

Incorporated March 12, 1738

TINICUM TOWNSHIP

Bucks County

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

163 Municipal Road
Pipersville, Pennsylvania 18947

RICHARD ROSAMILIA, CHAIRPERSON
JIM HELMS, VICE-CHAIRPERSON
ELEANOR BRESLIN, SUPERVISOR

Tinicum Township Board of Supervisors Meeting Minutes June 21, 2022

Supervisors Eleanor Breslin, Jim Helms and Richard Rosamilia were present with Township Manager Teri Lewis and Township Solicitor Steve Harris. The meeting was held in the Tinicum Township building meeting room. There were approximately 40 people in attendance.

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

Richard Balukas, River Road, announced he would be recording the meeting.

A. Announcements

- Livestream Board Meetings: The Board meetings will not be livestreamed until equipment supply chain issues can be resolved. G2 Computer LLC could not provide a delivery date at this time.
- Executive Sessions: The Board met earlier in the evening at 6:00 PM and on May 19th at 6:30 PM to discuss personnel and potential litigation. No decisions were made.
- Zoning Hearing Board Appointments:
Motion to appoint Tom Casola as a regular member on the Zoning Hearing Board to fill the former term of M.J. Frumin (expires 12/31/23).

Motion by: Breslin. Second by: Helms. Voted upon and approved.

Motion to appoint Joy von Glueck as alternate on the Zoning Hearing Board to fill the former term of Tom Casola (expires 12/31/24).

Motion by: Breslin. Second by: Helms. Voted upon and approved.

- PennDOT Meeting: The Board met with PennDOT representatives to discuss the pothole issue in the Township. Although short staffed by approximately 40 people, PennDOT assured the Township that major work is planned for late July and the fall, including overlay and tar and chipping. The Board asks the public to continue to call PennDOT 1-800-FIX ROAD to report potholes.
- Native Plant Exchange: The Board thanked Elizabeth Hallowell for hosting the Native Plant Exchange at the Tinicum Community Park on May 28th, which was a great success.
- Tinicum Arts Festival: July 9th and 10th at Tinicum Park on River Road in Erwinna. Proceeds benefit the community through the festival sponsor, the Tinicum Civic Association.
- Rain Barrel Workshop: The Board thanked the Environmental Advisory Committee members for the Rain Barrel Workshop Event held on June 11, 2022, which was a great success. Special thanks to John Cole for transporting materials, the Penn State Extension Master Watershed Stewards for their expertise, Wehrungs and Coca Cola for their generous support, the Delaware Wild and Scenic Management Council for the mini-grant and Supervisor Breslin for leading the project.

B. Emergency Services

Police Report

Chief Madden, Tincum Township Police Dept., presented the following report for May 2022:

- 155 Incident Reports: 64 service-related, 31 investigative (including 1 simple assault arrest and related charges), 53 traffic, 6 training and 1 court appearance.
- 4 Reportable Traffic Accidents:
 - 2-vehicle accident on Smithtown Road due to distracted driving.
 - Tractor trailer struck the Golden Pheasant Bridge during a failed attempt to cross the bridge.
 - 2-vehicle accident on Route 611 was the result of tailgating.
 - 1-vehicle accident on Route 113 was the result of improper driving actions.

Ottsville Fire Company Report

Bill Schick, Ottsville Fire Chief, presented the following report:

- Total Calls-To-Date: 470 emergency dispatches
- New Members: 6 new members as a result of community outreach

Palisades Regional Fire & Rescue Service Consolidation Plan

Chief Schick provided the following information concerning the consolidation:

- Springtown recently voted to join the consolidation. Bedminster, Nockamixon and Durham Townships and Reigelsville Borough have all joined.
- Actual consolidation changeover is scheduled for August with a Consolidation Ribbon Cutting Event scheduled for October 1, 2022.
- All financial, new bi-laws, legal information, etc. has been completed and is under review with the Attorney General and Auditor General offices. Once the No Contest letter for consolidation from Bucks County is received, the court can then dissolve the charters.
- The Palisades Regional Corporation has already been established in Nockamixon.
- Operations will be headquartered in the Ottsville Station; Executive offices will be headquartered in Reigelsville Station; Fire Police will be based in Nockamixon Township.
- It is anticipated that a new, larger station will be built in Nockamixon, which will replace the existing leased station.
- The Reigelsville Rescue truck will be sold and the rescue tools distributed to other trucks. The Palisades Rescue Truck will serve seven municipalities, along with other rescue resources.
- Nockamixon increased their fire tax over a 3-year period in anticipation of the new station. Bedminster did not increase their fire tax but voted to increase funding in 2022 and 2023 by \$120,000 (mil and a half) per year.
- The consolidation was driven by dwindling volunteer fire services and the 2018 State SR6 and County report recommendations.

Chief Shick explained the following:

- Coverage area (130 square miles), how and when equipment is dispatched and backup staging. Response to Tincum will remain unchanged.
- Rapid Intervention Team (RIT) function, availability and procedures.
- A Community Outreach Committee has been established and recently did a pre-prom presentation. Future community events to include regular CPR classes available at the fire stations and live fire extinguisher training for residents, businesses, day care and school staff.
- A Fire Commissioner position has been established to serve as the municipality liaison. Todd Myers, from Cowan Associates Inc., Quakertown, was elected to the 3-year position.
- A Municipal Advisory Board has been created with one elected official from each municipality to meet regularly with the Fire Commissioner on the budget.

Harris noted that the Second-Class Township code requires a resolution to adopt the new corporation. Shick said a Service Agreement would be sent to the Township.

C. Public Comment

River Road Traffic Concerns Discussion

Christie Staikos, River Road, said she was concerned about traffic issues on River Road at the Golden Pheasant Bridge and the one-lane bridge just north of it, near her residence. She requested that the community work together to find solutions regarding speed, enforcement, and potholes. Rosamilia said that River Road is a PennDOT road and the speed on certain sections south of the bridge have been reduced, but Pennsylvania does not allow municipalities to use radar to enforce speed. He said that the Board has discussed various ideas to improve the situation on the bridge.

Helms said the Board has been working with the community to improve issues on River Road and has accomplished a list of improvements since 2018. He recommended that the Township's temporary radar speed sign, which also collects speed data, be moved to the area. Breslin asked Chief Madden if the State Police could be asked to cover that area. Chief Madden said she would contact the State Police, but noted that they are stretched thin covering areas that do not have local police coverage.

Crash Data Discussion

Richard Balukas, River Road, stated that he had received information from Chief Madden that in 2022/2021 there were 41 traffic accidents and the State Police portal showed 36 accidents for a total of 77 accidents in Tincum. He said that the portal provides crash details and he requested that Tincum conduct an analysis to identify the most dangerous intersections or areas frequent deer accidents.

Helms said the Board had asked Chief Madden to look into the crash data for 2021 and identify problem spots. He said the analysis indicated no specific problem areas. Helms said, in terms of the type of accidents, the vast majority of the 61 combined State Police/Tincum accidents were the result of environmental causes, such as deer or snow. He said there were 13 accidents which, based on the type of accident, could potentially be related to speeding including too fast for conditions, over/under compensating for a curve and driving on the wrong side of the road. He noted that the remainder of the accidents involved distracted driving, improper driving actions, careless turns, proceeding without clearance, improper backing, tailgating, inexperienced driving, and running a stop sign. Helms said with 107 miles of road in the Township, only 13 accidents were the type that the Township might be able to affect, noting he saw that as low. Balukas said that he was pushing the Township to look at the portal data and work together. Rosamilia asked Chief Madden to contact the State Police regarding the data and accident causes for review with the Board.

Golden Pheasant Bridge Discussion

Balukas said PennDOT is planning to rehabilitate or replace the Golden Pheasant Bridge and that the public should be involved. Helms said that PennDOT has 6 options under consideration ranging from straightening out the road and replacing the bridge to doing nothing. Rosamilia noted that the Board and the public would be involved in the PennDOT Section 106 Public meetings.

Larry Brandt, River Road, said there were a number of imminent deadlines for the Golden Pheasant Bridge. Lewis said PennDOT has invited the Board for bridge discussions. Brandt said that the TCA/Stover Mill may be impacted and residents and businesses need to have a voice. Lewis said the 106 Process requires PennDOT to advertise and hold public meetings. Helms asked Lewis to find out about the dates. Rosamilia asked Lewis to place a link to PennDOT on the website for the public to be involved. Breslin asked if there was a role the Township can play to inform residents and businesses along River Road of their ability to participate. Balukas said there should be Township consensus on the number of lanes and was concerned that 2-lanes would invite more tractor trailers on River Road. Rosamilia agreed.

Vladimir Salamun, Headquarters Road, said that the bridge was repaired five years ago and asked why PennDOT was looking to do more. Rosamilia said the repair was a temporary, emergency fix and PennDOT had always planned to do a long-term fix. Jesse Salamun, Headquarters Rd, said that PennDOT prefers 2-lane bridges and requested that all three Supervisors fight it.

Speed Limit Signs Bridge Five Lane

Cindi Gasparre, River Road, asked about the status of placing speed limit signs on the speed indicator on Bridge Five. Lewis said she had contacted PennDOT but was waiting for a confirmation in writing.

D. Old Business

Sherman Road Speed

Chief Madden stated that the Sherman Road residents has sent a letter in April requesting that the speed limit be posted at 25 mph. In response, Chief Madden said the following steps were taken:

- Research was conducted by Doug Skelton, Public Works Director, to determine if Sherman Road qualified as a “Residential Roadway” according to PennDOT’s definition. It was determined that there was not enough residential frontage to qualify Sherman Road as a Residential Roadway, according to PennDOT standards. Consequently, a speed study was necessary.
- A Spot Speed Test was conducted over a 4-day period and 842 cars were timed. The 85th percentile speed was determined to be 34.1 mph.
- A Safe Running Speed Test was conducted, which involved periodically reporting speeds at different locations on Sherman Road while driving at a safe speed. This was done five times in each direction. The average speeds were determined to be 33.3 mph and 34.2 mph.
- An USLIMITS2 web-based tool study was conducted by an engineer to provide an objective second opinion. The engineer recommended a 35-mph speed limit.
- All three studies confirmed that a 35-mph speed limit should be established for Sherman Road and that information was presented to the Board.

Rosamilia said that the Board has the discretion to lower or raise the speed limit by 5 mph. Chief Madden confirmed that the road can be posted within 5 miles of the safe running speed or the 85th percentile. Helms recommended the speed limit be lowered to 30 mph as Sherman Road was mainly residential.

Luke Sorensen, Sherman Road, thanked the Board for conducting the studies, but said there was a clause that allows the speed limit to be reduced 10 mph below the safe running speed if a major portion of the road has insufficient stopping sight line distances. Sorenson provided photos that indicated multiple dips on the road that potentially could affect the stopping sight line distances. He requested that the Board consider reducing the speed to 25 mph. Helms recommended that the Board table the discussion to allow Chief Madden to research the new information and determine if the 25-mph speed can be legally enforced. Rosamilia said that they would table the discussion until the next meeting.

Motion to lower the speed limit on Sherman Road to 30 mph.

Motion by: Helms. Second by: Breslin. Motion tabled until the July 19th Board meeting.

Codification of Zoning Ordinance

Motion to send the Codification to the Bucks County Planning Commission for review.

Motion by: Helms. Second by: Breslin. Voted upon and passed.

Sorbello Project TMP 44-014-032

Motion to authorize the Township Manager to sign the Sorbello Planning Modules.

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

Motion to authorize the Board Chairperson to sign the Sorbello Stormwater Maintenance Agreement.

Motion by: Helms. Second by: Breslin. Voted upon and passed.

E. New Business

Police Dept. Taser Replacement

Chief Madden said that every officer is currently equipped with X2 Tasers, but one has failed and the current technology is being phased out. She requested that all the tasers be replaced at the same time to ensure that all officers would be carrying the same model with the same features. Chief Madden reviewed the new technological features of the taser, as well as explaining that the new tasers would be yellow and easily distinguishable from their all-black firearms. Lewis stated that the rough estimate to purchase the new tasers would be \$14,000 paid out over a 5-year period. She said that by purchasing the tasers and cartridges in a bundle the Township would save \$800.

Motion to purchase new Police Taser replacement units.

Motion by: Rosamilia. Second by: Breslin. Voted upon and passed.

Request for Uhlerstown Hill Road Closure on July 2nd

Damon Aherne, Uhlerstown Hill Road, said that in the past cars have been parking illegally on private lawns and fields along Uhlerstown Hill Road to watch the Riverside Symphonia Concert and Fireworks show in Tincum Park. He requested signage be put up in advance to temporarily close the road during the period of time the event takes place on July 2nd. Aherne said he and the neighbors did not mind pedestrians, but was concerned for their safety if the road is not closed to vehicles. He said that if the Board agreeable, he would notify the 20 residents of Uhlerstown Hill Road.

Chief Madden said that "Road Closed" signs can be placed along the road the day of event. She said if issues with pedestrian traffic occur, they can contact the radio dispatch for assistance. Lewis said she will coordinate with Aherne regarding the "Road Closed" signs.

Motion to close the requested road section of Uhlerstown Hill Road at River Road on Saturday, July 2, 2022 from 7 pm until 11 pm.

Motion by: Breslin. Second by: Helms. Voted upon and passed.

Fire Police Requests

Motion to authorize any available Fire Police to assist Dublin Borough with the Dublin Carnival July 15 & 16 and July 19 through 23.

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

Motion to authorize of any available Fire Police to assist the Tincum Civic Assoc. with traffic control for the Stover Mill Juried Show Reception on Sunday Oct 16th.

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

Morgan-Kendell Wastewater System Agreement and Easement TMP 44-026-009-002

Motion to approve and authorize the Board to sign the Morgan-Kendall Installation and Maintenance Agreement and Easement for a Drip Irrigation Wastewater Treatment System.

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

Resolution for American Rescue Funds

Lewis requested a motion be made to amend the 2020 Budget for unbudgeted American Rescue Funds (ARF) received in 2021. Harris said the funds received will be allocated to the cost of payroll and benefits for the period April 1, 2020 through Dec. 2021. Helms said the \$206,826.36 amount represents half of the Township ARF allocation. Breslin noted that the Township elected to use its standard deduction, which can be done if the amount received from the ARF is less than \$10 million and then an in-depth accounting is not required. She said it was recommended by PSATS (Pennsylvania State Assoc. of Township Supervisors) to pass a resolution to acknowledge receipt of the money in excess of what was budgeted. Helms said that it allows the Township to accept the money and then determine how the money will be spent.

Motion to approve Resolution 062122.01 Supplement Appropriations for the 2022 Budget.

Motion by Helms. Second by Breslin. Voted upon and passed.

Levene Stormwater Facility Maintenance Agreement TMP 44-032-018

Motion to approve the Levene Stormwater Facility Maintenance Agreement.

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

F. Regular Business

Minutes

Motion to approve the minutes of the May 3, 2022 meeting as written.

Motion by: Helms. Second by: Breslin. Voted upon and passed.

Budget Recap and Treasurer's Report

The Budget Recap and Treasurer's Reports for April and May 2022 are posted on the bulletin board.

Payroll Reports

Motion to accept the Payroll Report for the period ending May 6 in the amount of \$28,421.40; May 20 in the amount of \$33,192.37; June 3 in the amount of \$29,253.45.

Motion by: Rosamilia. Second by: Breslin. Voted upon and passed.

Disbursements

Motion to approve the following disbursements.

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

General Fund	Amount	Memo
PA Dept of Labor and Industry - SWIF	\$16,769.00	Fire Company Workers Comp
Earth Link	\$61.90	April and May webhosting
Delaware Valley Workers Compensation Trust	\$5,835.75	Workers Comp WCPREM21-TINIC2
Delaware Valley Insurance Trust	\$10,682.75	2019 Quarter two Commercial Insurance
Ricoh Americas Corp	\$93.00	copier lease
Met-Ed	\$17.69	Electricity Park
Keystone Municipal Services Inc	\$4,635.00	Bldg. and Zoning Services 4-19 thru 4-28
Met-Ed	\$181.59	Electricity PWD
Met-Ed	\$328.41	Electricity Police and Admin
Campbell Durrant Beatty Palombo & Miller PC	\$390.00	Legal Services
Staples Credit Plan	\$57.27	Police Supplies
PennTeleData	\$316.55	PennTeleData
Met-Ed	\$28.11	Electricity Traffic Light
Courier Times, Inc.	\$1,633.71	Public Notices bids exec and audit completion
Cooper Mechanical	\$5.63	Cooper Mechanical - fitting
ReadyRefresh	\$153.48	Bottled water
Allied Administrators for Delta Dental	\$696.16	Allied Administrators for Delta Dental
Richard Balukas	\$650.00	Richard Balukas refund of unused escrow
Aflac Business Services	\$218.46	February Supplement Insurance withheld
United Healthcare Insurance Company	\$12,306.87	2022 Monthly Health Insurance
Harris and Harris	\$3,907.50	Legal Services April
Service Electric Telephone	\$375.15	Telephone Service
Keystone Municipal Services Inc	\$5,378.00	Bldg. and Zoning Services May 3-May 12
Uniform Gear	\$1,890.00	Police Uniform Supplies
Davidheiser's	\$56.00	Calibration- Police Timing Equip
Leaf	\$73.31	Police Copier
Help Now	\$75.00	Police IT
Fred Beans Ford	\$1,867.92	wiring harness sensors and fuel line
Madden Mead	\$74.03	Reimbursement - Interview Exp
Staples Credit Plan	\$8.17	Staples Credit Plan
DelGuerico's Disposal Service	\$155.00	Trash and Recycling Service
Verizon Wireless	\$207.45	Police Wireless
VISA	\$8.51	Supplies
Merry Maids	\$115.00	Merry Maids
Hartford Insurance	\$459.53	Life and Dis Insurance
WEX, Inc	\$578.14	Police Fuel
Gary's Septic Service, Inc.	\$285.00	Septic Tank Cleanout
Wehrung's	\$16.99	Wehrung's
Merry Maids	\$115.00	Merry Maids
ET&T Eastern Telephone	\$5,806.13	ET&T Eastern Telephone Deposit
PennTeleData	\$423.47	Internet Modems
PSATS UC GROUP TRUST	\$970.99	QTR 1 2022 Uniform

Keystone Municipal Services Inc	\$4,144.50	Bldg. & Zoning 5/17 - 5/26
Met-Ed	\$122.73	Met-Ed 419 PWD
Met-Ed	\$293.09	Electricity Police and Admin
Met-Ed	\$17.34	Electricity Park
Ricoh Americas Corp	\$133.42	Copier Lease
Met-Ed	\$27.65	Electricity Traffic Light
PSATS	\$200.00	Flagger Training PWD
Keystone Municipal Services Inc	\$4,144.50	Bldg. & Zoning 34403 5/17 - 5/26
B. Jeannie Kauffman	\$250.00	ZHB Centennial Barn Stenography
PA Turnpike	\$9.10	Pol Chief Training - tolls
Courier Times, Inc.	\$700.56	Public Notice
Staples Credit Plan	\$58.45	Police supplies
Hartford Insurance	\$459.53	Life and STD Insurance
Allied Administrators for Delta Dental	\$696.16	Allied Administrators for Delta Dental
Wynn Associates Inc.	\$3,725.33	May Engineering
PSATS	\$120.00	CDL Testing
Petty Cash	\$44.58	Replenish Police Petty Cash
Staples Credit Plan	\$401.33	Office Supplies
Payroll Fund	Amount	Memo
Account Edge Payroll	\$27,931.05	Pay period end 5/6/22
Account Edge Payroll	\$32,539.04	Pay period end 5/20/22
Account Edge Payroll	\$28,737.72	Pay period end 6/3/22
State Fund	Amount	Memo
Interstate Battery System of Greater Phila	\$267.90	Fleet Battery
Suburban Propane	\$2,527.03	Diesel Fuel
Plumstead Materials	\$4,023.69	Stone
STTC	\$1,385.70	Tires
Suburban Propane	\$2,457.77	Suburban Propane
Plasterer Equipment Co,	\$5,096.07	Stinger Edges & Teeth - carbide tips
Vanderlely's Truck Sales & Serv	\$388.02	PWD fleet parts
Wehrung's	\$238.00	PWD supplies 73537
Capital One Trade Credit	\$87.69	PWD Tools
Wehrung's	\$16.99	Shop Supplies
Eagle Power & Equipment	\$494.75	PWD fleet parts
Cargill	\$4,265.13	Salt
Asphalt Maintenance Solutions	\$120,494.55	Seal Coat Maintenance Sector 6
Open Space Fund	Amount	Memo
Del Val Regional Finance	\$226,500.81	Open Space Bond Payment

G. Subdivision and Land Development

Preliminary Plan Minor Subdivision: Three Horse, LLC, 38 Center Road, TMP 44-014-076-002 & 44-015-01

- The application is for a 2-lot subdivision. There are existing dwellings on each lot. No new development is proposed.
- The Tincum Township Planning Commission reviewed the application on February 22, 2022.
- The Bucks County Planning Commission review was received on March 17, 2022.
- The applicant requested a 180-day extension to find an alternative septic area for Lot #2.
- Urwiler and Walter, Inc. Plan dated Nov. 15, 2021 revised May 18, 2022 in accordance with the guidelines recommended by the Township Engineer and Township Planning Commission.
- Board of Supervisor review has been rescheduled for July 19, 2022.

H. Zoning Hearing Board

ZHB Appeal 2022-2: Davidson, 72 Walters Lane, TMP 44-033-013-005

Variance relief requested from side yard setbacks, floodplain overlay, and riparian buffer, as well as sewage disposal area in the riparian corridor.

- Tincum Township Planning Commission reviewed on May 24, 2022.
- Board of Supervisors review June 21, 2022.
- Zoning Hearing Board scheduled for July 14, 2022.

Rosamilia said that the Planning Commission recommendation is to oppose the variance due to the following concerns:

- The applicant proposes a sewage disposal area within 30 feet of the existing well and the Bucks County Health Dept. has approved the location, however, the applicant plan did not indicate the location of neighboring property wells in relation to the proposed septic system.
- Request for a deck in the setback does not constitute a hardship.
- The prior existing use was not for a three-bedroom house.

Rosamilia stated that the lot is very narrow and the backyard is in the floodway. He noted that because no septic or wells can be located in the floodway, the locations for the septic and well are limited. Rosamilia requested that Harris research the concerns.

Motion to authorize Harris to attend the Zoning Hearing Board hearing to oppose Appeal 2022-2 Davidson, subject to determination of adjoining septic systems and wells.

Motion by: Breslin. Second by: Helms. Voted upon and passed.

I. Miscellaneous

Copier Lease Buyout/Replacement

Request to approve copier lease buyout and replacement by Costars-approved company (automatic low bid). New copier proposal promises reduction in monthly cost and better connectivity with Mac computers.

Motion to approve the new lease for printer/copier/scanner, subject to review by Township Solicitor.

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

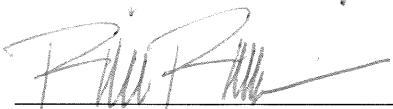
J. Adjournment

Motion: to adjourn the meeting at 10:35 PM.

Motion by: Rosamila. Second by: Helms. Voted upon and passed.

The next meeting of the Board of Supervisors is scheduled for July 19, 2022 at 7:30 PM.

TINICUM TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS



Richard Rosamilia, Chairperson



Jim Helms, Vice-Chairperson



Eleanor Breslin, Member