

**MINUTES OF MEETING
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
SPRINGFIELD TOWNSHIP**

The Board of Commissioners of Springfield Township met in regular monthly meeting on Wednesday evening, August 14, 2019, at 7:30 PM in the Springfield Township Building for the purpose of transacting the general business of the Township. All members of the Board were present with the exception of Mr. Graham. Mr. Harbison presided.

Mr. Harbison asked everyone to join the Board of Commissioners in a moment of silent reflection honoring the service men and women who have placed themselves in harm's way in order to help preserve our safety.

Mr. Harbison led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Motion (Schaum/Wilson) vote 6-0, dispensing with the reading of the minutes of the previous meeting and approving same as written and recorded in the official minute book of the Township.

Mr. Harbison announced that the Board of Commissioners conducted an executive session following the workshop meeting held on August 12, 2019 to discuss one personnel matter and one matter of litigation.

Mr. Harbison recognized Chief Michael Pitkow and Magisterial District Justice Kate McGill. Chief Pitkow indicated that District Justice McGill will administer the oath of office to two police officers who were recently promoted from within the department and who will swear to obey, support, and defend the Constitution and laws of the United States, the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and Springfield Township. Judge McGill administered the oath of office individually to Sergeant Christian Wilbur and Corporal Mark Koenig.

Mr. Harbison announced that the Board was now open to receiving public comment, and that the Board drew particular attention to those items listed on the agenda.

Nancy Bella, Hull Drive, addressed the Board of Commissioners regarding the proposed bamboo management ordinance that was to be considered by the Board of Commissioners later this evening. Ms. Bella introduced herself as having a degree in landscape management and suggested that not all bamboo is a nuisance. She offered that clumping bamboo does not present the same problems as running bamboo and that the ordinance should distinguish between the two varieties. Mr. Taylor read for Ms. Bella the definition of bamboo as it is written in the ordinance and suggested that only the running varieties are prohibited. Mr. Harbison indicated that running bamboo existing at the time of ordinance adoption can remain so long as it is maintained by the property owner and is not located within twenty feet of the public right of way.

Mr. Harbison, Chairman of Internal Affairs and Library Committees, reported:

Motion (Harbison-Schaum) vote 6-0 to approve the July check reconciliation in the amount \$978,729.56 and the August bill listing in the amount of \$737,295.98.

Mr. Schaum, Chairman of Public Works and Facilities Committee, reported:

Mr. Schaum announced that in September 2014, Springfield Township solicited bids for solid waste disposal services on behalf of 16 municipalities located in Eastern Montgomery County. The bid was necessary when Montgomery County disbanded the Waste System Authority of Eastern Montgomery County, and each municipality was forced to make arrangements for the disposal of solid waste on their own. The bid was structured to include a base, five-year contract with an option to extend it for one additional three-year term. Following the receipt and evaluation of the bids, on November 14, 2014, the Board of Commissioners awarded a five-year contract for the disposal of municipal solid waste to Covanta for their low bid price of \$54 per ton beginning in 2015, with a 2% increase in each year of the base contract and optional extension period. The Township's five-year contract with Covanta for the disposal of solid waste is scheduled to expire on December 31, 2019 and, after obtaining pricing from other disposal facilities, the Board of Commissioners finds it most efficient and financially prudent to exercise its option to extend the contract with Covanta for an additional three-year term as provided for in the 2014 bid proposal.

Motion (Schaum/Maxwell) vote 6-0, to exercise the three-year option with Covanta for the disposal of municipal solid waste delivered to the Covanta waste-to-energy facility located in Conshohocken, PA. The cost for disposal is \$59.62 per ton in 2020, \$60.81 per ton in 2021 and \$62.03 per ton in 2022.

Mr. Schaum announced that the Montgomery County Transportation Program is a competitive funding program to assist municipalities with improving transportation infrastructure. The program utilizes revenues generated from a \$5 fee for each vehicle registered in Montgomery County. The County is currently accepting grant applications from municipalities to fund transportation projects including the repair of public roads and bridges, the installation of traffic signs and signals, and crosswalk painting and marking.

Motion (Schaum/Maxwell) vote 6-0, to adopt Resolution #1479, a Resolution authorizing application to the Montgomery County Transportation Program to fund the installation of school warning signals on Paper Mill Road near State Route 309. The cost of the project is estimated to be \$98,840 of which \$79,072 is requested from Montgomery County.

Mr. Standish, Chairman of Community Development Committee, reported:

Mr. Standish announced that in response to expressions of concern from residents whose neighbors had taken to cultivating bamboo in their yards, as well as the invasive nature of bamboo, the Board of Commissioners requested the Township Planning Commission to consider regulations to manage bamboo within the Township. The Planners, with the assistance of the Township Engineer's office, created an ordinance to manage bamboo.

Motion (Standish/Wilson) vote 6-0, to enact Ordinance #961 amending the Code of the Township of Springfield, Chapter 11, Brush, Grass and Weeds, to prohibit the growing or planting of bamboo.

Mr. Wilson, Chairman of Cultural and Environmental Resources Committee, reported:

Mr. Wilson announced that during the month of July 2019, Springfield Township residents recycled 205.30 tons of materials with a householder participation rate of 73.9%. The net cost for the month was \$19,413.61.

Motion (Wilson/Standish) vote 6-0, to appoint Jay Bailey Smith, of Elliston Drive, Wyndmoor, to fill an unexpired term of service as a member of the Springfield Township Environmental Advisory Commission. Mr. Smith's term of service shall expire on June 14, 2022.

Mr. Graham, Chairman of Parks and Recreational Resources Committee, had no report.

Mr. Maxwell, Co-Chairman of Public Safety Committee, had no report.

Mr. Cobb, Chairman of the Zoning Committee, reported:

Mr. Cobb announced the next meeting of the Springfield Township Zoning Hearing Board will be on Monday, August 26, 2019 at 7:00 PM at the Springfield Township Building, 1510 Paper Mill Road, Wyndmoor, PA. Mr. Cobb summarized the Zoning Hearing Board agenda involving a single property located at 809 Bethlehem Pike, Erdenheim.

Mr. Cobb announced that on Tuesday evening, August 6, 2019, the Township celebrated its inaugural National Night Out event at the Flourtown Country Club. Mr. Cobb recognized the contributions of individual members of Township staff, and Detective Rob Baiada in particular, who made the evening such a success. He also acknowledged the donation of an ice cream machine by Commissioner Schaum which proved to be the most popular food concession.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:57 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

A. Michael Taylor
Secretary

