

# PINE GROVE TOWNSHIP SUPERVISORS

175 OAK GROVE ROAD, PINE GROVE, PA 17963

AUGUST 8, 2007 MEETING MINUTES ~~~~~

**CALL TO ORDER** - Chairman Larry Zimmerman called the August 8, 2007 meeting to order with the Pledge of Allegiance at 7:05 PM. Attending were Supervisors Zimmerman, Jerry Wise, Allen Aungst, Herman Clemens and Judith Lehman. Also present: Solicitor Gino DiNicola, Sect. / Treas. Kathy Ferguson, Bernie Kulkaski, Heath Machamer, Terry Ritzman, other residents; list on file.

**PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS** - Bernie Kulkaski said he had a comment on flooding, Zimmerman said it would come under public comment.

## MINUTES / FINANCIAL ITEMS

- ♦ **July 11, 2007 Meeting Minutes** - Aungst moved to approve the minutes, Lehman seconded the motion, all were in favor and motion carried 5 to 0.
- ♦ **Treasurer's Report** - The beginning balance of the General Fund was \$339,502.67, July General Fund receipts were \$19,618.28, July General Fund expenses were \$213,838.35 (includes transfer of \$150,000 to Capital Reserve Fund); the ending balance of the General Fund is \$145,282.60. The Combined Township Funds ending balance is \$2,713,648.37. Clemens moved to approve the Treasurer's Report, Lehman seconded the motion, all were in favor; motion carried 5 to 0.
- ♦ **Approval of Bills** - Aungst moved to approve paying the bills totaling \$20,994.21, Wise seconded the motion, all were in favor and motion carried 5 to 0.

## PERSONS TO BE HEARD

- ♦ **Tom Feeser** called prior to the meeting and removed himself from the agenda.

## REPORTS

### Engineers Report / Planning Commission Report

- ♦ **Nyer Sketch Plan of Record** – Aungst moved to approve the Nyer Sketch Plan of Record, Clemens seconded the motion, all were in favor and motion carried 5 to 0.
- ♦ **Phillip Lapp Reduction in Letter of Credit** – Zimmerman moved to approve the reduction in Lapp's letter of credit, Clemens seconded the motion, all were in favor and motion carried 5 to 0.
- ♦ **Newstead** – Heath Machamer spoke for Wayne Fanelli regarding the plans under review by the Township for Phase II of the Pleasant Valley site. Machamer presented a request for a waiver of Section 5.952 and Section 4.3537 of the SALDO involving the fee of \$14,800 in lieu of land for recreation use. Machamer said the original land development did not require the fee, Zimmerman said it must have been missed. After discussion, Zimmerman moved to have Newstead present the waiver request to the Planning Commission. Lehman seconded the motion, all were in favor and motion carried 5 to 0.

**Landfill Inspector** – Lehman answered questions on decommissioning of gas wells etc.

**Recreation Board** – No report was received.

**Roadmaster** – Roadmaster was not present. Zimmerman asked Ferguson to check they haven't gone over the budget amount for blacktop.

**Zoning Officer** – Zoning Officer was not present; there were five approved permits for July.

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## OLD BUSINESS

- ♦ **PennDOT Bureau of Aviation** – Zimmerman said a public hearing is scheduled for October 16<sup>th</sup> at 2 PM. Clemens moved to send a letter to PennDOT requesting an evening time for the hearing, Aungst seconded the motion, all were in favor; motion carried 5 to 0.
- ♦ **Pine Grove Landfill Temporary Tax Suspension Proposal** – DiNicola said we are waiting for the document to be circulated, he had not received anything from the school district; he will bring it back to the Board when action is needed.

## NEW BUSINESS

- ♦ **Office Computers** – Ferguson listed the problems with the computers: Judy's and Jamie's computers hard drives crashed several weeks ago, Jamie's computer's motherboard also must be replaced, Kathy's computer's hard drive is making a noise and running extremely slow, there was a lightning strike to the hub which damaged some of the ports and the technician said someone was doing things to the cables downstairs and pieces are missing; he was unable to reconnect John's computer to the Internet until they have a cable technician repair the cable connections. Ferguson recommended purchasing a new laptop for Judy, two complete new systems for the office and updating / securing the computer cable setup and wiring in the basement.

Zimmerman said Kathy needs a computer but Jamie and Judy could share a computer. Lehman said this wouldn't work because she doesn't have keys to the office. A discussion followed on why the supervisors don't have keys to the office with Lehman pointing out that PSATS says the secretary is legally responsible for the files and if the supervisors have keys they must assume the responsibility for the files. Zimmerman said the supervisors are already responsible for the files and said there is no protection needed for the wiring in the basement because the only ones who have access are those in office who have keys. Discussion on keys to the township building was held.

Aungst said Wayne Township has only one computer, no service contract, have never had a problem with their computer and the two office people share the computer. Aungst said the \$1,200 Gateway computer purchased three years ago by Washington Township for the UCC has never been used by Clint and Washington Township will sell it to us for \$600.

Clemens said one good system with three new computers should be purchased from the same company so everything is compatible; a laptop would work well for Lehman. Wise agreed with getting a laptop for Lehman so she can do work while at the landfill.

After discussion, Clemens moved to purchase the Gateway computer from Washington Township for \$600 and the necessary software to make it work, to purchase a laptop in the \$600 range for Lehman, and to get quotes on a new computer for the secretary. Wise seconded the motion. Clemens, Wise, Aungst and Lehman voted in favor of the motion. Zimmerman opposed the motion, motion carried 4 to 1. Zimmerman said he opposed the motion because he disagrees with purchasing a laptop.

- ♦ **Line Painting** – Discussion on the project, the linear feet and a completion date of October 13<sup>th</sup> was held. Aungst moved to advertise for line painting with the bids to be opened at the September meeting, Lehman seconded the motion, all were in favor; motion carried 5 to 0.

## CORRESPONDENCE

- ♦ **Schuylkill County Hazard Mitigation Plan Resolution Request** - DiNicola said the Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000 was enacted to make sure funding would be available and spent wisely; it requires counties and municipalities to enact a Hazard Mitigation Plan. DiNicola said the Township can either adopt the County plan or develop one of their own to be eligible for disaster funding, he suggested having our engineer take a look at the County plan to see if it would be suitable for us. Zimmerman moved to have the Township engineer review the County Hazard Mitigation Plan for our township, before the next meeting. Lehman seconded the motion, all were in favor; motion carried 5 to 0.

- ♦ **DEP Notification of Host Municipal Inspector Program Grant** – Zimmerman noted the Township received \$12,156.12 from the grant program.
- ♦ **Jamie A. Shiffer Pay Request** – Zimmerman said Shiffer requested pay for two hours of work she did at home on her own computer. Clemens moved to pay Shiffer for the two hours work, Lehman seconded the motion, all were in favor and motion carried 5 to 0.
- ♦ **Roberta Jelicks Resignation** – Zimmerman moved to accept Jelicks resignation from the Joint Treatment Authority Board for health reasons. Wise seconded the motion, all were in favor and motion carried 5 to 0. Zimmerman said he would prefer someone connected to public sewer to fill the vacancy, but it is not a requirement.

## **PUBLIC COMMENT**

- ♦ **Terry Ritzman** asked about the fire company merger. Wise said the next meeting is on August 29<sup>th</sup>, the fire companies are finishing their charters and will soon be ready to come to the supervisors with some information.
- ♦ **Bernie Kulkaski** said there was no new action from the board on flooding; the added cost of approximately \$500 to building a new home is not an excuse for the Board not to push Act 167. Kulkaski asked Aungst about the meeting on stormwater. Aungst said he was out of town, the next meeting is on August 30; they are reviewing the DEP Stormwater module which is in line with Act 167 ordinance.
- ♦ **DiNicola** filed a tax assessment appeal with the County assessor's office to change the status for the Ravine parcel to tax exempt; we will be notified of the time of the hearing.
- ♦ **Lehman** said residents have asked if the Election Board was contacted about the question of going back to three supervisors being on the ballot. Ferguson said she faxed a copy of the letter along with a request for confirmation that the question will be on the ballot to Betty Dries and spoke to her on the phone.
- ♦ **Aungst** said if they want to do crack sealing this fall they need to make a decision. Aungst said we need to start a program of crack sealing on our roads and they met with Charlie Jones who does Wayne Township; there is money in Liquid Fuels to use for it. Discussion on crack sealing followed with Lehman saying she had started looking into purchasing a tar buggy to have our road crew do the work. Aungst said it would only be used a few days a year and Zimmerman said it was a high maintenance item. Zimmerman said the cracks on the edges of the roads are from shoulders that are not taken care of. Lehman asked if the Board will back the road crew if they do the shoulders in the right-of-ways, discussion followed.

Clemens moved to have Jones crack seal some of the roads in the Township up to \$4,000 this year to test it, Aungst seconded the motion. Clemens, Aungst, Zimmerman and Wise were in favor of the motion, Lehman opposed the motion; motion carried 4 to 1. Lehman said she opposed the motion because she would have liked more time to compare prices with buying a tar buggy.

Clemens moved to have the Roadmaster fix the shoulders of the roads to specs by putting in stone, spraying with tar and weed killer. Lehman seconded the motion, all were in favor; motion carried 5 to 0.

- ♦ **Aungst** moved to host the County bulk recycling fall clean-up at Pine Grove Township if Washington Township declines it. Zimmerman seconded the motion, all were in favor and motion carried 5 to 0.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

At 9:10 PM Aungst moved to adjourn the meeting, Zimmerman seconded the motion, all were in favor, motion carried 5 to 0 and meeting was adjourned.

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**Respectfully submitted,  
Kathy Ferguson, Secretary / Treasurer  
Approved by the Board of Supervisors September 12, 2007.**