

Incorporated March 12, 1738

# TINICUM TOWNSHIP

*Bucks County*

## BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

163 Municipal Road  
Pipersville, Pennsylvania 18947

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

### Tinicum Township Board of Supervisors Meeting Minutes July 13, 2021

Supervisors John Blanchard, Jim Helms and Richard Rosamilia were present with Manager Teri Lewis and Township Solicitor Steve Harris. The meeting was held in the Tinicum Township building meeting room. There were approximately 30 people in attendance.

Chairperson John Blanchard called the public meeting of the Tinicum Township Board of Supervisors to order at 7:30 PM followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

#### A. Announcements

Blanchard announced that the public comment period would be held at the end of the meeting.

#### B. Emergency Services

- The Tinicum Township Police Report for June was submitted to the Board. Chief Madden will present the report to the public at the next meeting.
- Delaware Valley Volunteer Fire Company submitted the following report for June: 11 fire calls, 5 QRS calls and 8 Fire Police calls. A detailed copy of the report was provided to the Board.

#### C. Regular Business

##### 1) Budget Recap and Treasurer's Report

The Budget Recap and Treasurer's Reports for May and June are posted on the Bulletin Board and were provided to the Board.

##### 2) Minutes

**Motion:** to approve the June 15<sup>th</sup>, 2021 minutes as written.

Motion by: Rosamilia. Second by: Blanchard. Voted upon and passed.

##### 3) Payroll Reports

**Motion:** to accept the Payroll Report for pay period ending June 18<sup>th</sup> in the amount of \$27,039.45 and July 2<sup>nd</sup> in the amount of \$40,589.45.

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

##### 4) Disbursements:

**Motion:** to approve the following disbursements.

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

General Fund	Amount	Memo
DelGuericó's Disposal Service	\$155.00	Trash and Recycling
Staples Credit Plan	\$256.29	Office Supplies 2210
Holicong Locksmiths	\$245.10	July-Sept Alarm Monitoring
Merry Maids	\$198.00	Cleaning Services (2)
Cooper Mechanical	\$315.31	Thermostat Repair
RR Donnelley	\$20.90	Municipal Cit Forms
Courier Times, Inc.	\$668.28	Legal Notice Advertising

Earth Link	\$69.90	Website Hosting
Uniform Gear	\$919.37	Uniform Supplies and Chief Gear
Help Now	\$1,217.70	On site and remote Consulting/ IT Police
Keystone Municipal Services Inc	\$3,369.00	Bldg. and Zoning Services
United Healthcare Insurance Company	\$11,097.96	2021 Monthly Health Insurance
Keystone Municipal Engineering	\$1,757.70	Engineering, Grading & Stormwater
Cooper Mechanical	\$120.56	Police AC repair
Wehrung's	\$13.57	Bldg./Grounds Maint
Merry Maids	\$198.00	Janitorial June
Shammy Shine	\$160.00	Police Car Wash - Fleet Maint
Verizon Wireless	\$215.17	Police Wireless
Hartford Insurance	\$292.52	Life and STD Insurance combined
Univest	\$171.96	BCREC of Deeds and Bldg. Repairs Home Depot
Gatehouse Media (Intelligencer)	\$182.46	Gatehouse Media (Intelligencer)
Service Electric Telephone	\$392.38	Telephone Services All
Keystone Municipal Services Inc	\$4,185.00	Zoning and Building Services
M. Compas	\$11.00	Reimbursement - car wash
Thomson West Payment Center	\$220.00	Thomson West Payment Center
All Traffic Solutions Inc	\$290.00	Battery - Electronic Speed Timing
Aflac Business Services	\$145.64	February Supplement Insurance withheld
Help Now	\$825.00	Police Computer
Delaware Valley Insurance Trust	\$10,499.50	2021 Quarter Three Commercial Insurance
Delaware Valley Workers Compensation Trust	\$5,835.75	Workers Comp WCPREM21-TINIC3
Cunningham's Automotive Repair	\$83.65	Police Vehicles
Staples Credit Plan	\$35.76	Police Supplies
Keystone Municipal Services Inc	\$2,541.25	32862
Ricoh Americas Corp	\$93.00	Ricoh Americas Corp
Safeguard Business Systems	\$386.85	printed checks
PennTeleData	\$246.69	Internet Modems
Met-Ed	\$110.45	Electricity PWD
Met-Ed	\$310.21	Electricity Police and Admin
Met-Ed	\$20.96	Electricity Park
Met-Ed	\$31.56	141 135
WEX, Inc	\$410.81	Police Fleet Fuel
PMRS	\$1,827.50	Uniform 2 <sup>nd</sup> Quarter
PMRS	\$5,392.12	Non-Uniform 2 <sup>nd</sup> Quarter
UnitedHealthcare	\$11,097.96	Employee healthcare
Ricoh USA	\$162.74	Copier Lease
<b>Payroll Fund</b>	<b>Amount</b>	<b>Memo</b>
Account Edge Payroll Service	\$26,546.24	Pay period end 6-18-21
Account Edge Payroll Service	\$39,929.89	Pay period end 7-2-21
Account Edge Payroll Service	\$116.57	Payroll Services
<b>State Fund</b>	<b>Amount</b>	<b>Memo</b>
Garden State Highway Products	\$784.67	Traffic Signs
Sands Ford of Red Hill	\$65.50	Fleet Parts
Callahan Bearings	\$487.80	Fleet Parts
H & K Materials	\$553.90	Asphalt Patch
Michael's Garage	\$720.00	Hired Repair & Inspections
Morton Salt	\$2,308.07	Salt Supplies
<b>Capital and Equipment</b>	<b>Amount</b>	<b>Memo</b>
Wehrung's Home Center	\$6,649.64	Building Repairs and Improvements
M & W Precast LLC	\$77.76	Building Repairs and Improvements
Santander Bank	12,285.97	Police F150 payment
George's Tool Rental	\$789.57	Building Repairs and Improvements
Wehrung's Home Center	\$79.68	Building Repairs and Improvements
<b>Escrow Fund</b>	<b>Amount</b>	<b>Memo</b>
Keystone Engineering Fees	\$744.00	Engineering Services
<b>Open Space</b>	<b>Amount</b>	<b>Memo</b>
Del Val Regional Finance Assoc.	\$11,500.81	Bond Payment

**E. Conditional Use**

1. Conditional Use Hearing Application CU#2021-2 Watson was continued to August 17<sup>th</sup>.  
The property is located at 25 Tammany Road, Upper Black Eddy, PA.  
Tax Map Parcel 44-006-017 and is zoned Residential Conservation.

The applicants seek conditional use approval to construct a driveway in the Wetland and Wetland Margin and Riparian Buffer Overlay Districts.

At 7:45 pm Harris requested a motion to continue the Conditional Use Hearing, originally scheduled for that July 13<sup>th</sup> Board of Supervisors Meeting, to August 17<sup>th</sup>. He said this would allow the Zoning Hearing Board hearing to take place on July 22<sup>nd</sup>, prior to the Board of Supervisors Hearing, noting that their ruling would affect the requested Conditional Use relief review. Harris stated that the applicant’s attorney had sent a letter granting the continuance.

**Motion:** to continue the Conditional Use Hearing of CU#2021-2 Watson to August 17<sup>th</sup>.  
Motion by: Blanchard. Second by: Rosamilia. Voted upon and passed.

**F. Zoning**

1. Zoning Hearing Board Application ZHB#2021-2 Watson will be held on July 22<sup>nd</sup>.  
Applicants appeal the determination of the Zoning Officer or, in the alternative, request relief to allow installation of a rain garden for Stormwater Management in the Wetland and Wetland Margin Overlay.

The Planning Commission (PC) review took place on June 22nd. PC Chairperson, David Upmalis and Vice Chair, Carl Ruthardt stated that the PC review determined the applicants were able to demonstrate sufficient hardship and there was no other alternative location. They recommended that the Board not oppose the appeal.

2. Zoning Hearing Board Application ZHB#2021-3 Davidson will be held on August 12<sup>th</sup>.  
The property is located at 72 Walters Lane, Pt. Pleasant, PA.  
Tax Map Parcel 44-033-013-005 and is zoned Residential Agriculture.

The applicants seek a variance from the Floodplain Overlay District and Riparian Corridor District to build a septic system and a variance from the side yard setback to construct a single-family dwelling and deck and on-lot septic system.

Upmalis stated that the PC recommended the Board oppose the variance citing lack of hardship and that the plan was insufficient. He said the deck was too close to the side yard setback and could be sited in the front yard. Ruthardt expressed concerns about the septic system location and whether it was rated for one, two or three bedrooms. Harris said he would contact the applicants’ attorney and request an extension/continuance in order to allow them to address the issue with the Board of Health. The Board directed Lewis to forward pertinent documents concerning the septic system to the Bucks County Board of Health for clarification.

3. Zoning Hearing Board Application ZHB#2021-4 DeBerardine will be held on August 26<sup>th</sup>.  
The property is located at 6 Walters Lane, Pt. Pleasant, PA.  
Tax Map Parcel 44-034-004-002 and is zoned Residential Agriculture.

Applicant seeks relief to add a front deck to an existing, elevated, single-family dwelling in the Riparian Buffer, Wetlands and Wetland Margin, Floodplain, Delaware River Wild and Scenic and Prime Farmland Overlay Districts and to encroach 14 feet into the front yard setback. The PC will review this application at their meeting of July 27<sup>th</sup>.

4. Zoning Hearing Board Application ZHB#2021-5 Doenges will be held on September 9<sup>th</sup>.  
The property is located at 3724 Farm School Road, Ottsville, PA.  
Tax Map Parcel# 44-036-021 and is zoned Village Center.

Applicant seeks relief from side yard setback regulations to construct a pole barn/garage.

## F. Subdivision/ Land Development

The Land Development Preliminary Plan of Spinico Industrial Holding, LLC continued to Aug. 17<sup>th</sup>.  
The property is located at 3632 Bedminster Road, Ottsville, PA.  
Tax Map Parcel #44-011-008-003 and is zoned Planned Industrial.

Lewis stated that the Township Engineer, Tom Fountain, will be attending the July 27<sup>th</sup> PC meeting to review the Land Development and Conditional Use applications and would be providing a memo based on the review and discussion.

## G. Public Comment

### Headquarters Road Bridge

Tim Cashman, said that there had been two recent incidents in which emergency response had been delayed due to the Headquarters Bridge closure. He said in speaking with the people who had required emergency assistance, the ambulance had to go out Sheephole Road, which is a bumpy, dirt and gravel road. Cashman requested that the Board have it widened and paved.

Helms said that the ambulance should take Ridge Valley Road. Blanchard noted that EMS was probably following GPS. Cashman said Sheephole is level and faster for EMS. Helms said in his opinion paving would be quickly undermined and washout. He said Ridge Valley would be a good candidate for DSA [Driving Surface Aggregate, an unbound mixture designed for use on unpaved roads that is more resistant to erosion, traffic wear and sediment loss than gravel.] Lewis said they had applied for a 2021 grant for the DSA but there were no funds available at that time.

Cashman noted that in the snow Sheephole is level and safer to travel compared to Ridge Valley or Tankhannen. Rosamilia said they would try to grade more frequently. He said in light of the continual lawsuits they may need to go PennDOT and ask them to pave the road if the permits are not going to be issued. Blanchard said they should consult with Doug Skelton, Director of Public Works, about improving Ridge Valley and/or Sheephole Road. Rosamilia said they could try again for the DSA grant to stabilize it. Cashman asked if they could only get the DSA with a grant. Rosamilia said that there are recovery funds coming to municipalities that might be used in lieu of a grant.

Anita Nolan, McCann Drive, asked if lawsuits are continuing, why wait any longer? She said it took the fire trucks twenty minutes to get to her house and that if the bridge was in place, it would have taken half that amount of time. Rosamilia said at some point a judge may throw out the lawsuit, especially since the National Park Service has issued the permit letter to the Court. He said for now the only thing the Board can do is to look into more frequent grading and DSA.

### Devil's Tea Table, New Jersey

Stephen Freeman said he represented the Devil's Tea Table Alliance, a group of Bucks County, PA and Hunterdon County, NJ residents concerned about the New Jersey Dept. of Transportation (NJDOT) Devil's Tea Table rockfall mitigation project on Route 29 in Kingwood, NJ. He noted at the previous Board meeting he gave a presentation to illustrate how this project would negatively impact both sides of the river and asked the Board to pass a resolution stating their concern.

Blanchard and Rosamilia had said they would consider the resolution but wanted to allow Helms, who had been absent at the June 15<sup>th</sup> meeting, to deliberate the request. Helms said that as a PA-based Board member he had been reticent to take a position on a NJDOT project, but after extensively researching the project believed it to be overly extensive. He said he thought there could be other methods for mitigating the rockfall hazard. Helms said he would be willing to sign a resolution.

Blanchard read Resolution 071321.01 regarding the NJDOT Devil's Tea Table Rockfall Mitigation Project Concerns.

**Motion:** to approve Resolution 071321.01 Regarding the NJDOT Devil's Tea Table Rockfall Mitigation Project Concerns.

Motion by: Blanchard. Second by: Rosamilia. Voted upon and passed.

Headquarters Bridge Resolution Request and Recent Meeting

Steve Gidumal, Headquarters Road, asked the Board to pass a resolution regarding the Headquarters Bridge stating it remain a one-lane bridge and the two existing piers be conserved. He said that he, Supervisor Rosamilia and Ryan Whittington, PennDOT Project Manager had met last week.

Rosamilia stated PennDOT was not objecting to a one-lane bridge, but to rehabilitating the piers because the environmental agencies were of the opinion that one new pier would be less intrusion than two. Gidumal said the two piers were grandfathered and any damage would have been done during the past 100 years.

Rosamilia said he had concerns that the Delaware RiverKeeper Network (DRN) would accept the pier cores being replaced with concrete and reusing the existing stone on the outside as a true rehabilitation. He said he suggested to Whittington that if the two piers become an issue, could they consider a single, clear span with the existing piers left in place but not supporting any weight. Cashman asked if any representatives of the DRN had attended the meeting. Rosamilia and Gidumal said they had not been included at this initial meeting.

Rosamilia said that Whittington was also concerned about leaving the abutments in place on the pasture side because they could be undermined by the creek. He asked Whittington what the abutments are attached to and Whittington said bedrock. Rosamilia suggested pinning the abutments to the bedrock and Whittington said he would discuss it with his superiors.

Shawn Sanders, McCann Drive, said Tinicum is a community where everything is volunteer. He said without the bridge it is added time for the volunteer firemen just to get to the fire house as well as the added time to get to the emergency. Sanders said whatever side of the bridge you live on it is a problem for fire, police and EMS. He asked the Board to write a legal document stating safety is the highest priority and send it to PennDOT and the DRN because it was only a matter of time before something bad happens and they need to be put on notice. Rosamilia said letters have been sent out several times over the years to PennDOT and other agencies regarding the resident safety issue.

**H. Executive Session**

Blanchard recessed the regular meeting at 9:05 pm to discuss matters of personnel and potential litigation. Blanchard reconvened the meeting at 10:15 pm. There was no action to report.

**I. Adjournment**


**Motion:** to adjourn the meeting at 10:16 PM.

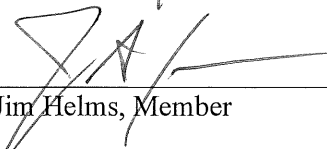
Motion by: Blanchard. Second by: Rosamilia. Voted upon and passed.

*The next meeting of the Board of Supervisors is scheduled for August 17<sup>th</sup>, 2021 at 7:30 PM.*

**TINICUM TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**

  
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John Blanchard, Chairperson

  
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Richard Rosamilia, Vice-Chairperson

  
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Jim Helms, Member