

PINE GROVE TOWNSHIP SUPERVISORS

175 OAK GROVE ROAD, PINE GROVE, PA 17963

JULY 9, 2008 MEETING MINUTES

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**CALL TO ORDER** - Chairman Larry Zimmerman called the July 9, 2008 meeting to order with the Pledge of Allegiance at 7:00 PM. Attending were Supervisors Allen Aungst, Judith Lehman, Diane Tobin and Jerry Wise. Also present: Solicitor Gino DiNicola, Sect. / Treas. Kathy Ferguson, Bernie Kulkaski, Bonnie Brown, Alfred Burkle, Klara Burkle, Larry Hoffman, other residents; list on file.

**PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS** - Bernie Kulkaski said he would like to comment on Roberts Road.

## MINUTES / FINANCIAL ITEMS

- ♦ **June 11, 2008 Meeting Minutes**
- ♦ **June 18 and June 25, 2008 Special Meeting Minutes**
- ♦ **June 11 and June 25, 2008 Public Hearing Minutes**  
Tobin moved to approve all the minutes, Aungst seconded the motion, all were in favor and motion carried 5 to 0.
- ♦ **Treasurer's Report** – Zimmerman said the General Fund beginning balance in June was \$194,748.71, June receipts were \$49,997.83, June expenses were \$37,277.66 and the General Fund ending balance is \$207,468.88; the Combined Funds ending balance is \$3,065,764.63. Aungst moved to approve the report and Lehman seconded the motion. All were in favor and motion carried 5 to 0.
- ♦ **Approval of Bills** – Tobin moved to approve paying the bills totaling \$22,770.02. Lehman seconded the motion, all were in favor and motion carried 5 to 0.

**PERSONS TO BE HEARD** – No one requested to be on the agenda to address the Board.

## REPORTS

**Committee Reports** – Zimmerman (Property & Roads) said he called the engineers about the Roberts Road project, they were out of the office and we have received no new information. Bernie Kulkaski had no comment.

### Engineers Report / Planning Commission Report

- ♦ **Keefer/Kepner Plan Sewage Module** – Aungst moved to approve the sewage module, Lehman seconded the motion, all were in favor; motion carried 5 to 0.
- ♦ **Resident Letter re GJW Development** – Ferguson said the letter was forwarded to the Board of Supervisors from the Planning Commission for their review. Zimmerman moved to send the resident a letter saying they should attend the Planning Commission meeting to address their concerns. Wise seconded the motion, all were in favor and motion carried 5 to 0.
- ♦ **SALDO Revisions** – Nothing new has been received from the engineers, Ferguson will send a copy of the meeting minutes to them.

**Landfill Inspector** – Lehman had pictures of the current workings of the landfill for the Board of Supervisors. Wise asked about the meter for radiation. Lehman explained in detail how the incoming waste is scanned for radio active material and at certain levels the waste would be rejected.

**Recreation Board** – Supervisors discussed the request for an engineer to finalize the plans for the restroom. Aungst said he will check with Frank Fox. Aungst also said it will be about two months until we find out if we received the grant for the restrooms. Bonnie Brown asked if the permits should be gotten from L & I, Zimmerman said Light-Heigel will take of the permit. The request was tabled until a response is received from Frank Fox.

Aungst said the road crew cannot finish the grading because there is metal in the ground and it caused a hole in the loader tire, he would like to hire someone to grade it. Aungst said the road crew could put stone in for the walkway so paving could be done next year and take trees down along the walkway.

**Recreation Board, cont.**

Discussion followed with Lehman suggesting donated services to do the grading. Bonnie Brown asked if the landfill would do it and Lehman said she would ask them. Tobin made a motion to get three quotes for the grading work and preparing the pathway if the landfill is unable to donate their services. Lehman seconded the motion, all were in favor and motion carried 5 to 0. The Board agreed the road crew would remove the trees.

**Roadmaster** – Roadmaster was not present. Tobin said there is a problem with too many supervisors going to the Roadmaster and telling him what to do; she said there is an issue with a resident and the township right-of-way that has become a problem.

Tobin moved to have Lehman as the liaison between the Board of Supervisors and the Roadmaster with Zimmerman as the alternate. Lehman seconded the motion. Tobin, Lehman and Zimmerman voted in favor of the motion, Aungst and Wise opposed the motion; motion carried 3 to 2.

Aungst said the issue needs to be addressed and the Township is responsible for stormwater run-off on our right-of-way; it should not be managed by the residents. Tobin agreed and said the road crew was taking care of it. Tobin moved the Roadmaster should be allowed to handle the situation and talk to the solicitor if needed to resolve the issue. Tobin said the Board should not micro-manage the Roadmaster. Discussion on the issue followed. Lehman seconded the motion made by Tobin. Tobin and Lehman voted in favor of the motion. Zimmerman, Aungst and Wise opposed the motion; motion was defeated 3 to 2.

Zimmerman moved to send the resident a letter stating our right-of-way requirements and what we plan to do with the water run-off. Lehman seconded the motion. Zimmerman, Aungst, Wise and Lehman voted in favor of the motion, Tobin opposed the motion; motion carried 4 to 1. Tobin stated she feels the solicitor should be involved with handling the situation. Zimmerman will write the letter and circulate it to the Board for approval before sending it to the resident.

**Zoning Officer** – Zoning Officer was not present. Zimmerman said there were eight approved permits for June. Zimmerman moved to approve the Zoning Officer's request to have the constable serve notice on a resident of Cardinal Road for operating a hotel, Wise seconded the motion, all were in favor and motion carried 5 to 0.

- ♦ **Zoning Office Hours** - Wise (Personnel Committee) said Koontz could meet with the Board next week. Tobin said it would have to be advertised if the whole Board meets with him. Aungst said another option would be to set the hours and suggested from 5 to 7 PM on Fridays. Lehman said she would not want to make him work on a Friday night. After discussion, the board agreed to have Wise and Tobin meet with Koontz on Monday, July 14<sup>th</sup> at 6 PM.
- ♦ **Tobin** said there are 57 calls listed on the Zoning Officer's report and suggested asking for a report of the calls and complaints he receives to be used in deciding what issues need to be addressed as they revise the Zoning Ordinances. Tobin said a zoning permit was issued without a sewage permit.

**OLD BUSINESS**

- ♦ **Waste Management Negotiations on Landfill Gas** – DiNicola said the agreement is still pending, he has responded to them with the Township's proposal.
- ♦ **Contractors Ordinance** – DiNicola said he has researched the issue and will have a draft ordinance prepared for next month's meeting.
- ♦ **Dissolution of Inactive Township Authority** – DiNicola said he reviewed the code after Ferguson's research showed the process involved several legalities. DiNicola said he understands the concern the authority would be resurrected, but assured the Board if they use it again they would have the opportunity to amend the articles. DiNicola said if they maintain the current inactive authority, they can eliminate two areas of cost in the future if they should need an authority for any reason. Tobin moved to keep the Pine Grove Township Authority in the current inactive status, Lehman seconded the motion. Tobin, Lehman, Aungst and Wise voted in favor of the motion, Zimmerman opposed the motion. Motion carried 4 to 1.

## NEW BUSINESS

- ♦ **Zoning Hearing Board Pay for June 26, 2008** – Ferguson said the Zoning Hearing Board met on June 26<sup>th</sup> but was unable to hold a hearing because the stenographer did not attend; the hearing was rescheduled and held the following week. Zimmerman moved to pay the members and secretary who were present on June 26<sup>th</sup> for the meeting. Aungst seconded the motion, all were in favor and motion carried 5 to 0. Tobin said the Township sets the budget for the Zoning Hearing Board and questioned what happens if they go over the budget. Zimmerman said it is the Board's responsibility to give them enough to operate. Tobin suggested the Zoning Hearing Board retain a local solicitor to lower costs. Zimmerman said the Zoning Hearing Board makes their own decisions, but he does agree with Tobin about using a local attorney.

## CORRESPONDENCE

- ♦ **Troop 611 Request to Recognize Donald E. Brown III as Eagle Scout** – Tobin moved to approve Troop 611's request to recognize Donald E. Brown III as an Eagle Scout with a plaque and resolution, Aungst seconded the motion; all were in favor and motion carried 5 to 0.
- ♦ **US Board on Geographic Names Request to Change Swatara Creek to Swatara River** – Aungst moved to authorize a letter supporting the name change, Lehman seconded the motion. Aungst, Lehman, Zimmerman and Tobin approved the motion. Wise opposed the motion and motion carried 4 to 1.
- ♦ **County Recycling Request to Amend Lease** – Zimmerman moved to approve amending the recycling site lease, Lehman seconded the motion all were in favor and motion carried 5 to 0.
- ♦ **County Recycling Site questions** – The Board discussed the issues presented by the possibility of the County closing the Borough site due to lack of maintenance etc. Aungst said he feels it is important to maintain the Borough's site and he presented a draft letter to the County Recycling Coordinator for the Board to review. Zimmerman moved to send the letter Aungst drafted, Wise seconded the motion, all were in favor and motion carried 5 to 0.

## PUBLIC COMMENT

- ♦ **Bonnie Brown** said she agrees with Tobin, the public has the right to have hours from the Zoning Officer or he should step down.
- ♦ **Alfred & Klara Burkle** thanked Koontz for taking action on Cardinal Road.
- ♦ **Larry Hoffman** asked if the contractors' ordinance will apply to carpenters, electricians etc. and involve fees. Zimmerman said yes.
- ♦ **Bernie Kulkaski** asked when the zoning issues will be considered. Zimmerman said when the SALDO revisions are finished.
- ♦ **Lehman** she would like to have an executive session on terms and conditions of employment.
- ♦ **Wise** said a fire company meeting was held on June 16<sup>th</sup> and they are asking for assistance with the rising fuel costs. Wise said Ravine Fire Company bought new air packs required by code and Tobin noted they were purchased with grant money. Wise said the fire companies also asked that street numbers be added to the street signs. Wise moved to have street signs updated with address numbers as the signs are replaced. Zimmerman seconded the motion, all were in favor; motion carried 5 to 0.
- ♦ **Fire Company Activities** – Wise noted the fire companies will be participating in the following events: Schuylkill Haven Firemen's Convention (August 23), Suedburg Chicken BBQ Fundraiser (August 10), Ravine Fundraiser (September).
- ♦ **Tobin** said in response to Ferguson's email regarding the need to bid our fuel purchases she moves to apply for the Voyager fleet card through the Co-Stars program. Aungst seconded the motion, all were in favor and motion carried 5 to 0. Tobin said a card should be given to the fire companies to use and an amount budgeted for them to use. Zimmerman said he agrees with Tobin.

- ♦ **Tobin** recommended the Emergency Management Coordinator share the Zoning Officer's office since it has a phone and computer line. Zimmerman said to discuss it with the Zoning Officer at their meeting.

**Executive Session** – The Board entered into executive session at 9 PM on terms and conditions of employment. At 9:10 the meeting resumed. Zimmerman said they discussed payment for Dan Grow, the Alternate Host Municipal Inspector. Zimmerman moved to pay Dan Grow \$20 per hour as part time alternate Host Municipal Inspector for the Township effective immediately. Lehman seconded the motion, all were in favor and motion carried 5 to 0.

**ADJOURNMENT** - At 9:11 PM Zimmerman moved to adjourn the meeting, Wise seconded the motion, all were in favor and motion carried 5 to 0.

Respectfully submitted,  
Kathy Ferguson, Secretary / Treasurer

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**Approved by the Board of Supervisors on August 13, 2008.**