

**Tulpehocken Township
Board of Supervisors
Meeting of February 10, 2016**

The Tulpehocken Township Board of Supervisors met on February 10, 2016 in the Township meeting room at 7 P.M. In attendance and voting were Supervisors: Chairman Gary Deck, Vice Chairman Richard Kramer and Supervisor Lester Feick. Also present were Kris Kerschner, Police Chief and Christy Flaherty, Township Secretary/Treasurer.

Members of the audience included: Dolores Hill, Gary Witmer, Steve Goroshko, Lori Deck, Sharon Kramer, Robbi Lane, Harry Reinhold, Harold Zimmerman, Lloyd Schneck and Nelson Beidler.

CALL TO ORDER

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

The meeting continued with the pledge to the American Flag.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Mr. Witmer inquired if the Township has an ordinance in Rehrersburg with regards to the sidewalks and snow removal. Supervisor Feick advised that with regards to snow removal on the sidewalks the Township follows the state wide property maintenance code. Mr. Witmer stated his concerns with regards to the sidewalks not being cleared and the danger to the children walking to the bus stops. Chairman Deck suggested that when the Township puts out another newsletter; having something written with regards to the removal of snow on the sidewalks. It was also agreed to have discussions with the Zoning Officer regarding snow removal on the sidewalks.

Mr. Witmer also reported that there have been several vehicles not stopping for the school bus in Rehrersburg when it is stopped with its red lights on; especially in the afternoon around 4 P.M. Chief Kerschner thanked Mr. Witmer for the update and reported that he would look into the matter.

Mr. Schneck and Mr. Witmer commented with regards to the great job the Township Road Crew did with regards to clearing the Township roadways during the recent storms.

Mr. Schneck commented with regards to the sewer waivers and noted that some of the properties have been on the list for several years; he inquired on what incentive the property owner has to get off of the waiver list. Chairman Deck noted that when a property is on the waiver list, no cost is being generated by the residence. Mr. Schneck suggested that the Township have a time limit for being on the waiver list. Chairman Deck thanked Mr. Schneck for his opinion and noted that the Board would take his suggestion into consideration. Mr. Schneck noted that as long as the Board is granting waivers he would be against raising the sewer rate.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Supervisor Feick made a motion to approve the minutes from the January 4, 2016 Reorganization meeting. The motion was seconded by Vice Chairman Kramer and passed unanimously (3-0).

Vice Chairman Kramer made a motion to approve the minutes from the January 4, 2016 Board of Supervisors meeting. The motion was seconded by Supervisor Feick and passed unanimously (3-0).

Supervisor Feick made a motion to approve the minutes from the January 5, 2016 Auditors' meeting. The motion was seconded by Vice Chairman Kramer and passed unanimously (3-0).

ADMINISTRATIVE ACTIONS

Planning Commission

Meadow Springs Meeting House: Time expires March 9, 2016. The Planning Commission reviewed the Township Engineer's review letter dated January 6, 2016 and the floor plan of the Meeting House that was provided by the applicant. The Meeting House will hold approximately 296 people. The amount of parking spaces is acceptable. The Planning Commission would like to see a privacy fence around the retention pond to keep children safe as the pond will hold a minimum of 18 inches of water. They should also decide on what they are using for a buffer, shrubs or a small fence. This is to prevent the headlights of the vehicles coming and going from shining in the neighbor's house.

The applicant's Engineer stated that they presented the plan to Marion Township in November for their Board of Supervisors and Planning Commission to weigh in on the review because of the small section of this plan being in Marion Township.

Scott Hetrick made a motion to recommend to the Board of Supervisors to grant conditional plan approval with the conditions listed below, John Zimmerman seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried:

- *Ludgate review letter dated January 6, 2016*
- *Financial and improvements agreement*
- *Marion Township's review of the plan*
- *Planning Module approval*

Supervisor Feick made a motion to grant Conditional Plan approval with the conditions listed below:

- *Ludgate review letter dated January 6, 2016*
- *Financial and improvements agreement*
- *Marion Township's review of the plan*
- *Planning Module approval*

The motion was seconded by Vice Chairman Kramer and passed unanimously (3-0).

John Zimmerman made a motion for the Planning Commission chairman to sign Component 4A for this plan. Scott Hetrick seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried.

Resolution 2016-3 – Resolution for Plan Revision for New Land Development for Meadow Springs Mennonite Meeting House – Motion needed to authorize Secretary’s signature

Supervisor Feick made a motion to authorize the Township Secretary to sign Resolution 2016-3. The motion was seconded by Vice Chairman Kramer and passed unanimously (3-0).

John Schueller Poultry Plan: The Township Engineer stated that he met with Red Barn Consultants and Kevin Witmier from the Conservation District regarding the John Schueller Poultry Plan. Kevin did except the request for decreasing the Stormwater Basin size that was initially drawn on the plan. This is a step in the right direction in preserving prime farmland. John Zimmerman made a motion to recommend to the Board of Supervisors to have a letter be sent to Kevin Witmier, from the Conservation District, thanking him for considering the Township’s request in decreasing the Stormwater Basin size for the John Schueller Poultry Plan. Gary Deck seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried. This letter should only be sent after the Township receives the plan and the Township Engineer performs a formal review.

The Board discussed the recommendation to have correspondence sent to Mr. Witmier and agreed that once the plan is received and the Township Engineer completes the formal review a letter would be sent.

Mountain Meadows Phase 2: Time expires March 8, 2016. Pioneer Management, LLC, the applicant’s engineer, presented a time extension letter to the Township for a 183 day time extension. In the letter it stated that the developer has indicated contemplating the continuation of Phase 2 Preliminary Plan. This is due to continuing slow home sales. John Zimmerman made a motion to recommend to the Board of Supervisors to grant the time extension request for Mountain Meadows as a 183 day time extension to September 7, 2016. Scott Hetrick seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried.

Vice Chairman Kramer made a motion to grant the time extension request for Mountain Meadows as a 183 day time extension to September 7, 2016. The motion was seconded by Supervisor Feick and passed unanimously (3-0).

Glen Hoover Dairy Operation: Red Barn Consulting Inc. submitted the following waiver requests:

- ***Section 302. Since this land development plan is minor in scope, and no facilities are being offered for public dedication, a waiver request is submitted to combine this plan as a preliminary/final plan. Scott Hetrick made a motion to recommend to the Board of Supervisors to grant the waiver request for Section 302. John Zimmerman seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried.***

- **Section 303.1.B.** This section requires the plan to provide precise bearings and distance for the entire tract and all boundaries. Hershey Surveying Inc. will be establishing two (2) monuments per the Township. Laverne Frey made a motion to recommend to the Board of Supervisors to grant the waiver request for Section 303.1.B. Scott Hetrick seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried.
- **Section 303.1.L.** This section pertains to the requirement of providing a Certificate of Accuracy to be signed and sealed by a surveyor. This plan will have the monuments set by an established registered surveyor. Hershey Surveying Inc. will review and certify the Deed Plot prior to final plan approval. Scott Hetrick made a motion to recommend to the Board of Supervisors to grant the waiver request for Section 303.1.L. John Zimmerman seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried.
- **Section 307.B.1.a** Minimum 48 inch limiting zone. They will be following the PA BMP Manual requirements. John Zimmerman made a motion to recommend to the Board of Supervisors to grant the waiver request for Section 307.B.1.a. Laverne Frey seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried.

Supervisor Feick made a motion to grant the waiver request of Section 302 and accept the plan as Preliminary/Final. The motion was seconded by Vice Chairman Kramer and passed unanimously (3-0).

Supervisor Feick made a motion to grant the waiver request of Section 303.1.B. The motion was seconded by Vice Chairman Kramer and passed unanimously (3-0).

Vice Chairman Kramer made a motion to grant the waiver request of Section 303.1.L. The motion was seconded by Supervisor Feick and passed unanimously (3-0).

Supervisor Feick made a motion to grant the waiver request of Section 307.B.1a. The motion was seconded by Vice Chairman Kramer and passed unanimously (3-0).

Lanita Specialized Final Plan: Laverne Frey made a motion to recommend to the Board of Supervisors to grant Conditional Final Plan approval with the conditions listed below. Scott Hetrick seconded the motion. All in favor motion carried.

- **Ludgate review letter dated February 1, 2016**
- **Financial security and agreements**
- **Blanket easement on plan to state that Tulpehocken Township has the right to enter but not the duty. This note will hold the Township harmless with regards to directing drainage onto the adjoining lot**
- **Obtain Penn Dot permits**
- **Obtain E&S approval from the Berks County Conservation District**

Supervisor Feick made a motion to grant Conditional Final Plan approval with the conditions listed below.

- **Ludgate review letter dated February 1, 2016**
- **Financial security and agreements**

- *Blanket easement on plan to state that Tulpehocken Township has the right to enter but not the duty. This note will hold the Township harmless with regards to directing drainage onto the adjoining lot*
- *Obtain Penn Dot permits*
- *Obtain E&S approval from the Berks County Conservation District*

The motion was seconded by Vice Chairman Kramer and passed unanimously (3-0).

The Township Solicitor, Attorney Hartman presented an Agricultural Land Development Voluntary Site Analysis Sketch Plan Checklist for the Planning Commission to review and discuss. The Planning Commission members would like to include the following two (2) items on the checklist.

- ***The applicant to list the Animal Equivalent Units (AEU) calculation. This is to determine if the proposed project would be Intensive Agriculture.***
- ***Aerial photograph of the proposed project. Google Earth Pro was mentioned as a good source to utilize.***

Supervisor Feick made a motion to accept the Agricultural Land Development Voluntary Site Analysis Sketch Plan Checklist as recommended by the Planning Commission. The motion was seconded by Vice Chairman Kramer and passed unanimously (3-0).

Scott Hetrick made a motion to recommend to the Board of Supervisors to send out the revised Agricultural Land Development Voluntary Site Analysis Sketch Plan Checklist to Team Ag, Red Barn, Diem & Sons and Matthew & Hockley who may have future agricultural plans in the Township. John Zimmerman seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried.

Vice Chairman Kramer made a motion to send out the revised Agricultural Land Development Voluntary Site Analysis Sketch Plan Checklist to Team Ag, Red Barn, Diem & Sons and Matthew & Hockley. The motion was seconded by Supervisor Feick and passed unanimously (3-0).

Solicitor Legal Discussions

None.

Escrow Release

Balthaser (7 Gravel Pit Road) – Release in Full – Ludgate Engineering is recommending to release the escrow in full

Vice Chairman Kramer made a motion to authorize the full release of escrow in the amount of \$2,922.45 plus any interest. The motion was seconded by Supervisor Feick and passed unanimously (3-0).

Correspondence from Zoning Officer

The Zoning Officer addressed the Goroshko property (105 Teen Challenge Road). The trailers/pods have been removed and the Solicitor has been notified. Mr. Goroshko inquired if the matter is finished. The Board agreed that if the trailers/pods have been removed there is no action for the Township to take.

Citizen's Complaint regarding 204 Deck Road – Property not being kept (weeds and other miss use) – The Zoning Officer addressed the complaint and reported that at this time she is unable to determine if there is a problem. She will follow up once the weather warms. The Board discussed the complaint and noted that the wooded area may just be typical for the Township.

LAND DEVELOPMENT

None.

STAFF REPORTS

Police Report – Chief Kerschner read the January, 2016 Police report as follows:

ACTIVITY	TULPEHOCKEN TWP	MARION TWP
MILES PATROLLED	2941	963
GALLONS OF FUEL	288.5	0
HOURS WORKED	479	60
PATROL HOURS	309.58	65
TULPEHOCKEN AREA SCHOOL DIST. HOURS	23.75	0
TOTAL INCIDENTS	4	2
TOTAL COMPLAINTS	22	8
MISCELLANEOUS CALLS FOR SERVICE	44	2
FOLLOW-UP INVEST	4	1
TELEPHONE ASSIGNMENTS	25	11
COMM/RESIDENTIAL ALARMS	1	3
EMS/FIRE ADVISORIES	12	4
TRAFFIC STOPS	20	2
CITATIONS ISSUED	22	8
NON-TRAFFIC CITATIONS	0	0
TRAFFIC WARNINGS	1	0
WARRANTS	0	0
PARKING TICKETS	1	0
TRAFFIC ACCIDENTS	7	5
DUI ARRESTS	0	0
MISDEMEANOR/FELONY	0	1
SECURITY CHECKS	58	30
POLICE ASSISTS	14	0

MOTORISTS ASSISTS	2	5
COURT APPEARANCES	1	2
SCHOOL HOURS	0	0

Chief Kerschner reported that during the month of January there were 153 calls received through Berks County 911 for police services. He also advised that the Township still needs to purchase two (2) tires for the caprice.

Supervisor Feick made a motion to authorize the purchase of two (2) tires for the Caprice from Custom Exhaust. The motion was seconded by Vice Chairman Kramer and passed unanimously (3-0).

Road Master’s Report – Supervisor Feick read the January, 2016 report. The work consisted of sewer maintenance, meter reading, equipment maintenance, work at the Township building, discussion with the Township Engineer re: church job and Stouchsburg Road, go for supplies, telephone calls, pick up parts for sewer plant, check for icy roads, cut up trees/remove branches, sign maintenance, building maintenance, snow events, empty dump trucks, order salt, checking roadways, meeting with bridge inspector re: Midway Road, remove stump on Teen Challenge Road, clean up salt shed, stock pile salt, meet with people re: property on Chestnut Street, attend meeting in Harrisburg DEP building re: sewer, and snow plowing.

Chairman Deck inquired on the meeting with the DEP. Supervisor Feick updated the Board with regards to discussions at the meeting. The sizes of the pumps were discussed; it was noted that the pumps are border line with regards to their perimeters. Supervisor Feick reported that one (1) meter has been purchased for a cost of approximately \$8,900. The meters should meter by the hour not day. The Board discussed how to fix the issues, so that the Township meets DEP standards. The DEP representative would like an action plan. The Board discussed usage and peak times. The meter at the Teen Challenge plant will need to be reprogramed.

Supervisor Feick advised on the delivery of anti-skid and on the loads of salt still needed to purchase.

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

SEWER OPERATIONS

Judgments and Delinquent Sewer Accounts

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

Request from Select Environmental Solutions to purchase two (2) snow blowers for both of the sewer plants

The Board discussed the request and agreed to table the matter until preparing the 2017 Budget.

Sewer Waiver Requests

Altalaha Evangelical Lutheran Church (Rehrersburg, PA) – Requesting a waiver of sewer user fees for the rental home

The Board discussed the request and agreed to grant it.

Vice Chairman Kramer made a motion to grant the waiver of sewer user fees for the rental home of the Altalaha Evangelical Lutheran Church. The motion was seconded by Supervisor Feick and passed unanimously (3-0).

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

The Board discussed the work that needs to be completed on Stouchsburg Road. Supervisor Feick reported that he is still working on getting funding for the project and on his conversation with a representative from the Department of Soil Conservation.

NEW BUSINESS

Midway Road Bridge – review bridge report – Township needs to pull a general permit for work in stream

Supervisor Feick updated the Board with regards to the Midway Road Bridge; he noted that a motion is needed to authorize the Township Engineer to prepare a GP 11 Permit.

Vice Chairman Kramer made a motion to authorize the Township Engineer to prepare the GP11 Permit. The motion was seconded by Supervisor Feick and passed unanimously (3-0).

It was noted that the job would need to be advertised at a later date (once the Township Engineer has the information prepared). Chairman Deck discussed starting a bridge fund at some time.

CORRESPONDENCE

None.

OTHER BUSINESS

Avian Influenza article submitted to the Merchandiser for publication at their discretion – No charge to the Township

The Board was provided a copy of the Avian Influenza article that was submitted to the Merchandiser for publication. It was noted that there would be no charge to the Township.

Berks Municipal Officials Annual Dinner (Thursday, March 31st) – Nominations for the Trostle Award are due by February 24, 2016 – Cost of dinner in 2015 was \$15 and will be the same for 2016

The Board discussed the Trostle Award and agreed that they had no nominations at this time.

Alternative Energy Providers – Have been approached by representatives from Energy Professionals and Mid-Atlantic Energy Services to see if the Township would like to bid out the electric accounts – The matter was discussed last year and the Board choose not to use an alternative supplier – Would the Board like to schedule a meeting with the representative from either company?

The Board discussed alternative energy providers and agreed that they had no interest and will continue to use Met-Ed. Supervisor Feick reported that he will be meeting with a representative from Met-Ed with regards to products that save energy.

Classes offered by Albright College – Would the Supervisors like to attend or have members from the other Boards attend?

The Board discussed the classes being offered by Albright College and agreed that they had no interest in attending at this time.

Road Employee – Motion to appoint Road Employee’s on an as needed basis for 2016 (Randall Haag, Burt S. Wessner, Patrick Flaherty, Terry Hamm and Kurt Merkey) – Current rate is \$14.45

The Board discussed training the new drivers and their past driving experience; it was noted that Mr. Haag and Mr. Flaherty have their CDL.

Supervisor Feick made a motion to appoint Randall Haag, Burt Wessner, Patrick Flaherty, Terry Hamm and Kurt Merkey as road employees’ on an as needed basis; their hourly rate for 2016 would be \$14.45. The motion was seconded by Vice Chairman Kramer and passed unanimously (3-0).

Request from Carrie Kingsbury – Mural

The Board discussed the request received from Carrie Kingsbury with regards to painting a mural in the Township and possible locations. Chief Kerschner suggested the wall at the Sunoco in Mt. Aetna or the gas station at 4 points; he requested Ms. Kingsbury’s contact information and advised that he would share it with the property owners. It was agreed that Mrs. Flaherty would provide Chief Kerschner with the Ms. Kingsbury’s contact information.

PMRS – Seminar March 4, 2016 – Would any members of the Board like to attend?

The Board discussed the PMRS seminar on March 4, 2016 and agreed they had no interest in attending at this time.

Security System

The Board discussed the new security system; the employees reported that they really like the system and that it has cut back on people dumping their recyclables outside of the bins or using the Township trash dumpster.

Recycling

Supervisor Feick reported that in 2015 the Township collected 75 tons of recyclables.

FINANCIAL REPORT AND APPROVAL FOR PAYMENT OF BILLS

Account Balances for the end of January, 2016 were as follows:

General Account	\$ 1,770.69
First Citizens General Holding Account	\$ 55,417.56
General Plus Account	\$178,787.16
State Aid Account	\$ 68.29
State Plus Account	\$ 37,841.11
Street Light Account	\$ 10,805.12

Payments of Bills for this February 10, 2016 meeting are:

- General Account combined with the payroll account- Checks #16487 to #16523 in the amount of \$34,992.59
- Street Light Account – Check 347 in the amount of \$2,431.66
- State Liquid Fuels Account –
- Camp Calvary Land Dev. Escrow –
- Camp Calvary Inspection Escrow –
- Village Estates Improvements Inspection Escrow –
- Stormwater Inspection Escrow –
- Total Expenses for this meeting – \$37,424.25

Vice Chairman Kramer made a motion to approve the payments of the bills for this February 10, 2016 meeting. The motion was seconded by Supervisor Feick and passed unanimously (3-0).

Sewer Accounts balances for the end of January, 2016 were as follows:

- Sewer Operation Account – \$2,306.08
- Balance in the Sewer Holding Account - \$102,635.97
- Debt Service Account - \$403,307.54

Payments of Bills in the Sewer Operation Account for this February 10, 2016 meeting are:

- Check #1697 to #1711 in the amount of \$13,170.53

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 8:22 P.M. The motion was seconded by Supervisor Feick and passed unanimously (3-0).

REOPENED MEETING

Chairman Deck reported on the telephone call he received from a Bethel Township Supervisor with regards to having a regional Police force between the two (2) Townships. The Board discussed the cost savings to the Township. Chief Kerschner advised with regards to the grant money available and the uses of the funds regarding a regional Police force. The Board discussed using the existing study and agreed that they would be interested in having further discussions. They also discussed merging the two (2) Police Departments. Chief Kerschner advised on the differences between regionalizing and merging the departments.

ADJOURNMENT OF MEETING

Vice Chairman Kramer made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:30 P.M. The motion was seconded by Supervisor Feick and passed unanimously (3-0).

Respectfully Submitted,

Christy Flaherty

Secretary, Tulpehocken Township