are the right size; if the plans are home drawn, he will send you to an engineer to get the plans certified and there is where the \$250 would come in. Zimmerman said if Stahl had a set of engineered plans they probably shouldn't have charged him that fee.

- ♦ Ferguson reported an employee safety program would save the Township 5% on their workers comp each year; they would have to form a safety committee of two employers and two employees who meet monthly plus be in operation at least six months before the renewal of the workers comp insurance. Ferguson said the Township's renewal is in July so they would have to start a program now in order to apply for this certification. Ferguson said she talked to Scott Miles with H. A. Thompson of PIRMA, he said he would help set up the safety committee and they have an extensive video library to use. Ferguson said all the paperwork and applications to get started are available online with Labor & Industry. Ferguson said the committee must be certified and L & I has free training.

Zimmerman asked how much it would save us and Ferguson said it would be 5% a year or approximately \$1,000 a year. Judy Lehman volunteered to be part of the safety committee. Zimmerman said getting the employees for the committee is not the problem; it would be getting two of the employers.

Zimmerman said from a safety point of view it is worth it, but from a dollar value it may not be worth it to save a \$1,000. Aungst said it would be good to have a safety program but they should look further. Aungst moved to invite Scott Miles from PIRMA to start a training program, Zimmerman seconded the motion, all were in favor; motion carried 5 to 0. Zimmerman said to have Miles come at the end of a day and he'll try to make it.

- ♦ Ferguson said she and Aungst met with Stella Reno of Fulton Financial and Laura Sutherly of Lebanon Valley Farmers Bank to give some information for a proposal on new government bank account options. Ferguson said they will be coming back with the proposal on Monday, December 19<sup>th</sup> at 11 AM.
- ♦ Zimmerman asked if we got copies made of the zoning ordinance books. Ferguson said no, she had gotten a reasonable price from Post.net in Schuylkill Haven, but found that Mark Toderro had scanned the book onto a disk and thought we could print our own; however the disk cannot be used. Zimmerman said he thought we should get some books printed and he will check to see if he can copy the map.
- ♦ Wenrich said last month he asked Aungst about the person he contacted in Lebanon concerning the High Bridge water and wants to know if those names were entered into the record for future reference. Aungst said he doesn't know that they need to be on record. Aungst said he spoke to the gentleman again and Lebanon city is trying to take over the Authority. Aungst said the person he talked to gave him the name John Beers but said it is not a good time to approach them since the water authority is in upheaval. Aungst said he talked to someone at Spotts, Stevens & McCoy who remembers a conversation with Dick Longenecker about using the reservoir for water for the Township and they gave a price for four miles of pipe but that was about the extent of it for preliminary engineer work was done by the Township.
- ♦ Judy Lehman said she would like to thank Diane Tobin for her service and as a newly elected official, she knows she will have big shoes to fill.
- ♦ Diane Tobin said for the record Dave Ravegum never did show up with the three emails so I guess we can consider that a dead issue.

**ADJOURNMENT**

At 10:15 PM, Zimmerman moved to adjourn the meeting, Clemens seconded the motion and all were in favor; motion carried 5 to 0 and meeting was adjourned.

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**Respectfully submitted,**

**Kathy Ferguson, Secretary / Treasurer**

Approved by the Board of Supervisors on January 11, 2006.