

**TILDEN TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**

Wednesday, February 11, 2026  
Regular Meeting

The Tilden Township Board of Supervisors met in the Township Municipal Building with the following present: Supervisors Richard DeLong, Chris Forte, and Gene Schappell, Township Solicitor Joan London, Township Secretary/Treasurer Monica Flower, Roadmaster Michael Quick, and local residents. A copy of the roster is on file with the secretary.

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Richard DeLong at 7:00 P.M. followed by a moment of silence.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**A Motion was made by Chris Forte and seconded by Richard DeLong to approve the January 5, 2026 Re-Organization Meeting Minutes. Upon roll call DeLong, Forte, and Schappell voted yes.**

**A Motion was made by Richard DeLong and seconded by Chris Forte to approve the January 5, 2026 Regular Meeting Minutes. Upon roll call DeLong, Forte, and Schappell voted yes.**

**PAYMENT OF BILLS**

**A Motion was made by Chris Forte and seconded by Richard DeLong to pay the following bills for January 2026. Upon roll call DeLong, Forte and Schappell voted yes.**

**PAYMENT OF BILLS - JANUARY 2026**

**General Fund - Ck# 6057 - 6104 in the amount of \$135,378.60**

Auto deductions in the amount of \$14,661.50

**Payroll - Ck# 13751 & EFT in the amount of \$36,458.23**

ACH & EFTPS Transfers (Fed, State taxes) in the amount of \$12,938.26

**Building & Zoning - Ck# 532 - 533 & EFT in the amount of \$1,709.18**

**Sewer Fund - Ck# 3493 in the amount of \$11,156.63**

Auto deductions in the amount of \$805.37

**Water System - Ck# 1385 - 1388 in the amount of \$10,571.76**

Auto deductions in the amount of \$1,960.50

**Cabela Traffic Light - EFT & Auto deduction in the amount of \$158.64**

**Tilden Ridge Traffic Light Fund - EFT & Auto deduction in the amount of \$165.00**

**TIP Traffic Light - EFT & Auto deductions in the amount of \$106.44**

**TIP Street Light Fund - EFT & Auto deduction in the amount of \$900.18**

**West Hamburg Street Light - EFT & Auto deduction in the amount of \$299.67**

**C.R. Township Vehicles - EFT in the amount of \$13,524.00**

**DEBT SERVICE**

**HMA sewer expansion - \$1,606,378.04**

**PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:**

- Dale Stoudt requested the reconsideration of opening the Township Office on Fridays and adjusting the Road Crew hours to five days a week.
- Susie Bigelow shared her general concern about the concept of progress versus preservation.
- Bonnie Bailey requested Joan provide her update related to FPR's and correspondence with DEP.

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Township Solicitor, Joan London provided an update related to her ongoing communication with the DEP, hydrogeologist, and other action she has taken pertaining to the ongoing resident concerns and complaints against Joe Jurgielewicz & Son LTD operations.

- Bonnie Bailey asked about how DEP violations from October 2025 are being addressed with Joe Jurgielewicz & Son LTD operations. She reviewed recent events that she believes to be further violations. Bonnie finds that FPR's are not to be sprayed over the underground gas pipeline. She adds her belief of waste water also being hauled in from Leesport. Requests to know if Jurgielewicz has permits for buildings going up at the main farm.
- Alvin James shares a video he took from his property. The video shows waste coming out from the Jurgielewicz sprayer pipe nearing his property.
- Paul Correll requests to know how many ducks are being processed per day at the Joe Jurgielewicz & Son LTD operation. He asked why the Jurgielewicz family is not in attendance of meetings. Then added his well was tested and failed. Paul claims the Board is bought and paid for by Jurgielewicz.
- Michelle Readinger comments on the number of trucks traveling the area.
- Bonnie Bailey shares decisions should not be made by the Board on a whim and believes a survey should be sent to the residents to ask their opinion on change and growth in the Township.
- William Readinger asked why in the past he was told Jurgielewicz was not allowed to expand, but now they are.

Multiple interruptions occurred during public participation. Not everyone identified themselves prior to speaking. Their general concerns were related to the proposed Deer Park Maple Drive PRD and Joe Jurgielewicz & Son LTD operations and the effects on the community.

Resident's concerns were responded to at the discretion of the Board of Supervisors.

- Blue Mountain Wildlife provided a presentation of the Kernsville Dam Recreation Area draft improvement plan.

**RECESS @ 8:47 P.M.**

**RECONVENE @ 8:53 P.M.**

**REPORTS:****EMERGENCY SERVICES**

- Reports were provided to the Board by Hamburg Fire Department, Shartlesville Fire Department and Hamburg EMS.

**POLICE**

- The report for January 2026 was provided.

**ZONING/BUILDING**

- The report for January 2026 was provided.

**ROADMASTER/DRIVEWAY INSPECTOR**

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- The report for January 2026 was provided by Mike Quick.
- Mike reviewed the plans for the 2026 Road Project.

**A Motion was made by Gene Schappell and seconded by Chris Forte to authorize the advertisement of the 2026 Road Project. Upon roll call DeLong, Forte, and Schappell voted yes.**

**SEWER**

- An update on sewer operations was provided by Mike Quick.

**WATER SYSTEM**

- An update on water operations was provided by Mike Quick.
- Hamburg Water Authority received notice that Berks County is in a draught.

**SECRETARY**

- The report for January 2026 was provided by Monica Flower.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**A Motion was made by Chris Forte and seconded by Gene Schappell to approve the full release of the financial security for Lee Gougler Ag Operation @ 403 Jalappa Road in the amount of \$26,871.79 per the engineer's letter of recommendation dated 12/18/2025. Upon roll call DeLong, Forte and Schappell voted yes.**

**A Motion was made by Gene Schappell and seconded by Richard DeLong to approve the Stormwater Control O&M Agreement for Lot 29, Walnut Road. Upon roll call DeLong, Forte and Schappell voted yes.**

**A Motion was made by Chris Forte and seconded by Gene Schappell to appoint Steven Werley as a Planning Commission member. Upon roll call DeLong, Forte and Schappell voted yes.**

**A Motion was made by Gene Schappell and seconded by Chris Forte to approve to hire Bonnie Bailey as the Planning Commission Secretary effective January 14, 2026 at the rate of \$60.00 per meeting. Upon roll call DeLong, Forte and Schappell voted yes.**

**A Motion was made by Chris Forte and seconded by Gene Schappell to approve to hire Maria Hollenbach as the part-time Assistant Secretary, effective January 28, 2026 for 32 hours per week at \$17.00 per hour with a 90-day probationary period. Upon roll call DeLong, Forte and Schappell voted yes.**

**A Motion was made by Chris Forte and seconded by Richard DeLong to approve advertising for additional zoning review meetings to be held @ 3p.m. on Tuesday, February 17<sup>th</sup> & Tuesday, March 17<sup>th</sup>. Upon roll call DeLong, Forte and Schappell voted yes.**

**A Motion was made by Gene Schappell and seconded by Chris Forte to adopt Resolution 2026-10 Disposal of Records. Upon roll call DeLong, Forte and Schappell voted yes.**

**ADJOURNMENT**

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**A Motion was made by Gene Schappell and seconded by Richard DeLong to adjourn the meeting @ 9:13 P.M. Upon roll call DeLong, Forte and Schappell voted yes.**

ATTEST:

Monica Flower  
Tilden Township  
Secretary