

*Incorporated March 12, 1738*

# TINICUM TOWNSHIP

*Bucks County*

## BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

163 Municipal Road  
Pipersville, Pennsylvania 18947

RICHARD ROSAMILIA, CHAIRPERSON  
JIM HELMS, VICE-CHAIRPERSON  
JOHN BLANCHARD, SUPERVISOR

### **Tinicum Township Board of Supervisors Meeting Minutes October 15, 2019**

Supervisors Rich Rosamilia, Jim Helms and John Blanchard were present with Township Manager Teri Lewis. There were approximately 28 people in attendance.

Chairperson Richard Rosamilia called the public meeting of the Tinicum Township Board of Supervisors to order at 7:30 pm followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

#### **A. Public Comment**

Jacob Leister, E. Dark Hollow Rd, said that his 2016/2017 Eagle Scout project had been to improve the miniature golf course in the Ottsville Community Park. He said that the course was very rundown and his goal was to make it playable. Leister said, with the help of 50 volunteers, he completed his goal in August 2018. Leister said he was disappointed the course had not been maintained during the past year and was now overgrown. He stated that there had been an agreement with the Supervisors that it would be maintained and asked that the Township maintain the course. Rosamilia said that he did not recall an agreement to maintain it, but thought that it was a Park and Rec Committee volunteer maintenance project. He said that the Township has limited funds to maintain the park. Rosamilia said he would speak with Public Works about maintaining the golf course in the future. Blanchard said they would contact Leister once there was a plan in place.

#### **B. Old Business**

##### River Road/Smithtown Rd Safety Concerns Update

Rosamilia said a letter was sent to Representative Ullman, PennDOT Secretary of Transportation Richards, Senator Mensch and Governor Wolf as planned, along with the resident comments received at the time. He noted the Township plans to forward any future resident comments. Rosamilia stated that Senator Mensch had already responded with a letter of support sent to PennDOT Officials.

On Monday, October 7<sup>th</sup>, Rosamilia said that he, Chief Phelan and Smithtown Road resident Rick Balukas toured the area of concern with Representative Ullman. He said they walked the section from Bridge Lane Three to Bridge Lane Five, visited Smithtown Road, and Tinicum Creek Road. Rosamilia said that they clearly saw the areas of concern. He noted that traffic was moving very quickly. He said Ullman's next step will be to meet with PennDOT Secretary of Transportation Leslie Richards. Rosamilia stated that prior to the next Board of Supervisors meeting on November 19<sup>th</sup>, the Board will touch base with Ullman for an update and to see if there is anyway the Board and Township can help.

Rick Balukas, Smithtown Road, said that he had a petition with 207 signatures. He noted that during the site visit, Chief Phelan said he had contacted neighboring municipalities, Bedminster and Plumstead, and learned that PennDOT had agreed to provide road warning markings and PennDOT also agreed to maintain them.

Pierce Albright, E. Dark Hollow Road, said that he had driven a school bus for 12 years and a River Country bus for 30 years along River Road. He said from Point Pleasant to Frenchtown Bridge is the

worst section. He said the intersection of Smithtown and Route 32 is extremely dangerous. Albright said he will not exit Smithtown south onto Route 32. He suggested making Smithtown and Twin Lear Roads one-way road from Route 32 to avoid the problem.

Rosamilia said the Board had discussed that option for over a year, but the Smithtown and Twin Lear residents had not been in favor of it. He said that that the LTAP [Local Technical Assistance Program] studies had also recommended that it become a one way. Rosamilia stated that it may become the only option at some point, but for now they wanted to explore other solutions at the request of the residents. Albright said from Bridge Five Lane up to Boy Scout area is very narrow and two school buses can barely pass each other. He suggested that PennDOT cut back the rock outcropping. Rosamilia said that it was good suggestion and we could pass it on to PennDOT.

#### Proposed Sewage Amendments

Rosamilia stated that although the Township is not required to send amendments for a stand-alone ordinance to the Bucks County and Township Planning Commissions, the Board wanted the Township Planning Commission's input prior to advertisement. He said that the next Planning Commission meeting is October 22<sup>nd</sup> and he hoped to have input from the Planning Commission prior to the next Board of Supervisors meeting on November 19<sup>th</sup>.

Rick Swiantecke, said that he would like the Board to be aware that no other Bucks County municipalities require a replacement area for repairs and it may be possible that 6 years later the area may not perc. Rosamilia said that the issue had already been addressed in the amendment. Swiantecke suggested the Board also take a look at requirements to the escrow and pumping requirements. Rosamilia said they are currently reviewing these issues.

#### Land Preservation Committee recommended Conservation Easement Purchase

Rosamilia said that the Land Preservation Committee (LPC) recommends final approval of the Township purchase of a conservation easement on the property of Katherine E. Righter, TMP 44-005-070; 44-005-072-002; 44-005-072; 44-005-061, located at 35 Clay Ridge Road, Ottsville, PA 18942. He said this is a +/- 23-acre property; a 2.5-acre building envelope is proposed. Rosamilia stated that the proposed Township purchase price of 39% of the appraised value of the development rights is \$107,933, plus closing costs. Norm MacArthur, LPC Chair, said the balance of the purchase price will be a generous donation by the landowner.

**Motion:** to authorize final approval of the Township purchase of a conservation easement on the property of Katherine E. Righter, TMP 44-005-070; 44-005-072-002; 44-005-072; 44-005-061, located at 35 Clay Ridge Road, Ottsville, PA 18942.

**Motion by:** Helms. **Second by:** Blanchard. Voted upon and passed.

### **C. New Business**

#### FEMA Hazard Mitigation Assistance Unified Grant Program

Tracy Tackett, Zoning Office and Flood Plain Administrator, said that FEMA had reintroduced a program to help property owners located in the flood plain pay for the cost of elevating their homes. Tackett said she was contacted by four property owners including 773 River Road, 54 Bridge Four Lane, 44 Bridge Four Lane, and 811 River Road who were interested in participating in the program. Tackett said there have been issues with 804 River Road and suggested including that the property. She said that, if awarded, the grant funding would pay for 90% of the cost of elevation and homeowner would be responsible for the remaining 10%. She said the Township must apply for grants on behalf of the interested property owners. She said the Letter of Interest from the Township must be submitted to FEMA/PEMA by October 31, 2019 and the online application must be completed by November 14, 2019.

Rosamilia asked if anyone can apply for the grant. Tackett said yes. She said that if this submission was successful, the Township may want to send out flood plain properties letters in advance next year. Rosamilia said that the Township will want to participate next year.

**Motion:** to apply for FEMA grants for 773 River Road, 54 Bridge Four Lane, 44 Bridge Four Lane, 811 River Road and 804 River Road.

**Motion by:** Rosamilia. **Second by:** Blanchard. Voted upon and passed.

Fire Police Request: The Borough of Riegelsville Requests any available Del Val Fire Police at the Fall Roll Out Car Show

**Motion:** to authorize any available Del Val Fire Police to assist with traffic control at the 29<sup>th</sup> Annual Riegelsville Fall Roll Out Car Show in Riegelsville Park on Sunday, November 3<sup>rd</sup>, between 7 am and 2 pm.

**Motion by:** Rosamilia. **Second by:** Blanchard. Voted upon and passed.

Fire Police Request: The Borough of Dublin Requests any available Ottsville Fire Police at the Annual Holiday Event

**Motion:** to authorize any available Ottsville Fire Police to assist with traffic control at the Borough of Dublin Annual Holiday Event on Saturday, December 14<sup>th</sup> from 4:30 pm until 9 pm.

**Motion by:** Rosamilia. **Second by:** Blanchard. Voted upon and passed.

Red Hill and Brick Church Road Conditions

Rosamilia said approximately 18 months ago, he, Lewis and Skelton met with PennDOT to discuss the take back of a small section of Red Hill just before Brick Church with PennDOT. He said it has always been in terrible condition because PennDOT mistakenly believed it belongs to the Township, despite repeated meetings and discussions with PennDOT. Rosamilia said that recently there were some personnel changes at PennDOT. Lewis said that the new representative was receptive to making this small section of Red Hill become part of Hollow Horn.

**Motion:** to authorize Township Manager Lewis to send a letter to PennDOT requesting further discussion regarding the takeback of a small portion of Brick Church Road and Red Hill Road.

**Motion by:** Rosamilia. **Second by:** Blanchard. Voted upon and passed.

**D. Regular Business**

2020 Budget Announcement

Rosamilia announced that Tincicum Township Board of Supervisors met on September 27<sup>th</sup> to discuss the Township's 2020 budget and continued the meeting earlier in the evening on October 15<sup>th</sup>. Rosamilia said the proposed budget was now ready to be advertised to the public.

**Motion** to advertise the Proposed Tincicum Township 2020 Budget.

**Motion by:** Rosamilia. **Second by:** Blanchard. Voted upon and passed.

**E. Payroll Report:**

**1) Minutes:**

**Motion to:** approve the Minutes of the October 1<sup>st</sup> meeting as written.

**Motion by:** Helms. **Second by:** Blanchard. Voted upon and passed.

**2) Treasurer's Report & Budget Recap:** Rosamilia stated that the Treasurer's Report and Budget Recap for September is posted on the bulletin board.

**3) Payroll Report:**

**Motion** to accept the Payroll Reports for the period ending September 27<sup>th</sup> in the amount of \$26,765.42.

**Motion by:** Blanchard. **Second by:** Helms. Voted upon and passed.

**4) Disbursements:**

**Motion:** to accept the disbursements as written below.

**Motion by:** Blanchard. **Second by:** Helms. Voted upon and passed.

General Fund	Amount	Memo
Postmaster	\$206.50	Stamps
ReadyRefresh	\$15.45	Bottled Water -all departments
Ricoh Americas Corp	\$93.00	Copier/Scanner Lease

Armitage Electrical	\$175.00	Public Works Generator Inspection
Met-Ed	\$20.58	Electricity Park
Met-Ed	\$290.59	Electricity Police and Admin
Met-Ed	\$114.42	Electricity PWD
Met-Ed	\$28.56	Electricity Traffic Light
Staples Credit Plan	\$17.12	Police Supplies
Merry Maids	\$300.00	Janitorial Services Sept
Del Valley Workers Compensation Trust	\$7,008.75	Workman's Compensation Insurance
Keystone Municipal Services Inc	\$1,365.00	Bldg. and Insp services 9-9 thru 9-20
PennTeleData	\$180.21	Internet Modems
DelGuerico's Disposal Service	\$155.00	Trash and Recycle
Bucks County Planning Commission	\$567.27	Hazardous Waste Program 2017-2020 Inv.
Richard J. Miller & Sons	\$1,675.00	Public Works Building and Garage Door Repairs
Bucks County Police Training Ct	\$300.00	Bucks County Police Training Ct
Uniform Gear	\$128.20	Police Uniform Supplies
YCG	\$195.00	Calibration – Police Interceptor
Internal Revenue Service	\$2,174.86	Employer FICA tax
Harris and Harris	\$4,544.00	Legal Services September
J. Gerding	\$25.60	Expense Reimbursement
United Healthcare	\$10,226.05	Employee Health Insurance
Earthlink	\$53.90	Web Hosting
<b>Payroll Fund</b>	<b>Amount</b>	<b>Memo</b>
Pay period ending 9/30	\$21,415.38	Paychecks
Internal Revenue Service	\$5,072.11	Employer FICA tax
Pa Dept of Revenue	\$872.80	Employee State tax
Keystone Collections Group	\$2,591.46	3 <sup>rd</sup> quarter Earned Income tax
PA UCC	\$103.07	3 <sup>rd</sup> quarter Pa Unemployment tax
<b>State Fund</b>	<b>Amount</b>	<b>Memo</b>
Peckham Industries	\$4,216.80	Calcium Chloride
Pipersville Garden Center	\$24.83	Pipersville Garden Center
ABE Materials Easton	\$1,663.91	Stone
Wehrung's	\$233.88	Road Maintenance Supplies
H & K Materials	\$3,192.72	Asphalt
Keller's Farm Machinery, Inc.	\$145.00	2910 Tractor Rim
Vanderlely's Truck Sales & Service	\$31.21	Vehicle Repair Supplies
Suburban Propane	\$1,050.00	Diesel Fuel
<b>Capital and Equipment</b>	<b>Amount</b>	<b>Memo</b>
Santander Leasing	\$9,835.37	Police Fleet Car Payment
<b>Groundwater Fund</b>	<b>Amount</b>	<b>Memo</b>
Lennon's Small Jobs	\$57.20	Battery Replacement & Logger Installation
Global Water	\$1,044.00	Repair, Calibrate & Certify Logger

## F. Zoning

### Advertised Hearing for Ordinance 245 Fences continued to October 15<sup>th</sup>, 2019 Meeting.

Lewis said that the Bucks County Planning Commissions approved the Ordinance changes. Tackett stated that the major changes stemmed from resident complaints that the maximum allowable height for a fence in a front yard was only 3 feet, which did not function well for children and dogs. She said the amendment would now allow for a 4-foot fence in the front yard and if the house were 35 feet from the center of the road or less, a 6-foot fence would be allowed.

**Motion:** to approve Ordinance 245: Fence Amendments.

**Motion by:** Blanchard. **Second:** Helms.

Zoning Hearing Appeal 2-2019 of Anthony and Patti Pizzo from the action of the Zoning Officer and request for relief from the Zoning Ordinance front yard setback requirements. Hearing Date Nov. 14<sup>th</sup>. Rosamilia said that at the last meeting it was decided to ask if the Building Inspector would visit the site and determine if the building could be condemned. Rosamilia said, however, the Building Inspector was not able to condemn a building that no longer existed and he had no legal authority to do so. Rosamilia stated that the Pizzos had removed the appeal of the action of the Zoning Officer from their application. He said the Pizzos must go before the Zoning Hearing Board to request relief from the front yard setback requirements. The Board agreed not to oppose the waiver from front yard setback requirements.

#### **G. Land Development**

Request for Waiver of Land Development from M&W Precast LLC.

Gavin Dubosky, representing M&W Precast LLC and Jason Wehrung, President, M&W Precast LLC were present. Dubosky gave the following overview, stating that M&W:

- Had replaced an existing 74-foot high cement silo with a 56-foot high cement silo.
- Had installed additional batching equipment that required an enclosure composed of a roof and piers.
- Plans to remove old batching equipment once the new had been thoroughly tested.

Dubosky said, in summary, new, smaller structures will replace larger existing structures. He said there will be no increase in impervious surface. Dubosky presented aerial photographs of the site, which he said were taken by Crews Surveying in July of 2019. He identified the structures that will be removed.

He asked the Board to grant a waiver of Land Development because the client is replacing existing structures. Dubosky said that the client acknowledged that he had not obtained proper permits for the construction or demolition and knows he must apply for the permits.

Tackett, Zoning Officer, said that the use falls within the confines of the nonconforming use. She said Wehrung should apply for a demo permit and update the most recent site plan to track the changes. She also asked that Wehrung update the historical inventory listing that the Township had on record. Tackett said that a building permit is not required for the silo because it is considered machinery, but Wehrung must apply for a zoning permit.

**Motion:** to grant a waiver of Land Development for M&W Precast, LLC based on the condition that M&W apply for and receive a demo permit, remove the existing structure, provide an updated site plan based on the July 2019 aerial photographs and obtain a Zoning permit for the silo and roof enclosure.

**Motion by:** Blanchard. **Second:** Helms. Voted upon and passed.

#### **H. Announcements/Events:**

Rosamilia announced the following:

OUR COMMUNITY WATER MONITORING NETWORK SEMINAR: October 21 & November 25

The Bridgeton-Nockamixon-Tinicum Groundwater Committee will be presenting a District Community School course at Palisades High School's Auditorium on Monday 10/21 and 11/25 from 7:30 - 9pm. The free seminar will present efforts to manage water resources, avoid overuse and contamination.

Halloween Trick or Treat

**Motion:** to set the official time for Halloween Trick or Treat for October 31<sup>st</sup> between 6 and 8 pm.

**Motion by:** Helms. **Seconded by:** Blanchard.

Drug Take Back Day

Wehrung's Home Center will be hosting a Drug Takeback event, which provides a safe, responsible way to dispose of unwanted prescription drugs, on Saturday, October 26<sup>th</sup> from 10 am - 2 pm.

#### **I. Public Comment**

Jesse Salamun, Headquarters Road, said heading south on 611 onto Durham Road is a very dangerous site. She requested that PennDOT do a left-hand turn. The Board thought there was some discussion of a light. She said that she was told that the area is in Nockamixon. Helms suggested making the right and going under 611. Lewis said Salamun should register her suggestion on the PennDOT Customer Care website.

Albright said that the state spent a lot of money of turning the towpath into a bike path, but some bicyclists insist on riding on Route 32. He said that it is very dangerous. He commended the Chief Phelan for getting trucks rerouted from going across the Golden Pheasant Bridge. Rosamilia noted that on the new Route 202 there is paved sidewalk and a bike path but bicyclists continue to ride on the road.

**J. Executive Session**

Supervisor Rosamilia recessed the regular meeting at 8:26 pm to discuss matters of litigation and personnel. Rosamilia stated that there was no action report.

**K. Adjournment**

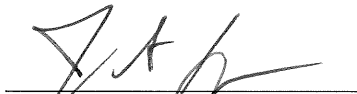
**Motion:** to adjourn the meeting at 9:08 pm.

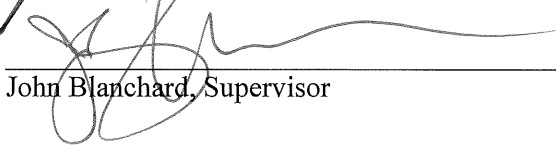
**Motion by:** Helms. **Second by:** Rosamilia. Voted upon and passed.

*The next meeting of the Board of Supervisors is scheduled for November 19<sup>th</sup>, 2019 at 7:30 pm.*

**TINICUM TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Richard Rosamilia, Chairperson

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Jim Helms, Vice-Chairperson

  
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John Blanchard, Supervisor