

Heidelberg Township Meeting Minutes

Call to Order

The Heidelberg Township Board of Supervisors held their regular meeting at 7:30pm on December 19, 2024.

Location

Heidelberg Township Municipal Building
6272 Route 309
New Tripoli, PA 18066
and [Zoom](#)

Attendees

| | |
|---|---|
| Board of Supervisors Chairman: | David Fink |
| Board of Supervisors Vice Chairman: | Steven Bachman |
| Board of Supervisors Member: | Jonathan Jakum |
| Administrator/Secretary/Zoning Officer/EMC: | Dawn Didra |
| Road Superintendent: | Kevin Huber |
| Township Solicitor: | Atty. Keith Strohl |
| Township Engineer: | Geoff Dean, Keystone Consulting Engineers |
| Zoning & Administrative Assistant: | Katie Fabian |

Pledge of Allegiance

Recording of the Meeting/Recognition of members of the Press

Susan Bryant, Northwestern Press

Public Comment on Agenda

None.

Approval of Minutes

A motion was made by Jonathan Jakum, seconded by Steven Bachman to approve the minutes of the November 21, 2024, regular and budget meetings, the November 25, 2024, Zoning Hearing, and the November 30th and December 12, 2024 Special Meetings. Board of Supervisors meeting. Motion carried.

Executive Session

None.

Payment of Bills

A motion was made by Jonathan Jakum, seconded by Steven Bachman to approve the payment of the General Fund Checks # 25203 through 25235, EFT payments # 5448 through 5476. No State Fund checks. Motion Carried.

Monthly Reports:

| | |
|------------------------------------|---|
| Regional EMS Steering Committee | No report. |
| Fire Company | David Fink and Jay Scheffler gave their report. |
| Emergency Management Coordinator | No report. |
| Ambulance Service | Steven Bachman read the NOVA November report. |
| Veterans Memorial Committee | No report. |
| Farmland Preservation Board | Steven Bachman gave report. Zimmerman/Metzger farm has been preserved. |
| Lynn-Heidelberg Historical Society | No report. |
| Director of Office Operations | Jonathan Jakum gave his report. |
| Director of Parks and Recreation | Steven Bachman gave his report. |
| Director of Public Works | David Fink gave his report. |
| Road Superintendent | Kevin Huber gave his report. |
| Township Administrator | Dawn Didra gave her report. |
| Zoning Officer | Dawn Didra gave her report. |
| Township Engineer | Geoff Dean gave his report. |
| Environmental Advisory Council | Jonathan Jakum gave report. A motion was made by Jonathan Jakum, seconded by Steven Bachman to accept Dennis Gough's application to the Environmental Advisory Council. Motion carried. |
| Township Solicitor | Keith Strohl gave report. |

Subdivision/Land Development: None.

Unfinished Business

A motion was made by Steven Bachman, seconded by Jonathan Jakum to adopt the 2025 Budget via Resolution #2024-31 appropriating specific sums estimated to be required for the specific purposes of the municipal government, during the year 2025.

Farmland Preservation Tax: "Farmland Preservation Committee":

Lehigh County Preservation Board provided a list of the 6 farms in Heidelberg Township that are potential farms for preservation.

A motion was made by David Fink to pay the total amount over the County's maximum payment allowance amount for the current farms brought forth by the Lehigh County Preservation Board. The motion was lost due to no second.

A motion was made by Steven Bachman, seconded by Jonathan Jakum to pay up to a maximum of \$1,000.00 per acre over the County's maximum payment allowance for the current 6 farms up for preservation brought forth

by the Lehigh County Preservation Board to total \$135,010.00 as the highest payout amount for the year. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Steven Bachman, seconded by Jonathan Jakum to appoint Christine “Teena” Bailey to the Farmland preservation committee. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Steven Bachman, seconded by Jonathan Jakum to adopt Resolution #2024-34 appointing David Fink, Resolution #2024-35 appointing Aimee Good, Resolution #2024-36 appointing William Dietrich, Resolution #2024-37 appointing Benjamin Wise, Resolution #2024-38 appointing Matthew Schneider, and Resolution #2024-39 appointing Christine “Teena” Bailey to serve on the Farmland Preservation Committee. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Steven Bachman, seconded by Jonathan Jakum to schedule a Special Meeting on December 30th at 4:00pm to review the Potato Barn roof options, a generator for the township municipal building, and a site inspection for the new public works building and a public hearing for the proposed Ordinance # 2024-5 Zoning Ordinance and Map Amendments adoption. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Steven Bachman, seconded by Jonathan Jakum to adopt Ordinance 2024-4 “adopting an official map of the township of Heidelberg pursuant to the PA Municipalities Planning Code, Act 247 of 1968.” Motion carried.

New Business

American Rescue Plan Funds (ARPA)/Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Fund (SLERF): A motion was made by Steven Bachman, seconded by Jonathan Jakum to assign all remaining ARPA/SLERF funds available to pay the township for the invoices listed in the below chart. Motion carried.

| Date | Invoice # | Vendor Name | Amount | Category |
|------------|-----------|--------------------------------------|------------|-----------------|
| 5/16/2024 | 10043 | Environmental Energy Solutions LLC | 21,400.00 | Road materials |
| 6/20/2024 | 16281 | Lehigh Asphalt Paving & Construction | 22,766.22 | Road materials |
| 9/18/2024 | 16985 | Lehigh Asphalt Paving & Construction | 10,686.72 | Road materials |
| 10/17/2024 | 37849 | Midland Asphalt Materials Inc. | 96,032.98 | Road materials |
| 6/16/2022 | 9464 | Environmental Energy Solutions LLC | 20,840.00 | Road materials |
| 12/19/2022 | E04493 | Earthborne Inc. | 192,022.30 | 2022 JCB Loader |
| | | | | |
| | | Total | 363,748.22 | |

A motion was made by Steven Bachman, seconded by Jonathan Jakum to advertise for the Board of Supervisors Re-Organization meeting to be held on Monday, January 6, 2025 at 7:30 and the Board of Auditors Re-Organization meeting to be held on January 7, 2025 at 6pm. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Steven Bachman, seconded by Jonathan Jakum to adopt Resolution #2024-32 adding Kevin & Kelly Ebert 6270 Saddle Rd., 47+/- acres to the Heidelberg Township Agricultural Security Area. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Steven Bachman, seconded by Jonathan Jakum to adopt resolution #2024-33 adding Travers & Shannon Schmidt 6335 Saddle Rd., 26.85 +/- acres to the Heidelberg Township Agricultural Security Area. Motion carried.

Safety Policy: As discussed in her Township Administrator report, Dawn Didra gathered samples of safety policies, evacuation and emergency plans, and safety committee documents. These samples will be provided to the Assistant Road Superintendent, as safety coordinator, to assist with creation of the necessary documents for the township.

New Public Works Building Location: A meeting has been established for the potential new public works building (See above- "Zoning Ordinance and Zoning Map Amendment December 30th Meeting")

Public Comment

David Fink: Request to include the Fire Department's April 6th Clay Shoot in the township Newsletter.

Steven Bachman: As a witness to the most recent dogs running-at-large near Knoll Ct within the township, he will be present as a witness at the future court date.

Correspondence

The Greater Northern Lehigh Chamber of Commerce recognizes Heidelberg Township for their contributions to the successful Northwestern Lehigh Tree Lighting held at Ontelaunee Park.

Adjournment

A motion was made by Jonathan Jakum, seconded by Steven Bachman to adjourn the meeting at 8:10 pm. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted as transcribed by Katie Fabian,

Dawn Didra, Secretary to the Board of Supervisors