

PINE GROVE TOWNSHIP SUPERVISORS

175 OAK GROVE ROAD, PINE GROVE, PA 17963

MAY 13, 2009 MEETING MINUTES

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**CALL TO ORDER** - Chairman Larry Zimmerman called the May 13, 2009 meeting to order with the Pledge of Allegiance at 7:00 PM. Attending were Vice Chairwoman Diane Tobin, Supervisors Allen Aungst and Judith Lehman. Supervisor Jerry Wise and Roadmaster Ralph Geist were absent. Also present: Solicitor Gino DiNicola, Sect. / Treas. Kathy Ferguson, Zoning Officer Clinton Koontz, Bernie Kulkaski, Dennis Fidler, Joan Schwer and others; list on file.

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

## MINUTES / FINANCIAL ITEMS

- ♦ **April 8, 2009 Meeting Minutes**
- ♦ **April 23, 2009 Special Meeting Minutes**

Tobin moved to approve both meeting minutes, Aungst seconded the motion, all were in favor and motion carried 4 to 0.

- ♦ **Treasurer’s Report** – Treasurer Kathy Ferguson noted an amendment to the March Treasurer’s report of \$200 as an addition to the Combined Fund balance for two new savings accounts that were opened for the Recreation Grant funds. Zimmerman said the April General Fund beginning balance was \$303,041.47, April receipts were \$47,473.06 and April expenses were \$46,692.24. The General Fund April ending balance was \$303,822.29 and the Combined Funds ending balance was \$3,455,217.54. Aungst moved to approve the amended March Treasurer’s Report and the April Treasurer’s Report. Lehman seconded the motion, all were in favor and motion carried 4 to 0.
- ♦ **Approval of Bills** – Aungst asked if the amount of the invoice from Proac was what they quoted. Discussion followed and Aungst moved to approve paying the bills pending the amount for Proac was what was quoted, motion died for lack of a second. Tobin said the amount quoted was only an estimate. Aungst moved to approve paying the bills totaling \$38,306.54. Lehman seconded the motion, all were in favor and motion carried 4 to 0.

**PERSONS TO BE HEARD** – Dennis Fidler submitted to the Board copies of a plan from 1990 for the intersection of 2 ½ Mile Road and SR 443 showing how the road was moved to align the intersection up with the road going into McDonald’s. Fidler said the normal procedure would have been to deed the section where the road had been to the adjoining property owners, but it was never done. Fidler said he is currently working on a project for the one property owner and asked the Board to consider deeding the property back to Larry Barr and Edward Miller. Fidler said Barr and Miller would pay the costs of surveying etc to have the property transferred. Lehman asked if there would be any issues with pipes under the road. Zimmerman said he thinks the pipes are under SR 443 and Fidler said he would check on that. Zimmerman moved to go through with the land transfer to Barr and Miller. Tobin seconded the motion, all were in favor and motion carried 4 to 0.

## REPORTS

**Roadmaster** – Roadmaster Ralph Geist was not present. Ferguson said last month the Board asked Geist to complete the PennDOT road mileage verification and the Township line on Clubhouse Road is not marked. Ferguson asked the Board if Geist should submit the measurements he estimated to PennDOT. Zimmerman said they should send the report to PennDOT adding the road and saying the mileage will follow.

**Zoning Officer** – Zimmerman said there were five approved permits in April and asked Clint about the situation on top of the hill. Lehman asked what he meant by the top of the hill. Zimmerman said the signs for the poultry farm along Longstretch Road. Koontz said the signs are permitted and he cannot regulate what is on the sign.

Lehman asked Koontz if he keeps a journal of his phone calls. Koontz said only until he calls them back. Lehman said she would really like to see the calls noting he received 35 calls and there were only five permits. Koontz said if they buy him a phone log he will keep a journal.

Tobin said at the convention she attended a seminar on the Uniform Construction Code and they mentioned we should not be issuing building permits if we have Light-Heigel issuing permits. Tobin asked Koontz if he knew anything about that. Koontz asked how the County would track building for assessment purposes without it. Discussion followed on the building permit. Tobin asked Koontz if he still issues occupancy permits and Koontz said if they ask for one, but generally people take the one from Light- Heigel. Tobin said it was mentioned the occupancy permits go through the UCC office, not the local office. Tobin said the issue discussed at the seminar was that we shouldn't be doing building permits because of the UCC being enforced, she will check with Light-Heigel.

#### **Engineers Report / Planning Commission Report**

- ♦ **Lola Mae Wolfe to her sons Hain Final Plan** – Aungst moved to approve the plan, Tobin seconded the motion, all were in favor and motion carried 4 to 0.
- ♦ **Flood Elevation Certificates** – Ferguson said there was nothing new from Benesch and asked about the flood study plans submitted for the Matt Brandt property last month. Ferguson said she thinks it was discussed after the meeting last month about sending a letter to Brandt acknowledging receipt of the plan and asked if this is what the Board wanted her to do. Zimmerman said yes, send a letter saying it was received in the Township office. Ferguson asked if copies of the plan should be sent to the township engineer for review and Zimmerman said no.

**Landfill Inspector** – No comments were received.

**Recreation Board** – Ferguson said no report had been received. Tobin showed a sample of the rubberized mulch and said in talking to the sales representative about the color, he said there was a problem when the product first came out that the color would rub off but the newer product does not have that problem. Dennis Fidler said the Recreation Board has concerns about the mulch sticking in the children's shoes and tracked into the parking lot and said the mulch they are using seems fine if some is added every year. Tobin said she had discussed with Bonnie Brown using the rubberized mulch in a small area and had written it into the grant application.

#### **OLD BUSINESS**

- ♦ **Roberts Road Project** – Aungst said the permit is in the environmental department with DEP. Zimmerman asked if we need to send a letter to our state representatives, the permit has been in since January. Aungst said Chris Bentz had talked to Frank Zukas to see if he could call and get any results. Bernie Kulkaski asked if all the easements were back. Aungst said the only one they are waiting for is from Moen and as of a May 7<sup>th</sup> memo; the agreement should be here soon.
- ♦ **Fee Schedule** – Ferguson said she was unable to get data on the fees in time for the meeting; she will have it for the next meeting. Item was tabled.

**Executive Session** – At 7:43 PM the Board of Supervisors and Solicitor DiNicola went into executive session Zimmerman said was regarding the property discussed last month. The meeting resumed at 7:58 PM, Zimmerman said there would be no action taken at this time.

#### **NEW BUSINESS**

- ♦ **Wyatt Bode Residential Sewage Module** – Aungst moved to approve the sewage module, Lehman seconded the motion, all were in favor and motion carried 4 to 0.

## NEW BUSINESS

- ♦ **Comcast Telephone Service** – Tobin said Comcast local and long distance telephone service would cost us half of what we currently pay. The Board discussed the service. Tobin moved to switch telephone service to Comcast providing it works with our current phone system, Lehman seconded the motion. Tobin, Lehman and Aungst voted in favor of the motion, Zimmerman opposed the motion, motion carried 3 to 1. Zimmerman said he voted no because if the electricity is off we would have no telephone service. Tim Weaver said the Board should consider how they will communicate in an emergency without the phones. Discussion followed, no other action was taken.
- ♦ **Donations** – Ferguson provided the Board with a list of last year's donations and the requests from this year. After discussion, Aungst moved to keep all the same except reduce Steinert SPCA by \$100 and adding a donation of \$100 to the Pine Grove Area Christmas Light Committee, Lehman seconded the motion. Aungst and Lehman voted in favor of the motion, Tobin and Zimmerman opposed the motion, motion was defeated. Tobin said the Pine Grove Area Christmas Light Committee donation should be more than \$100 because of the cost of lights. Zimmerman said he voted no because he didn't want to donate to the Paraclete Foundation. After discussion, Aungst moved to approve the following donations: Paraclete Foundation (\$575), Pine Grove Ambulance Association (\$1,000), Pine Grove Borough for fire hydrants (\$1,000), Pine Grove Area Christmas Light Committee (\$200), Pine Grove Community Band (\$25), Ruth Steinert Memorial SPCA (\$100) and Tremont Public Library (\$100). Tobin seconded the motion. Aungst, Tobin and Zimmerman voted in favor of the motion, Lehman opposed the motion, motion carried 3 to 1.

## CORRESPONDENCE

- ♦ **Voting District Changes** – Aungst asked if the changes would be effective next year and Tobin said she thinks so.
- ♦ **PIRMA Recommendations** – Zimmerman said the information should be passed on to the Recreation Board and to the Roadmaster for the recommendations that were made.
- ♦ **Central Schuylkill Council of Government** – Lehman asked Aungst if he went to the meeting, he said the Board indicated no interest at the last meeting, so he didn't go.
- ♦ **Pine Grove Borough Request** – Tobin moved to approve the Borough's request to use Township roads for detour purposes during the parade on May 25, 2009. Aungst seconded the motion, all were in favor and motion carried 4 to 0.

## PUBLIC COMMENT

- ♦ **Joan Schwer** asked what the donations were and Zimmerman read the list of amounts approved.
- ♦ **Bernie Kulkaski** asked if the two things needed before the project is put out for bid is DEP approval and the easement. Zimmerman said yes. Bernie Kulkaski asked if they could start the cul-de-sac without DEP approval and Zimmerman said the culvert and the cul-de-sac will be put out to bid together.
- ♦ **Zimmerman** said the phone message should be changed for the office, it still says we are closed on Thursday. Ferguson said she doesn't know how to change it; the instruction books were destroyed in the basement flooding. Zimmerman said he knows who installed the system; he will talk to them.
- ♦ **Ferguson** asked the Board if they wanted to respond to the letter from Reading Site Contractors regarding the core samples and the proposed crack sealing on Pine Hill and Waterfall Roads. Zimmerman said a letter of thanks should be sent to them for the crack sealing.
- ♦ **Ferguson** asked the Board if she could close the office on June 17<sup>th</sup> in order for her and Becky Ibarra to attend a records management seminar in Harrisburg and the Board approved the request.
- ♦ **Zimmerman** asked Ferguson if she got new computers yet, Ferguson said no and Tobin added they are working on it.

**ADJOURNMENT** - At 8:30 PM Aungst moved to adjourn the meeting, Lehman seconded the motion, all were in favor and motion carried 4 to 0. Printed from [www.pinegrovetownship.com](http://www.pinegrovetownship.com)

Respectfully submitted,  
Kathy Ferguson, Secretary / Treasurer

Approved by the Board of Supervisors 6/10/09.