

*Incorporated March 12, 1738*

# TINICUM TOWNSHIP

*Bucks County*

## BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

163 Municipal Road  
Pipersville, Pennsylvania 18947

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

### **Tinicum Township Board of Supervisors Meeting Minutes February 7, 2023**

Supervisors Eleanor Breslin, Jim Helms and Richard Rosamilia were present with Township Manager Teri Lewis, Public Works Director Doug Skelton, Police Chief Nicole Madden, and Township Solicitor Steve Harris. The meeting was held in the Tinicum Township building meeting room. The meeting was live-streamed on Zoom and recorded. There were approximately 17 people present at the meeting and 12 viewed online.

Helms 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 January 2023:

- 167 Incident Reports: 66 service-related, 32 crime/investigative (including 3 fraud reports, 2 thefts, 1 simple assault arrest), 1 DUI arrest, 57 traffic, 5 training, & 7 court.
- 6 Reportable Traffic Accidents:
  - Two 1-vehicle accidents due to weather related crashes.
  - 1- vehicle crash on River Road due to distracted driving.
  - 2-vehicle accident on Easton Road caused by an improper turn.
  - 2-vehicle accident on River Rd under investigation.
  - A fatal vehicle versus pedestrian crash on Easton Rd under investigation.
- 5-Year Reportable Accident Average: Over the past 5 years for the month of January, there was an average of 4.2 reportable accidents.

#### **B. Amendments to the Agenda**

**Motion to amend the agenda to include discussion of a letter to Congressman Brian Fitzpatrick regarding possible grant opportunities for Headquarters Bridge.**

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

**Motion to amend the agenda to include discussion of a paid secretarial position for the Planning Commission.**

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

#### **C. Old Business**

##### Headquarters Bridge Update

The Board stated that the Township Engineer is currently reviewing design criteria from new, potentially suitable temporary bridge vendors.

Harris said he received a phone call and email from the Delaware Riverkeeper Network attorney who stated that Congressman Brian Fitzpatrick has agreed to present a grant application for the rehabilitation of the Headquarters Road Bridge and asked for a letter supporting the grant request. The Board stated

that Harris confirmed that the grant submission would not be predicated on the Township owning the bridge until the grant money is approved and the project can move forward.

**Motion to authorize Harris to write a letter to Brian Fitzpatrick to investigate grant possibilities for the Headquarters Bridge.**

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

Earth Day Festival Outside Vendor Participant List

**Motion to approve the outside vendor list as submitted by the Environmental Advisory Ad Hoc Committee and the Parks and Recreation Board for the Earth Day Festival.**

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

#### **D. New Business**

Volunteer Board Appointments

The Board announced that an executive session had been held prior to the meeting to discuss potential volunteer board candidates.

**Motion to appoint Ed Basford to the Parks and Recreation Board.**

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

**Motion to appoint Dan Ullman to the Land Preservation Committee.**

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

Fire Police Request: Borough of Dublin

**Motion to authorize any and all Fire Police for traffic control duties at the Dublin Community Day, Saturday, June 3, 2023 from 2:30 pm to 7:00 pm.**

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

Memorandum of Understanding: Bucks County Co-Responder Team for Social Services

Chief Madden stated that the County of Bucks is funding a two-year trial grant program for a co-responder social services team that would provide the police departments in Bucks County with assistance with issues such as mental illness, homelessness, the elderly, etc. within the community.

**Motion to authorize Chief Madden and Township Manager Lewis to sign on behalf of Tincum Township to participate in the Bucks County Co-Responder Team for Social Services.**

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

Memorandum of Understanding: 2023 Lower Delaware Wild and Scenic Mini Grant

The Township has received a \$3,759.80 Lower Delaware Wild and Scenic Mini Grant to enhance the existing wetland area in the Tincum Community Park by planting native plants around the area, as well as removing old telephone poles and netting. The project will be led by the Environmental Advisory Ad Hoc Committee and the Parks and Recreation Board in collaboration with Kind Earth Growers.

**Motion to authorize Township Manager Lewis to administer and sign for the 2023 Lower Delaware Wild and Scenic Mini Grant.**

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

Truck Route Discussion

Based on the report of a tractor trailer truck on Smithtown Road, the Board asked Harris if there could be a designated truck route(s) through the Township. Harris said each road must have signage

designating it as a no truck route based on a study. Resident Luke Sorensen said that recently enacted Act 31 overturned the need for a formal engineering study.

Public Works Director Doug Skelton said the cost to purchase and install signage at the beginning and end of each of the twenty-two dirt roads and the corresponding cross roads would be roughly more than \$17,000. Skelton noted that where the truck turned at the intersection of Cafferty Road and Smithtown Road there are signs stating no trucks, one-lane bridge and the 5-ton bridge weight limits, but the signs did not deter the truck. The Board said it would not be feasible to install that many signs and noted that garbage, oil and delivery trucks would still need access to residents on the dirt roads.

Harris noted that designated truck routes are typically limited access highways and must have PennDOT signs. The Board asked Harris to investigate PennDOT truck route signs.

The Board noted that there is a GPS service for commercial trucks and the Township had contacted the service to help reduce trucks on River Road. The Board asked Lewis and Chief Madden to contact the GPS service starting with the Township dirt road restrictions.

Resident Rick Balukas asked if a ticket could be issued to the truck driver for exceeding the weight limit on the Smithtown Road Bridge. Chief Madden said yes.

Lewis stated that the Township had also contacted PennDOT to install truck turn around signage on River Road located at the Giving Pond and Point Pleasant where there are areas for trucks to turn around and avoid the Golden Pheasant Bridge, but PennDOT was backlogged and the signs had not yet been installed. The Board asked Skelton to investigate if he could obtain the signage from PennDOT and the necessary authorization for Public Works to install the signs on River Road.

Pennsylvania Municipal Retirement System (PMRS) Resolution

**Motion to adopt Resolution 020723.01 for Pennsylvania Municipal Retirement System (PMRS) confirming the member contribution of 3% for the 2022 and 2023 Uniform Plan.**

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

Tinicum Conservancy Amphibian Crossing

Beginning in Mid-March, spotted salamanders, wood frogs, and spring peepers migrate from their winter burrows to their ancestral pools to breed. The Tinicum Conservancy is looking for volunteers to help these amphibians to safely cross Perry Auger Road. More information can be found at [www.tinicumconservancy.org](http://www.tinicumconservancy.org).

Earth Day Event: April 22

The Environmental Advisory Ad Hoc Committee is in the initial stages of planning an Earth Day Event to be held on Earth Day, Saturday, April 22 from 10 am to 2 pm at the Tinicum Township Community Park. Those interested should contact Cindi Gasparre at [EAC@tinicumbucks.org](mailto:EAC@tinicumbucks.org).

Amendment Agenda Item: Planning Commission Secretary

**Motion to advertise for a Planning Commission Secretary position responsible for the preparation of the Planning Commission Meeting Minutes at the rate of pay of \$16 per hour.**

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

**E. Regular Business**

Minutes

**Motion to approve the minutes of January 9, 2023, which were tabled at the last meeting, and the minutes of January 17, 2023 as written.**

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

Treasurer's Report & Budget Recap

The Budget Recap and Treasurer's Reports will be made available at the next meeting.

Payroll Report

**Motion to accept Payroll Reports for the period ending January 27, 2023 in the amount of \$35,789.04.**

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

Disbursements:

**Motion to approve the following disbursements as written.**

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

<b>General Fund</b>	<b>Amount</b>	<b>Memo</b>
Hartford Insurance	\$535.59	Life and Disability Insurance Monthly
Verizon Wireless	\$207.33	Police Wireless
Skelton, Doug	\$188.62	reimbursement ignition part- waste oil heater part
VISA	\$281.96	Police Webroot Software & Misc. Board
US Bank Equipment Finance	\$259.15	Sharp Copier Lease
Bucks County Planning Commission	\$640.55	Household Hazardous
Bill's Copier Service	\$355.00	Police Copier Service Contract
Police Chiefs Association of Bucks County	\$175.00	Membership Dues
Service Electric Cable TV	\$237.63	Telephone Expense
Staples Credit Plan	\$190.73	Office Supplies
Gary's Septic Service, Inc.	\$185.00	PWD septic cleanout
Aflac Business Services	\$145.64	Supplement Insurance withheld
DelGuerico's Disposal Service	\$155.00	Trash and Recycling Removal
G2 Computers interface	\$750.00	inv 17852 Computer system upgrades and copier
Bode Technology	\$800.00	Police DNA Membership 21689
<b>Payroll Fund</b>		
SurePayroll	\$35,141.52	Period End 1-27-23
<b>State Fund</b>		
Plasterer Equipment	\$96,500.00	Backhoe
Campbell Paving	\$2,160.00	Replacement of ck 3538 (2022)
H & K Materials	\$1,597.11	Asphalt Patch
U.S Municipal Supply	\$426.21	Sign supplies
Plumstead Materials	\$1,562.96	Stone
Armour and Sons Electric	\$930.00	Traffic Light Repair (electrical)
NAPA of Ottsville	\$157.98	Public Works Fleet Parts
<b>Capital and Equipment</b>		
Gator Truck Sales	\$38,995.00	Mack Dump Truck
<b>Escrow</b>		
Wynn Assoc	\$3,602.20	Engineering Services Tretton, Spinieo, Berger and Hdqts
M2 Associates	\$3,410.00	Water Testing Review Spinieo
M2 Associates	\$3,255.00	Water Testing Review Tretton Barn

**F. Land Development / Conditional Use**

LD 2022-3: Land Development of Tretton

CU 2022-1: Conditional Use of Tretton

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

Proposes to renovate barn as a wedding venue.

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

- Applications received August 16, 2022.
- 60-day waiver of the clock requested to enable the applicant to provide further information.
- Planning Commission review to be determined upon receipt of revised plans.
- Board of Supervisors review currently scheduled for March 21, 2023.

**G. Public Comment Session**

Resident John Kelly asked about the ownership of the open space in the Rolling Hills development. Harris said that information would be provided in the HOA bi-laws. Kelly asked the Township to write a letter to homeowners requesting that they remove trees in the right-of-way that block sight distances. The Board said they would investigate the issue.

**H. Adjournment**

**Motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:32 PM.**

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

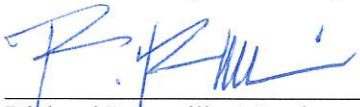
*The next meeting of the Board of Supervisors is scheduled for February 21, 2023 at 7:30 PM.*

**TINICUM TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Jim Helms, Chairperson



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Eleanor Breslin, Vice-Chairperson



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Richard Rosamilia, Member