

**Tulpehocken Township Planning Commission Meeting  
January 4, 2024**

**Present:** Planning Commission Members: Scott Hetrick, Laverne Frey, Robert Sattazahn, John Zimmerman, Gary Deck and Planning Commission Secretary- Lisa Care.

The Planning Commission meeting began at 7:34 p.m. and continued with the pledge to the American Flag.

**Reorganization for 2024:**

*Gary Deck made a motion to appoint Scott Hetrick as Chairman, seconded by John Zimmerman and approved (4-0), Scott Hetrick abstained.*

*John Zimmerman made a motion to appoint Laverne Frey as Vice-Chairman, seconded by Robert Sattazahn and approved (4-0), Laverne Frey abstained.*

*John Zimmerman made a motion to retain the same Officers as 2023, seconded by Robert Sattazahn and approved unanimously (5-0).*

Reorganization for 2024, Scott Hetrick was declared the Chairman of the Tulpehocken Township Planning Commission Board and Laverne Frey was declared the Vice-Chairman of the Tulpehocken Township Planning Commission Board. The Tulpehocken Township Planning Commission Officers remained the same as Robert Sattazahn, John Zimmerman and Gary Deck.

*Robert Sattazahn made a motion to approve the minutes from the December 7, 2023 Planning Commission meeting, seconded by John Zimmerman and approved unanimously.*

**Public Comments:** None.

**Active Plans:** None.

**New Plans:** None.

**Walk-In Discussions:** None.

**Other Business:**

**Virgil L Martin at 109 Wintersville Road:**

The zoning appeal application submitted for Virgil Martin at 109 Wintersville Road for a special use variance was reviewed and discussed. The Chairman read out loud to the board the content of Section 834.14 of the Tulpehocken Township Zoning Ordinance.

*John Zimmerman made a motion to recommend to the Zoning Hearing Board to make it known to the applicant that there are restrictions and limitations according to the Tulpehocken Township Zoning Ordinance for special exception uses, seconded by Lavern Frey and approved unanimously.*

**Rehrersburg Lions Park conformance letter:**

A request submitted by Tulpehocken Township Board of Supervisors for a response letter regarding the Tulpehocken Township Recreation Area Master Site Development Plan DCNR-2021-C2P2-21 Community Recreation and Conservation Planning Grant application was reviewed.

*Robert Sattazahn made a motion to respond to the Board of Supervisors for the Planning Commission to submit a letter confirming that a Park, in the proposed location, is appropriate and in conformance with local and regional planning documents and recreation plans, seconded by Laverne Frey and approved unanimously.*

Planning Commission Member Gary Deck brought up a proposal for a possible emergency service tax that would fund the fire and ambulance services for feedback from the other Members of the Planning Commission. Some discussion followed. Workshops will likely take place this year to develop a plan and have something in place before next year.

Planning Commission Member John Zimmerman raised a concern in regards to the deteriorating condition of a walking bridge that sits along a guard rail on a Penn DOT highway, Lancaster Avenue in Mt. Aetna, near the gas station. Discussion was made regarding concerns of responsibility and safety of this walking bridge.

Planning Commission Chairman Scott Hetrick mentioned an issue regarding a farm property located on Summer Mountain Road where vehicles and scrap building materials are being hauled in and accumulating.

*Laverne Frey made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:30 p.m., seconded by Robert Sattazahn and approved unanimously. The meeting was adjourned.*

Respectfully submitted,

Lisa Care, Planning Commission Secretary