

Tulpehocken Township Board of Supervisors
Public Workshop Meeting for Emergency Services Tax
Tuesday, July 15, 2025

This specially advertised workshop was held by the Tulpehocken Township Board of Supervisors on July 15, 2025 at 6:30 P.M., in the Township meeting room. This workshop was to discuss emergency services taxes with the fire and ambulance companies that provide service to the Township, and any other business which may be brought before the Board. In attendance and voting were Supervisors: Chairman Gary Deck, Vice Chairman Lester Feick and Harold Zimmerman. Also present were Atty. Michelle Mayfield, Township Solicitor; Ashley Batdorf, Township Tax Collector and Kathy Judy, Township Secretary/Treasurer.

Representatives from Keystone Fire Company of Rehrersburg and Mt. Aetna Fire and Rescue and other public in attendance included: Lenny Mays, Sylvan Witmer, Zach Batdorf, Curvin Martin, Alan Bohm, Robert Conner, Lori Deck and Josh Bollinger

Chairman Deck called the Workshop to order at 6:34 P.M.
The workshop began with the pledge to the flag.

New Business:

Chairman Deck stated the June 17, 2025 workshop focused on the Ambulance Services in the Township and that a 0.5 mill levy for EMS is being considered. And, that at tonight's workshop discussions would focus on the fire companies in the Township. The workshop continued with discussions about:

- The distribution of funds will be based on the total assessment values of property in each Fire Companies run card area, currently that would mean Keystone Fire Company would receive 63% and Mt. Aetna Fire Company would receive 37% of the Fire Tax Revenue collected.
- There were discussions about how much is raised from fundraisers and received by donations from the other neighboring municipalities.
- At the Workshop meetings in 2024, a 1.0 or 1.1 mill tax was discussed. At this meeting a 0.8 mill tax and what it would generate for Keystone Fire Company and Mt. Aetna Fire Company was discussed.
- When the tax is put in place, the annual donation to the Fire Companies will be discontinued.
- The need for the Fire Companies to be able to account for how the funds are used is necessary. Representatives from both Fire Companies said that they intend on depositing the funds into a separate account for that reason and understand that they could be audited on the use of the tax revenue funds.
- Possible tax relief or refunds for volunteers was discussed but the Board would like to consider some other means to recognize volunteers; no steps to implement volunteer credits for 2026 are going to be taken at this time.
- There is one more advertised Workshop scheduled for Tuesday, August 19, 2025 at 6:30 P.M.

Other Business: None.

With no additional comments or questions, *Vice Chairman Feick motioned to adjourn the meeting at 8:00 P.M. - - seconded by Supervisor Zimmerman and passed unanimously (3-0).*

Respectfully Submitted,

Kathy Judy, Secretary/Treasurer
Tulpehocken Township