

Incorporated March 12, 1738

TINICUM TOWNSHIP

Bucks County

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

163 Municipal Road
Pipersville, Pennsylvania 18947

NICHOLAS C. FORTE, CHAIRPERSON
VINCENT J. DOTTI, VICE-CHAIRPERSON
GARY PEARSON, SUPERVISOR

TINICUM TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MINUTES OF THE MEETING SEPTEMBER 3, 2013

Chairperson Nick Forte called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. Vice Chairperson Vincent Dotti was in attendance with Supervisor Gary Pearson, Solicitor Stephen Harris, Engineer Tom Fountain and Manager Linda McNeill. There were approximately 7 persons in the audience including Chris Ruvo of the Intelligencer and Liz Bowman of the Herald.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Forte led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance.

PUBLIC SESSION: There were no comments for public session.

A. Old Business:

Discussion of Protective Measures for the Erwinna Covered Bridge:

Forte said that he and the Manager attended a meeting with PennDOT, Bucks County Covered Bridge Association, Pennsylvania Historic and Museum Commission, and PennDOT's Historical Consultant. McNeill said that PennDOT met with the representatives to try to come up with a plan to prevent future damage to the bridge. She said that the truck that hit the bridge last year ignored the height limit, but in the last incident, the truck met the height limit but the driver did not stay in the center of the bridge and struck the bridge. She said that PennDOT determined that the best way to protect the bridge was to restrict the bridge from all trucks, with the exception of emergency or authorized vehicles, to put lines on the road to delineate the center of the bridge, and to replace the yield signs with stop signs and stop ahead signs to slow people down so that they cross the bridge slowly and carefully. She said that authorized vehicles included a school bus, fire and ambulance vehicles, Township public works trucks and PennDOT vehicles. She said that she spoke with the PennDOT official in charge and he said that they would consider giving a permit to someone who lives locally and needs to bring a work truck home.

Pearson noted that if anyone wanted to apply for a permit, they should contact PennDOT. He asked McNeill to post the PennDOT contact information on the Township's website.

B. Reports from Police, Emergency Services & Public Works:

Delaware Valley Fire Chief Chris Chevalier said that they responded to 23 calls in August; 11 fire; 10 QRS and 2 fire police. He said that all 11 calls were in Tinicum Township.

Chevalier said that throughout this summer, almost every weekend the duty crew has been out on the Delaware River and had performed four rescues that hadn't been dispatched. He said that because they were out there they handled situations before they were called in. He said that they were trying to make a presence on the River and it worked.

Forte asked if the rescue boat operators needed a special license as they did for a fire truck. Chevalier said that he required everyone to take a course on line. He said that there was no specific certification for operating the boat. He said that the volunteers did take a course for swift water rescue that he mentioned at the last meeting.

Office Hours: Mon. Tue. Thurs. Fri. 9am-5pm, Wed. 9am-Noon
Phone: (610) 294-9154
Fax: (610) 294-9889

Chevalier announced that the spaghetti dinner would be held next Friday and the next day (Saturday) was the car show- with a rain date of Sunday. He said that they were trying to schedule this to not conflict with other car shows. He said that they had forty cars and the weather was iffy, but they were hoping for more this year.

Chevalier said that asked if there was a date for expected completion for the repairs to the Erwinna Bridge. McNeill said that they were supposed to start on Monday August 19th, and they said it would be six weeks from the start date.

Chevalier said he noticed that there was a wire down on Geigel Hill Road near Sheephole and the road was closed. McNeill said that Met-Ed repaired the downed electric wire but did not contact the cable company to repair its wire. She said that the road has been re-opened, as there was no reason to keep the road closed for a cable wire.

C. New Business:

Presentation from Kim Gaspar, Eastern Upper Bucks Seniors:

Kim Gaspar thanked the Board for giving her this time. She said this started in 1980 as a card club in Kintnersville and this has now grown to a thriving multifaceted Senior Center serving nine townships. She said that the focus was on the mental and physical well being and assistance was not just for seniors, but their families, caregivers, and the disabled and mentally and physically challenged persons. She said that because of their hard work and dedication they have members that span a wide area. She said that the goal has been to promote the spirit of the community by improving the quality of life for seniors and were trying to transcend the historical definition of "Senior Center" to encourage more volunteerism. She said that the services were mostly for low and middle-income seniors. She said that they have distributed almost all of the thousand food vouchers. She said that they still provide free AARP tax services to low income seniors and have many speakers come to talk to the seniors about subjects that affect them. She said they were still striving to bring in as many health related serves as they can and the classes were full.

She said that they were still looking for a larger facility but have not found anything yet. She said that they would appreciate the Board considering the Senior Center in their budget process.

Dotti asked how many people come to the center on a typical day. Gaspar said about fifteen at a time, anywhere from seven to sixty per week. She said that people were in and out for different events all day long. She said that they were looking to do more fundraisers but they need a place to hold them.

Federal Emergency Management Agency, Proposed Flood Hazard Determinations for Bucks County, PA: The Department of Homeland Security's Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) has issued a preliminary Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM), and where applicable, Flood Insurance Study (FIS) report, reflecting proposed flood hazard determinations within Bucks County, PA. These flood hazard determinations may include the addition or modification of Base Flood Elevations, base flood depths, Special Flood Hazard Area boundaries or zone designations, or the regulatory floodway. Technical information or comments are solicited on the proposed flood hazard determinations shown on the preliminary FIRM and/or FIS reports for Bucks County. These flood hazard determinations are the basis for the floodplain management measures that Tinicum Township is required to either adopt or show evidence of being already in effect in order to remain qualified for participation in the National Flood Insurance Program. Before these determinations are effective for floodplain management purposes, there is an opportunity to make comments or submit data to appeal the determination. Comments are to be submitted on or before November 24, 2013.

McNeill said that two years ago, the Board made this very same announcement. She said FEMA had released new flood maps but decided to take them back and work with some of the people that had issues with the new maps. She said that FEMA has made revisions and the comment period would be open until November 24th. She said that after that, there were another 60 or 90 days before the maps would be advertised for adoption. She said that the Township ordinances would have to be revised to be consistent with the new maps.

She said that the Township office would be having a community assistance visit from FEMA and has not had one of these since 1996. She said that FEMA would be looking at how the Township administers the federal floodplain program and how it enforces the floodplain regulations. She said that Township compliance was important to help to keep the flood insurance premiums low.

PennDOT's requirement for Tinicum Township's installation of Structure Mounted guiderail:

Sheephole Road truss bridge

McNeill said that there were two truss bridges on Sheephole Road. She said that one bridge was County owned and the other was Township owned. She said that Director of Bucks County Bridge Department, Joe Bush, had authorized her to consult with its engineer, Paul Cardie at Carroll Engineering. She said that Cardie said that the only way to install the guiderail was to tear the existing deck off the bridge, which would be damaging to the bridge. She said that she reached out to PHMC to try to find alternatives, and they were willing to entertain alternatives. She said that guiderails would reduce the bridge width by 3 feet, changing its classification to a single lane bridge.

Pearson asked what the County was going to do about their bridge. McNeill said that they were looking at alternatives as well. She said that the County was estimating a cost of 30-40 thousand dollars.

Dotti asked why PennDOT recommended the guiderails. McNeill said that PennDOT has classified all truss bridges as "fracture critical", which meant if someone hit a truss member, the bridge could collapse.

Dotti asked how long this bridge has been like this. McNeill said since 1920.

Pearson asked what would happen if the Township did not do this. McNeill said that PennDOT would have the right to close our road.

Pearson said that the Morrisville and Trenton bridge was hit and the bridge commission had to close it for 8-9 months and rebuild it with structural mounted guiderails because they were afraid it would collapse into the river.

Motion by Forte, seconded by Dotti, to authorize the Manager to research alternative ideas to protect the truss bridge on Sheephole Road. Voted upon and passed.

Pearson asked if there was a deadline for taking action on this. McNeill said that the deadline was six months from August.

1) MINUTES:

Motion by Forte, seconded by Pearson, to approve the Minutes of the Meeting of August 6, 2013 as written. Voted upon and passed.

2) TREASURER'S REPORT & BUDGET RECAP:

The Treasurer's Report and Budget Recap for July was received. The Treasurer's Report and Budget Recap for August 2013 will be presented on September 17, 2013.

3) PAYROLL REPORT:

Motion by Forte, seconded by Pearson, to approve the Payroll Report for the period of July 27, 2013 and ending August 9, 2013. Voted upon and passed.

Motion by Forte, seconded by Pearson, to approve the Payroll Report for the period of August 10, 2013 and ending August 23, 2013. Voted upon and passed.

4) DISBURSEMENTS:

Motion by Forte, seconded by Pearson to approve the below disbursements:

General Fund: DVHIT-W7090 \$21,190.87; Selective Insurance \$17,051.00; Keystone Municipal Engineering \$2,530.00; Eagle's Peak \$27.15; Staples \$105.02; Delguericco's Disposal Service \$148.00; Suburban Propane \$1,536.67; United Inspection Agency, Inc. \$1,700.00; Met-Ed \$22.53; Met-Ed \$51.14; Met-Ed \$78.66; Courier Times, Inc. \$462.18; Earth Link \$43.90; Harris and Harris \$4,263.45; Keystone Municipal Services Inc. \$3,825.00; Merry Maids \$94.34; Ricoh Americas Corp \$564.78; McNamara,

Bolla, Williams & Panzer \$702.00; Petty Cash \$97.23; AmeriHealth Casualty Services \$5,166.31; Staples \$126.13; Service Electric Telephone \$333.48; YIS/Cowden Group, Inc. \$44.55; SIRCHIE Finger Print Laboratory \$156.89; Aflac Business Services \$314.00; Keystone Municipal Services Inc. \$2,970.00; Earth Link \$43.90; Joan Tanner \$16.95; Verizonwireless \$242.70; Cress Gas Co \$686.53; Exxon Fleet Services \$62.79; efts \$2111.50 & \$2068.99; Thompson West \$238.00; DVHIT \$21190.87.

Payroll Fund: Payroll for pay period ending 8/9/13 & 8/23/13; efts Fed \$5639.78 & \$5583.71; efts State \$2111.50 & \$2068.99.

State Fund: Dosch King \$76317.50; GTS Welco \$49.07; GTS Welco \$1597.61; Vandereley's Truck Sales and Service \$1597.61; U.S. Municipal Supply \$54.08; Interstate Battery System \$95.95; Ford Motor Credit Co. \$10,000.00; H&K Materials \$412.87.

Cap & Equip: Ford Motor Credit Co. \$8460.92.

Open Space Fund: DVRFA \$14,566.25.

Voted upon and passed.

5) A. PLANNING:

B. SUBDIVISION & LAND DEVELOPMENT:

6) ZONING:

7) POLICE:

8) PUBLIC WORKS:

Revised CDL Personnel Policy

McNeill said that the Township had joined the (Commerical Drivers License) CDL pool with PSATS (Pennsylvania State Association of Township Supervisors) and that PSATS had requested that we update our CDL policy to match its. She said that the Public Works Director reviewed the policy updates with his department, and then she and Harris worked on it. She said that the new policy met the requirements of PSATS.

Harris said that this would bring the Township's policy into conformance with the code of Federal Regulations, and it was important to have an independent testing agency and medical officer. He said that the PSATS pool made this affordable for the Township.

Motion by Forte, seconded by Dotti, to accept the new CDL policy for Tinicum Township. Voted upon and passed.

9) ZONING HEARING BOARD APPLICATIONS: Forte announced the following:

Hearing scheduled for 7:00 p.m. September 12, 2012 #4-2013 Property Owner/Applicant Estate of Earl Schaible, Dorothy Whaley, Executrix, Appeals from the action of the Zoning Officer and Requests a Variance from Tinicum Township Zoning Ordinance Article 400, Section .2, creation of a multi-family dwelling unit and an additional mobile home dwelling unit. This property is identified as Tax Parcel No. 44-6-58-5 with an address of 403 Perry Auger Road, Upper Black Eddy, PA and is a 10 +/- acre tract located in the Residential Conservation (RC) Zoning District.

The Planning Commission requests that Stephen Harris be authorized to attend the Hearing to represent the Township.

McNeill said that the Planning Commission discussed this and would like Harris to represent the Zoning Officer's actions and to object to the grant of a variance- they felt it would be a conflict with Township zoning and planning principles.

The Board directed Harris to attend the above hearing.

10) MISCELLANEOUS:

Forte recessed the regular meeting at 8:05 pm for an executive session to litigation issues and land preservation. Forte called the meeting back to order at 9:30 p.m.

Harris announced that matters of litigation, pending litigation, personnel, and acquisition of real estate had been discussed.

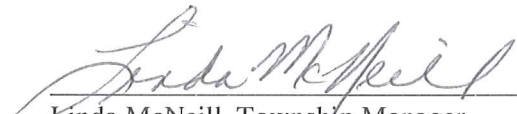
Motion by Forte, seconded by Pearson to authorize Shawn McGlynn to file a Civil Complaint for Kevin McCusker for failure to comply with his June 11, 2013 Notice of Violation. Voted upon and passed.

11) ADJOURNMENT:

Motion by Forte, seconded by Dotti, to adjourn the meeting at 9:32 p.m. Voted upon and passed. The next meeting of the Board of Supervisors is scheduled for Tuesday, September 17, 2013 at 7:30 p.m. in the Township Building.

TINICUM TOWNSHIP SUPERVISORS

Attest:



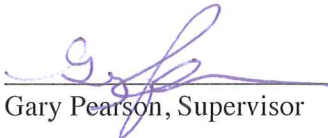
Linda McNeill, Township Manager



Nicholas C. Forte, Chairperson



Vincent J. Dotti, Vice Chairperson



Gary Pearson, Supervisor