

**Tulpehocken Township
Board of Supervisors
Meeting of February 8, 2023**

The Tulpehocken Township Board of Supervisors met on February 9, 2022, in the Township meeting room at 7 P.M. In attendance and voting were Supervisors: Chairman Gary Deck, Vice Chairman Lester Feick and Supervisor Harold Zimmerman. Also present were Bryan Dronick, Police Chief and Kathy Judy, Township Secretary/Treasurer.

There was no audience present

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Deck called the meeting to order at 7:07 P.M.

The meeting continued with the pledge to the American Flag.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: None.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Vice Chairman Feick made a motion to approve the minutes from the January 11, 2023 Board of Supervisors Meeting - - seconded by Supervisor Zimmerman and passed unanimously (3-0).

ADMINISTRATIVE ACTION

Planning Commission Recommendations

Zoning Hearing Application, 0 Rehrersburg Road, Centerport Milk Hauling:

Centerport Milk Hauling applied for special exception use under 743.05 and 743.10 of the Zoning Ordinance. This is scheduled to go before the Zoning Hearing Board on Tuesday, February 21, 2023. Representatives for Centerport Milk Hauling attended the February 2, 2023 Planning Commission Meeting to describe the proposed plans and answer any questions the Planning Commission had. Upon review it was agreed that the site location is appropriate, that Centerport will need to secure approval for storm water, E&S and two PennDOT accesses, provide a light plan with proper shielding and designate a managed wash area. It was also noted that landscaping/screening may not be necessary; though a solid fence to block headlights from the Four Points Market was suggested. The Planning Commission passed a motion to make a recommendation to the Zoning Hearing Board to support the special exception. The Board of Supervisors then also passed a motion to make a recommendation to the Zoning to support the special exception. *Vice Chairman Feick made a motion to reaffirm the Board's recommendation to the Zoning Hearing Board to support Centerport Milk Hauling's application for Special Exception - - seconded by Supervisor Zimmerman and passed unanimously (3-0).*

At the Joint Meeting on February 2, 2023, the Planning Commission and Board of Supervisors agreed they would hold another Joint Meeting to further discuss and review Zoning Ordinance Amendment drafts for Solar Installations and Wireless Communications Facilities and any other business. *Supervisor Zimmerman made a motion to advertise the March 2, 2023 Planning Commission Meeting as a joint meeting with the Board of Supervisors - - seconded by Vice Chairman Feick and passed unanimously (3-0).*

Solicitor Legal Discussions

Update regarding conditions of Cadet employment – the Board reviewed an email from the Solicitor and discussed with Chief Dronick what protections are in the Mopect Laws to help the Township recover financial loss on the investment should the Cadet leave the Township and join another Police Department within the first two years following graduation from the Academy.

Escrow Release: None

Correspondence from Zoning Officer:

The Zoning Officer addressed the:

- Zook property (25 Deck Road) – a letter was sent on January 28, 2023 regarding the number of horses at the property.
- Diehl/Lankay property (3 Magdalena Street) – a letter was sent January 31, 2023 regarding the number of vehicles at the property.
- Juarez property (591 Godfrey Street) – a letter was sent January 31, 2023 regarding the number of vehicles at the property.
- Kerns property (121 Godfrey Street) – a letter was sent January 31, 2023 regarding the number of vehicles at the property.

The Board agreed they would like to review the Zoning Ordinance’s animal unit limits. It was decided to have this added to the agenda for March 2, 2023 Joint Meeting with the Planning Commission.

Land Development: None

Recreation Board

The Recreation Board met on January 19, 2023.

The Board of Supervisors reviewed design images and an estimate from Horst Signs for a park sign. The Board agreed they would like the Recreation Board to secure a quote from a second company as well.

STAFF REPORTS

Police Department Report – Chief Dronick read the January, 2023 Police Report as follows:

ACTIVITY	TULPEHO CKEN TWP.	MARION TWP.
MILES PATROLLED	2076	797
GALLONS OF FUEL	189	0
HOURS WORKED	507	60
PATROL HOURS	257.75	57.25
TULPEHOCKEN AREA SCHOOL DIST. HOURS	43.75	0
TOTAL INCIDENTS	8	3
TOTAL COMPLAINTS	10	8
MISCELLANEOUS CALLS FOR SERVICE	72	5

FOLLOW-UP INVEST	4	2
TELEPHONE ASSIGNMENTS	15	9
COMM/RESIDENTIAL ALARMS	1	0
EMS/FIRE ADVISORIES	29	8
TRAFFIC STOPS	13	3
CITATIONS ISSUED	14	3
NON-TRAFFIC CITATIONS	0	0
TRAFFIC WARNINGS	1	0
WARRANTS	0	0
PARKING TICKETS	0	0
TRAFFIC ACCIDENTS	6	1
DUI ARRESTS	0	0
MISDEMEANOR/FELONY	1	0
SECURITY CHECKS	50	38
POLICE ASSISTS	3	0
MOTORISTS ASSISTS	2	0
COURT APPEARANCES	1	3
SCHOOL (TRAINING) HOURS	0	0

Chief Dronick reported that during the month of October there were 140 calls received through Berks County 911 for police service; noting that twenty (20) of those were for Teen Challenge.

Chief Dronick asked for the Board’s approval to convert the shotguns to less lethal beanbag shotguns. Converting the shotguns involves changing the stock and changing the front to orange to identify it as non-lethal. The conversion cost is approximately \$150 per rifle. It is also reversible so they would be able to be converted back to shotguns if the Township ever decides to put them back in service or sold in the future as shotguns. In order for an officer to use the weapon they need training with a certified instructor. If we host an instructor class, we can send an officer for free to become certified as an instructor who would then be able to train other officers. *Vice Chairman Feick made a motion to approve converting the Township’s three rifles to less-lethal bean bags, to authorize hosting an instructor certification class on Monday, October 2, 2023 at the Rehlersburg Lions Park Building and to authorize Chief Dronick to get certified as an instructor - - seconded by Supervisor Zimmerman and passed unanimously (3-0).*

Police Cadet hours and wages. Chief Dronick presented the Board with rough drafts outlining the Cadet’s weekly wages, and not being eligible for benefits while attending Academy. As well as outlining promotion to Patrolman II, coverage under the police contract and the beginning of the one year probation period only to begin after successfully completing and graduating from the Academy. The Board agreed to have these forwarded to the Township Solicitor for review. Chief Dronick and the Board discussed the interview and hiring process and timeline.

Road Master's Report – Supervisor Feick read the January, 2023 report. The work consisted of finishing up setting up the new pump station, working on the trucks, storing old pump station materials, sewer maintenance, working on the blower motor issue, phone calls, working in the shop, sign maintenance, sewer inspection, water issue on Four Points Road, removed tree branches, pothole patching, unloading trucks, salt delivery, checking pipes on Whitman Road, closed road for Laverne on Parkside Inn Road, took some trees down out the back, issues at Teen Challenge Pump Station, pulled the pump there, Shank Door put new door openers on, fix the furnace, roadkill cleanup.

Supervisor Feick informed the Board that he would like to rig a transfer pump for hydraulic fluid in order to change fluid when the dump body can't be lifted. He priced a diaphragm/air pump, hose and reel for approximately \$550.00. *Supervisor Zimmerman made a motion to approve the purchase of a transfer pump - - seconded by Chairman Deck and passed unanimously (3-0).*

Vice Chairman Feick made a motion to amend the agenda to include transfer pump purchase - - seconded by Supervisor Zimmerman and passed unanimously (3-0).

Discuss 2023 Road Project – Vice Chairman Feick advised that he expects the 2023 Road Project will be to continue work on Witman Road and a scratch down on Airport Road.

Fire Chiefs' Reports – Vice Chairman Feick read the monthly reports for the Keystone Fire Company and the Rescue Fire Company.

SEWER OPERATIONS

Judgements and Delinquent Sewer Accounts: Nothing to act on.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- **Andulhea Heritage Center aid/donation request for 300th Anniversary events in 2023** – The Board reviewed some cost estimates the Heritage Center provided for two of the events they are planning. The Board discussed contributing toward a German Day in Mt. Aetna on June 24, 2023 and the Keystone Band and Ice Cream Social at Lions Park of Rehrersburg in August. *Supervisor Zimmerman made a motion to approve donating \$400 toward the cost of an Immersion Lab at the German Day in Mt. Aetna, and half the cost/\$400 maximum toward the cost of the Keystone band at the Ice Cream Social in Rehrersburg along with waiving half of the Lions Park rental fee for the event - - seconded by Vice Chairman Feick and passed unanimously (3-0).*
- **State Salt Contract for 2023–2024** - Table until next meeting.
- **Comcast Franchise Agreement** – The Board discussed the number of unserved houses and total linear footage along Gravel Hill and Midway Roads and agree to continue to have the Solicitor attempt to negotiate with Comcast.
- **Sale of Police Chevy Caprice** – *Supervisor Zimmerman motioned to list the Caprice for sale on Municibid with a minimum price of \$5,000 - - seconded by Vice Chairman Feick and passed unanimously (3-0).*

NEW BUSINESS

- **Township Office color printer** – The office color printer is broken; SmrtGuys recommends replacing it and provided a quote. *Supervisor Zimmerman made a motion to approve the purchase of an HP Officejet Pro 8000 Series All-In-One Printer for \$239 - - seconded by Chairman Deck and passed unanimously (3-0).*
- **Township Refuse Service** - The Township’s current account is with Waste Management for pick-up of a two yard dumpster one time a month for \$59.90. The Township requires a more frequent pickup. Quotes for 2 yd picked up twice a month were Waste Management at \$201.04 per month vs. Nesters at \$75 per month. Nesters also quoted a 2yd picked up weekly for \$105 per month. *Chairman Deck made a motion to cancel service with Waste Management and open an account with Nester’s for a 2 yard dumpster picked up weekly - - seconded by Supervisor Zimmerman and passed unanimously (3-0).*

CORRESPONDENCE

- **Pennsylvania Recreation & Park Society 2023 General Election Ballot** – No action.
- **BCCD Tire Collection Event** – *Supervisor Zimmerman made a motion to post the event flier on the township website and at the Municipal Building - - seconded by Vice Chairman Feick and passed unanimously (3-0).*
- **FCCB email regarding State/Political Accounts** – No action.

OTHER BUSINESS

Transfer of funds budgeted in 2023 for the Building Maintenance, Recreation, Police P.T.O. and Emergency Services Funds – The Board will revisit this at the March 8, 2023 Meeting

FINANCIAL REPORTS AND APPROVAL FOR PAYMENT OF BILLS:

Account Balances for the end of January, 2023 were as follows:

General Account	\$ 5,552.91
First Citizens General Holding Account	\$ 193,982.10
General Plus Account	\$ 275,310.39
State Aid Account	\$ 65.20
State Plus Account	\$ 39,135.59
Street Light Account	\$ 25,576.24
Recreation Fund – Class Account	\$ 18,693.97
Recreation Fund – Prime Account	\$ 112,358.82
Payroll Account	\$ 19,715.33
American Rescue Plan Account	\$ 369,468.42

Payments of Bills for this February 8, 2023 meeting are:

- General Account – \$28,242.08
- Street Light Account – \$1,639.94
- Recreation Fund – \$1,220.92

Total expenses for this February 8, 2023 Meeting are \$31,102.94

Vice Chairman Feick made a motion to approve the payment of bills for this February 8, 2023 meeting - - seconded by Supervisor Zimmerman and passed unanimously (3-0).

Sewer Accounts balances for the end of January, 2023 were as follows:

Sewer Account Plgit Prime: \$151,717.58

Sewer Operation Account: \$3,974.39

Balance in the Sewer Holding Account: \$131,033.32

Debt Service Account: \$436,965.20

Expenses for this meeting: \$27,796.60

Vice Chairman Feick made a motion to approve the payment of bills for this February 8, 2023 meeting - - seconded by Supervisor Zimmerman and passed unanimously (3-0).

EXECUTIVE SESSION

At 10:22 PM the Board of Supervisors called an executive session to discuss personnel matters.

At 10:53 PM the Board returned from Executive Session - - no action is needed.

ADJOURNMENT OF MEETING

Vice Chairman Feick made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 10:55 PM - - seconded Supervisor Zimmerman and passed unanimously (3-0).

Respectfully Submitted,
Kathy Judy, Secretary
Tulpehocken Township