

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

The Board of Commissioners of Springfield Township met in regular monthly meeting on Wednesday evening, March 11, 2020, 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. Mr. Standish presided.

Mr. Standish asked everyone to join the Board of Commissioners in a moment of silent reflection honoring the service men and women who place themselves in harm's way in order to help preserve our safety at home and overseas.

Mr. Standish led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Motion (Graham/Wilson), carried unanimously, 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. Standish announced that the Board of Commissioners conducted an executive session meeting on March 9, 2020 as part of the regularly scheduled workshop meeting held on that date to discuss one litigation matter and one personnel matter. The Board also met prior to this evening's business meeting to continue their discussions on the litigation matter.

Mr. Standish made an announcement with regard to the COVID-19 virus and the actions being taken by the Township to maintain services to the community during the current global pandemic.

Mr. Standish called on Emily Croke, Director of Parks and Recreation, to brief the Board of Commissioners on the proposed amendments to the Parks and Recreation Mission and Philosophy Statements that are to be considered by the Board later this evening. Ms. Croke described for the Board the differences between a Mission and Philosophy Statement, and how each is used to carry out the goals of the Department. Ms. Croke read into record the proposed Mission and Philosophy Statements.

Mr. Standish 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.

Barbara Senst, Woods Road, addressed the Board regarding the efforts and activities of the Springfield Township Opioid Action Committee (STOAC) to educate and inform the community about the opioid crisis. Mrs. Senst highlighted several initiatives undertaken by the committee such as "Assist Cards" that are distributed at community events and school functions, and the interest of the committee to reestablish the Oreland Summer Basketball League later this year. Mrs. Senst wished to acknowledge the efforts of Detective Baiada of the Springfield Township Police Department to serve as a liaison between the committee and the police department. Mr. Harbison noted the recent efforts of the Pennsylvania Attorney General's office to arrest two local doctors implicated in a "pill mill" scheme that exploited homeless individuals and allowed millions of dollars of illegal opioids to become available to the public. Mr. Graham

acknowledged the tremendous efforts of Mr. and Mrs. Senst to advance drug education efforts within Springfield Township.

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

Mr. Standish announced that on December 11, 2019, the Board of Commissioners adopted the Springfield Township Historic Resources Ordinance. In addition to promoting and protecting significant historic resources in the Township, the ordinance also establishes the Springfield Township Historical Commission. Members of the Historical Commission are charged with preparing and maintaining a list of properties eligible for listing in the Township's historic resources inventory, among other duties. The Commission shall consist of five members and one alternate member.

Motion (Standish/Wilson), carried unanimously, to appoint Matthew Harris, of Flourtown, and Heather Snyder Killinger, of Wyndmoor, as a member and alternate member of the Springfield Township Historical Commission. The terms of service for Mr. Harris and Mrs. Killinger shall both expire on December 31, 2020.

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

Motion (Harbison/Graham), carried unanimously, to approve the February check reconciliation in the amount \$658,319.44 and the March bill listing in the amount of \$357,654.57.

Mr. Harbison announced that on February 18, 2020, Public Financial Management (PFM) Financial Advisors issued a Request for Proposals on behalf of the Board of Commissioners of Springfield Township to consider the refinance of the Township's existing General Obligation Note, Series of 2016. The current note has a current outstanding principal of \$8,765,000 and fixed interest rate of 2.26%. In response to the solicitation, the Township received 6 fixed interest rate proposals ranging from 1.55% to 2.6%, and 8 variable interest rate proposals ranging from 1.85% to 3.2%.

Motion (Harbison/Wilson), carried unanimously, to authorize Township staff to work with PFM Financial Advisors, LLC, as Financial Advisor, and Wisler-Pearlstine, LLP, as Note Counsel and Township Solicitor, in conjunction with the refunding of the Township's outstanding General Obligation Note, Series of 2016. The Board of Commissioners intends to select the lowest cost proposal for Option 2 (currently TD Bank) as outlined in the March 9, 2020 presentation from PFM Financial Advisors, LLC. The net savings to be experienced by the Township as a result of the refunding of the outstanding Note is approximately \$400,000.

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

Mr. Wilson announced that during the month of February 2020, Springfield Township residents recycled 153.51 tons of materials with a householder participation rate of 78.4%. The net cost for the month was \$9,959.73.

Mr. Wilson announced that the Board of Commissioners of Springfield Township has received correspondence from David Michelbacher and Michael Needleman indicating that it would be necessary for each of them to resign their positions as members of the Springfield Township Environmental Advisory Commission. The Board of Commissioners thanks Mr. Michelbacher and Mr. Needleman for their contributions to the Springfield Township Community. As a result of the two aforementioned resignations, there are presently two vacancies on the Springfield Township Environmental Advisory Commission.

Motion (Wilson/Graham), carried unanimously, to appoint Chris Richter, of Wyndmoor, and Desiree Rammon, of Oreland, as members of the Springfield Township Environmental Advisory Commission to fill unexpired terms of service that will expire on June 14, 2020 and June 14, 2021, respectively.

Mr. Wilson went on to announce that the Environmental Advisory Commission also maintains several associate, or alternate members to assist with educational programs and other responsibilities. Mr. Wilson noted that an associate member does not have voting privileges, but attends and participates in all meetings as a regular member. When a vacancy occurs on the commission, the Board typically looks to the associate members to fill the vacancy.

Motion (Wilson/Cobb), carried unanimously, to appoint Christine Wilmerding, of Philadelphia, and Charles Karl, of Wyndmoor, as associate members of the Environmental Advisory Commission.

Mr. Wilson announced that the SolSmart Solar and Electrification partnership is a national designation and recognition program funded by the Federal Department of Energy and managed through a partnership between the International City/County Management Association and the Solar Foundation. The program provides no-cost technical assistance to communities in order to eliminate barriers that may unintentionally discourage investment in solar technology. The Springfield Township Environmental Advisory Commission recently requested the Board of Commissioners to authorize the Township's participation in the SolSmart program in order to make it faster, easier and more affordable to invest in solar projects within the Township.

Motion (Wilson/Graham), carried unanimously, to authorize Springfield Township to participate in the SolSmart Solar and Electrification partnership to advance solar and electrification investment in Springfield Township.

Mr. Graham, Chairman of the Parks and Recreational Resources Committee, reported:

Mr. Graham explained that a mission statement outlines an organization's purpose and general goals, while an organizational philosophy describes how an organization operates, what is offered, and how it achieves its goals. At the February 5, 2020 meeting of the Springfield Township Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee, the Committee recommended updated mission and philosophy statements for the Parks & Recreation Department. Earlier this evening the Board received a presentation from Emily Croke, Director of Parks & Recreation, to explain how the updated mission and philosophy statements will be applied by the Department.

Motion (Graham/Lee), carried unanimously, to accept the updated Mission and Philosophy Statements for the Parks and Recreation Department as recommended by the Springfield Township Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee.

Motion (Graham/Maxwell), carried unanimously, to adopt Resolution #1489, a resolution authorizing application to the Montco 2040 Implementation Grant program for the Mermaid Park Stream and Habitat Restoration Project, and the Cisco Park Playground Rehabilitation Project.

Mr. Maxwell, Chairman of the Public Safety Committee, reported:

Mr. Maxwell announced that Special Fire Police provide traffic control at or near fire stations, at fire scenes, at traffic accidents and, on occasion, to supplement traffic control normally conducted by local police departments.

Motion (Maxwell/Wilson), carried unanimously, to confirm the nomination of Rufus Butler, of Erdenheim, as a Special Fire Police Officer in accordance with Title 35, Health and Safety, Chapter 74, Subchapter D, of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes.

Mr. Maxwell reported that it was recently determined that the codified parking regulations on Thomas Road do not match those that have been posted on the street since 2009, and that additional research by staff has confirmed that it was the intention of the Board of Commissioners to enact the restrictions as they have been posted for last ten years, and not as they are currently listed in the Township Code.

Motion (Maxwell/Graham), carried unanimously, to amend Section 107-32, Schedule IX, Parking Prohibited, by rescinding the existing parking prohibition on the northwest side of Thomas Road, from Germantown Avenue to the Springfield/Whitemarsh Township boundary line, and to further amend Section 107-32, Schedule IX, Parking Prohibited, by restricting parking as follows:

1. West side of Thomas Road from Germantown Avenue to Rose Terrace;
2. East side of Thomas Road from Germantown Avenue to Northwestern Avenue/Andorra Road; and
3. West side of Thomas Road from Northwestern Avenue/Andorra Road to 150' northerly thereof.

Motion (Maxwell/Harbison), carried unanimously, to grant permission to the Wyndmoor Hose Company to conduct their annual carnival at the Township-owned Veterans Park on June 9 – 13, 2020.

Motion (Maxwell/Graham), carried unanimously, that in conjunction with the carnival, the Board of Commissioners waive the provisions of Section 3303.1(12) of the Springfield Township Fire Prevention Code in order that the Wyndmoor Hose Company may conduct a fireworks display at Veterans Park on Saturday evening, June 13, 2020. The waiver is conditioned upon the following: (1) the Wyndmoor Hose Company and their pyrotechnical firm shall add Springfield Township as an additional insured on their certificates of insurance for the event, and (2) the Wyndmoor Hose Company and their pyrotechnical firm shall work closely with the Township Fire Marshal to help prevent an accident and to create a plan of action in the event that an accident does occur during that activity.

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

Mr. Cobb announced that the Springfield Township Zoning Hearing Board will next meet on March 23, 2020 at 7:00 PM at the Springfield Township Building. Mr. Cobb summarized the Zoning Hearing Board Agenda.

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

Mr. Lee announced that on Saturday, April 25, 2020, from 9 AM – 12 Noon, the Springfield Township Shade Tree and Environmental Advisory Commissions will partner together to conduct the Township's annual Arbor Day/Earth Day celebration at the Springfield Township Municipal Campus. The Shade Tree Commission will distribute 30 trees to preregistered attendees, and the Environmental Advisory Commission will provide information about solar and electrification efforts. As part of the activities, all of the Township's municipal buildings will be open to the public, including the ambulance garage.

Mr. Lee announced that in August 2019 Springfield Township applied for and eventually received a grant from the Montgomery County Transportation Program to install school signals on Paper Mill Road adjacent to the Springfield Township High School and Middle Schools. The County Transportation Program is funded by a \$5 fee collected by the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation (PennDOT) on every vehicle registered in Montgomery County. The value of the grant is \$79,072 and the estimated cost of the school signals is \$78,400. Mr. Lee noted that Springfield Township has completed the design and obtained a permit from PennDOT to install the school signals.

Motion (Lee/Graham), carried unanimously, to authorize the advertisement of bids to install school signals on Paper Mill Road adjacent to the Springfield Township High School and Middle Schools, subject to satisfactory review of the bid and construction documents by the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation and the Montgomery County Planning Commission.

Mr. Graham acknowledged the efforts of several parents to facilitate the installation of the school signals.

Mr. Standish announced that the Board was once again open to receiving public comment. No public comment was received.

Motion (Graham/Wilson), carried unanimously, to adjourn the meeting at 8:25 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

A. Michael Taylor,
Secretary