

**Tulpehocken Township
Board of Supervisors
Meeting of September 9, 2020**

The Tulpehocken Township Board of Supervisors met on September 9, 2020 in the Township meeting room at 7:02 P.M. In attendance and voting were Supervisors: Chairman Deck, Vice Chairman Richard Kramer and Lester Feick, Supervisor. Also present were Chad Hepler, Police Officer, and Christy Flaherty, Township Secretary/Treasurer.

Members of the audience included: Harold Zimmerman and Dennis Royer.

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

Mr. Zimmerman stated that the pine tree that was a concern near the intersection of Rt. 419 and Four Point Road has been removed.

Mr. Royer suggested that the Township may want to consider spraying the weeds along the drainage ditch that was installed on West Four Point Road.

Mr. Royer advised the Board that Waste Industries has not picked up the trash for the past three (3) weeks; he stated that he's made several telephone calls, he noted that he has paid for the service that is not being provided. He requested the Township's Police Department to contact Waste Industries, to advise that the matter is being investigated; he commented with regards to the possibility of there being a theft of services. He also stated that he will be contacting the County Health Department to advise on the situation.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Supervisor Feick made a motion to approve the minutes from the August 24, 2020 Board of Supervisors meeting. The motion was seconded by Vice Chairman Kramer and passed unanimously (3-0).

ADMINISTRATIVE ACTIONS

Planning Commission

Mountain Meadows Phase II: Time expires September 11, 2020. The Township Engineer spoke to the Developer, Louie Hurst about a number of items for Mountain Meadows. Because the roads are not dedicated to the Township, an easement is needed for the Township to maintain the street lights. We would have the developer's Engineer to create an exhibit plan based upon the right-of-way, easements and light locations until the roads are dedicated. The easement would eventually be converted to dedication. Mr. Hurst has contacted Met-Ed to change the LED light bulbs out

and to charge the poles which needs to be done before the Township takes over the street lights. John Zimmerman stated that a couple of property owners are questioning if the street lights are ever going to be turned on. The Township Solicitor would prefer that a legal plan be presented with exhibit plan. The depression in the road on Thistle Court could be from a pipe sinking. The Township Engineer stated that Lester Feick, Township sewer maintenance personnel, will video the line and verify that the pipe settled. Then they will patch that hole in October along with other patching on the street. Mr. Hurst stated that he is hoping that Phase II plans will be presented to the Township the end of October because his Engineer is extremely busy. The Township Solicitor stated if everything is ready, the Township could accept dedication of the lights before the end of 2020. The Township could front the cost of the electric from the first month or two and then it could be built into the charge for 2021 so that it covers approximately 13-14 months of electric charges. And then in 2022, drop back down on what would be needed for 12 months. The Township Engineer stated that the Planning Commission could recommend to the Board of Supervisors to add conditions to the time extension. A condition could be that this is the last extension if plans are not presented. The Township Solicitor stated that given the history of the Township routinely extending and accepting the extensions, he wouldn't recommend that the Township would suddenly say no more extensions. It would be more appropriate to say that we accept this extension however no more extensions if we do not receive a plan. That gives the developer a fair warning and enough time to react and to make a new submission. The Township Engineer stated that he reviewed the Pump Station plans and he will be discussing the plans with Lester Feick to add a couple of things such as generators and size of the pumps. Pioneer Management LLC, the applicant's engineer, presented a time extension letter to the Township for a 182 day time extension which would give a new date of March 12, 2021.

John Zimmerman made a motion to recommend to the Board of Supervisors to grant a 3 month time extension request for Mountain Meadows to December 9, 2020 with the condition that plans would need to be presented at the December 3, 2020 Planning Commission meeting. The plans do not need to be reviewed by the Township Engineer prior, they could be brought to the meeting and discussed at that time. Seconded by Laverne Frey and approved unanimously. The Township will need to send a letter to the developer to notify him of the Township's decision if the Board of Supervisors grants the time extension with the conditions listed above.

The Board discussed the Planning Commission's recommendation with regards to granting a three (3) month time extension, the economy over the past fifteen (15) years and the COVID pandemic; the Board agreed to accept the 182-day (six (6) month) time extension.

Supervisor Feick made a motion to accept the 182-day time extension which would be until March 12, 2021. The motion was seconded by Vice Chairman Kramer and passed unanimously (3-0).

Solicitor Legal Discussions

None.

Escrow Release

None.

Correspondence from Zoning Officer

August Update – No update provided

None.

Land Development

None.

STAFF REPORTS

Police Report – Officer Hepler read the August, 2020 Police report as follows:

ACTIVITY	TULPEHOCKEN TWP	MARION TWP
MILES PATROLLED	2813	712
GALLONS OF FUEL	258	0
HOURS WORKED	384	60
PATROL HOURS	337	43.5
TULPEHOCKEN AREA SCHOOL DIST. HOURS	0	0
TOTAL INCIDENTS	7	2
TOTAL COMPLAINTS	9	7
MISCELLANEOUS CALLS FOR SERVICE	38	4
FOLLOW-UP INVEST	4	1
TELEPHONE ASSIGNMENTS	19	2
COMM/RESIDENTIAL ALARMS	1	2
EMS/FIRE ADVISORIES	24	17
TRAFFIC STOPS	15	5
CITATIONS ISSUED	18	8
NON-TRAFFIC CITATIONS	0	0
TRAFFIC WARNINGS	2	0
WARRANTS	0	0
PARKING TICKETS	0	0
TRAFFIC ACCIDENTS	3	1
DUI ARRESTS	0	0
MISDEMEANOR/FELONY	1	0
SECURITY CHECKS	44	55
POLICE ASSISTS	5	0
MOTORISTS ASSISTS	3	1
COURT APPEARANCES	2	0
SCHOOL HOURS	0	0

Officer Hepler reported that during the month of August there were 130 calls received through Berks County 911.

Officer Hepler reported that school patrolling has begun this week.

Chairman Deck inquired with regards to the body camera purchase. Mrs. Flaherty advised that Officer Dronick is handling the body cameras; noting that she has provided a tax-exempt form.

Road Master's Report – Supervisor Feick read the August, 2020 report. The work consisted of meter reading, grease blower, monthly inspections on sewer equipment, highway mowing, equipment repairs/maintenance, inspect roadway conditions, work in shop, work at sewer plant, sewer maintenance/repairs, lawn mowing, chip sealing, sewer call out, telephone calls, paperwork, sign repairs/maintenance, fire extinguisher service, building maintenance, pick up parts/supplies, patching, go for cold patch, working on Township owned lot in Rehrersburg, lay stone on Wintersville Road and sweeping chipped roadways.

Chairman Deck stated that the chipping seems to be gone on the southern end of Wintersville Road. Supervisor Feick will investigate.

Spur Road Project Update – Requested an extension; needs to be approved by Berks County Conservation District – The project was awarded to H & K Group, Inc. in 2019 for a cost of \$39,470.00; H & K is requesting the Board to approve a cost increase due to the project being delayed

Supervisor Feick advised the Board that we are requesting Berks County Conservation District to grant an extension; he also reported that he has not received any update from Marion Township regarding the Spur Road Project.

Mrs. Flaherty updated the Board with regards to H & K Group, Inc. requesting the Board to approve a cost increase. The Board discussed the request. Chairman Deck tabled the request from H & K Group, Inc. to approve a cost increase until hearing back from the Conservation District.

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.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Discuss quotes for outsourcing payroll

Mrs. Flaherty advised that she would have an update at the September 21, 2020 meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

Zoning Hearing Board Application – Matthew Norce (7653 Lancaster Avenue) – hearing is scheduled for September 15, 2020

The Supervisors reviewed the application and choose to take no action at this time.

CORRESPONDENCE

2020 Berks County Convention will be held on Saturday, October 10th from 9:30 A.M. to 11 A.M. at the Oley Fair Centre, 26 Jefferson Street, Oley, PA – Does the Board wish to attend?

The Board discussed the 2020 Convention and advised that they need to check their calendars and would let Mrs. Flaherty know if they would be attending.

Berks County Conservation District – request for donation. Contributed \$200 in 2010 & 2011 and \$500 in 2018 & 2019

Supervisor Feick made a motion to donate \$500 to the Berks County Conservation District. The motion was seconded by Vice Chairman Kramer and passed unanimously (3-0).

PSATS – Health Insurance Cooperative Trust – Ballot for Election of Trustees

The Board discussed the ballot and authorized Vice Chairman Kramer to sign the ballot.

Chairman Deck made a motion authorizing Vice Chairman Kramer to sign the ballot. The motion was seconded by Supervisor Feick and passed unanimously (3-0).

OTHER BUSINESS

Reminder – 2021 Preliminary Budget meeting is scheduled for Monday, September 21st at 6 P.M.

Need a motion to authorize the readdressing of the following properties:

- ***PIN #86441100713959 as 61 Cherry Hill Road (formally 7 Cherry Hill Road)***
- ***PIN #86441100616409 as 85 Cherry Hill Road (formally 9 Cherry Hill Road)***
- ***PIN #86441000598848 as 160 Cherry Hill Road (formally 36 Cherry Hill Road)***
- ***PIN #86441000599643 as 161 Cherry Hill Road (formally 33 Cherry Hill Road)***
- ***PIN #86441000596759 as 168 Cherry Hill Road (formally 34 Cherry Hill Road)***
- ***PIN #86441000594623 as 182 Cherry Hill Road (formally 32 Cherry Hill Road)***
- ***PIN #86441000591550 as 188 Cherry Hill Road (formally 30 Cherry Hill Road)***
- ***PIN #86441000498261 as 210 Cherry Hill Road (formally 40 Cherry Hill Road)***
- ***PIN #86441000486819 as 222 Cherry Hill Road (formally 44 Cherry Hill Road)***
- ***PIN #86441000550770 as 344 Cherry Hill Road (currently unaddressed)***
- ***PIN #86441000555641 as 355 Cherry Hill Road (formally 67 Cherry Hill Road)***
- ***PIN #86441000559771 as 359 Cherry Hill Road (formally 69 Cherry Hill Road)***
- ***PIN #86441000652414 as 363 Cherry Hill Road (formally 71 Cherry Hill Road)***
- ***PIN #86441000556327 as 367 Cherry Hill Road (formally 71A Cherry Hill Road)***
- ***PIN #86441000559325 as 369 Cherry Hill Road (formally 73 Cherry Hill Road)***
- ***PIN #86441000556168 as 371 Cherry Hill Road (formally 75 Cherry Hill Road)***
- ***PIN #86441000463015 as 374 Cherry Hill Road (formally 78 Cherry Hill Road)***
- ***PIN #86441000641312 as 395 Cherry Hill Road (formally 95 Cherry Hill Road)***
- ***PIN #86441000628995 as 457 Cherry Hill Road for the poultry houses and 483 for the residence (formally 133/134 Cherry Hill Road)***

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

Trick or Treat Night for 2020 – Halloween falls on a Saturday this year, in past years trick or treating was from 6 – 8 P.M.; Bethel will discuss at their meeting on September 21st

The Board agreed to hold Trick or Treat Night on Saturday, October 31st from 6 – 8 P.M.

2021 Minimum Municipal Obligation for Police Pension Plan – MMO for 2021 was prepared on 2020 wage figures, the Township obligation will be \$14,420.00. Need a motion to accept the MMO in the amount of \$14,420.00 and authorize the MMO to be sent to PMRS

The Secretary had prepared the MMO for 2021 based on 2020 wage figures with the Township obligation to be \$14,420.00 for 2021. Funding received through State Aid should cover most or the entire amount due. The MMO must be presented to the Supervisors by the end of September and then turned over to the PMRS.

Vice Chairman Kramer made a motion to accept the MMO in the amount of \$14,420.00 for 2021 and authorized the MMO to be sent to PMRS. The motion was seconded by Supervisor Feick and passed unanimously (3-0).

Complaint regarding Noisy Vehicles

The Board reviewed the complaint received from Bruce Hardy (49 West Four Point Road) with regards to noisy vehicles in the Township; noting that there is not much the Township can do. They authorized Mrs. Flaherty to send correspondence advising that the Township did contact PennDOT

previously with regards to regulating jake brakes and was advised that the Township did not meet the requirements.

Joint Bethel, Marion and Tulpehocken Townships Recreation Grant Study Committee

The Board discussed the Committee with regards to the final payments to YSM; it was agreed that since the Committee will not be having anymore meetings the final payments should be authorized by the three (3) participating municipalities.

FINANCIAL REPORT AND APPROVAL FOR PAYMENT OF BILLS

Account Balances for the end of August, 2020 were as follows:

General Account	\$ 62,033.35
First Citizens General Holding Account	\$ 65,610.36
General Plus Account	\$310,566.24
State Aid Account	\$ 211.40
State Plus Account	\$192,188.93
Street Light Account	\$ 21,116.46
Recreation Planning Escrow Account	\$ 12,342.05

Payments of Bills for this September 9, 2020 meeting are:

- General Account combined with the payroll account – Checks #20090 to #20113 in the amount of \$11,419.44
- Street Light Account – Check #452 in the amount of \$1,190.67
- State Liquid Fuels Account – Check #219 in the amount of \$151,127.19
- Recreation Fund –
- Recreation Planning Escrow –
- Camp Calvary Land Dev. Escrow –
- Camp Calvary Inspection Escrow –
- Village Estates Improvements Inspection Escrow –
- Stormwater Inspection Escrow –
- Total Expenses for this meeting – \$163,737.30

Vice Chairman Kramer made a motion to approve the payments of the bills for this September 9, 2020 meeting. The motion was seconded by Supervisor Feick and passed unanimously (3-0).

Sewer Accounts balances for the end of August, 2020 were as follows:

- Sewer Operation Account – \$4,665.59
- Balance in the Sewer Holding Account - \$203,477.36
- Debt Service Account - \$427,495.51

Payments of Bills in the Sewer Operation Account for this September 9, 2020 meeting are:
Check #2536 to #2552 in the amount of \$23,070.91

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).

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Chairman Deck advised that the Board had an Executive Session to discuss the Spur Road Dirt & Gravel Road Project; noting that Supervisor Feick will be meeting with Marion Township's BOS Chairman/Roadmaster. It was also stated that three (3) easements are needed for completing the project; one (1) in Tulpehocken Township and two (2) in Marion Township.

ADJOURNMENT OF MEETING

Vice Chairman Kramer made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:26 P.M. The motion was seconded by Supervisor Feick and passed unanimously (3-0).

Respectfully Submitted,

Christy Flaherty

Secretary, Tulpehocken Township