

**Tulpehocken Township  
Board of Supervisors  
Meeting of August 14, 2019**

The Tulpehocken Township Board of Supervisors met on August 14, 2019 in the Township meeting room at 7 P.M. In attendance and voting were Supervisors: Chairman Gary Deck, Vice Chairman Richard Kramer and Lester Feick, Supervisor. Also present were Kris Kerschner, Police Chief and Christy Flaherty, Township Secretary/Treasurer.

Members of the audience included: Harold Zimmerman, Jeffrey Zimmerman, Rick Klopp and Geneva Aulenbach (Reading Eagle).

**CALL TO ORDER**

Chairman Deck called the meeting to order at 7:00 P.M.

The meeting continued with the pledge to the American Flag.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

*None.*

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

*Vice Chairman Kramer made a motion to approve the minutes from the July 10, 2019 Board of Supervisors meeting. The motion was seconded by Supervisor Feick and passed unanimously (3-0).*

**ADMINISTRATIVE ACTIONS**

**Planning Commission**

***Leonard Martin Poultry Operation – This plan is located in both Bethel and Tulpehocken Townships. Only a small portion of the south eastern side of the property is in Tulpehocken and will be undisturbed according to the plan. The Plan proposes three poultry barns and is located on the east side of Bordner Road. The proposed basin discharge will travel to the Little Swatara Creek which is the boundary line between the Townships. There is a place for Tulpehocken Township Supervisors and Planning Commission to sign the plan. The way the notes read on the plan, it states that our Township has reviewed the plan. The Township Engineer stated that the Township does not want to be held liable. The Township Solicitor will notify Red Barn stating that if the Board of Supervisor’s waive a review, the Township recommends that block be removed and in lieu of execution of a signature block on the plan for Tulpehocken Township waiving land development that a letter from the Township stating its waiver be requested for recording with the Berks County Recorder of Deeds Office.***

***Robert Sattazahn made a motion to recommend to the Board of Supervisors to grant the requested waiver of Land Development. Seconded by John Zimmerman and approved unanimously.***

*Supervisor Feick made a motion to waive the Township's right to review the Leonard Martin Poultry Operation plan. The motion was seconded by Vice Chairman Kramer and passed unanimously (3-0).*

***Recreation Space - John Zimmerman mentioned that the Recreation Grant Study Committee discussed the mandatory dedication process to require the dedication of public land for recreation purposes. The Commission discussed the Rehrersburg Lions Club. There are only 6 active members. How can the Township help with the Lions Club? The Township could lease the property for a length of time from the Lions Club. This way the Lions Club could still use the Lions Club grounds and possibly have improvements made to the property. This may help the current members to reach out to others in the community in becoming active members of the Lions Club. Tulpehocken Township does not have anything as a Township to require a mandatory dedication. Mountain Meadows Phase II is technically under the current ordinance since time extensions have been granted for Phase II which would exempt this development if changes are made to the ordinance. In the current ordinance the developer is required to dedicate land based on acreage. Currently there is room for negotiations. If Phase II comes in with a completely different plan, the time extension doesn't continue; they would be starting over. No recreation space was given for Phase I. John Zimmerman stated that it may be very beneficial to have Ann Yost come and meet with the Supervisors and go over a plan. This could be part of the Study Committee expenses as we are looking at following through with a plan. The Township would want the option for land or money when requiring mandatory dedication. There would be a formula on how to come up with an amount. It could be the Township's discretion to do in lieu of either land or money. If the Township doesn't have a plan in place, it could be difficult in applying for grants. Fees would be collected from commercial, industrial and residential construction. For the residential lots, existing lot of record would not be charged. And for any new residential lots, they could be charged the fee. Some other options would be to raise the township tax, earned income or charge a head tax. The Township Solicitor will obtain the Ordinance from Ontelaunee Township and East Coventry Township (Chester County) to compare ideas as well.***

***Gary Deck made a motion to recommend to the Board of Supervisors to develop an ordinance that is similar to the ordinance that Bethel Township currently and discuss possibly a per capita tax situation to raise annual funds for the Recreation and Parks Fund. Seconded by Robert Sattazahn and approved unanimously.***

The Board reviewed an email from Attorney Mayfield dated August 14<sup>th</sup> with regards to funding recreation, the ordinance regarding Per Capita Tax and a portion being assigned for recreational use, a voter referendum with regards to a portion of the EIT being used for recreation and enacting an ordinance.

Chairman Deck reported on discussions at the August Planning Commission meeting with regards to having all residents contribute towards recreation verses just property owners; possible revenue generators could be an increase in property tax or using a portion of the Per Capita Tax

Vice Chairman Kramer noted that putting a question on the ballot would help to see what the public wants.

Mr. Klopp commented that he feels it's a little late to ask the public how they feel about recreation space after the Township has spent over \$10,000 for a study. He is also upset that a Recreation Impact Fee wasn't established back in 2010. He noted that the Recreation Board was created in 2009

and that they had conducted a study/report that would have helped with receiving funds dedicated for recreation. He advised that there should be information in minutes from 2010 – 2012 minutes.

The Board advised that the current study being conducted by Bethel, Marion and Tulpehocken Township will help in getting future grants for recreation.

*Chairman Deck made a motion to research getting a question on the voter referendum. The motion was seconded by Supervisor Feick and passed unanimously (3-0).*

### **Solicitor Legal Discussions**

***Review sample ordinance with regards to weeds, need to compare against existing Ordinance #2004-5 & 94-2 to ensure there is not a conflict***

The Board agreed to review the documentation and will be prepared to discuss at the September meeting.

***Small Gaming License Resolution – Attorney Mayfield advised that it has been determined that based on the population of the County, Berks County municipalities are not required to adopt the new resolution***

No action required.

***Motion to adopt Resolution 2019-8; changes to the Pennsylvania Historical Museum Commission records retention policy***

*Supervisor Feick made a motion to adopt **Resolution 2019-8**. The motion was seconded by Vice Chairman Kramer and passed unanimously (3-0).*

### **Escrow Release**

***Aaron Hoover Dairy Operation (15 Hoover Lane) – Partial Release – The Engineer is recommending a release of \$34,727. Mr. Hoover submitted a Letter of Credit in the amount of \$48,277. The Engineer recommends holding \$13,550. The Board could authorize a partial release of Mr. Hoover's LOC***

*Supervisor Feick made a motion to authorize a partial release of Mr. Hoover's LOC in the amount of \$34,727. The motion was seconded by Vice Chairman Kramer and passed unanimously (3-0).*

### **Correspondence from Zoning Officer**

#### ***July Update***

The Zoning Officer addressed the Zimmerman property (354A Godfrey Street) with regards to vehicles; citations have been sent. Waiting for hearing to be scheduled.

The Zoning Officer addressed the Weyandt/Mauser property (231 Godfrey Street) with regards to rubbish/debris; a NOV has been sent. Have spoken with the property owner; recommend sending a citation.

*Supervisor Feick made a motion to issue citations. The motion was seconded by Vice Chairman Kramer and passed unanimously (3-0)*

The Zoning Officer addressed the Oberholtzer property (598 Godfrey Street) with regards to rubbish/debris; a NOV has been sent. Haven't heard from property owner; recommend sending a citation.

*Supervisor Feick made a motion to issue citations. The motion was seconded by Vice Chairman Kramer and passed unanimously (3-0).*

**Land Development**

*None.*

**STAFF REPORTS**

**Police Report** – Chief Kerschner read the July, 2019 Police report as follows:

<b>ACTIVITY</b>	<b>TULPEHOCKEN TWP</b>	<b>MARION TWP</b>
MILES PATROLLED	2966	749
GALLONS OF FUEL	268	0
HOURS WORKED	450	60
PATROL HOURS	325.25	50.5
TULPEHOCKEN AREA SCHOOL DIST. HOURS	0	0
TOTAL INCIDENTS	3	3
TOTAL COMPLAINTS	8	13
MISCELLANEOUS CALLS FOR SERVICE	24	7
FOLLOW-UP INVEST	2	0
TELEPHONE ASSIGNMENTS	26	22
COMM/RESIDENTIAL ALARMS	0	2
EMS/FIRE ADVISORIES	27	14
TRAFFIC STOPS	29	6
CITATIONS ISSUED	28	6
NON-TRAFFIC CITATIONS	0	0
TRAFFIC WARNINGS	6	0
WARRANTS	1	0
PARKING TICKETS	0	0
TRAFFIC ACCIDENTS	5	3
DUI ARRESTS	0	0
MISDEMEANOR/FELONY	3	0
SECURITY CHECKS	60	48
POLICE ASSISTS	8	0
MOTORISTS ASSISTS	2	0
COURT APPEARANCES	2	0
SCHOOL (TRAINING) HOURS	0	0

Chief Kerschner reported that during the month of July there were 210 calls received through Berks County 911. He also reported on the number of calls received with regards to Teen Challenge; he feels that there should be a meeting with himself and the person in charge of the facility; he would also like to have a Supervisor present. Chairman Deck advised the he would like to be present at the meeting. The Board discussed the facility having their own security. Chairman Deck noted that he will also discuss the facility with the County Commissioners.

Chief Kerschner updated the Board with regards to Cody (the current computer system used for reports, criminal charges and tracking citations); cost keep increasing every year. He is proposing a new system called In-Synch. He presented a quote in the amount of \$3,990; noting that support and software maintenance fees would be locked in for five (5) years at a cost of \$1,190 per year.

*Supervisor Feick made a motion to authorize the purchase of In-Synch for a cost of approximately \$3,990. The motion was seconded by Vice Chairman Kramer and passed unanimously (3-0).*

**Road Master's Report** – Supervisor Feick read the July, 2019 report. The work consisted of telephone calls, meter reading, check pump stations, Host Road oil & stone, trim on Salem Road, work in yards at sewer plants, meet with Twp Engineer, check on Stone Road complaint, clean stone on Airport Road, highway/lawn mowing, Rehrrsburg sewer plant issues, check Four Point Road, sign maintenance, cut tree on Deck Road, sewer call out, clean dirt/stone off of roads, clean pump stations, work in shop, equipment repairs/maintenance, sewer repair work, patching, check out complaint on Wintersville & Deck Roads, vehicle count on Greble Road, repair work at sewer plant, sewer maintenance/repairs, work on Parkside Inn Road, attend Berks Public Works meeting, check roads, take spreader off of truck, Stone Road chipping, check on roads, Work on Witman Road, attend settlement for John Swope's farmhouse property due to Township easements, p/u parts and work on fuel pumps.

Supervisor Feick updated the Board with regards to gasoline being mixed with the diesel fuels; it was noted that the issue has been resolved. He also advised the Board that Jackson Township, Lebanon County has a 2009 International dump truck for sale for \$45,000; would be available in October. He would like to have the Supervisors inspect it. The other Supervisor agreed to look at the truck. Supervisor Feick reported that the Township has budgeted for the purchase.

The Supervisors discussed vacuuming leaves this year; it was agreed that they'd like to offer the service to residents, but would have to see if the weather cooperates.

Vice Chairman Kramer inquired on what can be done at intersections with regards to safety. Chief Kerschner suggested installing signs that say "cross traffic does not stop" on intersections that would qualify.

### ***Greble Road Bridge***

Supervisor Feick reported that Dean Drunkenmiller has been out to inspect the site and would like to have a representative from Penn State come out to view. Supervisor Feick has placed larger stones in the area to help with the erosion issue.

**Fire Chiefs' Report** – Supervisor Feick read the monthly reports for the Keystone Fire Company and the Rescue Fire Company.

## **SEWER OPERATIONS**

### ***Judgements and Delinquent Sewer Accounts***

The Supervisors discussed sewer operations with regards to judgments and delinquent accounts.

### ***Scott & Lorraine Jackson (18 East Market Street)***

*Supervisor Feick made a motion to pursue sheriff sale on personal property for Scott & Lorraine Jackson. The motion was seconded by Vice Chairman Kramer and passed unanimously (3-0).*

### ***Tracy & Marlisa Smith (12A Deck Road)***

*Supervisor Feick made a motion to pursue sheriff sale on personal property for Tracy & Marlisa Smith. The motion was seconded by Vice Chairman Kramer and passed unanimously (3-0).*

## **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

*None.*

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### ***Rick Klopp (Rehrersburg Lions Club) – discuss the possibility of the Township leasing the property***

Mr. Klopp reported that the club is struggling; has been losing members. He discussed the property owned by the club and the condition of the tennis/basketball courts and playground. He commented on the possibility of the Township leasing the grounds for twenty-five (25) years, noting that the additional land could be helpful to the Township when it comes to applying for grants. The Lions Club property is approximately three (3) acres. The club will continue to maintain the buildings and pavilion, they would like the Township to maintain the courts and playground. The Board discussed the Mt. Aetna Lions Club dissolving and giving their land to the Mt. Aetna Fire Company. Vice Chairman Kramer noted that when it comes to maintenance the Township only has Supervisor Feick and himself. The Supervisors agreed that additional part time help may be needed. Chairman Deck commented that the Township would need to add revenue if it was agreed to start maintaining the property; he also suggested entering into a longer lease. It was discussed as to what would happen if the Lions Club were to dissolve. Mr. Klopp advised that if the club were to dissolve the land would be donated to the Township. The Board discussed insuring the property if a lease was entered into. Mr. Klopp advised that the club would want the Township to maintain/update the current equipment (basketball/tennis courts and playground). He also advised on the mission of the Lions Club, he reported on the Lions Club's vision for the future of the park. The Board agreed that the Township would need to discuss the matter with the Township Solicitor for their input. Mr. Klopp noted that if the Township were to lease the Lions Club property it would increase the Township's recreation space to approximately four (4) acres. He suggested that the Township reach out to Mr. Martin (adjacent property owner) to see if he would consider selling land to the Township. The Board agreed to discuss the matter of leasing the property from the Lions Club with the Township Solicitor.

## **CORRESPONDENCE**

### ***Request from the Womelsdorf Fire Police for the annual Ride for Freedom scheduled for Sunday, August 25<sup>th</sup>***

*Supervisor Feick made a motion to authorize Fire Police coverage for the annual Ride for Freedom scheduled for Sunday, August 25<sup>th</sup>. The motion was seconded by Vice Chairman Kramer and passed unanimously (3-0).*

### ***Request from the Strausstown Lions Club for the annual antique auto show scheduled for Sunday, September 8<sup>th</sup>***

*Supervisor Feick made a motion to authorize Fire Police coverage for the annual antique auto show scheduled for Sunday, September 8<sup>th</sup>. The motion was seconded by Vice Chairman Kramer and passed unanimously (3-0).*

### ***Invitation from YSM to attend a forum with regards to recreation parks, facilities & services on Thursday, August 22<sup>nd</sup> from 7 – 8:30 PM at the Township Building***

The Board discussed the forum. Chairman Deck advised that he would attend. Vice Chairman Kramer and Supervisor Feick advised that they would let Mrs. Flaherty know if they would attend. Mr. Klopp advised that he would also attend.

## **OTHER BUSINESS**

### ***Reminder – 2020 Budget meeting is scheduled for Monday, September 23<sup>rd</sup> at 6 P.M.***

No action required.

## **FINANCIAL REPORT AND APPROVAL FOR PAYMENT OF BILLS**

Account Balances for the end of July, 2019 were as follows:

General Account	\$135,978.02
First Citizens General Holding Account	\$ 80,694.24
General Prime Account	\$258,345.13
State Aid Account	\$ 252.87
State Prime Account	\$126,863.48
Street Light Account	\$ 19,487.12
Recreation Planning Escrow Account	\$ 51,328.89

Payments of Bills for this August 14, 2019 meeting are:

General Account combined with the payroll account – Checks #19284 to #19320 in the amount of \$24,200.11  
Street Light Account – Check #389 in the amount of \$1,182.89  
State Liquid Fuels Account – Checks #212 to #214 in the amount of \$100,447.31  
Recreation Fund –  
Recreation Planning Escrow – Check #105 in the amount of \$9,535.75

Camp Calvary Land Dev. Escrow – Check # 157 in the amount of \$207.78  
Camp Calvary Inspection Escrow –  
Village Estates Improvements Inspection Escrow –  
Stormwater Inspection Escrow –  
Total Expenses for this meeting – \$135,573.84

*Vice Chairman Kramer made a motion to approve the payments of the bills for this August 14, 2019 meeting. The motion was seconded by Supervisor Feick and passed unanimously (3-0).*

Sewer Accounts balances for the end of July, 2019 were as follows:

Sewer Operation Account – \$444.81  
Balance in the Sewer Holding Account - \$138,167.01  
Debt Service Account - \$421,157.47

Payments of Bills in the Sewer Operation Account for this August 14, 2019 meeting are:  
Check #2358 to #2375 in the amount of \$18,149.99

*Vice Chairman Kramer made a motion to approve payment of the sewer bills. The motion was seconded by Supervisor Feick and passed unanimously (3-0).*

#### **ADJOURNMENT OF MEETING**

*Vice Chairman Kramer made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:16 P.M. The motion was seconded by Supervisor Feick and passed unanimously (3-0).*

Respectfully Submitted,

*Christy Flaherty*

Secretary, Tulpehocken Township