

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

The Board of Commissioners of Springfield Township met in regular monthly meeting on Wednesday evening, December 9, 2020, at 7:30 PM for the purpose of transacting the general business of the Township. Due to social distancing guidelines in effect at the time of the meeting, the meeting was conducted utilizing the Zoom video conferencing platform. All members of the Board were present. Mr. Standish presided.

Mr. Standish requested 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 (Wilson-Maxwell), 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.

Announcements

Mr. Standish made an announcement that the Board of Commissioners met in executive session on December 3, 2020 to discuss a personnel matter, as well as on December 7, 2020 as part of the regularly scheduled workshop meeting held on that date to discuss two personnel matters and one litigation matter.

Mr. Standish made an announcement that as a result of the pandemic and social distancing guidelines, all public meetings of the Board of Commissioners and its advisory boards will continue to be conducted via the Zoom virtual meeting platform until further notice. Individuals interested in participating in the meetings were directed to the Township website for instructions to join the meeting.

Mr. Standish announced that later in the evening the Board of Commissioners would conduct a budget hearing to accept testimony on the 2021 Budget, as well as a special meeting to close out the business of 2020, and to adopt the 2021 Budget.

Mr. Standish announced that the Board was open to receiving public comment as part of the meeting, and that the Board drew particular attention to those items listed on the agenda. No public comments were received.

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

Motion (Standish-Wilson) carried unanimously to adopt Resolution No. 1512, a resolution accepting the deed of dedication from JB Venture 5, LLC, for a portion of the premises located at 1400 Willow Grove Avenue, Wyndmoor. The area to be dedicated to the Township includes that portion of the premises located between the legal and ultimate right of way along Willow Grove Avenue.

Motion (Standish-Graham) carried unanimously to reappoint Matthew Harris and Heather Killinger to new, three-year terms of service as a member and alternate member, respectively, of the Springfield Township Historical Commission. The new terms of service shall expire on December 31, 2023.

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

Motion (Harbison-Wilson) carried unanimously to approve the November check reconciliation in the amount of \$406,751.22, and the December bill listing in the amount of \$710,351.01.

Mr. Harbison announced that the 2021 meeting schedule of the Board of Commissioners and Township agencies will remain the same as the 2020 meeting schedule. The Board of Commissioners will continue to meet each month on the second Wednesday at 7:30 PM, and on the Monday preceding the second Wednesday at 7:00 PM. A complete list of the meeting schedule is available upon request. The meeting schedule will also be posted to the Township website and advertised in the Ambler Gazette.

Mr. Harbison reminded all that due to limitations on the size of indoor public gatherings during the Covid pandemic, all regular and special meetings of the Board of Commissioners and Township Advisory Boards will continue to occur virtually using the Zoom video conferencing platform until further notice. Instructions on how to access meetings can be found on the Township's website.

Motion (Harbison-Graham) carried unanimously to re-appoint Kathleen Klemm, Jennifer Kolodner, Kate McGranaghan and Neil DiFranco to new, three-year terms of service as members of the Springfield Township Library Advisory Committee. The new, three-year terms of service for each member shall expire on December 31, 2023.

Motion (Harbison-Maxwell) carried unanimously to authorize an amendment to the Intergovernmental Agreement between Springfield Township and the Delaware Valley Health Trust to provide pooled health insurance benefits for municipal employees, their dependents and retirees, by exercising a two-year renewal option. The renewal option provides a 2021 premium credit in the amount of \$75,098, as well as a cap on 2022 premiums equal to 6.5% of the 2021 rates.

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

Mr. Wilson announced that during the month of November 2020, Springfield Township residents recycled 182.6 tons of materials with a householder participation rate of 76.4%. The net cost for the month was \$31,010.15.

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

Motion (Graham-Wilson) carried unanimously to authorize the advertisement of an Ordinance amending the Code of the Township of Springfield to repeal and replace chapter 59 (Parks and Recreation) to update the regulations of the Parks and Recreation Department, and programming in the Township. Copies of the proposed ordinance are available for examination during normal business hours in the office of the Township Manager and the Free Library of Springfield Township. An electronic version of the ordinance is also posted

on the Township's website. It is the intention of the Board of Commissioners to accept public comment on, and to enact the ordinance at their January 13, 2021 meeting.

Motion (Graham-Wilson) carried unanimously to adopt Resolution No. 1513, a resolution designating the President of the Board of Commissioners as the authorized signatory for the 2020 Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources Grant application and agreement for the Cisco Park Playground Rehabilitation Project. The Township is the recipient of a grant award in the amount of \$134,000 and the adoption of Resolution No. 1513 is an administrative matter requested by the Commonwealth in order to release the grant funding.

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

In accordance with Section 626 of the Pennsylvania First Class Township Code, the Board of Commissioners may appoint up to three qualified electors to serve as alternate members of the police civil service commission. The Township presently has only one alternate member, and the Board desires to designate two additional alternates to the commission.

Motion (Maxwell-Graham) carried unanimously to appoint Elisabeth Latawiec and Elizabeth McNamara to new, six-year terms of service as alternate members of the Springfield Township Police Civil Service Commission. The terms of service for Ms. Latawiec and Ms. McNamara shall expire on July 16, 2026.

Mr. Cobb, Chairman of Zoning Committee, reported:

Mr. Cobb announced that the Springfield Township Zoning Hearing Board will meet on Tuesday, December 22, 2020 at 7:00 PM. The meeting will be conducted via the Zoom virtual meeting platform. Mr. Cobb summarized the Zoning Hearing Board agenda.

Motion (Cobb-Lee) carried unanimously to re-appoint Megan McDonough to a new, three-year term of service as a member of the Zoning Hearing Board of Springfield Township. Ms. McDonough's new term of service shall expire on December 31, 2023.

J. M. Lee, Chairman of Public Works and Facilities Committee, had no report.

Mr. Lee commented on how difficult and challenging 2020 has been. He thanked the Township staff for their efforts to continue to provide services to the residents. He also thanked the residents for their cooperation during this challenging time.

The meeting was then opened to public comment once again. No public comments were received.

Motion (Graham-Maxwell) carried unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 7:59 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael Taylor
Secretary

