
PINE GROVE TOWNSHIP SUPERVISORS

175 OAK GROVE ROAD, PINE GROVE, PA 17963

JULY 12, 2017 MEETING MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER - Chairman Bruce Kosack called the July 12, 2017 meeting to order with the Pledge of Allegiance at 6:30 PM. In attendance were Vice-Chairman Jeffery Zimmerman, Supervisor Ray Stump, Township Manager Kathy Ferguson, Jeff Longenecker, Brian Schach, Bob Pankake, Vincent Uglialoro, John Stahl, Howard Lengel, and others; list on file. Solicitor Gino DiNicola, Road Foreman Rodney Fidler, and Zoning Officer Dan Bode were absent.

Executive Session – Chairman Kosack announced the Board of Supervisors held a 15 minute executive session prior to the start of the Township meeting on a real estate matter; no decisions were made.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS – No public comment was received.

MINUTES / FINANCIAL

June 14, 2017 Meeting Minutes - Zimmerman moved to approve the June 14, 2017 Meeting minutes, Stump seconded the motion; all were in favor and motion carried 3 to 0.

June 14, 2017 Hearing Minutes - Zimmerman moved to approve the June 14, 2017 Hearing minutes, Stump seconded the motion; all were in favor and motion carried 3 to 0.

Treasurer's Reports – The June General Fund beginning balance was \$501,091.84; receipts were \$97,871.28; expenses were \$68,091.40 and the June General Fund ending balance was \$530,871.72. The Capital Reserve Fund June ending balance was \$2,904,776.76 and the Liquid Fuels Fund June ending balance was \$604,537.13. The June Combined Funds ending balance was \$4,040,185.61. Stump moved to approve the Treasurer's June report, Zimmerman seconded the motion; all were in favor and motion carried 3 to 0.

Approval of Bills – Stump moved to approve bills in the amount of \$49,122.99, including the addition of the ShoreTel invoice in the amount of \$223.37. Zimmerman seconded the motion; all were in favor and motion carried 3 to 0.

PERSONS TO BE HEARD

Jeff Longenecker was present to promote "Swatoberfest" at Swatara State Park, an event to be held on October 7th that will benefit StopSoldierSuicide.org. Longenecker asked the Board of Supervisors for approval to close parts of Swopes Valley Road for a short period of time during the event on October 7th and said North Lebanon County Fire will provide traffic direction.

The Board agreed to grant permission for the road closure and Zimmerman asked for a request letter stating the date, times, who is doing the closure and said Longenecker should contact the Township Fire Marshall if he needs any help from the Pine Grove Township fire companies.

Robert Pancake & Brian Schach spoke to the Supervisors about a property on Sager Drive where there is a 20'x 10' garage on a property, too close to the property line, and it is not on the zoning application. (Pankake gave the Board pictures and documents to review.) Pancake said there were problems with eleven trees on the property line and the Zoning Officer told the homeowner he had to get a surveyor and he did. Kosack asked if they filed a complaint. Schach said yes and the Zoning Officer told him the trees could be planted on the property line. Schach said the Zoning Officer should be here to address the problem. Kosack said he is here to be heard, the Township must be given time to resolve the complaint.

Pankake said part of the driveway is only a foot away from the fence and the fence is on the property line; the Township zoning requirement is two feet. Pankake said he doesn't know what the other property owner was told by the Zoning Officer, but the Zoning Officer gave Schach false information. Pankake said other problems are stormwater runoff in the backyard of the property that Andy Kinka will address and the driveway is too close to an intersection, the Zoning Officer should have checked the driveway, it should not have been approved without a zoning variance. After discussion on the complaints, resolutions, and Township responsibility for the driveway situation, Zimmerman asked Ferguson to set up a meeting with the Zoning Officer, herself, and a Supervisor to review the issue.

PERSONS TO BE HEARD, cont.

Andy Kinka said he is talking about the same property; his concern is two drainage pipes discharging water onto his fields. Kinka said he is concerned about erosion and creating a wetland. Kinka said the Zoning Officer referred him to the Schuylkill Conservation District, they said the Township has to handle it and sent him a document from DEP which he gave to Ray Stump for the Zoning Officer, but he never heard back from the Zoning Officer.

Ferguson said Stump gave the DEP document to her and she lost track of what it was for; she found it a few days ago, realized what happened and that it never got to the Zoning Officer. Ferguson apologized for the oversight.

Zimmerman said the Township lacks its own stormwater management plan and other municipalities are more up to date with DEP requirements; the Zoning Officer cannot apply something that is not there. Kosack said the Township needs to look into adopting stormwater management ordinances, but people will not like them. Zimmerman said part of stormwater management may include a \$3,500 stone garden when you build a new house; we don't want to over regulate the Township.

Kinka said the field adjacent to the property is planted in corn and too much water will damage those crops; the person farming it couldn't go down as far as he wanted to for fear of losing his seed, because of too much water. Kinka said he would like a swale put in to receive that water.

Vince Ugliodoro, 4 Sager Drive, said he is the property owner of all the discussion and regarding the water issue, the corn can't be planted as far back because it is a FEMA flood zone and there is a stream there that floods whenever we get a lot of water; the little bit of water coming from his gutters won't make it a wetland. Ugliodoro said he cut the pipes back three feet and the water is mostly puddling on his property and only when it rains. Ugliodoro said if you look at the elevation, all the other adjacent properties' water runs off onto Kinka's property when it rains, so why is he being targeted?

Kosack said when we get a stormwater management plan this will be resolved, everybody will be responsible for their stormwater run-off.

REPORTS

Committee Reports

- **Fire Company** – Zimmerman said Ravine Fire Company was awarded a Federal grant of \$185,000 with a \$10,000.00 deposit and they are in the bidding process to replace their 1985 brush truck with a new piece of equipment.
- **Labor Relations** – Kosack said there will be an executive session on personnel after the meeting.
- **Public Works & Property** - The Board of Supervisors reviewed the following bids received for the 2001 Dodge 3500 truck:

<u>James J. Anspach</u>	<u>John H. Stahl</u>	<u>Jerry Donmoyer</u>	<u>Kerry Minnich</u>	<u>Nick Reber Welding</u>
\$7,189.99	\$6,824.00	\$5,151.00	\$5,001.00	\$3,183.76

Zimmerman moved to approve the \$7,189.99 bid from James J. Anspach as the highest bidder, Stump seconded the motion; all were in favor and motion carried 3 to 0.

- **Workplace Safety Committee** – Ferguson said the June Safety meeting was cancelled and the next meeting will be held July 25th.

Engineer/Planning Commission – July 5, 2017 meeting was cancelled, no applications were received.

Recreation Board – Zimmerman moved to approve installation of a "Little Free Library" at the Recreation Area by St. Peters UCC. Stump seconded the motion, all were in favor and motion carried 3 to 0.

Road Foreman – No comments were received.

Zoning Hearing Board – July 27, 2017 hearing is cancelled, no applications were received.

Zoning Officer / Floodplain Administrator – The Zoning Officer issued 7 permits, received 3 complaints, 16 phone calls, and performed 3 inspections in June.

OLD BUSINESS

Water Authority – Kosack said the Water Authority wants to do something with the water system, he met with John Stahl and asked him to speak on their recommendations. Zimmerman said based on the last meeting, the Authority wants to know if the Board of Supervisors want to keep the existing system or sell the system to the County. Stahl agreed.

OLD BUSINESS, Water Authority, cont.

Zimmerman said one of the last things left unknown was the money transaction leading up to the acquisition of the Authority. Zimmerman said based on the information from Gino, the initial \$250,000 loan to the Authority was \$100,000 for the purchase and \$150,000 to fix the system so the water worked. Stahl agreed. Zimmerman said the only thing in question is the \$10,000 the Township gave to the bankruptcy attorney. Stahl said when they settled with the bankruptcy attorney, the Authority only gave them a \$90,000 check, so the \$10,000 is part of the \$100,000 purchase of the Water Authority system. Zimmerman questioned the loan and Stahl said the \$250,000 was loaned to the Authority as the matching funds for the \$500,000 grant the Authority received. Both agreed the Township loaned the Authority \$450,000.00.

Zimmerman asked what amount the County Authority is willing to purchase the Township Authority for. Stahl said one dollar; they are not purchasing it, they are taking over operation and they will assume the debts. Stahl said over half of the money invested in the system was public (State) money, not Township money; this is another public entity taking over a public entity.

EXECUTIVE SESSION – The Board of Supervisors and Township Manager adjourned to an Executive Session at 7:33 PM; they returned at 7:46 PM and the meeting resumed.

Water Authority, cont.

Zimmerman moved to accept a purchase agreement proposal from the Schuylkill County Municipal Water Authority for the Township Authority water system to be received on or before August 4, 2017. Stump seconded the motion, all were in favor and motion carried 3 to 0.

Township & County Recycling Events – Ferguson said the flyer for the Township recycling event costs is ready for the Board’s approval and noted the County is requesting the Township host a recycling site for their event in September as they have done the last several years. The Board discussed the issue and decided to say no to the County’s request and to change the Township event to electronics only.

Donations – The Board discussed a donation request that was tabled from last month from Pinegrove Historical Society for assistance with their restoration project at the Stanhope School. Ferguson noted an invitation was received to see the progress at the School on July 22nd from 10 to 11 AM. After discussion, the Board agreed to respectfully decline giving any donations at this time.

NEW BUSINESS

Pension Plan Amendment – Ferguson said the current pension plan is making a change to retiree in-service distributions and reviewed the changes to the plan and gave her recommendations to the Board of Supervisors. The Board decided Kosack and Ferguson should meet with a pension plan representative to review changes to the pension agreement.

CORRESPONDENCE – No correspondence was received requiring a decision.

PUBLIC COMMENT – Zimmerman thanked everyone for remaining calm during the discussions tonight.

ADJOURNMENT – At 8:05 PM Stump moved to adjourn the meeting, Zimmerman seconded the motion; all were in favor and motion carried 3 to 0.

EXECUTIVE SESSION – The Board of Supervisors adjourned into an executive session on personnel.

MEETING RE-OPENED – At 8:12 PM the Board of Supervisors re-opened the meeting. Kosack moved to accept proposals for zoning services for the Township to be received by September 13, 2017. Stump seconded the motion, all were in favor and motion carried 3 to 0.

ADJOURNMENT – At 8:13 PM Stump moved to adjourn the meeting, Zimmerman seconded the motion; all were in favor and motion carried 3 to 0.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathy Ferguson, Township Manager

Approved by the Board of Supervisors on August 9, 2017.