

January 16, 2024 @ 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, Vice President  
Dennis Arthur, Commissioner  
Lisa Edmiston, Commissioner  
Roger Joseph, Commissioner  
David D. Schreiber, Manager  
Sam Auslander, Esq., Solicitor  
Dennis O'Neill, Engineer

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

Mr. McCarthy asked for a moment of silence in memory of Township Tax Collector James Fenn.

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**ON A MOTION** by Lisa Edmiston and second by Patrick Barr, the minutes of the December 2023 Commissioners Monthly Meeting were accepted and approved by a unanimous voice vote.

Board President McCarthy reported that the Treasurer's and Secretary's report have been delayed. As a result, Mr. McCarthy asked that this item be tabled for this meeting.

**ON A MOTION** by Roger Joseph and second by Lisa Edmiston the acceptance and approval of these reports was tabled by a unanimous voice vote.

Mr. McCarthy reported that the bill list for January 2024 will be distributed to all members at the end of the month. There being no questions;

**ON A MOTION** by Dennis Arthur and second by Lisa Edmiston, the bill list will be paid for the month of January 2024 by a unanimous voice vote.

**Public Comments on Agenda Items:**

Zurdi Dobi, 200 Powhattan Ave, Regarding Item # 10, Appointment of Paige Quigley as Tax Collector, asked what the salary would be. Asked for an update on The Wu, County Health Department, and Wawa Conditional Use litigation. Asked the Engineer for an explanation and update on a DEP complaint regarding Long Hook Creek and if a DEP report was available to the public. Asked for an update on any meetings the Engineer has had with the Airport.

Mr. Art Perdun, commented that there were signs posted near the US Post Office restricting parking that referenced "Philadelphia". Mr. McCarthy stated that this was for utility work and that the contractor just used the signs they had in their possession.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

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

**Adoption of Resolution 2024-001 Applying for County Aid Liquid Fuels Funds**

**ON A MOTION** by Roger Joseph and second by Lisa Edmiston the Board voted via unanimous roll call vote to adopt Tincum Township Resolution 2024-001 making application to Delaware County for an allocation of County Liquid Fuels Tax funds in the amount of \$7,223

**Adoption of Ordinance 2024-919 Vacating Ordinance 779 of 2004**

**PRIOR to voting** on this item, the Township Solicitor commented that the former ordinance is being repealed because similar ordinances have been found to be unconstitutional and unenforceable.

**ON A MOTION** by Dennis Arthur and second by Lisa Edmiston the Board voted via unanimous roll call vote to adopt Ordinance 2024-919 vacating and repealing Ordinance 779 of 2004 governing Properties, Disorderly as Codified under Chapter 264.

**Adoption of Resolution 2024-002 Authorizing New Bank Signature Cards**

**ON A MOTION** by Patrick Barr and second by Roger Joseph the Board voted unanimously via roll call vote to adopt Township Resolution 2024-002 authorizing the President of the Board of Commissioners, the Township Tax Collector, and the Township Secretary as Approved Signers of Township Checks and Fund Transfers for accounts serviced by County Savings Bank. Said Resolution will also remove Mr. James Fenn as an authorized signer.

**Adoption of Resolution 2024-003 Appointing Paige Quigley as Tax Collector**

**ON A MOTION** by Lisa Edmiston and second by Dennis Arthur the Board voted unanimously via roll call vote to appoint Ms. Paige Quigley of Essington as Tincum Township Tax Collector fulfilling the term of recently passed Tax Collector James Fenn. Said Appointment is effectively immediately. Salary for the Tax Collector, including for duties as Treasurer and administration of sewer fees totals approximately \$48,000

**Transfer of Funds from the General Account to the Sewer Account**

**ON A MOTION** by Roger Joseph and second by Dennis Arthur the Board voted unanimously via roll call vote to make semi-annual transfers of funds from the Township General Operating Fund account to the Sewer Account to cover associated debt service and administrative expenses. Said Semi-annual transfers are in the amount of \$375,000

**Release #1 of Escrow Funds to Betz Properties Associates**

**ON A MOTION** by Patrick Barr and second by Roger Joseph the Board voted unanimously via roll call vote to approve Escrow Release #1 in the amount of \$12,000 to Betz Properties Associates for the public improvement work related to their Land Development at 320 S. Gov Printz Blvd.

**PHL Taxiway S Reconstruction Stormwater Ordinance Waiver Request**

Commissioner McCarthy stated that this item would not be considered at this meeting since the applicant was not yet prepared to support their request.

At Public Comment, Mr. Dobi stated that this item was not addressed or tabled. Mr. McCarthy agreed and therefore presented a Motion to Table this item.

**ON A MOTION** by Roger Joseph and second by Patrick Barr the Board voted unanimously via voice vote to table this item at tonight's meeting.

**Amendment of Responsible Contractor Ordinance 799 of 2006**

**ON A MOTION** by Patrick Barr and second by Lisa Edmiston Joseph the Board voted unanimously via roll call vote to instruct the Township Solicitor and Township Engineer to draft an amendment to Ordinance 2006-799, known as the Responsible Contractor Ordinance, increasing the limits of contract amounts from \$150,000 to \$750,000

**Appointment of Public Works Department Personnel**

**ON A MOTION** by Lisa Edmiston and second by Roger Joseph the Board voted unanimously via roll call vote to hire Mr. Drew Kalesnik of Lester for employment within the Township Public Works Department at a rate of \$17/hr.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

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

**December 2023 - The Code Enforcement Officer Issued:**

**23 Certificates of Occupancies for a total of \$ 3,350**

**07 Building Permits for a total of \$ 29,516**

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

**Police Report: December 2023**

Township Fines: \$ 1,201 Of that amount, a total of \$ 150 were Parking Tickets.

The department handled 402 incidents and made 21 criminal arrests 21 of those criminal arrests were adults 00 of those criminal arrests were juveniles. Out of those juveniles 00 of the juveniles were handled within the Department and Released.

**Fire Company Report: December 2023**

Building Fire	14 (6 Working Fires)
Assist EMS	04
MVA w/Injuries	10
Industrial Rescue	02
Water Rescue	01
Fuel Spill	04
Gas Leak	01
Chemical Fire	01
Public Assist	01
Dispatched/Cancelled	07
<u>Auto Fire Alarms</u>	<u>06</u>
Total Calls	51

Total Calls for 2023 502

Mr. McCarthy also announced that the Fire Company has appointed a new Fire Chief, Mr. Josh Powley, and thanked former Chief Michael Golden for his service.

EMS Calls	168
EMS Calls for 2023	1996

**Fire Marshal Report: December 2023**

**Plan Reviews:**

1. 433 Powhattan Avenue, Ernest D. Menold Fire Alarm review
2. 300 Stevens Drive 1<sup>st</sup> 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor Rest Room fire sprinkler
3. 300 Stevens Drive, Fire Alarm device upgrades in Fire Alarm Panel, Detectors, Modules

**Fire Inspections and Acceptance Tests:**

1. 414 Powhattan Ave, Fire Alarm System inspection and test
2. 5 Hog Island Road, Removal of firefighting foam from overhead sprinkler system
3. 10 Industrial Highway, H Complex, Fire Sprinkler Installation inspection and test
4. 10 Industrial Highway, G Building, inspection of relocated fire alarms and sprinklers

Attended various training this month including Del. Co. Fire Marshals and Board of Fire Life Safety

**Ray Lonabaugh, Fire Marshal**

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

**Trash removal: December 2023**

Regular Trash	184	Tons
Bulk Trash	10	Tons
Leaves	30	Yards

- Completed leaf pick up for the year
- Re-hung all Home Town Hero Banners
- Cleaned and maintained storm drains
- Opened tide gates during heavy rain
- Removed flood debris from Front St.
- Removed graffiti from various locations

**George Hinkle, Superintendent**

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

**Tinicum Township Wastewater Treatment Plant: December 2023**

Total flow	44,051,000 gallons	
Average Daily Flow	1,421,000 gallons	
Total sludge	52,000 gallons	(3.05% solids)
Methane Gas	116,700 cu ft	

- 500 Block of E. 2<sup>nd</sup> St. Jetted and Cleaned line
- Serviced and repaired Plant Comminutor
- Treated Ramada and 2<sup>nd</sup> St. pump stations with degreaser
- Serviced and cleaned sludge pump

**Louis Clark, Jr., Superintendent**

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

Mr. Barr reported Hockey and Basketball seasons are underway. The Boy Scout's John Morton Winter Survival camp took place this past weekend. However the scouts did not stay overnight. They were only in the park on Saturday.

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

Mr. Auslander reported that the status of the lawsuits Mr. Dobi asked about are unchanged. Wawa is awaiting a court date, and that the Wu matter is listed for February 2025.

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

Mr. Dennis O'Neill reported that repairs on the Jansen Avenue Sewer project have begun and there are several areas along the line that require open cut repairs. As the price provided by the contractor for open cut repairs was deemed excessive, the Engineer's office has procured JMC Contractors to do any of this type of work. JMC's price quote was below the requirements for bidding.

Alliance, the developers for 76 Industrial Highway have requested to come before the Board of Commissioners during the February meeting to present their project. Alliance is still working on various permitting requirements. The Engineer has reviewed Tesla's plan for electric chargers at the Township's existing Wawa store and has provided comments to the Fire Marshal for his review.

Regarding Long Hook Creek and the DEP, the Engineer reported that the Department of Environmental Protection conducted a general inspection of the site in conjunction with the anonymous complaint mentioned last month. The Engineer stated that Mr. Dobi can request a copy of the DEP report from the DEP directly.

The Engineer asked the Board members for suggestions on which streets they would like to see paved this year.

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

The Township Manager reported that he, the newly appointed Tax Collector and office personnel have been working with the Township's auditors, tax bill producer, bank, and others since Mr. Fenn's passing to ensure the Township's business continues uninterrupted. All avenues of the Tax Collector responsibilities are being covered.

There are no Zoning Hearing Board items on the agenda for January. Apple Television continues to film their television series around town.

**Secretary's Correspondence** – There was no Secretary's Correspondence this month

**Other Business** – There was no Other Business discussed

**Adjourn the Business Portion of Meeting**

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

**Public Participation**

Mr. Zurdi Dobi, 200 Powhattan Ave., asked if Mrs. Quigley has resigned her position of employment at the Township in light of her appointment. The Board responded that Mrs. Quigley is out ill and will do so upon her return. Asked if an elderly woman was issued a citation for a broken fence. The Board responded that the fence fell down but no citation was issued. Asked the Board to comment on Delaware County Council and Council's appointment to the County Board of Elections. The Board responded that his is a County issue and is not informed of the status or outcome.

Mr. Walt Ludwig, 447 Manhattan Ave., asked about the status of the construction of Tinicum Island Road and 4<sup>th</sup> Avenue flooding. The Engineer responded that his office has been in contact with the contractor and discussed the water basins and other storm water mitigation items. The Engineer stated that not all of the mitigation steps and processes are complete yet and that some of the water retention basins are currently acting as sediment basins. The flooding can be the result of 3 inches of rain within a few hours period along with an extremely high tide that did not allow the tide-gates to properly open.

Art Perdun, S. Gov Printz Blvd., asked about the fencing around St. Margaret Mary Church and whether or not a permit was issued. The Board responded that a permit has been issued and will look to ensure the fence is properly placed.

**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