

Incorporated March 12, 1738

TINICUM TOWNSHIP

Bucks County

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

163 Municipal Road
Pipersville, Pennsylvania 18947

RICHARD ROSAMILIA, CHAIRPERSON
JIM HELMS, VICE-CHAIRPERSON
ELEANOR BRESLIN, SUPERVISOR

Tinicum Township Board of Supervisors Meeting Minutes August 16, 2022

Supervisors Eleanor Breslin, Jim Helms and Richard Rosamilia were present with Township Manager Teri Lewis and Township Solicitor Steve Harris. The meeting was held in the Tinicum Township building meeting room. There were approximately 12 people present at the meeting and 24 in attendance online.

Chairperson Rosamilia announced the meeting would be live-streamed on Zoom. Rosamilia called the public meeting of the Tinicum Township Board of Supervisors to order at 7:30 PM followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

A. Police Report

Chief Madden, Tinicum Township Police Dept., presented the following report for July 2022:

- 162 Incident Reports: 73 service-related, 36 crime/investigative (including 1 fraud report), 50 traffic, 2 training and 1 court appearance.
- 2 tractor trailers struck the Golden Pheasant Bridge. She is working with the Township Manager and PennDOT to obtain additional signage.
- 1 tractor trailer jackknifed on Route 113 after catching the edge of the road.
- Rosamilia asked the Chief to provide the prior year's data for the same period for trend comparison.

B. Announcements

Native Plant Exchange Sept 18, 2-4 pm (Sunday)

Tinicum Township Environmental Advisory Committee is holding a plant exchange focused on native plants at the Ottsville Park, 30 Tohickon Valley Road. The exchange provides an opportunity to connect with local gardeners, share favorite plants and learn about restoring native ecosystems.

New Township Employee Kathy Moreni

Kathy Moreni has joined the Township office as the new receptionist.

C. Old Business

Zoning Hearing Board Appointments: Appointment of Tom Casola, current alternate member, as a regular member of the Zoning Hearing Board, to fill the term of M.J. Frumin (expires 12/31/23) and appointment of Joy von Glueck as the alternate member, to fill the former term of Tom Casola (expires 12/31/24).

Motion to appoint Tom Casola as a regular member on the Zoning Hearing Board to fill the former term of M.J. Frumin (expires 12/31/23) and Joy von Glueck as alternate on the Zoning Hearing Board to fill the former term of Tom Casola (expires 12/31/24).

Motion by: Breslin. Second by: Helms. Voted upon and approved.

D. New Business

Palisades Regional Fire and Rescue Advisory Board Tincum Township Representative

Rosamilia said that Breslin had indicated her interest in becoming the representative for Tincum. Rosamilia clarified that Breslin would be representing the full Boards position on any matter before Palisades Regional Fire and Rescue Advisory Board.

Motion to appoint Breslin as the Palisades Regional Fire and Rescue Advisory Board Tincum Township Representative.

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

FEMA Mitigation Projects

Lewis stated the following:

- There are 4 pending FEMA mitigation projects. One of the projects is the Sheephole Road stream bank restoration.
- Rosamilia and Breslin met with FEMA at the Sheephole site to discuss the project.
- FEMA reduced the Sheephole Stream Bank Restoration Project to only 40 feet of the bank.
- FEMA stated there was no field or historical information to justify the requested length of restoration and that the condition of the streambank was not directly connected to the washout.
- After extensive discussions with the Township Engineer, Steve Baluh, Township Public Works Director, Doug Skelton, and FEMA, it was decided that 40 feet was not substantial enough to justify the project.

Rosamilia asked if the funds for the project could be applied to other restoration on Sheephole Road. Lewis said no. She said the Township Engineer also stated that the funds received would not fully cover the work and he recommended withdrawing the project to allow the other projects to move forward.

Helms clarified that this is a section of bank between the two bridges on Sheephole road, where the road and the stream bank are flat. He said that without a bank along the entire roadway, the limited restoration would not help. He said it might only add more material to be taken down stream if it floods again.

Motion to remove the 40 feet of Sheephole Road streambank restoration from the FEMA projects.

Motion by Helms. Second by Breslin. Voted upon and approved.

Tincum Conservancy / Delaware Valley Fire Company

Lewis said the attorney for the Tincum Conservancy notified the Township of a situation at the Delaware Valley Volunteer Company where a trapeze structure was set-up behind the building in the open space easement area, which violates the conservation easement.

Harris said he had reviewed the photos of the apparatus and the emails describing the Conservancy's position. He said he agreed that it does violate the Conservation easement. Harris said that Lewis reached out to the fire company and that Del Val said the company donates 10% of its revenue back the fire company. Harris stated that the donations do not allow it to be an exception to the conservation.

Rosamilia said that looking at the aerial photos there is a grassy area in the building envelope near the parking lot where the trapeze might be relocated. Lewis said she would reach out to the Fire Company and the Conservancy to discuss moving the trapeze into the building envelope. Harris noted it is a structure and must still meet the setbacks.

Helms asked if it was not stated in the conservation agreement, then they cannot do it. Harris said the agreement states they cannot do it. He said it is not a commercial recreational facility, the easement only allows residential and agricultural uses. Helms asked if other fund-raising activities on a daily or weekly basis where an issue. Harris said it is an issue because it is a permanent structure and not the same as a

weekend fund raiser. He said even if it was considered a temporary structure, it is not a commercial recreational facility. Harris said they should explore moving it into the building envelope. Lewis said she would reach out to the Fire Company and the Conservancy.

Reiss Operation & Maintenance Agreement

Rosamilia said this agreement was discussed at the previous meeting and the escrow was reduced to \$5,000. Lewis said the construction escrow was waived because the title company was holding it and the Township is covered. She said that the \$5,000 O&M escrow; which is held for 3 years, had been received and all proper permits were in order.

Motion to approve the Reiss O&M Agreement and authorize the Board to sign the agreement.

Motion by: Rosamilia. Second by: Breslin. Voted upon and approved.

Nockamixon Township Request for Fire Police for the Palisades Regional Fire and Rescue Inauguration at Palisades Middle School in Nockamixon Township on Oct. 1 from 2:00 pm and 8:00 pm.

Motion to approve any available Fire Police to assist with the Palisades Regional Fire Rescue inauguration at Palisades Middle School in Nockamixon Township on October 1, 2 to 8 pm.

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

E. Regular Business

Minutes

Motion to approve the minutes of the July 19, 2022 meeting as written.

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

Budget Recap and Treasurer's Report

The Budget Recap and Treasurer's Reports for July 2022 was posted on the bulletin board and provided to the Board.

Rosamilia said the property real estate tax was significantly lower than July 2021 by approximately \$160,000 and asked Lewis if that was due to the problem with the Tax Collector getting the checks to the Township. Lewis stated the Tax Collector is new and she has been in constant contact with him, Bucks County Finance Office, and the Tax Collectors Association who are working collectively on the problem. Rosamilia asked if that was the same issue for the Emergency Services Taxes. Lewis said yes, it comes in with real estate tax. Rosamilia said that local enabling taxes are up.

Rosamilia stated that on the expense side, public safety expense was up due to the police department being fully staffed. He said that if the taxes had been received on time, the Township would be on budget. Lewis agreed and said that revenue would be above last year. She said that the Township can continue to cover services.

Payroll Reports

Motion to accept the Payroll Reports for the period ending July 15th in the amount of \$30,079.56 and July 29th in the amount of \$32,082.64.

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

Disbursements

Motion to approve the following disbursements as written.

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

General Fund	Amount	Memo
B. Jeannie Kauffman	\$ 175.00	Stenography INV 026 Davidson
Keystone Municipal Services Inc	\$ 3,036.00	Bldg. & Zoning 34599 6-28 - 7-7
Ricoh Americas Corp	\$ 93.00	Copier/Scanner/Printer Lease
Keystone Municipal Services Inc	\$ 5,150.00	Replacement ck for 27569 (voided)
Postmaster	\$ 58.00	Forever Stamps
Barrington	\$ 462.80	Reimbursement -police supplies
YCG	\$ 375.00	Training - Police
United Healthcare Insurance Company	\$ 10,614.60	2022 Monthly Health Insurance
PSATS	\$ 98.00	CDL membership
Harris and Harris	\$ 4,228.80	Legal Services June
Harris and Harris	\$ 1,908.75	Legal Services July
WEX, Inc	\$ 1,314.39	Fuel - Tincum Police
PennTeleData	\$ 381.85	Internet Modems
Hartford Insurance	\$ 459.53	Life and disability
Qualification Targets	\$ 53.45	Police Targets
Survival Trail	\$ 134.99	Firearms
DelGuerico's Disposal Service	\$ 155.00	Trash and Recycling
Uninvest VISA	\$ 40.00	Police supplies
Verizon Wireless	\$ 207.54	Verizon wireless - police
Holicong Locksmiths	\$ 305.45	Public Works alarm repair
Badge and Wallet	\$ 130.00	Police Uniform Supplies
Allied Administrators for Delta Dental	\$ 104.38	Dental Insurance Police (new)
Aflac Business Services	\$ 145.64	Supplemental Insurance withheld
Heffernan Insurance Brokers Trust	\$ 1,000.00	Porter and Curtis - SWIF Fire Comp WC Broker Fee
ET&T Eastern Telephone and Tel	\$ 8,709.19	Phone System
Help Now	\$ 75.00	Police IT
Payroll Fund		
Account Edge Payroll	\$ 29,516.87	Pay period end 7/15/22
Account Edge Payroll	\$ 31,487.86	Pay period end 7/29/22
Internal Revenue Service	\$ 6,155.73	Payroll Tax
Health Equity	\$ 3,000.00	H.S.A. deposit police
Open Space Fund		
Del Val Regional Finance Assoc	\$ 11,073.68	Open Space Bond
State Fund		
Garden State Highway Products	\$ 653.63	Signs
H & K Materials	\$ 8,509.68	Asphalt
Plumstead Materials	\$ 1,418.39	Stone
STTC	\$ 4,493.60	Tires
Heacock Lumber	\$ 154.00	Trailer repair
PPC Lubricants	\$ 1,315.55	Hyd fluids
Plasterer Equip Co.	\$ 1,771.39	Equip Repair
Interstate Battery	\$ 373.50	Equip Parts
Eagle Power	\$ 158.88	Equip Parts

F. Zoning/Planning

G. Subdivision / Land Development / Conditional Use / Zoning Hearing Board

Minor Subdivision of Mojjis Trifiro

TMP 44-030-008-002, 44-030-008, 44-030-008-003, 26 Cafferty Road, Point Pleasant.
Scheduled for Board of Supervisors meeting of September 6.

Conditional Use Application of Watson

TMP 44-006-017, 25 Tammany Road, UBE.

Requests approval for driveway intrusion in the Wetlands Corridor and Riparian Buffer Overlay districts.
Schedule to be determined.

Zoning Hearing Board Application 2022-2 of Davidson

TMP 44-033-013-005, 72 Walters Lane, Pt. Pleasant.

Requests relief for intrusion into side yard setback.

Zoning Hearing Board Hearing scheduled for September 22.

H. Public Comment Session

River Road Signs

Cindi Gasparre, resident, thanked the Board for getting the Zoom meeting up and running. She said she had been monitoring it on her phone and could see there were 20 participants. Gasparre asked about the status of the 25-mph signage to be installed on River Road north of Bridge Five Lane. Lewis said that Don Centofante, PennDOT, said that they intend to install the signs in 2 weeks.

Golden Pheasant Bridge Signs

Rosamilia asked about the status of the signage for the Golden Pheasant Bridge. Lewis said Centofante said it would be installed in 2 weeks. Rosamilia said that Don Centofante had also communicated that a sign would be installed at York Road and at Point Pleasant going north bound and at the Giving Pond going southbound. He asked Lewis if she thought it was sufficient? Lewis said they did not know yet, but about 2 weeks ago, she had worked with Chief Madden to try to correct any GPS not to show the area as a truck route and asked PennDOT to correct it.

Rosamilia said that Centofante also said that it is the 45-foot trailer. He said the 45 feet should be the total length of the vehicle including the cab. He asked if PA law did not allow that? Lewis said that Centofante said that this is the standard. Helms said he believed it to be related to the standard signage. He said it is the wording of the signage. Breslin said it depends, there may be other roadways where shorter trucks would be prohibited and if they think it should be the length of the trailer plus the cab, then they should prohibit a shorter trailer length. Lewis said she thought they had and the answer from PennDOT engineers was that with the shorter trailer they should be able to navigate the bridge.

Lewis said, that at Helms's request, she and Chief Madden were researching and looked back at the accidents before the Pheasant Bridge repair versus after the repair and if they had made the bridge narrower, but did not have an answer yet.

John Cole, resident and retired truck driver, said that if there is longer wheel base on the tractor it would make it more difficult to make the jack cut. He said his recommendation was to have PennDOT agree to shorten the trailer further to 28 or 29 feet to make it easier, so the length of the cab would not matter. Cole said that he thought a 45-foot-long trailer was too long.

Rosamilia asked if that was something that the state mandates. Harris said it would depend on engineering studies. He could look to see if a shorter trailer length could be restricted. Harris said that the engineering study would be justified given the accident history on the bridge.

Breslin asked Chief Madden if when she had looked at the historical tractor trailer accidents prior to the repair in 2018 compared to after the repair, if she noticed any difference in the rate of incidents. Chief Madden said they had increased drastically after the repair. Lewis said they had also reached out to Centofante with that information, but had not yet received a response.

Drought Situation

Anita Nolan, resident, said she was concerned about the drought situation. She asked if it had been deemed an official drought and if there were any limitations. Lewis said she had not received any notice of an official drought. Helms said that as of August 9th, the US Drop Monitor in Pennsylvania showed Bucks County under an abnormally dry condition at D0 on a score of D0 to D4, with D4 being the more severe. Breslin said that New Jersey had announced a drought condition. Rosamilia said that New Jersey depends mostly on reservoirs. Helms said that central Jersey was mostly aquifers. Breslin said she would talk to the Bridgeton-Nockamixon-Tinicum Ground Water Management Committee to see what their well monitor readings were indicating.

Trees on Red Hill Road

Steve Gidumal, resident, said he had texted the Board photos of three leaning trees leaning on wires on Red Hill Road. Lewis asked about the locations. She said she had called Met-Ed, because they cannot have PennDOT remove the tree until Met-Ed can handle the wires.

John Cole, resident, said that there is no stop sign on Wormansville Road coming onto to Tory Road and Tory Road coming into the park into High Rocks and thought there should be a stop sign there. Rosamilia asked the Chief to take a look at the intersection and report back.

H. Executive Session

Rosamilia recessed the regular meeting at 9:12 PM to discuss a police personnel matter. Rosamilia reconvened the meeting at 9:20 PM.


I. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:21 PM.


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

The next meeting of the Board of Supervisors is scheduled for September 6, 2022 at 7:30 PM.


TINICUM TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS



Richard Rosamilia, Chairperson



Jim Helms, Vice-Chairperson



Eleanor Breslin, Member