

May 19, 2025 @ 6:30 P.M.

The Township Board of Commissioners held their regular monthly meeting on the above date and time at 97 Wanamaker Avenue, Essington, PA 19029 with Patrick McCarthy, Board President, presiding. Present:

- Patrick Barr, Commissioner
- Dennis Arthur, Commissioner
- Lisa Edmiston, Commissioner
- Roger Joseph, Commissioner
- David D. Schreiber, Manager
- Dennis O’Neill, P.E. Engineer
- Sam S. Auslander, Esq., Solicitor

Mr. McCarthy called the meeting to order and all rose for the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

\* \* \* \* \*

Prior to the beginning with the regular agenda items, Commissioner McCarthy introduced Mr. Patrick Quinn who announced the winners of the Tincum School’s 8<sup>th</sup> grade Memorial Day Essay contest. The three winning students read aloud their essays describing what Memorial Day means to them to the meeting attendees. The winners included Abigail Molley, Lauren Neary, and Kyleigh Sloan. Each of them was presented with a certificate signed by the School District and the Township and a small gift from the Board of Commissioners.

After the school students presented their essays and exited the meeting room, the Board of Commissioners held a Conditional Use hearing to present the application of USA Eagle Carports on behalf of The Parking Spot, 621 North Governor Printz Blvd. Eagle Carport’s Application seeks Conditional Use pursuant to Section 395-136 of the Tincum Township Zoning Ordinance governing “canopies” as an accessory use and structure. The Applicant requests approval to install two canopy structures to serve as access control points on the property. A transcript of the Conditional Use Hearing is provided under its own, separate cover.

At the conclusion of the Conditional Use Hearing, Commissioner McCarthy resumed the Regular Monthly Commissioner Meeting at approximately 6:50

\* \* \* \* \*

**ON A MOTION** by Lisa Edmiston and second by Dennis Arthur, the minutes of the April 2025 Monthly Commissioners Meeting were accepted and approved by a unanimous voice vote.

Board President McCarthy reported that all members have received copies of the Treasurer's and Secretary's Report of Receipts. There being no questions;

**ON A MOTION** by Dennis Arthur and second by Lisa Edmiston, the reports were accepted and approved as submitted by a unanimous voice vote.

Mr. McCarthy reported that the bill list for May 2025 will be distributed to all members at the end of the month. There being no questions;

**ON A MOTION** by Roger Joseph and second by Lisa Edmiston the bill list will be paid for the month of May 2025 by a unanimous voice vote.

**Public Comments on Agenda Items:**

Ed Rubillo, Wyandotte Street, regarding Item #9 Tincum Township Resolution 2025-004 Amending the Physical Agility Test for Police Officer Candidates, asked what would be different from the previous test? The Board responded that the proposed test would eliminate the running hurdle jump, car push, and low crawl portions of the current test. Commissioner Joseph commented that the remaining requirements were sufficient since all candidates had to be MOPEC certified via the training received at the Police Academy, which includes its own physical agility tests/requirements.

Mr. Joseph also noted that the employment application for police candidates has been converted to an on-line electronic format for easier completion.

Asked what Item #11, Advanced Life Support (ALS) Intergovernmental Agreement was. The Board responded that the Township has been working with other municipalities to form a partnership to supply advanced life support ambulance service to residents in light of the closing of Crozer Chester Hospital. An agreement among the municipalities would be needed to document shared expenses, costs, responsibilities, etc.

Mr. Zurdi Dobi, 200 Powhattan Avenue, asked for clarification of Item #10, Appointment of Ida Mae Sinclair to the Library Board of Trustees, referencing the proposed formation of a 501c3 organization for the Library. Stated that one of the streets noted in Item #14, Bids for 2025 Street Repaving Project, should be removed from consideration (Powhattan Avenue) since, in Mr. Dobi's opinion, it did not need repairing.

Asked the Township Solicitor to provide an update on the County Health Department, and Wu litigation, and the situation with the Lutheran Church. Asked the Manager to provide an update on the purchase of a new car and repeated his request from last month asking the Board of Commissioners to adopt a resolution supporting Presidential Executive Order 14201 of February 2025 pertaining to men participating in women's sports.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**ADMINISTRATION, LAW, ORDINANCE, PUBLIC SAFETY AND FINANCE – Patrick K. McCarthy Chairman**

**Tinicum Township Resolution 2025-004 Amending the Physical Agility Test for Police Office Candidates**

**ON A MOTION** by Roger Joseph and second by Lisa Edmiston the Board voted unanimously via roll call vote to adopt Township Resolution 2025-004 implementing Civil Service Commission Resolution 2025-001 which amends the requirements for physical agility testing for potential candidates for new police officers.

**Appointment of Ida Mae Sinclair to the Library Board of Trustees**

**PRIOR TO VOTING** on this item, Commissioner McCarthy stated that he and Solicitor Auslander had met with the Library Trustees to discuss establishing a 501c3 organization that might provide access to grants for the Library that would otherwise only be available to 501c3 entities.

**ON A MOTION** by Lisa Edmiston and second by Roger Joseph the Board voted unanimously via roll call vote to appoint Ms. Ida Mae Sinclair to the Board of Trustees of the Tinicum Township Memorial Library

**Advanced Life Support (ALS) Intergovernmental Agreement**

**ON A MOTION** by Roger Joseph and second by Patrick Barr the Board voted unanimously via roll call vote to instruct the Township Solicitor to draft, in conjunction with the surrounding Interboro School District communities, an Intergovernmental Agreement outlining the community's cooperation to provide Advanced Life Support ambulance service among the municipalities.

**Tinicum Island Road License Agreement**

**PRIOR TO VOTING** on this item, Mr. Auslander stated that this was a negotiated agreement with the City of Philadelphia for an irrevocable license with the Township for the use of the road as a public street.

**ON A MOTION** by Dennis Arthur and second by Roger Joseph the Board voted unanimously via roll call vote to execute an irrevocable license agreement with the city of Philadelphia accepting the dedicating and licensing of the relocated Tinicum Island Road to Tinicum Township as part of its public street system which shall be designated on the official Tinicum Township street map. Said approval is subject to the receipt of an executed agreement from the city of Philadelphia.

**Tinicum Island Road Maintenance and Operations Agreement**

**PRIOR TO VOTING** on this item, Commissioner McCarthy thanked the Township Engineer, Solicitor, Manager, and Commissioner Barr for their efforts in bringing this item to fruition over a lengthy negotiation process. Mr. Auslander commented that this new road will be part of the Township’s street system and will be maintained by the Township as the expense of the City of Philadelphia.

Mr. Auslander also stated that there were some outstanding issues that were resolved involving insurance and indemnification, citing the governmental immunity provided to municipalities by the state involving the Tort Claims Act.

Mr. Ed Rubillo asked if the City has the authority to issue vehicle citations on the new Tinicum Island Road. The Board responded that they are not.

**ON A MOTION** by Roger Joseph and second by Dennis Arthur the Board voted unanimously via roll call vote to execute a maintenance, repair and operations agreement with the city of Philadelphia providing for the Township’s maintenance, reimbursement of costs and expenses, and responsibility for police, fire and emergency services for the relocated Tinicum Island Road. Said approval is subject to the receipt of an executed agreement from the city of Philadelphia

**Bids for 2025 Street Repaving Project**

**PRIOR TO VOTING** on this item, the Township Engineer stated that he has looked at Powhattan Avenue and notes that although PECO did repave ½ of the street, there is noticeable “alligator” cracking on the remainder of the street and that the repairs to this street will not be a full restoration, but a milling and re-surfacing.

**ON A MOTION** by Roger Joseph and second by Lisa Edmiston the Board voted unanimously via roll call vote to instruct the Township Engineer to instruct the Township Engineer to prepare specifications, bid packages, and advertisement for the Townships 2025 Street Repaving project. Potential streets may include:

- Erickson Avenue from Front St. to 2<sup>nd</sup> St.
- Essington Avenue
- Carre Avenue from Front St. to 2<sup>nd</sup> St.
- Powhattan Avenue from 2<sup>nd</sup> Ave. to 3<sup>rd</sup> Ave.
- With an alternate to repair the pickle-ball court at Westinghouse Grove

**Public Works Department New Full-Time Hires**

**ON A MOTION** by Lisa Edmiston and second by Roger Joseph the Board voted unanimously via roll call vote to hire current part-time employees Mr. Nathan McGee of Norwood and Mr. Ron Quigley-Donahue of Essington as full time employees within the Township Public Works Department at a rate of \$18.09/hr.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**Code Enforcement Report – Roger Joseph, Chairman**

**April 2025 - The Code Enforcement Officer Issued:**

48 Certificates of Occupancies for a total of \$ 6,775  
12 Building Permits for a total of \$ 10,834

**Police, Fire, and Buildings: Patrick K. McCarthy, Chairman**

**Police Report: April 2025**

Township Fines: \$ 6,182 Of that amount, a total of \$ 1,728 were Parking Tickets.

The department handled 462 incidents and made 20 criminal arrests  
20 of those criminal arrests were adults  
00 of those criminal arrests were juveniles.  
00 animals were taken into custody

**Fire Company Report: April 2025**

Building Fire	10	Hazmat	01
Vehicle Fire	03	CO Alarm	02
Brush Fire	01	Water Rescue	01
Assist EMS	03	Dispatch/Cancel	06
Assist Police Dept.	01	Investigations	01
MVA	13	Auto Fire Alarms	11
<u>Wires</u>	<u>01</u>		
Total Calls	54		
EMS Calls	154		

**Fire Marshal Report: April 2025**

**Plan Reviews**

1. American Airlines Admeral Lounge Kitchen Hood Fire Suppression System

**Inspections and Acceptance Tests:**

1. Quality Hotel (former Wyndham)
2. McGillicuddy’s Pub
3. Red Roof Inn
4. Monaghan’s Pub

5. PHL Terminal A West 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor Security Area

Investigations:

1. Romano's Restaurant – investigate electrical panel after water leak

**Ray Lonabaugh, Fire Marshal**

**Public Works, Highways, and Railroads: Lisa Edmiston, Chairperson**

**Trash removal for the month of April 2025**

Regular Trash	178	Tons
Bulk Trash	10	Tons
Yard Waste	09	Tons

- Cut grass at various locations
- Painted bath house deck at Westinghouse Grove Park
- Maintained ball fields
- Began clean up at former Lagoon property
- Planted flowers around Township
- Began week spraying
- Serviced and readied mosquito spraying equipment
- Installed new home-plate at Little League field

**George Hinkle, Superintendent**

**Sanitation: Dennis R. Arthur, Chairman**

<b>Tincum Township Wastewater Treatment</b>	<b><u>April 2025</u></b>
Total flow	38,819,000 gallons
Average Daily Flow	1,293,000 gallons
Total sludge	70,000 gallons (2.75 solids)
Methane Gas	30,365 cu ft.

- Serviced lawn equipment
- Installed new motor on draft tube mixer
- Cleaned restrooms at ball field
- Began seasonal grass cutting

**Louis Clark, Jr., Superintendent**

**Health & Recreation: Pat Barr, Chairman**

Mr. Barr reported that soccer sign-ups are available on line at a cost of \$30 per child.

Mr. Barr reported that the following establishments passed their annual Health Inspection: RJ's Hot Dog Stand, Romano's, Clarion's kitchen, Ice Cream Truck, Holiday Inn Express, Aramark-Keystone Café, McGillicuddy's Bar, Big Joe's Sandwich Shop, Sunoco Snacks, LaColombre, Currito Burrito, Piattino Restaurant, American Airlines Admiral's Club.

**Solicitor's Report: Sam S. Auslander, Esquire**

Mr. Auslander reported he attended District Court for several "extended stay" citations issued to local motels. One was fined \$9,000 and another was fined \$10,000.

Regarding the County Health Department, Mr. Auslander reported that two separate court cases were initially filed, one involving 7 First Class Township's and another involving 6 other communities seeking an injunction from the County doing local inspections.

Judge Angelos issued what was initially noted as a temporary injunction for the 7 First Class Townships while Judge Bradley issued an injunction for the other 6 communities. The County filed an appeal with the Commonwealth Court challenging Judge Bradley's decision, and the Court upheld the Judge's ruling. The County has 30 days to appeal the Commonwealth Court decision to the Commonwealth Supreme Court. The original 7 communities await Judge Angelos to rule permanently.

Mr. Auslander stated that there is no change to the status of the Lutheran Church and that the parties to the Wu litigation await a court date. The mediation proceedings are not public information.

**Engineer's Report: Dennis O'Neill, P.E.**

The Township Engineer reported that there are several taxiway projects ongoing at the airport. The Engineer's office has asked the airport to ensure they are coordinating all projects that refer to storm water diverting to the airports "south ponding ditch" to ensure that there are no adverse capacity issues that would negatively affect taxiways or runways.

The new sludge heater for the water treatment plant is scheduled for delivery this month. Installation may occur in July. Mr. O'Neill noted that the mini-PROS recreation plan is ongoing and that a form for public comment may be available on the Township Website.

Mr. O'Neill noted that may 18 to 24 is Public Works Employee week.

**Manager’s Report: David D. Schreiber**

The Township Manager reported that repairs to the traffic light at Wanamaker Ave have begun. The mast arm is being replaced and the newly installed traffic improvement equipment will be re-installed on the new arm. The state Office of Management and Budget is still reviewing the RCAP grant close-out report for the Lazaretto Building. The communities working together to develop an alternate advanced life support provider has received several proposals from ambulance service providers. The municipalities will continue to evaluate the proposals to determine the best solution to the void in “ALS” service.

**Secretary’s Correspondence – David D Schreiber** There was no correspondence this month.

**Adjourn the Business Portion of Meeting**

**ON A MOTION** by Patrick Barr and second by Roger Joseph to adjourn the business portion of this meeting by a unanimous voice vote.

**Public Participation**

Ed Rubillo, Wyandotte Street, asked the Board to take a look at the “parking issue” on his street as a result of the business at 144 N. Governor Printz taking up residential parking.

Mr. Zurdi Dobi, 200 Powhattan Ave, asked about the vehicle being driven by the Township Manager. The Board responded that it was ordered in 2023 as a replacement vehicle for the Code Enforcement Department. However when it was delivered in 2024 the car being driven at the time by the Township Manager was assigned to the Code Department as the delivered vehicle contained a third row of seating that is best used as an Administration vehicle.

Mr. Dobi took issue with Mr. Auslander not providing details for the Wu litigation and again suggested that Township should settle the case.

**Adjournment of Meeting**

**ON A MOTION** by Roger Joseph and second by Patrick Barr this meeting was adjourned by a unanimous voice vote.

Respectfully Submitted,  
David D. Schreiber  
Manager/Secretary