

February 20, 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

Mr. Dominic Scrivano represented the Engineer’s office as Mr. O’Neill was absent

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

Pastor Mr. of the New Life Community Church provided an invocation before the agenda items.

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**ON A MOTION** by Lisa Edmiston and second by Patrick Barr, the minutes of the January 2024 Reorganization and Commissioners Monthly Meeting were accepted and approved by a unanimous voice vote.

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

**ON A MOTION** by Roger Joseph 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 February 2024 will be distributed to all members at the end of the month. There being no questions;

**ON A MOTION** by Patrick Barr and second by Roger Joseph, the bill list will be paid for the month of February 2024 by a unanimous voice vote.

**Public Comments on Agenda Items:**

Zurdi Dobi, 200 Powhattan Ave, Regarding Item # 15, Resignation of Mrs. Paige Quigley, asked if Mrs. Quigley is receiving any severance from her previous position or health benefits for her appointment as Tax Collector. The Board responded that Mrs. Quigley is not receiving any severance, but the Tax Collector is eligible for Township health benefits.

Mr. Dobi asked the Township Engineer to provide an update on the “sewer project and the amount of water” (the Inflow and Infiltration project). Asked the Township Solicitor about the number of cases “with docket” numbers in which the Solicitor is involved. Asked for an update on the grant that the Township applied for in November 2023. Asked the Solicitor to comment on the report of Special Counsel investigating the classified documents of then Senator and Vice President Biden. Asked for an update on the Zoning Hearings held for Mr. Cicconi and the former school property in Lester.

Mr. Art Perdun, regarding Item #10 Responsible Contractor Ordinance, asked if the Ordinance required passing an apprentice program. The Board responded, Yes.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

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

**Preliminary Approval of Alliance HP Land Development Plan at 76 Industrial Highway**

**ON A MOTION** by Roger Joseph and second by Dennis Arthur the Board voted via unanimous roll call vote to provide “Preliminary Approval” of Alliance HP’s land development plan at 76 Industrial Highway. Said Land Development is to construct 3 warehouse/flex buildings consisting of 57,000 sq. ft., 45,375 sq. ft., and 50,985 sq. ft. and associated improvements. Said approval shall be subject to the conditions outlined in Tinicum Township Resolution 2024-004 adopted February 20, 2024.

**Extension of Land Development Application Alliance HP at 76 Industrial Highway**

**ON A MOTION** by Roger Joseph and second by Lisa Edmiston the Board voted via unanimous roll call vote to accept applicant Alliance HP request to grant the Board an extension of time by which the Board must consider their “final” Land Development Application at 76 Industrial Highway. Said Land Development is to construct 3 warehouse/flex buildings consisting of 57,000 sq. ft., 45,375 sq. ft., and 50,985 sq. ft. and associated improvements. The extension shall be until June 30, 2024.

**Extension of Tesla Land Development Application at 600 South Gov Printz Blvd.**

**ON A MOTION** by Dennis Arthur and second by Patrick Barr the Board voted unanimously via roll call vote to accept applicant Tesla Inc. request to grant the Board an extension of time by which the Board must consider their Land Development Application. Said application is to install 12 electric vehicle charging stations and associated improvements at the current Wawa store at 600 S. Gov Printz Blvd. The extension shall be until May 31, 2024.

**Adoption of Ordinance 2024-920 Amending the Responsible Contractor Ordinance 799 of 2006**

**ON A MOTION** by Lisa Edmiston and second by Roger Joseph the Board voted unanimously via roll call vote to adopt Township Ordinance 2024-920 amending Ordinance 2006-799, known as the Responsible Contractor Ordinance, increasing the total value of Township Project contract amounts from \$150,000 to \$750,000 and requiring contractor participation in and employee graduation from a Class A Apprentice Program.

**Extension of Subdivision Application of Ed Rubillo at 117 Seneca Street**

**ON A MOTION** by Roger Joseph and second by Patrick Barr the Board voted unanimously via roll call vote to accept applicant Ed Rubillo request to grant the Board an extension of time by which the Board must consider his proposed Subdivision Application at 117 Seneca St. Said Application is to subdivide an existing 15,000 sq. ft. parcel into two lots of 5,000 sq. ft. and 10,000 sq. ft. The extension shall be until June 30, 2024

**Extension of Land Development Application of Mr. Ed Heron at 336 Bartram Avenue**

**ON A MOTION** by Patrick Barr and second by Lisa Edmiston the Board voted via a 4-1 majority vote to accept applicant Ed Heron’s grant of an extension of time by which the Board must consider Mr. Heron’s land development application at 336 Bartram Avenue. Said land development is for a proposed twin dwelling and associated improvements. The extension shall be until June 30, 2024.

Commissioners Barr, Edmiston, Joseph, McCarthy voted “aye”. Commissioner Arthur voted “nay”. Collectively, the Board suggested that this would be the last extension accepted for this land development as it has been pending for many years.

**Purchase of New Truck for Leaf Collection Machine**

**ON A MOTION** by Lisa Edmiston and second by Patrick Barr the Board voted unanimously via roll call vote to approve the purchase of a Ford F-350 4x4 Truck with a 9’ Dump Body for the purpose of mounting the Township leaf collection machine. Said purchase would be made from the Township MS4 funds without affecting the General Operating account. Costars price for said vehicle is approximately \$134,382.

**Proposed Dog Leash Ordinance**

**ON A MOTION** by Lisa Edmiston and second by Roger Joseph the Board voted unanimously via roll call vote to instruct the Township Solicitor to draft and advertise an ordinance of the Township requiring all dogs to be leashed, with said leash to be no more than 8’ long, irrespective of whether the leash is retractable or stationary.

**Resignation of Mrs. Paige Quigley as an Employee of Tincum Township**

**ON A MOTION** by Lisa Edmiston and second by Roger Joseph the Board voted unanimously via roll call vote to accept the resignation of Mrs. Paige Quigley from her position as Payroll and Accounts Payable Processor at Tincum Township in light of Mrs. Quigley’s appointment as Tincum Township Tax Collector. Said resignation is effective as of January 16, 2024.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

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

**January 2024 - The Code Enforcement Officer Issued:**  
**24** Certificates of Occupancies for a total of **\$ 3,250**  
**14** Building Permits for a total of **\$ 8,148**

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

**Police Report: January 2024**

Township Fines: **\$ 2,947** Of that amount, a total of **\$ 431** were Parking Tickets.

The department handled **434** incidents and made **16** criminal arrests  
**16** 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.  
**00** animals were taken into custody

**Fire Company Report: January 2024**

Building Fire	16 (7 Working Fires)	Gas Leak	02
Assist EMS	02	Fuel Spill	01
Assist PD	01	Wires	02
MVA w/Injuries	04	Service Call	02
MVA W/O Injuries	02	Cover	02
MVA W/ Entrapment	02	Misc Calls	01
Industrial Rescue	01	Auto Fire Alams	05
Water Rescue	03	Hazmat Calls	01
Total Calls	47		
EMS Calls	176		

**Fire Marshal Report: January 2024**

**Plan Reviews:**

1. 200 Stevens Drive Fire Alarm Plan
2. 9 Hog Island Road, Lincoln Financial Group Aircraft Hangar

**Fire Inspections and Acceptance Tests:**

1. 10 Industrial Highway G Building Fire Alarm System and Fire Sprinkler Test and Inspection

**Fire Incident Investigations:**

1. 1 Hog Island Road, UPS, Propane fueled floor cleaner fire.

**Ray Lonabaugh, Fire Marshal**

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

**Trash removal: January 2024**

Regular Trash	172	Tons
Bulk Trash	8	Tons
Yard Waste	13	Tons

- Changed Holiday lights at Governor Printz Park
- Stored Christmas lights for the year
- Completed leaf pick up for the year
- Coal patched throughout town
- Cleaned up high-tide debris on Front Street
- Dug and cleared out storm drains
- Opened tide gates during storm
- Completed hanging Home Town Hero banners

**George Hinkle, Superintendent**

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

**Tinicum Township Wastewater Treatment Plant: January 2024**

Total flow	52,470,000	gallons
Average Daily Flow	1,693,000	gallons
Total sludge	65,000	gallons (3.2% solids)
Methane Gas	111,887	cu ft.

- Placed new locks on two pumping stations
- Repaired underground water utility line at plant
- Cleaned wet wells at Manor Field pumping station
- Completed inspections due on Plant vehicles
- Cleared snow after snowstorm

**Louis Clark, Jr., Superintendent**

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

Mr. Barr reported baseball, softball, and t-ball sign-ups will be starting up soon. An issue with the website used for sign-ups is being addressed.

Regarding the Health Department, Mr. Barr read a letter sent to the Patriotic Organization. Commissioner Edmiston had asked the Patriotic Organization to consider helping a resident suffering from cancer with a donation. The Patriotic Organization agreed and was sent a “thank you” letter that Commissioner Barr read during the meeting. The letter thanked the Organization, Commissioners and all those involved for their thoughtfulness. Mr. Barr did not identify the letter-writer out of respect to the resident.

### **Solicitor’s Report: Sam S. Auslander, Esquire**

Mr. Auslander reported that he is working on the leases for the working space the Board has agreed to with the Italian and Swedish organizations at the Lazaretto Building. The lease is expected to be done by next month. Mr. Auslander has received a draft of the Letter of Credit needed for the Berwind Aviation Land Development. His office is reviewing it.

Regarding the litigation Mr. Dobi asked about, Mr. Auslander stated that his involvement is not just in terms of “litigation” but includes approximately over 40 items including lien placements, citations, litigation and others. Regarding the Zoning Hearings for Mr. Cicconi, Mr. Auslander reported that 3 of the 4 variances requested were denied. One was granted. No appeals are known to be filed. Wu litigation has been moved from February 2025 to January 2025. Mr. Auslander stated he had no comment to offer regarding VP or Senator Biden.

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

Mr. Dominic Scrivano stated that his office is reviewing the bids received for the Sewer Maintenance Contract and will be providing a recommendation by next month. There was a sewer “force-main” break this past week on Jansen Avenue that required replacing a 34” piece of pipe. Repairs have been completed.

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

The Township Manager reported that the Board has requested looking into “Warning Pedestrians” signs for various locations. They could run as much as \$50,000 each. The Township will look into the “safe routes to school” program for possible funding. The bid package for upgrading the traffic lights along the 291 corridor is being put out this month. Bids will be due in March with a “notice to proceed” anticipated in May. This bid is being put out by the City of Philadelphia. Conrail has been contacted for a status on the rail road crossing upgrades in 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 Roger Joseph and second by Patrick Barr to adjourn the business portion of this meeting by a unanimous voice vote.

**Public Participation**

Art Perdun, S. Gov Printz Blvd., stated that the State has introduced a bill for a “clean needle exchange” and stated his opposition to such a bill. Mr. Perdun asked Commissioner McCarthy to reach out to the Township's state representative. Mr. Perdun voiced his opposition to what he referred to as “flight crew” homes, stating that they were being occupied by too many people and represented a danger. He asked the Board to be ‘proactive’ in regulating them. The Board responded that all rental properties are inspected annually and that if Mr. Perdun sees something that may be illegal he should report it.

Pastor Ash, New Life Community Church, asked when PECO is going to fix the streets they have been working on (installing new gas lines). The Board responded that PECO should be finished after the spring. Pastor Ash stated that large trucks/vehicles are parking on Church property. He was advised to forward photos and the Township would follow up.

Mr. Zurdi Dobi, 200 Powhattan Ave., asked what the “black vehicle” is at the former Town Hall Building. The Board responded that this is a re-purposed police vehicle for Code Enforcement work. Asked if the police accreditation process has started. The Police Superintendent responded that it has. Referred to ATV and motorcycle “sideshows” that took place in September 2023 and asked if any vehicles were towed or arrests made. The Police Superintendent responded that no vehicles were towed and one arrest was made. Asked about the infiltration and inflow study. Mr. Scrivano responded that the study is still ongoing. Referring to Ms. Matuliwich's comments and identifying Ms. Watkins as Ms. Baldwin, Mr. Dobi again opined that the September 2023 minutes are inaccurate. Suggested that the Township Commissioners are having Executive Session meetings without disclosing such to the public. Stated graffiti is still present on poles in town and that there are no trash cans at various bus stops.

Ms. Marian Matuliwich, 200 Powhattan Ave., asked when did the sewer main break. The Board responded that it broke on Monday this week. Asked if the street sweeper would be out to clean up the streets. The Board responded that it would be out in the spring.

**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