
PINE GROVE TOWNSHIP SUPERVISORS

175 OAK GROVE ROAD, PINE GROVE, PA 17963

JUNE 21, 2010 SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES

A special meeting was held to conduct a bridge/road inspection and detour drive to discuss temporary detour options during the S.R. 645 Bridge Replacement Project.

CALL TO ORDER - Chairwoman Diane Tobin called the June 21, 2010 meeting to order with the Pledge of Allegiance at 5:30 PM. Attending were Vice-Chairwoman Judith Lehman and Supervisor Jeffery Zimmerman. Solicitor Gino DiNicola and Roadmaster Ralph Geist were absent. Also present were Secretary/Treasurer Kathy Ferguson, Zoning Officer Dan Bode, Fire Chief Greg Pijar, Clayton Zimmerman, Herman Clemens, and others; list on file.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS – No comments were received.

OLD BUSINESS

Zoning Officer Memo – Dan Bode, Township Zoning Officer, said he reviewed the letter from the USDA Rural Development asking for comments on the Paraclete Foundation's application for Federal assistance in their project of converting a facility at 83 Pleasant Valley Road into a public library. Bode said based on his research and review of the Comprehensive Plan, he feels the use is compatible and is asking the Board of Supervisors to support the project. Tobin moved to approve the Township supporting the concept of the Paraclete Foundation placing a community library facility at 83 Pleasant Valley Road. Zimmerman seconded the motion, all were in favor and motion carried 3 to 0.

DETOUR DRIVE, BRIDGE/ROAD INSPECTION – At 5:35 PM the Board of Supervisors left the meeting room for the road inspection of Mexico Road, Brookside Road and S.R. 645. The road inspection was done on a bus donated by Jeck's. Supervisors were joined on the bus by the Township Fire Chief Greg Pijar, Secretary / Treasurer Kathy Ferguson, Joan Schwer, representatives from the industrial park and Brian Tobin from Representative Seip's office. The following items were commented on during the drive:

- › An option of using Mexico and Brookside Roads as a temporary detour with one-way traffic during the bridge replacement project.
- › Difficulty of trucks going south on S.R. 501, making a right onto Mexico road – school buses would be able to make the turn easily, but tractor trailers would cross into the other lane and the front of the truck would be against the bank. Mexico Road is not wide enough for two tractor trailers to pass each other on the hill.
- › Possibility of taking down some of the bank along the side of Mexico road to eliminate the sharp turn and also widen the entrance on S.R. 501.
- › The number of tractor trailers going south on S.R. 501 to Kay Tee Products each day is about thirty; the amount doubles in August.
- › Lehman said trucks for Kay Tee Products could detour using Rt. 183, I-78 and north on Rt. 501.
- › Zimmerman pointed out the impact on the shoulder of Brookside Road where illegal trucks go off the side of the road and said it will definitely be busted up if used for a detour.
- › Tobin said if the Township allows Brookside Road as a detour, the state has agreed (but not promised) to look at helping to restore the road after the project is over.
- › Widening of Brookside Road was discussed; one telephone pole may need to be moved in order to widen it.

- › Zimmerman asked about signaling devices and Tobin said if the Township allows Brookside Road as the official detour, the state will work with the Township on signage.
- › Buses could use the new cul-de-sac on Roberts Road to turn around.
- › The fact trucks would not be able to make a left hand turn and go North onto S. R. 501 from Brookside Road.

Road inspection concluded at 6:15 PM and the meeting resumed in the Township meeting room.

The following comments were discussed:

- › A lot of signage will be needed during the bridge detour.
- › Brian Tobin suggested an alternate route for the S.R. 645 Bridge is needed if there would ever be an accident blocking the bridge and emergency equipment was needed on the other side of the township or in the industrial park.
- › Need for an alternate route when the bridge is flooded was discussed.
- › Clayton Zimmerman, Brookside Road, asked if the Supervisors intentions were to go back to prohibiting truck traffic on Brookside road after the detour. Supervisor Tobin said it is up to the Board if they will allow a temporary detour on Brookside road – the speed would have to be reduced and the only truck traffic should be to the industrial park.
- › Brian Tobin said when the detour is over; if the Board of Supervisors sends a letter to Representative Seip's office, they will work with the State Police in enforcing the restrictions on Brookside Road.
- › Terry Maier, Paradigm Labs, said if the Board of Supervisors does not allow the use of Brookside Road for a detour, the only alternate would be S.R. 645 and it is too dangerous for trucks.

In concluding the discussion of the S.R. 645 Bridge replacement project, Supervisor Tobin said there are a lot of additional details to be worked out and asked the representatives from the industrial park to provide the Township with letters giving information and stating they will contact their vendors.

OLD BUSINESS

Township Authority – Tobin said she spoke with Solicitor DiNicola about the concerns of having three members from the same community on the Authority and he did not feel it would be a conflict. Tobin moved to appoint Annamarie Riccardi to the Water Authority for a one year term. Lehman seconded the motion, all were in favor and motion carried 3 to 0.

Pine Grove Yamaha Bond Release Request – Tobin moved to approve a reduction in Pine Grove Yamaha's letter of credit in the amount of \$120,959.30 as recommended by Benesch, the Township engineer. Zimmerman seconded the motion all were in favor; motion carried 3 to 0.

Pine Grove Dollar General Bond Release Request – Tobin moved to approve a reduction in Pine Grove Dollar General's letter of credit in the amount of \$109,274.76 as recommended by Benesch, the Township engineer. Zimmerman seconded the motion all were in favor and motion carried 3 to 0.

NEW BUSINESS

Line Striping – Tobin moved to have the Roadmaster get quotes and proceed with the lowest one for line painting on the newly paved roads. Lehman seconded the motion, all were in favor and motion carried 3 to 0.

PERSONNEL – At 6:33 PM the Board of Supervisors entered into an executive session on personnel. At 6:52 PM the executive session ended and the meeting resumed. Tobin said Melissa Dyer has requested to reduce her hours to 20 hours per week. Zimmerman moved to approve Dyer's request for reduced hours, Lehman seconded the motion, all were in favor; motion carried 3 to 0.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Herman Clemens (joined the meeting in progress) submitted a newspaper article to the Board about the growing list of codes under the Uniform Construction Code. Clemens discussed new regulations for fire sprinklers and churches no longer being exempt from the code. Clemens asked the Board to consider a motion to support the Builder's Association in their efforts to eliminate the current code and go back to the 2006 code. Tobin said the Board would have to look into it before they could take any action.

ADJOURNMENT – At 7:03 PM Lehman moved to adjourn the meeting, Tobin seconded the motion, all were in favor and motion carried 3 to 0.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathy Ferguson, Secretary / Treasurer

Approved by the Board of Supervisors on July 14, 2010.