

TILDEN TRIBUNE

The Official Newsletter of Tilden Township

2022

A LOOK BACK AT 2021

Normal operations resumed despite the continuing challenges presented by the Coronavirus Pandemic. 2021 was again a busy and productive year in Tilden Township and for the Board of Supervisors. Significant progress was made in several areas.

In personnel matters Jarrod Emes was appointed as Emergency Management Coordinator and began the process of updating the township's Emergency Operations Plan. Lorraine Ramirez assumed duties as Secretary of the Planning Commission and Clerk of the Zoning Hearing Board. We accepted the resignation of Thomas Walters, Jr. from the road crew and Dale Hartz was hired to fill the position. In other actions Sharon Enevoldson was reappointed to a 4-year term on the Planning Commission and Craig Moseman was reappointed to a 5-year term on the Zoning Hearing Board. We were pleased both these experienced people expressed a desire to continue to serve in these capacities. Our primary Township Engineer for many years, Greg Haas, resigned; but the firm he was associated with, Carbon Engineering, continues to provide their services.

The township assumed full responsibility for oversight and direction of the water system, which serves our commercial area. Billing and accounting functions are now being handled by township staff. A proposal by R. M. Schaeffer, LLC and Elite Water Ops was accepted by the Board of Supervisors and that firm was appointed to take over day to day operations, to include performing, monitoring, testing, maintenance and repairs. A number of improvements have been made to the system and a small yet long overdue rate increase was approved.

After over a year, work was completed on the final draft of the revised Northern Berks Joint Comprehensive Plan. The municipalities included in addition to Tilden Township are the Boroughs of Hamburg and Shoemakersville, Perry Township, Upper Bern Township, Upper Tulpehocken Township, and Windsor Township. Other entities involved on the committee, which developed the draft, were the Hamburg Area School District, the Hamburg Our Town Foundation, and the Berks County Planning Commission. Our representatives were Greg Kozlowski from the Planning Commission, Township Manager Monica Flower, and Board of Supervisors member Fred Herman. This Comprehensive Plan is intended to establish overall policies for the development and conservation of the Northern Berks region over the next 10 years. This Plan is not by itself a regulation, but is intended to provide the policy direction for changes to the municipalities' development regulations.



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.

mflower@tildentownship.com

iramirez@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

police@tildentownship.com

Tilden Tax Collector

Dorothy McLaughlin 610-562-9804

taxcollector@tildentownship.com

Road Department

610-562-8073

mquick@tildentownship.com

The Comprehensive Plan includes the following major elements: Overall Vision and Goals, Demographics and Housing Overview, Natural Features and Agricultural Conservation Plan, Community Facilities and Services Plan, Historic Preservation Plan, Economic Development Plan Transportation Plan, Existing Land Use Plan, Future Land Use Plan, Implementation Plan and Action Program. It provides a basis for Implementation techniques such as land use ordinances, administrative actions, official maps and capital improvement programs which will enhance the quality of life for the region's residents. It allows for maintaining the general character of a municipality since only one party to the agreement must provide for a given use. A regional public hearing was held. At this time implementation is pending final adoption by all the municipalities involved.

Supervisors Gene Schappell and Fred Herman and Township Manager Monica Flower continued involvement with the Northern Berks Development Initiative, "On Ramps to the Future", hosted by the Hamburg Area School District and involving officials from municipalities within the school district, the county, and the state. This began as an attempt to align the school curriculum with skills and knowledge needed for present day and future jobs here. It then became clear our efforts should expand to examining quality of life issues and developing strategies to retain our youth. To that end, it is anticipated this group will be conducting regular reviews of the Northern Berks Joint Comprehensive Plan.

A Planned Residential Development Ordinance was developed by the Township Engineer and Planning Commission. It was adopted after it was reviewed and suggestions were made by the Board of Supervisors and Township Solicitor. The purpose was to encourage innovations in residential and nonresidential development and renewal so that the growing demand for housing and other development may be met by greater variety in type, design and layout of dwellings and other buildings and structures and by the conservation and more efficient use of open space ancillary to those dwellings and uses. It is intended to provide greater opportunities for better housing and recreation to all residents of Tilden Township.

The Transportation Impact Fee Advisory Committee's work continued during the year. A Land Use Assumptions Report and a Roadway Sufficiency Analysis were produced and adopted. The next step will be development of the Transportation Capital Improvements Plan. Then an updated ordinance setting the fee for additional trips generated by future development can be enacted.

There were open air, family friendly movie nights in July (Doolittle) and August (Tom & Jerry). We are grateful to the movie sponsors; Gander RV, Carbon Engineering, and Joe Jurgielewicz & Son. In other recreational matters the township received a very generous donation from the Kelly Automobile Dealerships, which we are pleased to welcome to the township at the former Freedom facilities. This will be used to add several more playground equipment at our main campus, replace the basketball backboards and hoops at the Senator Rhoades Park, and make safety improvements to the fence at the baseball field.

Finally, we are pleased to report the township's financial position remains solid. A balanced budget of approximately \$2.8 million for 2022 was enacted with no tax increases and adequate funds to carry over to fund operations at the beginning of 2023. The latter is necessary every year because most revenue is received after the 1st calendar quarter. We are very happy to report we were able to retire the remaining debt, \$234,000, on the township building. Lastly, our uniformed and non-uniformed pension funds are in a strong position. Both grew over the course of the year through municipal and state contributions as well as investment earnings.

TILDEN TOWNSHIP PLANNING COMMISSION REPORT FOR 2021

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The Tilden Township Planning Commission meets on the third Tuesday of each month at 7:30 P.M. In 2021 the Commission met a total of 10 times. During our first meeting in January, we welcomed new Planning Commission Secretary Lorraine Ramirez as well as the reappointment of Sharon Enevoldson to another 4-year term. Business was conducted as usual and according to the guidelines and regulations recommended by the CDC.

The plans reviewed for the year is as follows:

AutoZone Retail Auto Parts located at 75 Wilderness Trail went through a thorough and detailed review. Members recommended to the Board of Supervisors the approval of the scale waiver and Conditional Preliminary/Final Plan Approval based on engineers' comments. The new AutoZone Auto Parts Store will be constructed and finished in 2022.

Seventh Day Adventist Blue Mountain Land Development Engineer, Jeremy Hoagland from the Crossroads Group, LLC presented Preliminary/Final Plans. Commission recommended approval of the waiver to Subdivision and Land Development Ordinance (SALDO) be granted by the Board of Supervisors and recommended Conditional Preliminary/Final Plan approval per the township engineer's comments.

Pleasant Hills: Lot 42, the commission recommended that the Board of Supervisors adopt a Resolution for Pleasant Hills: Lot Sewer Module for the Land Development and recommended the board grant Conditional Final Approval subject to the review comments made by the township engineer letter dated July 30, 2021.

Planning Commission recommended to the Board of Supervisors that they proceed with the approval process of the Planned Residential Development Ordinance (PRD) and accept the final draft submitted to them by the township engineer.

Discussion and review of Gander RV Zoning Hearing Board signage appeal, the commission was concerned with the light output and signage. A separate appeal was done by Gander RV in regards to a 130' flagpole. The commission did not provide any comments regarding that matter.

Alvin R. Adam requested a Lot Line Adjustment to property at 6 Berne Road. Commission recommended approval based upon the comments contained in Carbon Engineering review letter subject to the additional condition that was discussed with the surveyor and engineer relative to the use of the building on lot #1.

Kelly Toyota of Hamburg submitted building addition/car wash plans. The commission recommended Conditional Approval subject to Supervisors concurring with an agreement with commitment to address the issues of Stormwater Management, language on the plans relative to the unapproved parking area within the easement as well as all points and comments contained in the July 20, 2021 review comments by Carbon Engineering.

The Planning Commission invited Gary Gibbs, President of East PA Conference of SDA to attend a Planning Commission Meeting to have an open dialog of their future plans and goals.

Long Property Minor Subdivision Plan prepared by C2C Design Group – Planning Commission recommended approval contingent upon the review comments made by the Township Engineer Review Comment letter dated August 10, 2021.

Engineer Branden Bialek, with The Crossroads Group, LLC presented the Schrack Reverse Subdivision plans to consolidate two lots owned by Eric and Veronica Schrack. Commission recommended to the Board that they grant Conditional Approval of the reverse subdivision based upon Carbon Engineering Review letter dated August 26, 2021.

A letter of appreciation for the work performed by Greg Haas as Township Engineer was given to him after many years of service to the Planning Commission and township. We greatly appreciated his hard work and dedication.

Bass Pro Shops/Cabela's (Gone Fishing PA, LLC) attorney Charles Barreras from The Chartwell Law Offices presented information regarding the review plans for a Notice of Appeal. After review the commission had no reservations or concerns regarding the appeal.

A review of the property located at 171 Scenic Drive Zoning Hearing Board Appeal was thoroughly done and letter was drafted regarding safety concerns, possible issues and any impact on neighboring properties. Chairperson Dale Keener attended the hearing on behalf of the planning commission to address issues stated in the letter.

Zoning Hearing Board Appeal was reviewed for 462 Lowland Road, attorneys and engineers for the Lovett Industrial presented information. The commission submitted a letter to the Zoning Hearing Board members regarding the concerns, possible issues and impact on neighboring properties of 462 Lowland Road. The Planning Commission saw no issues in regards to the area ratio but requested denying the variance for the height requested of 49 feet.

Zoning Ordinance was in the beginning stages of review and then put on hold until after the new year due to Greg Haas leaving Carbon Engineering and giving them time to appoint a new engineer in his place.

PLANNING COMMISSION MEMBERS

Chair: Dale Keener Vice-Chair: Greg Kozlowski

Joshua Breslin Sharon Enevoldson Christopher Forte

Secretary: Lorraine Ramirez



Proudly serving the residents of Tilden Township

Chief William J. McEllroy III
Officer Jordan D. Heckman

Sgt. Peter J. Witman
Officer Frank A. Cataldi

Officer Ronald A. Mohl

Dear residents,

The Covid-19 pandemic is over two years old now. And during that time, it has been business as usual for criminals.

I want to remind everyone about a few common tips to protect yourself and your family.

Lock your vehicle doors – Too often, our department takes reports from victims who had items removed from their unlocked vehicles. Although some thieves will certainly go the extra mile to break into your vehicle, most are looking for the easy target. Locking your vehicles will deter the lazy thief.

Scams – Residents should be suspicious of anything that sounds “too good to be true.” Scammers often call residents pretending to be businesses or government officials in order to coerce you into sending them money that you do not owe them. If you are not sure who is on the other end of that phone, do not provide them with any type of private information, especially financial. Get their name and phone number. Tell them you will call them back. Then look up the published phone number for the actual business or government agency and contact them to find out if the previous phone call was legitimate or a scam.

Numbering on mailboxes or houses – In 2020, Tilden Township passed an ordinance requiring residents to label either their mailboxes or houses with clearly visible numbers. If you previously marked your mailbox years ago but see that the numbers are either faded or missing, please replace them. This ensures that police, fire and ambulance services will be able to find your house more quickly during an emergency. The township office can answer any specific questions about this ordinance.

Unwanted prescription pills – Since 2014, there has been a medication drop box in the township office lobby. This is available Monday through Thursday 8am-4pm. A sad trend among youth is to go through their parents’ or grandparent’s medicine cabinets and to remove random pills to bring to school to either try or give to others. Properly disposing of these medications keeps them out of the hands of unauthorized persons that might have access to them.

Thank you,

Chief William J. McEllroy III
Tilden Township Police Department

FREE OUTDOOR FAMILY MOVIE NIGHT!
Saturday, August 20, 2022
Rain Date: Saturday, August 27th
@ sunset Movie: TBD
874 Hex Highway, Hamburg, PA 19526
Behind the Tilden Municipal Building on baseball outfield.
Concession stand food, snacks & drinks by Tilden Baseball
(no alcoholic beverages).
Thank you to our sponsors!
KELLY AUTO GROUP~ JOE JURGIELEWICZ & SON ~ GANDER RV
CARBON ENGINEERING ~ KOZLOFF STOUTT ATTORNEYS



Let's Make Tilden Township Litter Free Again!

Tilden Township is continuing our "Adopt A Roadway" Program

Our mission is to gather groups for the purpose of picking up trash throughout designated roads in the Township in order to keep Tilden Township a beautiful place to live and work, with the commitment to pick up trash on their designated roads at least twice a year or more, if needed.

As you drive throughout the Township, you sometimes see litter along our roadways. Unfortunately, this seems to be a trend in our society. Nevertheless, there are residents who are willing to spend their time and effort in order to reverse the negative effects that arise from continued discarding of trash.

In order for us to coordinate this project, we need your help to volunteer and "adopt" your very own road! Please call the Township Office 610-562-7410 or stop in for more information about the program and how you can help! **VOLUNTEER!**

HELP KEEP OUR TOWNSHIP BEAUTIFUL. YOU CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE!

Your Pets, Your Water.



SCOOP THE POOP

You take your dog out for a nice spring time walk. Your four-legged friend goes to the bathroom on the grass or street. This mess contains bacteria and viruses that are now health risks to other people and pets.



When it rains, the bacteria and viruses from your pet's waste are washed into our creeks and streams via the municipal stormwater system. Think about it... we play in and drink these waters. If you feel picking up dog waste is unpleasant, imagine drinking it!

Did You Know...

- One pound of fecal matter can contain 10,000,000,000 fecal coliform bacteria.
- This increases the load of nitrogen and phosphorus in water bodies which causes weed and algae growth.
- Additionally, it increases organic matter, which disturbs the habitat of fish and other aquatic animals as it decays.
- Increases the loading of bacteria and pathogens, which can make people and other pets sick.

Do Your Part

- ✓ **SCOOP** it up and flush it down the toilet. This is the best option, because it will then be treated by your municipal wastewater system before entering the water.
- ✓ Or, **SEAL** the waste in a plastic bag and throw it in the trash.
- ✓ Or, **BURY** small amounts in your yard so that it can decompose slowly. Dig at least a 12 inch deep hole, bury up to 4 inches of waste and cover with at least 8 inches of soil.



Protecting and conserving water quality and quantity for the future

What is a watershed?

A watershed is a geographic area of land that feeds all the water running under it and draining off of it into a body of water. It combines with other watersheds to form a network of rivers and streams that drain into a larger watershed.

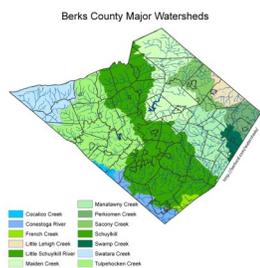


Berks County Watersheds

Berks County lands drain to 3 major watershed basins:

1. The Schuylkill
2. The Delaware
3. The Chesapeake Bay

- 90% of Berks County drains to the Schuylkill River; 10% drains to the Chesapeake Bay
- Berks County makes up 40% of the entire Schuylkill River Watershed (more than any other county in PA)



Quick Facts:

Threats to Berks County Watersheds

Water sources in Berks County are threatened by two kinds of pollutants:

Point Source

A direct discharge of a contaminant from one direct source (i.e. contaminant discharge from sewer treatment plant)

Nonpoint Source

Caused by rainfall or snowmelt moving over and under the ground, simultaneously collecting pollutants like litter, dirt/soil, oils, chemicals and animal waste and transporting them to waterways.

Nonpoint Source Pollution



What is stormwater?

When precipitation exceeds the land's ability to absorb falling water, stormwater runoff occurs. Volume and rate at which stormwater flows varies with intensity and duration of the rainfall.

- Stormwater runoff can carry chemicals, metals, bacteria, organic compounds, and other pollutants directly into creeks, lakes, rivers and streams
- Stormwater runoff can cause severe erosion and flooding, even during regular storms
- Stormwater is never treated. All stormwater and any pollutants that are picked-up during overland flow are discharged directly in to natural waterways



What is MS4?

Municipal Separate Storm Sewer Systems

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) established a municipal stormwater management program in response to degrading water quality throughout the United States, primarily from nonpoint source pollutants. The municipal stormwater management program is intended to improve national water quality through the reduction of pollutants and decreased volume and rate of stormwater runoff. As part of the MS4 program, municipalities hold a permit authorizing stormwater discharges into local waterways.

A municipal MS4 is comprised of a conveyance or system of conveyances including roads with drainage systems, municipal streets, catch basins, curbs, gutters, ditches, manmade swales, or storm drains which capture, collect and transport stormwater.



TILDEN TOWNSHIP NOTICE OF MEETINGS FOR 2022

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 2022 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 2023 will be prepared immediately following the October 2022 monthly meeting.

** The budget for 2023 will be adopted at the December 14, 2022 monthly meeting

BOS Workshops at 9:00 AM:

February 4
March 4
April 8
May 6
June 3
July 8
August 5
September 9
October 7
November 4
December 9 & 30**

BOS Regular Meeting at 7:00 PM:

January 3
February 9
March 9
April 13
May 11
June 8
July 13
August 10
September 14
October 12 *
November 9
December 14 **

Planning Commission 3rd Tuesday at 7:30 PM

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

Don't Forget!

ACCEPTED:

Prescription medications in standard container or sealed bag
Over the counter medications
Vitamins
Drug samples
Pet medications
Liquid medications in plastic,
leak proof containers

NOT ACCEPTED:

Loose pills-Syringes
Thermometers
Bloody or infectious
waste-Medication from businesses or other cleaning agents

Hydrogen peroxide
Aerosol cans
Inhalers



TAX COLLECTOR SITTING HOURS

Tuesday, March 22, 29 6:30PM—8PM

Thursday, April 21, 28 6:30 PM—8PM

Tuesday, April 5, 19, 26 6:30 PM—8PM

Saturday, April 23, 30 9:30 AM—11AM

Tilden Township
874 Hex Highway
Hamburg, PA 19526

PLACE
STAMP
HERE

Remember to get your permit!

Driveway Permits – Required for the construction of a new driveway, to reconstruct, improve, pave, or blacktop an existing driveway, and to construct and/or pave a drainage area or other means of ingress or egress to property which connects to a Township road. Application for a permit can be picked up at the Township office. Driveways abutting a state road require a permit from PennDOT. Please contact the Temple PennDOT office at 610-929-0766.

Occupancy Permit – Upon completion of a dwelling, an occupancy permit must be obtained from the Zoning Officer prior to establishing residence.

On-Lot Sewage Permit – State and Municipal laws require permits for the installation of any new on-site sewage system or corrections/repairs to any existing on-site system. To obtain a permit, contact the Sewage Enforcement Officer at 484-662-3910.

Solicitation Permit – Anyone engaged in selling, soliciting, or taking orders for any goods or merchandise will need a solicitation permit before sales commence. Permit fee is \$10. Charitable organizations are required to obtain a permit, but the \$10 fee is waived. Application can be picked up at the Township office and is subject to review by the Township Police prior to issuance.

Zoning/Building Permits – Required for new construction, additions to existing structures, garages, porches and/or decks, accessory buildings (sheds), swimming pools, roof replacement, retaining walls, fences, and accessory farm buildings. A zoning permit is also required for home occupations.

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