
PINE GROVE TOWNSHIP SUPERVISORS

175 OAK GROVE ROAD, PINE GROVE, PA 17963

JUNE 14, 2017 MEETING MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER - Vice-Chairman Jeffery Zimmerman called the June 14, 2017 meeting to order at 6:30 PM and a moment of silence was observed for the victims of the shooting in Alexandria, Virginia.

Pledge of Allegiance - In attendance were Vice-Chairman Jeffery Zimmerman, Supervisor Ray Stump, Solicitor Gino DiNicola, Township Manager Kathy Ferguson, John Stahl, Howard Lengel, Gerald Lengel and others; list on file. Chairman Bruce Kosack, Road Foreman Rodney Fidler, and Zoning Officer Dan Bode were absent.

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

MINUTES / FINANCIAL

May 10, 2017 Meeting Minutes - Stump moved to approve the May 10, 2017 minutes, Zimmerman seconded the motion; all were in favor and motion carried 2 to 0.

Treasurer's Reports – The May General Fund beginning balance was \$522,849.21; receipts were \$70,991.69; expenses were \$92,749.06 and the May General Fund ending balance was \$501,091.84. The Capital Reserve Fund May ending balance was \$2,902,001.51 and the Liquid Fuels Fund May ending balance was \$604,024.12. The May Combined Funds ending balance was \$4,007,117.47. Stump moved to approve the Treasurer's May report, Zimmerman seconded the motion; all were in favor and motion carried 2 to 0.

- Budget Report – Ferguson said financial information is needed to complete the report, it will be emailed to the Board of Supervisors.
- Investment Update – Ferguson said \$230,000 in commercial paper for an 8-month term at 1.35 points, due 2/1/18 was purchased with a CD that matured in the CRIM account. Ferguson said a commercial paper investment is coming due on 6/19/17 and recommended investing it in commercial paper again. The Federal Reserve rate hike was discussed briefly. Zimmerman agreed to reinvest \$225,000 in commercial paper for a 9-month period.
- Liquid Fuels Fund Transfer – Stump and Zimmerman briefly discussed last month's purchase of a new truck. Zimmerman moved to transfer the money from Liquid Fuels Equipment Fund, in the amount of \$44,323.00, to General Fund for the purchase of the truck. Stump seconded the motion and motion carried 2 to 0.

Approval of Bills – Stump said he would normally abstain from voting on the bills because there is an invoice from Stump's Garage included. DiNicola said Stump is allowed to vote having stated this information. Zimmerman moved to approve bills in the amount of \$36,987.69, Stump seconded the motion; all were in favor and motion carried 2 to 0.

PERSONS TO BE HEARD

John Stahl, Chairman of the Water Authority was present to address the Board of Supervisors. Supervisor Zimmerman said they appreciate everything Stahl does for the authority, but he has ten minutes or less. Stahl said all he wants is a yes or no. Zimmerman said it is "Persons to be Heard", the Board doesn't have to comment or take any action on anything he has to say; if he wanted the yes or no, he should have made a formal request to be on the agenda. Stahl said he is now formally requesting it to be an agenda item at next month's meeting.

Stahl said the Board has the information that was given to the County to review and they have the information for the option of the Township to assume responsibility of maintenance and operation of the water system with a period of cooperative transition. Stahl said if there is no serious consideration from the Township, the Authority needs to proceed with the County. Stump said he feels the Board needs to wait until the third Supervisor is here. Stahl said he is available to discuss and answer questions, but wants an answer at their July meeting.

PERSONS TO BE HEARD, cont.

DiNicola said negotiations with the County were discussed in an executive session last month with Pat Caulfield (SCMA) and noted if another entity comes in, the Township loses local control of the water system. Zimmerman said the only reason the Township bid and purchased the water company, is because we wanted to keep control of it.

Zimmerman said the Township and Authority are one and the same. Stahl is not asking the Township to take back ownership of the water system, he is asking the Township to take back the administration and daily running of the system.

Zimmerman said the Township residents put up the acquisition funds for the Water Authority for a few residents and the initial \$100,000 investment is gone. Stahl said it is not, it is part of the \$250,000 note. Zimmerman and Stahl disagreed on the issue. Stahl briefly gave information on mandatory water hook-up revenue, debt repayment, etc.

Zimmerman asked DiNicola to look into the \$100,000 acquisition.

REPORTS

Committee Reports

- ▶ **CDBG** - The Township Supervisors held a public hearing at 6 PM before the Township meeting tonight to discuss the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program and use of the 2017 funds of \$83,800 allocated to Pine Grove Township.

▶ **Public Works & Property**

- **Truck for Sale** – Ferguson said the advertisement for the 2001 Dodge 3500 truck was placed and bids are due at noon on July 12, 2017.

- **Road Project Bids** – The Board of Supervisors reviewed the following bids:

<u>Ronnie Folk Paving</u>	<u>Pennsy Supply Inc</u>	<u>Schuylkill Paving Inc.</u>	<u>New Enterprise</u>
\$151,132.05	\$172,275.34	\$174,169.00	\$181,555.78

Zimmerman moved to approve the \$151,132.05 bid from Ronnie Folk Paving as the apparent low bidder, contingent upon review of the bid documents. Stump seconded the motion, all were in favor and motion carried 2 to 0.

- **Bridge Inspections & Grants** – Ferguson reported a bridge inspection from PennDOT on the Oak Grove Road Bridge showed no significant change to the condition of the bridge and it remains at a Priority 1 for replacement or repair.

Ferguson said our engineer, Ryan Fasnacht reported the PennDOT grant awards are expected to be released in July or August. Fasnacht noted the DCED grant applications are due July 31st and asked if the Township would like them to resubmit for the grants or send us the electronic files and we can submit them ourselves to reduce their fees; they would need to review the bridge cost estimates to make sure they are current. Zimmerman moved for the Township office to apply for the DCED Multimodal Grants, Stump seconded the motion all were in favor and motion carried 2 to 0.

- ▶ **Workplace Safety Committee** – Ferguson said the committee had no new recommendations and the next meeting will be held June 27th.

Engineer / Planning Commission – Stump moved to approve the Daubert Minor Subdivision Final Plan as recommended by the Planning Commission. Zimmerman seconded the motion, all were in favor and motion carried 2 to 0.

Recreation Board – Zimmerman asked if summer interns, such as horticulture or ag students, were ever considered for the road crew. Discussion followed on age of students, duties allowed by law, insurance, etc. Solicitor DiNicola will check the limitations for student workers.

Road Foreman – No comments were received.

Zoning Hearing Board - June 22, 2017 hearing is cancelled, no applications were received.

Zoning Officer / Floodplain Administrator – The Zoning Officer issued 9 permits, received 19 phone calls, 1 complaint, and performed 2 inspections in May.

OLD BUSINESS

Brandt Temporary Zoning – Solicitor DiNicola said last month Matt Brandt, Superior 3 Construction, came to the Board of Supervisors requesting an expedited temporary zoning use for his property at

Brandt Temporary Zoning, cont.

1 Suedberg Road. DiNicola said in order to accommodate him the Board talked about possibly amending the ordinance with a temporary use provision and then it became a question of who would issue a permit, the Board of Supervisors or the Zoning Officer. DiNicola said he had a conversation with Mr. Brandt and determined Brandt did not want to temporarily change the zoning of his property. DiNicola said it was also determined even if the ordinance was amended, Brandt would still be required to apply for a zoning permit. DiNicola said Brandt was referred to the Zoning Officer for a zoning permit, if it is denied, then he can apply to the Zoning Hearing Board for a Special Exception or Variance. DiNicola said there was no need for the Supervisors to hold a public hearing as mentioned at last month's meeting.

Recycling Event – Ferguson said the date for the Township recycling event is August 12, 2017 and Cindy Hummel prepared a flyer with costs to the residents for the Board's approval. Zimmerman said he voted against holding the recycling event so he can't vote on approving the flyer. This item was tabled until next month.

Donations – Ferguson received information from Tremont Public Library as requested by the Supervisors at last month's meeting. Ferguson said in the letter from Beverly Bode, the Library Board President, it states 109 residents of Pine Grove Township are patrons of the Tremont Public Library. Mrs. Bode also noted they service the entire Pine Grove Area School District but do not receive any funding from them. Zimmerman moved to donate \$250 to the Tremont Area Free Public Library. Stump seconded the motion, all were in favor and motion carried 2 to 0.

Ferguson said a donation request that was misfiled and not included in the May requests was a request from Pinegrove Historical Society for assistance with their restoration project at the Stanhope School at the intersections of Mexico, Stanhope and Camp Roads. The Board agreed to table the discussion until next month.

NEW BUSINESS

Township Intern – Ferguson said there is an intern, Jessica Williams working in the Township office on a project regarding regulations in our Act 537 plan for on-lot septic systems. Ferguson said Ms. Williams lives in Pine Grove Township and is currently enrolled in Kutztown University studying Environmental Science.

CORRESPONDENCE

Resident Sign Request – Ferguson said a resident has requested a caution sign for an autistic child sign on a state road in the Township. Ferguson said she spoke with a PennDOT representative who said they will consider approving a "Watch Children" sign if the Township sends a letter of request and states they will pay for the sign, erect it and maintain it. Ferguson said the resident would like the Township to pursue the placement of the "Watch Children" sign since the state refused the "Autistic Child" sign. The Board agreed to get an estimate of the cost and send a letter of request to PennDOT before making a decision.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Howard Lengel said he agrees with hiring young people on the road crew and said speed limit signs are missing. Ferguson said we have a very active sign program; the road crew has replaced all the road name signs and stop signs, they are currently working on replacing the speed limit signs.

Gerald Lengel thanked the Township road crew for their assistance at the Ravine Memorial. Lengel said the Pine Grove – Tremont Veterans had set money aside for the Memorial and put in the sidewalk; Boy Scout Troup 111 planted the flowers. Lengel said they plan to have someone work on the stones and put in a new flagpole with the remaining money. Ferguson said she put a picture of the Memorial on the Township website.

ADJOURNMENT – At 7:38 PM Stump moved to adjourn the meeting, Zimmerman seconded the motion; all were in favor and motion carried 2 to 0.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathy Ferguson, Township Manager

Approved by the Board of Supervisors on July 12, 2017.