

April 30, 2012 Joint Board of Supervisors Meeting With Tulpehocken Township and Bethel Township.

The Tulpehocken Township Board of Supervisors joint meeting with Bethel Township was called to order by Chairman John Kintzer at 7:00 p.m. in the Tulpehocken Township Municipal Building located at 22 Rehrersburg Road, Rehrersburg PA. Bethel Township Board of Supervisors was called to order by Chairman Herb Zechman. Those attending the meeting were John Kintzer, Rick Kramer, Gary Deck, Kathy Boltz, Randall Haag, Herb Zechman Jr, Carl Kauffman, Jayne Seifrit, Chief Kerschner, Chief Hepler, and other interested persons.

The meeting continued with the pledge to the American Flag.

Chairman John Kintzer commented that the joint meeting is being held to discuss the regionalization.

Letters had been sent to the surrounding Townships to ask if they would have any interest in participating in the police regionalization. None of the Townships are interested at this time. Two council members from Strausstown Borough and two Board of Supervisors from Marion Township attended the meeting and commented that they are very satisfied with the police service they are receiving from Tulpehocken Township Police Department and would like to continue with the way it is.

Herb Zechman asked the Tulpehocken Board of Supervisors if they feel the proposed building that Bethel Township is building north of the interstate, is a good location for a regional police office since none of the surrounding townships has an interest in joining the regionalization. After some discussion Tulpehocken commented that after talking to the police officers they feel it looks better, but has some concerns that the coverage may be spread too thin.

John Kintzer mentioned he has been approached by a citizen who wants to throw his hat in the ring and is offering 3 lots for a total of 1.25 acre for a regional police location, he was not given a price for the lots, but they are less desirable lots and they will be priced cheaper.

Gary Deck commented that he doesn't want to waste any more time and asked if the Boards can make it work. John Kintzer compared the cost of the study with and without the grants. Randy Haag commented that Bethel is building a Municipal building with a police office and is moving forward.

At this time the public was asked to offer comments. The only one offered was that they do not want the taxes to go up for the regionalization. Chief Kerschner stated that both police departments have a good working relationship. Officer Ogden also commented that he feels a regionalization will be more efficient on time and money and provide better coverage and that this is a positive move in his opinion.

Resident Dennis Royer commented that if the State Police bill for coverage the Board will wish they had 24 hour coverage and that 24 hour coverage should be a goal for regionalization. He also stated that the two Boards have to work together.

It was agreed to go back and look at the costs.

Bethel asked Tulpehocken if they have plans for the bullet proof window that was donated to the Tulpehocken Police Department. The reply was if we regionalize then they will share it, if not

Tulpehocken will most likely use it.

John Kintzer asked what the portion of Bethel's building will be worth for the cost share for the budget line. Bethel was not sure and will look into it.

The Board Make up was discussed briefly, it was discussed that a five person Board made of up of one Board Member from each municipality and three residents would be most effective.

It was decided to hold another meeting on July 30, 2012 at 7:00 p.m. at the Bethel Community Center; it is Tulpehocken Townships turn to advertise for the meeting. It was also discussed that if the time is going to be spent on this topic that it should move forward positively or stop wasting time.

It was also suggested that the two secretaries meet together and review the police budgets prior to the next meeting.

ADJOURNMENT OF MEETING

Carl Kauffman made a motion to adjourn the Bethel Township Board of Supervisors meeting at 8:45 p.m. Randy Haag second the motion. Gary Deck made a motion to adjourn the Tulpehocken Township Board of Supervisors meeting at 8:45 p.m. Rick Kramer second the motion.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kathy Boltz

Secretary, Tulpehocken Township