

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

The Board of Commissioners of Springfield Township met in regular monthly meeting on Wednesday, May 14, 2008 at 8:00 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. Harbison presided.

Mr. Harbison asked for a moment of silence to honor 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 (Gillies-Peirce) 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. Harbison announced that a telephonic executive session was conducted on April 29, 2008 on a matter of litigation. During the executive session the Board did not change any previous decisions made publicly at earlier business meetings.

Mr. Harbison also announced that Springfield Township would initiate a project of accepting contact information for local families who have a family member currently serving in the military. The contact information will be shared with other registered families in order that the families might exchange thoughts and well wishes with each other. While the Township will initiate the program, it is hoped that the local American Legion post or VFW Post will adopt the project once it is up and running. Contact information for the Township was provided.

Gail Zimmerman, Grove Avenue, suggested that the Board of Commissioners consider an ordinance requiring space allotted for bicycle parking. Ms. Zimmerman also discussed her efforts with the local businesses to provide bicycle parking on their properties. Mr. Harbison noted that the Board previously discussed this matter and asked Township staff to review how this effort might be pursued.

Michael Goldberg, 14 Haws Lane, indicated his concern for speeding on Haws Lane near his residence. He did indicate that he has spoken to the Township Police Department and the Police Department has indeed patrolled the area. Mr. Goldberg asked if the Township had considered speed bumps, on-street parking, rumble strips, or Watch Children signs to help reduce speeding. Mr. Harbison indicated that the Township has considered all those efforts as a part of an active enforcement program, but that there are negative aspects to many of his suggested means of resolution. The Township has given some thought about the lawn signs that encourage motorists to slow down, but can consider all suggestions. Mr. Heller indicated that the Delaware Valley Regional

Planning Commission is in the process of a traffic taming or calming study along Bethlehem Pike, and believes this will have a positive effect on local streets as well.

Jordan Lovitz, 8503 Widener Road, addressed the Board of Commissioners as a business owner of Taylor Auto Service. Mr. Lovitz indicated his interest in being considered as one of the towing services for Springfield Township. Mr. Berger suggested that he contact Chief Hummel and provide Chief Hummel with information to be considered as one of the towing services.

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

Motion (Harbison-Gillies) carried unanimously to approve the April check reconciliation in the amount of \$737,414.54 and the May bill listing in the amount of \$1,232,031.58.

Mr. Harbison announced that during the month of April, Springfield Township residents recycled 257.7 tons of materials with a householder participation rate of 82.5%. The net cost for the month was \$26.31.

Motion (Harbison-Peirce) carried unanimously to authorize the office of the Township Solicitor to file the required documents with the Montgomery County Board of Tax Assessment Appeals for Laurel Beech Park on Mermaid Lane to be designated as a tax exempt property.

Motion (Harbison-Schaum) carried unanimously to authorize the office of the Township Manager, Township Engineer, and Township Solicitor to take action and expend funds necessary to declare the developers of the Susan Circle-Truscott Woods subdivision in default of their developers agreement with Springfield Township.

Motion (Harbison-Heller) carried unanimously to authorize a final payment of \$1,816.30 to the Obermayer law firm to settle an outstanding invoice for work performed in conjunction with the Axford/Treml alleged child abuse investigation report.

Mr. Schaum, Co-Chairman of Public Safety Committee, reported:

Motion (Schaum-Gillies) carried unanimously to waive the prohibition of the use of fireworks in Springfield Township as set forth in Section 3301 of the Springfield Township Fire Prevention Code. The waiver was specifically related to two fireworks displays at North Hills Country Club, one on June 21, 2008 and other on August 31, 2008, as well as a third fireworks display to be sponsored by the Wyndmoor Hose Company at Veterans Park on June 7, 2008. The waiver of the Fire Prevention Code in these three instances is conditioned upon the host organization and their fireworks professionals adding Springfield Township as an

additional insured on their certificates of insurance, and that they work closely with the Township Fire Marshal and the local fire companies to help prevent an accident.

Motion (Schaum-Peirce) carried unanimously to grant permission for members of the Flourtown Fire Company to participate in the Pennsylvania State Fire Expo in Harrisburg, on May 16, 2008. Permission is sought from the Fire Company as the Township provides vehicular liability insurance coverage, as well as workers compensation coverage.

Mr. Schaum noted that the National Arbor Day Foundation once again recognized Springfield Township as a Tree City USA Community. A Tree City USA Community is one that recognizes that trees are a vital component of the infrastructure in the community, and that the trees provide environmental and economical benefits.

Mr. Gillies, Chairman of Library Committee, had no report.

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

Motion (Standish-Gillies) carried unanimously to award a contract to Joseph E. Sucher & Sons, of Eddystone, PA, to mill and resurface Township streets as specified by the Township for their low bid price of \$162,780. On April 30, 2008, the Township opened a total of 7 bids for this project.

Motion (Standish-Heller) carried unanimously to reappoint Charles Carabba and William Kratz to new three year terms of service as members of the Springfield Township Open Space Planning Committee. Their new terms of service shall expire May 12, 2011.

Ms. Peirce, Chairwoman of Cultural Resources Committee, reported:

Motion (Peirce-Heller) carried unanimously to adopt a policy to manage the issuance of park use permits and establish a procedure to review adult supervisors of youth recreational programs.

Motion (Peirce-Schaum) carried unanimously to grant permission to the Wyndmoor Hose Company for the Hose Company to host a carnival at Veterans Park on Traymore Avenue from June 3 through June 7, 2008.

Motion (Peirce-Gillies) carried unanimously to reappoint Gail Inderwies and Cheryl Schneider to new three year terms of service as members of the Springfield Township Park and Recreation Advisory Committee. The new terms of service shall expire May 12, 2011.

Mr. Dailey, Chairman of Zoning Committee, reported:

Mr. Dailey announced that the Zoning Hearing Board would not meet during the month of May as the Zoning Hearing Board did not receive any applications. The next scheduled meeting of the Zoning Hearing Board is June 16, 2008 at 7:00 PM.

In reference to one of the special reports provided earlier related to an executive session held by the Board of Commissioners, Mr. Dailey asked if the Board of Commissioners might consider discussing the conduct of executive sessions at greater length as a part of the June agenda. Mr. Dailey asked if the Board might consider a Township policy requiring 48 hours notice, attempting to conduct the meetings in person, a quorum needed to be present at an executive session, conduct executive sessions at 6:00 PM or later, and multiple means by which notice will be provided to the Commissioners on the interest of conducting an executive session.

D. J. Heller, Chairman of Community Development Committee

Mr. Heller provided a photograph of Army Chaplain Jon Cutler, who is currently in Iraq. Mr. Heller noted that it was his idea to establish a contact network for local families who have family members stationed out of the country to interact with each other.

Mr. Heller noted that Springfield Township, with the assistance of the Montgomery County Planning Commission, has drafted a riparian corridor conservation district ordinance, which is currently under review by the Board of Commissioners. The intent of the ordinance is to conserve the natural features important to land and water resources that will help manage the quantity of stormwater runoff, as well as improve the quality of the stormwater. The Township Engineer has been asked to apply the ordinance to various properties within the Township, and plans to provide a report to the Board of Commissioners as a part of the June workshop meeting of the Board of Commissioners.

Motion (Heller-Standish) carried unanimously to authorize the office of the Township Solicitor to file documents in the Court of Common Pleas for the Court to compel the resolution of building code violations at 8000 Cheltenham Avenue, and 8303 Childs Road, both in Wyndmoor. The Township desires the builder, Mr. Catalfano, of Oreland, to rectify the building code violations.

Mr. Gillies asked that the Township Engineer consider how drainage ways or streams as may be defined by the riparian corridor affect properties other than those that are directly adjacent to known streams or creeks.

Robert Rowello, 415 Drayton Road, asked that the Board of Commissioners consider establishing a 4-way stop intersection at the intersection of Ulmer and Montgomery Avenues. Mr. Harbison thanked Mr. Rowello for his information and

suggested that the matter would be referred to the Township Police Department for their review and recommendation.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:45 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Donald E. Berger, Jr.  
Secretary