

**TULPEHOCKEN TOWNSHIP
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MEETING AGENDA
December 10, 2025
Please be advised that this meeting is being taped**

The Tulpehocken Township Board of Supervisors met on December 10, 2025, in the Township meeting room at 7:00 P.M. In attendance and voting were Supervisors: Chairman Gary Deck, Vice Chairman Lester Feick and Harold Zimmerman. Also present were Atty. Chris Hartman, Township Solicitor; Bryan Dronick, Police Chief and Kathy Judy, Township Secretary / Treasurer.

Members of the audience included Bill Dewart, John Schueller and Curvin Martin

CALL TO ORDER: Chairman Deck called the meeting to order at 7:10 P.M.
The meeting continued with the pledge to the American Flag.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM:

- *Vice Chairman Feick made a motion to approve the minutes from the November 12, 2025 Budget Review Meeting - - seconded by Supervisor Zimmerman and passed unanimously (3-0).*
- *Supervisor Zimmerman made a motion to approve the minutes from the November 12, 2025 Board of Supervisors Meeting - - seconded by Vice Chairman Feick and passed unanimously (3-0).*

ADOPTION OF 2026 BUDGETS:

- Budget Certification for Township Funds year 2026 - The 2026 Budget for all Township accounts, except the Sewer Service, proposes revenues of \$2,132,876 and expenditures of \$1,918,862. *Supervisor Zimmerman made a motion to adopt **Resolution 2025-19** to enact the 2026 Budget - - seconded by Vice Chairman Feick and passed unanimously (3-0).*
- Budget Certification for Sewer Service Funds year 2026 – The 2026 Budget for all public sewer funds proposes revenues of \$507,797 and expenditures of \$504,850. *Supervisor Zimmerman made a motion to adopt **Resolution 2025-20** to enact the 2026 Budget - - seconded by Vice Chairman Feick and passed unanimously (3-0).*
- Tax Levy for 2026 – Resolution 2025-21 sets taxes for the year 2026. Changes include the addition of a 0.8 Fire Tax and a 0.5 Ambulance Tax; all other taxes remain the same. *Supervisor Zimmerman made a motion to adopt the Tax Levy **Resolution 2025-21** to enact the tax levy for 2026 - - seconded by Vice Chairman Feick and passed unanimously (3-0).*

ADMINISTRATIVE ACTION

Personnel: None

Planning Commission recommendations: None

Land Development:

- 17 Airport Road, Galen Hoover Ag Operation – A letter granting a time extension was received. *Vice Chairman Feick made a motion to accept the time extension to March 31, 2026 - - seconded by Supervisor Zimmerman and passed unanimously (3-0)*
- 59 New Schaefferstown Road, Timothy Martin Poultry Waste Plan – An Application for Waiver of Land Development was received. The Board agreed to revisit this after it's been reviewed by the Planning Commission. No action taken.

Solicitor Legal Discussion:

- Comcast Franchise Agreement and negotiating service to Gravel Pit and Midway Roads – the Solicitor reported that they are waiting for a response from Comcast.
- Draft agreement for multi-day park rental request in 2026 – No action taken
- Office of Open Records Appeal – The Solicitor reported that we are waiting for the Judge’s decision on the first appeal and a court date for the second appeal. No action taken.

Escrow Release:

- 4 Goose Run Road Fire Escrow – In accordance with the Township Engineer’s December 8, 2025 recommendation letter, *Supervisor Zimmerman made a motion to authorize the full release of this fire escrow - - seconded by Vice Chairman Feick and passed unanimously (3-0).*
- Shoestring Industries, Smeltzer - No update was received. No action taken.

Zoning:

- Correspondence from Zoning Officer / November Update:
 - o 102 Rehrersburg Road – the Zoning Officer reported that the fence has been fixed, the sheep are contained and the complaint is being closed.
- Proposed Zoning Ordinance Amendment for Short Term Rentals – on December 9, 2025 the County Planning Commission responded with comments on the proposed amendment. The Board agreed that they will wait until after the next Township Planning Commission meeting before taking any action.

Recreation Board:

- Lions Park Maintenance & operation repairs and purchases: The Board discussed the need to ensure water is restored to the pavilion before the first rental in the spring – No action at this time.

STAFF REPORTS

Police Report - Chief Dronick read the November, 2025 Police report as follows:

	<u>Tulpehocken</u>	<u>Marion</u>
MILES PATROLLED	1949	702
GALLONS OF FUEL	182.5	
HOURS WORKED	421	60
PATROL HOURS	199.5	31
TULPEHOCKEN AREA SCHOOL	32	
TOTAL INCIDENTS	1	2
TOTAL COMPLAINTS	3	1
MISCELLANEOUS CALLS FOR	62	5
FOLLOW-UP INVEST	3	0
TELEPHONE ASSIGNMENTS	20	6
COMM/RESIDENTIAL ALARMS	0	1
EMS/FIRE ADVISORIES	41	8
TRAFFIC STOPS	13	6
CITATIONS ISSUED	15	9
NON-TRAFFIC CITATIONS	0	0
TRAFFIC WARNINGS	1	0
WARRANTS	0	0
PARKING TICKETS	0	0
TRAFFIC ACCIDENTS	4	2
DUI ARRESTS	0	0
MISDEMEANOR/FELONY	0	0
SECURITY CHECKS	5	3
POLICE ASSISTS	7	0
MOTORISTS ASSISTS	1	0
COURT APPEARANCES	2	0
SCHOOL (TRAINING) HOURS	0	

Chief Dronick reported that during the month November there were 134 calls received through Berks County 911; noting that thirty-three (33) were for Teen Challenge.

- Equipment Repairs and purchases

- Update on department flashlights costs – this was originally approved for \$485.97; the total cost was \$606.96. *Supervisor Zimmerman made a motion to approve the additional costs, \$120.99, for the purchase of the three flashlights - - seconded by Vice Chairman Feick and passed unanimously (3-0).*
- CODY reporting system – Chief Dronick asked for the Board’s approval to switch from the current police reporting system, In-Synch, to the CODY reporting system, noting it’s larger user base and its compatibility with the County and Central Booking. After some discussion, *Supervisor Zimmerman made a motion to approve changing from In-Synch to the CODY reporting system for the estimated start-up cost of \$48,295.00 in 2026 - - seconded by Vice Chairman Feick and passed unanimously (3-0).*
- Seat covers for police vehicles – Chief Dronick asked the Board to approve the purchase of seat covers and visor organizers for three police vehicles. *Chairman Deck made a motion to approve the purchase of seat covers and visor organizers for the Police fleet for the estimated cost of \$1,007 - - seconded by Supervisor Zimmerman and passed unanimously (3-0).*
- Updating Preliminary Breath Test (PBT) – Chief Dronick asked the Board to approve updating the PBT in each of the three police vehicles. *Chairman Deck made a motion to approve the purchase of three PBT for the estimated cost of \$1,828 - - seconded by Vice Chairman Feick and passed unanimously (3-0).*

- Holiday shifts and Police coverage - Chief Dronick asked the Board if they wanted to approve scheduling an officer for New Years Eve – No action taken.

Road Master Report - Vice Chairman Feick read the Roadmaster Report for the month of November, 2025. The work consisted of sewer maintenance, patching potholes, locate and mark the sewer line behind the FCCB Bank for PA One Call, prepare trucks for winter, hauled anti-skid, worked on street lights in Mountain Meadows, working on equipment.

- Equipment Repairs and purchases, including:

- Update on Truck 15 - sandblasting and painting costs were originally approved for \$12,300; the total costs, including unexpected fuel tank and oil pan replacements, was \$14,466. *Supervisor Zimmerman made a motion to approve the additional \$2,166 for the work on Truck 15 - - seconded by Vice Chairman Feick and passed unanimously (3-0).*

FIRE CHIEFS’ REPORT: Vice Chairman Feick reviewed activity for the Keystone Fire Company and read the report for the Rescue Fire Company for November, 2025.

SEWER OPERATIONS

- Judgements and Delinquent Sewer Accounts

- 6 Magdalena Street (Heckman property) – the signed agreement has not been received back yet; however payments are being received
- Update regarding Subaru Impreza detailing costs – this was originally approved for an estimated \$250; the total cost was \$400 because the work took longer than expected. *Vice Chairman Feick made a motion to approve the \$150 difference in the cost - - seconded by Supervisor Zimmerman and passed unanimously (3-0).*

- Sewer Service equipment repairs and purchases, including:
 - o Mt. Aetna Sewer Plant is without heat. A replacement system is estimated to cost \$5,075.46 and Supervisor Zimmerman can do the installation. *Chairman Deck made a motion to approve the purchase and authorize installation of the new heating system for the Mt. Aetna Sewer Plant - - seconded by Vice Chairman Feick and passed unanimously (3-0).*

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- 2026 Meeting Dates - The January Planning Commission date and the 2027 Preliminary Budget Meeting dates were changed since the last draft. *Supervisor Zimmerman made a motion to reaffirm authorizing advertisement of the 2026 meetings, with the noted changes - - seconded by Vice Chairman Feick and passed unanimously (3-0).*

NEW BUSINESS

- Reimbursement to Gary Deck for defense expenses. The Board reviewed the outcome of the State Ethics Commission investigation into the award of the 2022 road project. The result of the investigation was discussed. The State Ethics Board determined that it was an unintended technical violation that was made and no personal or financial benefit was ever expected or received. In response to Gary Deck’s request for reimbursement, *Supervisor Zimmerman made a motion to approve reimbursing Gary Deck \$7,550 in fees spent for legal counsel to defend himself through the investigation - - seconded by Vice Chairman Feick and passed (2-0-1); Chairman Deck abstained stating for the record he was abstaining as he is the recipient of the refund.*

CORRESPONDENCE: None

OTHER BUSINESS

- Vacant Township Auditor seat(s) – there may be up to two vacant seats effective January 1, 2026, pending two elected individuals’ acceptance or rejection on the certificate from the County Elections Office. The Board reviewed a letter of interest received and will revisit this as electees decisions become known. Appointment(s) to any vacant seat(s) will be made at the Board’s January 5, 2026 meeting.
- Conference Room Table Quote – The Board reviewed a quote from JDM. No action taken.
- Photocopier quotes – the Board compared quotes from S.O.S. and Berks Copy Tech. *Supervisor Zimmerman made a motion to approve the purchase of a Canon copier from S.O.S. in January, 2026 for the quoted price of \$5,665 - - seconded by Vice Chairman Feick and passed unanimously (3-0).*

TRAINING AND OTHER INVITATIONS

- Berks County Public Works Association meeting is Wednesday, January 14, 2026 in Oley (snow makeup Thursday, January 15, 2026). The Roadmaster and one Road Employee will register to attend.

APPROVAL OF FINANCIAL REPORTS & PAYMENT OF BILLS FOR ALL ACCOUNTS

Account Balances for the end of November, 2025 were as follows:

General Account	\$ 12,975.26
1 st Citizens General Holding Acct	\$ 192,283.34
General Prime Account	\$ 454,414.35
State Aid Account	\$ 125,167.91
Street Light Account	\$ 21,283.86
Recreation Fund	\$ 143,779.86
Payroll Account	\$ 23,400.69

Payments of Bills for this December 10, 2025 meeting are:

General Account – Checks #22846 – 22897 in the amount of \$91,505.52

Street Light Account – Checks #531 – 534 in the amount of \$4,756.55

Recreation Fund – Checks #224 - 227 in the amount of \$775.66

Total Expenses for this December 10, 2025 Meeting are \$97,037.73

Vice Chairman Feick made a motion to approve the payments of the bills for this December 10, 2025 meeting - - seconded by Supervisor Zimmerman and passed unanimously (3-0).

Sewer Accounts balances for the end of November, 2025 were as follows:

Sewer Operation Class Account	\$ 2,204.27
Sewer Operation Prime Account	\$ 116,192.57
Sewer Holding Account	\$ 10,426.19
Debt Service Account	\$ 502,775.16

Payments of Bills in the Sewer Operation Account for this December 10, 2025 meeting are:

Checks #3492 to 3506 in the amount of \$ 21,661.15

Supervisor Zimmerman made a motion to approve the payments of the bills for this December 10, 2025 meeting - - seconded by Vice Chairman Feick and passed unanimously (3-0).

EXECUTIVE SESSION: None

ADJOURNMENT OF MEETING: *Supervisor Zimmerman made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:10 P.M. - - seconded by Vice Chairman Feick and passed unanimously (3-0).*

Respectfully Submitted,

Kathy Judy, Secretary
Tulpehocken Township

Attachment: G. Deck – Abstention Memorandum