

Incorporated March 12, 1738

TINICUM TOWNSHIP

Bucks County

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

163 Municipal Road
Pipersville, Pennsylvania 18947

RICHARD ROSAMILIA, CHAIRPERSON
JIM HELMS, VICE-CHAIRPERSON
JOHN BLANCHARD, SUPERVISOR

**Tinicum Township Board of Supervisors
Meeting Minutes
February 19, 2019**

Chairperson Richard Rosamilia called the public meeting of the Tinicum Township Board of Supervisors to order at 7:30 pm followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Supervisors Jim Helms and John Blanchard were present with Solicitor Steve Harris, and Township Manager Teri Lewis. There were approximately eighteen people in attendance.

A. Announcements

Rosamilia announced that a Work Session was held at 7:00 pm to discuss the Land Preservation donation procedures.

B. New Business

Certificate of Life Saving Award to Officer Mark Compas

Rosamilia said that on Christmas Eve 2018, Officer Compas was dispatched to a cardiac arrest call. Rosamilia stated that Officer Compas arrived within 4 minutes and was able to utilize a defibrillator to deliver a shock to the patient and provided continuing care until other first responders arrived.

The Board recognized Officer Compas for his outstanding police performance in the saving of a human life, the display of exceptional initiative, capability, and teamwork. Rosamilia said that they were all extremely proud of him.

The patient and his family were present and thanked Officer Compas for saving his life, joking that it was "the shock of his life." Chief Phelan stated that Officer Compas exemplified the community-based services the Police Dept. seeks to provide and presented him with an award in recognition of his professionalism and commitment to duty that day. Chief Phelan referenced a discussion at a previous meeting in which they spoke about the importance of having this life saving equipment in the police vehicles. He stated that two defibrillators had recently been donated through the newly-formed Police Foundation for a total of three mobile defibrillators.

C. Emergency Services

Doug Skelton, President of Del Val Fire Company, provided the following report for January:

- 5 Fire Company Calls, including an alarm system, a chimney fire, and a cliff rescue.
- 6 Quick Response Service (QRS) Calls
- 5 Fire Police Calls

Skelton announced that their monthly Firehouse Spaghetti Dinners will resume on March 8th.

D. Public Comment

Headquarters Bridge Repair Discussion

Jessie Salamun, Headquarters Rd, asked if there had been any correspondence with PA State Representative Wendy Ullman concerning the Headquarters Bridge repair. Rosamilia said that Representative Ullman had contacted the Tinicum Township Board of Supervisors and is working within

the state government to set up a meeting between the Board, PennDOT and the Delaware Riverkeeper Network (DRN) to see if a compromise or solution can be found in regards to the Headquarters Bridge.

Salamun requested that the Board send a letter to Rep Ullman stating that the Township's preferred position would be to repair the 1-lane bridge. Rosamilia said that approximately 8 years ago the previous Township Board voted upon and approved a new, 2-lane bridge and communicated that to PennDOT. He said that the current Board's position is simply to get a bridge, whether it is 1-lane, 2-lane or repair the existing bridge, and that Representative Ullman is aware of the present Board's position.

Salamun asked why the Board could not state that their position is to historically repair the current bridge. Rosamilia said that if PennDOT's engineering firms say they cannot repair the bridge because it is not structurally feasible, then PennDOT will follow that determination. He said that PennDOT's stated position is that they can build a 2-lane bridge, which PennDOT will own and maintain, or they can build a 1-lane bridge, if the Township accepts ownership and the expense to maintain it. Rosamilia said that the Township cannot afford the cost to maintain the bridge over its lifespan and once it fails it would cost the Township millions of dollars to replace. He said the residents should not have to bare that cost.

Salamun asked Rosamilia how many bridges are owned by the Township. Rosamilia said that the Township does not own any that large and nothing that conceivably could cost millions of dollars over its life to maintain and to replace it at the end of its lifespan.

Blanchard stated that earlier in the meeting, everyone heard about a resident who received critical lifesaving equipment from an officer who responded in 4 minutes. He said that if the resident had been on one side of the bridge and the officer on the other side it would have been 8 or more minutes to reach him. Blanchard said he knew it didn't sound like a lot of time but it was a critical time period in that type of situation. Blanchard said that the life and safety of the residents are at risk without a bridge.

Salamun said that PennDOT had repaired the Golden Pheasant Bridge within 3 months. Blanchard noted there was no legal action to prevent that project from moving forward. Rosamilia said there were no piers in the center of that bridge or abutments that needed to be replaced -- the abutments only required some repointing. He said only the superstructure was replaced on the Golden Pheasant Bridge. Rosamilia said that PennDOT maintains that the Headquarters Bridge piers and abutments must be replaced, as well as the superstructure. Rosamilia said that the DRN is saying the core is not that bad, but PennDOT is ultimately responsible and if their engineers say it must be replaced, then that is what they will do.

Helms said the Board has been working diligently to move the project forward and that he hoped they would be able to have a discussion with Representative Ullman in the near future. Rosamilia said they hoped to have more information next month.

Tree Harvesting & Ordinance 270

Al Gillen, Cafferty Rd, asked if he was correctly interpreting Ordinance 112 and Ordinance 270 pertaining to tree harvesting. He said he understood that if he was taking down fewer than 15 dead ash trees per year, he would not need a permit. Lewis gave him the contact information for the Zoning Officer to confirm that 14 was the correct number.

E. Old Business

Smithtown Rd and River Rd Intersection

Rosamilia said that the Board has reviewed the reports from the Township engineer, the Township Police and from Pennsylvania's Local Technical Assistance Program (LTAP) and has done everything possible to look into the concerns brought forward by the residents that use this intersection.

Blanchard said that Route 32 is a state road and, as a result, while the Board can make suggestions, such as lowering the speed limit on River Road, it is ultimately up to PennDOT to decide. He said PennDOT decided they did not want to do signs, rumble strips, or lights because their accident data does not support those changes. Blanchard said that PennDOT did agree to eliminate left hand turns out of Smithtown due to the limited sight distance.

Blanchard said, after reviewing the LTAP study, there were the following options:

1. Take no further action at this time – because the crash data does not support further changes;

2. Make the lower section of Smithtown Rd one-way west – however, local residents stated they were not in favor of this option; or
3. Close the lower section of Smithtown Rd entirely – however, the Board was hesitant to choose that option without the data to support it.

Chief Phelan said that the sight distance of 150 feet to the north is insufficient to enable motorists to safely exit Smithtown Rd onto River Rd and does not allow enough time for vehicles on River Rd to stop. He said there have only been 4 reportable crashes from 2013 and 2017, however, according to LTAP, which may be due to the low volume of motorists exiting Smithtown.

Based on the LTAP report, Rosamilia asked Chief Phelan if he could ask PennDOT to put up additional oversized signage. Lewis and Chief Phelan said that they would forward the copy of the LTAP report to PennDOT along with the request for additional signage.

F. Monthly Business

1) Minutes:

Motion: to approve the Board of Supervisors Meeting Minutes of February 19, 2019 as written.

Motion by: Blanchard. **Second by:** Helms. Voted upon and approved.

- ### 2) Treasurer’s Report & Budget Recap:
- The Treasurer’s Report and Budget Recap for January 2019 is available on the bulletin board. Rosamilia said that the revenue is on target and expenses are right on point and consistent with last year.

3) Payroll Report:

Motion: to accept the Payroll Report for the ending February 1, in the amount of \$28,677.79.

Motion by: Rosamilia. **Second by:** Helms. Voted upon and passed.

4) Disbursements:

General Fund	Amount	Memo
Suburban Propane	\$713.70	Heating Oil - Admin and Police Bldg
NAPA of Ottsville	\$56.28	Oil - Police Fleet
Ricoh Americas Corp	\$202.00	Copier Scanner Network service
WEX, Inc	\$756.81	Police Fleet Fuel
Staples Credit Plan	\$52.53	Police Office Supplies
Axon Enterprise, Inc.	\$304.00	Taser Cartridges for annual requalification
YCG	\$49.00	Calibration - speed timing
Wehrung's	\$21.30	Wehrung's
Met-Ed	\$31.11	Electricity Traffic Light
Met-Ed	\$20.43	Electricity Park
Met-Ed	\$470.21	Electric Police and Admin
Met-Ed	\$267.78	Electricity Garage
Allied Administrators for Delta Dental	\$833.89	March Dental
United Healthcare Insurance Company	\$10,226.09	January 2019 Health Insurance
Aflac Business Services	\$280.04	March Supplement Insurance withheld
Harris and Harris	\$3,915.45	Harris and Harris
Internal Revenue Service	\$2,193.86	Employer FICA tax
Courier Times, Inc.	\$413.95	Advertising Nagle Cond Use - Polly Nessa
PSATS	\$35.00	CDL Program Random Testing
Grim, Biehn and Thatcher	\$154.00	ZHB Prep (Nessa)
Keystone Municipal Services Inc	\$1,722.50	28865 Inspections & Reviews thru 1/25/19
Eagle's Peak	\$13.89	Bottled Water
Payroll fund	Amount	Memo
Payroll	\$21,613.10	Paychecks
Internal Revenue Service	\$ 5,108.42	Employee FICA tax
PA Dept of Rev	\$ 880.41	Employee tax

State Fund	Amount	Memo
Suburban Propane	\$ 247.72	Diesel Fuel
Plumstead Materials	\$ 4,343.95	Stone
Interstate Battery System	\$ 237.58	Interstate Battery System
NAPA of Ottsville	\$ 553.06	NAPA of Ottsville
Morton Salt	\$ 6,496.95	Morton Salt
ABE Materials Easton	\$ 413.35	Stone
Garden State Highway Products	\$ 476.00	Sign Supplies
H & K Materials	\$ 632.80	Asphalt
Open Space	Amount	Memo
Del Val Regional Finance	\$12,720.62	Monthly Bond Interest

Motion to: accept the disbursements as written.

Motion by: Blanchard. **Second by:** Helms. Voted upon and passed.

G. Zoning

Announcement:

Zoning Hearing for ZHB07-2018: Tim Yanka & Polly Nessa, 29 Wormansville RD, Pipersville, PA 18947, Tax Parcel #44-021-034-003 was held on February 14, 2019.

Request for (de minimis) relief from impervious surface requirements to construct a pool was granted.

H. Police

Municibid Online Auction: Sale of Equipment

The 2010 Dodge Charger (mileage 138,700) was advertised for sale on Municibid for 30 days and sold for \$2,700.00.

Motion to: to confirm and accept the high bid of \$2,700.00 for the 2010 Dodge Charger.

Motion by: Blanchard. **Second by:** Helms. Voted upon and passed.

Project ChildSafe Free Gunlocks

Rosamilia announced that Project ChildSafe is providing free gunlocks to Tincum residents. The gunlocks are available at the Township building. For more information on this program, please visit the website projectchildsafet.org or contact the Tincum Police Department.

Chief Phelan, Tincum Township Police Dept. gave the report for January:

- 186 Incident Reports: 45% service calls, 26% traffic-related, 25% crimes/suspicious occurrence investigation, 4% court or training.
- Local Phone Scams: 1) callers pretend that they are helping you with identity theft and request your info. 2) caller pretends to be a lawyer for a grandson or relative in trouble/in an accident and needs money. Be wary of anyone calling and asking to send money.
- Police Foundation Donation: Added a third defibrillator and a fourth taser.

K. Public Comment

Norm McArthur, Upper Tincum Church RD, asked if there is any Township assistance for property owners who want to proactively remove ash trees before they die. Rosamilia said that the Township revised Ordinance 112 to make the process easier for residents.

J. Conditional Use

Rosamilia recessed the regular meeting at 8 pm for the advertised Conditional Use Hearing: CU01-2019: Kelsey Carney, 270 Durham RD, Ottsville PA 18942, Tax Parcel# 44-001-037-001. Requests approval for to allow a replacement/repair sewage system in the setback area.

Stenographer was present. Rob Bowie, Bux-Mont Inspections, was present and sworn in for the purpose of giving evidence and testimony on the Applicants request for Conditional Use approval in accordance with Zoning Ordinance Section 808(a), as amended by Ordinances 200 & 202, to allow a repair/replacement system in the required yard setback.

Testimony was received with regard to the Township’s Planning Commissions concerns about adequate testing sites within the building envelope and buffering. Bowie submitted email correspondence (Exhibit

A-1) from Bucks County Health Department that states they believe the proposed location permitted by that office was the best, if not the only, location for the repair to the onsite sewage disposal system.

Motion to: grant approval to install a drip micromound at 270 Durham RD, Ottsville, PA Tax Parcel #44-001-037-001, subject to the following conditions:

- (a) The Applicant shall enter into an Operation and Maintenance Agreement and a Declaration of Covenants, Conditions and Restrictions, which will contain a restriction against further subdivision of the property as required by Section 808 of the Tincum Township Zoning Ordinance;
- (b) The home on the property shall not exceed three (3) bedrooms.
- (c) The location of the repair/replacement system will be moved so that the toe of the slope of the system will be at least five (5) feet from the side line of the property.
- (d) All outstanding legal, engineering and administrative fees due the Township as a result of this Conditional Use review shall be paid in full to the Township.

Motion by: Blanchard. **Second by:** Helms.

K. Miscellaneous

Land Preservation Committee

Norm MacArthur, Land Preservation Committee (LPC), was present to discuss proposed procedures for landowners who choose to fully donate their conservation easements. He said that the LPC had submitted changes to the procedure and a revised Easement Incentive Program evaluation sheet for the Board to review.

Rosamilia explained that this procedure assists landowners with the costs that are associated with the donation of conservation easements. He said that the Board and Solicitor had reviewed the documents and made some further revisions. Rosamilia explained the revisions in detail and Lewis gave MacArthur a copy of the revised documents.

MacArthur said that almost 7,400 acres in Tincum Township have been preserved and almost 40 percent were fully donated easements.

L. Executive Session

The Board recessed the regular meeting at 8:31 pm for an Executive Session to discuss a legal matter. There was no action to report.

The Board reconvened the regular meeting at 8:38 pm.

M. Adjournment:

Motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:38 pm.

Motion by: Blanchard. **Second by:** Helms.

The next meeting of the Board of Supervisors is scheduled for March 5, 2019 at 7:30 pm.

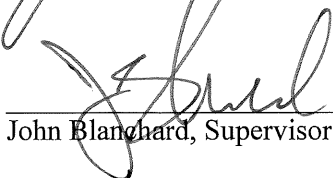
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