

PINE GROVE TOWNSHIP SUPERVISORS

175 OAK GROVE ROAD, PINE GROVE, PA 17963

MARCH 11, 2009 MEETING MINUTES

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CALL TO ORDER - Chairman Larry Zimmerman called the March 11, 2009 meeting to order with the Pledge of Allegiance at 7:00 PM. Attending were Vice Chairwoman Diane Tobin, Supervisors Allen Aungst, Judith Lehman and Jerry Wise. Also present: Solicitor Gino DiNicola, Sect. / Treas. Kathy Ferguson, Roadmaster Ralph Geist, Zoning Officer Clinton Koontz, Donald Wenrich, Janet Krammes, Bonnie Gilbert, Heath Machamer, Bonnie Brown, Bernie Kulkaski and others; list on file.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS – No comments received.

MINUTES / FINANCIAL ITEMS

- ♦ **February 11, 2009 Meeting Minutes** – Tobin moved to approve the minutes, Aungst seconded the motion, all were in favor and motion carried 5 to 0.
- ♦ **Treasurer’s Report** – The February General Fund beginning balance was \$317,556.46, February receipts were \$705,264.73 and February expenses were \$710,867.59. (Receipts and expenses include transfer of \$600,000 from PLGIT into the General Fund for purchase of Fulton CD’s returned to Capital Reserve Fund.) The General Fund February ending balance was \$311,953.60 and the Combined Funds ending balance was \$3,439,987.75.
Aungst said \$245,000 of the balance of the CD’s that matured in February was reinvested today in a PLGIT CD; the remainder is still in the PLGIT account. Aungst said he recommends keeping it there for thirty days and looking for a better rate. Donald Wenrich said a bank in Gratz is giving 3.5% and the fire company is getting 3.5% with the Fulton manager from Lebanon. Aungst said he will pursue a higher interest rate.
Aungst moved to approve the February Treasurer’s Report, Lehman seconded the motion, all were in favor; motion carried 5 to 0.
- ♦ **Approval of Bills** – Tobin moved to approve paying the bills totaling \$18,223.19. Lehman seconded the motion, all were in favor and motion carried 5 to 0.

PERSONS TO BE HEARD – Janet Krammes and Bonnie Gilbert presented two pictures of the neighbors’ guinea hens on their property and asked if anything can be done by the Township. Gilbert said the State Police and the magistrate said they need to go through the township zoning ordinances. Zoning Officer Koontz said there is nothing in the zoning ordinances about animal control. Solicitor DiNicola said they should file a complaint or civil action with the court of common pleas or consult with their own counsel.

REPORTS

Roadmaster – Aungst asked if all the salt was bought for the contract. Geist said yes and the new contract is done too. Geist said he requested a new mower in December, but that didn’t fare too well so he got a quote on a joystick to replace the levers because they are shot. Geist said under the state contract the kit for the joystick, not including installation, is \$7,482. Aungst said he should get prices for installing the joystick, Geist said he would. Tobin asked about the life of the mower and Geist said the tractor is fine, the mower and the arm need to be replaced, they will only last another year or so. Zimmerman said the price was ridiculous for just the controls and it should be tabled. Tobin asked what they are waiting for and if they had a price for a new mower. Geist said he had gotten that in December for the budget, it was close to \$50,000. Lehman moved to purchase a new mower for the John Deere tractor, motion died for lack of a second. Aungst said to first find out what to put out for bid. Lehman said he already gave it in December. Tobin said if it is on the state contract, we do not have to put it out for bid. Aungst said we should wait until next month and Geist should shop for prices of what he wants so we can put it out for bid. *Printed from www.pinegrovetownship.com*

Zoning Officer – Zimmerman said there was one approved permit in February.

Executive Session – The Board of Supervisors, Solicitor DiNicola and Roadmaster Geist went into executive session on personnel matters at 7:35 PM. The meeting resumed at 7:45 PM.

Committee Reports – Aungst said he and Lehman would be meeting tomorrow to work on the personnel handbook.

Engineers Report / Planning Commission Report

- ♦ **Double T Realty, Pine Grove Yamaha Site Final Plan** – Tobin asked for an explanation of the first waiver request. Heath Machamer said two areas on the higher part of the site were tested for seasonal high water but neither area has the required two feet depth of soil for infiltration. Machamer said the plan has a trench to de-water the soil with a factor safety of three where two is required per the state BMP. Zimmerman asked about the flood elevation certificate and Machamer said he has the surveys of elevation; the buildings will be two feet above the ordinance requirements. Zimmerman moved to approve the Pine Grove Yamaha Site Plan with the requested waivers, Lehman seconded the motion, all were in favor and motion carried 5 to 0. Machamer said the improvements agreement and the recreation fees are needed before the plans can be recorded.
- ♦ **Frantz Parcel A3 Sketch Plan for Record** – Aungst moved to approve the plan, Wise seconded the motion, all were in favor and motion carried 5 to 0.
- ♦ **GJW Development Final Plan** – Zimmerman moved to approve the plan, Lehman seconded the motion, all were in favor and motion carried 5 to 0.
- ♦ **Lola Wolfe Final Plan Sewage Module** - Aungst moved to approve the sewage module, Tobin seconded the motion, all were in favor and motion carried 5 to 0.
- ♦ **Flood Elevation Certificates** – Zimmerman moved to approve the Benesch proposal with costs not to exceed \$10,000. Tobin seconded the motion, all were in favor and motion carried 5 to 0.

Landfill Inspector – Lehman noted the landfill has new hours; they are open the first Saturday of the month. Zimmerman said the landfill will have the Spring and Fall clean up site for Township and Borough residents at their lot along Rt. 125, the Spring clean up will be held in May.

Recreation Board – Aungst said they are waiting for the grant money; he talked to Ralph and Kimmel is giving fill for the walkway. Aungst asked the Board of Supervisors if they would approve paying for Kimmel’s fuel since he is donating the fill. Aungst said he and Dennis did the elevations and got a drop box to put in. Tobin asked if the DCNR grant was a matching grant and Aungst said 50% matching.

Aungst said Cody Lehman was present to request building picnic tables for the Recreation Area for his Eagle Scout project. The Board of Supervisors signed the letter and two copies were given to him.

Also discussed was the DCED grant for the Recreation Area and the rubber mulch. Bonnie Brown said she found a place to get the rubber mulch. Tobin said she has it in the grant. Aungst said the Park Society says not too many people use it, the color rubs off. Aungst said to look at the pros and cons of it. Tobin asked Aungst what his main issue was against the rubber mulch. Aungst said according to DCNR and the guy from PA Recreation and Parks, issues are getting dirty from the mulch, the cost of it and environmental issues like the dye used in the mulch.

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OLD BUSINESS

- ♦ **Pine Hill Escrow Account** – DiNicola said he sent a letter to Nestle asking them to allow the Township to keep the excess funds for future maintenance of the road, but has not heard from them. This item was tabled until next month.
- ♦ **Roberts Road Project** – Zimmerman said permits have not been received and he thinks the project is taking too long. Aungst said he will call DEP about the permits.
- ♦ **2009 Paving Project** – Ferguson gave the Board of Supervisors and the Roadmaster the prepared advertisement and bid package to review. Geist asked the Board of Supervisors if they were willing to accept shingles in the mix design and the Board said no. Paving with one pass was discussed and the Board approved removing the requirement from the contract. Aungst moved to advertise the project as stated, Lehman seconded the motion, all were in favor and motion carried 5 to 0.

- ♦ **Clubhouse Road** – DiNicola said he prepared a proposed agreement / ordinance for circulation to Washington Township and the County. Zimmerman said Geist should explain to Washington Township that Pine Grove Township will take care of the winter maintenance of the new road.
- ♦ **PLGIT Procurement Card** – Aungst said he thought there were some tough restrictions with the card. Tobin moved to sign a resolution to approve the PLGIT Procurement Cards, one for Ferguson and an option for a second card for the Township to activate for daily use. Lehman seconded the motion, all were in favor and motion carried 5 to 0.
- ♦ **Township Building Air Quality** – Lehman said the dehumidifier purchased has not really had an effect on the air quality and there is a company willing to come Saturday at 2 PM to test the air. Discussion followed on the issue of possible mold in the building, the air quality and solutions. Zimmerman moved to approve the company coming to do the evaluation and one air test in the hallway. Lehman seconded the motion, all were in favor and motion carried 5 to 0.
- ♦ **PSATS Retirement Plan** – The retirement plan and fees were discussed by the Board. The Board directed Ferguson to find out how many employees are interested in participating in the plan and tabled this item until next month.

NEW BUSINESS

- ♦ **Election Holiday Pay** – Ferguson said the special election held on March 3, 2009 showed a conflict between the personnel handbook (election days are paid holidays for employees) and the Board minutes (ten paid holidays per year) for paying holiday pay. Aungst moved to pay eligible employees holiday pay for March 3, 2009, Lehman seconded the motion, all were in favor and motion carried 5 to 0.
- ♦ **Speed Limit Changes** – DiNicola said the ordinance to amend the speed limits as discussed is ready to adopt tonight. Aungst moved to adopt Ordinance # 76 to amend the speed limits on Oak Grove Road, Old Forge Road and Brookside Road, Tobin seconded the motion. Aungst, Tobin, Zimmerman and Wise voted in favor of the motion, Lehman opposed the motion; motion carried 4 to 1.

CORRESPONDENCE

- ♦ **WJP Engineers Letter re Pine Vista Phase III General NPDES permit** – Zimmerman said this is for a renewal of an existing permit.
- ♦ **PennDOT Bridge Report for Old Forge Road / Fishing Creek and Oak Grove Road / Mill Creek** Zimmerman said the bridge reports are here to review. Aungst recommended money be spent on the Old Forge Road bridge.
- ♦ **DCED \$5,000 Grant Contract for Recreation Area** – Zimmerman moved to approve signing the contract, Lehman seconded the motion, all were in favor and motion carried 5 to 0.
- ♦ **Rep. Tim Seip Invitation to Grant Seminar** – Zimmerman noted the dates are March 23rd in Tilden Township and on March 30th at the Tremont Municipal Building from 5 to 8 PM.
- ♦ **Pine Grove Borough letter re replacement of water mains** – Zimmerman said the Borough got some money to replace the water mains.

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PUBLIC COMMENT

- ♦ **Bernie Kulkaski** asked if the easements are back for the Roberts Road project. Aungst said he would talk to Frank Zukas about following up on the easements.
- ♦ **Aungst** said the Roadmaster's salary should be higher than the road crew's. Aungst moved to approve a 50 cent hourly rate increase for Roadmaster Ralph Geist on April 27th. Wise seconded the motion. Aungst, Wise and Tobin voted in favor of the motion, Zimmerman and Lehman opposed the motion, motion carried 3 to 2. Lehman said she opposed the motion because she thinks it should be more than 50 cents.
- ♦ **Zimmerman** asked if the audit was started, Ferguson said the audit was completed without any problems and the audit report should be here for next meeting.

- ♦ **Ferguson** asked the Board about the '97 Ford truck that was owned by the RACE program and Zimmerman said it went to Washington Township. Ferguson said we still have the title to it and are getting bills for inspection etc because it is titled to the Township. Zimmerman said to contact Randy Stump and he will meet with him to sign over the truck title and any trailer titles they got from the RACE program.

ADJOURNMENT - At 9:25 PM Zimmerman moved to adjourn the meeting, Tobin seconded the motion, all were in favor and motion carried 5 to 0.

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Respectfully submitted,

Kathy Ferguson, Secretary / Treasurer

Approved by the Board of Supervisors on April 8, 2009.