

Incorporated March 12, 1738

TINICUM TOWNSHIP

Bucks County

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

163 Municipal Road
Pipersville, Pennsylvania 18947

ELEANOR BRESLIN, CHAIRPERSON
JOHN COLE, VICE-CHAIRPERSON
MICHAEL KAUFFMAN, MEMBER

TINICUM TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS BUSINESS MEETING MINUTES MARCH 4, 2025 7:00 PM

Call to Order

Pledge of Allegiance

Role Call: EB Yes, JC Yes, MK Yes, SH Yes, CG Yes, JD Yes

Rules of Engagement & Community Engagement Standards Apply at all Meetings.
All Public Comment should be reserved for Public Comment portion of the meeting.
Please come up to the microphone and write your name on the sign-in sheet.

In attendance: Eleanor Breslin, John Cole, Michael Kauffman, Judith Danko, Township Engineer Curt Genner, and Township Solicitor Scott Holbert were present at the meeting.

Chairperson Breslin called the public meeting of the Tinicum Township Board of Supervisors to order at 7:00 PM, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. The meeting, held in the Tinicum Township building meeting room, was live-streamed on Zoom and recorded. There were approximately 17 people present, and 9 people viewed it online.

A. Presentation (video time: 19:00:50)

1. Anthony Mills provided an update on UBREMS. Mr. Mills has been president of UBREMS since December 2024. They run two stations – station 142 in Revere, and station 141 in Springfield.

Mr. Mills reported the January numbers for Tinicum: UBREMS dispatched 12 times and transported 10 times; from 6PM to 6AM, dispatched once and transported once. Average response time is 14 minutes. All numbers were for station 142.

He said he officially joined the board in April of 2022; the board is comprised of 10 representatives in total and come from each municipality, who are appointed by the

municipality and presented to the UBREMS board for review and approval, for a one-year term. Tinicum currently has two members on the board.

Mr. Mills said that Kimberton Whole Foods recently had them as the “roundup” donations for UBREMS, raising \$6,500 for them. UBREMS board members have been working on subscriptions, creating a new database and website, making everything much more user friendly and available to the public, and he expects this work to be completed in April. They also improved operations, reducing the losses they sustain each month by reducing overtime and being more efficient. They have been reaching out to the community, he attended the Haycock town hall meeting, and several other meetings to educate the public on their activities.

Speaking about their financial situation, Mr. Mills said they were relying on a grant to get station 142 back up running, and they will open up again on April 15. They applied for a grant amount of \$250,000. They also consider a bridge loan which is contingent upon the nine municipalities all agreeing and committing to their new model, then they will apply for a bridge loan which will carry them into 2026.

Mr. Mills said that their normal meeting cadence was once a month, and it is now twice a month, with the second meeting being strictly task based to hold each other accountable.

He met with Station 124 (Point Pleasant) and Central Bucks leadership discussing shared leadership, stressing the good relationship with them. He said they came to a joint agreement with the fire departments regarding the treatment of fire fighters on the scene, and now there is no more confusion. They are working on improving communications all around and being as transparent as possible.

What UBREMS is looking for now is a commitment to a model from each municipality for the appropriate level of funding, so they can apply for the bridge loan. Mr. Mills added that if the numbers change or if they do not live up what they promise, this agreement would be non-binding. They are not looking for a binding agreement, just an understanding.

He then elaborated on the model:

UBREMS currently operates two stations, covering 112 square miles, and approx. 17,800 people. They receive 1,500 to 1,600 calls a year and make about 100 transports a year. The economics do not support two stations, they barely support one. The money they receive does not cover operational expenses, 83% of which are employee expenses. Their budget is \$1.7MM in total, and \$1.45 is payroll related. The rest goes to fuel, insurance, heating, internet, training, etc.

They calculated a cost of \$39.75 per capita of total contribution, which is based on the land that UBREMS is responsible for as a percentage of the total land mass of the municipalities, multiplied by total population. For Tinicum, these numbers are: total of

31 square miles, UBREMS covers 21.63 square miles, i.e. 72%, which is where 911 will dispatch. Mr. Mills added that UBREMS does not determine where they go, it is the 911 call center who coordinate the dispatches.

Mr. Mills said that the financial situation has always been tough for the last 20 years. They have been covering shortfalls with grants, gifts, endowments, and fund raising. He said they got lucky in the past, but now they have to make operational changes. The receipt of grants, subscriptions, donations is not guaranteed, and they have to add a component of funding to their operations from the municipalities they serve. Any additional funds will go towards updating equipment and creating an emergency fund. This is a nationwide and statewide situation. Multiple EMS services went out of business in the last few months. The challenge for us here is the widespread area and the small population. The number of transports they do is not economically viable for the business. Each ambulance ride costs \$5,000 ... Medicare and Medicaid patients only pay a fixed amount, resulting in lost money every transport.

Ms. Breslin asked if there was 24/7 service prior to 2024. Ms. Stebulis, the chief in 2008 said she was not sure when a reduction of services began. They were told to take one or the other station out of service from midnight to 6AM, they attempted to fill those shifts which was difficult, but there was a lot of money that was not reimbursed. They tried different things, but for 15 years, one or the other stations has been down 6 hours at night, and frequently it was Revere. Mr. Mills added that that decision had been strictly expenses/revenue based. Revere is much more expensive to operate and gets less revenue. They are now probably 6 months from closing the Revere station for 12 hours despite reducing expenses and improving billing, but they are still losing about \$25,000 a month.

Mr. Cole asked since UBREMS Board meetings are not open to the public, are the minutes available to the public. Mr. James Nelson, Treasurer for UBREMS, said UBREMS is a non-profit corporation, which is a private entity, so their minutes are not available, however, they would provide them to municipalities as necessary. They offer audited statements that are available every year.

Mr. Cole asked about their thoughts on having just one station. Mr. Mills said that in their opinion, the area is not best served by just one station, even if finances would suggest that. But given the widespread area, one station is not a good option.

Mr. Tim Southern, a board member from Springfield, said that about a third of the call volume happens at night, and the majority of the nighttime volume is coming from the Springfield side. He emphasized that if they got two calls at the same time and only had one station open, they would be in bad shape.

There was a discussion on the calculation of the proposed charge to Tinicum. Mr. Cole said the problem is the large open areas that are not considered properly, and that the \$107,000 in total charges from UBREMS would result in over-assessing local taxes. He

added that Point Pleasant, where we also receive service from, would have to do something equitable. Using \$39.33 per person, he came up with \$74,800 for each of the two EMS services. These [UBREMS] numbers seem too high, and Mr. Mills said that a reduction for Tinicum would impact the other townships and they would have to agree to the adjusted numbers.

Mr. Cole asked if there are other options that do not include UBREMS. Mr. Mills responded that Central Bucks would replace UBREMS if they went out of business. They would bring one station up here and nobody on the region will have a seat on the board.

Mr. Tim Southern said he has a long history in EMS since 2006, and reminded the BOS that ambulances are placed strategically where they will be needed and what residents pay for is readiness. Mr. Mills added that we are faced with a situation where the entire region would be without ambulance service if they went out of business.

There was a discussion about the reason for shutting the service from midnight to 6AM at one station or another because of the call volume during that timeframe, and how GIS directed the calls to response areas and boxes. Ms. Stebulis said that now if one station goes out, she knows there is still another one working, and how important it is to always have the closest ambulance ready to go out. Ms. Breslin concurred.

Ms. Breslin said that prior to 2024 UBREMS had been in financial dire straits for some time. When asking about financial details, Mr. Southern elaborated they had received a grant from a non-profit organization in Lehigh Valley for \$300,000. However, the individual has now passed away, and the foundation changed, now they receive approximately \$100,000.

There was a discussion about the history and reasons for two stations, which was providing maximum coverage, as well as 24/7 service.

Ms. Stebulis explained that when she took over as chief in 2023, the county's emergency response plan for EMS required that any stations that were licensed would be up 24/7, 365 days, to the level of the license. They thought they would be able to sustain that level for the two stations given that they had received \$300,000 from COVID to put towards those recourses. She added that right now they have a station and a half as station 142 barely comes in. She got very passionate having to justify the existence of emergency services over her career of 40 years, adding that the township needs their service.

Mr. Cole said it is tough for the township to increase the millage by 2.5 mills, which would put some people in very bad straits, and he has a community to support. Mr. Southern responded that he has presented their suggested contributions to the township multiple times as well as what was given. He had a spreadsheet that showed the deficit, and the calculation had always been population based.

Ms. Breslin added that when they met for a Fact Find meeting, the deficit had been described as \$350,000-500,000, and she was alarmed by such a big range, but tonight it was stated that the deficit is \$700,000. Mr. Mills said that was correct, he had provided those numbers after having been the president for a month and making a lot of emergency decisions. He had also included subscriptions of \$150,000-200,000, donations etc., and now they keep those out of the budget. He added that the \$700,000 is calculated by real estate. For Durham, the total impact of the change would be \$100 per person. He said he personally pays \$400 a year for garbage collection, and it would be hard to believe that people would not put the value of EMS at a quarter of their garbage collection. He added that the contributions from Tinicum have been going down for the last seven years. Mr. Cole asked if there had been a change in the box that directs EMS services and added that somebody should need to look at the county box because people are not getting the ambulance closest to them.

Ms. Breslin said she made a note for Ms. Danko to follow up with county box and do due diligence to determine who is responding where and why and is that the best service provided to us, and we also need to look at the county GIS.

Mr. John Alby, resident of Haycock and VP on the UBREMS board, said there are different tangibles to balance when having a conversation about one station versus two. He wanted to remind everyone that when Lake Nockamixon opens back up during the season, their resources are stretched. They do not receive any revenue from a state park, and if they are taking their ambulance to a large crowd there, if someone else needs an ambulance, it will have to be covered by someplace else.

Ms. Breslin asked if there have been any financial irregularities in the last three years? Mr. Mills responded, no. They discussed mutual aid and which EMS service is aligned to the boxes around Quakertown. Mr. Mills said they are no longer responding to the condensed box as a first call, but they would as a second, third or fourth. He added that this is how mutual aid works; mutual aid is state law, and the county enforces the next available ambulance to come to a scene. There are times when that creates the perfect storm, and reducing the number of stations only exacerbates this.

Mr. Mills said that if they do not get the municipalities to agree to the funding calculation, they will go out of business. Ms. Breslin asked if they would take steps to facilitate a smooth transition. Mr. Mills responded that they would, but that it is not their responsibility, they are a nonprofit, the ambulances belong to the community. Other ambulances will step in if they cannot maintain the service, they would transfer the equipment to other EMS.

He said maybe the answer is that they will have to go to one station, but that will have to be a group decision from all municipalities. They have to work together. UBREMS is providing a service: they have competent EMS services available to the entire community.

B. Announcements (video time: 20:25:30)

Ms. Breslin read the dates the Board met for the following executive session:

1. Executive Session held on 2/4/25, 2/6/25, 2/7/25, 2/14/25 re: HQRB, Township Real Property Matters.
2. Executive Session held on 2/13/25 re: Ronea/Oak Grove land use appeal.
3. Executive Session held on 2/17/25 re: Ronea/Oak Grove land use appeal and P. Wiend ZHB appeal.

C. Public Comment (video time: 20:26:07)

Ms. Nolan, resident, asked a few questions about UBREMS:

Who covers Tinicum when Revere is closed? What is the percentage of coverage from either of those places? Mr. Cole said station 124 is Point Pleasant, who covers all of Tinicum when station 142-Revere is shut down. Point Pleasant is covering more than 50% of our area at times.

She asked why Point Pleasant is able to meet their budget and UBREMS cannot, to which Mr. Cole said there is no answer.

Where does UBREMS end and Point Pleasant begin in Tinicum? It is not clear, somewhere around routes 113 and 611 in Ottsville.

Ms. Nolan closed by saying that in 7+ years of living in Tinicum, she has never received a donation card in the mail from either UBREMS nor from Point Pleasant, and urges them to do so.

D. Police Chief's Report (video time: 20:29:12)

Chief Nicole was not present and the Police Report will take place at the April 1 Board of Supervisor's meeting.

E. Manager's Report (video time: 20:30:32)

Ms. Danko gave her report:

1. Thank you to Tinicum Township Police Officers, David Fleishman and Dan Baxter and our first responders for their quick response to a person in distress on the towpath.
2. Thank you to Ginny Weaver and Kathy Reilly for the homemade Fasnacht treats that were delivered to the Township Staff/PW/Police Dept.
3. Thank you to Carl Ruthardt, Solebury Township and Manager, Solebury BOS and their Public Works staff and ours for coordinating the retrieval and installation of our new file cabinets for our building.
4. At the Environmental Advisory Committee meeting on February 19th, Kayland Brown provided a presentation regarding the Township's Local Climate Action Plan (LCAP). She is an environmental student from Penn State University who researched our Greenhouse Gas Inventory. She collected and analyzed publicly available data about Tinicum Townships Government, population, and business sector. A copy of her

findings and analysis of potential strategies for reducing emissions in our Township is available.

5. In preparation for the Earth Day Fair and seasonal clean up – please Join the Parks & Recreation Committee for Park Clean Up Day, April 5th from 9 -11 am at the Tinicum Community Park. Email Parks and Recreation chairperson, Terry Johnston at tjohnston@insomniacookies.com if you plan to attend or would like to volunteer to help. (Rain date I 4/6/25).
6. Drug Take Back Day is on April 26 from 10am to 2pm at Wehrung's. The link is on our website or the Police Website to find the list of permanent drop box locations around Bucks County. [Year round drop-off locations](#).
7. EAC is hosting an Earth Day Event on April 27, 11 am – 2 pm in our Tinicum Community Park (behind Cooper Mechanical off of route 611).
8. The 2025 Municipal Primary Election, to be held on Tuesday, May 20, 2025 from 7am-8pm – Our offices will be closed as we are a polling station.
9. A new Steering Committee is forming and is led by Amy Hollander, Director of Erwin Stover House to plan the event for the History Fair at Tinicum Park in the Spring of 2026 which shares the diverse stories of the early settlers of Tinicum Township, as they navigated the tumultuous waters of the American revolution. The committee envisions this event to share the music, stories, dancing, games, crafts, news and foodways of the era including military reenactments. Email Amy Hollander at ashollander@buckscounty.org for more information.
10. Our BNT-Groundwater Mgmt. Committee provided a Local Hydrologic Status is at NORMAL groundwater levels. The BNTGMC Continuously Monitored Network (CMN) reports frequently throughout the year. More information can be found on our website.
11. Openings on our Township Committees: Parks and Recreation (3), Historical Commission (2), and Land Preservation Committee (2), Planning Commission (1), please see our township website for more information.

a. Engineer's Report (video time: 20:36:06)

Mr. Genner said he provided his report to the Board dated 2/28/2025, and then reviewed the following items:

Kreucher Tract Subdivision (Bunker Hill Road and Beaver Run Road): some provisions of the conditional use were missed in the application and they will have to resubmit to the Board.

Koenig Tract Subdivision (two lots on 479 Headquarters Road): he spoke to the design engineer and it appears that items in the review letter must be addressed and revisions need to be made. They received an extension to June 2025.

Truck study: this pertains to Hollow Horn Road truck restriction ordinance.

Golden Pheasant Road bridge: the Township finalized their response and sent a letter on January 3, 2025. He has not seen any responses to that letter.

Headquarters Road Bridge: Mr. Genner said the DEP issued the GP11 permit that was needed to go ahead with the project on December 24th, and then rescinded it on January 13, 2025. In their rescission, the DEP had requested additional information. Mr. Genner said the amount of scrutiny in this case is unprecedented compared to other applications that have been made to the DEP and have been approved in the past.

The reason for the extra cautious nature of their concerns is unclear, especially since the proposal is for a rehabilitation in kind. Mr. Genner said on the positive side, he had a meeting with the DEP on February 7, where they made a request for additional information, and after he provided that, the DEP asked for a resubmission. He then put together a new submission, which was submitted on February 11, 2025. After that submission was made, he received clearances from the Pennsylvania Historic Museum Commission and from the National Park Service, both from the historic guideline standpoint and from the national wild and scenic watershed standpoint. He also received clearances from the United States Army Corps, who further issued the PAS GP6 without exceptions for this project, which makes us eligible for a GP11 permit.

While he had followed up with the DEP, Mr. Genner said, it was not possible to get any responses at this time. He said he submitted everything they asked for and he is optimistic for a positive outcome. While he does not have a direct timeline, he is working on coordinating to keep this moving.

DEP/GP11 is the last outside agency permit he is waiting on, then the bid specification project can be finalized to put the project out to bid in order to keep the intended timeline, which was a nine-month construction period.

Ms. Breslin acknowledged Mr. Genner's efforts in this regard.

Ms. Nolan, resident, said she saw on the DEP website that this permit is in technical review with a target date of 7/1/2025. She asked Mr. Genner how he can be certain we will be going to bid if there are four months left.

b. Public Work's Report (video time: 20:44:56)

Ms. Breslin stated she has reviewed the report, and asked Ms. Danko whether there was anything the Board wanted to highlight. Ms. Danko said we have had an exceptional winter with exceptionally low temperatures and ice, and the PWD has done everything in their power placing material on the roadway system to mitigate ice, etc. Now they will be starting with the clean-up of the material shortly.

F. Solicitor's Report (video time: 20:45:41)

Mr. Holbert said he has a follow up item from our agenda last month. The board voted to ask him to review a proposed lease agreement with Rise Up Towers. He has been in contact with their attorney and brought some of the concerns to them and it seems like we can work out some of the concerns the board has expressed to him, but if there are other items the Board would like him to review, he will do that as well. He looked into removal in case the company goes out of business or is not used anymore, what companies could be on the cell tower, and he got some responses. The more pressing item was to put up maintenance bonds in other places for such situations, and this is something Rise Up Towers are willing to consider and work with us on.

Breslin asked Mr. Kauffman to work with Mr. Holbert on the continuation of that search, and if we want to continue who do we want to work with, which he agreed to.

G. Consent Agenda Items for Consideration by the Board of Supervisors (video time: 20:47:06)

[Items of business and matters listed under the Consent Agenda are considered to be routine and non-controversial and will be enacted by one motion and one vote. There will be no separate discussion of these items. IF discussion is desired by Board Members, that item will be identified and removed from the Consent Agenda and will be considered separately at the appropriate place on the agenda.]

1. Board of Supervisor's Business Meeting Minutes from February 4, 2025.
2. Treasurer's Report for January 2025.
3. Payroll Report for February 2025 in the amount of \$86,626.74.
4. Disbursements for February 2025. General Fund \$58,067.20, State Fund \$34,232.52, PCB Escrow Mgmt. Fund \$2,521.72 and Escrow Fund \$10,957.93.
5. Resolution 9-2025 Designation of Agent to appoint the Township Manager as designee to act on behalf of the township to finalize the 2021 FEMA grant.
6. Consideration to approve participation in the annual mosquito control program and grant permission for the Bucks County Department of Health (BCDH) to treat municipal properties for mosquito borne disease.
7. Consideration of fire police assistance from the Delaware Valley Volunteer Fire Company for the Blaze of Glory 5K Run in Plumsteadville Township on Saturday, March 22, 2025.
8. Consideration of fire police assistance from the Delaware Valley Volunteer Fire Company for the Tinicum Arts Festival on July 12-13, 2025 from Saturday, 10am-6 pm and Sunday, 10 am -5 pm.

Motion to approve all Consent agenda item numbers #1 – 8 in one motion was made by Eleanor Breslin and seconded by John Cole. (All in favor; 3).

H. Action Items for Consideration by the Board of Supervisors (video time: 20:49:27):

1. Consideration to authorize the advertisement of the Headquarters Road Bridge bid package.

Mr. Breslin explained given that the BOS is meeting one day a month, this action item will allow us to advertise the bid package should the permit be issued prior to the next BOS meeting on April 1, 2025. The bid package is not yet finalized, and it will not be advertised until it is finalized

Motion to approve the advertisement of the Headquarters Road Bridge bid package conditional upon receiving the required permits and satisfactory finalization of the bid package was made by Eleanor Breslin and seconded by Mike Kauffman. (All in favor, 3).

2. Consideration to send the engineer's Street Functional Classification Map for Tinicum Township to the Planning Commission for review.

Mr. Genner explained that the map that was included with that section of the ordinance seemed to have errors and was almost illegible in some places. He updated and corrected the map for submission to the Planning Commission.

Motion to submit the engineer's Street Functional Classification Map for Tinicum Township to the Planning Commission for review was made by Eleanor Breslin and seconded by John Cole. (All in favor, 3).

3. Consideration to adopt the proposed Ordinance #269 Amending Section 706 of the Tinicum Township Zoning Ordinance to create a Municipal Government Use.

Ms. Breslin added that the advertisement of this ordinance was approved at the last BOS meeting and that it has been advertised in the meantime.

Motion to adopt the proposed Ordinance #269 Amending Section 706 of the Tinicum Township Zoning Ordinance to create a Municipal Government Use was made by Eleanor Breslin and seconded by John Cole. (All in favor, 3).

4. Consideration to adopt the proposed Ordinance #270 Restricting Truck and Trailer Traffic on Hollow Horn within Tinicum Township.

Ms. Breslin added that the advertisement of this ordinance was approved at the last BOS meeting and that it has been advertised in the meantime.

Motion to adopt the proposed Ordinance #270 Restricting Truck and Trailer Traffic on Hollow Horn within Tinicum Township was made by John Cole and seconded by Mike Kauffman. (All in favor, 3).

5. Consideration to adopt the proposed Ordinance #271 for Single-Use Plastic Bags, to regulate the distribution of non-recyclable single-use plastic bags within Tinicum Township by providing for certain requirements, exceptions to those requirements, enforcement procedures, and penalties.

Ms. Breslin added that this was discussed at the last as well as prior meetings, and the advertisement was authorized with the deletion of a provision that had been in the draft based on public feedback received at the last meeting.

Motion to adopt the proposed Ordinance #271 for Single-Use Plastic Bags, to regulate the distribution of non-recyclable single-use plastic bags within Tinicum Township by providing for certain requirements, exceptions to those requirements, enforcement procedures, and penalties was made by Eleanor Breslin and seconded by Mike Kauffman. (All in favor, 3).

6. Consideration to advertise the proposed Ordinance Amending of Section 809 of the Tinicum Township Zoning Ordinance to permit only closed loop geothermal systems.

Ms. Breslin added that currently open as well as closed loop systems are allowed, and this ordinance, only closed loop geothermal systems will be allowed.

Motion to advertise the proposed Ordinance Amending of Section 809 of the Tinicum Township Zoning Ordinance to permit only closed loop geothermal systems was made by Eleanor Breslin and seconded by John Cole. (All in favor, 3).

7. Consideration to advertise the proposed Ordinance Amending Section 201 of the Tinicum Township Zoning Ordinance, as amended to revise the definition of lot area and providing a definition for lot area within a qualifying improvement.

Mr. Holbert elaborated that after some back and forth with the Planning Commission, every recommendation from the PC has been included in the ordinance and it is good for advertisement and to be sent to the Bucks County Planning Commission.

Motion to advertise the proposed Ordinance Amending Section 201 of the Tinicum Township Zoning Ordinance, as amended to revise the definition of lot area and providing a definition for lot area within a qualifying improvement was made by Eleanor Breslin and seconded by John Cole. (All in favor, 3).

8. Consideration to advertise the proposed Ordinance Amending Section 900.03 of the Tinicum Township Zoning Ordinance, as amended to revise the impervious area requirements for otherwise non-conforming lots and making the lots conforming if they meet certain criteria.

Mr. Holbert added this is based on a recommendation from the Planning Commission, who have since reviewed the final draft and recommended to move forward with it.

~~**Motion to advertise the proposed Ordinance Amending Section 900.03 of the Tinicum Township Zoning Ordinance, as amended to revise the impervious area requirements for otherwise non-conforming lots and making the lots conforming if they meet certain criteria. was made by Eleanor Breslin and seconded by John Cole. (All in favor, 3).**~~

9. Consideration of request from Amy Hollander for a letter of support from Tinicum Township for America 250 Heritage Day grant submission.

Mr. Kauffman added that Ms. Hollander is forming a steering committee to plan a fair day in May 2026 at the park to celebrate Tinicum's place with regards to the revolutionary war. Ms. Hollander is looking to apply for a grant to support these activities.

Ms. Auerbach, resident, thanked the BOS for the consideration of the event, adding that the school district representative is very responsive to help with activities and presentations that will involve the history and the township's contributions to the country. She asked the BOS to mention in their letter of support that they are considering a match of the grant in order to have more success with the grant application, which would be a very modest amount (\$1,000 to \$2,000) to be included in the 2026 budget.

Motion to provide a letter of support from Tinicum Township for America 250 Heritage Day grant submission was made by Eleanor Breslin and seconded by John Cole. (All in favor, 3).

10. Consideration of Planning Module and authorization of Section K for Three Horse Farm, 38 Center Road, TMP 44-015-001.

Mr. Holbert explained this is regarding the permitting of a sewage management system. He had received an email from Bill Benner asking for this item to be tabled. There has been a disconnect between the zoning ordinance and the sewage management. Mr. Curt Genner, township engineer, added that according to the Planning Commission, this component is not consistent with the zoning ordinance.

Motion to execute the Planning Module and authorization of Section K for Three Horse Farm, 38 Center Road, TMP 44-015-001 in a non-conforming structure that is not consistent with the Township Zoning ordinance was made by Eleanor Breslin and seconded by John Cole. (All in favor, 3).

11. Consideration of the subdivision application of 479 Headquarters Road, TMP 44-14-60-001.

Motion to table the subdivision application of 479 Headquarters Road, TMP 44-14-60-001 was made by Eleanor Breslin and seconded by John Cole. (All in favor, 3).

12. Consideration of Board of Supervisor liaisons for Township Committees.

Michael Kauffman agreed to serve as the Board of Supervisor liaison to the Historic Commission and Parks and Recreation Committee. No motion necessary.

I. Public Comment (video time: 21:08:18)

Mr. Quinby, resident, thanked UBREMS for their service. He said he assumes that Point Pleasant is not asking for money because they have more money coming from residents on the southern side. Ms. Breslin added that Point Pleasant also receives money from Plumstead. Mr. Quinby said that we have to take that into consideration and to try to work with what we have and see if we can make it better.

Jim Nelson, Treasurer for UBREMS, emphasized that Bucks County is unique as it is a very rural area which is an anomaly to south eastern PA. The school district is consistently getting smaller, but the need for ambulance services is there, and the call volume is a challenge. Other services have gone out of business. He said they also have other operational challenges, e.g. UBREMS salaries are lower than in all surrounding municipalities, and even McDonalds offers better salaries. All they are asking is to achieve a sustainable model so they can continue to provide stable service to our residents. He added that he will be having multiple townhalls with the nine municipalities to discuss UBREMS proposed model.

Ms. Ullman, resident, thanked the BOS for adopting the Single Plastic Bag Ban Ordinance. She said environmental improvement is always incremental, and every plastic bag not made or used is a win for the environment.

Ms. Rosamilia, resident, asked about creek health and nano-plastics. She said there was a committee in 2021, who did a sampling from the streams because it had been reported that Tohickon Creek was contaminated. A report had been promised but she has not heard since. Ms. Breslin said there was a report, which looked at 50 streams throughout PA and all contained micro plastics. They found filaments in the Tohickon Creek, and did a sample of other streams around Tinicum Creek. She said she personally hand delivered the samples to Penn Future, but has not heard anything since.

Ms. Ullman asked why Ms. Nolan's question about the HQRB timeline had not been answered. Ms. Breslin said it had been answered, and Mr. Genner added that it is standard protocol to list the permit as of a certain time period they will respond by. The additional information that had been asked for rip-rap stabilization along the water course which had not been part of the application.

Ms. Auerbach, resident, mentioned the Bridge #365 Beaver Creek Bridge. She said she was disappointed that the county moved forward without full discussion because these are historic resources within the Wild and Scenic and some damage is being done that will take away from its historic character. She asked to be included early on in

discussions about bridge projects. She added there are also issues with a cell tower going up in the vicinity of the airport as well as from a scenic view perspective.

Curt Genner, township engineer, added a clarification on the DEP comments and questions, he said they are asking to reevaluate the needs of the abutments and piers. He said it should be obvious that it should be permitted because it is a rehabilitation in-kind and we need to put back what was there.

Ms. Judith Danko, Township Manager, thanked Wendy Ullman and the EAC for their hard work on the single-use plastic bag ban ordinance.

J. Supervisor Comments (video time 21:27:50)

Mike Kauffman gave an update on the Bridge #365, Beaver Run Road Bridge. He said that on February 25, Ms. Danko, himself, and Roger from Public Works, went out to a pre-construction meeting on site. The bridge had not been noted as historic structure and was not on the national register. New protective structures need to be erected on sides of bridge. The road will be closed for approximately three to four months during the repairs. Three more bridges are scheduled for renovation, Bridge #87, #361 and #30.

John Cole displayed the four Township Schoolhouse History Booklets for view and thanked Connie Kallenbach for the books. They document four one room schoolhouses in the township, representing a great view of local history.

Eleanor Breslin thanked UBREMS members for their service and time. She said she understands the service to be provided is for an ambulance that is available when needed, not a call volume calculation. She also said she appreciates the board members coming in and meeting with the township multiple times, adding that the BOS is in communication with them in between meetings. There is a lot of work that the board is doing individually to figure out the best path forward for the residents of Tinicum. Mr. Cole added he understands it is the community of EMS striving to provide adequate services to the township. He understands that costs are going up, but raising mills and the tax burden is a tough choice that the BOS will have to continue to deliberate on. He said the services they provide are fantastic and thanked the skilled and dedicated staff.

Judith Danko announced that the American Red Cross Blood Drive at Point Pleasant Baptist Church, 35 River Road, Point Pleasant, PA 18950 on Thursday, April 3 from 2 – 7 pm.

K. Adjournment

Motion to Adjourn at 9:37 p.m.

The Board of Supervisors next Business Meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, April 1, 2025 at 7:00 pm in the Township Building.

DATE: 4/01/2025

ATTEST TO:

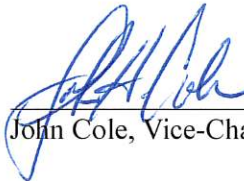


Judith Danko, Township Manager/Secretary

TINICUM TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS



Eleanor Breslin, Chairperson



John Cole, Vice-Chairperson



Michael Kauffman, Member