

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

The Board of Commissioners of Springfield Township met in regular monthly meeting on Wednesday evening, February 10, 2021, 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 at the start of the meeting, with the exception of Commissioner Graham. 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-Lee), 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. Graham joined the meeting at 7:37 PM.

Announcements

Mr. Standish made an announcement that the Board of Commissioners met in executive session on February 8, 2021 as part of the workshop meeting to discuss two personnel matters and one matter of litigation.

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 read into the record a statement praising the performance of the Public Works Department in response to the weather events of February 1 and 7, 2021. In summary, the Township received approximately 16" of snow over the course of the two storms, during which time the Public Works Department worked tirelessly preparing and repairing equipment, salting and brining local roadways, clearing sidewalks at township properties and plowing snow. In addition to combatting the storms, the Department continued collecting refuse and recycling materials throughout the storms. On behalf of the entire Board of Commissioners, Mr. Standish thanked and commended the members of the Public Works Department for their hard work and for their ongoing dedication to the residents of Springfield Township.

Mr. Standish also thanked Township residents for their cooperation in removing their vehicles from the roadways during the snow emergencies, adhering to local snow and ice removal guidelines, and waiting to place their trash and recycling containers out until the morning of collection. The public's assistance allowed our Public Works team to efficiently plow and clear our Township streets, and to complete trash and recycling collection in a timely and effective manner.

Mr. Standish announced that the Board was now open to receiving public comment as part of the current 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 reappoint Angela Murray, George Schaefer and David Sands, to new, four year terms of service as members of the Springfield Township Planning Commission. The new terms of service shall expire on February 16, 2025.

Mr. Harbison, Chairman of Internal Affairs Committee, reported:

Motion (Harbison-Wilson) carried unanimously to approve the January check reconciliation in the amount of \$578,637.36, and the February bill listing in the amount of \$486,494.70.

Motion (Harbison-Wilson) vote 5-2 (Cobb and Maxwell opposed) to adopt Resolution No. 1519, a resolution amending the schedule of fees charged for services rendered by the Township Tax Collector. Mr. Harbison noted that the fees are associated with services performed outside of the normal duties of the tax collector.

Motion (Harbison-Lee) carried unanimously to adopt Resolution No. 1520, a resolution authorizing the disposition of township records as set forth in a list of files and records attached to Resolution No. 1520, totaling approximately 20 boxes.

Mr. Wilson inquired as to how the records are disposed of. Mr. Taylor responded that confidential records are shredded and other records are simply recycled.

Motion (Harbison-Graham) carried unanimously to adopt Resolution No. 1521, a resolution appointing the Township Manager and Finance Director as the Township's primary and alternate voting delegates to the Montgomery County Tax Collection Committee. Mr. Harbison noted that the primary responsibility of the Tax Collection Committee is to appoint a designated Tax Officer for the collection of Earned Income Taxes.

Mr. Harbison announced that on November 19, 2020, Springfield Township issued a Request for Proposals to provide payroll processing services, tax filing and remittance, and data

interface services for the Township. A total of four proposals were received with an annual cost ranging from just over \$8,000 to just under \$12,000. Following the evaluation of each proposal, Township staff recommended the Township engage the services of AccuPay, Inc of Hatboro, PA based upon their familiarity with servicing municipal governments of the same size and complexity, strength of support staff, and value.

Motion (Harbison-Graham) carried unanimously to authorize the execution of an agreement with AccuPay, Inc. of Hatboro, PA, to provide weekly and bi-weekly payroll processing and reporting services, in accordance with their proposal submitted November 30, 2020. The estimated annual cost is \$8,685. Prior to executing the agreement with AccuPay, it shall be in a form acceptable to the Township Solicitor's office.

Commissioner Wilson asked if this fee was included in the adopted 2021 budget. Mr. Taylor answered in the affirmative.

Mr. Harbison announced that on July 13, 2016, the Board of Commissioners authorized the participation in a joint project of the Montgomery County Consortium of Communities to negotiate a new cable television franchise agreement with Verizon, PA. The negotiations were led by the Cohen Law Group, of Pittsburgh, PA and were recently completed. As part of the renewal process, the Board of Commissioners conducted a Public Hearing on May 8, 2019 to solicit testimony on the past performance of Verizon, and to accept public testimony on the cable television needs of the community. No public comment was received. Due to changes in the cable industry, technology advancements, and the regulatory landscape affecting the wired cable industry, there is presently not a great deal of latitude for municipalities to negotiate the provisions of an agreement. In summary, the major provisions of the proposed agreement are as follows, but not limited to: (1) franchise fees – a maximum of 5% of gross revenues shall be remitted to the Township; (2) accountability – new auditing provisions, penalties for underpayments, and the calculation of “bundled services” discounts were added; (3) termination clause – Verizon must demonstrate a 6% loss in subscribers over a continuous, 12-month period before it may terminate the agreement, and must provide the Township with 12-months' notice of its intent to terminate; (4) education and government access channels – Verizon will continue to reserve the right for the municipality to obtain dedicated space on the Basic Service tier for an educational and governmental (“EG”) channel, and (5) term – 5 years.

Motion (Harbison-Graham) carried unanimously to adopt Resolution No. 1522, a resolution authorizing the execution of a cable franchise agreement between Springfield Township and Verizon Pennsylvania, LLC.

The Commissioners noted that there have been a number of developments surrounding the cable industry in general, including advancements in technology, and the increase in “cord cutting” as more people have begun to switch their viewing preferences from traditional cable providers to internet-based entertainment options.

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

Mr. Wilson announced that during the month of January 2021, Springfield Township residents recycled 198.45 tons of materials with a householder participation rate of 79.3%. The net cost for the month was \$29,351.57.

Motion (Wilson-Lee) carried unanimously to authorize the appropriate Township officials to execute an addendum to the October 22, 2015 Agreement for Recycling Services between the Montgomery County Consortium of Recycling Communities, and Solid Waste Services, Inc. d/b/a J.P. Mascaro & Sons, Inc. in order to extend the Agreement and Pricing Schedule attached to the Agreement through October 21, 2021. Mr. Wilson noted that the extension is necessary in order to permit the Recycling Consortium to complete several studies that will be incorporated into a future bid for the processing and marketing of materials.

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

Mr. Graham announced that the by-laws of the Springfield Township Parks & Recreation Advisory Committee state that the Committee will be comprised of seven members, two of whom shall be appointed by the School Board of Directors, and one of whom shall be a School Board Member. The School District has recommended the appointment of Mr. Joseph Ferraro, Springfield Township High School Athletic Director, to fill an unexpired term of service as a School District representative to the Parks & Recreation Advisory Committee.

Motion (Graham-Wilson) vote 6-1, (Maxwell opposed) to appoint Joseph Ferraro, Springfield Township High School Athletic Director, to fill an unexpired term of service as a member of the Springfield Township Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee. Mr. Ferraro's term of service shall expire May 12, 2023.

Motion (Graham-Lee) carried unanimously to authorize the submission of a letter of intent to the Schuylkill River Restoration Program requesting up to \$51,900 for the Mermaid Park Habitat Restoration Project.

Motion (Graham-Wilson) carried unanimously to adopt Resolution No. 1523, a resolution authorizing application to the Montco 2040 Implementation Grant Program for the Cisco Park Playground Restoration, and Walnut Avenue Pedestrian Walkway Projects. The value of each project is \$200,000.

Mr. Wilson asked for confirmation that there is no guarantee that the Township will actually receive the funding. Mr. Taylor confirmed there is no guarantee.

Mr. Graham announced that the Township was in receipt of several generous donations to perform improvements to township parks. Donations were received from Douglas Riordan, Edna Ramirez, Bruce Charlick and the Beth Tikvah B'Nai Jeshurun Synagogue. On behalf of the Board of Commissioners and the Springfield Township community, Mr. Graham thanked the aforementioned individuals and the synagogue for their donations.

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

Motion (Maxwell-Wilson) carried unanimously to enact Ordinance No. 969, an ordinance amending Chapter 49, Insurances, of the Code of the Township of Springfield, to repeal and replace Article I (Fire Insurance Claims) to update the procedures for the issuance of a certificate prior to payment of fire loss insurance claims for properties located in the Township. The proposed ordinance also increases the escrow provisions required for each claim, and addresses the use of funds to guarantee the removal or repair of fire damaged structures.

Motion (Maxwell-Cobb) carried unanimously to amend the Springfield Township Code, Section 107-28, Schedule V, Stop Intersections, by authorizing the installation of a stop sign on Moreland Avenue, Wyndmoor, in a westbound direction at its intersection with Pine Road. The stop condition and associated striping are intended to provide direction to motorists at the subject intersection.

Motion (Maxwell-Lee) carried unanimously to amend the Springfield Township Code, Section 107-33, Schedule X, Parking Time Limited, by repealing the existing parking regulations on the south side of Willow Grove Avenue from Elm Street to Queen Street. Mr. Harbison stated that this was being done to accommodate merchants in the area.

Motion (Maxwell-Cobb) carried unanimously to amend the Springfield Township Code, Section 107-33, Schedule X, Parking Time Limited, by establishing limited parking for a maximum time of two hours, Monday through Saturday, 8:00 AM to 6:00 PM, on the south side of Willow Grove Avenue, from Elm Street to Queen Street. Mr. Maxwell announced that the parking regulations are intended to benefit local businesses and patrons.

Motion (Maxwell-Cobb) carried unanimously to extend a conditional offer of employment to Megan Lynn Padua, of Harleysville, PA, as a probationary police officer with the Springfield Township Police Department. The offer of employment is conditioned upon Ms. Padua successfully completing a medical and psychological examination, and shall become effective February 29, 2021.

Mr. Maxwell noted that Ms. Padua is a Veteran of the Pennsylvania Army National Guard, and is currently employed as a police officer with the City of Philadelphia. Ms. Padua's appointment will fill a vacancy created by the retirement of a police officer in May, 2020.

Mr. Wilson noted that Ms. Padua is the third female on the 29 person police force.

Mr. Cobb, Chairman of Zoning Committee, reported:

Mr. Cobb announced that the Springfield Township Zoning Hearing Board will meet on Monday, February 22, 2021 at 7:00 PM. The meeting will be conducted via the Zoom virtual

meeting platform (Meeting ID #892-9005-1325). Mr. Cobb summarized the Zoning Hearing Board Agenda.

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

Motion (Lee-Cobb) carried unanimously to authorize the sale of the following used vehicles and equipment through the Municibid online public auction site: (1) 2006 Chevrolet Trailblazer, (2) 2011 Chevrolet Tahoe, and (3) 2012 Chevrolet Tahoe. The Trailblazer will be listed for sale immediately while the other two vehicles will be offered for sale upon the delivery of new replacement vehicles later this year.

Motion (Lee-Graham) carried unanimously to authorize the appropriate Township officials to execute an Additional Services Agreement #6 with BL Companies, Inc. to perform additional site assessment activities as outlined in their proposal dated January 15, 2021, revised February 9, 2021. The cost of the additional services is \$7,200.

At the request of the Board, Mr. Taylor provided a detailed description of the work to be performed at the former Tank Car Corporation of America property under the Additional Services Agreement referenced herein.

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

Mr. Cobb read into the record an email he received from Ms. Rose Sovira, an Oreland resident. Ms. Sovira is a healthcare worker and is very appreciative of the efforts put forth by the Springfield Township Public Works Department to keep the streets cleared of ice and snow at all hours of the day and night.

Mr. Graham wished to thank the library staff for their hard work, especially for their work with the township youth. Mr. Cobb noted that the library is a great resource, and thanked the staff for their exemplary work.

Motion (Graham-Lee) carried unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 8:10 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael Taylor  
Township Manager/Secretary