



Tilden Township

Municipal Office

www.tildentownship.com

874 Hex Highway
Hamburg, PA 19526

610-562-7410
Fax: 610-562-5490

Monday - Thursday
8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Friday by Appointment Only

Email
office@tildentownship.com

Tilden Police Department

870 Hex Highway
Hamburg, PA 19526

If there is an emergency dial
911

Dispatch: 610-655-4911
Office: 610-562-9001
Fax: 610-562-9148

Email
police@tildentownship.com

Tilden Tax Collector

Dorothy McLaughlin
610-562-9804

Email
taxcollector@tildentownship.com

Road Department

610-562-8073

Email
mquick@tildentownship.com

Animal Control

Safety Net Sanctuary
610-944-8099

Tilden Tribune 2025

A LOOK BACK AT 2024

2024 was again a busy and productive year in Tilden Township and for the Board of Supervisors. Significant progress was made in several areas.

There were a number of personnel changes in 2024. It was with deepest regret that we accepted the resignation of Officer Jordan Heckman, who left to take a position with another police department. We hope to fill the vacancy this year. Former full-time Assistant Township Secretary and Assistant Treasurer Samantha Hartman took a position as part-time Assistant Treasurer. We were pleased to recruit Margaret Wursta to fill the position of full-time Assistant Secretary. She also took over the duties of Planning Commission Secretary and Zoning Hearing Board Clerk. In other actions Greg Kozlowski was reappointed to a 4-year term on the Planning Commission and Robert Hein was reappointed to a 5-year term on the Zoning Hearing Board. The Supervisors appreciate the years of dedicated service given by both these gentlemen and their willingness to continue to serve. With regret the resignation from the Planning Commission by Sharon Enevoldson was accepted and Luke Kamp was appointed to complete the term. It became necessary to replace the township's Certified Public Accountant to perform our and the tax collector's annual audits. The firm of Brian T. Kelly & Associates was selected. Finally, a new collective bargaining agreement, which covers 2024 through 2027, was reached with the Tilden Township Police Association. A new contract with Chief McElroy was also successfully negotiated.

The township continued to exercise full responsibility for oversight and direction of the water system, which serves our commercial area. There were further upgrades to the system to optimize the quality of the water, improve operational safety, and comply with all PA Department of Environmental Protection requirements. The system is generating revenue in excess of expenses while still offering a very reasonable price. Necessary mapping of the water system, as well as our sewer lines was completed.

A LOOK BACK AT 2024 *(CONTINUED)*

Two ordinances were enacted in 2024. One amended the rules and regulations for outdoor recreation areas to expand the hours of operation at the Senator James Rhoads Memorial Park until 10 PM. This was accompanied by installation of lighting at the basketball court at the park. The other ordinance was an update of an ordinance from 2013. It adopted the 2018 Edition of the International Property Maintenance Code. This is used as the basis to regulate the occupation, maintenance, sanitation, use, inspection, etc. of all buildings and housing in the township.

For the convenience of our residents animal control services continued to be provided by Safety Net Sanctuary. Also, for the convenience and comfort of our residents the township has continued to host the Tilden Township polling place. Our registered voters are to be commended for the outstanding general election turnout of 79.67%.

Throughout 2024 a considerable amount of time and resources were devoted to assisting the Hamburg and Shartlesville fire companies and the Hamburg Ambulance Service. Significant funding from the fire tax was provided to the fire companies. The organizational assessment report concerning Union Fire Company # 1 Hamburg was received and reviewed and township representatives have been included on the Fire Department Advisory Board created. A resolution was passed to allow for recovery of costs associated with emergency services provided. The township supervisors and manager participated in training concerning the Center for Excellence in Local Government's Emergency Medical Provider Initiative. The purpose was to raise awareness of the challenges faced by EMS providers and what local government can do to help. Enacting an EMS tax was considered but instead it was decided to set aside funds within the Tilden Township Budget. We are actively gathering specific information about the Hamburg Ambulance's financial status.

Supervisors Gene Schappell and Fred Herman and Township Manager Monica Flower continued involvement with the Northern Berks Development Initiative, involving officials from the Hamburg Area School District, municipalities within the school district, and the Our Town Foundation. The primary thrust of this group is examining quality of life issues and developing strategies to retain our youth. To that end this group is charged with conducting the required regular reviews of the Northern Berks Joint Comprehensive Plan.

In addition to the new lighting mentioned earlier there were several other improvements. A bocce ball court was added at the Tilden Park. A 2025 Ford police interceptor SUV, funded with American Rescue Plan monies, was ordered. Two tractors and a mowing attachment were purchased to replace aging equipment. The main meeting room was recarpeted and a sound system has been added.

Weather permitted only one summer open air, family friendly movie night this year. Kung Fu Panda 4 was shown. We are grateful to the movie sponsors: Joe Jurgielewicz & Son, LeadCar Honda of Hamburg, the Law Firm of Kozloff Stoudt, BIU of PA, and Keystone Consulting Engineers.

Finally, we are pleased to report the township's financial position remains solid. We finished 2024 under budget. A balanced budget of \$2.8 million for 2025 was enacted with no tax increases. The budget provides adequate funds to carry over to fund operations at the beginning of 2026. This is necessary every year as most revenue is received after the 1st calendar quarter. Lastly, our uniformed and non-uniformed pension funds continue to be in a strong position.

Board of Supervisors

Gene Schappell, Chair

Fred Herman, Vice-Chair

Richard DeLong, Member

The Board of Supervisors shall ensure sound fiscal management and act to protect the health, safety, and welfare of the citizens of the township. Supervisors are elected to serve a 6 year term and must reside in the township continuously for at least one year before their election. The Supervisors gather for public meetings twice a month. The Regular Meetings are held on the second Wednesday at 7 PM every month. The Thursday before each Regular Meeting, at 3 PM, the Supervisors hold a Workshop Meeting for discussion on important items. All residents of the Township are welcome to these public meetings and are given the opportunity to be heard.

Tax Collector Sitting Hours

April 12, 17, 21 & 26 @ 9:30AM—11AM

April 2, 23, 28 & 30 @ 6:30PM—8PM

July 19 & 29 @ 9:30AM—11:00AM

July 22 @ 6:30PM—8PM

August 7, 22, 23, 26 & 30 @ 9:30AM—11AM

August 12, 20 & 27 @ 6:30PM—8PM

Emergency Medical Services

Did you know that Hamburg EMS, Inc. was dispatched to over *three thousand* 911 calls in 2024?

We currently provide 911 service to 11 townships or boroughs. We also offer non-emergency transport from hospital to home or wheelchair transport home from the hospital, or we can even take you to a prescheduled doctor's appointment if needed.

Hamburg EMS serves the community with four ambulances equipped with state-of-the-art equipment. We pride ourselves on providing top-level care to your family and loved ones.

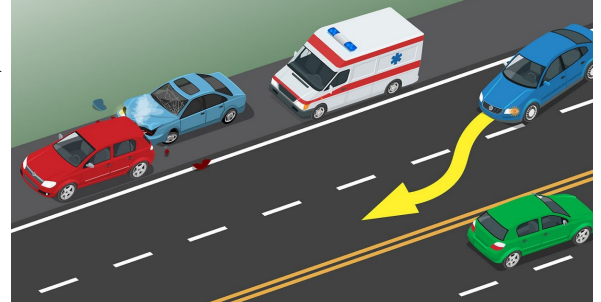
As a non-profit organization we rely on payments, grants, and donations from the municipalities in our coverage area.

Thank you for your continued support.

Sincerely,
Leslie Herring (*chief*)



**Drivers approaching an
emergency response area
must safely move over
or slow down.**



2024 Planning Commission Report

During 2024, the Tilden Township Planning Commission (PC) met a total of 17 times in the municipal building. Regular meetings are held the third Tuesday of the month at 7:30 pm. On April 2, 2024, the PC began to meet on the first Tuesday of the month at 7:00 pm to focus on the Zoning Ordinance review and development. Members of the public are welcome and encouraged to attend all meetings.

Members during 2024 were Sharon Enevoldson, Christopher Forte, Luke Kamp, Dale Keener, Greg Kozlowski, and Amanda Marx. These members appointed by the Board of Supervisors, and the PC secretary meet on a regular basis. During the meetings, plans for subdivisions are reviewed, comments are prepared for items before the Zoning Hearing Board, and ordinance revisions are discussed. Each one of these three items results in the PC making recommendations to the Board of Supervisors or the Zoning Hearing Board.

Ordinance Review and Development:

Considerable time was spent in 2024 at regular and special PC meetings towards the overall amendment of the Township Zoning Ordinance (Chapter 32). This effort started back in 2021 but gained momentum during the last year. The first meeting of each month beginning in April was dedicated solely to the Zoning Ordinance. During regular monthly meetings, the majority of time was spent reviewing modifications presented by the Township Engineer, with some meetings lasting close to 3 hours.

This effort is the first overall amendment to the Zoning Ordinance in a number of years. Approximately fifteen (15) separate ordinances relating to zoning were combined into the overall amendment. The entire ordinance has been re-organized to be more user-friendly. Overall Use, Lot Dimensional Regulations, Off-Street Parking, and Sign Regulations tables have been prepared. Previously these requirements were spread throughout the ordinance in a dysfunctional way.

Many new modern land uses have been added to the ordinance increasing the total number of uses listed in the ordinance to approximately 125. Every single existing and new use was scrutinized to determine in which Zoning Districts they shall be permitted by right, permitted as a Special Exception, permitted by Conditional Use, or not permitted.

Minor changes to the Zoning Map were also proposed. The PC analyzed the existing Map as well as aerial imagery to determine where changes should be made.

In early 2025, the PC will finalize the compilation of the entire amended Zoning Ordinance and present it and the revised Zoning Map to the Board of Supervisors for their review. The PC will stand ready to work with the Supervisors through the adoption process of the overall amendment.

Plans reviewed by the Planning Commission in 2024 included the following:

GSP Management (Pleasant Hills) Lot Consolidation – request for a reverse subdivision of lots at the intersection of Hill Drive and Pleasant View Drive. The project is currently under a time extension request by the developer.

Recommendations to the Zoning Hearing Board in 2024 included the following:

Travis LaFaver – a variance requesting land development at 1241 Hex Highway.

Family Movie Night

Saturday, August 9th

Behind the Tilden Municipal Building on the baseball outfield.
874 Hex Highway, Hamburg, PA 19526

Thank you to our Sponsors & Volunteers!



The Tilden Park is open for public use from dawn to dusk daily, closing no later than 9pm.

Bathrooms are open and available to use during that time as well.

Bathrooms are closed over the Winter months.

PAVILION & CONCESSION STAND RENTAL

The pavilion area includes separate male and female restrooms which remain open during the rental season. The concession area provides running water, refrigeration and freezer space. There is NO grill or stove provided as these items are not permitted to be used inside or under the pavilion. You may provide your own grill or stove if it is used out from under the pavilion and concession stand areas.

There are twelve (12) picnic tables under the pavilion, with seating for approximately 10 people at each table. The pavilion occupant load capacity is 154 persons.

2025 Pavilion / Concession Stand Rental Fees

<u>Rental</u>	<u>Tilden Township Resident</u>	<u>Non-Township Resident</u>
Pavilion only	\$ 50.00	\$ 60.00
Pavilion and Concession Stand	\$ 90.00	\$ 100.00
Refundable Deposit	\$ 30.00	\$ 30.00

There is a Pavilion / Concession Stand Rental Application on our website. Upon confirming your requested date is available, please fill out the application and return it to the Township Office with the applicable payment.

CODE RED

Code Red Alerts are critical alerts sent right to your phone.

With the CodeRED Mobile Alert app enables subscribers to receive these notifications directly to their mobile device whether at home, on the road, or traveling around



SPECIAL ASSISTANCE

If you or someone in your household requires special assistance during an emergency due to a medical condition, please complete the special assistance form, and turn it in to the Tilden Township Office. Even if you have completed this for previously, you will need to complete & submit it to the Tilden Township Office with updated information annually.

Tilden Township Police Chief's Message

The Tilden Township Police Department is committed to ensuring the safety and well-being of all residents. As we navigate through the seasons, we want to share some essential safety tips to help you and your loved ones stay protected.



Home Security:

- Always lock your doors and windows, even when you are home.
- Install and use security cameras or motion sensor lighting around your property.
- Avoid leaving valuables in plain sight from windows and doors.
- If you plan to be away, use timers for lights to make your home appear occupied.

Vehicle Safety:

- Never leave your car running unattended, even for a few minutes.
- Lock your doors and do not leave valuables in your vehicle, especially in plain sight.
- Park in well-lit areas and be aware of your surroundings when entering or exiting your vehicle.
- Keep your vehicle's registration and insurance information in a secure location rather than the glove box.

Online & Phone Safety:

- Never share personal information with unknown callers or through suspicious emails.
- Be cautious of scams asking for money or personal details.
- Monitor your children's online activities and discuss internet safety with them.
- Use strong passwords and enable two-factor authentication on important accounts.

Neighborhood Awareness:

- Get to know your neighbors and watch out for each other.
- Report suspicious activity to the police immediately.
- If you see something, say something—your vigilance helps keep our community safe.

By taking these simple precautions, we can work together to create a safer environment for everyone. If you have any concerns or need assistance, please do not hesitate to contact our department. Stay safe and stay aware!

Thank you for your ongoing support and cooperation.

Chief William J. McElroy III
Tilden Township Police Department

HAMBURG FIRE CO. NEWS



Inside The Home

- Test your home's smoke and carbon monoxide alarms.
- Don't use electrical appliances with frayed cords.
- Check for water around electrical appliances.
- Clean debris from your clothes dryer lint trap and exhaust duct.

Outside The Home

- Remove dead leaves and other debris around foundations, decks, porches, and stairs.
- Check grills for rust, worn parts, insects, grease, and other debris before use.
- Grills should only be used when at least 10 feet away from your house or any building.

ENGINE HOUSE UPDATE

- Awarded the LSA Grant for \$70,000 for an emergency generator for the station. This will be installed this spring!
- Working on the final phase of the 2nd floor of the Fire House to install the HVAC system.

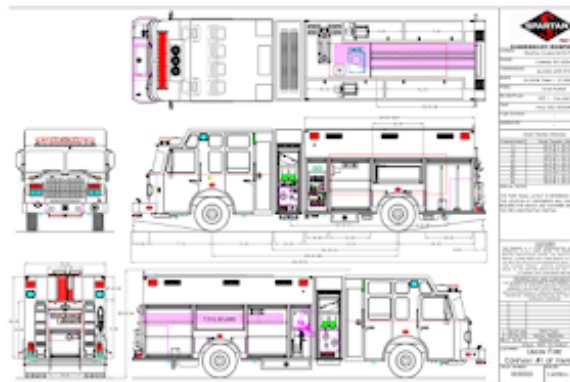
2024 Year Review

- 2024 was a busy year for members of the company:
- Total of 844 calls responded to by the company
 - Hamburg Boro-272
 - Tilden Twp.-285
 - Windsor Twp.-146
- Fire prevention provided to over 600 youth in our community!
- 8 new firefighters joined

NEW WEBSITE

We are updating our website! Visit www.hamburgfireco.com for fieldhouse rental information, how to join, upcoming events for the fire company/community and to donate!

NEW RESCUE PUMPER PURCHASE!!



The company has signed the contract to purchase from Campbell Supply a Spartan Gladiator Wet Rescue 1500 gpm pump, 800 gallon Tank to replace the Hahn Rescue that has proudly served the company for 40yrs. Expected delivery is Spring 2027. YOUR CONTIUED SUPPORT MADE THIS POSSIBLE!

Field House is now available to rent.
For information email:
hamburgfieldhouse@gmail.com

**DONATE TO YOUR 100%
VOLUNTEER FIRE
DEPARTMENT SINCE 1832**



**DID YOU KNOW?
Every 10 years
you should
replace your
smoke alarm!**



www.hamburgfireco.com



610-562-9195



127 S 4th St. Hamburg, PA 19526

Shartlesville Fire Company

Did You Know?

The Shartlesville Community Fire Company provides fire protection to the residents and businesses in Upper Bern Township & western Tilden Township. We receive mutual aid assistance from fire companies in Hamburg, Strausstown, Centerport, Bernville, and other companies. In addition, mutual aid is provided for any company or agency that requests it.

Fundraisers!

Monthly Sandwich Sale

Order on the 2nd Wednesday
Pick up on the 3rd Thursday.
Order & Pickup in the Social Quarters.

Monthly Breakfast

Always the 3rd Sunday
of the month
at the Social Quarters.
7:30am—12:00pm

Annual Fall Chicken Pot Pie Dinner

Date To Be Announced
Will begin serving at 3pm

September 27, 2025 is the Annual Block Party & Lights Siren Parade On Main Street in Shartlesville!

Thank you for making Tilden Township Litter Free

Tilden township Environmental Advisory Committee would like to thank the residents who are volunteering their time to rid trash along the roadways.

For your safety, the township provides orange vests, trash bags, and grabbers at the office.

If you are interested in belonging to “Adopt a Roadway” program, please contact the township office at 610-562-7410 for more information.



Ordinances Adopted in 2024

254-2024

This Ordinance amended Ordinance 211-2012 to change the hours of operation of Senator James Rhoades Memorial Park to 7AM—10PM. All other portions of Ordinance 211-2012 remain in full effect.

255-2024

This Ordinance repealed and replaced Ordinance 214-2013 and adopted the 2018 edition of the International Property Maintenance Code.

All Ordinances are available on the Township website under “Complete List of Ordinances” and in the office by request.

Code Enforcement Review

Do I Need A Permit?....

Yes, if you are doing any of the following projects permits are necessary!

Driveway (New & Paving Projects)
Swimming pools (Temporary & Permanent)
Accessory buildings
Porch/Deck
Fences
Solar panels

Demolition or Addition
Any type of Structural Change
Mechanical or Electrical Work
Retaining Walls
Home Occupations
Solicitation

If you are unsure of your permitting needs, contact the Township Office prior to beginning your project.

Please allow a minimum of one week for the issuance of the permits.

To schedule inspections please call our Building Code Official.

Bill Murphy at 570-499-7204.

General Property Reminders....

GRASS—All premises and exterior property shall be maintained free from weeds, grasses, and plant growth in excess of six inches. This does not include cultivated flowers and gardens. While maintaining your yard, no litter is to be thrown/deposited into the streets, this includes yard waste (such as grass clippings) as it creates a danger to public safety. For more information please reference Ordinance # 129-2000, Ordinance # 130-2000, and Ordinance # 214-2013.

HOUSE NUMBERS—In the event of an emergency, it is important that Emergency Services can find your house, apartment, business, etc. Building numbers must be a minimum of 3 inches in height for all residential buildings, 4 inches in height for all buildings with 3 or more dwelling units, and 10 inches in height for all other buildings. For more information please reference Ordinance # 240-2020.

BURNING—If you live in Zoning Districts R-3 & R-4 there are further burning restrictions in place, in addition to the Township wide restrictions on burning trash and rubbish. For more information please reference Ordinance # 251-2023.

RENTALS—All dwellings that are not owner occupied must be registered with the Township as a rental. The process is easy! Please refer to Ordinance # 247-2022 and call the Township Office for assistance with the process.

Zoning

As of January 6, 2025, Tilden Township's Zoning Officer is Jim Macort with Keystone Consulting Engineers, Inc. (KCE).

Anita Einolf, also from KCE, is the rental property inspector and property maintenance code enforcement officer.

What Is Stormwater Management?

Stormwater is the surface runoff generated by precipitation reaching the ground surface. The purpose of stormwater management is to promote the public health safety and welfare within the Schuylkill River Watershed by maintaining the natural hydrologic regime by minimizing the many possible negative impacts.

When you are making plans to build or add a structure to your property, consider is a Stormwater Management Permit Required?

See Chapter 25 Stormwater Management under Township Ordinances on our website for more information.

Tilden Township is now partnered with No Nonsense Neutering. Have stray cats? Stop by the office or visit our website to learn more about this agreement and see how we can help!

Roadway Safety



Our Road Crew works in all weather, all year to maintain safe roadways. Please provide a safe workspace for them by paying attention, slowing down, and maintaining a safe distance away when entering their work zones.

Always maintain a safe distance behind plows and other equipment if you happen to approach or drive behind one.

REMINDER: In the winter months if you choose to place snow stakes, please keep them 1 foot back from the edge of the road.

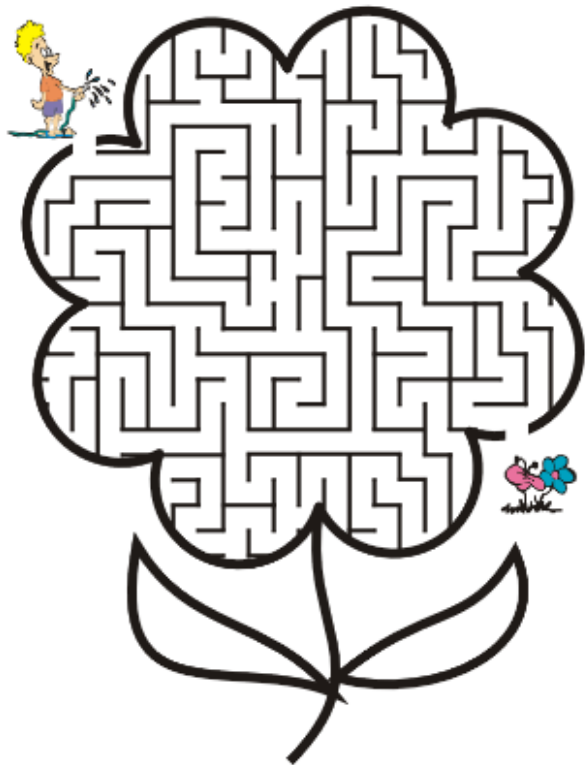
Storm Water

Did you know that when rain and other water flows across grass or pavement it is called storm water? This water runs through pipes and drains and will eventually end up in a stream, lake, or other body of water. When you leave trash on the ground instead of throwing it in a garbage can, it is picked up by the water and carried into our streams and lakes. The next time you're outside, make sure you put your trash where it belongs or you may see it again!

DRIVEWAY
LAKE
OCEAN
RAIN

STREAM
SNOW
TRASH
WATER

W T G U F W S I O N S T
L A G H T C N R C C E F
M P O R Z A M A E R T S
P E Z A T C E O A T R N
S N A T Y I L C N E A O
D I A E F N J T I A S W
X F P H G E A O E E H R
F H U N S H E K R I I C
W R Q G A I A E T Z S N
I P D S Q L N G T S I U
F I A E S S M O P A A Q
L I Y A W E V I R D R O



Here is something you can do to help protect the environment in our area:

Don't use more water than you need!
Turn off the water while you brush your teeth or wash your hands!



2025 Meetings

PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to Act 175 of 1974, that the Regular Meetings of the **Board of Supervisors** of the Township of Tilden for the 2025 calendar year will be held on the second Wednesday of each month at 7:00 PM.

All meetings are open to the public and are held in the Township Municipal Building, 874 Hex Highway, unless otherwise specified. On a rare occasion a meeting date will need to be changed. Changes are advertised in the Legal Notices section of the Classified Ads in the Reading Eagle. Any person with a disability requiring special accommodations to attend township meetings should notify the secretary at 610-562-7410 as early as possible, but not later than three working days prior to the scheduled meeting. The governing body will make every effort to provide a reasonable accommodation.

* The budget for 2026 will be prepared immediately following the September 2025 monthly meeting.

** The budget for 2026 will be adopted at the December 10, 2025 monthly meeting

BOS Workshops at 3:00 PM:

February 6
 March 6
 April 3
 May 8
 June 5
 July 3
 August 7
 September 4
 October 2
 November 6
 December 4

BOS Regular Meetings at 7:00 PM:

January 6
 February 12
 March 12
 April 9
 May 14
 June 11
 July 9
 August 13
 September 10*
 October 8*
 November 12
 December 10**

Planning Commission Meetings 7:30 PM

January 21
 February 18
 March 18
 April 15
 May 20
 June 17
 July 15
 August 19
 September 16
 October 21
 November 18
 December 16

There is a medication drop box in the lobby of the Township Municipal Office.

ACCEPTED:

- Expired or unused medications, both prescription and over-the-counter in a standard container or sealed bag
- Pet medications
- Drug samples
- Vitamins & Ointments
- Powders & Patch medications
- Liquid medications in plastic, leak proof containers
- Inhalers



NOT ACCEPTED:

- Loose pills
- Syringes & Needles
- Thermometers
- Bloody or infectious waste
- Medication from businesses
- Cleaning agents
- Aerosol cans
- Hydrogen Peroxide
- Skin cream & Sunblock
- Personal care/hygiene items

Visit cocaberks.org for more information