

**Tulpehocken Township  
Board of Supervisors  
Meeting of January 5, 2026**

The Tulpehocken Township Board of Supervisors met on January 5, 2026, 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 Bryan Dronick, Police Chief; Kathy Judy, Township Secretary / Treasurer; and Lisa Care, Sewer Service Secretary.

Members of the audience included Susan Wolfe.

**CALL TO ORDER:** Chairman Deck called the meeting to order at 7:10P.M.

The meeting continued with the pledge to the American Flag.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS:** Susan Wolfe shared with the Board that since becoming a member of the Library Board, she's come to learn and would like to recognize the Bethel-Tulpehocken Library for how much they offer the community. Ms. Wolfe also asked the Board if they have any information about the bridge repairs in Womelsdorf. There was also discussion about cars pulling out carelessly onto Teen Challenge Road from the Training Center entrance.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** *Supervisor Zimmerman made a motion to approve the minutes from the December 10, 2025 Board of Supervisors Meeting - - seconded by Vice Chairman Feick and passed unanimously (3-0).*

**MUNICIPAL AUCTION:** The Board reviewed the auction results and bids received for the 2014 Subaru Impreza. *Supervisor Zimmerman made a motion to approve the sale and authorize transfer of title to the high bidder for \$3,205.00, or the second highest for \$3,155.00, should the high bidder default - - seconded by Vice Chairman Feick and passed unanimously (3-0).*

**ADMINISTRATIVE ACTIONS:**

**Personnel:** None

**Planning Commission Recommendations:** None

**Land Development:** None

**Solicitor Legal Discussion:**

- Comcast Franchise Agreement and negotiating service to Gravel Pit and Midway Roads – The Solicitor is waiting for a response from Comcast.
- Draft agreement for multi-day park rental request in 2026 – No action taken.

**Escrow Release:**

- Bill Smeltzer, Shoestring Industries: No update was received. No action taken.

**Zoning & Correspondence from Zoning Officer:**

- The Board discussed the status of clean up at 44 Rehrersburg Road. Since the first hauler is no longer in business and there's been some improvement at the property since the original quotes, the Board agreed to request the other two haulers give new quotes for the Board to consider on or before their March meeting.

**Recreation:**

- Lions Park Maintenance/Operation repairs and purchases: None.

**STAFF REPORTS:**

**Police Report** – Chief Dronick read the December, 2025 Police report as follows:

	<b>Tulpehocken</b>	<b>Marion</b>
MILES PATROLLED	1934	779
GALLONS OF FUEL	144	
HOURS WORKED	453.5	60
PATROL HOURS	203.75	37
TULPEHOCKEN AREA SCHOOL DIST.	29.5	
TOTAL INCIDENTS	4	2
TOTAL COMPLAINTS	0	2
MISCELLANEOUS CALLS FOR SERVICE	52	5
FOLLOW-UP INVEST	8	0
TELEPHONE ASSIGNMENTS	17	10
COMM/RESIDENTIAL ALARMS	0	1
EMS/FIRE ADVISORIES	36	17
TRAFFIC STOPS	9	4
CITATIONS ISSUED	7	7
NON-TRAFFIC CITATIONS	1	0
TRAFFIC WARNINGS	3	1
WARRANTS	0	0
PARKING TICKETS	0	0
TRAFFIC ACCIDENTS	6	2
DUI ARRESTS	1	0
MISDEMEANOR/FELONY	0	0
SECURITY CHECKS	6	2
POLICE ASSISTS	7	0
MOTORISTS ASSISTS	4	2
COURT APPEARANCES	4	1
SCHOOL (TRAINING) HOURS	0	

Chief Dronick reported that during the month December there were 143 calls received through Berks County 911; noting that seventeen (17) were for Teen Challenge.

- Chief Dronick explained to the Board that the Police Department has been asked about possibly providing coverage to a small portion of a development that falls over the Marion Township line into Heidelberg Township. Approximately seventeen homes in the proposed development would be situated in Heidelberg Township. Agreeing to this would save Heidelberg Police from having to cross through Womelsdorf in order to cover this small portion of the development that is otherwise entirely located in Marion Township and being covered by Tulpehocken Police. *Supervisor Zimmerman made a motion to authorize the Police Chief and Police Commissioner to meet with representatives for Marion and Heidelberg Townships and South Heidelberg Police to discuss the matter further – noting that this includes authorizing the Township Solicitor to attend, if other parties’ Solicitors will be attendance - - seconded by Vice Chairman Feick and passed unanimously (3-0)*
- Equipment Repairs and purchases – None.

**Road Master’s Report:** Vice Chairman Feick read the December, 2025 report. The work consisted of sewer maintenance, working on Mt. Meadows street lights, putting snow equipment on trucks, snow events, mixing salt and antiskid, cut up trees on Witman Road, call to check out electric at one of the sewer treatment plants, and pulled and cleaned a sewer pump.

- Equipment Repairs and Purchases:
  - o Truck 15 Tires – this was originally approved for \$3,497.10, the total cost was \$3,615.10. *Vice Chairman Feick made a motion to ratify approval of the additional \$118.00 - - seconded by Chairman Deck and passed (2-0-1). Supervisor Zimmerman abstained, stating for the record that he has a conflict due to a family relationship with the vendor.*

**Fire Chiefs' Report** – Vice Chairman Feick reviewed activity for the Keystone Fire Company and read the report for the Rescue Fire Company for December, 2025.

**SEWER OPERATIONS:**

- Judgements and Delinquent Sewer Accounts
  - o 21 East Market Street (Weik property) – The Board discussed that there is default on the payment agreement. *Chairman Deck made a motion to notify the property owners and authorize the Solicitor to proceed with continuation of the Sheriff Sale, per the agreement, if payment is not received within one week - - seconded by Supervisor Zimmerman and passed unanimously (3-0).*
- Sewer Service equipment repairs and purchases - None

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

- Emergency Services Tax
  - o Agreement with Bethel Community Ambulance (BCA) – The Board reviewed the agreement and discussed edits. *Supervisor Zimmerman made a motion to approve agreement, with the discussed revisions, and authorize signing once BCA signed and notarized originals are received back - - seconded by Chairman Deck and passed 2-0-1. Vice Chairman Feick abstained, stating for the record he was abstaining to avoid any appearance of conflict due to a family relationship with a member of the BCA Board.*
  - o Letter to Teen Challenge for payment in lieu of taxes – The Board reviewed a draft letter requesting a payment in lieu of EMS and Fire taxes; edits were discussed and *Supervisor Zimmerman made a motion authorizing the letter, once revised, to be sent to Teen Challenge - - seconded by Vice Chairman Feick and passed unanimously (3-0).*

**NEW BUSINESS:**

- 2026 Township Newsletter - *Supervisor Zimmerman made a motion to approve publishing and mailing a current Newsletter to all residents - - seconded by Vice Chairman Feick and passed unanimously (3-0).*

**CORRESPONDENCE:**

- A note from a resident was received, thanking employees for their work clearing roads during a recent winter weather event.
- An email and photographs reporting an ice-covered sidewalk were received. The Board members agreed that with the sidewalk still being ice covered at the time of this meeting and it being over a week after the weather event, there is a clear violation of Ordinance 2017-1 and enforcement action should be taken.

**OTHER BUSINESS:**

SmrtGuys Bi-Yearly Service Contract - the quote from SmrtGuys for the Bi-Yearly Service Contract for 2026 is \$590 (no increase). *Chairman Deck made a motion to accept the Smrt Guys 2026 bi-yearly service contract for a cost of \$590.00 - - seconded by Vice Chairman Feick and passed unanimously (3-0).*

There was a discussion about cleaning surveillance system cameras. It was agreed that the Secretary inquire with SmartGuys about being able to coordinate and schedule camera cleaning services so that the costs for the high-reach equipment rental can be split between several clients.

**TRAINING AND OTHER INVITATIONS:**

- Invitation to Town Hall meeting from County Commissioners
- PSATS 2026 Conference will be on April 19-22, 2026

**FINANCIAL REPORT AND APPROVAL FOR PAYMENT OF BILLS:**

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

General Account	\$ 31,941.61
1 <sup>st</sup> Citizens General Holding Acct	\$ 139,839.54
General Prime Account	\$ 455,924.98
State Aid Account	\$ 125,583.86
Street Light Account	\$ 16,943.42
Recreation Fund	\$ 147,128.19
Payroll Account	\$ 18,920.59

Payments of Bills for this January 5, 2026 meeting are:

- General Account – Checks #22898-22936 in the amount of \$86,464.81
- Street Light Account – Checks #535-536 in the amount of \$2,259.02
- Recreation Fund – Checks #228-230 in the amount of \$590.26
- Total Expenses for this January 5, 2026 Meeting are \$89,314.09

*Supervisor Zimmerman made a motion to approve the payments of the bills for this January 5, 2026 meeting - - seconded by Vice Chairman Feick and passed unanimously (3-0).*

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

- Sewer Operation Class Account – \$ 7,857.09
- Sewer Operation Prime Account - \$ 101,545.51
- Balance in the Sewer Holding Account - \$ 27,579.62
- Debt Service Account - \$ 504,446.56

Payments of Bills in the Sewer Operation Account for this January 5, 2026 meeting are:

- Checks #3507 to 3521 in the amount of \$ 11,915.43

*Supervisor Zimmerman made a motion to approve the payments of the sewer bills for this January 5, 2026 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 8:47 P.M. - - seconded by Vice Chairman Feick and passed unanimously (3-0).*

Respectfully Submitted,

Kathy Judy, Secretary  
Tulpehocken Township

- Attachments: - H. Zimmerman Abstention Memorandum
- L. Feick Abstention Memorandum