

**Tulpehocken Township
Board of Supervisors
Meeting of August 9, 2023**

The Tulpehocken Township Board of Supervisors met on August 9, 2023, 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.

Members of the audience included Lori Deck and Paula Koch.

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:

Paula Koch was present to ask if action has been taken to address the condition of the 7668 Lancaster Avenue property. The Board advised that a Notice of Violation has been sent; we've since learned that the property has recently been sold and will be letting the Zoning Officer know of that change. It was also noted that some clean-up appears to be taking place and a travel trailer has also been removed from the property.

Lori Deck was present to let the Board know that she is considering resigning as Tax Collector at the end of the year. If she does decide to resign, the County will want the Board of Supervisors to appoint someone to the position by November so they can be trained and tested before the new year.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- *Supervisor Zimmerman made a motion to approve the minutes from the July 12, 2023 Board of Supervisors Meeting - - seconded by Vice Chairman Feick and passed unanimously (3-0).*

ADMINISTRATIVE ACTIONS

Planning Commission:

Zoning Ordinance – The board reviewed and discussed the most recent proposed changes to the Animal Unit Allowance Ordinance for Backyard Chickens. In accordance with recommendations the Planning Commission made at their June 1, 2023 and July 6, 2023 meetings, *Supervisor Zimmerman made a motion to approve the proposed Zoning Ordinance amendments on Wireless Facilities, Animal Unit Allowances, Solar Installations and Zoning Map; and to authorize the Township Solicitor to submit them to the County - - seconded by Vice Chairman Feick and passed unanimously (3-0).*

Escrow Release:

- **Dutch Valley Foods Expansion Project** – The Township Engineer is recommending the full release of the letter of credit for the expansion project. *Vice Chairman Feick made a motion to authorize the full release of the Dutch Valley Foods letter of credit - - seconded by Supervisor Zimmerman and passed unanimously (3-0).*

- Earl Ray Martin Poultry Project – The Township Engineer is recommending a partial release of this letter of credit and holding \$700 on the letter of credit or a cash escrow until the stone across from the driveway is placed and approved. *Vice Chairman Feick made a motion to approve the partial release of the letter of credit now and the release of the balance once the stone is placed and approved - - seconded by Supervisor Zimmerman and passed unanimously (3-0).*

Correspondence from Zoning Officer: June update:

- (7668 Lancaster Avenue) – A Notice of Violation for debris, vehicles and weeds was sent with a response due by 8/31/23; no response has been received back yet.
- (7653 Lancaster Avenue) – A letter was sent for weeds and grass to be cut and mowed. She will recheck the property when in the area later this week.
- (44 Rehrersburg Road) – A Notice of Violation for debris and vehicles was sent. A response is due by 8/27/23 or a citation may be issued.
- (344A Godfrey Street) – The first letter was returned. A second letter has been sent. A response is due by 8/17/23.

Recreation Board:

Grant Study Committee: The Board talked about the open house that was held at the park on July 26, 2023 and being pleased with the turnout and public input.

STAFF REPORTS

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

	TULPEHOCKEN	MARION TWP
MILES PATROLLED	1587	682
GALLONS OF FUEL	157	0
HOURS WORKED	396	60
PATROL HOURS	198.5	41
TULPEHOCKEN AREA SCHOOL DIST. HOURS	0	
TOTAL INCIDENTS	15	5
TOTAL COMPLAINTS	2	4
MISCELLANEOUS CALLS FOR SERVICE	12	4
FOLLOW-UP INVEST	11	2
TELEPHONE ASSIGNMENTS	14	4
COMM/RESIDENTIAL ALARMS	0	0
EMS/FIRE ADVISORIES	23	7
TRAFFIC STOPS	18	11
CITATIONS ISSUED	28	14
NON-TRAFFIC CITATIONS	0	1
TRAFFIC WARNINGS	3	0
WARRANTS	1	0
PARKING TICKETS	0	0
TRAFFIC ACCIDENTS	3	3
DUI ARRESTS	0	0
MISDEMEANOR/FELONY	0	1
SECURITY CHECKS	44	29
POLICE ASSISTS	6	0

MOTORISTS ASSISTS	1	0
COURT APPEARANCES	0	0
SCHOOL (TRAINING) HOURS	0	0

Chief Dronick reported that during the month of July there were 134 calls received through Berks County 911 for police service; noting that ten (10) of those were for Teen Challenge.

2023 Ford Police Interceptor - The Chief reported that the vehicle is being upfitted and should be back to the dealer by August 25th. After we take delivery of it, it will need lettering. The quote from Brown’s Signs for the lettering is \$1,575. *Supervisor Zimmerman made a motion to approve sending the Interceptor to Brown’s signs for lettering at the quoted price - - seconded by Vice Chairman Feick and passed unanimously (3-0).*

Update regarding Cadet - Chief Dronick reported that John Guacci is doing good at the Academy. The quote for a vest for John is \$1,470. *Supervisor Zimmerman made a motion to approve the purchase of a vest for \$1,470 - - seconded by Vice Chairman Feick and passed unanimously (3-0).*

Roadmaster Report:

Vice Chairman Feick read the July, 2023 report. The work consisted of meter readings, sewer maintenance, lawn mowing, highway mowing, work on Witman Road, taking the loader to Plasterer’s for repair, tree trimming, working on equipment, assisting the Police on a call, sign maintenance and reinstalling two historical signs in Mt. Aetna. Also, Burt Wessner completed his CDL training.

Update on Service Truck – The body and crane are at E.M. Kutz and ready for installation once the chassis is delivered. The dealership reports that they are still waiting on some trim to finish.

Vice Chairman Feick informed the Board about some road patching work that should be done. Also discussed were repairs that are needed to the mowing tractor. The parts for the repair are estimated to cost around \$2,300. *Supervisor Zimmerman made a motion to approve getting the parts for the mower repair - - seconded by Vice Chairman Feick and passed unanimously (3-0).*

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:

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Jake Brake inquiry to PennDOT – We are still waiting for a reply from PennDOT

CORRESPONDENCE:

Request from Borough of Womelsdorf - *Supervisor Zimmerman made a motion to approve providing Fire Police Assistance for the Borough of Womelsdorf’s 30th Annual Ride for Freedom event on August 27, 2023 at 10:00 AM - - seconded by Vice Chairman Feick and passed unanimously (3-0).*

Berks County Planning Commission notice of County Comprehensive Plan proposed amendment – the Board had no response to make at this time.

Center for Excellence in Local Government invitation to Municipal Picnic – All of the Supervisors plan to attend

FINANCIAL REPORTS AND APPROVAL FOR PAYMENT OF BILLS:

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

General Account	\$ 8,261.82
First Citizens General Holding Account	\$ 335,615.31
General Plus Account	\$ 282,233.36
State Aid Account	\$ 1,254.52
State Plus Account	\$ 90,662.92
Street Light Account	\$ 35,929.78
Recreation Fund – Class Account	\$ 16,954.59
Recreation Fund – Prime Account	\$ 112,462.58
Payroll Account	\$ 16,274.02
American Rescue Plan – Class Account	\$ 40.64
American Rescue Plan Account	\$ 373,505.13

Payments of Bills for this August 9, 2023 meeting are:

General Account – Checks #21685-21687 In the amount of \$33,914.32

Street Light Account – Check #489 in the amount of \$1,830.31

Recreation Fund – Checks #131-132 in the amount of \$4,389.45

Recreation Fund Escrow (Grant match Acct) – Check #118 in the amount of \$2,076.49

Total expenses for this August 9, 2023 Meeting are \$38,409.14

Vice Chairman Feick made a motion to approve the payment of bills for this August 9, 2023 meeting - - seconded by Supervisor Zimmerman and passed unanimously (3-0).

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

Sewer PLGIT Prime Account: \$155,532.68

Sewer Operation Account: \$3,251.63

Balance in the Sewer Holding Account: \$50,623.33

Debt Service Account: \$447,953.15

Expenses for this meeting: \$39,156.99

Supervisor Zimmerman made a motion to approve the payment of bills for this August 9, 2023 meeting - - seconded by Vice Chairman Feick and passed unanimously (3-0).

EXECUTIVE SESSION: None

ADJOURNMENT OF MEETING

Vice Chairman Feick made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:52 P.M. - - seconded by Supervisor Zimmerman and passed unanimously (3-0).

Respectfully Submitted,
Kathy Judy, Secretary