

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 September 20, 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 20 people present at the meeting and 27 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 7:35 PM followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

A. Police Report

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

- 174 Incident Reports: 76 service-related, 33 crime/investigative (including 1 fraud report, 1 criminal mischief report, 1 arrest for harassment and disorderly conduct, 1 arrest for terroristic threats and related charges following a domestic call, and 1 DUI arrest following a traffic stop. Harassment and disorderly conduct citations were filed.), 52 traffic, 8 training and 5 court appearance.
- 4 Reportable Traffic Accidents:
 - 2-vehicle accident on E. Dark Hollow due to failure to maintain lane around a curve.
 - 3-vehicle accident on River Road was the result of tailgating.
 - 1-vehicle accident on River Road was the result of environmental factors.
 - 1-vehicle accident on Easton Road was the result of distracted driving.
- 5-Year Reportable Accident Average: Over the past 5 years for the month of August, there was an average of 4.4 reportable accidents.
- Coffee with a Cop Event: Wednesday, October 5th, from 10 am to 12 pm at Brigadoon Coffee Shop, 239 Durham Road, Ottsville. Children welcome.
- Fall Drug Take Back Event: Saturday, October 29th, from 10 am to 2 pm at Wehrungs Home Center, 7711 Easton Road, Ottsville. It will also be a Sharps Collection site for safe disposal of needles and syringes.

B. Announcements

Solar Ordinance Draft

The draft Solar Ordinance was advertised for consideration at the October 4th Board of Supervisor meeting.

2023 Budget

The first Preliminary discussion was held as advertised on Wednesday, September 14th. Continuance meetings will be listed on the Township website.

Beaver Run Road Bridge (Bucks County Bridge 365) over Beaver Creek

The County notified the Township of railing replacements and other repairs planned for the Beaver Run Road County Bridge 356 over Beaver Creek. Corresponding detour routes were also supplied, the actual

start date has not been determined. Emergency services have been notified and Public Works is reviewing alternate snowplow routes.

Breslin said the notice indicated that the current railing system would be replaced with TL-3 Bridge Barriers and asked Lewis to find out if esthetically that was the railing that was used on the Byers Road Bridge over Beaver Creek. Damon Aherne, resident, said that the bridge was over 50 years old and the railing was the original period pipe rail. He said additional review should be required as the bridge is a contributing element to the wild and scenic designation to Tinicum Creek. Rosamilia said there is a public comment period open until September 27th.

Golden Pheasant Bridge

PennDOT notified to the Township of a Golden Pheasant Bridge Section 106 virtual meeting to be held on October 20th for Consulting Parties. Lewis said Monica Harrower, Architectural Historian, PennDOT District 6-0, had issued the invitation and that she contacted her regarding the meeting agenda. Lewis said PennDOT would be reviewing in detail the potential options in relation to the historical preservation of the bridge.

Breslin asked if either Helms or Rosamilia had participated in any previous 106 meetings. Rosamilia said he had attended a 106 meeting for the Headquarters Bridge, as a resident. Breslin asked if the Board had any opinion and/or solicited any input from residents. Rosamilia said the Board at that time appeared somewhat divided and they had solicited input. He said there was plenty of input from the residents who attended the public meetings, including a petition signed by approximately 700 people.

Breslin asked if there would be a process in place to get a consensus of opinion from the community. Rosamilia said he would be in favor of that. He stated his intention was to get as much information as possible from PennDOT at this first meeting so he could represent a good way forward and then get the public's opinion.

Lewis said that she understood this meeting would be a starting point for PennDOT to discuss the options under consideration and the Board would not need to make any decisions yet. She said her recollection was that after the initial 106 meetings, the PennDOT Historic representatives would issue invitations to a public meeting.

Breslin said that PennDOT would present their plan and be expecting feedback. Lewis said she was waiting for clarification from Harrower.

Cindi Gasparee, resident, said that, based on the Headquarters Bridge experience, it would be helpful if the Board asked for the public's opinions prior to the October 20th meeting. She said that it could be put out that everyone could come and talk about what they would like to see done before the next meeting.

Helms said that he did not see the Board putting forth any position of the Township that would set any future course at this initial meeting. He said what he expected to take place was an understanding of what PennDOT was thinking and the impact on historic nature of the bridge. Helms said then the Board can think about the ideas and how they impact the structure historical nature. He said that they did not have enough information yet to solicit opinions from the public.

Breslin said that she thought now was not the time to make demands as to what the Township wanted, however, they did have an opportunity to engage the PennDOT Reps who are presenting their plans. She said in order to effectively participate, they needed to hear from the community.

Sue Walsh, resident, said she was concerned how the changes may impact the Stover Mill and that they should be ready with their own opinions prior to the meeting.

Damon Aherne, resident, requested that the Board look at the externality and consequences that could potentially affect the businesses and residents along River Road. He noted that the Golden Pheasant handicapped parking was configured based on the current bridge and any subsequent bridge changes could affect the parking area and financially impact the business. Aherne said the single-lane bridges slow traffic and changing any of the one-lane bridges to two-lane bridges will increase truck traffic. He said the rumble strip that PennDOT installed on the road has increased the noise to the surrounding areas and was another example of how the quality of life is impacted by these decisions.

After discussion, the Board agreed to solicit input from residents by placing an email submission on the website with name, address and phone number and comments.

C. Old Business

Tinicum Conservancy Request for Correction of Conservation Site Plan

Lewis said that two years ago an error was found on the easement on 255 Hollow Horn Road (tax map 44-014-033), which affected the building envelope. Harris said that the amendment makes the language on the site plan consistent with the easement.

Motion to approve the amendment to the deed of conservation easement site plan for 255 Hollow Horn Road (tax map 44-014-033) and to authorize Supervisor Rosamilia and Township Manager Lewis to sign the amendment documents on behalf of the Township.

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

D. New Business

Planning Commission Amendment Recommendations:

1) Commercial Use Parking Standards:

Carl Ruthardt, PC Vice Chair, said the PC saw an issue with the way the wedding venue parking was established, which was four persons per car. He said typically, one or two people per car would be going to a wedding. He said, after researching other township ordinances, they are recommending it be changed to two persons per car, based on the classification of “place of worship parking” where everyone arrives at the same time and leaves at the same time, rather than a rotational parking situation.

Ruthardt said that the wedding venue was put under the classification of “Entertainment” because it did not fit under any other category. He suggested they also add an “Event/Wedding Venue” classification. He said there are only two districts, Commercial and Controlled Commercial, that would permit that use. Breslin said it would make sense since the current “Entertainment” classification seemed to focus on arcades.

Harris said previously, the Township had spent a great deal of time on an Event Ordinance but could not agree on how an event would be classified. He said that the proposed amendment would be under Entertainment.

After discussion, the Board agreed that the PC should continue to review parking standards for commercial uses and an “Event” classification in the Commercial and Controlled Commercial zoning districts.

2) Critical Recharge:

Ruthardt said previously smaller acreage properties were highly impacted by the 5% Critical Recharge rule, so a sliding scale was devised for properties under ten acres. He said, however, they did not consider future subdivision of land in critical recharge at that time. Ruthardt said that the critical recharge sliding scale should pertain only to existing parcels and not future subdivisions. He said the PC

was concerned that could be used as a loop-hole in the future. Helms noted that it would be reviewed under the Land Development and that it would be difficult to monitor in the future.

After discussion, it was decided the Board would table the item for further consideration.

Park and Recreation Committee – Trunk or Treat Event

Lewis said that the Park and Recreation Committee was proposing a Trunk or Treat Event at the Community Park at Tincicum Community Park on October 22, set- up at 4:30 pm/ event start at 5:30 pm, with a rain date of October 23. Breslin noted it would include decorating cars and dog costumes.

After discussion, the Board approved the Trunk or Treat Event.

PennDOT Bike Resurfacing Program – Creamery and Geigel Hill Roads

Lewis said that PennDOT, in coordination with Bucks County Planning Commission, were proposing bike “sharrows” /bike sharing signage on Creamery and Geigel Hill Roads. She said, and that the Township would be responsible for maintaining the road markings and keeping the roads free of debris. Lewis said, after researching the proposal, that “sharrows” are not typically placed on roads with speed limits over 35 mph.

Helms said there were dangerous areas on these roads and they were very challenging for most riders. He said he was concerned that the signage might invite less experienced bikers to ride on these roads. He said this type of program was more typical in towns and less hilly areas. Breslin said that there were pros and cons, but did not think it was a good idea for these areas.

After discussion, the Board agreed the proposed program was not appropriate for Creamery and Geigel Hill Roads.

Resolution to Authorize Palisades Regional Fire and Rescue as a Responder in Tincicum Township

Motion to Authorize Palisades Regional Fire and Rescue as a Responder in Tincicum Township.

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

E. Regular Business

Minutes

Motion to approve the minutes of the September 6, 2022 meeting as written.

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

Treasurer’s Report & Budget Recap

The Budget Recap and Treasurer’s Reports for August was presented to the Board and posted on the bulletin board. Lewis noted that Real Estate Tax Collection was to update.

Payroll Report

Motion to accept Payroll Reports for the period ending September 9, 2022 in the amount of \$33,825.25.

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

Disbursements:

Motion to approve the disbursements as written.

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

General Fund	Amount	Memo
Wynn Associates Inc.	\$4,354.34	Engineering Services
Gary Bickel's Garage	\$185.00	Police Vehicle Repair
Davidheiser's	\$115.00	Calibration - Speed Timing Devices

Wehrung's	\$67.38	Wehrung's
Help Now	\$75.00	Police IT
Leaf	\$73.31	Police Copier
ReadyRefresh	\$194.45	Bottled Water
Holicong Locksmiths	\$122.55	Alarm Monitoring (both buildings)
DelGuericco's Disposal Service	\$155.00	Trash Disposal
Met-Ed	\$59.83	Electricity - Traffic Light
PennTeleData	\$381.85	Modems
Merry Maids	\$115.00	Janitorial Service
Staples Credit Plan	\$81.07	Office Supplies
Met-Ed	\$546.27	Electricity Police and Admin
Met-Ed	\$15.90	Electricity Park
Met-Ed	\$154.48	Electricity Public Works
Ricoh Americas Corp	\$112.20	Copier count/service
Met-Ed	\$29.65	Electricity Traffic Light
Payroll Fund	Amount	Memo
Account Edge Payroll	\$33,160.51	Pay period end 9/9/22
Account Edge Payroll	\$121.87	Payroll Processing

2023 Pennsylvania Minimum Municipal Obligation (MMO)

Confirmation of receipt of memos and estimation of the MMO's for the Tincicum Township Non-Uniform Defined Contribution Plan and the Tincicum Township Uniform/Police defined benefit plan for the year 2023. A member contribution in the amount of 3% will be required to assist the Township with funding for the plan, in accordance with the 1989 Uniform Pension Contract with Pennsylvania Municipal Retirement System. The Police Contract Retirement Benefits approves the requirement for member contribution in the amount of 3% to the Police Pension for the calendar year 2023. The Board reserves the right to amend/revise the uniform Plan MMO worksheet if State Aid provides sufficient funding to cover the Township's costs.

F. Zoning Hearing Board

ZHB Appeal 2022-2: Davidson

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

Variance relief requested from side yard setbacks, floodplain overlay, riparian buffer, and for the sewage disposal area in the riparian corridor.

- Tincicum Township Planning Commission reviewed on May 24, 2022.
- Board of Supervisors reviewed on June 21, 2022.
- Zoning Hearing Board review on July 14, 2022 was continued to September 22, 2022.

Harris said that the Board had previously asked for a plan that indicated the location of wells and septic systems on the adjoining narrow lots. After reviewing the plan, the Board had suggested the property owner relocate the existing well to the north of the property, which was farther from the septic system. Harris said the property owner had submitted a revised plan as requested.

After discussion, the Board agreed that Harris would not have to attend the Zoning Hearing or oppose the variance.

G. Subdivision / Land Development / Conditional Use

1) LD 2022-2: Land Development of Spinieo

TMP 44-011-008-003 & 44-011-008-004, 3632 Bedminster Road, Ottsville.

Proposes construction of 4 warehouses with parking.

- Application received August 15.
- Planning Commission review on September 27.
- Board of Supervisor review on October 18.

2) CU 2021-2: Conditional Use Application of Watson

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

Requests Conditional Use approval for driveway intrusion in the wetland corridor and riparian buffer overlay districts.

- Application received on August 16.
- Planning Commission on September 27.
- Board of Supervisor review on October 4.

3) LD 2022-3: Land Development of Tretton

CU 2022-1: Conditional Use of Tretton

TMP 44-001-022-002, 31 Creamery Rd, Ottsville.

Proposes to renovate barn as a wedding venue.

Requests Conditional Use approval to construct stormwater management facilities in steep slope and permit substantial property improvement within the Tohickon Creek Watershed overlay.

- Applications received August 16. (60 Day Waiver Letter received for Conditional Use.)
- Planning Commission review on October 26.
- Board of Supervisor review on November 15.

4) LC 2022-1 Subdivision/Lot Line Change of Thomas Vanderlely

Proposes to convey .75 acres from 44-11-46 to 44-11-46-1

- Application received on September 6.
- Planning Commission on October 25.
- Board of Supervisors review on December 6.

H. Public Comment Session

Cindi Gasparee, resident, asked if the Board had developed a policy for archiving the Board of Supervisor meeting videos. Lewis said they are investigating the various archiving options with the IT team.

Gasparee gave an overview of the Environmental Advisory Committee Plant Exchange, which had taken place on Sunday, Sept. 18th. She said it had been very successful. Lewis said the event also helped with the Monarch Pledge program.

Anita Nolan, resident, requested clarification regarding the Headquarters Bridge Fact Finding Discussion that had been discussed at the last meeting. She said the meeting was attended by the Supervisors, a PennDOT representative, and litigants, Steve Gidumal and Bruce Wallace. She asked if it was correct that the litigates are Gidumal and the Delaware RiverKeepers Network (DRN). The Board said that was correct. Nolan noted that Bruce Wallace's Woodtiger Fund, which is a private foundation, is a large funder of the DRN.

Nolan asked if Maya van Rossum, DRN, who is a litigant and registered lobbyist, attended the meeting. The Board said van Rossum did not attend, but that Doug Bond, who is an engineer consultant for the DRN, had attended. Nolan said she saw Wallace as representing the DRN at the meeting, because he had contributed more than \$3.4 million to the DRN between 2012 and 2018. She said the most recent 2019 report indicated that Woodtiger had donated another \$500,000, which represented a quarter of the DRN's funding for that year. She stated that if these funds had been used to build the bridge, it would be completed, but instead they choose to sue.

Nolan requested that future meetings include a representative from the residents who are actually affected by the bridge closure regardless of the type of meeting.

I. Executive Session

Rosamilia recessed the regular meeting at 8:49 PM to discuss land acquisition and possible legal action regarding the conservation easement on the Del Val Fire Company. Rosamilia reconvened the meeting at 9:17 PM. He announced the following action:

Motion to authorize Harris to advise the Tincum Conservancy that the Board had agreed to take no action regarding the trapeze use on the Del Val Fire Company grounds.

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

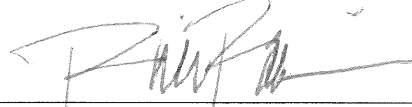
J. Adjournment


Motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:18 PM.


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

The next meeting of the Board of Supervisors is scheduled for October 4, 2022 at 7:30 PM.

TINICUM TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS



Richard Rosamilia, Chairperson

Jim Helms, Vice-Chairperson

Eleanor Breslin, Member