
PINE GROVE TOWNSHIP SUPERVISORS

175 OAK GROVE ROAD, PINE GROVE, PA 17963

AUGUST 10, 2016 MEETING MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER - Chairman Bruce Kosack called the August 10, 2016 meeting to order with the Pledge of Allegiance at 6:30 PM. In attendance were Chairman Bruce Kosack, Vice-Chairman Jeffery Zimmerman, Supervisor Ray Stump, Administrative Assistant Cynthia Hummel, Allen Aungst (Recreation Board Chairman), Patrick DeRemer, John Ruff, Matthew Brandt, Richard Werner, Abe Maidenford, Charles Aungst, Grace Maidenford, Tracey Ditzler, Ron Boltz, John Heinbach, Bill Ryland, Gerald Lengel, and others; list on file. Zoning Officer Dan Bode, Road Foreman Rodney Fidler, Township Manager Kathy Ferguson, and Solicitor Gino DiNicola were absent.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS – Patrick DeRemer, owner of Pine Grove Ammo, mentioned he has security cameras and an alarm system that reports to the State Police. DeRemer said he has had instances when the police have not arrived. DeRemer expressed his support for a local police force like Pine Grove Borough. Zimmerman said this can be discussed with the topic on the agenda.

MINUTES / FINANCIAL ITEMS

July 13, 2016 Meeting Minutes – Zimmerman moved to approve the July 13, 2016 meeting minutes, Stump seconded the motion, all were in favor and motion carried 3 to 0.

Treasurer's Report – Kosack said the Treasurer is not present to give the report.

Approval of Bills – Zimmerman said the revised amount of the bills is \$24,184.95. Zimmerman moved to approve the bills for payment in the amount of \$24,184.95, Stump seconded the motion, all were in favor and motion carried 3 to 0.

PERSONS TO BE HEARD – No persons to be heard.

REPORTS

Committee Reports

- › **CDBG** – Kosack said there is nothing to report.
- › **Fire Company** – Zimmerman said there was nothing to report.
- › **Labor Relations** – Kosack said there is nothing to report.
- › **Public Works & Property** – Stump said there was nothing to report.
- › **Tax Collection Committee** – Kosack said there is nothing to report.
- › **Workplace Safety Committee** – Kosack made a motion to accept the July minutes for the Workplace Safety Committee, Stump seconded the motion, all were in favor and motion carried 3 to 0.
- › **UCC Appeals Board** – Zimmerman said there is a UCC Appeals Board Hearing scheduled for August 22, 2016 at 6:30 PM with the Fanelli Group. Zimmerman asked if we have a full board and if any of those seated were alternates. Hummel said three board members are seated, no alternates.

Engineer/Planning Commission – Kosack said the Planning Commission recommends the approval of the Bruce Unverdorben Boundary Line Adjustment – Final Plan. Stump made a motion to approve the Bruce Unverdorben Boundary Line Adjustment, Kosack seconded the motion, all were in favor and motion carried 3 to 0.

Recreation Board – Allen Aungst thanked Lynn Johnson for cleaning and mulching the flower bed in the Recreation Area. August said the paving of the Recreation Area Parking area was budgeted and he has submitted three quotes to the supervisors. Aungst said he would recommend Rittenbaugh with the lowest quote. Stump made a motion to accept the \$9,149.00 quote from Rittenbaugh Maintenance LLC, Zimmerman seconded the motion, all were in favor and motion carried 3 to 0. Aungst announced on Monday August 15th around 5:00PM the Recreation Board will be cleaning the Recreation Area and asked if anyone would like to volunteer.

Road Foreman – Stump said the Roadcrew was doing a good job cleaning ditches and culverts.

Zoning Hearing Board – Kosack announced the August 25, 2016 Zoning Hearing Board was cancelled.

Zoning Officer – Kosack said the Zoning Officer issued 6 new permits, 1 renewed permit, 1 denied permit, 3 complaints, 25 phone calls, 22 e-mails, 4 inspections, 0 hearings, 8 meetings in office and 2 on-site visits and 1 Planning Commission plan reviewed in July.

OLD BUSINESS

Property Tax – Zimmerman said there has not been a Municipal tax for 14 years and the Capital Reserve was used to maintain the Townships annual budget. Zimmerman explained the Capital Reserves Fund had gone down approximately three-quarter a million dollars since 2008 to balance the budget. Zimmerman said based on a discussion with Attorney DiNicola that if the Township wants to impose a tax in 2017 an Ordinance would need to be adopted in October. Zimmerman recommended to table the property tax and wait until September to see if the prime rate increases which could increase the Township investments.

Township Building Air Quality – Quotes for Air Duct Cleaning – Kosack said we received quotes from three companies to clean the duct work in the Township building because employees are going home ill. Kosack said the quotes for cleaning the duct work were from Berks Fire Water Restoration \$1,178.40, Proac Corporation \$3,008.00 and ServPro \$2,361.60. Hummel explained when ServPro inspected they found the UV unit was not working. Hummel said ServPro submitted two additional proposals one to repair the UV unit and the other quote to correct registers that are not functional and that are not closed off. Hummel said since ServPro identified the UV unit was not working problem we had the unit repaired which could reduce ServPro's quote. Zimmerman said there is no proof the duct work is making the employees ill. Hummel mentioned there is also a member from another board having reactions. Zimmerman made a motion for Berks Fire Water Restoration to clean the duct work in the amount of \$1,178.40, motion failed for lack of a second. After a brief discussion Stump suggested ServPro do the duct work and if it does not get better have ServPro come back and see about the other items. Stump made a motion to have ServPro perform the duct work cleaning for \$2,361.60, Kosack seconded the motion, all were in favor, and the motion carried 3 to 0.

NEW BUSINESS

Police Protection in Pine Grove Township – Kosack stated the Township is not voting on this tonight we would like your opinions after the Board's discussion. Stump said Pine Grove Borough applied for a police department grant for three years (\$150,000 each year). Stump said residents have asked him about police protection and he requested it be placed on the agenda for the residents' opinions. Stump said the coverage and cost are still under discussion. Zimmerman noted this is a discussion and expressed his concern, that there is nothing in writing between the Township and the Borough. Kosack said this would not be passed at a regular Board of Supervisors meeting there would be a Public Hearing to hear both sides and whatever else is required.

The following residents voiced their opinions:

- › **John Ruff** – Ruff said this was tried a while back and gave an example of Tremont and said the State Police are doing a fine job.
- › **Richard Werner** - Werner expressed his dislike for the Borough police speeding in the Township and his concern of the cost to the Township.
- › **Abe Maidenford** – Maidenford expressed his dislike for the Borough police in the Township, they drive around already.
- › **Charles Aungst** – Aungst's concern is the qualification requirements for Borough police officers; the State Police are more qualified.
- › **Grace Maidenford** – Maidenford suggested this be placed on the ballot for the November election.
- › **Tracey Ditzler** – Ditzler asked what is the benefit to the Township, she would like the Borough to clean up problems, like drugs and labs, in the Borough before the Township even considers them for police protection. She is opposed to spending her tax dollars on a police department; she is willing to pay for the State Police because of their training.
- › **Matthew Brandt** – Brandt expressed his concern on the cost to the Township covering the Borough's debts and compared the size of the Township to the Borough. Brandt agreed with Tracey Ditzler's assessment of the qualification of the police.
- › **Ron Boltz** – Boltz stated he is completely opposed. Boltz expressed his concern of the cost, time frame, taxes, and asked to consider the pros and cons.
- › **Patrick DeRemer**- DeRemer said he was not aware of past experience with local police and living in the Township for 14 years.
- › **John Heinbach** – Stated he is against Borough police protection.
- › Several individuals who did not identify themselves were asked to leave the meeting due to inappropriate language.

Zimmerman said he wants to thank the State Police for their service, it may not be what everyone thinks it should be, but at the moment it is the best scenario that we have. Zimmerman said he wants the record to show: that Pine Grove Township is not unhappy with the services of the Pennsylvania State Police.

County Fall Cleanup – Kosack announced the County Fall Cleanup will be September 15-17 from 8AM to noon. Zimmerman asked if anyone would be interested in volunteering for the event.

PEMA Designation of Agent Resolution– Hummel said this is for Kathy Ferguson to be the designated agent for the Township for the Jonas Snow Storm, all the paperwork has been submitted but they need a designated agent. Zimmerman made a motion to adopt Resolution #2016-08 authorizing Kathy Ferguson as the PEMA Designated Agent for the Jonas Snow Storm. Stump seconded the motion, all were in favor, and motion carried 3 to 0.

Township Authority Board Member Application - Zimmerman made a motion to appoint Margret Davenport to the Pine Grove Township Authority Board, Stump seconded, all were in favor, and motion carried 3 to 0.

Budget Amendment – Stump said he and Ferguson discussed adjusting the budget for part time wages and would like to do a resolution to move funds. Zimmerman asked Stump if he handles the part time hours with the Road Foreman. Stump said he will keep track of the hours. Stump explained the line painting is completed and he would like to move \$4,600 from that line and \$2,500 from vehicle fuel into the Road crew (part time) wages with a total for \$7,100. After a brief discussion since a resolution was not ready for signatures, Zimmerman said a motion could be made to amend the budget. Stump made a motion to amend the 2016 budget to move \$7,100 into line 430.115 Road Crew (Part Time) Wages; \$4,600 from line 438.372 Road Maintenance-Line Striping and \$2,500 from line 430.232 Highway – Vehicle Fuel, Kosack seconded the motion, all were in favor, and motion carried 3 to 0.

CORRESPONDENCE

TeamAg Inc – Municipal Land Use Letter – Hummel said this was forwarded to the Zoning Officer for action. Kosack read the TeamAg Incorporated letter requesting land use information for an application they are submitting to DEP for a General NPDES permit for proposed poultry barns for Eugene Martin. The permit will pertain to the earth disturbance for two proposed poultry barns, a storage building, related gravel access drive and access areas, and stormwater management facilities at 155 Laurel Road, Pine Grove PA. Brandt mentioned about the trout hatchery. Zimmerman explained this was an application to DEP and the location was a farm in prior years.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Bill Ryland said he is a Swopes Valley resident and asked about the grant for the Swopes Valley Road Bridge. Zimmerman explained since the State budget was not approved until late last year the Township had to reapply for the grants for three bridges in the Township to be repaired. Zimmerman explained the problems with the Swopes Valley Road Bridge. Ryland requested the Roadcrew clean the shoulder on Swopes Valley Road. Stump told Mr. Ryland he will take care of this.

Gerald Lengel asked Stump about signs for the intersection at Birds Hill. Stump said he is checking with another sign company about the signs. Lengel also mentioned the Pine Grove Tremont Veterans has money allocated to do work on the Ravine Memorial, they would like to replace the sidewalks and is requesting the Township assist in removing the existing walkways. Stump will meet with Lengel to discuss.

ADJOURNMENT – Zimmerman moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:35 PM, Stump seconded the motion, all were in favor and motion carried 3 to 0.

Respectfully submitted,

Cynthia Hummel, Administrative Assistant

Approved by the Board of Supervisors on September 14, 2016.