

**Tulpehocken Township
Board of Supervisors
Meeting of July 14, 2021**

The Tulpehocken Township Board of Supervisors met on July 14, 2021 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: Robert Sattazahn, Harold Zimmerman and Harry Reinhold.

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

Supervisor Feick made a motion to approve the minutes from the June 9, 2021 Board of Supervisors meeting. The motion was seconded by Vice Chairman Kramer and passed unanimously (3-0).

ADMINISTRATIVE ACTIONS

Planning Commission

None.

Solicitor Legal Discussions

None.

Escrow Release

None.

Correspondence from Zoning Officer

June Update

Land Development

Mt. Meadows Phase 2 – Final Plan: Time expires August 4, 2021. Pioneer Management, LLC, the applicant’s engineer, presented a time extension letter to the Township for a 90-day time extension. Does the Board wish to accept the 90-day time extension to November 2, 2021?

Supervisor Feick made a motion to accept Mountain Meadows 90-day time extension to November 2, 2021. The motion was seconded by Vice Chairman Kramer and passed unanimously (3-0).

Shirk Farm Annexation: Time expires August 4, 2021. On behalf of the applicant, Devon Henne presented a time extension letter to the Township for a 90-day time extension. Does the Board wish to accept the 90-day time extension to November 10, 2021, or until the scheduled November, 2021 meeting?

Vice Chairman Kramer made a motion to accept the Shirk Farm Annexation 90-day time extension to November 10, 2021. The motion was seconded by Supervisor Feick and passed unanimously (3-0).

Cherry Hill Mennonite School: The applicant is requesting to install E&S controls and to start moving earth. The Township Engineer is recommending the Board grant approval contingent on the escrow money in the amount of \$102,900 being received. Does the Board wish to grant permission for the applicant to begin installing E&S controls and to start moving earth contingent on the escrow of \$102,900 being received? Also, need a motion to reaffirm Conditional Plan approval and to authorize the Chairman to sign the agreements upon receipt.

Vice Chairman Kramer made a motion to grant permission for the applicant to begin installing E&S controls and to start moving earth contingent on the escrow of \$102,900 being received. The motion was seconded by Supervisor Feick and passed unanimously (3-0).

Vice Chairman Kramer made a motion to reaffirm Conditional Plan approval and to authorize the Chairman to sign the agreements upon receipt. The motion was seconded by Supervisor Feick and passed unanimously (3-0).

EXECUTIVE SESSION

The Board met in an Executive Session to discuss personnel matters.

STAFF REPORTS

Police Report – Chief Kerschner read the June, 2021 Police report as follows:

ACTIVITY	TULPEHOCKEN TWP	MARION TWP
MILES PATROLLED	2616	660
GALLONS OF FUEL	216.5	0
HOURS WORKED	331.5	60
PATROL HOURS	353.25	51.75
TULPEHOCKEN AREA SCHOOL DIST. HOURS	13.5	0
TOTAL INCIDENTS	11	4
TOTAL COMPLAINTS	10	14
MISCELLANEOUS CALLS FOR SERVICE	19	2
FOLLOW-UP INVEST	4	0
TELEPHONE ASSIGNMENTS	25	8
COMM/RESIDENTIAL ALARMS	0	1
EMS/FIRE ADVISORIES	20	9
TRAFFIC STOPS	14	5
CITATIONS ISSUED	13	5
NON-TRAFFIC CITATIONS	1	1
TRAFFIC WARNINGS	4	0
WARRANTS	0	1
PARKING TICKETS	0	1
TRAFFIC ACCIDENTS	7	1
DUI ARRESTS	0	0
MISDEMEANOR/FELONY	1	0
SECURITY CHECKS	40	35
POLICE ASSISTS	9	0
MOTORISTS ASSISTS	2	0
COURT APPEARANCES	2	0
SCHOOL HOURS	0	0

Chief Kerschner reported that during the month of June there were 148 calls received through Berks County 911.

The Board discussed Teen Challenge. Chief Kerschner reported that there were approximately twelve (12) calls in the month of June; noting that the majority of the calls were EMS related.

Chief Kerschner advised that the Explorer will need tires sometime this Fall, the siren in the Caprice was replaced and National Night out is Tuesday, August 3rd at the Bethel Fire Company.

Update regarding hiring a new P/T Police Officer

Chief Kerschner advised that he has received approximately six (6) job applications and that the deadline to submit an application is Thursday, July 29th. The going hourly rate is between \$20 - \$21 per hour.

Request to forward updated SOP to Township Solicitor for review

Vice Chairman Kramer made a motion to forward the updated SOP to the Township Solicitor for review. The motion was seconded by Supervisor Feick and passed unanimously (3-0).

Does the Board wish to increase the 2022 hourly rate charged to the School for Police Services?

- ***2019 rate \$65.04 per hour; increased 3% from 2018***
- ***2020 rate \$67.65 per hour; increased 4% from 2019***
- ***2021 rate \$70.36 per hour; increased 4% from 2020***

The Board discussed increasing the hourly rate by 4%; the 2022 rate would be \$73.17 per hour.

Vice Chairman Kramer made a motion to increase the hourly rate charged to the Tulpehocken Area School District for Police Services by 4% for 2022. The motion was seconded by Supervisor Feick and passed unanimously (3-0).

Does the Board wish to increase the monthly rate charged to Marion Township for 2022? 2021 rate increased 4% from 2020; 2021 monthly rate is \$4,346.71

The Board discussed increasing the monthly rate by 4%; the 2022 rate would be \$4,520.58 per month.

Vice Chairman Kramer made a motion to increase the hourly rate charged to Marion Township for Police Services by 4% for 2022. The motion was seconded by Supervisor Feick and passed unanimously (3-0).

Update regarding renewing the Police contract – see email from Township Solicitor dated June 16, 2021

Chairman Deck stated that he would be in favor of renewing for five (5) years; he apologized and stated that he has no intent to disband the Police Department.

The Supervisors and Police Association agreed to hold another negotiation meeting prior to signing a new contract. Chief Kerschner advised that he will provide possible meeting dates.

Mrs. Flaherty provided the Board with a cost analysis for the Department as requested by Chairman Deck at the June meeting.

Road Master's Report – Supervisor Feick read the June, 2021 report. The work consisted of posting ZHB notices, sign maintenance, sewer maintenance, meter reading, measuring roadways, cleaning up down trees/branches, highway mowing, road maintenance on Teen Challenge Road, remove tree stump, lawn mowing, telephone calls, have ZHB notices notarized, check on driveway permit, check on a pipe issue on Knob Hill Road, take paperwork to Jackson Township, stop at Ebling's, flagging on Four Point Road for mowing, went for cold patch, pothole patching, met w/contractor on Stouchsburg Road, work on Hill & Mill Roads, work in shop, equipment repairs/maintenance, haul stone, work on new loader, skin patching on Mill & Greble Roads, mark roadways for patching, pipe repairs/maintenance, work on Spur Road, roadway inspections, met w/Township Engineer, clean up Jacob Street, paperwork, haul equipment to Mill Road, met w/repair man from Adamstown, go for parts/supplies, drain tile work on Mill Road, met w/Dwayne (UTT Roadmaster) regarding Moyer Road and apply anti-skid to Wintersville Road.

Supervisor Feick advised the Board that he requested UTT to pave around the bend where Moyer and Pottieger Roads meet; he feels it will be approximately one (1) load of blacktop.

Supervisor Feick made a motion to reimburse either Upper Tulpehocken Township or H&K for the blacktop work that will be done in conjunction with UTT's Moyer Road Project. The motion was seconded by Vice Chairman Kramer and passed unanimously (3-0).

The Board discussed who is responsible/liable for the dead trees along Township roadways.

Request to purchase a belt spreader for approximately \$6,878

Supervisor Feick made a motion to authorize the purchase of a belt spreader for approximately \$6,878. The motion was seconded by Vice Chairman Kramer and passed unanimously (3-0).

Discuss purchasing a snow plow for the Mac

Supervisor Feick advised that he would like to purchase a 12-foot reversible plow for the Mac; noting that the current plow is not holding up. The Board authorized Supervisor Feick to get prices for a new plow and agreed they would keep the current plow as a backup.

Supervisor Feick advised the Board that there are issues with the meters on the Township fuel pumps. The Board authorized Supervisor Feick to contact Dean Care to inspect/repair the meters on the pumps.

Supervisor Feick updated the Board with regards to an accident that took place over the weekend at the intersection of Maria & Godfrey Streets/Teen Challenge Road. He suggested sending correspondence to PennDOT requesting a study at the intersection and to copy State Representative Jozwiak. Chief Kerschner stated that he's heard there is a petition going around. The Board authorized Mrs. Flaherty to send correspondence.

Chief Kerschner requested the curbs in the towns to be repainted.

Supervisor Feick advised that he has spoken with PennDOT representative, Michael Feryo with regards to the walking bridge along Rt. 501 in Mt. Aetna. The Board agreed there is really nothing the Township can do. Chairman Deck suggested replacing the bridge with a walking path.

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. Chairman Deck advised that he would be contacting the Solicitor to inquire on the status of the Merkey account.

The Board inquired with regards to the status of refinancing the USDA loan with First Citizens Community Bank. Mrs. Flaherty advised she thought the Sewer Secretary was waiting to hear back from the Solicitor's office; she suggested that when Chairman Deck calls the solicitor to inquire on the Merkey account he could ask for a status update regarding the refinancing too.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Update regarding the lease with the Rehrersburg Lions Club – the draft lease was emailed to Richard Klopp; still waiting to hear back from members of the Lions Club with regards to meeting dates

Update with regards to recreation actions items discussed at the February 25, 2021 Work Session:

- ***The Supervisors will have a discussion with the Mt. Aetna Fire Company with regards to leasing the park***

Chairman Deck advised that there is no update with regards to leasing the Mt. Aetna Fire Company's Park.

NEW BUSINESS

Accept bids for items to be sold on Municibid

- ***1990 544E John Deere Loader***
- ***Sweepster 540 PTO (96" Broom) Three (3) Point Hook Up***
- ***Tiger/Woods Front Loader Assembly***
- ***Two (2) 320/85R/24 Tractor Tires and 24" Rims***

Mrs. Flaherty updated the Board as follows with regards to the winning bids:

- 1990 544E John Deere Loader – Winning bidder was John Gera for a total of \$16,000

- Sweepster 540 PTO (96" Broom) Three (3) Point Hook Up – Winning bidder was Roy Wessner for a total of \$500
- Tiger/Woods Front Loader Assembly – Winning bidder was Allen Martin for a total of \$980
- Two (2) 320/85R/24 Tractor Tires and 24" Rims – Winning bidder was Tim Laird for a total of \$360

Supervisor Feick made a motion to accept the following bids.

- 1990 544E John Deere Loader – Winning bidder was John Gera for a total of \$16,000
- Sweepster 540 PTO (96" Broom) Three (3) Point Hook Up – Winning bidder was Roy Wessner for a total of \$500
- Tiger/Woods Front Loader Assembly – Winning bidder was Allen Martin for a total of \$980
- Two (2) 320/85R/24 Tractor Tires and 24" Rims – Winning bidder was Tim Laird for a total of \$360

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

Mrs. Flaherty advised that she would contact the winning bidders.

CORRESPONDENCE

Motion to ratify the request from the Borough of Robesonia for Fire Police coverage for the annual fireworks display scheduled for Saturday, June 22nd

Supervisor Feick made a motion to ratify the request from the Borough of Robesonia for Fire Police coverage for the annual fireworks display scheduled for Saturday, June 22, 2021. The motion was seconded by Vice Chairman Kramer and passed unanimously (3-0).

Request from Paul Janssen regarding the semi-quincentennial for both the Commonwealth of PA and the USA in 2026. Does the Board wish to adopt Resolution 2021-9; Supporting the Pennsylvania Commission for the United States semi-quincentennial (AMERICA250PA)?

*Supervisor Feick made a motion to adopt **Resolution 2021-9; Supporting the Pennsylvania Commission for the United States semi-quincentennial (AMERICA250PA)**. The motion was seconded by Vice Chairman Kramer and passed unanimously (3-0).*

Center for Watershed Protection would like to hold an in-person meeting for the end of August to support the development of the Upper Little Swatara Watershed Implementation Plan. They are requesting the Board to provide possible dates/times for the meeting. Does the Board wish to attend?

The Board discussed the invitation. Chairman Deck advised that he would be interested and provided a list of days that will not work.

OTHER BUSINESS

Center for Excellence Municipal Picnic at the Park – Thursday, September 30th at Jim Dietrich Park. Does the Board wish to attend?

Chairman Deck and Supervisor Feick advised that they would be interested in attending.

Review SmrtGuys estimate to install a rack system to hold various WIFI equipment. Estimate for the work and equipment is \$1,687. Does the Board wish to make a motion authorizing SmrtGuys to proceed with the installation of a WIFI rack system for an estimated cost of \$1,687?

The Board discussed the estimate.

Supervisor Feick made a motion authorizing SmrtGuys to install a rack system for an estimated cost of \$1,687. The motion was seconded by Vice Chairman Kramer and passed unanimously (3-0).

PSATS Lehigh Valley Regional Forum (Breinigsville) – Wednesday, July 28th. Does the Board wish to attend?

Mrs. Flaherty advised that she would like to attend.

Vice Chairman Kramer made a motion authorizing Mrs. Flaherty to attend the PSATS forum on Wednesday, July 28, 2021. The motion was seconded by Vice Chairman Kramer and passed unanimously (3-0).

PSATS Southcentral Regional Forum (Grantville) – Tuesday, August 17th. Does the Board wish to attend?

The Board agreed they had no interest in attending this forum.

PSATS Annual Business Meeting & Centennial Celebration Dinner – October 14th & 15th. Does the Board wish to attend? Supervisor Kramer was reappointed as the Township's Voting Delegate at the 2021 Reorganization meeting

Vice Chairman Kramer advised that he would like to attend. Supervisor Feick thought that he would possibly attend.

Chairman Deck made a motion for Vice Chairman Kramer and Supervisor Feick to attend the PSATS business meeting and dinner scheduled for October 14th and October 15th. The motion was seconded by Vice Chairman Kramer and passed unanimously (3-0).

Update regarding Act 65 which goes into effect August 29th. Act 65 will require the Township to post meeting agendas at least 24 hours prior to the meeting.

Township website – Requesting permission to authorize the Webmaster to go live with the following pages:

- ***Meeting minutes***
- ***Permit applications/forms***
- ***Ordinances/Resolutions***

Chairman Deck made a motion to authorize the Webmaster to make the following pages on the website live:

- *Meeting minutes*
- *Permit applications/forms*
- *Ordinances/Resolutions*

The motion was seconded by Supervisor Feick and passed unanimously (3-0).

Mrs. Flaherty updated the Board with regards to the discussion to make the permits a fillable pdf. The fee to do that would be approximately \$500. The Board agreed not to spend the funds at this time.

Mrs. Flaherty had provided the Board with copies of the signed contract regarding the Township website; noting that the final fee will need to be paid once phase 2 is completed. She suggested that fee may be able to be paid out of the American Rescue Plan funds.

FINANCIAL REPORT AND APPROVAL FOR PAYMENT OF BILLS

Account Balances for the end of June, 2021 were as follows:

General Account	\$107,104.77
First Citizens General Holding Account	\$ 12,297.52
General Plus Account	\$310,842.15
State Aid Account	\$ 20.43
State Plus Account	\$170,151.88
Street Light Account	\$ 28,250.63
Recreation Planning Escrow Account	\$ 467.11
Payroll Account	\$ 618.23

Payments of Bills for this July 14, 2021 meeting are:

General Account combined with the payroll account – Checks #20552 to #20589 in the amount of \$38,266.17
Street Light Account – Check #461 in the amount of \$1,206.94
State Liquid Fuels Account –
Recreation Fund –
Recreation Planning Recreation –
Camp Calvary Land Dev. Escrow –
Camp Calvary Inspection Escrow –
Village Estates Improvements Inspection Escrow –
Stormwater Inspection Escrow –
Total Expenses for this meeting – \$39,473.11

Vice Chairman Kramer motion to approve the payments of the bills for this July 14, 2021 meeting. The motion was seconded by Supervisor Feick and passed unanimously (3-0).

Sewer Accounts balances for the end of June, 2021 were as follows:

Sewer Operation Account – \$759.30
Balance in the Sewer Holding Account - \$234,751.34
Debt Service Account - \$427,794.96

Payments of Bills in the Sewer Operation Account for this July 14, 2021 meeting are:

Check #2677 to #2690 in the amount of \$17,098.40

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 9:01 P.M. The motion was seconded by Supervisor Feick and passed unanimously (3-0).

Respectfully Submitted,

Christy Flaherty

Secretary, Tulpehocken Township