

PINE GROVE TOWNSHIP SUPERVISORS
175 OAK GROVE ROAD, PINE GROVE, PA 17963
APRIL 12, 2006 MEETING MINUTES



CALL TO ORDER - Chairman Larry Zimmerman called the April 12, 2006 meeting to order at 7 PM and opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance. Attending were Supervisors Zimmerman, Allen Aungst, Judith Lehman and Jerry Wise. Supervisor Herman Clemens was absent. Also present were Solicitor Gino DiNicola, Sect. / Treas. Kathy Ferguson, John Heinbach, Ron Aungst, Rick Yutko, Tom Feeser, Lynn Johnson, Donald Wenrich, Aimmee Reiter, Brenda Steckley, other residents; list on file.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS – No comments received.

MINUTES / FINANCIAL ITEMS

- ♦ **March 8, 2006 Meeting Minutes**
- ♦ **March 23, 2006 Special Meeting Minutes**
Aungst moved to approve both meeting minutes, Wise seconded the motion. All were in favor and motion carried 4 to 0.
- ♦ **Treasurer's Report** - Zimmerman said the General Fund beginning balance was \$159,176.27, the March General Fund receipts were \$31,175.45, March General Fund expenses were \$33,245.79 and the ending balance of the General Fund is \$157,105.93. Zimmerman said the ending balance of the Capital Reserve Fund is \$2,048,004.10, the ending balance of the Liquid Fuels Fund is \$11,889.36 and the Combined Township Fund ending balance is \$2,216,999.39. Wise moved to approve the Treasurer's Report, Aungst seconded the motion, all were in favor and motion carried 4 to 0.
- ♦ **Approval of Bills** – Aungst moved to approve paying the bills totaling \$11,629.74; Wise seconded the motion, all were in favor and motion carried 4 to 0.

PERSONS TO BE HEARD

- ♦ **Ron Aungst and Rick Yutko of WJP Engineers** spoke regarding the re-plotting of five lots at Pine Vista. Yutko said the original plans showed a right-of-way to extend to the adjacent Zimmerman tract but there was a tract line survey error and the right-of-way went to the adjacent Wike tract. Yutko said they have re-plotted the right-of-way into the Zimmerman tract and shifted the lot lines; it is the same number of lots. Yutko said the Planning Commission commented they could ask the Board for a waiver to go directly to the final plan.
Allen Aungst asked what distance they are moving the road and Yutko said about 200 to 300 feet. Yutko noted the sight distance for the intersection was increased at the new location and said a Planning Commission member said the change made it quieter.
DiNicola said he spoke with Township engineer Horst and he had no objections; according to the Subdivision and Land Development Ordinances it is the Board's discretion to allow a revised final plan to be submitted.
After review of the plan, Zimmerman moved to allow a revised final plan to be submitted for Pine Vista, Wise seconded the motion. All were in favor and motion carried 4 to 0.
- ♦ **Tom Feeser** requested a reduction in the letter of credit for Swatara Creek CLC. DiNicola said Horst has recommended the reduction. Aungst moved to approve a reduction in the letter of credit in the amount of \$38,335.00, Lehman seconded the motion. All were in favor of the motion and motion carried 4 to 0.

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REPORTS

Engineers Report / Planning Commission Report

- ♦ **Aldick Assoc Water Expansion Plans** – Zimmerman asked if everyone had read the Planning Commission notes on the plan and asked Ferguson if the contingent items were received. Ferguson said revised plans were received but she was not sure all items the Planning Commission was looking for had been received.

DiNicola said they may have been referring to the subdivision improvements agreement that is required and he has been working with Mr. Feeser's attorney on the agreement.

Lynn Johnson, chairman of the Planning Commission, said the Planning Commission recommended approval, but did not sign the plans. Aungst asked when the Planning Commission was going to sign the plans. Johnson said he hadn't heard anything from the different parties.

Ferguson said the County review had not been received. Johnson said they didn't feel that was enough to hold up the opening of the project.

Aungst said we have everything except the bond issue and the County review and Aungst moved to approve the plans contingent upon receiving legal approval and County approval.

Lehman said she thought there had been a decision made that no approvals would be given on contingency and Zimmerman said yes that motion was made and passed.

Aungst said it is two minor issues, not a major problem that should hold up the approval. After discussion of the Township policy on contingent approvals and Feeser's need for the project to continue; Feeser said it would not delay the project to have the Board approve the plan at the next meeting.

Aungst withdrew his motion. The Aldick Assoc Water Expansion Plans were tabled until next month's meeting.

- ♦ **Brandt to Fish & Game Sketch Plan of Record** – After review of the plans, Zimmerman moved to approve the Brandt to Fish & Game Sketch Plan of Record. Lehman seconded the motion, all were in favor and motion carried 4 to 0.
- ♦ **Donofrio Estate Sketch Plan of Record** - After review of the plans, Aungst moved to approve the Donofrio Estate Sketch Plan of Record. Wise seconded the motion, all were in favor and motion carried 4 to 0.
- ♦ **Paradise Manor Phase III Sketch Plan of Record** - After reviewing the plans, Aungst moved to approve the Paradise Manor Phase III Sketch Plan of Record; Wise seconded the motion, all were in favor and motion carried 4 to 0.
- ♦ **Swatara State Park Request for Township Planning Requirements** – Aungst said Koontz had spoken to the person who sent the letter and asked Ferguson if we have Land Development books. Ferguson said no, but she can print a copy or email the file to them.

DiNicola asked if the ordinances were on-line and Ferguson said no, the Planning Commission had suggested she ask the Board before it was posted on-line.

Aungst said plans are to put parking and bathroom facilities at the two trailheads on the Schuylkill County side and there are two trail bridges that will be in our township; these are the issues the Planning Commission will have to address. Aungst moved to send a Land Development book to them so they can see the requirements. Lehman seconded the motion, all were in favor and motion carried 4 to 0.

Wise asked if the Swatara Dam project has been completely nullified. Aungst said it probably won't happen and Johnson said there is a group that is still pushing for it.

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Landfill Inspector – No comments.

Roadmaster – Aungst said he would like to thank Heinbach and the road crew for helping to plant the trees at the Recreation Area last week.

Zoning Officer – The Zoning Officer was not present. Zimmerman said he reported six approved permits and one disapproved permit. Zimmerman asked the Board if they saw the note on the Zoning Officer's report, they said they did. Zimmerman moved for Koontz to send a letter and a copy of the ordinance. Lehman seconded the motion, all were in favor of the motion and motion carried 4 to 0.

OLD BUSINESS

2006 Paving Projects – It was noted the new prevailing wage requirements have been suspended by Gov. Rendell.

After discussion, Aungst moved to advertise for bid to pave Pleasant Hill Drive and hold the balance of Liquid Fuel Funds for next year. Wise seconded the motion. All were in favor and motion carried 4 to 0. Ferguson noted there are other things budgeted out of Liquid Fuels Fund. Aungst said the difference between Pleasant Hill and West Lake Drive and what is budgeted for road work this year should remain in the Liquid Fuel Fund.

Zoning Hearing Board Pay for Oct. 2005 Hearing – Zimmerman moved to release the payroll checks for the Zoning Hearing Board pay request for October 2005, Aungst seconded the motion, all were in favor and motion carried 4 to 0. Zimmerman said he will attend the Zoning Hearing on April 27th and talk to them about turning in the pay request sheets on time.

NEW BUSINESS

Vehicle Insurance Cards – The vehicle insurance cards were all issued with both the Township and the Fire Company listed as the insured parties. Aungst said he spoke to Randy Stump and if we give him a list of who owns each vehicle he will issue individual cards. The Board agreed Ferguson should send a list to Stump identifying the ownership of the vehicles.

Recreation Board – Aungst said the Board is requesting the portable toilets again this year and a garbage container for the basketball court. Aungst said the Recreation Committee would like to see what is in the budget for them this year. Discussion on funds for the Recreation Board followed and Zimmerman said it had always been the Recreation Board requested money from the Board of Supervisors when they needed it for specific things. Aungst said he would get a price for the garbage container they want to purchase for next month's meeting.

Aungst moved to transfer the amount of \$645.00 from the Recreation Board money in Capital Reserves Fund to General Fund to reimburse for the expense of the trees purchased for the Recreation Area. Zimmerman seconded the motion, all were in favor; motion carried 4 to 0.

Wise said people are asking him about the status of the baseball field at the Recreation Area and said there are a number of people willing to assist in the layout of the field or volunteer in other ways. Aungst said the Recreation Board discussed the field at the last two meetings; they are pursuing funds through Bob Allen's office and are discussing designs.

Aungst said there are questions on the restrictions of how the field is to be used. Lehman asked if there are restrictions for the field in the minutes and Aungst said the Recreation Board agreement for the use of the field is on file. Lehman said she would like a copy of the agreement. Zimmerman said a committee within the Recreation Board regulates the field.

Lehman asked Wise if the people that have talked to him have approached the Recreation Board. Wise said they have before, but he will ask them to try again.

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CORRESPONDENCE

- ♦ Aungst said there is a 2006 Municipal Training Needs survey from the governor's center that he feels all the supervisors should take the time to fill out.
- ♦ Aungst said there is a Penn State water survey mailed to all municipalities to fill out and Zimmerman took the survey to complete.
- ♦ Aungst said there is a notice to post the new Emergency Manual for Siegrist Dam is available for the public to review. Ferguson said it has been posted.
- ♦ There is a ballot in the correspondence folder to vote for eleven directors for the Schuylkill Chamber of Commerce.

PUBLIC COMMENT

- ♦ Donald Wenrich asked if the Township got an updated list of businesses from Berkheimer. Ferguson said Aungst had called and got the list; it was copied and distributed to all the supervisors. Aungst suggested the Board review the list and give him updates for Ferguson to send to Berkheimer.
- ♦ Wenrich said last month Koontz asked about having draft copies of the minutes available for the public before the meeting and asked if they plan to do that. Zimmerman said no. Aungst said he felt the public should have them, if we could get the minutes to where it doesn't take the whole meeting to read them. Wenrich said you only have to look for the comments you made.

After further discussion, Aungst moved to have eight draft copies of minutes available for the public as they come in the night of the meeting. Zimmerman seconded the motion, all were in favor and motion carried 4 to 0.

- ♦ Wenrich asked if the Zoning Hearing Board members were volunteers, Zimmerman said they are appointed. Wenrich said he wants to know what criteria is used to determine who is paid and why the Planning Commission members don't get paid. Ferguson said the Planning Commission members are paid \$25 per meeting.
- ♦ Aimmee Reiter asked Aungst if the Recreation Board had considered putting up "No Smoking" signs near the playground to avoid the litter of cigarette butts. Aungst said they are putting signs in the fenced area and also signs not allowing dogs in the fenced play area.
- ♦ Brenda Steckley said at a meeting she was at it was stated Pine Grove Township gave up ownership of Old State Road for Swatara State Park. Steckley said she doesn't remember the Township giving up ownership and asked if anyone would have information on it. Zimmerman said he didn't know if the Township ever owned the road. Discussion of the State Park and roads followed. Zimmerman said Ferguson should look in the files to see if she could find anything on Old State Road for Steckley.
- ♦ DiNicola said that he received word from Rick Wiest that the Borough's appointee, William Zimmerman, did assume his seat on the Joint Treatment Authority Board.
- ♦ Lehman said if the Board has any comments on the resolutions that will be voted on at the PSATS convention to let her know since she is the voting delegate.
- ♦ Wise said they were planning to meet with the fire company the first week of May, but he will be going to school that week and asked Zimmerman if they could change it to the second week. Zimmerman said that is fine with him.
- ♦ Aungst said the touch screen voting machines will be demonstrated here at the Township Building on April 18th and April 19th. Aungst also noted there is a state ban on burning.

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- ♦ Zimmerman said the Joint Treatment Authority has to have a generator for the sewer plant and store fuel for it. It was suggested they get a bigger tank and the Township purchase our diesel fuel from them. Zimmerman said it would give us access to fuel on a 24 hour basis and in emergencies they have a generator that would be able to pump the fuel. After discussion the Board agreed to have Lehman and Zimmerman discuss the details with the Joint Treatment Authority.
- ♦ Zimmerman moved to lay off Sallie Deichert from her part time office position at the end of April and Lehman seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion carried 4 to 0. The Board said they would like to thank Deichert for her work in the office.
- ♦ Ferguson requested approval on the purchase of a new office desk costing approximately \$500 because the current desk is too small to use with a computer on top of it. Zimmerman moved to approve the purchase of the desk, Lehman seconded the motion, all were in favor and motion carried 4 to 0.

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ADJOURNMENT

At 8:20 PM Zimmerman moved to adjourn the meeting, Aungst seconded the motion and all were in favor; motion carried 4 to 0 and meeting was adjourned.

**Respectfully submitted,
Kathy Ferguson, Secretary / Treasurer**

Approved by the Board of Supervisors on May 10, 2006.